



**Dow Tennis  
Classic**



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## **TOP AMERICAN WOMEN AWARDED WILD CARDS INTO DOW TENNIS CLASSIC**

**The Greater Midland Tennis Center to Host \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit Event,  
January 28-February 4**

**MIDLAND, Michigan, January 23, 2017** – The USTA today announced that Christina McHale, Alison Riske, and Madison Brengle, have been awarded wild card entries into the 2018 Dow Tennis Classic. The \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit women’s event will take place January 28 - February 4 at the Greater Midland Tennis Center in Midland.

Christina McHale, 25, of Teaneck, New Jersey, is currently ranked No. 73 in the world and reached a career high ranking of No. 24 in the world in 2012. In singles she has reached the third round of each Grand Slam. McHale has also claimed two singles titles on the WTA tour, with her most recent title coming in October 2016 at the Tianjin Open.

Alison Riske, 27, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is currently ranked No. 84 in the world and reached a career high ranking on No. 36 in the world in May 2017. In singles she has reached five finals on the WTA Tour, taking home the title at the Tianjin Open in 2014.

Madison Brengle, 27, of Dover, Delaware, is currently ranked No. 90 in the world and reached a career high ranking of No. 35 in the world in 2015. Brengle has reached one final on the WTA Tour and has recorded top-ten wins over Petra Kvitova and Serena Williams.

“We already had a very strong singles field, but now you add in three very experienced American players with Brengle, McHale and Riske and we have a very exciting tournament unfolding,” said Tournament Director Scott Mitchell.

Local Michigan players Ellie Coleman and Karina Miller were also awarded a wild card into the main draw doubles event. Coleman recently won a USTA National Selection Level 2 tournament in Delray Beach, Florida in the 16-and-under singles division and shortly after she reached the finals of the prestigious Junior Orange Bowl International Tennis Championship. Miller claimed the Division 1 No. 1 singles title for the Ann Arbor Pioneers in June 2017.

“It is a great opportunity for the Great Lakes Bay Region to come and see some of the best junior tennis players in the country. Ellie is coming off a fantastic performance at this year’s Orange Bowl and we are excited to see her play. Anne (Miller) Borus and Meredith McGrath were both able to test the waters at the Dow Tennis Classic, and now these young ladies will have the chance to as well,” said Mitchell.

The Dow Tennis Classic, a \$100,000 USTA Pro Circuit event, will be held at the Greater Midland Tennis Center, January 28 - February 4. Professional athletes from around the world will be competing for \$100,000 in prize money, as well as valuable WTA Tour Ranking points.

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## ABOUT THE USTA PRO CIRCUIT:

With more than 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 39 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, Maria Sharapova, 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](http://www.procircuit.usta.com).

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