



WOMEN'S USTA PRO CIRCUIT EVENTS USTAPD WILD CARD GUIDELINES

As of October 1, 2014

Wild Cards to the USTA Professional Circuit women's singles and doubles events are awarded by the Head of Women's Tennis, USTAPD National Coaching staff and the Tournament Director of the event, respectively. The policy for the Player Development staff is to primarily promote upcoming American players when awarding the USTA Wild Cards. We also encourage Tournament Directors to award the Wild Cards controlled by the event to American players.

These guidelines are for players considering requesting a Wild Card for USTA Professional Circuit Events. As always, the USTAPD National Coaching Staff will objectively consider every Wild Card request sent to our attention

As of this date, the events below have the following wild cards available:

	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>USTA WILD CARDS</u>	<u>EVENT WILD CARDS</u>
10K Events	Singles	2 Main – 6 Qualifying	*2 Main – 2 Qualifying
	Doubles	2 Main – 0 Qualifying	1 Main – 1 Qualifying
25K Events	Singles	3 Main – 3 Qualifying (5 Q-64 draw)	1 Main – 3 Qualifying (3 Q-64 draw)
	Doubles	2 Main – 0 Qualifying	1 Main – 1 Qualifying
50K-100K Events	Singles	3 Main – 3 Qualifying	1 Main – 3 Qualifying
	Doubles	2 Main – 0 Qualifying	1 Main – 1 Qualifying

* *The Tournament Director holds two main draw wild cards if he/she holds a wild card event. If not, the wild cards are returned to the USTAPD (for a total of 3 Main Draw Wild Cards).*

In requesting a wild card, the USTA Player Development National Coaching staff has a basic philosophy when deciding upon the distribution of USTAPD Wild Cards.

- USTAPD Wild Cards will be given primarily to upcoming players with a strong record in national and/or international competitions.
- USTAPD Wild Cards may be awarded to players for past service to the U.S. in tennis, to re-establish a ranking due to an injury.
- It is important developmentally for our best young prospects to “earn” their way into the main draw of events by winning matches in the qualifying.
- It is important for players to establish themselves at each level of tournaments before moving on to the higher level. Typically, players need to prove themselves at each level before they will be strongly considered for Wild Cards at the next level.
- Developing players will generally be given preference over more experienced players with a similar ranking. Players who have played on the USTA Pro Circuit for several years, who have not shown significant improvement in their results and ranking will seldom be considered for a Wild Card.
- The USTAPD National Coaching Staff strongly discourages Wild Card dependency by American players. Players should always be prepared to qualify in any tournament they wish to enter.
- When requesting Wild Cards into 50K and 75K events, a player should be ranked in the top 450 of the WTA, have shown exceptional results in the Women's 25K events and/or shown exceptional results in national and international junior competition.
- Age eligibility rules limiting Wild Cards will be considered when granting Wild Cards.
- All players requesting a Wild Card must have an IPIN, which can be obtained at www.itftennis.com

Wild Card requests for USTA Women's Circuit events should be submitted online and should be received no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the event. The wild cards are collected by *Herlinda Lombardi and Natalie Mesler*. *Herlinda can be contacted at (561) 962-6428 or Herlinda@usta.com or Natalie Mesler at (561) 962-6412 or Natalie.Mesler@usta.com*. Wild Card Request Forms for USTA Women's Circuits are available on the website at www.playerdevelopment.usta.com (Click Player Services) or www.procircuit.usta.com.

If USTA or USTAPD finds that Wild Cards are being sold or bartered, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.