

## BRAIDY INDUSTRIES \$60,000 WOMEN'S TENNIS CLASSIC

presented by Bon Secour Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital  
ASHLAND, KY. • JULY 22-29



### TOURNAMENT INFO

**Site:** Ashland Tennis Center, Ashland, Ky.

**Websites:** [www.ashlandprotennis.com](http://www.ashlandprotennis.com)  
[www.procircuit.usta.com](http://www.procircuit.usta.com)

**Facebook:** Braidy Industries Tennis Classic presented by Bon Secour Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital

**Qualifying Draw Begins:** Sunday, July 22

**Main Draw Begins:** Tuesday, July 24

**Main Draw:** 32 Singles / 16 Doubles

**Surface:** Hard / Outdoor

**Prize Money:** \$60,000

**Tournament Director:**

Jack Ditty, (606) 923-5225  
[jackdittymd@roadrunner.com](mailto:jackdittymd@roadrunner.com)

**Tournament Press Contact:**

April McKenzie, (606) 547-1122  
[aprilmckenzie05@gmail.com](mailto:aprilmckenzie05@gmail.com)

**USTA Communications Contact:**

Pat Mitsch; (914) 697-2291; [mitsch@usta.com](mailto:mitsch@usta.com)

### PRIZE MONEY / POINTS

| SINGLES:        | Prize Money | Ranking Points |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|
| Winner          | \$9,119     | 80             |
| Runner-up       | \$4,863     | 48             |
| Semifinalist    | \$2,659     | 29             |
| Quarterfinalist | \$1,520     | 15             |
| Round of 16     | \$911       | 8              |
| Round of 32     | \$533       | 1              |

**DOUBLES:** Prize Money (per team)

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Winner          | \$3,344 |
| Runner-up       | \$1,672 |
| Semifinalist    | \$836   |
| Quarterfinalist | \$456   |
| Round of 16     | \$304   |

## USTA PRO CIRCUIT WOMEN'S TENNIS COMES TO ASHLAND AS US OPEN WILD CARD CHALLENGE SWEEPS THROUGH KENTUCKY

The road to the US Open, for at least one American woman, now has two stops in Northeastern Kentucky, as the **Braidy Industries \$60,000 Women's Tennis Classic** presented by Bon Secour Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital joins the USTA Pro Circuit for the US Open Wild Card Challenge.

The first-year tournament in Ashland joins the longtime event in Lexington, which is next week, as integral stops on the summer calendar, as a number of American women compete for a spot in next month's US Open, the final Grand Slam of the year.

The US Open Wild Card Challenge awards one American woman and man a main draw wild card entry into the US Open. The Classic is the third in the string of five \$60,000 USTA Pro Circuit women's events that, along with the WTA tournaments in San Jose, Calif., and Washington, D.C., will help determine which American woman, whose ranking falls outside the direct-entry cutoff for the US Open, gets into the year's final Grand Slam in New York.

The women's wild card will be awarded to the American with the highest cumulative total of WTA singles ranking points earned from their best two results during this five-week period.

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

Notable players competing in Ashland include:



Cathy Images for USTA

*Sachia Vickery beat two-time Grand Slam champion Garbine Muguruza to reach the third round at Indian Wells this spring, rising to No. 75 in the world.*

**Sachia Vickery, 23, Miramar, Fla.**

- Competed in WTA events throughout the European clay-court and grass-court seasons; Qualified and reached the second round at Wimbledon.
- Has been ranked as high as No. 75 in the world in 2018.
- Has had her best results on hard courts this year – beat two-time Grand Slam champion Garbine Muguruza to reach the third round at Indian Wells; also reached the semifinals at WTA events in Auckland and Monterrey.
- In 2017, qualified for the US Open and won her first-round match. Following the US Open, reached the quarterfinals of the WTA event in Quebec City and then won her third career USTA Pro Circuit singles title at the \$60,000 event in Templeton, Calif., at the end of September.
- In 2015, advanced to the quarterfinals of the WTA's Wimbledon tune-up event in Nottingham, Great Britain, and won the first two USTA Pro Circuit singles titles of her career at the \$25,000 Florida events in Plantation and Sunrise.
- In 2014, earned a main-draw wild card into the Australian Open by winning the



Pete Staples / USTA

*Caroline Dolehide won her first \$60,000 title at the USTA Pro Circuit clay-court event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla., in April.*

USTA's Australian Open Wild Card Playoff. Also in 2014, reached the quarterfinals at the US Open Series event in Stanford, Calif.—her first WTA quarterfinal.

- In 2013, won the USTA National Girls' 18s singles and doubles titles, earning wild cards into the main draws of the singles and doubles events at the US Open. At the Open, she won her first-round match in her Grand Slam debut, defeating Mirjana Lucic-Baroni in straight sets.
- As a junior, ascended to No. 6 in the ITF World Junior Rankings.

#### **Caroline Dolehide, 19, Orlando, Fla.**

- Came through qualifying to play in the main draws of both the French Open and Wimbledon; Won her first-round match at the French.
- Won her first \$60,000 title at the USTA Pro Circuit clay-court event in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla., in April.
- Advanced to the third round of the WTA event in Indian Wells in 2018, where she pushed world No. 1 Simona Halep to three sets.
- Won her first USTA Pro Circuit singles title in June 2016 at the \$10,000 event in Buffalo, N.Y.; also won her first career doubles title in Buffalo.
- Won two singles titles in 2017 at the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Surprise, Ariz., as well as the ITF Pro Circuit event in Winnipeg, Canada. Also holds three doubles titles.
- Advanced to first WTA quarterfinal in 2017 in Quebec City as a qualifier to break into the Top 150 for the first time. Also qualified and reached the second round at the US Open Series event in Stanford in 2017, losing to Madison Keys.
- Ranked as high as No. 16 in the ITF World Junior Rankings.
- Reached the singles semifinals at the 2014 junior US Open and the doubles final at both the 2015 junior French Open and the 2016 junior US Open.

#### **Kristie Ahn, 26, Upper Saddle River, N.J./Orlando, Fla.**

- Graduated from Stanford in 2014 as a four-time All-American; Went 97-17 in four seasons with the Cardinal and was named the 2014 ITA National Senior Player of the Year.
- Competed as a wild card at this year's Australian Open after winning the USTA Pro Circuit Australian Open Wild Card Challenge — was her first appearance in a Grand Slam main draw since the 2008 US Open.
- Qualified for the 2018 WTA Australian Open tune-up event in Sydney and beat Samantha Stosur in the first round of Charleston this year.
- Has won seven USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit singles titles overall, as well as two doubles titles.
- Qualified for the 2008 US Open, where she lost to former world No. 1 Dinara Safina in the first round.
- Has trained at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla.

#### **Jamie Loeb, 23, Ossining, N.Y.**

- Was a college star at the University of North Carolina, winning the 2015 NCAA Division I singles title to become the first singles national champion in North Carolina women's tennis history; Turned pro shortly thereafter.
- Was also the top-ranked college tennis player for most of her freshman year (2013-14); As a freshman, named the 2014

Intercollegiate Tennis Association Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year, as well as the 2014 ACC Women's Tennis Player of the Year, making her the third UNC player ever to earn that distinction.

- Reached a career-high ranking of No. 132 in February.
- Received a wild card into the 2015 US Open, where she lost to Caroline Wozniacki in the first round.
- Holds seven USTA/ITF Pro Circuit singles titles and seven doubles titles. Reached the singles final of the \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., this year.
- Coached by Felix Alvarado; Also works with Jay Devashetty and Dom Lasic

#### **Grace Min, 24, Atlanta/Orlando, Fla.**

- Won her 10th USTA Pro Circuit singles title, and first of 2018, at the \$25,000 women's event in Bethany Beach, Del. Also reached the final at the \$25,000 event in Daytona Beach, Fla., the first tournament of the 2018 season.
- Qualified for the French Open this year and lost in the first round; Lost in qualifying for Wimbledon 2018.
- Peaked at a career-high No. 97 in the world in March 2015 after reaching the second round of the WTA's Rio Open and competing in Indian Wells.
- In 2014, reached the semifinals of the WTA event in Bad Gastein, Austria—her first-ever WTA semifinal—and competed in the US Open and French Open main draws and qualifying at Roland Garros.
- Was one of the top juniors in the world in 2011, when she won the US Open girls' singles title and the Wimbledon girls' doubles title, propelling her to No. 4 in the world junior rankings.
- Trains at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla.

#### **Jessica Pegula, 24, Buffalo, N.Y.**

- Had the Week 1 lead in the US Open Wild Card Challenge after reaching the finals of the \$60,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Honolulu.
- Has reached the singles quarterfinals or better at five USTA Pro Circuit events this year, and has made the doubles final at three \$60,000-plus events in 2018.
- Did not compete from January 2017 to August 2017 due to injury.
- Qualified for the 2016 US Open main draw and competed in US Open qualifying in 2017.
- Advanced to her first career WTA semifinal in summer 2016 in Washington, D.C.
- Played in just one tournament in 2014 after having knee surgery. Returned to competition in 2015 and, in her comeback, qualified for the 2015 US Open and won her first-round match in her first-ever Grand Slam main draw.
- Career-high rankings of No. 123 in singles and No. 92 in doubles. Holds five USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles, including two titles in 2017.

#### **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., that 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 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.

## **Ashley Kratzer, 19, Newport Beach, Calif.**

- Won the 2017 USTA Girls' National Championships singles title in San Diego last August to earn a wild card into the US Open.
- This year, reached the semifinals of the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Osprey, Fla., in May.
- Last summer, reached back-to-back quarterfinals at \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit events in Sumter, S.C., and Baton Rouge, La., and then reached the final at the \$60,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Stockton, Calif.

## **Louisa Chirico, 22, 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 USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla.

## **Kayla Day, 18, Santa Barbara, Calif.**

- Peaked at a career-high No. 122 in the world in June 2017 after reaching the semifinals of the \$100,000 ITF Pro Circuit event in Marseille.
- In summer 2017, competed in the US Open as a wild card and won a match at the US Open Series event in Stanford, Calif., where she also reached the doubles semifinals.
- Also in 2017, advanced to the third round of Indian Wells and reached the singles final and won the doubles title at the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.
- Competed in the Australian Open for the first time in 2017 after winning the USTA Pro Circuit Australian Open Wild Card Challenge.
- Won the 2016 US Open girls' singles title and shot to No. 1 in the world junior rankings. Also reached the semifinals of junior Wimbledon in 2016.
- Also at the 2016 US Open, earned a wild card into the main draw and won her first-round match over Madison Brengle in her Grand Slam debut.
- Won her first career USTA Pro Circuit singles title in 2016 at the \$50,000 event in Macon, Ga.
- Moved from No. 998 in the rankings at the end of 2015 to No. 195 at the end of 2016.
- Helped lead the U.S. to a second-place finish on clay in Madrid at the 2015 Junior Fed Cup final.
- Served as a practice partner for the U.S. Fed Cup team in February 2017 for its first-round win over Germany in Maui.
- Trains at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Fla.

## **Asia Muhammad, 27, Las Vegas**

- Current Top 100 doubles player; Has won three Pro Circuit \$60,000-plus doubles titles in 2018. Holds two WTA doubles titles (s'Hertogenbosch 2015; Guangzhou 2016) and reached the doubles quarterfinals of the 2016 US Open; 28 career USTA Pro Circuit and ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles.
- Broke into the singles Top 125 in 2017 after winning her fourth USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Pro Circuit singles title at a \$60,000 event in Australia and also qualifying for the WTA event in Charleston, S.C. Also qualified for the WTA grass-court event in s'Hertogenbosch, Netherlands, in June.
- Only Grand Slam main draw singles appearance came in 2008 when she earned a wild card into the US Open.
- Learned to play tennis at the Andre Agassi Boys and Girls Club in Las Vegas.

## **Danielle Lao, 26, Arcadia, Calif.**

- Graduated from USC in 2013 after twice earning All-America honors in her college career. Led the Trojans to back-to-back Pac-12 team championships and was a team captain her senior year.
- In 2017, made Grand Slam debut after qualifying for the US Open, and shortly thereafter reached a career-high ranking of No. 193. Also reached singles finals at the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Surprise, Ariz., and an ITF Pro Circuit event in Korea that year.
- Won her first pro singles titles in 2015 – at the ITF event in Leon, Mexico, and at the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Baton Rouge, La.

- Won the 2016 US Open National Playoffs – Women’s Doubles Championship with Jacqueline Cako to earn a wild card into the US Open doubles draw.
- Holds three USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Circuit doubles titles.
- After college, wrote a book, “Invaluable Experience,” about playing college tennis.

## **Maria Sanchez, 28, Los Angeles**

- Has thrived in doubles and has competed in all four Grand Slam tournaments in doubles, peaking at No. 56 in the world in doubles in September 2016.
- Won a WTA doubles title in 2014 in Auckland, New Zealand, with Sharon Fichman; also holds 21 USTA/ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles, the latest coming at the \$100,000 grass-court event in Ilkley, Great Britain, this June.
- Won both of her USTA Pro Circuit singles titles in 2012, one coming at a \$50,000 event in Sacramento.
- Peaked at No. 107 in the world in singles in July 2013.
- Also in 2013, made her debut in a Grand Slam main draw by earning a wild card into the US Open.
- Was the No. 1-ranked collegian and an ITA All-American at the University of Southern California, winning the 2011 USTA/ITA National Indoor Intercollegiate Championship singles title.
- As a junior player, was ranked No. 1 in the U.S. as a 16-year-old and No. 4 in the country as an 18-year-old.

## **Emina Bektas, 25, Indianapolis**

- Holds 13 USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Pro Circuit doubles titles, including seven won in 2017.
- Peaked at a career-high No. 125 in the world in doubles in August 2017 and played in the US Open doubles draw last year as a wild card.
- Won the 2016 US Open National Playoffs – Mixed Doubles Championship to earn a wild card into the mixed doubles main draw at the 2016 US Open.
- Played for the University of Michigan, graduating in 2015 as the Wolverines’ all-time leader in singles wins, with 129, and combined wins, with 258.
- Also played in the NCAA singles tournament all four years of her collegiate career—the first Wolverine in school history to do so.
- Holds two USTA Pro Circuit singles titles (\$10,000 Evansville, Ind., in 2013, and \$80,000 Albuquerque, N.M., in 2017) and one ITF Pro Circuit singles title (\$10,000 Mexico City in 2016).

## **Whitney Osuigwe, 16, Bradenton, Fla.**

- Held the No. 1 world junior ranking for nine months and was named the ITF’s World Junior Champion for 2017.
- 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 there in 2017 and 2018.
- 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, and also won the doubles title at the \$25,000 event in Jackson, Miss., this April.

## **Usue Arconada, 19, College Park, Md.**

- Ranked as high as No. 5 in the world junior rankings.
- Won her first pro-level match at age 14, in qualifying for the WTA’s Citi Open in Washington, D.C., in 2013, beating then 26-year-old Maria Irigoyen. In 2016, won her first WTA match at the Citi Open as a wild card.
- This year, qualified for the WTA event in Monterrey, Mexico, in April, and won her second career USTA Pro Circuit doubles title at the \$25,000 event in Daytona Beach, Fla.
- Reached the final of the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Pelham, Ala., in 2017, as well as four additional USTA Pro Circuit/ITF Pro Circuit singles semifinals.
- Won the junior doubles title at Wimbledon in 2016 (with Claire Liu) and reached the girls’ singles quarterfinals; also reached the third round in singles and the quarterfinals in doubles at the 2015 and 2016 junior US Open.
- Born in Argentina and moved to Puerto Rico when her father accepted a position as Puerto Rico’s national volleyball coach.

Notable players competing in Qualifying:

## **Ann Li, 17, Devon, Pa.**

- Ranked as high as No. 12 in the world in the junior rankings in January 2018.
- Reached the singles final at junior Wimbledon in 2017 in the second-ever all-American girls’ final at the All England Club, dating back to 1947.
- Won the first USTA Pro Circuit singles title of her career last year at the \$15,000 event in Evansville, Ind.
- This year, qualified for the \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Midland, Mich., and reached the semifinals of the \$25,000 event in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., as a qualifier.
- Competed in US Open qualifying in 2017 as a wild card.

## **Julia Elbaba, 24, 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.

## **Ashley Lahey, 18, Hawthorne, Calif.**

- Recently completed her sophomore season at Pepperdine, where she reached the final of the NCAA Singles Championship this year—the first-ever Wave to do so.
- Compiled a 27-5 overall record her sophomore year.
- Earned All-America honors her freshman and sophomore year.
- Holds one USTA Pro Circuit singles title, won in Sumter, S.C., in 2017.

- Competed in US Open qualifying in 2017 after receiving a wild card into the tournament.

**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.

**Salma Ewing, 17, Long Beach, Calif.**

- Will begin her collegiate career at USC in the fall.
- Won her first pro singles title at the \$15,000 hard-court event in Stellenbosch, South Africa, last December.
- Has only played in four pro events in 2018; Reached the singles quarterfinals as a wild card entry at the \$25,000 USTA Pro Circuit event in Osprey, Fla., in May, her first pro action since February.

**Brynn Boren, 26, Laguna Niguel, Calif.**

- Won her first pro doubles title since 2011 at the \$15,000 event in Victoria, B.C., earlier this year.
- Former collegiate standout at Tennessee, where she was a doubles All-American, and at USC.

**Ena Shibahara, 20, Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif.**

- Two-time All-American and two-time Pac-12 Player of the Year in her first two seasons at UCLA; Went 40-7 in singles as a freshman and 25-9 as a sophomore.
- 2016 US Open girls' doubles champion.