

TOURNAMENT NOTES

as of May 8, 2013

KOSER JEWELERS PRO CIRCUIT TENNIS CHALLENGE

LANDISVILLE, PA • MAY 12-19

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Site: Hempfield Recreation Center - Landisville, PA

Websites: www.landisvilleprocircuit.com procircuit.usta.com

Qualifying Draw Begins: Sunday, May 12

Main Draw Begins: Tuesday, May 14
Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles

Surface: Hard / Outdoors
Prize Money: \$10,000

Tournament Director:

Wilson Pipkin, (717) 898-3102 ext. 31 wpipkin@hempfieldrec.com

Tournament Press Contact:

Patti Cornelius, (717) 682-2552 pcornelius53@yahoo.com

USTA Communications Contacts:

Amanda Korba, (914) 697-2219, korba@usta.com

PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

Points		
\$196 1 \$98 1 ! Money (per team) \$637 \$343		

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Monday, May 13

Pros visit Landisville Intermediate Unit School

Tuesday, May 14

Pros visit Wickersham Elementary School

Wednesday, May 15

Special Olympics clinic and dinner

USTA PRO CIRCUIT RETURNS TO LANDISVILLE

The Koser Jewelers Pro Circuit Tennis Challenge returns to Landisville for the sixth consecutive year. It is the only USTA Pro Circuit women's event taking place in Pennsylvania this year; Pittsburgh hosts a \$10,000 USTA Pro Circuit men's Futures in July. It is also the first of five consecutive \$10,000 and \$25,000 hard-court events held this spring.

Players competing in the main draw include:

Seventeen-year-old **Brooke Austin**, who won the 2012 USTA Girls' 18s Spring National Championships and helped lead the U.S. to back-to-back World Junior Tennis titles in 2009 and 2010. In 2012, Austin reached the final of the Easter Bowl, losing to thenworld No. 1 junior Taylor Townsend in the final. This year, Austin reached the singles quarterfinals and doubles semifinals at the Easter Bowl. She cracked the Top 100 in the ITF World Junior Rankings in 2011 and has competed in the junior US Open three times.

Natalie Pluskota, a four-time All-American at the University of Tennessee, who reached the semifinals of the NCAA doubles tournament three times—the first Lady Vol to do so. Pluskota won two USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles in 2012, at the \$75,000 event in Phoenix and the \$25,000 event in Rock Hill, S.C.—both with Jacqueline Cako—and won an additional doubles title in 2011 at the \$10,000 event in Atlanta. Pluskota won the 2012 US Open National Playoffs USTA Southern Sectional Qualifying Tournament in Georgia. She has a twin brother, Nicholas.





Former Top 100 junior Brooke Austin reached the final of the 2012 Easter Bowl.

USTA Pro Circuit veteran **Diana Ospina**, 33, who made her pro debut in 1997 at the \$10,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Delray Beach, Fla. In her career, Ospina has won three USTA Pro Circuit titles, the last coming in 2006, and one doubles title. She has served as a volunteer women's coach for the University of Detroit Titans.

Eighteen-year-old **Denise Starr**, who trains at the USTA Training Center-East at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center—the home of the US Open—in Flushing, N.Y., under the USTA Player Development program. Starr trains alongside WTA stars Melanie Oudin and Varvara Lepchenko. She won her first pro title this year, winning the doubles championship at an ITF Pro Circuit event in France in January.

Former college standouts competing in Landisville include:

Noelle Hickey, who was an All-American at UCLA and also played for Georgia Tech; and **Casey Robinson** of Radnor, Pa., who competed for Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia and was rated as the top tennis prospect in Pennsylvania.

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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 34 years ago 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. Mardy Fish, Maria Sharapova, John Isner, Caroline Wozniacki, Sam Querrey, Victoria Azarenka and Andy Murray are among today's top stars who began their careers on the USTA Pro Circuit.

More recently, the USTA Pro Circuit helped launch the careers of two young Americans—Jack Sock and Grace Min. Sock began 2012 by winning the singles title and reaching the doubles final at the \$10,000 Futures in Plantation, Fla. He then reached the quarterfinals of the \$50,000 Challenger in Honolulu. With his strong USTA Pro Circuit results, Sock received wild cards into numerous Emirates Airline US Open Series events in the summer, reaching the quarterfinals in Atlanta. Sock then achieved the best result of his pro career by reaching the third round of the 2012 US Open as a wild card. Sock followed up his US Open results by winning his first career USTA Pro Circuit Challenger title at the \$100,000 event in Tiburon, Calif., in the fall and finished 2012 ranked a career-high No. 150 in the world. After winning the 2011 US Open girls' singles title, Min moved to the USTA Pro Circuit to develop her game. She opened



the year by winning the first women's tournament of 2012 at the \$25,000 event in Innisbrook, Fla. Later in the spring, she won back-to-back tournaments at the \$50,000 event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla., and the \$25,000 tournament in Raleigh, N.C. She competed in qualifying in Emirates Airline US Open Series events throughout the summer and qualified in Stanford, Calif. Min, who trains at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., entered the Top 200 for the first time in her career in 2012, climbing nearly 250 spots in the rankings by year's end.

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.

10 AND UNDER TENNIS

Tennis is now scaled to a child's age and size, using lower-bouncing and slower-moving balls, lighter and shorter racquets, and smaller courts. The modified equipment and smaller courts will allow kids to rally and play the game early on, increasing the likelihood that kids will return to the court and continue to improve all while having fun! For more information, visit www.10andundertennis.com

NJTL

Founded in 1969 by Arthur Ashe, the USTA/National Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) network is a nation-wide group of more than 660 non-profit youth development organizations that provide free or low cost tennis, education and life skills programming to more than 300,000 children each year, ages 6-18, making NJTL 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 2012 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. Clement Reix, a 28-year-old Frenchman living in Reno, Nev., won the US Open National Playoffs men's title and USTA Pro Circuit regular Alexandra Mueller, 24, of Abington, PA, won the women's wild card for the second time in three years. Nicole Melichar and Brian Battistone won the mixed doubles tournament. Registration for the 2013 US Open National Playoffs opened on March 15.

LANDISVILLE PAST WINNERS

Singles			Doubles	
Year	Winner	Runner-Up	Year	Winner
2012	Piia Suomalainen (FIN)	Elizabeth Lumpkin (USA)	2012	Macall Harkins (USA) — Chieh-Yu Hsu (USA)
2011	Robin Anderson (USA)	Bojana Bobusic (AUS)	2011	Chieh-Yu Hsu (USA) — Nicola Slater (GBR)
2010	Alexandra Mueller (USA)	Kyle McPhillips (USA)	2010	Alexandra Mueller (USA) – Gail Brodsky (USA)
2009	Laura Granville (USA)	Petra Rampre (SLO)	2009	Olga Boulytcheva (RUS) — Magda Okruashvili (GEO)
2008	Kristie Ahn (USA)	Rebecca Marino (CAN)	2008	Audra Cohen (USA) — Heidi El Tabakh (CAN)