



LAGUNA NIGUEL USTA PRO FUTURES

LAGUNA NIGUEL, CA * SEPTEMBER 15-24, 2017

Preview Notes as of Sept. 13

TOURNAMENT OVERVIEW

Site: Laguna Niguel Racquet Club, Laguna Niguel, Calif.
Main Draw: Begins on Tuesday, Sept. 19
Qualifying Draw: Begins on Friday, Sept. 15
Surface: Hard / Outdoor
Prize Money: \$15,000
Website: www.procircuit.usta.com

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USTA PRO CIRCUIT RETURNS TO LAGUNA NIGUEL

The **Laguna Niguel USTA Pro Futures** returns to Laguna Niguel after one year away from the USTA Pro Circuit schedule. The event was also held in 1979, from 1999 to 2009, and again in 2011, 2013, and 2015. It is the second of three consecutive \$15,000 USTA Pro Circuit events held in California, following Claremont and preceding Fountain Valley.

Notable players competing in the main draw include:

Ryan Shane, 23, Falls Church, Va.

- Graduated from the University of Virginia in 2016 after a stellar collegiate career.
- During his junior season, won the NCAA singles title and finished as the No. 2-ranked collegiate player in the country.
- Was a member of three NCAA championship teams with Virginia, winning team titles in 2013, 2015 and 2016.
- Earned All-America honors during his junior and senior years, finishing his collegiate career with a 103-36 record in singles play.
- Holds two USTA Pro Circuit singles titles and one doubles title.
- Reached back-to-back USTA Pro Circuit quarterfinals this summer at the \$25,000 events in Tulsa, Okla., and Wichita, Kan.
- Competed in the main draw of the 2015 US Open as a wild card.
- Served as a practice partner for the U.S. Davis Cup team in its first-round tie against Switzerland this year in Birmingham, Ala.

Martin Redlicki, 22, Boca Raton, Fla.

- Rising senior at UCLA, who was the 2016 NCAA doubles champion with Mackenzie McDonald to earn All-America honors in doubles.
- This past season, received All-America honors in doubles again, reaching the quarterfinals of the NCAA doubles championship with Evan Zhu.
- In 2015, named the ITA Rookie of the Year.
- Competed in the US Open doubles draw in 2016 (with McDonald).
- Won the US Open junior doubles title in 2013.

Sam Riffice, 18, Roseville, Calif.

- This year, reached first two career singles finals at USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit events in Vero Beach, Fla., and Bucharest, Romania, both on clay.
- Advanced to the doubles semifinals at the 2017 junior French Open.
- Reached the singles semifinals and doubles final at the 2017 Easter Bowl, a prestigious junior event.
- Part of a group of juniors to work with Ivan Lendl over the past two years through USTA Player Development.
- Mother, Lori, works as a National Coach, Player ID and Development for USTA Player Development.
- Verbally committed to play at the University of Florida in fall 2018.

Raleigh Smith, 25, Miami

- Graduated in 2014 from Northwestern.
- Was selected First-Team All-Big Ten his junior and senior years.
- Graduated with 130 singles and doubles wins.
- Holds five ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles, including two this year in Morocco and three in 2015 in Turkey, Israel and the Dominican Republic.

Hunter Callahan, 24, Lower Gwynedd, Pa.

- The former standout for Ohio State was a 2012 and 2013 Scholar-Athlete.
- This year, won his first ITF Pro Circuit doubles title in Greece and then won the doubles title at the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Edwardsville, Ill.
- Also reached the doubles semifinals or better at eight additional events in the United States and throughout the world this year.

Evan Song, 25, Henderson, Nev.

- Has competed mostly overseas this year in ITF Pro Circuit events in Turkey, Thailand, Hong Kong, Colombia, Mexico, and the Netherlands.
- Holds one ITF Pro Circuit singles title, won in 2014 in Israel, as well as one doubles title in Israel that same year.

Notable players competing in qualifying include:

Vasil Kirkov, 18, Tampa, Fla.

- Competed in 2016 US Open qualifying as a wild card after reaching the final of the USTA Boys' 18s Championships in Kalamazoo, Mich., last summer.
- Also competed in the US Open, French Open and Wimbledon juniors in 2016, advancing to the doubles quarterfinals at Wimbledon.
- Reached the French Open junior doubles final this year.
- Ranked as high as No. 13 in the ITF World Junior Rankings in February 2017.
- Has trained with Ivan Lendl as part of a USTA Player Development initiative.

Collin Altamirano, 21, Sacramento, Calif.

- Rising senior at the University of Virginia.
- Has been a part of three consecutive NCAA-championship winning teams (2015-17).
- Was named All-ACC Second Team during sophomore and junior year.
- Holds one USTA Pro Circuit doubles title in 2014 in Boynton Beach, Fla.
- In 2013, won the USTA Boys' 18s National Championships to earn a wild card into the 2013 US Open. Was the youngest player in the main draw that year at age 17.
- Also as a junior player, reached the singles quarterfinals of the 2013 junior US Open.

Ronnie Schneider, 22, Bloomington, Ind.

- This year, completed his collegiate career at UNC, where he earned All-America honors.
- Named the 2017 ITA Senior Player of the Year.
- Four-time All-ACC selection.
- Won first ITF Pro Circuit doubles title of his career in Canada this year.

- Captured the 2013 USTA Boys' 18s National Championships doubles title to earn a wild card into the main draw of the 2013 US Open doubles tournament.

Strong Kirchheimer, 22, Cary, N.C.

- Completed his senior season this year at Northwestern.
- Earned First-Team All-Big Ten honors this season and competed in the NCAA singles tournament for the second straight year.
- Became the fifth player in program history to reach 100 career singles wins.
- Holds the all-time Northwestern program record with 72 career doubles wins.
- Graduated with a .754 career singles winning percentage, which is second all-time.

Eric James Johnson, 24, San Jose, Calif.

- Graduated from USC in 2015 and was a member of the Trojans' NCAA championship-winning teams in 2012 and 2014.
- Since graduation, has won two ITF Pro Circuit singles titles in Israel and Greece in 2015.

About the USTA Pro Circuit

With approximately 90 tournaments hosted annually throughout the country and prize money ranging from \$15,000 to \$125,000, 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 38 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 more than \$3 million in prize money.

Last year, more than 1,000 men and women from more than 70 countries competed in cities nationwide. **Andy Murray, Angelique Kerber, John Isner, Sloane Stephens, Kei Nishikori, Victoria Azarenka, and Sam Querrey** and are among today's top stars who began their careers on the USTA Pro Circuit. Follow the USTA Pro Circuit at #USTAProCircuit and www.procircuit.usta.com.

Prize Money/Points - \$15,000 Men

SINGLES:	Prize Money	Points
Winner	\$2,160	12
Runner-up	\$1,272	7
Semifinalist	\$753	4
Quarterfinalist	\$438	2
Round of 16	\$258	1
Round of 32	\$156	--

DOUBLES:	Prize Money (per team)
Winner	\$930
Runner-up	\$540
Semifinalist	\$324
Quarterfinalist	\$192
Round of 16	\$108

Laguna Niguel Past Champions

Singles

Year	Winner	Runner-Up
2016	<i>Event not held</i>	
2015	Nicolaas Scholtz (RSA)	Wil Spencer (USA)
2014	<i>Event not held</i>	
2013	Marcos Giron (USA)	Jarmere Jenkins (USA)
2012	<i>Event not held</i>	
2011	Denis Kudla (USA)	Dennis Lajola (USA)
2010	<i>Event not held</i>	
2009	Ryan Harrison (USA)	Richard Bloomfield (GBR)
2008	Lester Cook (USA)	Martin Pedersen (DEN)
2007	Lester Cook (USA)	Nikita Kryvonos (USA)
2006	Brian Wilson (USA)	Izak Van Der Merwe (RSA)
2005	Benjamin Becker (GER)	Zack Fleishman (USA)
2004	Horia Tecau (ROU)	Wayne Odesnik (USA)
2003	Jimy Szymanski (VEN)	Robert Yim (USA)
2002	Rajeev Ram (USA)	Zack Fleishman (USA)
2001	Brian Vahaly (USA)	John Doran (IRL)
2000	Justin Bower (RSA)	Alex Kim (USA)
1999	Alexander Peya (AUT)	Taylor Dent (USA)
1980-1998	<i>Event not held</i>	
1979	Tom Leonard (USA)	Byron Bertram (RSA)

Doubles

Year	Winner
2016	<i>Event not held</i>
2015	Brandon Holt (USA) – Riley Smith (USA)
2014	<i>Event not held</i>
2013	Yoshihito Nishioka (JPN) – Alan Nunez Aguilera (MEX)
2012	<i>Event not held</i>
2011	Benjamin Rogers (USA) – John Patrick Smith (AUS)
2010	<i>Event not held</i>
2009	Ryan Harrison (USA) – Michael Venus (NZL)
2008	Colt Gaston (USA) – Ryan Rowe (USA)
2007	Justin Natale (USA) – Levar Harper-Griffith (USA)
2006	Brad Pomeroy (USA) – Stephen Ward (USA)
2005	Philip Gubenco (CAN) – Erik Chvojka (CAN)
2004	Mirko Pehar (USA) – Jeremy Wurtzman (USA)
2003	Scott Lipsky (USA) – David Martin (USA)
2002	Jason Cook (USA) – Lester Cook (USA)
2001	Diego Ayala (USA) – Travis Rettenmaier (USA)
2000	Karol Beck (SVK) – Cedric Kauffmann (FRA)
1999	Gareth Williams (RSA) – Jeff Williams (USA)
1980-1998	<i>Event not held</i>
1979	Junie Chatman (USA) – Bruce Foxworth (USA)