

8-16/10/2016

VICTORIA PARK TENNIS STADIUM
 維多利亞公園網球主場

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR NEWSLETTER AUG 2016

COUNTDOWN
TIMER

28
DAYS
TO GO

The wait is over! We can finally reveal our star player line-up... and while Prudential Hong Kong Tennis Open (PHKTO) wooed some of the world's greatest female tennis stars to Victoria Park in its first two years, I believe we have beaten our own expectations with the stars now on board.

First, we are thrilled to see former world number one Jelena Jankovic returning to defend her 2015 PHKTO championship title.

Jelena will face a fiercely competitive field, including British number one Johanna Konta, a fast-rising WTA star who, in 2016, became the first British woman to reach the top 20 for over three decades, and who made a stunning Olympic debut in Rio last month.

And adding a certain je ne sais quoi, we have not one but two French Open doubles champions: Caroline Garcia and Kristina Mladenovic, ranked French number one and two respectively. Garcia and Mladenovic's fast-paced doubles game will be sure to thrill the stadium.

Meanwhile we are delighted to welcome China's number three Wang Qiang, who has 13 career ITF titles and the 2014 Asian Games championship under her belt.

The field promises an exhilarating week of battles and drama, unmatched in the region. We do expect the first player announcement to lead to a surge in public ticket sales and we will surely see the last few remaining VIP boxes snapped up quickly, so please let us know very soon if you need to reserve your space. Our VIP boxes are a top entertainment package coupled with the best seats in the house, so don't miss out on this hospitality opportunity! Other tickets are running out, hurry and grab yourself the best possible seat now!

On the 6th September, PHKTO Press Conference took place at Hysan Place to announce the reigning Australian Open champion, Angelique Kerber; former world number ones Caroline Wozniacki; seven-time Grand Slam winner, Venus Williams; Samantha Stosur, the 2011 US Open champion; and five-time WTA singles titles winner Alize Cornet as the list of marquee players this year.

On behalf of the tournament committee, I'm proud to welcome some key new sponsors on board, with a special mention to Lalique, Lotto, Head and Gatorade. Also, special thanks to this year's digital sponsors Epson, Fuji-Xerox (Hong Kong), 1010 and Sony.

This month, I'm proud to announce PHKTO has added two new focuses: charity and community. In particular, we're gearing up for two new events: Can Challenge and Bounce for Charity, which will both receive matching funds from our official charity partner Friends of Asia Hong Kong. All proceeds will be donated to InspiringHK Sports Foundation and Hong Kong Adventist Hospital Foundation as well as a special HKTA-run tennis course for special needs children. This community and charity work comes after the climax of our Let's Serve programme, which supported near 10,000 school children in Hong Kong over the last few months and boosted 100 youngsters into free places at HKTA's Future Star Training.

Looking forward to seeing you at one of our charity events or courtside for the tournament, if not before!

Best wishes



Christopher Lai

Tournament Director

Prudential Hong Kong Tennis Open 2016



ORGANISER



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