



WESTERN & SOUTHERN OPEN - ATP MEDIA NOTES PREVIEW & DAY 1 – SUNDAY 13 AUGUST 2023

Lindner Family Tennis Center | Cincinnati, OH, U.S.A. | 13-20 August 2023

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WESTERN & SOUTHERN OPEN TALKING POINTS

- The 2023 **Western & Southern Open** field hosts 6 former champions of the event, including No. 2 seed **Novak Djokovic**, who became the first player in history to win all 9 ATP Masters 1000 titles when he won in Cincinnati in 2018 and earned his 2nd title in 2020, when the event moved to New York for a year. Another 2-time champion **Andy Murray**, who won in 2008 and 2011, is making his 18th appearance at the event. Murray comes into the event unseeded and will face No. 11 seed **Karen Khachanov** in the first round.
- Defending champion No. 15 seed **Borna Coric** returns to Cincinnati a year after defeating **Stefanos Tsitsipas** in the final to become the lowest-ranked player in ATP Masters 1000 history (since it began in 1990) to win a title as World No. 152. A year later, ranked more than 100 places above his last year's ranking, he faces **Sebastian Korda** in his opening round match.
- World No. 1 **Carlos Alcaraz** leads the ATP tour in wins (49) and titles (6) this season including two ATP Masters 1000 titles at Indian Wells and Madrid. The 20-year-old is making his 3rd consecutive appearance at the event, reaching the quarter-finals last year (l. to **Cameron Norrie**). Alcaraz faces the winner of first round match between a qualifier and wildcard **John Isner** and could face No. 14 seed **Tommy Paul** in third round, a week after Paul broke his 14-match winning streak in the Toronto quarter-finals.
- No. 3 seed **Daniil Medvedev** won his 1st ATP Masters 1000 title at 2019 Cincinnati defeating **David Goffin** in the final. Four years later, Medvedev now owns 6 ATP Masters 1000 titles (9th most in ATP Masters 1000 history), including titles at Miami and Rome this season. He has reached at least the quarter-final stage in last 4 appearances at the event.
- The draw in Cincinnati contains all Top 20 players with the highest-ranked player missing the tournament being No. 23 **Denis Shapovalov**, who withdrew with knee injury. The field includes 10 Americans including No. 9 seed **Taylor Fritz**, who reached the quarter-finals last year and No. 10 seed **Frances Tiafoe**. Both ranked in Top 10, they are the first American duo to be ranked in the Top 10 since **Mardy Fish** and **John Isner** in 2012.
- No. 8 seed **Jannik Sinner** will play **Alex de Minaur** in the Toronto final on Sunday before they both head to the Western & Southern Open. **Sinner** has a bye in 1R before playing the winner of **Francisco Cerundolo** and a qualifier in 2R, while **de Minaur** will open his Cincinnati campaign vs. local favorite **J.J. Wolf** in 1R.
- Alcaraz leads 4 #NextGenATP players in the draw (before the qualifiers are placed). No. 6 seed **Holger Rune**, who is No. 2 in the [Pepperstone ATP Live Next Gen Race](#) behind Alcaraz, will aim to record first win since reaching the Wimbledon quarter-finals. Youngest American player in the draw, 20-year-old **Ben Shelton**, will face **Christopher Eubanks** in the first round. Shelton made his ATP Masters 1000 debut at Cincinnati last year as a wildcard, before defeating World No. 5 **Casper Ruud** in 2R for his 1st Top 10 win.

2023 WESTERN & SOUTHERN OPEN SINGLES

SEED	PLAYER	2023 W-L (BEST FINISH)	EVENT W-L (BEST FINISH)
1	Carlos Alcaraz (ESP)	49-5 (6 Titles)	2-2 (2022 QF)
2	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	33-5 (3 Titles)	40-12 (2018, 2020 Titles)
3	Daniil Medvedev	48-10 (5 Titles)	14-5 (2019 Title)
4	Stefanos Tsitsipas (GRE)	39-14 (Los Cabos Title)	10-5 (2022 Final)
5	Casper Ruud (NOR)	29-16 (Estoril Title)	2-4 (2021 QF)
6	Holger Rune (DEN)	37-14 (Munich Title)	0-1 (2022 1R)
7	Andrey Rublev	40-16 (Monte Carlo, Bastad Titles)	8-5 (2021 Final)
8*	Jannik Sinner (ITA)	40-11 (Montpellier Title)	3-2 (2022 3R)
9	Taylor Fritz (USA)	42-18 (Delray Beach, Atlanta Titles)	4-5 (2022 QF)
10	Frances Tiafoe (USA)	32-13 (Houston, Stuttgart Titles)	5-6 (2017 3R)
11	Karen Khachanov	23-11 (Aus. Open, Miami SF)	8-6 (2017-20 3R)
12	Felix Auger-Aliassime (CAN)	13-13 (Doha SF)	6-4 (2021-22 QF)
13	Cameron Norrie (GBR)	32-15 (Rio de Janeiro Title)	4-3 (2022 SF)
14	Tommy Paul (USA)	30-18 (Acapulco, Eastbourne Finals)	3-4 (2017, 2021-22 2R)
15	Borna Coric (CRO)	18-16 (Madrid, Los Cabos SF)	12-6 (2022 Title)
16	Alexander Zverev (GER)	34-19 (Hamburg Title)	5-6 (2021 Title)

* 2023 stats for Jannik Sinner exclude Toronto final on Sunday 13 August

ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT

Tournament History	55th Edition of Open Era (1969-2023)
Singles Final	Sunday 20 August at 4:30 pm
Doubles Final	Sunday 20 August at 12 pm
Wild Cards (4)	John Isner (USA), Mackenzie McDonald (USA), Brandon Nakashima (USA), Stan Wawrinka (SUI)
Qualifiers (7)	TBD on Sunday 13 August
Protected Rankings (2)	Gael Monfils (PR-35), Lloyd Harris (PR-47)
Oldest Player	Stan Wawrinka (38)
#NextGenATP (4)	Carlos Alcaraz (20), Holger Rune (20), Ben Shelton (20), Lorenzo Musetti (21)
Open Era Records	<u>Most Titles</u> – Roger Federer (7) <u>Most Wins</u> – Roger Federer (47) <u>Youngest Champion</u> – Boris Becker, 17, in 1985 <u>Oldest Champion</u> – Ken Rosewall, 35, in 1970 <u>Highest-Ranked Champion</u> – No. 1 on 10 occasions, most recently Novak Djokovic in 2020 <u>Lowest-Ranked Champion</u> – No. 152 Borna Coric in 2022 <u>Last American Champion</u> – Andy Roddick in 2006

COUNTRY BREAKDOWN (23)

United States (10)	Christopher Eubanks, Taylor Fritz, John Isner, Sebastian Korda, Mackenzie McDonald, Brandon Nakashima, Tommy Paul, Ben Shelton, Frances Tiafoe, J.J. Wolf		
France (5)	Gregoire Barrere, Richard Gasquet, Ugo Humbert, Adrian Mannarino, Gael Monfils		
Italy (4)	Matteo Berrettini, Lorenzo Musetti, Jannik Sinner, Lorenzo Sonego		
Great Britain (3)	Daniel Evans, Andy Murray, Cameron Norrie		
Argentina (2)	Francisco Cerundolo, Tomas Martin Etcheverry		
Germany (2)	Yannick Hanfmann, Alexander Zverev		
Serbia (2)	Novak Djokovic, Miomir Kecmanovic		
Spain (2)	Carlos Alcaraz, Alejandro Davidovich Fokina		
Australia (1)	Alex de Minaur		
Bulgaria (1)	Grigor Dimitrov	Greece (1)	Stefanos Tsitsipas
Canada (1)	Felix Auger-Aliassime	Japan (1)	Yoshihito Nishioka
Chile (1)	Nicolas Jarry	Netherlands (1)	Tallon Griekspoor
Croatia (1)	Borna Coric	Norway (1)	Casper Ruud
Czech Republic (1)	Jiri Lehecka	Poland (1)	Hubert Hurkacz
Denmark (1)	Holger Rune	South Africa (1)	Lloyd Harris
Finland (1)	Emil Ruusuvuori	Switzerland (1)	Stan Wawrinka
	Karen Khachanov, Daniil Medvedev, Andrey Rublev, Roman Safiullin		

NOTE: Qualifiers excluded

2023 WESTERN & SOUTHERN OPEN DOUBLES

SEED	PLAYERS	TEAM (BEST FINISH)	2023 (BEST FINISH)	EVENT (BEST FINISH)
1	Wesley Koolhof (NED) Neal Skupski (GBR)	92-33 (9 Titles) 36-14 in 2023 (2 Titles)	37-14 (2 Titles) 37-14 (2 Titles)	3-4 (2020 QF) 7-4 (2020 Final)
2	Ivan Dodig (CRO) Austin Krajicek (USA)	63-27 (7 Titles) 26-8 in 2023 (4 Titles)	26-10 (4 Titles) 32-11 (4 Titles)	16-9 (2016, 2019 Titles) 8-4 (2021 Final)
3*	Rajeev Ram (USA) Joe Salisbury (GBR)	160-77 (10 Titles) 20-13 in 2023 (1 Title)	22-14 (Lyon Title) 20-14 (Lyon Title)	10-11 (2022 Title) 7-3 (2022 Title)
4	Rohan Bopanna (IND) Matthew Ebden (AUS)	27-14 (2 Titles) 27-14 in 2023 (2 Titles)	27-16 (2 Titles) 30-17 (2 Titles)	9-13 (2012 Final) 0-1 (2022 1R)
5	Hugo Nys (MON) Jan Zielinski (POL)	37-29 (2 Titles) 18-17 in 2023 (1 Title)	19-19 (Rome Title) 18-18 (Rome Title)	0-0 (Debut) 0-0 (Debut)
6	Santiago Gonzalez (MEX) Edouard Roger-Vasselin (FRA)	42-18 (3 Titles) 35-16 in 2023 (3 Titles)	35-17 (3 Titles) 35-17 (3 Titles)	7-3 (2013, 2022 SF) 15-8 (2015 Title)
7	Kevin Krawietz (GER) Tim Puetz (GER)	36-15 (1 Title) 26-11 in 2023 (1 Title)	30-13 (Hamburg Title) 29-14 (Hamburg Title)	5-4 (2020, 2022 QF) 5-3 (2022 Final)
8	Marcel Granollers (ESP) Horacio Zeballos (ARG)	111-59 (7 Titles) 25-13 in 2023 (2 Finals)	25-15 (2 Finals) 27-14 (2 Finals)	12-6 (2021 Title) 8-3 (2021 Title)

* Team and 2023 stats for Ram/Salisbury exclude Toronto final on Sunday 13 August

PEPPERSTONE ATP RANKINGS POINTS AND PRIZE MONEY

Western & Southern Open	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32	R64
Singles Ranking Points	1,000	600	360	180	90	45*	10^
Singles Prize Money (\$)	1,019,335	556,630	304,375	166,020	88,805	47,620	26,380
Doubles Ranking Points	1,000	600	360	180	90~	0	--
Doubles Prize Money (\$)	312,740	169,880	93,310	51,470	28,310	15,450	--

* Singles players who receive a bye in R64 and lose in R32 earn 10 ranking points

^ Singles wild cards who lose in R64 earn 0 ranking points

~ Doubles teams that receive a bye in R32 and lose in R16 earn 0 ranking points

WESTERN & SOUTHERN OPEN SINGLES FINALS (since 2008)

YEAR	CHAMPION	FINALIST	SCORE
2022	Borna Coric (CRO)	Stefanos Tsitsipas (GRE)	7-6(0) 6-2
2021	Alexander Zverev (GER)	Andrey Rublev	6-2 6-3
2020	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	Milos Raonic (CAN)	1-6 6-3 6-4
2019	Daniil Medvedev	David Goffin (BEL)	7-6(3) 6-4
2018	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	Roger Federer (SUI)	6-4 6-4
2017	Grigor Dimitrov (BUL)	Nick Kyrgios (AUS)	6-3 7-5
2016	Marin Cilic (CRO)	Andy Murray (GBR)	6-4 7-5
2015	Roger Federer (SUI)	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	7-6(1) 6-3
2014	Roger Federer (SUI)	David Ferrer (ESP)	6-3 1-6 6-2
2013	Rafael Nadal (ESP)	John Isner (USA)	7-6(8) 7-6(3)
2012	Roger Federer (SUI)	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	6-0 7-6(7)
2011	Andy Murray (GBR)	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	6-4 3-0 RET
2010	Roger Federer (SUI)	Mardy Fish (USA)	6-7(5) 7-6(1) 6-4
2009	Roger Federer (SUI)	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	6-1 7-5
2008	Andy Murray (GBR)	Novak Djokovic (SRB)	7-6(4) 7-6(5)

BOLD: Player in 2023 Western & Southern Open singles draw.

WESTERN & SOUTHERN OPEN DOUBLES FINALS (since 2008)

YEAR	CHAMPION	FINALIST	SCORE
2022	Rajeev Ram / Joe Salisbury	Tim Puetz / Michael Venus	7-6(4) 7-6(5)
2021	Marcel Granollers / Horacio Zeballos	Steve Johnson / Austin Krajicek	7-6(5) 7-6(5)
2020	Pablo Carreno Busta / Alex de Minaur	Jamie Murray / Neal Skupski	6-2 7-5
2019	Ivan Dodig / Filip Polasek	Juan Sebastian Cabal / Robert Farah	4-6 6-4 [10-6]
2018	Jamie Murray / Bruno Soares	Juan Sebastian Cabal / Robert Farah	4-6 6-3 [10-6]
2017	Pierre-Hugues Herbert / Nicolas Mahut	Jamie Murray / Bruno Soares	7-6(6) 6-4
2016	Ivan Dodig / Marcelo Melo	Jean-Julien Rojer / Horia Tecau	7-6(5) 6-7(5) [10-6]
2015	Daniel Nestor / Edouard Roger-Vasselin	Marcin Matkowski / Nenad Zimonjic	6-2 6-2
2014	Bob Bryan / Mike Bryan	Vasek Pospisil / Jack Sock	6-3 6-2
2013	Bob Bryan / Mike Bryan	Marcel Granollers / Marc Lopez	6-4 4-6 [10-4]
2012	Robert Lindstedt / Horia Tecau	Mahesh Bhupathi / Rohan Bopanna	6-4 6-4
2011	Mahesh Bhupathi / Leander Paes	Michael Llodra / Nenad Zimonjic	7-6(4) 7-6(2)
2010	Bob Bryan / Mike Bryan	Mahesh Bhupathi / Max Mirnyi	6-3 6-4
2009	Daniel Nestor / Nenad Zimonjic	Bob Bryan / Mike Bryan	3-6 7-6(2) [15-13]
2008	Bob Bryan / Mike Bryan	Jonathan Erlich / Andy Ram	4-6 7-6(2) [10-7]

BOLD: Player in 2023 Western & Southern Open doubles draw (Ram/Salisbury and Granollers/Zeballos remain intact).

LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: SUNDAY FIRST-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

CENTER COURT

Ben Shelton (USA) vs Christopher Eubanks (USA)

Eubanks Leads 1-0

23 Mallorca (Spain)

Grass R16 Christopher Eubanks

6-7(4) 6-4 7-6(2)

Other Meetings

22 Charlottesville CH (U.S.A.)

Hard F Ben Shelton

7-6(4) 7-5

22 Knoxville CH (U.S.A.)

Hard F Ben Shelton

6-3 1-6 7-6(4)

Ben Shelton | Age: 20 | World No. 41 | Career-High No. 35 | 2023: 11-19 (Aus. Open QF) | Event: 2-1 (2022 3R)

> Achieved career-high No. 35 in May 2023 after breaking into Top 50 in January 2023, Top 100 in November 2022, Top 200 in August 2022 and Top 500 in June 2022.

> Advanced to 2023 Australian Open QF at age 20 and on his 1st trip outside USA, becoming youngest American man in Australian Open QF since Giammalva Jr., 19, in 1982, and in Grand Slam QF since Roddick, 20, at 2002 US Open.

> Upset No. 5 Ruud to reach 2022 Cincinnati 3R in ATP Masters 1000 debut at age 19, becoming youngest American man to earn Top-5 win since Roddick, 18, at 2001 Montreal (d. No. 1 Kuersten).

> Ended 2022 season on ATP Challenger Tour with 3 indoor hard titles in as many weeks at Charlottesville, Knoxville and Champaign.

> 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 owns a 1-4 record vs. Americans on tour-level hard courts (d. Wolf at 2023 Australian Open 4R). He made his ATP Masters 1000 debut in Cincinnati last year, defeating No. 5 Ruud in 2R for biggest win of career.

Christopher Eubanks | Age: 27 | World No. 29 (Career-High) | 2023: 19-14 (Mallorca Title) | Event: 0-1 (2017 1R)

> Earned personal-best 19 wins in 2023 and made his Top 100 debut at age 26, peaking at No. 29 in July 2023 after making QF in Atlanta.

> Broke Top 50 at No. 43 after capturing 1st ATP Tour title at Mallorca in July after saving 5 MPs in SF (d. Harris).

> Then followed with QF in his Wimbledon main draw debut, posting wins over No. 12 Norrie in 2R and No. 5

Tsitsipas in 4R for biggest win of career before losing to No. 3 Medvedev in 5 sets.

> Came from qualifying to defeat No. 20 Coric for 1st Top 20 win en route to 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at 2023 Miami to guarantee himself a spot in the Top 100.

> Defeated countrymen Fritz, Donaldson in his hometown for 1st ATP Tour wins en route to 2017 Atlanta QF as WC.

> Played college tennis at Georgia Tech from 2015-17 and was a 2-time All-American and 2-time ACC Player of Year

NOTE: Eubanks is 7-1 vs. left-handers on tour-level in his career (l. to F. Lopez at 2023 Acapulco 1R) and 5-0 vs. Americans this season (8-0 including ATP qualifying and Challengers).

[10] Frances Tiafoe (USA) vs Tallon Griekspoor (NED)

First Meeting

Frances Tiafoe | Age: 25 | World No. 10 (Career-High) | 2023: 32-13 (2 Titles) | Event: 5-6 (2017 3R)

- > Former World No. 2 junior achieved career-high No. 10 in June 2023 after capturing 3rd ATP Tour title at 2023 Stuttgart on grass, saving 1 MP vs. Struff in the final to earn a title on all three surfaces.
- > 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.
- > 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.
- > Won 1st ATP Tour title as 20-year-old at 2018 Delray Beach and remains youngest American champion since Roddick, 19, at 2002 Houston and 2nd ATP Tour title at 2023 Houston on clay.
- > 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 is 13-2 in his opening rounds this season, 6-1 on hard courts, losing to Raonic in Toronto 1R on Monday. Owns a 17-7 record on hard courts this season, highlighted by SF at ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells.

Tallon Griekspoor | Age: 27 | World No. 26 (Career-High) | 2023: 27-14 (2 Titles) | Event: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Achieved career-high No. 26 in August 2023 after defeating No. 9 Fritz for biggest win of career to reach 3rd ATP Tour final in Washington (l. to Evans).
- > Earned personal-best 27 wins in 2023, advancing to first final and winning 1st ATP Tour title at Pune in January, before winning his 2nd ATP Tour title at 's-Hertogenbosch on home soil.
- > Rallied from a set down for Rotterdam wins as WC over No. 13 Wawrinka in 2018, No. 11 Khachanov in 2019, No. 14 Karatsev in 2022 and No. 17 A. Zverev in 2023 and for 's-Hertogenbosch win over No. 18 de Minaur in 2023 – earning 5 of his 7 career Top-20 wins on home soil.
- > Went 8-0 in finals and 42-7 overall on ATP Challenger Tour in 2021, setting single-season record for most titles and ending season with 25 straight wins.

NOTE: Griekspoor owns a 1-9 record vs. Top 10 players in his career (1-5 in 2023), defeating No. 9 Fritz at 2023 Washington SF in August for lone win. He owns a 1-8 career ATP Masters 1000 record (d. No. 739 Pella at 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells 2R).

GRANDSTAND

Richard Gasquet (FRA) vs Adrian Mannarino (FRA)

11 Australian Open (Australia) Hard R64 Richard Gasquet
 16 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati (U.S.A.) Hard R64 Richard Gasquet

Gasquet Leads 2-0

6-3 7-6(4) 6-4
 7-6(2) 3-6 6-1

Richard Gasquet | Age: 37 | World No. 53 | Career-High No. 7 | 2023: 12-18 (Auckland Title) | Event: 16-15 (2019 SF)

- > Former World No. 1 junior achieved career-high No. 7 in 2007 and finished 4 seasons in Top 10 overall (2007, 2012-13, 2015).
- > Defeated Top-5 players in 5 sets to reach SFs at 2007 Wimbledon (d. Roddick in QF), 2013 US Open (d. Ferrer in QF) and 2015 Wimbledon (d. Wawrinka in QF).
- > Owns 16 titles, qualified at Nitto ATP Finals in 2007 and 2013, and reached ATP Masters 1000 finals at 2005 Hamburg, 2006 Toronto and 2012 Toronto.
- > Won ATP Tour debut as 15-year-old at 2002 Monte Carlo (d. Squillari), earned biggest career win at 2005 Monte Carlo (d. No. 1 Federer) and posted 500th career win at 2018 Monte Carlo (d. M. Zverev).
- > Remains youngest match winner since start of ATP Tour in 1990 and owns 600 wins overall – most among Frenchmen in Open Era (since 1968) and one of 4 active players on the ATP Tour with 600+ wins.

NOTE: Gasquet aims to break a 5-match losing streak on tour-level since defeating No. 5 Tsitsipas at 2023 Stuttgart 2R in June to record his 600th tour-level win of career. He is 1-5 vs. Frenchmen on tour-level this season (1-7 including Challenger level), defeating Lokoli at Marseille 1R.



Adrian Mannarino | Age: 35 | World No. 30 | Career-High No. 22 | 2023: 25-18 (Newport Title) | Event: 5-7 ('17, '19 3R)
> Achieved career-high No. 22 in 2018 and ended 10 straight years in Top 75 of Pepperstone ATP Rankings (2013-22).
> Captured 1st ATP Tour title in 7th final of career at 2019 's-Hertogenbosch, 2nd title in 11th final of career at 2022 Winston-Salem and 3rd title in 13th final of career at 2023 Newport.
> Earned first Top 5 win over No. 5 Cilic to reach biggest final of career at 2017 Tokyo and biggest win of career over No. 3 Medvedev at 2023 's-Hertogenbosch.
> Posted personal-best 33 wins in 2017, ending season on 25-13 run including 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at Montreal.
> Reached 2022 Australian Open 4R and Wimbledon 4R in 2013, 2017 and 2018, but owns 0-19 record vs. Top-10 players at Grand Slams.

NOTE: Mannarino seeks first hard court win since defeating No. 9 Hurkacz at 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Miami 3R in March (l. to Eubanks in 4R). He is 5-5 in ATP Masters 1000 play this season, 5-3 on hard courts.

COURT 8

Gregoire Barrere (FRA) vs Yoshihito Nishioka (JPN)
Other Meeting

21 ATP Masters 1000 Rome Q (Italy)

Clay Q1

Yoshihito Nishioka

First Tour-Level Meeting

6-4 7-6(1)