

USTA WOMEN'S \$25,000 CHALLENGER JACKSON, MS • APRIL 1-8



TOURNAMENT INFO

Site: River Hills Club – Jackson, Miss.

Websites: www.procircuit.usta.com

Qualifying Draw Begins: Sunday, April 1

Main Draw Begins: Tuesday, April 3

Main Draw: 32 Singles / 16 Doubles

Surface: Clay / Outdoor

Prize Money: \$25,000

Tournament Director:

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PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

SINGLES:	Prize Money	Ranking Points
Winner	\$3,919	50
Runner-up	\$2,091	30
Semifinalist	\$1,144	18
Quarterfinalist	\$654	9
Round of 16	\$392	5
Round of 32	\$228	-
DOUBLES:	Prize Money (per team)	
Winner	\$1,437	
Runner-up	\$719	
Semifinalist	\$359	
Quarterfinalist	\$196	
Round of 16	\$131	

USTA PRO CIRCUIT WOMEN'S TENNIS CELEBRATES 20 YEARS IN JACKSON

The USTA Women's Pro Circuit \$25,000 Challenger is celebrating its 20th anniversary in Jackson. It is the only USTA Pro Circuit event held in Mississippi and is the first of five \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit clay-court women's events held over April and May, preceding Pelham, Ala., Osprey, Fla., Naples, Fla., and Bethany Beach, Del.

Notable players competing in Jackson include:

Victoria Duval, 22, Bradenton, Fla.

- Reached the final of two USTA Pro Circuit events in 2017, as well as two semifinals. In her first tournament since 2016 Wimbledon, reached the semifinals at the \$80,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla., in April.
- Played in her first tournament in August 2015 after a year away from the game due to battling Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Has made a full recovery.
- Peaked at No. 87 in the world in August 2014 after qualifying for and reaching the second round at Wimbledon, just before her diagnosis.
- Made international headlines at the 2013 US Open, where she qualified for the main draw and upset 2011 champion Samantha Stosur in the first round.
- In 2012, won the USTA Girls' 18s national title to earn a wild card into the US Open women's draw, where she played Kim Clijsters in the first round before Clijsters' retirement.
- Peaked at No. 18 in the world in the ITF World Junior Rankings in September 2011 after reaching the quarterfinals of the junior



Peter Staples/USTA

Victoria Duval, who is on the comeback trail after recovering from Hodgkin's Lymphoma, peaked at No. 87 in the world in 2014 and has won matches at the US Open and Wimbledon.

US Open and junior Wimbledon. Also reached the semifinals of the 2012 junior US Open.

- Grew up in Haiti until she was 8. When she was 7, was held hostage, along with several cousins, in an armed robbery at her aunt's house in Port-au-Prince, before being freed unharmed. Following that incident, her mother, Nadine, gave up her neonatal practice and moved Vicky and her two brothers to South Florida, leaving behind Vicky's father, Jean-Maurice, to continue his gynecology and obstetrics practice in Port-au-Prince.
- In 2010, Duval's father was injured during the earthquake in Haiti; he was pinned by collapsing walls outside his house. He dug himself out but had several devastating injuries. An Atlanta family connected with the Racquet Club of the South donated a large amount of money to airlift Jean-Maurice to a hospital in Fort Lauderdale for treatment.

Allie Kiick, 22, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

- Made Grand Slam debut at the 2017 US Open after winning three matches to



Rhea Nail

Allie Kiick made her Grand Slam debut at the 2017 US Open after qualifying for the main draw. She is on the comeback from four knee surgeries and being diagnosed with a rare form of skin cancer.

qualify for the main draw. Also reached the quarterfinals or better at three USTA Pro Circuit events last summer.

- Was out of competition from July 2015 through June 2017 due to four knee surgeries and being diagnosed with a rare form of skin cancer.
- Won her first \$50,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in 2015 in Charlottesville, Va. Also holds three additional USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit singles titles, as well as an ITF doubles titles she won in Canada in 2013.
- Peaked at No. 136 in the world in 2014.
- As a junior player, was a singles finalist at the 2013 USTA Girls' 18s National Championships. Also, won the Girls' 18s doubles title with Sachia Vickery, allowing her to make her Grand Slam main-draw debut in the 2013 US Open women's doubles event.
- Is the daughter of Jim Kiick, a running back on the undefeated 1972 Miami Dolphins. Mother, Mary Johnson, is a former professional softball player.

Louisa Chirico, 21, Orlando, Fla.

- In 2017, won a match in Indian Wells and competed in the French Open main draw. Also reached the final of an ITF Pro Circuit event in Mexico in September.
- Qualified for the 2016 French Open and won her first-round match over American Lauren Davis for her first Grand Slam win before falling to Venus Williams in the second round. Also in 2016, reached first WTA semifinal in Madrid and advanced to the third round in Miami.
- Peaked at a career-high No. 58 in the world in October 2016.
- Made Grand Slam singles main-draw debut at the 2015 French Open after winning the Har-Tru USTA Pro Circuit Wild Card Challenge.
- In July 2015, represented the U.S. in the Pan American Games in Toronto.
- Holds three USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit singles titles and two doubles titles.
- In 2013, reached the semifinals of the junior French Open and Wimbledon and the quarterfinals of the junior US Open. Finished that season ranked in the Top 10 of the ITF World Junior Rankings.
- In 2012, teamed with Taylor Townsend to lead the U.S. to the Junior Fed Cup title in Barcelona.
- Trains at the new USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla.

Sophie Chang, 20, Havre de Grace, Md.

- Captured first career USTA Pro Circuit singles title this March at the \$15,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Orlando, held at the new USTA National Campus.
- Holds six USTA Pro Circuit doubles titles, including two titles in 2017, and advanced to the doubles semifinals or better at eight additional USTA Pro Circuit events in 2017.
- Won the 2016 US Open National Playoffs – Women's Singles Championship to earn a wild card into the US Open Qualifying Tournament in her US Open debut.
- Committed to play at the University of Virginia before turning pro.
- Her great-grandfather, Joseph Carpenter, won the mixed doubles title at the 1910 U.S. National Championships.

Maria Mateas, 18, Braintree, Mass.

- Born in Romania.
- Ranked as high as No. 26 in the ITF World Junior Rankings, reaching the quarterfinals of the Easter Bowl, a prestigious junior event, in 2016.

- Has committed to playing for Duke, where her brother also plays.

Katerina Stewart, 20, Miami

- Captured her 10th career USTA Pro Circuit singles title this March at the \$15,000 event in Tampa, Fla.
- Won the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Fort Worth, Texas, in 2017—her first title since March 2016, when she captured back-to-back titles at \$10,000 events in Weston, Fla., and Orlando, Fla.
- Had a strong season on the USTA Pro Circuit in 2015, as well; captured three singles titles and went 13-2 in the spring in a string of \$50,000 clay-court events, winning the \$50,000 event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla.
- In 2014, won the USTA Girls' 18s National Clay Court Championships in Memphis, Tenn., which 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.).
- Awarded a wild card into qualifying at the 2014 US Open and won her first-round qualifying match over Yuliya Beygelizimer, a former Top 100 player. Also played in the doubles main draw at the 2014 US Open with Louisa Chirico.
- Spent one year at West Point.
- Mother, Marina, was an Argentine WTA pro. Coached by her father, Cesar.

Notable players competing in qualifying include:

Whitney Osuigwe, 15, Bradenton, Fla.

- The No. 1-ranked junior in the world, first becoming No. 1 in October.
- Won the 2017 French Open girls' singles title, beating Claire Liu in the second-ever all-American French Open girls' final. Became only the fourth American girls' singles champion at Roland Garros and the first since Jennifer Capriati in 1989.
- Also reached the singles quarterfinals at junior Wimbledon in 2017, as well as the girls' doubles final.
- Won the singles title at the 2017 Orange Bowl and the doubles title at the 2017 Easter Bowl, both prestigious junior events.
- Reached the final of the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Wesley Chapel, Fla., this January as a qualifier—her first career USTA Pro Circuit singles final.
- Captured her first career USTA Pro Circuit doubles title at the \$15,000 event in Orlando this March, held at the new USTA National Campus.

Julia Elbaba, 23, Oyster Bay, N.Y.

- Graduated from the University of Virginia in 2016, setting the UVA record for singles wins with 133 in her career. Earned All-America honors in singles for four consecutive years.
- Was ranked No. 1 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's singles rankings during her collegiate career.
- Holds one USTA Pro Circuit title, in doubles at the \$10,000 event in New Orleans in 2012.
- Spent this March competing in ITF Pro Circuit events in Egypt.

Ronit Yurovsky, 24, New Kensington, Pa.

- Graduated in 2016 from the University of Michigan, where she was a 2016 All-American and received four All-Big Ten honors.

- Graduated No. 3 all-time in singles wins at Michigan, with 117.
- Earned four NCAA Singles Championship berths.
- Won two USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles in 2016.
- Trains at the new USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla.

Amanda Rodgers, 25, Bradenton, Fla.

- Was a standout for Syracuse, earning All-ACC honors and graduating in 2015 with 81 singles and doubles wins.
- Reached the semifinals of the \$15,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Tampa, Fla., this March.

Quinn Gleason, 23, Mendon, N.Y.

- Graduated from Notre Dame in 2016.
- Earned All-ACC Second Team honors in 2015 and 2016.
- Won her only pro singles title in 2017 at a \$15,000 ITF Pro Circuit event in Argentina.
- Holds six career USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles, including two titles in Italy this year.

*Player field subject to change

JACKSON PAST WINNERS

Singles			Doubles	
Year	Winner	Runner-Up	Year	Winner
2017	Barbara Haas (AUT)	Sophie Chang (USA)	2017	Alla Kudryavtseva (RUS) – Anna Zaja (GER)
2016	Grace Min (USA)	Paula Badosa Gibert (ESP)	2016	Sharon Fichman (CAN) – Jarmila Wolfe (AUS)
2015	Anhelina Kalinina (UKR)	Johanna Konta (GBR)	2015	Alexa Guarachi (USA) – Caitlin Whoriskey (USA)
2014	Ulrikke Eikeri (NOR)	Anhelina Kalinina (UKR)	2014	Chanel Simmonds (RSA) – Masa Zec-Peskircic (SLO)
2013	Laura Siegemund (GER)	Florencia Molinero (ARG)	2013	Ilona Kremen (BLR) – Angelique Van Der Meet (NED)
2012	Heidi El Tabakh (CAN)	Elena Bovina (RUS)	2012	Elena Bovina (RUS) – Tereza Mrdeza (CRO)
2011	Marina Erakovic (NZL)	Ajla Tomljanovic (CRO)	2011	Sharon Fichman (CAN) – Marie-Eve Pelletier (CAN)
2010	Mirjana Lucic (CRO)	Jamie Hampton (USA)	2010	Maria-Fernanda Alves (BRA) – Ana-Clara Duarte (BRA)
2009	Yuliana Fedak (UKR)Laura	Elizabeth Halbauer (USA)	2009	Monique Adamczak (AUS) – Arina Rodionova (RUS)
2008	Soledad Esperon (ARG)	Tetiana Luzhanska (UKR)	2008	Soledad Esperon (ARG) – Maria Irigoyen (ARG)
2007	Olga Govortsova (BLR)	Melissa Torres-Sandoval (MEX)	2007	Eva Hrdinova (CZE) – Michaela Pastikova (CZE)
2006	Vasilisa Bardina (RUS)	Stephanie Dubois (CAN)	2006	Maria Kondratieva (RUS) – Sofie Lefevre (FRA)
2005	Varvara Lepchenko (USA)	Ahsha Rolle (USA)	2005	Anastasia Rodionova (RUS) – Kristen Schlukebir (USA)
2004	Eugenia Linetskaya (RUS)	Alisa Kleybanova (RUS)	2004	Stephanie Dubois (CAN) – Alisa Kleybanova (RUS)
2003	Shuai Peng (CHN)	Tina Schiechl (AUT)	2003	Teryn Ashley (USA) – Abigail Spears (USA)
2002	Gisela Dulko (ARG)	Evelyn Fauth (AUT)	2002	Lisa McShea (AUS) – Christina Wheeler (AUS)
2001	Irina Selyutina (KAZ)	Gabriela Volekova (SVK)	2001	Amanda Augustus (USA) – Irina Selyutina (KAZ)
2000	Jessica Steck (RSA)	Dawn Buth (USA)	2000	Joana Cortez (BRA) – Miriam D'Agostini (BRA)
1999	Daniela Hantuchova (SVK)	Milagros Sequera (VEN)	1999	Lindsay Lee-Waters (USA) – Julie Steven (USA)