



DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 6 – SATURDAY 1 MARCH 2025

Dubai Duty Free Tennis Stadium | Dubai, UAE | 24 February – 1 March 2025

ATP Tour

ATPTour.com
@ATPTour
#ThisIsTennis

Tournament

dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com
@DDFTennis
#DDFTennis

Media

Interview Queries: rachna.nayyar@atptour.com
Facts & Stats Queries: mediainfo@atptour.com
Press Officer: Mohammad Akawi (mohammad.a@actionprgroup.com)

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS TALKING POINTS

- No. 4 seed **Stefanos Tsitsipas** faces **Felix Auger-Aliassime** in 2025 Dubai final. Greek No. 1 leads their **Lexus ATP Head2Head** series 6-3 with the pair splitting previous ATP Tour finals at 2020 Marseille (Tsitsipas, 6-3 6-4) and 2022 Rotterdam (Auger-Aliassime, 64 62). Both are looking for biggest outdoor hard court title of career. Tsitsipas is Auger-Aliassime's most frequent opponent (10 – Tsitsipas, 9 – Medvedev).
- Tsitsipas** bids to claim his first ATP 500 title in 12th final, including his two most recent appearances in Dubai, losing to 8-time champion Federer in 2019 and 5-time champion Djokovic in 2020. He is 3rd man to reach three finals in Dubai (after Federer, Djokovic), and seeks biggest hard court trophy since winning 2019 Nitto ATP Finals. If he claims the title, he will return to Top 10 on PIF ATP Rankings for 1st time since last May.

ATP 500 Final Leaders (since the series began in 2009)

Player	Finals	Player	Finals
Roger Federer	21 (16-5)	David Ferrer	16 (8-8)
Rafael Nadal	21 (15-6)	Kei Nishikori	12 (6-6)
Novak Djokovic	17 (14-3)	Stefanos Tsitsipas	12 (0-11 + 1 pending)

- Auger-Aliassime** bids to tie Raonic's Canadian record for most ATP Tour titles in Open Era (8). 24-year-old leads the ATP Tour in wins (15) and titles (2) this year and is the only player to reach 3 finals this season. He is 2nd player to advance to Dubai final winning all matches in deciding set after El Aynaoui in 2002 (l. to Santoro in 3). Auger-Aliassime (3), Raonic (1), and Shapovalov (1) are only Canadian ATP 500 champions.

Canadian Tour-Level Champions in Open Era

Player	Titles
Milos Raonic	8
Felix Auger-Aliassime	7
Denis Shapovalov	3
Mike Belkin	2
Greg Rusedski	2*

*before switching allegiance to Great Britain in 1995

2025 Tour-Level Win Leaders

Player	Wins	Best Result	This Week
Felix Auger-Aliassime	16	Adelaide, Montpellier Titles	Dubai – Final vs. Tsitsipas
Alex de Minaur	13	Rotterdam Final	Dubai – Lost 1R to Cilic
Jiri Lehecka	13	Brisbane Title	Dubai – Lost 1R to Humbert

2025 ATP 500 Finals

Rotterdam – Carlos Alcaraz (3) d. Alex de Minaur (8) - 6-4 3-6 6-2
Dallas – Denis Shapovalov (54) d. Casper Ruud (5) - 7-6(5) 6-3
Doha – Andrey Rublev (10) d. Jack Draper (16) - 7-5 5-7 6-1
Rio de Janeiro – Sebastian Baez (31) d. Alexandre Muller (60) – 6-2 6-3
Dubai – Stefanos Tsitsipas (11) vs. Felix Auger-Aliassime (21)
Acapulco – Tomas Machac (25) vs. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (48)

LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: SINGLES FINAL

[4] Stefanos Tsitsipas (GRE) vs Felix Auger-Aliassime (CAN)

Tsitsipas Leads 6-3

19 ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells (U.S.A.)	Hard	R64	Felix Auger-Aliassime	6-4 6-2
19 London / Queen's Club (Great Britain)	Grass	QF	Felix Auger-Aliassime	7-5 6-2
19 ATP Masters 1000 Shanghai (China)	Hard	R32	Stefanos Tsitsipas	7-6(3) 7-6(3)
20 Marseille (France)	Hard	F	Stefanos Tsitsipas	6-3 6-4
21 Acapulco (Mexico)	Hard	QF	Stefanos Tsitsipas	7-5 4-6 6-3
21 Barcelona (Spain)	Clay	QF	Stefanos Tsitsipas	6-3 6-3
21 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati (U.S.A.)	Hard	QF	Stefanos Tsitsipas	6-2 5-7 6-1
22 Rotterdam (Netherlands)	Hard	F	Felix Auger-Aliassime	6-4 6-2
23 ATP Masters 1000 Paris (France)	Hard	R32	Stefanos Tsitsipas	6-3 7-6(4)

Other Meetings

15 Repentigny Juniors (Canada)	Hard	QF	Felix Auger-Aliassime	6-3 4-6 6-4
15 Eddie Herr International Juniors (U.S.A.)	Clay	SF	Felix Auger-Aliassime	7-5 6-4
16 US Open Juniors (U.S.A.)	Hard	SF	Felix Auger-Aliassime	6-4 7-5

Tennis Data Innovations Insights uses algorithmic software to process ball and player tracking data in real-time to calculate shot type, shot quality, situation, phase of play and tactic for every shot. Insights explained at <https://www.atptour.com/en/news/news-filter-results/insights>

Insights of the two Finalists, averages of their Dubai 2025 Matches:

Player	In Attack	Conversion Score	Steal Score	Serve Quality	Return Quality	Forehand Quality	Backhand Quality
F. Auger-Aliassime	28%	71%	32%	8.2	6.5	7.3	6.8
S. Tsitsipas	27%	73%	28%	7.9	5.9	8.3	7.8
<i>Tour Average</i>	24%	69%	31%	7.9	6.5	7.5	7.1

Insights from their 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Paris 2R meeting:

Player	In Attack	Conversion Score	Steal Score	Serve Quality	Return Quality	Forehand Quality	Backhand Quality
F. Auger-Aliassime	23%	58%	21%	8.4	7.0	7.5	6.8
S. Tsitsipas	28%	79%	42%	7.8	6.9	8.1	8.6
<i>Tour Average</i>	24%	69%	31%	7.9	6.5	7.5	7.1

In their most recent meeting, the players split the 0-4 rally lengths evenly at 50%. However, it was in the 5-8 and rallies exceeding 9 shots that Tsitsipas gained his points advantage. A key factor in these longer rallies was the backhand shot quality 8.6 to 6.8, where Tsitsipas outperformed Auger-Aliassime, winning the consistency battle with 90% in compared to 80%. Additionally, Tsitsipas demonstrated superior depth, with 47% of his backhands landing closer to the baseline than the service line, compared to just 33% for Auger-Aliassime.

Stefanos Tsitsipas | Age: 26 | World No. 11 | Career-High No. 3 | 2025: 7-4 (Dubai Final) | Dubai: 14-3 ('19-'20, '25 Finals)
> Top-ranked Greek of all time achieved career-high No. 3 in August 2021 and boasts 11 wins vs. Top-3 opponents (2 vs. No. 1, 4 vs. No. 2, 5 vs. No. 3).
> Six-time Grand Slam semi-finalist, highlighted by runs to 2021 Roland Garros and 2023 Australian Open finals, losing to Djokovic on both occasions.
> Captured 2018 Next Gen ATP Finals title at age 20 and 2019 Nitto ATP Finals title at age 21, becoming youngest champion of latter since Hewitt, 20, in 2001.
> Won 11 ATP Tour titles, including 2021, 2022 and 2024 ATP Masters 1000 Monte Carlo, but still seeking 1st ATP 500 title (0-11 in finals).
> Youngest of 30 players to defeat Djokovic (2018 Toronto 3R), Federer (2019 Australian Open 4R) and Nadal (2019 Madrid SF), sweeping Big 3 before turning 21.

NOTE: Tsitsipas seeks his 12th ATP Tour title (11-18), second on outdoor hard courts after 2023 Los Cabos (d. de Minaur), and aims to break 0-11 record in ATP 500 finals. He is 3-7 vs. Top 25 on hard courts since start of 2024 season, including win vs. No. 24 Khachanov in 2R this week. He joined Federer (10) and Djokovic (5) as only men with 3+ Dubai finals in tournament's 33-year-history.

Stefanos Tsitsipas ATP 500 Final Appearances

2018 Barcelona (l. to No. 1 Nadal)	2021 Barcelona (l. to No. 3 Nadal)
2019 Dubai (l. to No. 7 Federer)	2022 Rotterdam (l. to No. 9 Auger-Aliassime)
2019 Beijing (l. to No. 5 Thiem)	2022 Astana (l. to No. 7 Djokovic)
2020 Dubai (l. to No. 1 Djokovic)	2023 Barcelona (l. to No. 2 Alcaraz)
2020 Hamburg (l. to No. 14 Rublev)	2024 Barcelona (l. to No. 6 Ruud)
2021 Acapulco (l. to No. 7 Zverev)	

Felix Auger-Aliassime | Age: 24 | World No. 21 | Career-High No. 6 | 2025: 16-4 (2 Titles) | Dubai: 5-1 (2025 Final)

> Achieved career-high No. 6 and earned personal-best 60 wins during breakout 2022 season, including career-long 16-match win streak with 3 titles in as many weeks at Florence, Antwerp and Basel.

> Also in 2022, won Rotterdam title to snap 0-8 start to career in singles finals, advanced to 3rd straight Grand Slam QF at Australian Open, and swept team titles at ATP Cup, Laver Cup and Davis Cup.

> Led ATP Tour with 45 hard-court and 31 indoor wins in 2022, highlighted by victories over No. 1 Alcaraz and former No. 1s Djokovic, Murray and Nadal.

> At 2021 US Open, became 1st Canadian men's singles semi-finalist in tournament history (since 1881) and at 2024 Madrid, became 1st Canadian ATP Masters 1000 finalist on clay in series history (since 1990).

> As an 18-year-old in 2019, became youngest Top-25 player since Hewitt, 18, in 1999, youngest ATP 500 finalist in series history at Rio de Janeiro (since 2009), and youngest semi-finalist in Miami tournament history (since 1985).

NOTE: Auger-Aliassime is 7-10 in ATP Tour finals after 0-8 start and is playing in biggest of his 3 outdoor hard court finals after 2021 Melbourne-2 (l. to Evans) and 2025 Adelaide (d. Korda). He defeated Tsitsipas to lift his first ATP Tour trophy at 2022 Rotterdam and aims to win 3+ titles in a season for 2nd time in career (4 in 2022). 24-year-old would go up to No. 17 on [PIF ATP Rankings](#) with the title.

3+ Tour-Level Titles in First Two Months of the Season since 2010 – including events that began in February and ended in March.

Year	Player	Finals
2023	Daniil Medvedev	Rotterdam, Doha, Dubai
2022	Rafael Nadal	Melbourne, Australian Open, Acapulco
2015	David Ferrer	Doha, Rio de Janeiro, Acapulco
2012	David Ferrer	Auckland, Buenos Aires, Acapulco
2011	Robin Soderling	Brisbane, Rotterdam, Marseille

Canadian ATP 500 Champions (since the series began in 2009)

Player	Event/Result
Milos Raonic	2014 Washington (d. Pospisil)
Felix Auger-Aliassime	2022 Rotterdam (d. Tsitsipas)
Felix Auger-Aliassime	2022 Basel (d. Rune)
Felix Auger-Aliassime	2023 Basel (d. Hurkacz)
Denis Shapovalov	2025 Dallas (d. Ruud)

2025 Dubai Statistics	Stefanos Tsitsipas	Felix Auger-Aliassime
Aces	24	40
1st-Serve Percentage	65% (190 of 293)	69% (267 of 385)
1st-Serve Points Won	83% (157 of 190)	76% (204 of 267)
2nd-Serve Points Won	54% (56 of 103)	48% (57 of 118)
Service Games Won	88% (44 of 50)	90% (54 of 60)
Break Points Saved	65% (11 of 17)	79% (23 of 29)
1st-Serve Return Points Won	24% (51 of 212)	31% (80 of 262)
2nd-Serve Return Points Won	47% (51 of 108)	48% (64 of 132)
Return Games Won	14% (7 of 50)	21% (13 of 62)
Break Points Converted	30,4% (7 of 23)	29,5% (13 of 44)

NOTE: Auger-Aliassime leads in 7 of 10 categories.

LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: DOUBLES FINAL

**Yuki Bhambri (IND) / Alexei Popyrin (AUS) vs
[2] Harri Heliovaara (FIN) / Henry Patten (GBR)**

First Meeting

Bhambri/Popyrin Notes

- > The Indian/Australian duo is 3-0 as a pair, making their team debut this week.
- > They defeated World No. 1s Arevalo/Pavic in 1R, Cash/Glasspool in QF, and Murray/Peers in SF, winning all their encounters in deciding set tie-breaks.
- > Bhambri would be 4th Indian champion in Dubai after Bopanna (2012, 2014-15), Bhupathi (1998, 2004, 2008, 2012-13), and Paes (1998, 2003).
- > Popyrin reached 2R in singles and had not won a tour-level doubles match since '23 Roland Garros before this run.
- > Before becoming a tennis player, Popyrin previously attended this event as a ball kid.
- > Bhambri is ranked No. 44 (career-high No. 42 in September 2024) and would move up to No. 40 with the title, while Popyrin is ranked No. 864 (career-high No. 235 in 2022) and would make a Top 200 debut with the title. Team is ranked No. 25 on PIF ATP Doubles Team Rankings.
- > Bhambri, 32, is 3-3 in ATP Tour finals, playing his first final above ATP 250 level and seeks 1st hard court title after winning titles at 2023 Mallorca w/L. Harris on grass and 2024 Munich and 2024 Gstaad w/Olivetti on clay.
- > Popyrin, 25, is playing in his 1st ATP Tour doubles final, reaching his lone doubles final at 2023 Surbiton CH w/Vukic (l. to Broady/O'Mara). Previously reached ATP Tour SFs at 2021 Atlanta and 2022 Sydney, both w/Reid.

Heliovaara/Patten Notes

- > The Finnish/British duo is 52-15 as a pair on tour-level (13-3 in 2025), making their team debut by winning Marrakech last April.
- > Won 5 tour-level titles, including Grand Slam events at 2024 Wimbledon (saving 3 championship points) and Australian Open earlier this year. Also won Marrakech, Lyon and Stockholm, all in 2024.
- > The pair saved 1 MP vs. Mektic/Venus in 1R and defeated Salisbury/Skupski in QF and Haase/Jebens in SF.
- > Heliovaara reached Dubai final in 2023 w/Glasspool (l. to Cressy/Martin) and bids to be 1st Finnish champion.
- > Patten bids to become 2nd British men's doubles champion in event history after Salisbury in 2019 (w/Ram).
- > Heliovaara is ranked No. 4 (career-high) and Patten is ranked No. 3 (career-high). Patten would come within 100 points from joint-No. 1s Arevalo/Pavic with the title. Team is ranked No. 1 on PIF ATP Doubles Team Rankings.
- > Heliovaara, 35, is 9-9 in tour-level finals and looks for 2nd ATP 500 title after 2022 Hamburg w/Glasspool.
- > Patten, 28, is 5-3 in tour-level finals and seeks his first ATP 500 title after final in Beijing last year w/Heliovaara (l. to Bolelli/Vavassori).