TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Site: John Newcombe Country Club
New Braunfels, Texas

Websites: www.johnnewcombechallenger.com
procircuit.usta.com

Facebook: John Newcombe Country Club
Twitter: @newcombecc

Qualifying Draw Begins: Sunday, Oct. 26
Main Draw Begins: Tuesday, Oct. 28
Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles
Surface: Hard / Outdoor

Prize Money: $50,000

Tournament Director:
Joe Snailum, (830) 625-2005
j.snailum@newkscc.com

Tournament Press Contact:
Kimberly Arena, (603) 520-1457
k.arena@cliffdrysdale.com

USTA Communications Contacts:
Amanda Korba, (914) 697-2219, korba@usta.com

PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

SINGLES: Prize Money Ranking Points
Winner $7,600 80
Runner-Up $4,053 48
Semifinalist $2,216 29
Quarterfinalist $1,267 15
Round 16 $760 8
Round 32 $444 1

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Saturday, Oct. 25
Kids' Day

Monday, Oct. 27
Pro-Am, 6:00 p.m.

USTA PRO CIRCUIT WOMEN’S TENNIS RETURNS TO NEW BRAUNFELS WITH SECOND EVENT OF AUSTRALIAN OPEN WILD CARD CHALLENGE

The John Newcombe Women’s Pro Challenge returns to New Braunfels for the third consecutive year. It is one of four USTA Pro Circuit women’s events taking place in Texas this year, joining a $25,000 event held in El Paso in early June and back-to-back $10,000 events in Austin and Fort Worth in late July.

New Braunfels is the second of three consecutive women’s hard-court tournaments that make up the USTA Pro Circuit Australian Open Wild Card Challenge, which will award a men’s and a women’s wild card into the 2015 Australian Open. The USTA and Tennis Australia have a reciprocal agreement in which wild cards into the 2014 US Open and 2015 Australian Open are exchanged. The other tournaments in the women’s portion of the wild card challenge are the $50,000 events in Macon, Ga. (the week of Oct. 20), and Captiva Island, Fla. (the week of Nov. 3).

The three women’s tournaments join three men’s tournaments—the Charlottesville Men’s Pro Challenger in Charlottesville, Va., held the week of Oct. 27; the Knoxville 2014 Challenger in Knoxville, Tenn., held the week of Nov. 3; and the JSM Challenger of Champaign-Urbana in Champaign, Ill., held the week of Nov. 10.

The American woman who earns the most WTA ranking points at two of the three USTA Pro Circuit hard-court events will receive a USTA wild card to compete in the main draw of the 2015 Australian Open, which will be held Monday, Jan. 19, through Sunday, Feb. 1. Only players who did not receive direct entry into the Australian Open are eligible for the wild cards.

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

Notable players competing in the main draw include:


Grace Min rose to a career-high No. 105 this summer after reaching her first WTA semifinal in Bad Gastein, Austria, in July. As a junior, Min won the 2011 US Open girls’ singles title without dropping a set.

*Player field subject to change
scene in 2009, defeating former world No. 1 Jelena Jankovic to reach the fourth round at Wimbledon and beating five-time Grand Slam tournament champion Maria Sharapova en route to the US Open quarterfinals. Oudin peaked at No. 31 in the world in singles in April 2010, but struggled with injuries and inconsistency in the year that followed. She started a comeback in 2012, capturing the first WTA title of her career at the Wimbledon tune-up event in Birmingham, England. Oudin then competed at Wimbledon as a wild card. She also earned a wild card into the 2012 French Open based on her results on the USTA Pro Circuit, which included a title at the event in Charlottesville, Va. (She reached the second round at Roland Garros that year.) In 2013, Oudin won the Party Rock Open, a $50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Las Vegas sponsored by music sensation Redfoo; reached the second round at the French Open; and qualified for the clay-court WTA events in Rome and Brussels. In addition to her success in singles, she notched one of the biggest victories of her career at the 2011 US Open, claiming the mixed doubles title with countryman Jack Sock. She also has been a consistent performer for the U.S. Fed Cup team. Oudin announced in November 2013 that she was suffering from rhabdomyolysis, a muscle-damaging condition, and took time off to recover. She resumed competition in March of this year and competed on the USTA Pro Circuit and in qualifying for the US Open, French Open and Wimbledon.

Grace Min, who rose to a career-high No. 105 this summer after reaching the semifinals of the WTA event in Bad Gastein, Austria, in July—her first WTA semifinal. Min was one of the top juniors in the world in 2011, defeating the No. 2 seed in the first round and the No. 1 seed in the final to win the US Open girls’ singles title without dropping a set. That same year, she won the girls’ doubles title at Wimbledon and reached the singles semifinals at the Easter Bowl and the USTA International Spring Championships. Those results propelled her to No. 4 in the world junior rankings. In 2013, Min qualified for the French Open—her first Grand Slam tournament main draw appearance outside the United States—as well as the US Open. This year, she won her fourth and fifth USTA Pro Circuit singles titles, at the $25,000 event in Innisbrook, Fla., and at the $50,000 event in Dothan, Ala. She has trained full-time at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., since 2009.

Defending singles and doubles champion Anna Tatishvili, who peaked at No. 50 in the world in singles in October 2012 and No. 59 in doubles in May 2012. Her best Grand Slam result came at the 2012 US Open, where she reached the fourth round before falling to former world No. 1 Victoria Azarenka. Tatishvili has won eight USTA Pro Circuit singles titles (including two this year) and three ITF Circuit singles titles. She won her first WTA doubles title earlier this month in Linz, Austria. As a junior player, Tatishvili climbed as high as No. 19 in the ITF World Junior Rankings and reached the doubles semifinals at the 2006 junior Australian Open with Caroline Wozniacki. Tatishvili is a native of the former Soviet republic of Georgia, but changed her representation to the United States in April of this year.

Irina Falconi, who has played in each Grand Slam tournament at least twice. At the 2011 US Open, she upset No. 14 Dominika Cibulkova in the second round at Arthur Ashe Stadium and celebrated by carrying 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. She also qualified for the Australian Open and Wimbledon that year to rise to No. 73 in the world rankings. In addition, she was selected to represent the United States in the 2011 Pan Am Games, where she won the gold medal in singles and the silver medal in doubles (with Christina McHale). In all, Falconi has won three USTA Pro Circuit singles titles (the most recent coming in Atlanta in 2010) and two doubles titles, including at the $50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Portland, Ore., in 2013. In two seasons of college tennis at Georgia Tech, Falconi was a two-time All-American and broke the school record for all-time winning percentage (.824; 70-15). She was born in Ecuador and moved to New York at age 3, learning to play tennis on public courts in Manhattan.

Julia Boserup, who qualified for and reached the quarterfinals of the WTA event in Monterrey, Mexico, this April—thus far her career-best WTA result. She won her first USTA Pro Circuit singles title in 2011 at the $25,000 event in Redding, Calif. And in her career, she has qualified in qualifying for the US Open and Australian Open. As a junior player, Boserup won the prestigious Orange Bowl in 2008, defeating U.S. Olympian and Fed Cupper Christina McHale in the final.

Louisa Chirico, an up-and-coming young American who outperformed every other U.S. junior at the 2013 French Open, reaching the girls’ singles semifinals before falling to eventual champion Belinda Bencic in three sets. Chirico then reached the semifinals of the Wimbledon juniors, again losing to Bencic, and the quarterfinals of the junior US Open to finish the 2013 season in the Top 10 of the ITF World Junior Rankings. In 2012, she teamed with Taylor Townsend to lead the United States to the Junior Fed Cup title in Barcelona, Spain. Chirico won her first USTA Pro Circuit singles title in 2012 at the $10,000 event in Sumter, S.C., and her first doubles title at the $50,000 event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla., in 2013. This year, she has reached the doubles semifinals or better at five USTA Pro Circuit events. She spent the spring competing in Europe, where she won an ITF Circuit singles title in Italy and reached one additional final in Switzerland. She also competed in US Open qualifying this year. Chirico trains with the USTA Player Development program.

Sachia Vickery, who earned a main draw wild card into the 2014 Australian Open by winning the USTA's Australian Open Wild Card Playoff against other up-and-coming Americans. In Melbourne, she lost to fellow American Lauren Davis in the first round. The Australian Open was Vickery's first Grand Slam tournament appearance outside the United States. She also competed in US Open, French Open and Wimbledon qualifying this year and reached the quarterfinals of the Emirates Airline US Open Series event in Stanford, Calif., this summer—her career-best WTA result. Vickery won the 2013 USTA Girls’ 18 National singles and doubles titles last summer, earning wild cards into the main draws of the women’s singles and doubles at the 2013 US Open. At the Open, she won her first-round match in her Grand Slam debut, defeating Mirjana Lucic-Baroni in straight sets. Vickery climbed 150 spots in the rankings in 2013 on the strength of her US Open win, in addition to reaching the semifinals of two USTA Pro Circuit events, to end the year ranked in the Top 200 for the first time. As a junior, she ascended to No. 6 in the ITF World Junior Rankings, reaching the doubles semifinals of junior Wimbledon in 2012 and competing in all four legs of the junior Grand Slam. Vickery trains with the USTA Player Development program at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla.

Samantha Crawford, who won the 2012 US Open girls’ singles title. Crawford also qualified for the main draw in women’s singles of the Open that year and pushed Great Britain’s Laura Robson in the first round. At 6-foot-2, Crawford’s big serve and aggressive baseline game helped her rise to No. 5 in the ITF World Junior Rankings in 2012. In 2013, she advanced to the singles semifinals at the $25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Raleigh, N.C., and this year, she won the third USTA Pro Circuit doubles title of her career at the $25,000 event in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. Crawford, who speaks Chinese (her mother is from China), trains with the USTA Player Development program.

*Player field subject to change
Sanaz Marand, who played for the University of North Carolina, where she received All-America honors and, in 2010, helped lead the Tar Heels to their first NCAA team semifinals. In 2013, she won her first USTA Pro Circuit singles title, at the $25,000 event in El Paso, Texas. Marand has also won six USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles, with three coming in 2012. She competed in Europe this spring, where she won an ITF Circuit doubles title in Italy and advanced to an additional final in Switzerland. As a junior player, Marand reached the doubles final at the 2006 Easter Bowl with Ashley Weinhold.

Asia Muhammad, who learned to play tennis at the Andre Agassi Boys and Girls Club in Las Vegas. In 2013, she won two USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles and captured her first singles title since 2007 at the $25,000 event in Raleigh, N.C. Overall, Muhammad holds 12 USTA Pro Circuit titles (10 in doubles). In 2014, she has won back-to-back doubles titles at the USTA Pro Circuit events in Charlottesville, Va., and Indian Harbour Beach, Fla. She also won the US Open National Playoffs USTA Missouri Valley Sectional Qualifying Tournament this summer.

Players competing in qualifying include:

Former world No. 7 Nicole Vaidisova, who retired from pro tennis in 2010 before launching her comeback on the USTA Pro Circuit this fall. This will be her fourth tournament back; she earlier advanced to the quarterfinals of the $50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Las Vegas. During the first stage of her career, Vaidisova won six WTA singles titles and reached the semifinals of the 2007 Australian Open and the 2006 French Open, upsetting No. 1 seed Amelie Mauresmo in the fourth round and Venus Williams in the quarterfinals at Roland Garros. Vaidisova also has represented the Czech Republic in Fed Cup.

Lauren Embree, who completed her outstanding college career in 2013 at the University of Florida by being named the National College Player of the Year. Embree went 26-3 in her final year for the Gators at the No. 1 singles spot, and she compiled a staggering 117-16 singles record during her college career. As a pro in 2013, she won her second USTA Pro Circuit singles title at the $10,000 event in Fort Worth, Texas, and reached the second round at the $50,000 event in Lexington, Ky. Embree won the second doubles title of her career at the $25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Redding, Calif., this September and reached the singles final of the $25,000 event in Rock, Hill, S.C., this October. In 2009, she won a USTA wild-card playoff to earn a berth into the main draw of the French Open, where she lost in the opening round to former world No. 3 Nadia Petrova.

Katerina Stewart, who won the USTA Girls’ 18 National Clay Court championship this past July in Memphis, Tenn. That capped a 34-match winning streak in junior and pro matches, during which she won three USTA Pro Circuit $10,000 clay-court events (Orlando, Fla.; Bethany Beach, Del.; and Charlotte, N.C.). She was awarded a wild card into qualifying of the US Open and won her first-round qualifying match over Yuliya Beygelzimer, a former Top 100 player. Stewart also played in the women’s doubles main draw at the US Open, with Louisa Chirico, but lost in the first round. An accomplished player on all surfaces, Stewart also was the USTA Girls’ 16s National Hard Court champion in 2013. Her mother, Marina, was an Argentine WTA pro.

Julia Cohen, who qualified for the main draw at the 2014 Australian Open and spent a majority of the spring and summer competing overseas. Cohen broke into the Top 100 of the WTA rankings in July 2012 after advancing to her first WTA final, in Baku, Azerbaijan, prior to playing in her first US Open main draw that August. She spent a majority of 2013 competing on the USTA Pro Circuit and overseas in ITF Circuit events, reaching the singles quarterfinals or better at three USTA Pro Circuit events and winning the doubles title at the $50,000 event in Dothan, Ala. Cohen has excelled at all levels of competitive tennis, winning as a junior, collegiate player and in USTA family events, in addition to her successes in the professional ranks. Cohen peaked at No. 4 in the ITF World Junior Rankings in 2007, when she reached the Australian Open girls’ doubles final. As a collegian, Cohen earned All-America honors in 2009 as a sophomore for the University of Miami (Fla.), after taking home the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Rookie of the Year award as a freshman for the University of Florida. In 2008, she won three USTA parent-child national championships and added another in 2009.

Danielle Lao, who graduated from USC last year and earned two All-America honors during her college career. She also led the Trojans to back-to-back Pac-12 team championships and was a team captain her senior year. After college, Lao wrote a book, “Invaluable Experience,” about playing college tennis. She won the first USTA Pro Circuit title of her career this year in doubles at the $25,000 event in Pelham, Ala. She also advanced to two additional doubles finals.

*Player field subject to change*
NEW BRAUNFELS PAST WINNERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Singles Winner</th>
<th>Runner-Up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Anna Tatishvili (GEO)</td>
<td>Elitsa Kostova (BUL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Melanie Oudin (USA)</td>
<td>Mariana Duque-Marino (COL)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Doubles Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Anna Tatishvili (GEO) – Coco Vandeweghe (USA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Elena Bovina (RUS) – Mirjana Lucic (CRO)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>