



## **Women's Palmetto Pro Open Main Draw Began Today With The Top Two Single Seeds Prevailing.**

**Sumter, SC:** The 12<sup>th</sup> year of the Palmetto Pro Open started off today with a display of aggressive hitting to great defense with the top two seeds having a strong showing. The top seeded players of Usue Maitane Arconada holding the one seed and Hailey Baptiste the two seed both showed solid performances utilizing two different styles of play. Arconada a former top 5 world ranked junior and 2016 junior Wimbledon doubles champion enters The Palmetto Pro Open with a lot of momentum after winning last week both the singles and doubles titles in the 25K in Bethany Beach Fl. Known for her tough defense to offense Arconada continued her momentum defeating Jada Robinson 6-0, 6-3 in her first round. The two seed 18 yr. old Hailey Baptiste, last year's Palmetto Pro Open Quarterfinalist displayed her aggressive first strike mentality and game style taking out Andrea Renee Villarreal 6-1, 7-5.

Having finished a very successful year at the #1 singles spot as a freshman for Duke and last year's Palmetto Pro Open semi-finalist, No. 3 seed Maria Mateas had a tough first round loss today to wild card Katherine Fahey 6-1, 6-2.

No. 5 seed Sophie Chang won a competitive match taking out Maccartney Kessler 6-4, 6-3. No. 6 see Dea Herdzelas survived a tough first set to win 7-5, 6-2. Rounding out the seeds the No. 4 seed Tereza Mihalikova's match versus Natasha Subhash was suspended due to rain at 3-2 in the first set.

Two Women's doubles matches followed the singles but were suspended to finish tomorrow Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Carson Branstine and Maria Mateas completed the first set 6-2, against Katherine Fahey and Alexa Graham. Haley Giavara and Madeleine Kobelt were at 6-2, 1-2 before the skies opened up with rain to suspend both matches for the day.

Main Draw singles action and the completion of the doubles will begin tomorrow Thursday, June 13 at 10:00 am.

Admission to all matches are free.

### **ABOUT Palmetto Tennis Center:**

Palmetto Tennis Center is a National Tennis Court in Palmetto Park in Sumter, South Carolina. It is one of the largest tennis center's in the state. They have 24 lit hard courts. All play is free to the community and there is programming available for 3 yr. olds through adults. They host several tournaments every year both junior and adult.

### **ABOUT THE USTA PRO CIRCUIT:**

With approximately 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 38 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 nearly \$3 million in prize money. Last year, more than 1000 men and women from more than 70 countries competed in cities nationwide. **Andy Murray, Maria Sharapova, Serena Williams, John Isner, Sloane Stephens, Kei Nishikori, Victoria Azarenka** and **Sam Querrey** are among today's top stars who began their careers on the USTA Pro Circuit.

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