

THE SHIPYARD CUP, A WOMEN'S \$10,000 EVENT HILTON HEAD ISLAND, SC • OCTOBER 4-11

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Site: Van Der Meer Shipyards Racquet Club
Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Websites: www.vandermeertennis.com
procircuit.usta.com

Qualifying Draw Begins: Sunday, Oct. 4

Main Draw Begins: Tuesday, Oct. 6

Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles

Surface: Clay / Outdoor

Prize Money: \$10,000

Tournament Director:

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Tournament Press Contact:

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PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

SINGLES:	Prize Money	Ranking Points
Winner	\$1,568	12
Runner-Up	\$980	34
Semifinalist	\$490	7
Quarterfinalist	\$245	4
Round 16	\$196	2
Round 32	\$98	1

DOUBLES: Prize Money (per team)

Winner	\$637
Runner-Up	\$343
Semifinalist	\$196
Quarterfinalist	\$98
Round 16	\$49

USTA PRO CIRCUIT WOMEN'S TENNIS RETURNS TO HILTON HEAD ISLAND

The Shipyards Cup, A Women's \$10,000 Event returns to Hilton Head Island in the fall for the third consecutive year. Hilton Head held a \$10,000 USTA Pro Circuit women's event in June from 1993 to 2014 at the Van Der Meer Tennis Center. This year's tournament is one of two consecutive clay-court women's events held this fall on the USTA Pro Circuit, following Charleston, S.C., which was held last week. In conjunction with USTA Player Development, the USTA Pro Circuit continues to emphasize the importance of increased training for younger players on clay.

To follow the tournament, download the USTA Pro Circuit's new phone app by searching "procircuit" in the app store.

Notable players competing in the main draw include:

Two-time Hilton Head Island singles champion and three-time doubles champion **Alexandra Mueller**, who won a career-high five doubles titles on the USTA Pro Circuit in 2013 and holds 14 USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles overall, including one title this year, in Sumter, S.C. She also has won four career



Two-time Hilton Head Island singles champion and three-time doubles champion Alexandra Mueller holds 14 USTA Pro Circuit career doubles titles. She competed in the US Open Qualifying Tournament in 2010 and 2012, earning a wild card into qualifying by winning the US Open National Playoffs.

USTA Pro Circuit singles titles. In July 2013, Mueller qualified in singles for the WTA event in Washington, D.C., where she also reached the doubles quarterfinals. Mueller is a two-time winner of the US Open National Playoffs, earning wild cards into the US Open Qualifying Tournament in 2010 and 2012.

Caroline Price, who recently completed her senior year at the University of North Carolina, where she earned All-America honors and won 128 singles matches—the second most in Tar Heels history. Price won her first career USTA Pro Circuit singles title this year at the \$10,000 event in Charlotte, N.C., the only USTA Pro Circuit event she has played in 2015 prior to Hilton Head Island. She is the daughter of former NBA All-Star Mark Price.

Lauren Herring, who graduated from the University of Georgia this year, earning three All-America honors in singles and two in doubles in her collegiate career. Herring



Caroline Price, the daughter of former NBA All-Star Mark Price, recently completed her senior year at the University of North Carolina, where she earned All-America honors.

ranks second all-time in Georgia history with 238 combined singles and doubles wins and is second in overall doubles victories with 118. She went 21-7 in singles as a senior to lead Georgia to the NCAA Final Four and competed in this year's American Collegiate Invitational at the US Open, a tournament to showcase college tennis at the US Open. As a junior player, Herring competed in doubles at the 2010 US Open after winning the USTA Girls' 18s national title with Grace Min. Herring holds two USTA Pro Circuit singles titles—one this year at the \$10,000 event in Evansville, Ind., and another in 2010 in Amelia Island, Fla. Her twin brother, Charlie, played baseball at N.C. State.

Raveena Kingsley, 17, who ranked as high as No. 22 in the ITF World Junior Rankings this year on the strength of reaching the quarterfinals of the junior Australian Open and the semifinals of the Easter Bowl, a prestigious junior event. She also won matches at the junior US Open

and Wimbledon this year. Kingsley reached the semifinals in Hilton Head Island in 2014.

Alexa Graham, 17, who reached her first career USTA Pro Circuit singles final this year at the \$10,000 event in Bethany Beach, Del. Earlier this year, she also reached the singles final at an ITF-level event in France.

Sophie Chang, who holds two USTA Pro Circuit doubles—one title this year at the \$10,000 event in Bethany Beach, Del., and one title last year at the \$10,000 event in Sumter, S.C. She reached her first USTA Pro Circuit singles quarterfinal this year at the \$10,000 event in Charlotte, N.C.

Nicole Coopersmith, 16, who won her first career singles title this year at the \$10,000 ITF-level event in Cakovec, Croatia.

**Player field subject to change*

HILTON HEAD PAST WINNERS

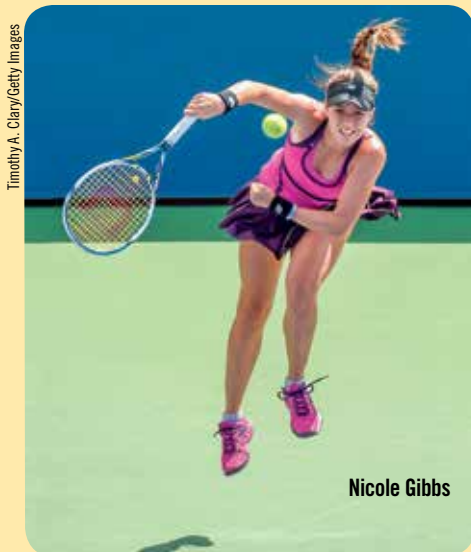
Singles			Doubles	
Year	Winner	Runner-Up	Year	Winner
*Oct. 2014	Marie Bouzkova (CZE)	Natalia Vikhlyantseva (RUS)	*Oct. 2014	Maria-Fernanda Alves (BRA) – Keri Wong (USA)
2014	Caitlin Whoriskey (USA)	Elise Mertens (BEL)	2014	Caitlin Whoriskey (USA) – Sonja Molnar (CAN)
*Sept. 2013	Ellie Halbauer (USA)	Alexandra Mueller (USA)	*Sept. 2013	Alexandra Mueller (USA) – Jillian O'Neill (CAN)
2013	Yana Koroleva (RUS)	Haley Carter (USA)	2013	Alexandra Mueller (USA) – Kristy Frilling (USA)
2012	Mayo Hibi (JPN)	Jessica Moore (AUS)	2012	Anamika Bhargava (USA) – Sylvia Krywacz (USA)
2011	Alexandra Mueller (USA)	Bojana Bobusic (AUS)	2011	Macall Harkins (USA) – Amanda McDowell (USA)
2010	Alexis King (USA)	Jacqueline Cako (USA)	2010	Jacqueline Cako (USA) – Erica Krisan (USA)
2009	Alexandra Mueller (USA)	Alison Riske (USA)	2009	Jacqueline Cako (USA) – Alison Riske (USA)
2008	Mallory Cecil (USA)	Theresa Logar (USA)	2008	Jennifer Elie (USA) – Nadja Gilchrist (USA)
2007	Angela Haynes (USA)	Chanelle Scheepers (RSA)	2007	Stacia Fonseca (USA) – Alexandra Mueller (USA)
2006	Julie Ditty (USA)	Madison Brengle (USA)	2006	Christina Fusano (USA) – Raquel Kops-Jones (USA)
2005	Ansley Cargill (USA)	Ekaterina Afanogenova (RUS)	2005	Shadisha Robinson (USA) – Robin Stephenson (CAN)
2004	Melanie Marois (CAN)	Natalia Dziamidzenka (BLR)	2004	Cory-Ann Avants (USA) – Varvara Lepchenko (USA)
2003	Ludmila Richterova (CZE)	Nicole Rencken (RSA)	2003	Yvonne Doyle (IRL) – Nicole Rencken (RSA)
2002	Gabriela Lastra (USA)	Lauren Kalvaria (USA)	2002	Liza Andriyani (INA) – Wukirasih Sawondari (INA)
2001	Mi-Ra Jeon (KOR)	Ansley Cargill (USA)	2001	Kristy Blumberg (USA) – Karin Miller (USA)
2000	Allison Bradshaw (USA)	Jacqueline Trail (USA)	2000	Wendy Fix (USA) – Manisha Malhotra (IND)
1999	Jennifer Hopkins (USA)	Renata Kolbovic (CAN)	1999	Dawn Buth (USA) – Vanessa Webb (USA)
1998	Holly Parkinson (USA)	Renata Kolbovic (CAN)	1998	Varalee Sureephong (USA) – Vanessa Webb (USA)
1997	Stephanie Mabry (USA)	Samantha Reeves (USA)	1997	Varalee Sureephong (USA) – Vanessa Webb (USA)
1996	Anne Mall (IRL)	Mareze Joubert (RSA)	1996	Liza Andriyani (INA) – Mareze Joubert (RSA)
1995	Kori Davidson (USA)	Mashona Washington (USA)	1995	Jane Chi (USA) – Stephanie Chi (USA)
1994	Karin Miller (USA)	Jana Nejedly (CAN)	1994	Angela Lettiere (USA) – Stacey Sheppard (USA)
1993	Halle Cioffi (USA)	Maureen Drake (CAN)	1993	Elly Hakami (USA) – Pam Nelson (USA)

*All events held in June, unless otherwise noted.

USTA PRO CIRCUIT

With approximately 90 tournaments hosted annually throughout the country and prize money ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000, the USTA Pro Circuit is the pathway to the US Open and tour-level competition for aspiring tennis players and a frequent battleground for established professionals. The USTA launched its Pro Circuit in 1979 to provide players with the opportunity to gain professional ranking points, and it has since grown to become the largest developmental tennis circuit in the world, offering nearly \$3 million in prize money. Last year, more than 1,000 men and women from more than 70 countries competed in cities nationwide. **Victoria Azarenka, Eugenie Bouchard, John Isner, Andy Murray, Kei Nishikori, Sam Querrey, Maria Sharapova** and **Caroline Wozniacki** are among today's top stars who began their careers on the USTA Pro Circuit.

More recently, the USTA Pro Circuit helped further the careers of two young Americans—**Stefan Kozlov** and **Nicole Gibbs**. In her first full season as a professional after capturing back-to-back NCAA singles championships in 2012 and 2013, **Gibbs** won the women's USTA Pro Circuit US Open Wild Card Challenge in 2014. After claiming the title at the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Carson, Calif., **Gibbs** clinched the US Open wild card by advancing to the final of the \$50,000 tournament in Lexington, Ky., her last USTA Pro Circuit event of the season. **Gibbs** went on to reach the third round at the US Open, scoring a pair of Top 50 victories along the way. Two weeks after the US Open, as a qualifier at Seoul, she reached her first WTA quarterfinal, which boosted her into the WTA Top 100 for the first time. **Gibbs** earned the second-most WTA ranking points of any American playing the USTA Pro Circuit in 2014. **Kozlov**, runner-up in 2014 at the junior championships of the Australian Open and Wimbledon, reached the final of the Sacramento Challenger last October at age 16, becoming the youngest American to reach a Challenger final since Andre Agassi in 1986. That result vaulted **Kozlov** to No. 443 in the world, making him the youngest player in the ATP World Tour Top 500. He concluded 2014 by sweeping the singles and doubles titles at the prestigious Orange Bowl Junior Tennis Championships, locking down a No. 3 junior world ranking.



Timothy A. Clary/Getty Images

Nicole Gibbs

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

The USTA Player Development program identifies and develops the next generation of American champions by surrounding the top junior players and young pros with the resources, facilities and coaching they need to reach their maximum potential. The Player Development program is based at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., and also utilizes Training Centers in Carson, Calif., and Flushing, N.Y., as well as a series of Certified Regional Training Centers located throughout the continental United States.

YOUTH TENNIS

The USTA is making it easier and more fun for kids to get into the game—and stay in the game. Kids are learning to play faster than ever before through the USTA's youth initiative, which is geared toward getting more kids to participate in tennis using modified equipment and courts tailored to a child's size. For more information, visit YouthTennis.com.

NJTL

Founded in 1969 by Arthur Ashe, along with Charlie Pasarell and Sheridan Snyder, the USTA/National Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) network is a nationwide group of more than 625 non-profit youth development organizations that provide free or low-cost tennis, education and life skills programming to more than 350,000 children each year. Celebrating its 45th anniversary this year, NJTL is one of the USTA's largest community-based offerings.

US OPEN NATIONAL PLAYOFFS

The USTA launched the US Open National Playoffs in 2010, making the US Open "open" to anyone age 14+ and of all skill levels. Last year, more than 1,200 players competed in 13 Sectional Qualifying Tournaments nationwide for a 2014 US Open Qualifying



Tournament wild card. A mixed doubles element also was held, with the winning team earning a main draw mixed doubles wild card. This year, players again competed in singles and mixed doubles, but also had the chance to play in the new men's and women's doubles competition to earn main draw doubles wild cards. The US Open National Playoffs Championships are Aug. 21-29. For more information and the complete schedule, visit www.usopen.org/NationalPlayoffs.