TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Site: Pelham Racquet Club – Pelham, Ala.
Website: procircuit.usta.com
Qualifying Draw Begins: Sunday, April 12
Main Draw Begins: Tuesday, April 14
Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles
Surface: Clay / Outdoor
Prize Money: $25,000
Tournament Directors: Chaney Mills and Ann Etheredge, (205) 222-7382
cmills24@msn.com
Tournament Press Contacts: Chaney Mills and Ann Etheredge, (205) 222-7382
cmills24@msn.com
USTA Communications Contact: Amanda Korba, (914) 697-2219
korba@usta.com

PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

SINGLES: Prize Money Ranking Points
Winner $3,919 50
Runner-up $2,091 30
Semifinalist $1,114 18
Quarterfinalist $654 9
Round of 16 $392 5
Round of 32 $228 1

DOUBLES: Prize Money (per team)
Winner $1,437
Runner-up $719
Semifinalist $359
Quarterfinalist $196
Round of 16 $131

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Monday, April 13
Pro-Am, 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 16
Rick & Bubba Night

Friday, April 17
Legacy Kids’ Night and Clinic, 5:00 p.m.

USTA PRO CIRCUIT WOMEN’S TENNIS RETURNS TO PELHAM

The Legacy Credit Union Women’s $25,000 Pro Circuit Challenger returns to Pelham, Ala., for the 12th consecutive year. It is one of two USTA Pro Circuit women’s events held in Alabama, joining a $50,000 women’s event in Dothan next week. This is also the last of two consecutive $25,000 clay-court events in the South—following an event last week in Jackson, Miss.—in advance of the 2015 French Open.

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:

Maria Sanchez, who peaked at No. 107 in the world in July 2013 behind strong results on the USTA Pro Circuit and the WTA tour. She started that year by reaching the quarterfinals of the $100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., and competing in three WTA events. Also in 2013, Sanchez made her Grand Slam tournament main draw debut as a wild card in the US Open. In 2014, she won her first WTA doubles title, in Auckland, New Zealand, with Sharon Fichman. Sanchez has won two USTA Pro Circuit singles crowns, both in 2012, and seven USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles. Earlier this year she reached the final of the $25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. As a junior player, she was ranked No. 1 in the U.S. as a 16-year-old and No. 4 in the country as an 18-year-old. She also was the No. 1-ranked collegian and an ITA All-American at USC, winning the 2011 USTA/ITA National Indoor Intercollegiate Championship singles title.

Samantha Crawford, who won the 2012 US Open girls’ singles title. Crawford also qualified for the women’s singles main draw of the US 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. This year, at the $25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., she won the fourth USTA Pro Circuit doubles title of her career. She reached the singles final of the $25,000 event in Plantation, Fla., and the quarterfinals at the $25,000 event in Daytona Beach., Fla.

Samantha Crawford won the 2012 US Open junior singles title and also qualified for the women’s singles main draw of the US Open that year. She has won four USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles and reached the singles final of an event earlier this year.

*Player field subject to change
Allie Kiick, who qualified for last year’s BNP Paribas Open in Indian Wells, Calif., and subsequently rose to No. 155 in the world. Kiick did not compete from September to December in 2014 because of a knee injury, but is now on the comeback trail. Last month, she competed in qualifying for the WTA event in Indian Wells and reached the semifinals of the $25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Palm Harbor, Fla. Kiick turned pro in 2013 and improved her ranking nearly 100 spots through her results on the USTA Pro Circuit. This year, she won the second USTA Pro Circuit singles title of her career at the $10,000 event in Gainesville, Fla., and reached the final of the $50,000 event in Charlottesville, Va.

In the junior ranks, Kiick was a finalist in the 2013 USTA Girls’ 18 National Championships singles event and won the doubles title with Sachia Vickery, allowing her to make her Grand Slam main draw debut in the 2013 US Open women’s doubles event. Kiick is the daughter of Jim Kiick, a running back on the undefeated 1972 Miami Dolphins. Her mother, Mary Johnson, is a former professional softball player. Allie has spent time training at the USTA Training Center Headquarters in Boca Raton, Fla., and with former Grand Slam finalist Harold Solomon.

Caitlin Whoriskey, a former University of Tennessee standout who was named the 2010 College Senior Player of the Year after leading the Volunteers to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Tournament. Whoriskey captured her first USTA Pro Circuit singles title last May at the $10,000 event in Hilton Head Island, S.C., where she also won the doubles crown. This year, she reached the singles quarterfinals and doubles semis at the $100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., and at the $25,000 event in Surprise, Ariz. Overall, Whoriskey has claimed seven USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Circuit doubles titles worldwide. She also won the 2014 US Open National Playoffs to earn a wild card into the US Open Qualifying Tournament, where she won her first-round match.

Bernarda Pera, who has won five ITF Circuit singles titles and three doubles titles during the 2013 and 2014 seasons. This year, she reached the quarterfinals of the $100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., and the $25,000 event in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. Pera made her WTA debut at the 2014 US Open, having received a wild card with American Tornado Alicia Black into the women’s doubles event. She also competed in the junior US Open in 2012. Pera was born in Croatia but plays for the United States.

Players competing in qualifying include:

Alexandra Stevenson, 34, who drew international attention in 1999 by becoming the first female qualifier in Wimbledon history to reach the semifinals. She was ranked in the year-end Top 100 each year from 1999 to 2003, peaking at No. 18 in 2002. Injuries drove her ranking into the 600s in 2005, but Stevenson rebounded to climb back into the Top 200 in 2009, advancing to the final at the $50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Carson, Calif., for her best result on the USTA Pro Circuit since 1998. She is the daughter of basketball Hall of Famer Julius Erving.

Alexandra Mueller, who won five doubles titles on the USTA Pro Circuit in 2013 and owns four USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles overall, including three in 2014. She also has won four USTA Pro Circuit singles titles. In July 2013, Mueller qualified in singles for the WTA event in Washington, D.C.; she also reached the doubles quarterfinals in Washington. 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.

Chiara Scholl, who goes by the nickname “Chi Chi” and won the first two singles titles of her career on the USTA Pro Circuit in 2011 at the $50,000 event in Lexington, Ky., and the $25,000 event in El Paso, Texas. Those results jump-started her career, and she peaked at No. 164 in the world in singles in October 2011. She has competed in qualifying at all four Grand Slam tournaments. Last year, Scholl reached the quarterfinals or better at two USTA Pro Circuit doubles events.

Many former and current WTA standouts have found success in Pelham.

2010 Pelham doubles champion Jamie Hampton made her U.S. Fed Cup debut in Italy in 2013. Also in 2013, she broke into the Top 25 after reaching the fourth round of the French Open and the third round of the US Open and Australian Open. She also reached the semifinals or better at three WTA events, including the Emirates Airline US Open Series tournament in Stanford, Calif. Hampton climbed more than 550 spots in the WTA rankings in 2010, reaching finals at eight USTA Pro Circuit events, taking four titles. She is currently recovering from double hip surgery and has not played in a tournament since January 2014.

2007 Pelham doubles champion Carly Gullickson won the 2009 US Open mixed doubles title with Travis Parrott. Gullickson peaked at No. 52 in the world in doubles in 2006.

2010 doubles champion Mallory Cecil won the 2009 NCAA singles title for Duke as a freshman, becoming just the seventh rookie to win an NCAA singles crown.

*Player field subject to change

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### Pelham Past Winners

**Singles**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Runner-Up</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Laura Siegemund (GER)</td>
<td>Yulia Putintseva (KAZ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Mariana Duque-Marino (COL)</td>
<td>Kurumi Nara (JPN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Heidi El Tabakh (CAN)</td>
<td>Edina Gallovits-Hall (ROU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Marina Erakovic (NZL)</td>
<td>Renata Voracova (CZE)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Edina Gallovits-Hall (ROU)</td>
<td>Ajla Tomljanovic (CRO)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Rosana de Los Rios (PAR)</td>
<td>Jorgelina Cravero (ARG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Raquel Kops-Jones (USA)</td>
<td>Rosana de Los Rios (PAR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Edina Gallovits-Hall (ROU)</td>
<td>Greta Arn (HUN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Vasilisa Bardina (RUS)</td>
<td>Anda Perianu (ROU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Soledad Esperon (ARG)</td>
<td>Aleksandra Wozniak (CAN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Zuzana Zemenova (SVK)</td>
<td>Olga Puchkova (RUS)</td>
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**Doubles**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Runner-Up</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Danielle Lao (USA) – Keni Wong (USA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Ashleigh Barty (AUS) – Arina Rodionova (RUS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Julie Coin (FRA) – Marie-Eve Pelletier (CAN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Liga Dekmeijere (LAT) – Marie-Eve Pelletier (CAN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Mallory Cecil (USA) – Jamie Hampton (USA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Danielle Harnsens (NED) – Kim Kilsdonk (NED)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Michaela Pastikova (CZE) – Asha Rolfe (USA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Carly Gullickson (USA) – Nicole Kriz (AUS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Tetiana Luchanska (UKR) – Romana Tedjokusuma (INA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Kristina Czakofova (SVK) – Tetiana Luchanska (UKR)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Liga Dekmeijere (LAT) – Natalia Dziaradzenka (BLR)</td>
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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 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.

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 can again compete in singles and mixed doubles, but also will have the chance to play in the new men’s and women’s doubles competition to earn main draw doubles wild cards. Registration for all divisions opens on March 15. For more information and the complete schedule, visit www.usopen.org/NationalPlayoffs.