

FIFTH THIRD BANK TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS LEXINGTON, KY • JULY 21-28

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Site: University of Kentucky –

Hilary J. Boone Tennis Complex – Lexington, Ky.

Websites: lexingtonchallenger.com, procircuit.usta.com

Facebook: Fifth Third Bank Tennis Championships

Twitter: @53Tennis

Qualifying Draw Begins: Sunday, July 21

Main Draw Begins: Tuesday, July 23

Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles

Surface: Hard / Outdoor

Prize Money: \$50,000

Tournament Director:

Brooks Lundy, (859) 509-9707, lblundy1@gmail.com

Tournament Press Contact:

Rena Baer, (859) 351-3230, rena.baer@twc.com

USTA Communications Contacts:

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

PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

SINGLES:	Prize Money	Ranking Points
Winner	\$7,600	70
Runner-up	\$4,053	50
Semifinalist	\$2,216	32
Quarterfinalist	\$1,267	18
Round of 16	\$760	10
Round of 32	\$444	1

DOUBLES:	Prize Money (per team)
Winner	\$2,786
Runner-up	\$1,393
Semifinalist	\$696
Quarterfinalist	\$380
Round of 16	\$254

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Monday, July 22

Pro-Am, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 23

Smart Shots/LMC Kids' Day – 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.;

Sponsor Clinic, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 24

Big Blue Night Exhibition, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 25

Ladies Round Robin Tournament, 5:30 p.m.;

Ladies Night Activities, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, July 2

Men's Round Robin Tournament, 5:30 p.m.

USTA PRO CIRCUIT WOMEN'S TENNIS RETURNS TO LEXINGTON AND OFFERS US OPEN WILD-CARD OPPORTUNITY FOR AMERICAN PLAYERS

The Fifth Third Bank Tennis Championships is taking place in Lexington for the 17th straight year as a women's event. It is held in conjunction with a \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit men's Challenger. Lexington is one of two combined men's and women's event on the calendar this year (joining Vancouver, which takes place next week.). It is the only USTA Pro Circuit event in the state of Kentucky.

Lexington is the last of three consecutive women's hard-court tournaments (joining \$50,000 events in Yakima, Wash., and Portland, Ore.) that are part of a series of events that will award a women's wild card into the 2013 US Open. The wild card will be awarded to the American woman who accumulates the greatest number of WTA ranking points (with the player's best two events, of the three, factoring into the final total).

The three women's tournaments join four men's tournaments—the \$50,000 Levene Gouldin & Thompson Tennis Challenger, in Binghamton, N.Y. (week of July 15); this week's event in Lexington; the \$100,000 Odium Brown VanOpen presented by Invesco in Vancouver, Canada (week of July 29); and the \$100,000 Comerica Bank Challenger in Aptos, Calif. (week of August 5)—in deciding the wild-card recipients.



Lauren Davis, the top-ranked American in Lexington, has been ranked in the Top 100 consistently throughout the year.

This tournament will be streamed live on www.procircuit.usta.com.

Players competing in Lexington include:

Lauren Davis, the top-ranked American in Lexington, who has consistently been ranked in the Top 100 this year. Davis started 2013 by reaching the quarterfinals of the Australian Open tune-up event in Hobart, Australia, losing to fellow young American Sloane Stephens in three sets. She then won the \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., a few weeks later. Also in 2013, Davis reached the quarterfinals of the WTA event in Monterrey, Mexico, and qualified and reached the second round in Miami. She broke into the Top 100 for the first time in her career in 2012, qualifying for and reaching the second round of the



Shelby Rogers earned a main-draw wild card into the 2013 French Open by winning the Har-Tru USTA Pro Circuit Wild Card Challenge.

French Open and advancing to the quarterfinals of the WTA event in Quebec City, Canada, following the US Open. Davis also ended the 2012 season strong on the USTA Pro Circuit, winning the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Las Vegas, sponsored by music sensation Redfoo of LMFAO, and reaching the final of the \$75,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Albuquerque the week prior to finish second among American women in WTA points earned on the USTA Pro Circuit in 2012. Davis peaked at No. 3 in the ITF World Junior Rankings in 2010, when she won the Orange Bowl and reached the final of the Easter Bowl. Davis is a longtime pupil of the Chris Evert Tennis Academy.

Shelby Rogers, who earned a main-draw wild card into the 2013 French Open by winning the Har-Tru USTA Pro Circuit Wild Card Challenge; in Paris, she defeated Irena Pavlovic in the first round to win her first Grand Slam main draw match. The winner of the Har-Tru USTA Pro Circuit Wild Card Challenge was determined by the player who accumulated the greatest number of WTA ranking points at two of three USTA Pro Circuit \$50,000 clay-court events—similar to what will be taking place in Lexington with the US Open. Rogers rose to the top of the standings by winning the title at the \$50,000 event in Charlottesville, Va., and reaching the quarterfinals at the \$50,000 event in Dothan, Ala. Last year, Rogers made a run to the final of the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Las Vegas, sponsored by music sensation Redfoo of LMFAO, and claimed the singles title in Yakima with a victory over US Open girls' champion Samantha Crawford. As a junior player, Rogers won the USTA Girls' 18s National Championships to earn a wild card into the main draw of the 2010 US Open for her first appearance in a Grand Slam (in the either main draw or the juniors).

Irina Falconi, who was the top-ranked college player while playing two seasons at Georgia Tech, and who won the gold medal in singles and the silver medal in doubles (with Christina McHale) at the 2011 Pan Am Games. Since turning pro, Falconi has played in every Grand Slam event at least twice. Her highlight came at the US Open in 2011, when she upset No. 14 Dominika Cibulkova in the second round in Arthur Ashe Stadium and carried an American flag around the court following the win. Also in 2011, Falconi won a USTA playoff to earn a wild card into the French Open, where she advanced to the second round, and qualified for the Australian Open and Wimbledon to rise to No. 73 in the world rankings. This year she reached the final round of qualifying at both the French Open and Wimbledon, and last year she reached the doubles final of the WTA event in Washington D.C. At Georgia Tech, Falconi was a two-time All-American and ranks first in school history in all-time winning percentage (.824; 70-15). She was born in Ecuador and moved to New York at age 3, learning to play on public courts in Manhattan.

Madison Brengle, who reached the final of the \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit women's event in Sacramento, Calif., this month—her second USTA Pro Circuit final of the year (she won the \$25,000 event in Rancho Mirage, Calif., in February). Also this year, she qualified for the grass-court tune-up event in Nottingham, Great Britain. Brengle has played in the main draw at three of the four Grand Slam events, winning USTA wild-card playoffs to earn entry into the Australian Open (2007-08) and the French Open (2008), as well as competing in the US Open main draw in 2007. In 2011, Brengle ascended to a career-best ranking of No. 152 and won the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Hammond, La. An outstanding junior competitor, she rose to No. 4 in the world junior rankings in 2007 after reaching the girls' singles final at both the Australian Open and Wimbledon.

Victoria Duval, 17, who earned a wild card into the main draw of the 2012 US Open by winning the USTA Girls' 18s National Championships as the No. 17 seed, knocking off five Top 10 seeds en route. In the first round of the US Open, she faced three-time US Open champion Kim Clijsters, who was playing in her final Grand Slam event before retiring. Duval also reached the singles semifinals at the 2012 US Open Junior Championships. She formerly trained at the USTA Certified Regional Training Center in Atlanta, and members of the club helped save her father, a doctor in Port-au-Prince, who was injured in the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. She currently trains with Nick Bollettieri.

Tournament wild card **Ashley Weinhold**, who won the 2007 USTA Girls' 18s national championship, in turn receiving a wild card into the 2007 US Open. Weinhold holds eight combined USTA Pro Circuit singles and doubles titles, winning her sixth doubles title in 2012 at the \$25,000 event in El Paso, Texas. She qualified for the \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., in February.

2011 Lexington singles and doubles champion **Chiara Scholl**, who goes by the nickname "Chi Chi." In addition to her title here, she also won the \$25,000 event in El Paso, Texas, to jump start her career. In 2012, she played in qualifying at the Australian Open, French Open and US Open, and she reached the semifinals of two USTA Pro Circuit events at the levels of \$50,000 and above. Scholl's younger sister, Chalena, is a world Top 15 junior who trains at the USTA Player Development Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla.

Sanaz Marand, who played for the University of North Carolina, where she received All-America honors and helped lead UNC to the NCAA team semifinals for the first time ever, in 2010. This year, she won her first career USTA Pro Circuit singles title at the \$25,000 event in El Paso, Texas. She also holds five USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles, with three coming in 2012. As a junior player, Marand reached the doubles final at the 2006 Easter Bowl with Ashley Weinhold.

Notable players competing in qualifying 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, she reached the final of the Easter Bowl, losing to 2012 year-end 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.

Eighteen-year-old **Jamie Loeb**, who reached the quarterfinals of the Wimbledon juniors this year, losing to eventual champion Belinda Bencic, and who also advanced to the second round of girls' singles at the French Open, falling to the No. 1-ranked junior in the world, Ana Konjuh. Loeb reached the singles final and won the doubles title at the 2013 USTA International Spring Championships in Carson, Calif. Last summer, she held a 17-match singles winning streak, resulting in three junior titles—the USTA International Hard Courts in College Park, Md.; the International Grass Court Championships in Philadelphia; and an ITF-level event in Delray Beach, Fla. In 2012, Loeb captured two \$10,000 clay-court USTA Pro Circuit singles titles in Buffalo, N.Y., and Amelia Island, Fla. She trains at John McEnroe's academy at Randalls Island, N.Y.

Jan Abaza, 18, who broke into the Top 400 for the first time earlier this year. Abaza won her first pro title in doubles at the \$10,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Sumter, S.C., in 2012 and also won the doubles title at the \$50,000 event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla., this May. Abaza won the USTA Florida US Open National Playoffs Sectional Qualifying Tournament in 2010 at age 15.

Alexandra Mueller, who won the US Open National Playoffs women's singles titles both in 2010 and 2012, earning a wild card into the US Open Qualifying Tournament on each occasion. She has captured three USTA Pro Circuit singles titles and seven doubles titles in her career, including back-to-back doubles titles in Sumter, S.C., and Hilton Head Island, S.C., this May.

Many WTA stars have found success in Lexington.

2008 singles champion **Melanie Oudin** went on to have the best season of her young career in 2009, reaching the fourth round of

Wimbledon as a qualifier and defeating Maria Sharapova en route to the quarterfinals of the US Open. Oudin won her first WTA event in 2012, in Birmingham, England, and received a 2012 USTA French Open wild card in a similar format as this year's US Open wild card playoff.

1997 singles runner-up and 2012 Olympian **Liesel Huber** is a former world No. 1 doubles player. She has won 53 WTA doubles titles—including five Grand Slam women's doubles titles—and has played an integral role in the U.S.'s Fed Cup success. She has also won two Grand Slam mixed doubles titles, including the US Open in 2010.

Carly Gullickson-Eagle, the 2008 singles runner-up, won the 2009 US Open mixed doubles title with USTA Pro Circuit graduate Travis Parrott.

**Player field subject to change*

LEXINGTON PAST WINNERS

Singles			Doubles	
Year	Winner	Runner-Up	Year	Winner
2012	Julia Glushko (ISR)	Johanna Konta (GBR)	2012	Shuko Aoyama (JPN) – Yi-Fan Xu (CHN)
2011	Chi Chi Scholl (USA)	Amanda Fink (USA)	2011	ChiChi Scholl (USA) – Tamaryn Hendler (BEL)
2010	Kurumi Nara (JPN)	Stephanie Dubois (CAN)	2010	Bojana Bobusic (AUS) – Christina Fusano (USA)
2009	Sania Mirza (IND)	Julie Coin (FRA)	2009	Kai-Chen Chang (TPE) – Tetiana Luzhanska (UKR)
2008	Melanie Oudin (USA)	Carly Gullickson (USA)	2008	Chin-Wei Chan (TPE) – Kimberly Coutts (USA)
2007	Stephanie Dubois (CAN)	Anne Keothavong (GBR)	2007	Melinda Cizink (HUN) – Lindsay Lee-Waters (USA)
2006	Camille Pin (FRA)	Abigail Spears (USA)	2006	Chin-Wei Chan (TPE) – Abigail Spears (USA)
2005	Natalie Grandin (RSA)	Stephanie Dubois (CAN)	2005	Vilmarie Castellvi (PUR) – Samantha Reeves (USA)
2004	Camille Pin (FRA)	Mi-Ra Jeon (KOR)	2004	Claire Curran (GBR) – Natalie Grandin (RSA)
2003	Miho Saeki (JPN)	Salome Davidze (GEO)	2003	Janet Lee (TPE) – Jessica Lehnhoff (GUA)
2002	Virginie Razzano (FRA)	Samantha Reeves (USA)	2002	Nana Miyagi (JPN) – Irina Seljutina (KAZ)
2001	Katarina Srebotnik (SLO)	Sabine Klaschka (GER)	2001	Lisa McShea (AUS) – Nana Miyagi (JPN)
2000	Jennifer Hopkins (USA)	Dawn Buth (USA)	2000	Janet Lee (TPE) – Wynne Prakusya (INA)
1999	Florencia Labat (ARG)	Annabel Ellwood (AUS)	1999	Alexandra Fusai (FRA) – Florencia Labat (ARG)
1998	Julie Pullin (GBR)	Abigail Tordoff (GBR)	1998	Amanda Grahame (AUS) – Bryanne Stewart (AUS)
1997	Karin Miller (USA)	Liesel Huber (RSA)	1997	Elly Hakami (USA) – Danielle Jones (AUS)

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.



Grace Min

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. The 2013 US Open National Playoffs — Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles Championships are August 16-19 in New Haven, Conn.