



## **Sumter, SC – 6/17/22: Palmetto Pro Open Top Two Seeds Hanna Chang and Sophie Chang with Straight Set Wins into Semifinals. Defending Champion Peyton Stearns Upset in Three Sets in Quarterfinals.**

Top two seeds Hanna Chang (USA) and Sophie Chang (USA) had wins today in the quarterfinals in straight sets, setting themselves up for a possible showdown in the finals. Hanna defeated Nicole Coopersmith 6-2,6-1 while Sophie won her match against Ellie Douglas also in a decisive manor 6-3,6-1. Hanna continues to defend the baseline while keeping her opponent neutralized then getting on the offense as she works the points. Sophie has continued to serve big and follow it up with a power game utilizing the whole court both side to side but also looking to move forward and keep the pressure on her opponent with cumulative pressure. These two formidable players styles could be a great matchup if they both hold their seeds into the finals. Tomorrow's semifinals will be telling.

Defending Champion, Peyton Stearns almost had a repeat comeback from her round of 16 but fell just short to Himeno Sakatsume (JPN) 6-2,4-6,6-4 in the quarters. Peyton again split sets and into the 3<sup>rd</sup> set found herself once again down a break 3-5 to Himeno who was serving for the match. Another solid returning game and aggressive play won Peyton back the break to go back on serve 4-5 looking like the same turnaround she had the day before. Himeno had other plans though and served a very confident service game making the majority of her first serves and then dictating play to follow it up not allowing Peyton to get ahead in any of the rallies taking the deciding set 6-4 earning a spot in the Semi-finals.

In the women's doubles twins and number two seeds Allura Zamarripa and Maribella Zamarripa defeated Kennedy Shaffer and Amy Zhu 3-6,6-3, (10-3) to advance to the Semi-finals. They will take on number 3 seeded team Dalayna Hewitt and Rasheed McAdoo. In the other Semi-finals Number four seeded Americans Kylie Collins and Peyton Stearns will take on fellow Americans and number one seeded team of Hanna Chang and Elizabeth Madlik.

Semi-finals of Singles is scheduled for Saturday June 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 with doubles following.

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

Palmetto Tennis Center is a National Tennis Court in Palmetto Park in Sumter, South Carolina. It is the largest tennis center in the state. They have 24 lit hard courts and 8 state of the art German red clay courts under construction; to open soon. All play is free to the community and there is programming available from ages 4 years old through adults. They host several tournaments every year from local, college, state, regional, national, and pro circuit events.

### **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.

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