



ST. PETERSBURG OPEN - ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 4 - THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER 2021

Sibur Arena | St. Petersburg, Russia | 25-31 October 2021

ATP Tour

ATPTour.com

Twitter: @ATPTour

Facebook: @ATPTour

Tournament

SPBOpen.ru

@Formula_TX

@FormulaTX

Media

Zhensu Xiao: zhensu.xiao@atptour.com (ATP PR)

Anastasiya Filippova: nastja.filippova@gmail.com (Press Officer)

TV & Radio: TennisTV.com

ATP HEAD2HEAD: THURSDAY SECOND ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

CENTRE COURT

John Millman (AUS) vs [4] Aslan Karatsev (RUS)

First Meeting

John Millman | Age: 32 | World No. 57 | Career-High No. 33 | 2021: 22-24 (5 QF) | St. Pete: 1-0

> After undergoing right shoulder surgery in 2013 and groin surgery in 2017, achieved new career-high ranking 10 times in 2018 and peaked at No. 33.

> Saved 2 MPs vs. Paul en route to 1st ATP Tour title as 31-year-old at 2020 Nur-Sultan.

> Saved 3 MPs vs. Bedene en route to 1st final at 2018 Budapest and 3 MPs vs. Klahn en route to 2nd final at 2019 Tokyo as Q.

> Upset 5-time champion and World No. 2 Federer for biggest win of career and to reach 1st Grand Slam QF at 2018 US Open.

> In his hometown of Brisbane, made ATP Tour debut in 2010 (l. to Stepanek), earned 1st career win in 2013 (d. Ito) and went 2-0 at 2020 ATP Cup (d. Auger-Aliassime and Pervolarakis).

Note: Millman has a 1-2 record against Russian players on the ATP Tour since 2019.

Aslan Karatsev | Age: 28 | World No. 19 | Career-High No. 19 | 2021: 34-18 (W Dubai, Moscow) | St. Pete: 1-2

> Rose from No. 114 to No. 42 following run to 2021 Australian Open SF, then achieved career-high No. 23 following 24-12 start to season.

> At 2021 Australian Open, became 1st player in Open Era to reach SF in Grand Slam main draw debut, 1st qualifier to reach Grand Slam SF since Voltchkov at 2000 Wimbledon, and lowest-ranked Grand Slam semi-finalist since No. 125 Ivanisevic at 2001 Wimbledon.

> Ended 23-match ATP 500 win streak of countryman Rublev en route to 2021 Dubai title, then defeated No. 1 Djokovic at 2021 Belgrade-1 and No. 2 Medvedev at 2021 Rome.

> In mixed doubles w/Vesnina, finished as 2021 Roland Garros runner-up and 2020 Tokyo Olympics silver medallist in All-Russian final (held in 2021).

> Went 18-2 at Challengers following tour resumption in August 2020, including titles at Prague-2 and Ostrava.

Note: Karatsev begins his St. Petersburg campaign after winning his 2nd career ATP Tour Title in Moscow last week.

[5] Taylor Fritz (USA) vs Tommy Paul (USA)

First Tour Level Meeting

Other Meetings

15 Spain F13 (Spain)

17 Winnetka CH (U.S.A.)

17 Champaign CH (U.S.A.)

| | | | |
|------|-----|--------------|-------------|
| Clay | SF | Tommy Paul | 3-6 6-4 6-3 |
| Hard | R16 | Tommy Paul | 7-6(7) 7-5 |
| Hard | QF | Taylor Fritz | 6-1 3-0 ret |

Taylor Fritz | Age: 23 | World No. 28 | Career-High No. 24 | 2021: 27-19 (5 SF) | St. Pete: 1-1

> In 2021, became No. 1 American, and in 2019, became youngest American in Top 25 at age 21 since Roddick, 21, in 2004.

> Also in 2019, captured 1st ATP Tour title at Eastbourne and earned 5 victories vs. Top 10, including biggest win of career over No. 5 Thiem at Laver Cup.

> Reached 2016 Memphis final as 18-year-old WC and remains youngest American finalist since Chang, 17, at 1989 Wembley.

> Owns 0-7 record in Grand Slam 3R (0-5 vs. Top 10), including 5-set loss to World No. 1 and eventual champion Djokovic at 2021 Australian Open.

> Ended junior career in 2015 as World No. 1 after winning US Open title, reaching Roland Garros final and posting wins over future Top-10 ATP players Rublev, Shapovalov and Tsitsipas.

Note: Fritz is a fan of gaming and travels on the ATP Tour with his own gaming pc and equipment.

Tommy Paul | Age: 24 | World No. 54 | Career-High No. 50 | 2021: 19-21-18 (1 SF, Parma) | St. Pete: 1-0
 > Former World No. 3 junior achieved career-high No. 50 after advancing to 2nd ATP Tour SF at 2021 Parma.
 > Qualified en route to 2020 Adelaide SF and 2020 Acapulco QF, where he earned biggest win of career in 2R over No. 7 A. Zverev.
 > Earned 1st Grand Slam win (d. Mayer) and 1st win in a 5-setter (d. Dimitrov) to reach 2020 Australian Open 3R.
 > After qualifying in men's singles at 2015 US Open, ended junior career there by reaching boys' singles final (d. de Minaur 6-0 6-0, l. to Fritz).
 > Grew up playing on clay courts in North Carolina, preparing him for run to 2015 Roland Garros boys' singles title (d. Fritz) and boys' doubles final w/Blumberg.

Note: Paul has a 1-3 record against Russians on the 2021 ATP Tour (l. to both Rublev and Karatsev).

Marin Cilic (CRO) vs [6] Karen Khachanov (RUS)

18 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati (U.S.A.)

Hard R16

Marin Cilic

Cilic Leads 1-0

7-6(5) 3-6 6-4

Marin Cilic | Age: 33 | World No. 35 | Career-High No. 3 | 2021: 27-18 (T, Stuttgart) | St. Pete: 9-3 (T, 2011)
 > Broke into Top 10 after reaching 2010 Australian Open SF and achieved career-high No. 3 following run to 2018 Australian Open final.
 > Defeated Federer en route to 2014 US Open title but fell to Swiss in 2017 Wimbledon and 2018 Australian Open finals.
 > Earned biggest career wins over No. 1 Djokovic (2016 Paris) and No. 1 Nadal (2018 Australian Open) before beating countryman Karlovic for 500th win (2019 Moscow).
 > Won 2016 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati title, clinched 2018 Davis Cup for Croatia and earned silver medal in All-Croatian men's doubles final at 2020 Tokyo Olympics w/Dodig (held in 2021).
 > Captured 19th tour-level title at 2021 Stuttgart, where he became 1st player since 1991 to win 100% of his 1st-serve points in multiple matches at a single tournament (3 matches).

Note: Cilic has reached the finals at Stuttgart (d. Auger-Aliassime) & Moscow (l. Karatsev) in 2021.

Karen Khachanov | Age: 25 | World No. 30 | Career-High No. 8 | 2021: 35-22 (F, Olympics) | St. Pete: 5-5
 > Broke into Top 10 and achieved career-high No. 8 in 2019, becoming 1st Russian in Top 10 since Youzhny in 2011.
 > Upset Top-10 players Isner, A. Zverev, Thiem and Djokovic en route to 2018 ATP Masters 1000 Paris title.
 > First Russian to win an ATP Masters 1000 title since Davydenko at 2009 Shanghai and 1st unseeded ATP Masters 1000 champion since Nalbandian at 2007 Paris.
 > Advanced to Grand Slam QFs at 2019 Roland Garros and 2021 Wimbledon, where he broke Korda 7 times in 5th set of 4R win.
 > Entered 2020 Tokyo Olympics as No. 4 Russian and went on to earn silver medal (held in 2021).

Note: Khachanov has reached the Round of 16 or better in 10 of 17 ATP Tour tournaments in 2021.

[3] Roberto Bautista Agut (ESP) vs Mackenzie McDonald (USA) Bautista Agut Leads 1-0

18 ATP Masters 1000 Shanghai (China)

Hard R32

Roberto Bautista Agut

3-6 6-4 6-1

Roberto Bautista Agut | Age: 33 | World No. 20 | Career-High No. 9 | 2021: 28-23 (F Washington) | St. Pete: 13-6
 > Captured 9 ATP Tour titles, achieved career-high No. 9 in 2019 and earned 300th win in 2020 (d. Sandgren in US Open 1R).
 > Went 6-0 at 2020 ATP Cup to lead Team Spain to final and 2-1 at 2019 Davis Cup to help Spain win title.
 > Reached 1st Grand Slam SF at 2019 Wimbledon and 1st Grand Slam QF at 2019 Australian Open after entering season with 0-9 record in Grand Slam 4R.
 > One of 7 players to defeat Djokovic at least 3 times when he has been ranked No. 1 (also Del Potro, Federer, Medvedev, Murray, Nadal and Wawrinka).
 > Played football for Villarreal C.F. until he was 14 years old.

Note: 2021 is the 7th time Bautista Agut has played in St. Petersburg (2015 -2018, 2012-2013).

Mackenzie McDonald | Age: 26 | World No. 56 | Career-High No. 55 | 2021: 18-16 (F Washington) | St. Pete: 1-1
 > Achieved new career-high ranking 12 times in 2018 and peaked at No. 57 in 2019 before undergoing right hamstring surgery.
 > Defeated former champions Kyrgios and Nishikori en route to 1st ATP Tour final at 2021 Washington.

- > Also in 2021, qualified at Roland Garros and Wimbledon after reaching Australian Open 4R as No. 192, becoming lowest-ranked player in Australian Open 4R since No. 248 Canas in 2004.
- > Posted biggest win of career over No. 4 Del Potro to reach 1st ATP Tour SF at 2019 Delray Beach.
- > Qualified for 2013 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati at age 18 by defeating USC legend Johnson, then went on to win 2016 NCAA singles and doubles titles for UCLA.

Note: This McDonald's 6th Round of 16 out of 13 on the 2021 ATP Tour in 2021.

COURT 1

Botic van de Zandschulp (NED) vs Sebastian Korda (USA)

First Meeting