

# TALLAHASSEE TENNIS CHALLENGER

TALLAHASSEE, FL  
APRIL 22 – APRIL 28



# TOURNAMENT NOTES

As of: April 16, 2019



## TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

### Site:

Forestmeadows Tennis Center

### Website:

[www.procircuit.usta.com](http://www.procircuit.usta.com),  
[www.tallahasseechallenger.com](http://www.tallahasseechallenger.com)

**Qualifying Draw Begins:** Mon., Apr. 22

**Main Draw Begins:** Mon., Apr. 22

**Main Draw:** 48 Singles / 16 Doubles

**Surface:** Clay / Outdoor

**Prize Money:** \$54,160

### Tournament Director:

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### Tournament Press Contact:

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## PRIZE MONEY/POINTS • \$54,160

Singles:	Prize Money	Points
Winner	\$7,200	80
Runner-up	\$4,240	48
Semifinalist	\$2,510	29
Quarterfinalist	\$1,460	15
Round of 16	\$860	7
Round of 32	\$520	3
Round of 48	\$260	--

### Doubles:

	Prize Money (per team)
Winner	\$3,100
Runner-up	\$1,800
Semifinalist	\$1,080
Quarterfinalist	\$640
Round of 16	\$360

## USTA PRO CIRCUIT MEN'S TENNIS RETURNS TO TALLAHASSEE, KICKS OFF ROLAND GARROS WILD CARD CHALLENGE

The **Tallahassee Tennis Challenger** is taking place for the 27th consecutive year—one of the longest-running men's professional events.

Tallahassee is taking part in the **Roland Garros Wild Card Challenge**, which will award a men's and women's wild card into the 2019 French Open. The challenge began the week of April 8 and concludes the week of April 30. In the men's wild card challenge, USTA Player Development considers all American results worldwide. Therefore, both ATP Challenger tournaments (including Sarasota) and international ATP Tour tournaments on any professional outdoor clay surface (Har-Tru or red) at prize money of \$50,000 and above are included.

The American man and American woman who earn the most ATP and WTA ranking points over the four weeks of the challenge will receive USTA wild cards to compete in the main draws of the French Open, which will be held Sunday, May 26, to Sunday, June 9. Only U.S. players who do not receive direct entry into the French Open are eligible for the wild cards. The USTA and the French Tennis Federation have a reciprocal agreement in which wild cards into the 2019 French Open and 2019 US Open are exchanged.

This tournament will be streamed live on [www.procircuit.usta.com](http://www.procircuit.usta.com).

## NOTABLE PLAYERS COMPETING IN TALLAHASSEE INCLUDE:

### Tennys Sandgren, 27, Gallatin, Tenn.

- Reached the semifinals of the ATP Challenger Tour event in Monterrey, Mexico last week. Fell in the first round at the Miami Open and at Indian Wells.
- Singles champion at the ASB Classic ATP 250 event in Auckland, New Zealand against Cameron Norrie in straight sets.
- Achieved career-high No. 47 on April 16, 2018 after reaching Houston final. Broke into Top 100 on June 12, 2017 following Grand Slam debut at Roland Garros. Improved his year-end ranking in four straight seasons (2015-2018).
- Advanced to 1<sup>st</sup> ATP Tour semifinal and final in Houston in 2018. Made his ATP debut in 2017 at Houston.
- Beat top-10 players Stan Wawrinka and Dominic Thiem en route to the 2018 Australian Open quarterfinals. As world No. 97 became lowest-ranked Australian Open quarterfinalist since 1996.
- Owns ATP Challenger Tour Titles at Champaign, Ill., Tempe, Ariz., and Savannah, Ga.
- Peaked at No. 9 in junior rankings on April 20, 2009. Went 70-38 on ITF Junior Circuit, including wins over future Top 50 players.
- In October 2017, reached back-to-back singles finals at an ITF Pro Circuit event in Mexico and then the \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Fairfield, Calif.
- Holds six USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit singles titles and seven doubles titles.
- Won the 2010 NCAA men's singles title for Stanford, earning a wild card into the US Open, and was a collegiate All-American in 2010, 2011 and 2012.
- Following his pro debut in 2012, received a wild card into qualifying at the 2012 US Open and subsequently won three matches to advance to the main draw, where he upset Top 50 player Jurgen Melzer in the first round. In doing so, became the first men's qualifying wild card to win a round at the US Open.
- Earned a main-draw wild card into the 2013 US Open by winning the USTA Pro Circuit US Open Wild Card Challenge. Also competed in the US Open main draw in 2014.

## Noah Rubin, 23, Merrick, N.Y.

- Quarterfinalist at the ATP 90 Challenger Tour event in Cleveland, Ohio in January.
- Fell in the second round of Australian Open qualifying.
- Reached the finals of the ATP Challenger in New Caledonia for a second consecutive year.
- Beat John Isner to reach the third round at the Citi Open ATP 500 event in Washington, D.C., last summer. Earned a wild card into the US Open, but lost in the first round.
- Made French Open main draw debut last summer as a wild card after winning the men's Roland Garros Wild Card Challenge. Earned the wild card by winning the \$75,000 USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Tallahassee, Fla., for his fourth ATP Challenger singles title, while also earning ranking points in qualifying at the ATP event in Marrakech, Morocco.
- 2016 Stockton singles finalist
- Last January, also won the singles title at the ATP Challenger in New Caledonia.
- Qualified for the 2017 Australian Open and won his first-round match, facing Roger Federer in the second round.
- Earned a spot in the main draw of the 2016 Australian Open for the first time after clinching the USTA Pro Circuit Australian Open Wild Card Challenge; advanced to the second round in Melbourne with a first-round upset of No. 17 Benoit Paire. His only other Grand Slam main-draw appearance came in 2014, when he earned a wild card into the US Open as the USTA Boys' 18s national singles champion.
- Completed a standout freshman campaign at Wake Forest in May 2015, advancing to the NCAA singles final; became the first player in ACC men's tennis history to earn ACC Player of the Year and Freshman of the Year honors in one season, as well as the first ACC men's tennis Player of the Year in Wake Forest men's tennis history; was also named the ITA Rookie of the Year and earned All-America honors.
- As a junior, won the 2014 Wimbledon boys' title.
- Protégé of John McEnroe's at his eponymous Randall's Island, N.Y., academy.

## Mitchell Krueger, 25, Fort Worth, Texas/Orlando, Fla.

- Singles champion at The RBC Tennis Championships of Dallas ATP 110 men's event in Texas.
- Reached the second round of the ATP Challenger in Newport Beach earlier this year.
- Qualified for the 2019 Australian Open, but fell in the first round of the main draw to Novak Djokovic.
- Qualified for the 2018 US Open, but fell in the first round of the main draw.
- Peaked at a career-high No. 169 in May 2017 after reaching the singles semifinals at the \$75,000 USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Tallahassee. Also in 2017, reached a Challenger final in Australia and qualified for the US Open Series event in Cincinnati, winning his first-round match.
- Last year, qualified for and reached the second round at the ATP Masters Series event in Indian Wells.
- Won his first USTA Pro Circuit event in 2015 at the \$15,000 Futures in Los Angeles. Also holds ITF Pro Circuit singles titles in the Netherlands (2013) and China (2016) and six USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles.
- Was the top-ranked American junior boy in 2012, peaking at No. 5 in the world junior rankings; Advanced to the boys' singles semifinals at the French Open and Wimbledon in 2012 and turned pro that July.
- His father played college tennis at Texas A&M; mother is a tennis coach and played at Louisiana Tech.
- Currently trains at the USTA National Campus at Lake Nona in Orlando, Fla.

## Tommy Paul, 21, Orlando, Fla.

- Fell in the second round of qualifying at the 2019 Australian Open.
- Reached the semifinals of the \$75,000 ATP Challenger Tour event in Champaign last year. Followed by a quarterfinal appearance at the ATP Challenger in Playford, Australia.
- Broke into the Top 150 last January before being sidelined with an elbow injury; Returned to competitive play at the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit Collegiate Series event in late June, where he reached the singles final.
- Won the doubles title at the USTA Pro Circuit \$75,000 Challenger in Columbus last year.
- Won the 2017 US Open Wild Card Challenge to earn a spot in the 2017 US Open.
- Reached back-to-back ATP quarterfinals in summer 2017 at the US Open Series event in Atlanta—his first career ATP quarterfinal—and later in Washington D.C. Also advanced to the semifinals of the \$75,000 USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Winnetka, Ill., in 2017.
- Made Grand Slam main draw debut at the 2015 US Open as a qualifying wild card. Was just the 16th player ever to compete in the US Open main draw after receiving a wild card into qualifying and then winning three matches to secure his spot in the main singles draw.
- Won the 2015 French Open junior singles title, becoming the sixth American ever to win the boys' championship in Paris; defeated fellow American Taylor Fritz in the first-ever all-U.S. boys' singles final at Roland Garros, dating back to 1947.
- Reached the final of the junior US Open in 2015, losing to Fritz, and the quarterfinals of junior Wimbledon.
- Peaked at a career-high No. 3 in the ITF World Junior Rankings in fall 2015.
- As a pro, won the \$15,000 Futures in Palm Coast, Fla., in February 2017 and the USTA Pro Circuit Collegiate Series event in Winston-Salem, N.C., in June. Holds six USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Circuit singles titles overall.
- Also captured the ATP Challenger doubles title in Playford, Australia, last year.
- Served as a practice partner for the U.S. Davis Cup team in the quarterfinal tie against Croatia in Portland, Ore., in July 2016.
- Trains at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla.

## Jared Donaldson, 22, Providence, R.I.

- Reached the second round of the BNP Paribas Open at Indian Wells this year, losing to No. 2 seed Rafael Nadal in straight sets.
- Peaked at a career-high No. 48 in the world in March 2018 after reaching the semifinals in Acapulco—his first career ATP semifinal. Also advanced to the third round of Miami last year.
- Pushed world No. 5 Grigor Dimitrov to a 10-8 fifth set in the second round at the French Open last year.
- Made Wimbledon main-draw debut in 2017 and reached the third round. Following Wimbledon, reached the quarterfinals of the ATP events in Cincinnati and Chengdu, China, while also winning his first-round match at the US Open.
- Broke into the Top 100 in September 2016 after qualifying for and reaching the third round of the US Open.
- Made his Grand Slam tournament debut as a wild card at the 2014 US Open, where he faced eventual quarterfinalist Gael Monfils in the first round. Also competed as a wild card at the 2015 US Open.
- In 2015, won his first USTA Pro Circuit Challenger title in Maui, Hawaii, where he also captured the doubles title with Stefan Kozlov. Holds two additional USTA Pro Circuit singles titles.
- As a junior, competed in the junior US Open and represented the U.S. in Junior Davis Cup (16 and under).

## JC Aragone, 23, Yorba Linda, Calif.

- Made it to the third round of the ATP Challenger Tour Oracle Challenger Series in Newport Beach, Calif., as well as the ATP Challenger Tour in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Lost in the final round of singles qualifying at the 2018 US Open.
- Won his first career pro titles in 2018: two singles titles, at the USTA Pro Circuit \$25,000 Futures in Calabasas, Calif., and the ITF Pro Circuit \$25,000 event in Kelowna, Canada; and one doubles title, at a \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit Collegiate Series event in Winston-Salem, N.C.
- Graduated in May 2017 from the University of Virginia, where he was a part of three NCAA title-winning teams and clinched the victory for UVA in the title match last year.
- Won 37 singles matches for Virginia in his senior season, a career-best and team-high.
- Won three matches to qualify for the 2017 US Open; Also competed in the 2017 American Collegiate Invitational, a tournament for college players during the US Open.
- Competes with an insulin pump as a Type I diabetic.

## Christian Harrison, 24, Bradenton, Fla.

- Reached the second round of various ATP Challenger events this year including events in Newport Beach, Cleveland, Dallas and at Indian Wells Oracle Challenger Series.
- Fell in first round of the 2019 Australian Open qualifying.
- Reached the men's doubles third round at the 2018 US Open with brother Ryan; Reached the mixed doubles semifinals with sister-in-law Christina McHale.
- Qualified for the 2018 Wimbledon main draw before losing to Kei Nishikori in the first round.
- Reached the singles final of the \$75,000 USTA Pro Circuit clay court Challenger in May of 2018.
- Did not compete from July 2013 to August 2015 after suffering a series of injuries.
- Won first USTA Pro Circuit singles title of 2017 at the \$25,000 Futures in Tulsa, Okla., in July, then won another title a week later in Wichita, Kan.
- Won first career USTA Pro Circuit singles title in summer 2016 at the \$25,000 Futures in Champaign, Ill. Also holds one ITF-level singles title, won in Great Britain in 2013.
- Qualified for the 2016 US Open—his first-ever Grand Slam main draw.
- Advanced to the doubles quarterfinals at the 2012 US Open with older brother and Top 50 player Ryan Harrison.

## Thai-Son Kwiatkowski, 23, Charlottesville, S.C.

- Strong start to 2019, reached the quarter-finals in singles play and was a semi-finalist in doubles at the ATP Challenger in New Caledonia. Reached the semi-finals of the ATP Challenger in Vietnam a week later. Reached the third round of an ATP Challenger event in Sophia Antipolis, France.
- Reached the quarter-finals the ATP Challenger Tour event in Columbus as a qualifier. A month later reached the semi-finals in Charlottesville losing to Peter Polansky in straight sets.
- Won the American Collegiate Invitational in at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center to earn himself a wild card into the main draw the 2017 US Open where he was defeated in the first round.
- Made his ATP World Tour debut at Newport as a wild card in 2017
- Won the NCAA singles title as a senior and help lead The University of Virginia to three straight NCAA team titles
- Peaked at No. 13 in junior rankings on Mar. 11, 2013.
- Trains at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla.

## Collin Altamirano, 23, Sacramento, Calif.

- Reached the quarterfinals at the ATP Challenger Tour event in Newport Beach, Calif. in January.
- Reached the semifinals of the USTA Pro Circuit \$75,000 Challenger in Winnetka, Ill., and \$25,000 Futures in Iowa City, Iowa, in 2018.
- Played for three years at the University of Virginia, turning pro following last season.

- Has been a part of three consecutive NCAA-championship winning teams (2015-17).
- Was named All-ACC Second Team during sophomore and junior year.
- Captured first career USTA Pro Circuit singles title earlier this year at the \$25,000 Futures in Long Beach, Calif., while also reaching the final.  
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.

## Ulises Blanch, 20, Orlando, Fla.

- Reached the third round of the ATP Challenger Tour event in Cleveland, Ohio and at Indian Wells, Calif.
- Reached the quarter-finals of the ATP Challenger Tour Orlando Open earlier this year losing to American Michael Relicki, 6-7(3), 6-4, 6-7(3).
- Won his first ATP Challenger Tour title last year in Perugia, Italy defeating Italian Gianluigi Quinzi in straight sets, 7-5, 6-2.
- Began playing tennis at the age of five in Thailand began his training in Argentina at the age of 13.
- Born in Puerto Rico to Spanish parents. Father worked for Coca-Cola and family lived in China, India and Thailand for his job.
- Father, Ernesto, was a skier; brothers, Dali and Darwin, and sister, Krystal, all play tennis.

## Evan Song, 26, Henderson, Nev.

- Reached the third round of the Orlando Open at the USTA National Campus in January 2019
- Reached the main draw of ATP Challenger Tour events in Columbus and Knoxville in 2018 as a qualifier. Fell in the quarterfinals at the men's ATP Challenger Tour event in Houston losing to American Bradley Klahn.
- Competed mostly overseas in 2017 in ITF Pro Circuit events in Turkey, Thailand, Hong Kong, Colombia, Mexico, and the Netherlands.
- Holds two ITF Pro Circuit singles titles, winning one title in Mexico in 2017 and one title in Israel in 2014, as well as one doubles title in Israel also in 2014.

## Stefan Kozlov, 21, Pembroke Pines, Fla.

- Fell in the finals of the ITF World Tennis Tour M25 event in Calabasas, Calif. falling to American Alexander Ritschard in a third-set tie-break.
- Reached the third round of ATP Challenger Tour events in Orlando, Fla. and Morelos, Mexico this year.
- In 2017, competed in qualifying at all four Grand Slam events and won his seventh USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Pro Circuit singles title in October at the ATP Challenger in Las Vegas. Also reached the quarterfinals or better at five additional Challengers.
- Won the first three USTA Pro Circuit singles titles of his career in 2016 (\$25,000 Futures events in Los Angeles and Little Rock, Ark., \$75,000 Challenger in Columbus, Ohio).
- In June 2016, earned a wild card into the ATP event in 's-Hertogenbosch and reached the third round.
- In late 2014, reached the final of the \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit Challenger in Sacramento, Calif., losing to former Top 20 player Sam Querrey. In advancing to the Sacramento final at age 16, became the youngest American to reach a Challenger final since Andre Agassi in 1986.
- A junior standout, peaked at No. 2 in the world junior rankings in 2014, when he reached the junior boys' finals at both Wimbledon and the Australian Open, as well as the quarterfinals of the junior US Open and French Open. At the All England Club, fell to 2014 USTA Boys' 18s national champion Noah Rubin in the first all-American Wimbledon boys' final since 1977.
- In 2015, served as a practice partner for the U.S. Davis Cup Team in Glasgow, Scotland.

## Daniel Nguyen, 28, Oxnard, Calif.

- Won the doubles titles at the ATP Challenger Tour events in Binghamton, N.Y. in 2017 and Winnipeg, Canada in 2016.
- Holds 13 singles titles and five doubles titles in Futures events.
- Won the Boys' 16s and 18s doubles titles with partner JT Sundling at the USTA Junior National Championships in Kalamazoo, Mich in 2007 and 2009, respectively. Received a wild card entry into the main doubles draw of the 2009 US Open.
- Was part of the USC team that won the NCAA Team Championship title four consecutive years. Was named the NCCA Tournament Most Outstanding Player his sophomore season.

## Mikael Torpegaard, 24, Gentofte, Denmark

- Currently the highest ranked male tennis player from Denmark and member of the Denmark Davis Cup team.
- Finalist in back-to-back ATP Challenger Tour events in Columbus and Cleveland, Ohio this year. Claimed the singles title in Columbus, Ohio in his first ATP Challenger Tour event in 2016.
- Two-time Big Ten Athlete of the Year and a five-time All-American while at the Ohio State University. Tied for the fourth-most singles wins in school history with 128, was a runner up at the 2016 NCAA men's singles championship.