**BNP PARIBAS OPEN - ATP MEDIA NOTES**
**DAY 5 – SUNDAY 8 MARCH 2026**

Indian Wells Tennis Garden | Indian Wells, CA, USA | 4-15 March 2026

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# BNP PARIBAS OPEN TALKING POINTS

- World No. 2 **Jannik Sinner** meets 26-year-old **Denis Shapovalov** in third round of **BNP Paribas Open**, their third **Lexus ATP Head2Head** meeting (1-1). Italian 24-year-old aims to reach his fifth Indian Wells 4R in as many appearances at the event after losing just 2 games in his opening match vs. Svrcina in 2R. Shapovalov seeks first Top 10 win outdoors since defeating No. 4 Nadal at 2022 ATP Masters 1000 Rome.

- No. 2 American **Ben Shelton** is 20-3 on North American soil since last July, highlighted by becoming ATP Masters 1000 champion in Toronto in August. Highest-ranked left-handed player in PIF ATP Rankings takes on countryman and fellow leftie **Learner Tien**. Last year, Tien became the youngest American man to earn a Top 10 win on grass court in PIF ATP Rankings history by defeating then-No. 10 Shelton in Mallorca 2R.

**Highest-Ranked Left-Handed Players (as of March 2)**

| **Rank** | **Player** |
|---|---|
| **No. 8** | **Ben Shelton** |
| No. 14 | Jack Draper |
| **No. 27** | **Learner Tien** |
| No. 29 | Cameron Norrie |

- 28-year-old **Tommy Paul** closes out **Stadium 1** action on Sunday by taking on 19-year-old Brazilian **Joao Fonseca**, as Brazilian teenager looks for his best career result at ATP Masters 1000 level after saving 2 MPs to defeat No. 16 seed Khachanov in 2R. On **Stadium 2**, **Frances Tiafoe** aims to avenge Acapulco final loss on February 28, when he takes on **Flavio Cobolli** again in a bid to reach Indian Wells 4R for second time.

**Teenagers in Indian Wells 4R since 2016 (Last 10 Editions):** Fonseca (19Y 6M) would be fourth-youngest.

| **Player** | **Age** | **Year** | **End Result** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Carlos Alcaraz | 18Y 10M | 2022 | l. to Nadal in SF |
| Alexander Zverev | 18Y 10M | 2016 | l. to Nadal in 4R |
| Miomir Kecmanovic | 19Y 6M | 2019 | l. to Raonic in QF |
| Carlos Alcaraz | 19Y 10M | 2023 | d. Medvedev in final |
| Denis Shapovalov | 19Y 10M | 2019 | l. to Hurkacz in 4R |

- World No. 4 **Alexander Zverev** takes a 5-0 **Lexus ATP Head2Head** lead vs. World No. 30 **Brandon Nakashima**, as 24-year-old American seeks the biggest win of his career. Zverev bids to reach Indian Wells 4R for fifth time in career, ten years after first achieving the feat in 2016, where he led 5-2 in the deciding set vs. World No. 5 Nadal and held 1 MP before losing 5-7 at age 18.

**ATP Masters 1000 Match Win Leaders Since 2020:**

| **Player** | **W-L** |
|---|---|
| **Alexander Zverev** | **99-37** |
| Jannik Sinner | 94-28 |
| Daniil Medvedev | 92-37 |
| Carlos Alcaraz | 85-24 |
| Stefanos Tsitsipas | 85-42 |

# LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: SUNDAY THIRD-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

## STADIUM 1

### [8] Ben Shelton (USA) vs [25] Learner Tien (USA) — Tien Leads 1-0

25 Mallorca (Spain) | Grass | R16 | Learner Tien | 6-4 7-6(2)

**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 from their 52-week averages:

| Player | In Attack | Conversion Score | Steal Score | Serve Quality | Return Quality | Forehand Quality | Backhand Quality |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shelton | **28%** | 67% | 29% | **8.7** | **6.7** | 7.3 | 6.9 |
| Tien | 22% | **69%** | **34%** | 7.3 | 6.3 | **7.4** | **7.2** |
| *Tour Average* | *24%* | *67%* | *33%* | *7.9* | *6.4* | *7.3* | *7.0* |

**Ben Shelton** | Age: 23 | World No. 8 | Career-High No. 5 | 2026: 11-2 (Dallas Title) | Indian Wells: 7-3 (2025 QF)
> Broke into Top 200 in August 2022, Top 100 in November 2022 and Top 20 in September 2023, achieving career-high No. 5 in November 2025 before making his Nitto ATP Finals debut.
> Defeated countrymen Paul and Tiafoe en route to 2023 US Open SF, becoming youngest American man in US Open SF since Chang, 20, in 1992 and beat No. 4 Sinner for 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at 2023 Shanghai.
> At 2025 Toronto, became youngest American ATP Masters 1000 champion since Roddick, 21, at 2004 Miami.
> Captured 1st ATP Tour title at 2023 Tokyo, joining Bryan Shelton as 4th father-son duo to win a tour-level championship in Open Era (Phil & Taylor Dent, Ramanathan & Ramesh Krishnan, Petr & Sebastian Korda).
> Advanced to 2023 Australian Open QF at age 20 and on his 1st trip outside USA, becoming youngest American man in Aus. Open QF since Giammalva Jr., 19, in 1982, and in Grand Slam QF since Roddick, 20, at 2002 US Open.
> Posted 65-10 singles record in 2 seasons for University of Florida, clinching 2021 NCAA team title and 2022 NCAA singles title while being coached by his father Bryan, a former World No. 55.

**NOTE**: Shelton is on a 6-match winning streak after winning Dallas title in February and 9-0 vs. countrymen on hard courts since loss to Tiafoe in 2024 US Open 3R. He aims to extend his perfect record vs. fellow left-handers this season (3-0) to reach Indian Wells 4R for third consecutive year (2024 4R, 2025 QF).

**Learner Tien** | Age: 20 | World No. 27 | Career-High No. 23 | 2026: 8-4 (Delray Beach SF) | Indian Wells: 1-1 ('26 3R)
> Broke into Top 200 in August 2024, Top 100 in January 2025 and achieved career-high No. 23 in February 2026 after advancing to his 1st Grand Slam QF at Australian Open.
> 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 finished 2025 season with 1st ATP Tour title in Metz.
> Qualified for 2024 Next Gen ATP Finals, defeating Top-3 seeds to reach the final, before returning to Jeddah in 2025 and becoming 1st left-handed champion in tournament 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**: Tien defeated Walton in 2R for 50th tour-level win (50-33) and now aims to be the second youngest American man to reach Indian Wells 4R in this century after R. Harrison (in 2011 at age 18 and 2012 at age 19). 20-year-old is 5-5 vs. Top 10, seeking first win since defeating No. 9 Musetti en route to Beijing final in September.

**Active Players - Highest Win/Loss Percentage vs. Top 10 (min. 10 matches played)**

| **Player** | **W-L** | **Index** |
|---|---|---|
| Carlos Alcaraz | 55-24 | .696 |
| Novak Djokovic | 265-121 | .687 |
| Jannik Sinner | 60-37 | .619 |
| Jakub Mensik | 9-9 | .500 |
| **Learner Tien** | **5-5** | **.500** |

## Denis Shapovalov (CAN) vs [2] Jannik Sinner (ITA)

**Series Tied 1-1**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 21 Australian Open (Australia) | Hard | R128 | Denis Shapovalov | 3-6 6-3 6-2 4-6 6-4 |
| 25 US Open (U.S.A.) | Hard | R32 | Jannik Sinner | 5-7 6-4 6-3 6-3 |

Insights from their 52-week averages:

| Player | In Attack | Conversion Score | Steal Score | Serve Quality | Return Quality | Forehand Quality | Backhand Quality |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shapovalov | 26% | 68% | 33% | 7.8 | 6.2 | 7.6 | 7.2 |
| Sinner | **27%** | **74%** | **37%** | **8.3** | **8.2** | **8.8** | **8.6** |
| *Tour Average* | *24%* | *67%* | *33%* | *7.9* | *6.4* | *7.3* | *7.0* |

**Denis Shapovalov** | Age: 26 | World No. 39 | Career-High No. 10 | 2026: 6-4 (Dallas SF) | Indian Wells: 9-7 ('19 4R)
> After becoming 1st Canadian US Open men's singles quarter-finalist in 2020, joined Raonic as 2nd Canadian man in history to break into Top 10.
> Defeated 2-time champion Murray and earned 5-set wins over Kohlschreiber and Khachanov en route to 1st Grand Slam SF at 2021 Wimbledon.
> Reached 2019 Paris final and 4 other ATP Masters 1000 SFs, including 2017 Montreal, where he upset No. 2 Nadal and became youngest semi-finalist in series history at age 18 (since 1990).
> Won 3 of his 4 ATP Tour titles indoors, at 2019 Stockholm, 2024 Belgrade and 2025 Dallas, where he defeated 3 Top 10 players en route to title (No. 4 Fritz in 2R, No. 9 Paul in SF and No. 5 Ruud in final).
> Ended junior career with 2016 Wimbledon boys' singles title, then broke into Top 50 of PIF ATP Rankings less than 15 months later.

**NOTE**: Shapovalov is 1-13 vs. Top-2, defeating No. 2 Nadal at 2017 ATP Masters 1000 Montreal for lone win (0-13 since) and seeks first Top 10 win since earning 3 Top 10 wins en route to Dallas title last year. He aims to reach ATP Masters 1000 Round of 16 for the 14th time, first since 2022 Cincinnati, and equal his best result at Indian Wells.

**Jannik Sinner** | Age: 24 | World No. 2 | Career-High No. 1 | 2026: 8-2 (Aus. Open SF) | Event: 12-3 (2023-24 SF)
> Unranked to begin 2018, ended 2020 as No. 1 teenager, broke into Top 10 at age 20 in 2021 and became 1st Italian World No. 1 in PIF ATP Rankings history at age 22 in 2024, earning 66 weeks at No. 1 spot.
> At 2024 Australian Open, defeated 10-time champion Djokovic in SF and rallied from 2 sets down in final vs. Medvedev to become 2nd Italian men's singles Grand Slam champion in Open Era (Panatta at 1976 Roland Garros).
> Captured 2024 US Open title to join Djokovic, Federer and Wilander as only men to win both hard-court Grand Slam titles in a season and stopped Alcaraz's 20-match winning streak at Wimbledon in 2025 final.
> Fourth and youngest man in Open Era to advance to finals of all 4 Grand Slam tournaments in a single season after Laver (1969), Federer (2006-07, 2009) and Djokovic (2015, 2021, 2023), achieving the feat in 2025.
> Boasts most titles of any Italian in Open Era (24), including ATP Masters 1000 championships at 2023 Toronto, 2024 Miami, 2024 Cincinnati, 2024 Shanghai and 2025 Paris.
> Led Italy to 2023 and 2024 Davis Cup titles, first since 1976, and did not drop a set en route to back-to-back Nitto ATP Finals titles in 2024 and 2025.

**NOTE:** Sinner aims to tie Fognini for most ATP Masters 1000 match wins among Italians in series history (since 1990). He is 60-1 vs. players ranked outside Top 20 on hard courts since the start of 2024 season (l. to No. 31 Griekspoor via RET in 2025 ATP Masters 1000 Shanghai 3R) and on an 18-match winning streak vs. left-handers since losing to No. 20 Shelton at 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Shanghai 4R.

**Most Hard-Court Wins Since the Start of 2021 Season**

| Player | W-L | Titles |
|---|---|---|
| **Jannik Sinner** | **215-41** | **20** |
| Daniil Medvedev | 207-67 | 12 |
| Taylor Fritz | 176-81 | 5 |
| Andrey Rublev | 167-88 | 6 |
| Alex de Minaur | 165-85 | 6 |
| Alexander Zverev | 164-63 | 7 |

**Italian ATP Masters 1000 Win Leaders*:**

| Player | Wins | Titles |
|---|---|---|
| Fabio Fognini | 96 | 1 |
| **Jannik Sinner** | **95** | **5** |
| Andreas Seppi | 66 | 0 |
| Lorenzo Musetti | 47 | 0 |
| Lorenzo Sonego | 36 | 0 |

* since the series began in 1990

## Joao Fonseca (BRA) vs [23] Tommy Paul (USA) — Paul Leads 1-0

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid (Spain) | Clay | R64 | Tommy Paul | 7-6(7) 7-6(3) |

Insights from their 52-week averages:

| Player | In Attack | Conversion Score | Steal Score | Serve Quality | Return Quality | Forehand Quality | Backhand Quality |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fonseca | **27%** | **69%** | 33% | **8.1** | 6.3 | **8.0** | 6.8 |
| Paul | 25% | 67% | **35%** | 8.0 | **7.0** | 7.3 | **7.2** |
| *Tour Average* | *24%* | *67%* | *33%* | *7.9* | *6.4* | *7.3* | *7.0* |

**Joao Fonseca** | Age: 19 | World No. 35 | Career-High No. 24 | 2026: 3-3 (Indian Wells 3R) | Indian Wells: 3-1 ('26 3R)
> 2024 Next Gen ATP Finals champion became junior No. 1 in September 2023, broke into Top 100 of PIF ATP Rankings 16 months later and achieved career-high No. 24 in November 2025 after winning Basel title.
> Captured 1st title at 2025 Buenos Aires at age 18, becoming youngest Brazilian champion in Open Era and youngest South American tour-level champion since Perez-Roldan in 1987.
> Earned biggest win of career over No. 9 Rublev in 2025 Australian Open 1R as Q, becoming youngest man to defeat a Top 10 player at Australian Open in PIF ATP Rankings history (since 1973).
> Went 5-0 at 2024 Next Gen ATP Finals to join Alcaraz and Sinner as only 18-year-old champions in event history as well as becoming 1st South American champion at the event.
> In his hometown of Rio de Janeiro, made ATP Tour debut in 2023 and earned 1st ATP Tour wins over No. 36 Fils and former champion Garin for his 1st ATP Tour QF in 2024, 10 years after watching Nadal win 2014 title as a fan.
> Won 2023 US Open boys' singles event to become World No. 1 in junior rankings after reaching quarter-finals of Australian Open, Roland Garros and Wimbledon earlier in the season.

**NOTE**: Fonseca saved 2 MPs vs. No. 16 Khachanov in 2R and now aims to advance to his 1st ATP Masters 1000 4R to become the first Brazilian to reach ATP Masters 1000 R16 since Monteiro at 2024 Rome and first at Indian Wells since Bellucci in 2012. He is 6-1 vs. Top 30 since September, including 2 wins en route to Basel title.

**Tommy Paul** | Age: 28 | World No. 24 | Career-High No. 8 | 2026: 12-5 (Delray Beach F) | Indian Wells: 14-5 ('24 SF)
> Former World No. 3 junior achieved career-high No. 8 'in June 2025 after becoming first American man since Agassi in 2003 to reach both Australian Open and Roland Garros QFs in a single season.
> At 2023 Australian Open, became 1st American men's semi-finalist of that event since Roddick in 2009.
> Earned 7 wins over Top-5, including biggest win of career over No. 1 Alcaraz to reach 1st ATP Masters 1000 SF at 2023 Toronto.
> Defeated junior rivals Fritz and Tiafoe en route to 1st ATP Tour final and title at 2021 Stockholm.
> Earned personal-best 45 wins during 2024 season, highlighted by titles in Dallas, London/Queen's Club and Stockholm and advanced to ATP Masters 1000 SFs in Indian Wells and Rome.
> Won 2015 Roland Garros boys' singles title (d. Fritz), advanced to 2015 Roland Garros boys' doubles final w/Blumberg and reached 2015 US Open boys' singles final (l. to Fritz).

**NOTE**: Paul looks to advance to fourth round for fifth time in six appearances in Indian Wells (2021, 2023-25), lone loss prior to de Minaur in 2022 3R. He is 18-1 vs. teenagers across all levels since the start of 2018 season, lone loss to No. 1 Alcaraz, 19, at 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Miami.

## STADIUM 2

## [28] Brandon Nakashima (USA) vs [4] Alexander Zverev (GER) — Zverev Leads 5-0

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 US Open (U.S.A.) | Hard | R64 | Alexander Zverev | 7-5 6-7(8) 6-3 6-1 |
| 22 Roland Garros (France) | Clay | R32 | Alexander Zverev | 7-6(2) 6-3 7-6(5) |
| 24 US Open (U.S.A.) | Hard | R16 | Alexander Zverev | 3-6 6-1 6-2 6-2 |
| 25 Stuttgart (Germany) | Grass | QF | Alexander Zverev | 7-5 6-4 |
| 25 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati (U.S.A.) | Hard | R32 | Alexander Zverev | 6-4 6-4 |

Insights from their 52-week averages:

| Player | In Attack | Conversion Score | Steal Score | Serve Quality | Return Quality | Forehand Quality | Backhand Quality |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nakashima | 24% | 68% | 31% | 8.4 | 6.6 | 7.5 | 6.9 |
| Zverev | **27%** | **69%** | **33%** | **8.7** | **7.2** | **8.0** | **8.0** |
| *Tour Average* | *24%* | *67%* | *33%* | *7.9* | *6.4* | *7.3* | *7.0* |

**Brandon Nakashima** | Age: 24 | World No. 30 | Career-High No. 29 | 2026: 10-5 (Brisbane Final) | Event: 7-5 (‘25 4R)
> Former World No. 3 junior broke into Top 50 in July 2022 and achieved career-high No. 29 in May 2025 soon after earning 100th career win en route to biggest SF of his career in Acapulco.
> Defeated countryman Giron to win 1st ATP Tour title in hometown of San Diego in 2022 and ended season on 16-1 run in tiebreaks.
> Played in back-to-back ATP Tour finals at Los Cabos and Atlanta as 19-year-old in 2021, becoming youngest American to reach multiple finals since Roddick in 2001-02.
> Returned to Milan and went 5-0 to capture 2022 Next Gen ATP Finals title after reaching SF in 2021.
> Upset No. 5 Rune 6-0 6-2 for biggest win of career to reach 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Shanghai 3R and No. 8 Rublev in 2024 Barcelona 2R for back-to-back Top 10 wins.
> Reached Roland Garros 3R, Wimbledon 4R and US Open 3R in 2022, highlighted by first Top 20 wins of career over No. 16 Shapovalov in Wimbledon 2R and No. 19 Dimitrov in US Open 2R.

**NOTE:** Nakashima is 2-18 vs. Top 10, seeking first win since defeating No. 8 Rublev at 2024 Barcelona (0-12 since). 24-year-old aims to advance to back-to-back Indian Wells fourth rounds and sixth ATP Masters 1000 Round of 16, first since Madrid last year and fourth on home soil after 2024 Cincinnati, 2025 Indian Wells and 2025 Miami.

**Alexander Zverev** | Age: 28 | World No. 4 | Career-High No. 2 | 2026: 8-3 (Aus. Open SF) | Indian Wells: 14-9 (‘21, ‘24 QF)
> Former World No. 1 junior achieved career-high No. 2 after tearing 3 ligaments in right ankle during 2022 Roland Garros SF vs. Nadal.
> Led ATP Tour with 6 titles in 2021 and leads all players born in 1990s with 24 career titles and 527 wins, defeating No. 1 Djokovic en route to 2018 Nitto ATP Finals, 2020 Tokyo Olympics and 2021 Nitto ATP Finals championships.
> Reached 1st Grand Slam final at 2020 US Open, rallying from 2-set deficit for 1st time to defeat Carreno Busta in SF before squandering 2-set lead for 1st time against Thiem in final.
> Earned wins over 14-time champion Nadal en route to 2024 Roland Garros final and 10-time champion Djokovic via RET to reach 2025 Australian Open final.
> Defeated Djokovic at 2017 Rome and Federer at 2017 Montreal for 1st and 2nd of his 7 ATP Masters 1000 titles.
> Joined Murray and Thiem as 3rd player to defeat Djokovic on hard (4 times), Federer on grass (2016 Halle SF) and Nadal on clay (2 times).

**NOTE:** Zverev is making his 10th consecutive main draw appearance in Indian Wells and aims to become the first man to record 100 ATP Masters 1000 wins in this decade (99-37) to reach Indian Wells 4R for fifth time (2016, 2021, 2023-24) and continue his quest to complete the set of semi-finals at all 9 ATP Masters 1000 events this week.

**ATP Masters 1000 Events – Best Result by Alexander Zverev**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Indian Wells** | **QF (2021, 2024)** | Canada | Champion (2017) |
| Miami | Final (2018) | Cincinnati | Champion (2021) |
| Monte-Carlo | SF (2018, 2022) | Shanghai | Final (2019) |
| Madrid | Champion (2018, 2021) | Paris | Champion (2024) |
| Rome | Champion (2017, 2024) | | |

## [15] Flavio Cobolli (ITA) vs [21] Frances Tiafoe (USA) — Tiafoe Leads 2-1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24 Delray Beach (U.S.A.) | Hard | QF | Frances Tiafoe | 6-4 6-2 |
| 25 Washington (U.S.A.) | Hard | R16 | Frances Tiafoe | 6-1 6-4 |
| 26 Acapulco (Mexico) | Hard | F | Flavio Cobolli | 7-6(4) 6-4 |

**Flavio Cobolli** | Age: 23 | World No. 15 (Career-High) | 2026: 9-5 (Acapulco Title) | Indian Wells: 1-2 (2026 3R)
> Broke into Top 200 in January 2022 and Top 100 in October 2023, achieving career-high No. 15 in March 2026 after winning his 3rd ATP Tour title in Acapulco.
> In 2025, defeated clay-court champions Gasquet and Baez to win 1st ATP Tour title in Bucharest, captured biggest title of his career in Hamburg, and led Italy to their third consecutive Davis Cup title.
> Earned wins over Shelton as No. 15 en route to 1st ATP Tour SF at 2024 Geneva and as No. 14 to reach 1st final at 2024 Washington before beating No. 9 Rune via RET for 1st Top 10 win at 2025 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid.
> Advanced to 2024 Australian Open 3R as Q (d. No. 18 Jarry in 1R) and 2024 US Open 3R as No. 31 seed, before defeating former finalist Cilic to reach 2025 Wimbledon QF.
> Defeated former-World No. 3 Wawrinka at 2024 ATP Masters 1000 Shanghai, 21 years after his father and coach, Stefano, defeated the Swiss at Brindisi Challenger in 2003.
> Peaked at No. 8 in juniors and ended junior career by winning 2020 Roland Garros boys’ doubles title w/Stricker.

**NOTE**: Cobolli is on a 6-match winning streak after winning Acapulco title last week, defeating Tiafoe in the final and rallying from a set down to defeat Kecmanovic in 2R this week. Italian No. 3 seeks ATP Masters 1000 Round of 16 for the third time in career after 2024 Cincinnati and 2025 Toronto.

**Cobolli's Last Four Matches:**

| Tournament | Opponent | W-L | Score |
|---|---|---|---|
| Acapulco SF | Miomir Kecmanovic | W | 7-6(5) 3-6 6-4 |
| Acapulco Final | Frances Tiafoe | W | 7-6(4) 6-4 |
| Indian Wells 2R | Miomir Kecmanovic | W | 3-6 6-3 6-4 |
| **Indian Wells 3R** | **Frances Tiafoe** | **?** | **?** |

**Frances Tiafoe** | Age: 28 | World No. 22 | Career-High No. 10 | 2026: 11-5 (Acapulco Final) | Indian Wells: 11-9 (2023 SF)
> Former World No. 2 junior achieved career-high No. 10 in June 2023 after lifting 3rd title in Stuttgart, saving 1 MP vs. Struff in the final and remains only active American to own ATP Tour titles on clay, grass and hard courts.
> Joined Fritz in Top 10 to be 1st American duo in Top 10 of PIF ATP Rankings since Fish and Isner in May 2012.
> Defeated 4-time champion Nadal en route to 2022 US Open SF, becoming that event's 1st American men's semi-finalist since Roddick in 2006 and returned to US Open SF in 2024, losing to Fritz in all-American match.
> Led Team World to 2022 Laver Cup title, teaming w/Sock to defeat Federer/Nadal in Swiss' final match before clinching cup with win over Tsitsipas.
> Rallied from 3-5 in third set and saved 2 MPs vs. Rune to reach 1st ATP Masters 1000 final at 2024 Cincinnati.
> Won 1st ATP Tour title as 20-year-old at 2018 Delray Beach and becoming youngest American champion since Roddick, 19, at 2002 Houston and 2nd ATP Tour title at 2023 Houston.
> Parents emigrated from Sierra Leone in 1996 and father was Head of Maintenance at Junior Tennis Champions Center in Maryland, where Frances and his twin brother Franklin trained as kids.

**NOTE:** Tiafoe seeks first Top 20 win since defeating then-No. 18 Cobolli in Washington 3R last year (0-8 since) to reach Indian Wells 4R for the second time in his career (2023 SF). 28-year-old is 1-4 in third rounds at this event, losing to No. 12 Hurkacz in 2021, No. 7 Rublev in 2022, No. 11 Tsitsipas in 2024 and No. 349 Watanuki last year.

## STADIUM 3

## Marton Fucsovics (HUN) vs [30] Arthur Fils (FRA) — First Tour-Level Meeting

**Other Meeting**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 Andria CH (Italy) | Hard | R32 | Marton Fucsovics | 6-4 7-6(5) |

**Marton Fucsovics** | Age: 34 | World No. 56 | Career-High No. 31 | 2026: 5-5 (Indian Wells 3R) | Event: 6-5 (2023 4R)
> Achieved career-high No. 31 in 2019 and became highest-ranked Hungarian since No. 29 Taroczy in 1983.
> Defeated 2-time defending champion Wawrinka en route to 1st ATP Tour title at 2018 Geneva, becoming 1st Hungarian champion since Taroczy at 1982 Hilversum.
> Also captured ATP Tour titles at 2024 Bucharest and 2025 Winston-Salem.
> Rallied for 5-set win over No. 7 Rublev at 2021 Wimbledon to become 1st men's quarter-finalist from Hungary at that event since Asboth in 1948.
> Advanced to Grand Slam 4R on 3 other occasions, beating No. 5 Medvedev en route to 2020 Roland Garros 4R and to end 0-14 start to career vs. Top 10.
> Became World No. 1 junior after capturing 2010 Wimbledon boys' singles title without dropping a set.

**NOTE**: Fucsovics upset No. 5 Musetti in 2R for first hard-court Top 10 win (now 1-21) and now aims to reach Round of 16 at ATP Masters 1000 level for the fourth time, all in USA, after 2018 and 2020 Cincinnati and 2023 Indian Wells.

**Arthur Fils** | Age: 21 | World No. 32 | Career-High No. 14 | 2026: 7-3 (Doha Final) | Indian Wells: 6-2 (2025 QF)
> In 2023, broke into Top 200 in January, Top 100 in May and Top 50 in July before peaking at No. 14 in April 2025 after becoming youngest player to reach QFs of 1st three ATP Masters 1000 events in same year in series history.
> Posted 17-4 record at ATP 500 level in 2024, defeating No. 4 Zverev for Hamburg title and saved a championship point to defeat Humbert in all-French final in Tokyo.
> Became youngest Frenchman at 18 years and 11 months to win an ATP Tour title since Monfils at 2005 Sopot, defeating F. Cerundolo to lift 2023 Lyon title as No. 112-ranked WC.
> In February 2023, became youngest Frenchman to reach an ATP Tour SF since Gasquet in 2004 at 2023 Montpellier (l. to Sinner) and advanced to 2nd ATP Tour SF at 2023 Marseille (l. to Bonzi).
> Achieved career-high No. 3 in junior rankings during 2021 season, advanced to boys' singles final (l. to countryman Van Assche) and won the boys' doubles title w/Mpetshi Perricard.

**NOTE**: Fils seeks back-to-back wins fourth rounds at Indian Wells after becoming the only man to reach QFs of 1st three ATP Masters 1000 events in 2025 at this venue, Miami and Monte-Carlo. 21-year-old is 9-1 vs. players ranked outside Top 30 on hard courts since last year's Indian Wells, lone loss to No. 54 Mensik in Miami QF.

## Gabriel Diallo (CAN) vs [9] Felix Auger-Aliassime (CAN) — Auger-Aliassime Leads 1-0

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25 Basel (Switzerland) | Hard | R32 | Felix Auger-Aliassime | 6-2 7-5 |

**Gabriel Diallo** | Age: 24 | World No. 38 | Career-High No. 33 | 2026: 4-6 (Indian Wells 3R) | Event: 3-1 (2026 3R)
> Broke into Top 100 in October 2024 and Top 50 in June 2025, achieving career-high No. 33 in August 2025, after capturing his 1st ATP Tour title in 's-Hertogenbosch, becoming 1st Canadian man to win grass-court title since 1993.
> Saved 3 MPs to defeat No. 16 Dimitrov for biggest win of career and advance to 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at 2025 Madrid as LL, before saving 2 MPs vs. Thompson en route to 's-Hertogenbosch title.
> Earned 1st ATP Tour win by defeating No. 21 Evans at 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Toronto 1R as WC and reached 1st ATP Tour QF, SF and final at 2024 Almaty.
> Owns 65-37 Challenger record (3-1 in finals), winning 1st title at 2022 Granby as No. 519-ranked WC.
> Played for the University of Kentucky, making the quarter-final round at 2022 NCAA Singles Championships before turning pro at the end of 2022.

**NOTE**: Diallo rallied from a set down to defeat No. 17 Rublev in 2R and now aims to record the biggest win of his career (0-9 vs. Top 10). 24-year-old seeks third ATP Masters 1000 4R after Madrid as LL and Shanghai last year to be 4th Canadian to reach Indian Wells 4R after Raonic (6 times), Shapovalov (2019) and Auger-Aliassime (2023).

**Felix Auger-Aliassime** | Age: 25 | World No. 9 | Career-High No. 5 | 2026: 13-4 (Montpellier Title) | Event: 8-7 ('23 QF)
> Finished 2025 season at career-high No. 5 after winning titles in Adelaide, Montpellier and Brussels and advancing to US Open SF, Nitto ATP Finals SF and ATP Masters 1000 Paris final during the season.
> 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, swept team titles at ATP Cup, Laver Cup and Davis Cup and recorded 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 reached 2024 Madrid final to become 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 on a 12-2 run since the start of February after his run to Montpellier title, Rotterdam final and Dubai SF and win over Monfils in 2R. 25-year-old advanced to QF-or-better in 10 of 11 tournaments played since August, including ATP Masters 1000 events in Cincinnati (SF), Shanghai (QF) and Paris (F) and owns 25-5 tie-break record since the start of August.

## STADIUM 4

## [18] Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (ESP) vs [12] Jakub Mensik (CZE) — Davidovich Fokina Leads 4-1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24 Doha (Qatar) | Hard | R32 | Jakub Mensik | 7-6(3) 6-4 |
| 24 Dubai (U.A.E.) | Hard | R16 | A. Davidovich Fokina | 7-6(7) 1-0 RET |
| 25 Australian Open (Australia) | Hard | R32 | A. Davidovich Fokina | 3-6 4-6 7-6(7) 6-4 6-2 |
| 25 Eastbourne (Great Britain) | Grass | QF | A. Davidovich Fokina | 6-4 7-5 |
| 25 ATP Masters 1000 Toronto (Canada) | Hard | R32 | A. Davidovich Fokina | 6-2 6-4 |

Insights from their 52-week averages:

| Player | In Attack | Conversion Score | Steal Score | Serve Quality | Return Quality | Forehand Quality | Backhand Quality |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Davidovich Fokina | **26%** | **68%** | **37%** | 7.5 | 6.8 | 7.0 | 7.6 |
| Mensik | **26%** | **68%** | 34% | **8.7** | **6.9** | **7.1** | 7.1 |
| *Tour Average* | *24%* | *67%* | *33%* | *7.9* | *6.4* | *7.3* | *7.0* |

**A. Davidovich Fokina** | Age: 26 | World No. 19 | Career-High No. 14 | 2026: 8-5 (Adelaide SF) | Event: 6-5 ('23 QF)
> Made Top 20 debut in July 2025 and achieved career-high No. 14 in November 2025 following his run to 5th ATP Tour final in Basel after previously peaking at No. 21 in 2023.
> Broke Djokovic 9 times in Monte-Carlo 2R win, setting record for most breaks of Djokovic in a best-of-3-set match to defeat then-World No. 1 en route to 1st ATP Tour final of career at 2022 ATP Masters 1000 Monte-Carlo.
> Advanced to 1st Grand Slam QF at 2021 Roland Garros and 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at 2021 Monte-Carlo, highlighted by 5-set win over Ruud in Roland Garros 3R.

> In 2025, advanced to 4 ATP Tour finals, including Delray Beach, where he held 2 championship points vs. Kecmanovic, and Washington, where he squandered 3 championship points vs. de Minaur.
> Ended junior career as World No. 2 after winning Wimbledon boys' singles title and posting 20-1 record in 2017.

**NOTE**: Davidovich Fokina seeks first Top 20 win since defeating No. 11 Ruud en route to Basel final in October. He aims to record 5 tour-level wins vs. an opponent for the first time (4-1 vs. Mensik & van de Zandschulp, 4-2 vs. Hurkacz, 4-3 vs Fritz) to reach Indian Wells 4R for the second time after run to 2023 QF.

**Jakub Mensik** | Age: 20 | World No. 12 (Career-High) | 2026: 14-4 (Auckland Title) | Indian Wells: 3-2 (2026 3R)
> Former World No. 2 junior broke into Top 100 in February 2025 and achieved career-high No. 12 in March 2026 soon after defeating No. 2 Sinner for biggest win of career to reach Doha SF.
> Defeated 6-time champion Djokovic in 2025 Miami final to become the fourth man in series history to win 1st ATP Tour title at a Masters 1000 event and 1st Czech ATP Masters 1000 champion since Berdych at 2005 Paris.
> Reached 1st ATP Tour QF, SF and final at 2024 Doha by defeating former champions Murray, No. 5 Rublev and Monfils, becoming 1st man born in 2005 or later to play in an ATP Tour final.
> In tour-level debut, reached 3R at 2023 US Open as Q, becoming youngest man to reach Grand Slam 3R since Nadal at 2004 Aus. Open and youngest at US Open since Santoro in 1990, losing to Fritz on 18th birthday.
> Also suffered Grand Slam 3R losses at 2024 US Open to Borges after holding 3 MPs and 2025 Australian Open to Davidovich Fokina after squandering 2 MPs before run to his 1st Grand Slam 4R at 2026 Australian Open.
> Posted 85-28 record on ITF Juniors circuit, highlighted by reaching 2022 Australian Open boys' singles final.

**NOTE**: Mensik is tied with Medvedev for tour-leading 14 wins this season on ATP Tour and looks for fifth ATP Masters 1000 4R after 2024 Shanghai and Miami, Madrid and Rome last year. He would be the second Czech man to reach Indian Wells 4R this decade after Lehecka in 2024 (l. to Sinner in QF).

## 2026 BNP PARIBAS OPEN DOUBLES SEEDS

| SEED | PLAYER | TEAM W-L & TITLES | 2026 (INDIVIDUALLY) | EVENT (INDIVIDUALLY) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Marcel Granollers (ESP)<br>Horacio Zeballos (ARG) | 205-92 (15 Titles)<br>7-2 in 2026 (1 Final) | 7-2 (Dallas Final)<br>7-2 (Dallas Final) | 7-11 (2024 Final)<br>12-7 (2019 Title) |
| 2 | Julian Cash (GBR)<br>Lloyd Glasspool (GBR) | 76-27 (8 Titles)<br>9-5 in 2026 (2 Finals) | 9-5 (2 Finals)<br>9-5 (2 Finals) | 1-1 (2025 2R)<br>5-3 (2023-24 QF) |
| 3 | Marcelo Arevalo (ESA)<br>Mate Pavic (CRO) | 105-44 (7 Titles)<br>10-5 in 2026 (1 Final) | 10-5 (Dubai Final)<br>11-5 (Dubai Final) | 8-4 (2025 Title)<br>15-6 (2025 Title) |
| 4 | Christian Harrison (USA)<br>Neal Skupski (GBR) | 9-3 - all in 2026<br>(Aus. Open Title) | 10-3 (Aus. Open Title)<br>9-3 (Aus. Open Title) | 3-1 (2025 SF)<br>6-6 (2023 Final) |
| 5 | Kevin Krawietz (GER)<br>Tim Puetz (GER) | 133-63 (5 Titles)<br>5-3 in 2026 (1 Final) | 5-3 (Adelaide Final)<br>5-3 (Adelaide Final) | 6-4 (2024 SF)<br>7-3 (2021, 2024 SF) |
| 6 | Hugo Nys (ITA)<br>Edouard Roger-Vasselin (FRA) | 38-26 ('25 Tokyo Title)<br>1-4 in 2026 (1 QF) | 3-5 (2 QFs)<br>1-4 (Adelaide QF) | 1-3 (2025 2R)<br>14-9 (2022 Final) |
| 7 | Francisco Cabral (POR)<br>Lucas Miedler (AUT) | 43-21 (4 Titles)<br>10-5 in 2026 (1 Title) | 10-6 (Brisbane Title)<br>10-6 (Brisbane Title) | 0-0 (Debut)<br>1-0 (2023 2R) |
| 8 | Luke Johnson (GBR)<br>Jan Zielinski (POL) | 5-4 - all in 2026<br>(Aus. Open SF) | 6-5 (Aus. Open SF)<br>6-4 (Aus. Open SF) | 0-0 (Debut)<br>0-3 (2023-25 1R) |

**OTHER INTERESTING PAIRINGS IN INDIAN WELLS DOUBLES DRAW -**
> Singles World No. 2 **Jannik Sinner** pairing with singles World No. 68 **Reilly Opelka**, playing for the second time together after winning 2021 Atlanta title, face No. 1 seeds Granollers/Zeballos in 1R
> Singles World No. 4 **Alexander Zverev** entered the draw as alternate with former doubles World No. 1 **Marcelo Melo** after the pair won Acapulco title last week and advanced to 2024 ATP Masters 1000 Monte-Carlo final as ALTs.
> 5-time Indian Wells singles champion **Novak Djokovic** and former-World No. 3 **Stefanos Tsitsipas** team up as WCs after facing each other in Grand Slam singles finals of 2021 Roland Garros and 2023 Australian Open.
> Cousins **Arthur Rinderknech** and **Valentin Vacherot** team up again, looking for first tour-level win as a team, five months after meeting in ATP Masters 1000 Shanghai final.
> Former singles World No. 1 **Daniil Medvedev** and 20-year-old **Learner Tien** team up in doubles for the first time after being named one of the best rivalries on ATP Tour last season and meeting in Australian Open 4R this year.