AMELIA ISLAND WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS

AMELIA ISLAND, FL * SEPTEMBER 21-28, 2014

Preview Notes as of Sept. 18, 2014

TOURNAMENT OVERVIEW

Site: Omni Amelia Island Plantation
Qualifying Draw: Begins on Sunday, Sept. 21
Main Draw: Begins on Tuesday, Sept. 23
Surface: Clay / Outdoor
Prize Money: $10,000
Website: www.procircuit.usta.com
Facebook: Omni Amelia Island Plantation

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USTA PRO CIRCUIT RETURNS TO AMELIA ISLAND FOR FIFTH YEAR

The **Amelia Island Women's Championships** returns to Amelia Island for the fifth consecutive year and is one of 10 USTA Pro Circuit women's events taking place in Florida this year. It is the first event held on a clay court following the US Open and precedes next week's clay-court event in Hilton Head Island, S.C. In conjunction with USTA Player Development, the USTA Pro Circuit continues to emphasize the importance of increased training for younger players on clay.

Notable players competing in the main draw include:

Seventeen-year-old **Ellie Halbauer**, the top American in Amelia Island, who won her first-ever USTA Pro Circuit singles title at the $10,000 event in Hilton Head Island last year. She also received a qualifying draw wild card into the WTA's Family Circle Cup in her hometown of Charleston, S.C., this year. This summer, Halbauer reached back-to-back doubles semifinals at the USTA Pro Circuit events in El Paso, Texas, and Bethany Beach, Del. She trains at the USTA Player Development Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla.

Tournament wild card **Caroline Dolehide**, 16, who is competing in just the sixth USTA Pro Circuit event of her young career. She is ranked a career-high No. 127 in the ITF World Junior Rankings after qualifying for and reaching the semifinals of the 2014 junior US Open in New York. This summer, she won seven straight matches en route to her first USTA Pro Circuit semifinal at the $10,000 event in Hilton Head Island.

Tournament wild card **Edina Gallovits-Hall**, a veteran of the WTA Tour, who peaked at No. 58 in the world in April 2008 and who is coming out of retirement in Amelia Island to compete in her first event since the 2013 Australian Open. Gallovits-Hall reached the final of the WTA event in Barcelona in 2007 and has won three WTA doubles events. She has competed in all four Grand Slam events, winning a round at each event. She has also represented her home country of Romania in Fed Cup.

Nadja Gilchrist, who played for the University of Georgia, where she received All-America honors after reaching the NCAA doubles final in 2012 with Chelsey Gullickson. Gilchrist finished her career at Georgia with a 93-46 record in singles and 101-36 in doubles. In 2008, she won her only USTA Pro Circuit doubles title at the $10,000 event in Hilton Head Island. As a junior player, Gilchrist was a finalist at the 2007 Easter Bowl and won the doubles title at the 2007 USTA International Grass Court Championships. She ranked as high as No. 80 in the world in the ITF World Junior Rankings. Her older brother, Gamal, played basketball for the University of Dayton.

Seventeen-year-old **Marie Norris**, who reached two USTA Pro Circuit quarterfinals this year and is a standout junior player.

Tournament Points and Prize Money for $10,000 Women's Level

	Winner	Runner-Up	Semifinalist	Quarterfinalist	Round 16	Round 32
Singles Prize Money	$1,568	$980	$490	$245	$196	$98
Singles ATP Ranking Points	12	7	4	2	1	--
Doubles Prize Money (team)	$637	$343	$196	$98	$49	--

Amelia Island Past Winners

Singles

Year	Winner	Runner-Up
2013	Tornado Alicia Black (USA)	Alexandra Mueller (USA)
2012	Jamie Loeb (USA)	Mari Osaka (JPN)
2011	Alexandra Kiick (USA)	Chalena Scholl (USA)
2010	Lauren Herring (USA)	Catherine Harrison (USA)

Doubles

Year	Winner
2013	Alexandra Mueller (USA) – Maria-Fernanda Alves (BRA)
2012	Maria Alvarez-Teran (BOL) – Maria-Fernanda Alves (BRA)
2011	Jennifer Brady (USA) – Kendal Woodward (USA)
2010	Elizabeth Lumpkin (USA) – Story Tweedie-Yates (USA)

About the 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. Celebrating its 35th anniversary in 2014, the USTA launched its Pro Circuit 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. **John Isner**, **Maria Sharapova**, **Mardy Fish, Sloane Stephens**, **Sam Querrey**, **Li Na** and **Andy Murray** are among today's top stars who began their careers on the USTA Pro Circuit. The USTA Pro Circuit is world-class tennis administered on the local level and played on local tennis courts as part of the fabric of communities nationwide -- an opportunity for current and new fans to experience the excitement and intensity of the professional game in their neighborhood.