

TENNIS HALL OF FAMER MATS WILANDER AND DEBRA OF AMERICA AT 100-YEAR-OLD WEST SIDE TENNIS CLUB FOR 2ND CHARITY TENNIS PRO-AM

Play With Current And Former Pro Players To Support Epidermolysis Bullosa – “The Worst Disease You’ve Never Heard Of.”

NEW YORK, NY (May 8, 2014) — *The 2nd Annual Mats Wilander Foundation Tennis Pro-Am* will be held Wednesday, August 27, 2014 from 8am to 4pm on the grass courts of the historic West Side Tennis Club in Forest Hills, Queens, NYC. Play with Mats Wilander and current and former pros on three different court surfaces to raise money and awareness for Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB). EB is a rare, debilitating, and fatal genetic connective tissue disorder that affects 1 out of every 20,000 live births in the United States. Because their skin is so fragile, those with EB are often known as ‘Butterfly Children.’

The Tennis Pro-Am is open to guests of all ages and playing levels. Past pros have included: John McEnroe, Jim Courier, Jonas Björkman, Thomas Blake, Thomas Johansson, Mikael Pernfors, and Karel Nováček. You will enjoy a full-day of dining, instructional clinics, pro challenges, individual competitions, and new this year, team competitions. Register as a 4-person Doubles Team with your friends or colleagues and compete for prizes! All ticket sales, including the \$275 Player Pass ticket, benefit **debra of America**, the only national nonprofit dedicated to funding research for treatments and a cure, while providing supportive services and programs for those who suffer from this rare and painful genetic disorder. For sponsorship opportunities, visit: debra.org/Tennis

Ticket includes:

- Playing with Mats Wilander, Former #1 Tennis Player in the World, 7 Grand Slam Singles Titles & International Tennis Hall of Fame Member
- Hitting with Former & Current Tennis Pros on 3 Court Surfaces - Including Grass!
- Instructional Clinics, Competition Drills & Round-Robins
- Team Competition for Prizes (NEW!)
- Pro Meet-and-Greet
- Viewing a Professional Exhibition Match in the Former *US Open Tennis Championships* Stadium
- Continental Breakfast and Barbecue Lunch with Beer, Wine & Cocktails

ABOUT THE MW FOUNDATION

‘Save It. Send It. Share It.’ are the ideals that the MW Foundation stands for, not only while on a tennis court but for everyday life. Mats Wilander started the Foundation in association with Wilander on Wheels, when his 15-year-old son Erik, was born with a mild form of Epidermolysis Bullosa. Mats has been instrumental in helping **debra of America** raise awareness for Epidermolysis Bullosa and funds for research and the supportive services and programs.

ABOUT DEBRA OF AMERICA

The Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association of America (**debra of America**) founded in 1980, is headquartered in New York City, and is the only national nonprofit that supports the research for treatments and a cure, while providing services and programs to those who suffer from Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB). debra.org

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FOR MEDIA COVERAGE

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WHAT IS EB? Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB) is a rare genetic connective tissue disorder in which children do not produce a vital protein which allows their skin to adhere to itself. Because their skin is so fragile, they are often known as ‘Butterfly Children.’ EB afflicts both genders and all racial and ethnic backgrounds equally. The most well-known and prominent manifestation of EB is blistering or tearing of the skin from any friction. That means taking off a shirt or a hug is incredibly painful and causes the skin to peel away. Imagine your child suffering from a disease where more than 70% of their body is covered in open sores and blisters.

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WE ARE A 501(c)(3) TAX-EXEMPT NONPROFIT

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