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NEXT GEN ATP FINALS PRESENTED BY PIF - TALKING POINTS

- Next Gen ATP Finals presented by PIF continue on Thursday at King Abdullah Sports City with No. 1 seed **Learner Tien** taking on No. 4 seed **Martin Landaluce**, as last year's finalist aims to record his first win this week after losing to Rafael Jodar on Wednesday. Landaluce aims to record his 1st Top 50 win of career (0-3) and earn his first win at this event in his tournament debut after being an alternate last year.
- In a rematch of last year's US Open boys' singles final, No. 5 seed **Nicolai Budkov Kjaer** meets No. 7 **Rafael Jodar**, as Jodar attempts to repeat the result from Flushing Meadows. Jodar earned 1st tour-level win of career on Wednesday saving 4 MPs to defeat Tien and could become the 1st Spanish semi-finalist since Alcaraz won the 2021 title. Budkov Kjaer aims to earn back-to-back wins after defeating Landaluce on Day 1.

BLUE GROUP SCENARIOS:

N. BUDKOV KJAER qualifies on Thursday if:

- N. BUDKOV KJAER defeats R. JODAR in 3 sets
- N. BUDKOV KJAER defeats R. JODAR and M. LANDALUCE defeats L. TIEN

R. JODAR qualifies on Thursday if:

- R. JODAR defeats N. BUDKOV KJAER and L. TIEN defeats M. LANDALUCE

- In the **Red Group**, No. 2 seed **Alexander Blockx** takes on No. 6 seed **Nishesh Basavareddy** in the battle of Day 1 winners, three years after their meeting at the US Open in juniors. Basavareddy, who is making his second consecutive appearance at the event will attempt to reach semi-finals for the first time, while Blockx bids to become the 1st Belgian semi-finalist in tournament history.
- No. 3 seed **Dino Prizmic** opens Day 2 action against 18-year-old **Justin Engel**, as Prizmic looks for second win over Engel, defeating the German en route to San Marino Challenger final in July this year. Engel bids to become the youngest man to earn a match win at this event, breaking the record of 2019 champion Sinner.

RED GROUP SCENARIOS:

A. BLOCKX qualifies on Thursday if:

- A. BLOCKX defeats N. BASAVAREDDY in 3 sets
- A. BLOCKX defeats N. BASAVAREDDY and J. ENGEL defeats D. PRIZMIC

N. BASAVAREDDY qualifies on Thursday if:

- N. BASAVAREDDY defeats A. BLOCKX in 3 sets
- N. BASAVAREDDY defeats A. BLOCKX and D. PRIZMIC defeats J. ENGEL

NEXT GEN ATP FINALS PRESENTED BY PIF - DRAW

Seeded positions	BLUE GROUP	TIEN, Learner	LANDALUCE, Martin	BUDKOV KJAER, Nicolai	JODAR, Rafael	Round Robin Record	Sets		Games	
							W - L	Win %	W - L	Win %
1	TIEN, Learner				L	0 - 1	2 - 3	40.00%	16 - 14	53.33%
4	LANDALUCE, Martin			L		0 - 1	1 - 3	25.00%	10 - 15	40.00%
5	BUDKOV KJAER, Nicolai		W			1 - 0	3 - 1	75.00%	15 - 10	60.00%
7	JODAR, Rafael	W				1 - 0	3 - 2	60.00%	14 - 16	46.67%

Seeded positions	RED GROUP	BLOCKX, Alexander	PRIZMIC, Dino	BASAVAREDDY, Nishesh	ENGEL, Justin	Round Robin Record	Sets		Games	
							W - L	Win %	W - L	Win %
2	BLOCKX, Alexander				W	1 - 0	3 - 1	75.00%	15 - 10	60.00%
3	PRIZMIC, Dino			L		0 - 1	1 - 3	25.00%	11 - 15	42.31%
6	BASAVAREDDY, Nishesh		W			1 - 0	3 - 1	75.00%	15 - 11	57.69%
8	ENGEL, Justin	L				0 - 1	1 - 3	25.00%	10 - 15	40.00%

LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD – THURSDAY ROUND ROBIN MATCHES

[3] Dino Prizmic (CRO) vs [8] Justin Engel (GER)

First Tour-Level Meeting

Other Meeting

25 San Marino CH (San Marino) Clay QF Dino Prizmic 6-2 6-2

Dino Prizmic | Age: 20 | World No. 128 | Career-High No. 115 | 2025: 4-5 (Umag QF) | Event: 0-1 (Debut)

> Former World No. 8 junior earned first ranking point in March 2022, broke Top 200 in August 2023 and achieved career-high No. 115 in September 2025.

> Made ATP Tour debut at 2022 Umag as a WC and returned to Umag to advance to his 1st ATP Tour QFs, losing to eventual champions Popyrin in 2023 and Darderi in 2025.

> Qualified for Grand Slam main draw debut at 2024 Australian Open, losing to Djokovic in 1R as well as qualified for 2025 US Open, losing to Rublev.

> Owns 65-38 Challenger record (3-3 in finals), advancing to five consecutive finals from May to August 2025 and capturing titles in Zagreb and Bratislava.

> Became 1st Croatian boys' singles champion at Roland Garros since Cilic in 2005 by defeating Prado Angelo in 2023 final.

NOTE: Prizmic is the second Croatian man in event history (after Coric in 2017) and seeks 1st tour-level win since defeating Atmane in Chengdu 1R in September (l. to No. 9 Musetti in 2R). 20-year-old lost his opening match to Basavareddy in 4 sets and looks for second indoor tour-level win of 2025 (d. No. 121 Kovalik in Davis Cup Qualifiers).

Justin Engel | Age: 18 | World No. 187 | Career-High No. 182 | 2025: 4-6 (Stuttgart QF) | Event: 0-1 (Debut)

> Youngest man in Top 300 of PIF ATP Rankings achieved career-high No. 182 in November 2025 after reaching 1st ATP Tour QF in Stuttgart earlier in the season.

> Also in Stuttgart, became 2nd-youngest man to record ATP Tour wins on clay, hard and grass since ATP Tour began in 1990 after Nadal and youngest men's tour-level grass quarter-finalist since Becker, 17, at 1985 Wimbledon.

> Made ATP Tour debut as 17-year-old WC at 2024 Almaty and defeated Wong in 1R to become the youngest German man to record a tour-level match win since Boris Becker, 17, at 1984 Australian Open.

> Captured 1st Challenger title at 2025 Hamburg at age 18, defeating 18-year-old Cina in the youngest Challenger final since Ancic, 18, defeated Nadal, 16, at 2003 Hamburg.

> Peaked at No. 56 in juniors in February 2024, winning 2 titles and qualifying for 2024 Australian Open main draw in boys' singles.

NOTE: At 18 years and 2 months, Engel is the youngest man to play in this event's history and first German to compete at this tournament. He looks for third tour-level win on hard courts after defeating No. 133 Wong in Almaty 1R last year and No.189 Sakamoto in Davis Cup vs. Japan this September after losing to Blockx in 4 sets on Day 1.

Youngest Next Gen ATP Finals Competitors (in tournament history):

No. Player	Age	Year (Result)
1. Justin Engel	18 years 2 months	2025 (?)
2. Jannik Sinner	18 years 2 months	2019 (Title)
3. Joao Fonseca	18 years 3 months	2024 (Title)
4. Carlos Alcaraz	18 years 6 months	2021 (Title)
5. Holger Rune	18 years 6 months	2021 (RR – 1-2)

[2] Alexander Blockx (BEL) vs [6] Nishesh Basavareddy (USA)

First Tour-Level Meeting

Other Meeting

22 US Open Juniors (U.S.A.) Hard R32 Alexander Blockx 6-2 6-1

Alexander Blockx | Age: 20 | World No. 116 | Career-High No. 101 | 2025: 3-6 (2 times in 2R) | Event: 1-0 (Debut)

> Former World No. 1 junior earned career-high No. 101 in November 2025 after Challenger title at Bratislava-2.

> Made his ATP Tour debut at 2023 Antwerp as Q and defeated No. 61 Giron for 1st ATP Tour win of career at 2025 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati 1R as Q.

> Owns 60-35 Challenger record (3-1 in finals), winning titles at 2024 Kobe, 2025 Oeiras-3 and 2025 Bratislava-2.

> Went 108-48 in ITF juniors, highlighted by winning 2023 Australian Open boys' singles, defeating Tien in the championship match, becoming 1st Belgian junior Grand Slam champion since Coppejans at 2012 Roland Garros.

> Also reached the boys' doubles final at the 2023 Australian Open w/Fonseca, losing to American duo Tien/Williams.

NOTE: Blockx is the first Belgian man to qualify for the event in tournament history and aims to record back-to-back tour-level wins for the first time in career after win over Engel in 4 sets on Wednesday. He would be the first man to qualify for the SF if he defeats Basavareddy in 3 sets or if he wins his match and Engel defeats Prizmic.

Nishesh Basavareddy | Age: 20 | World No. 167 | Career-High No. 99 | 2025: 8-13 (Auckland SF) | Event: 2-2 (2024 RR)
> Peaked at No. 3 in junior rankings in January 2023, then broke Top 200 in September 2024, Top 100 in March 2025 and achieved career-high No. 99 in June 2025.
> Advanced to 1st ATP Tour SF at 2025 Auckland after win over defending champion No. 23 Tabilo for biggest win of career in 2R and countryman Michelsen in QF.
> Qualified for 2024 Next Gen ATP Finals, going 1-2 in round robin, defeating No. 50 Shang for 1st ATP Tour win and Grand Slam main draw debut at 2025 Australian Open, losing to 10-time champion Djokovic in 1R.
> Owns 56-27 Challenger record (2-5 in finals), capturing titles at 2024 Tiburon and 2024 Puerto Vallarta .
> Spent two seasons playing college tennis for Stanford University, where he was a two-time ITA All-American.
> Won 2022 US Open boys' doubles title w/Baris, becoming fifth all-American team to win that title in this century.

NOTE: Basavareddy is one of two players from last year's field (also Tien), defeating Shang to go 1-2 in round robin last year. 20-year-old opened his week by defeating Prizmic in 4 sets and would qualify for the semi-finals by defeating Blockx in 3 sets or if he defeats Blockx and Prizmic wins over Engel, becoming sixth American semi-finalist in history.

American Semi-Finalists in Next Gen ATP Finals History:

Player	Year
Frances Tiafoe	2019
Sebastian Korda	2021
Brandon Nakashima	2021, 2022
Alex Michelsen	2024
Learner Tien	2024

[5] Nicolai Budkov Kjaer (NOR) vs [7] Rafael Jodar (ESP)

First Tour-Level Meeting

Other Meeting

24 US Open Juniors (U.S.A.)

Hard F

Rafael Jodar

2-6 6-2 7-6(1)

Nicolai Budkov Kjaer | Age: 19 | World No. 136 | Career-High No. 132 | 2025: 4-5 (Bastad 2R) | Event: 1-0 (Debut)
> Former World No. 1 junior earned 1st ranking point at age 17 in March 2024, broke into Top 300 in February 2025, Top 200 in July 2025 and achieved career-high No. 132 in November 2025.
> Recorded wins over Rolis and Faria in Davis Cup before making ATP Tour debut at 2025 Bastad as Q, defeating Monteiro in 1R, losing to Baez in 2R.
> Owns 36-18 Challenger record (4-0 in finals), capturing 1st title at 2025 Glasgow in February, defeating countryman Durasovic in second all-Norwegian final in ATP Challenger Tour history (1998 Furth - Ruud d. Andersen).
> Peaked at No. 1 in juniors in July 2024 after runs to Roland Garros boys' doubles title w/Schwaerzler and Wimbledon boys' singles title to become first Norwegian man to win a Grand Slam singles title at any level.

NOTE: Budkov Kjaer is the second Norwegian man to qualify for this event after Ruud (went 1-2 in 2019) and would become 1st Norwegian semi-finalist if he defeats Jodar in 3 sets or if he defeats Jodar and Landaluce wins over Tien. He began the season as World No. 518 and earned 34-16 Challenger record in 2025, highlighted by 4 titles.

Rafael Jodar | Age: 19 | World No. 168 | Career-High No. 166 | 2025: 1-0 (3 CH Titles) | Event: 1-0 (Debut)
> Former Top 10 junior began 2025 season as No. 896, breaking into Top 500 in July and Top 200 at career-high No. 166 in November.
> Qualified for 2025 Next Gen ATP Finals to make his ATP Tour debut after going as a hitting partner in 2024.
> Owns 37-13 Challenger record (37-12 in 2025), highlighted by titles at Hersonissos-3, Lincoln and Charlottesville, winning on home campus to become third Spanish teenager to win 3 Challenger titles after Almagro and Alcaraz.
> Sophomore at University of Virginia became 2025 ITA National Rookie of the Year and earned ITA All-American honours.
> Peaked at No. 4 in juniors, winning boys' singles title at 2024 US Open by defeating Budkov Kjaer in final set tiebreak.

NOTE: Jodar is making his ATP Tour debut this week and saved 4 MPs to defeat No. 28 Tien for biggest win of career on Wednesday. He would become the second Spanish semi-finalist in event history, after Alcaraz in 2021, if he defeats Budkov Kjaer and Tien beats Landaluce.

[1] Learner Tien (USA) vs [4] Martin Landaluze (ESP)

First Tour-Level Meeting

Other Meeting

22 Wimbledon Juniors (Great Britain)

Grass QF

Martin Landaluze

7-5 6-3

Learner Tien | Age: 20 | World No. 28 (Career-High) | 2025: 32-24 (Metz Title) | Event: 3-3 (2024 Final)

> Broke into Top 200 in August 2024, Top 100 in January 2025, Top 50 in August 2025 and achieved career-high No. 28 in November 2025 after winning 1st ATP Tour title in Metz.

> Upset No. 5 Medvedev en route to 2025 Australian Open 4R as Q to be youngest man to defeat a Top-5 player at that event in PIF ATP Rankings history (since 1973) and No. 2 Zverev at 2025 Acapulco.

> Qualified for 2024 Next Gen ATP Finals, defeating Top-3 seeds, No. 1 Fils, No. 3 Mensik in RR and No. 2 Michelsen in SF to become 1st left-handed finalist in event history.

> Went on a 28-match winning streak from May to July 2024, capturing ITF Tour titles at M15 San Diego (2x), M15 Rancho Santa Fe, M15 Lakewood and 1st Challenger title in Bloomfield Hills.

> Peaked at No. 4 in juniors, highlighted by runs to junior finals of 2023 Australian Open (l. to Blockx) and US Open (l. to Fonseca) and defeated Blockx/Fonseca to capture 2023 Australian Open boys' doubles title w/C. Williams.

NOTE: Last year's finalist Tien is the first American No. 1 seed in event history and could become the second man to reach multiple finals at the event (de Minaur in 2018-19). He arrived to Jeddah on a 5-match winning streak after winning his 1st ATP Tour title in Metz at the start of November, but lost to Jodar on Day 1 after holding 4 MPs.

Martin Landaluze | Age: 19 | World No. 134 | Career-High No. 110 | 2025: 1-6 (Cincinnati 2R) | Event: 0-1 (Debut)

> Former World No. 1 junior earned 1st ranking point in 2023, broke into Top 200 in 2024 and achieved career-high No. 110 in October 2025 soon after winning 2nd Challenger title in Orleans.

> Made his professional debut at 2022 Alicante CH a week before his ATP Tour debut at 2022 Gijon as WC.

> Defeated countryman Munar for 1st ATP Tour win at 2024 ATP Masters 1000 Miami as WC, becoming 1st player born in 2006 or later to win an ATP Masters 1000 match.

> Owns 67-47 Challenger record (2-0 in finals), highlighted by 1st title at 2024 Olbia and 27-15 on ITF World Tennis Tour, winning 1st title at 2024 M25 Vila Real de Santo Antonio.

> Posted a 58-8 record on junior circuit in 2022, including a 15-match winning streak on grass before losing in Wimbledon boys' singles SF, then captured 2022 US Open boys' singles title.

NOTE: Landaluze lost to Budkov Kjaer in his tournament debut on Wednesday in 4 sets and now looks for the biggest win of his career (0-3 vs. Top 50). He also looks for second ATP Tour win of the season after defeating Kypson in Cincinnati 1R and going 27-17 on ATP Challenger Tour, highlighted by Orleans title.