



BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL PRESENTED BY ANZ – ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 3 – TUESDAY 6 JANUARY 2026

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LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: TUESDAY FIRST-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

PAT RAFTER ARENA

[WC] Nick Kyrgios (AUS) vs Aleksandar Kovacevic (USA)

First Meeting

Nick Kyrgios | Age: 30 | World No. 670 | Career-High No. 13 | Career: 206-118 (7 Titles) | Brisbane: 5-2 (2018 Title)
> Former World No. 1 junior broke into Top 50 at age 19 in 2015 and ended 2016 at career-high No. 13.
> Reached 2022 Wimbledon final as No. 40, becoming 1st unseeded Grand Slam men's finalist since Tsonga at 2008 Australian Open and lowest-ranked since No. 54 Baghdatis at 2006 Australian Open.
> Earned total of 61 victories in 2022 (37 singles, 24 doubles), winning 7th singles title at Washington and doubles titles at Australian Open w/Kokkinakis, Atlanta w/Kokkinakis and Washington w/Sock.
> Defeated No. 1 Nadal in 4 sets to reach 2014 Wimbledon QF as 144th-ranked WC and No. 1 Medvedev in 4 sets to reach 2022 US Open QF.
> Joined countryman Hewitt as 2nd player to win 1st meeting with Nadal (2014 Wimbledon 4R), Federer (2015 Madrid 2R) and Djokovic (2017 Acapulco QF).

NOTE: Kyrgios plays in his first event since ATP Masters 1000 Miami in March last year (d. McDonald in 1R, l. to Khachanov in 2R) and seeks first win in Brisbane since 2019 (d. R. Harrison in 1R). He is the most recent Australian champion at the event after he defeated R. Harrison in 2018 final to be the youngest champion in tournament history.

Aleksandar Kovacevic | Age: 27 | World No. 58 (Career-High) | Career: 29-55 (2 Finals) | Brisbane: 0-0 (Debut)
> Broke into Top 100 in January 2024 after previously peaking at No. 101 in April 2023 and achieved career-high No. 58 in January 2026.
> Defeated countryman McDonald to reach 2022 Seoul SF in ATP Tour main draw debut as 222nd-ranked LL and upset No. 10 Rublev for biggest wins of career to reach ATP Tour finals of 2025 Montpellier and 2025 Los Cabos.
> Won Challenger titles at Cleveland, Waco, Shenzhen and Temuco in 2023, highlighted by win over Wu Yibing in Cleveland final and captured latest title at 2025 Oeiras-2.
> Made Grand Slam debut at 2023 Roland Garros, losing to eventual champion Djokovic in 1R and defeated Tabilo to earn 1st Grand Slam win at 2024 Australian Open.
> Played 5 years of college tennis at University of Illinois, where he was a 2-time All-American and graduated in 2021 with finance degree.

NOTE: Kovacevic, who reached his first 2 ATP Tour finals last year (Montpellier in January and Los Cabos in July), is making his tournament debut after failing to qualify in 2024 (l. to Machac in Q2). He is 1-8 in his last 9 tour-level matches with a sole win over Ugo Carabelli in Stockholm 1R (0-4 since).

Grigor Dimitrov (BUL) vs [Q] Pablo Carreno Busta (ESP)

14 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid (Spain)
15 ATP Masters 1000 Paris (France)
16 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid (Spain)
17 Roland Garros (France)
17 Nitto ATP Finals (Great Britain)
18 Barcelona (Spain)
21 Australian Open (Australia)

Clay R64
Hard R64
Clay R64
Clay R32
Hard RR
Clay QF
Hard R32

Grigor Dimitrov
Grigor Dimitrov
Pablo Carreno Busta
Pablo Carreno Busta
Grigor Dimitrov
Pablo Carreno Busta
Grigor Dimitrov

Dimitrov Leads 4-3

6-2 6-4
6-4 6-1
7-6(3) 6-3
7-5 6-3 6-4
6-1 6-1
6-3 7-6(4)
6-0 1-0 RET

Other Meeting

10 Marburg CH Q (Germany)

Clay Q1

Grigor Dimitrov

6-4 6-1

Grigor Dimitrov | Age: 34 | World No. 47 | Career-High No. 3 | Career: 477-302 (9 Titles) | Brisbane: 26-7 (2017, 2024 Title)
> Former World No. 1 junior ended 2017 at career-high No. 3 after becoming 1st debutant to go 5-0 en route to Nitto ATP Finals title since McEnroe in 1978.
> Top-ranked Bulgarian in history and only champion from his country, winning 9 titles including 2017 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati.

- > Surpassed 400 wins in 2023, highlighted by biggest win over No. 1 Djokovic at 2013 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid.
- > Advanced to Grand Slam SFs at 2014 Wimbledon, 2017 Australian Open and 2019 US Open, as well as 12 ATP Masters 1000 SFs, including finals at 2017 Cincinnati, 2023 Paris and 2024 Miami.
- > Posted 1st win in 8 meetings with Federer in 2019 US Open QF as World No. 78, becoming 2nd-lowest-ranked US Open men's semi-finalist in history (No. 174 Connors in 1991).

NOTE: Dimitrov owns most match wins in tournament history (26) and aims to become the first man to win 3 titles in tournament history. He played one match since Wimbledon due to pectoral injury, defeating Mpetshi Perricard in ATP Masters 1000 Paris 1R before giving a walkover to Medvedev in 2R.

Event Win Leaders:

Player	Wins
Grigor Dimitrov	26
Kei Nishikori	18
Radek Stepanek	15
Milos Raonic	11
Roger Federer	10
Alexandr Dolgoplov	10
Andy Murray	10

Pablo Carreno Busta | Age: 34 | World No. 92 | Career-High No. 10 | Career: 285-234 (7 Titles) | Brisbane: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Winner of 7 singles and 4 doubles titles achieved career-high No. 10 in singles and No. 16 in doubles during 2017 season.
- > Captured 2022 Montreal championship to become 15th different Spaniard to win an ATP Masters 1000 title since start of series in 1990.
- > Defeated No. 1 Djokovic and No. 2 Medvedev en route to 2020 Tokyo Olympics bronze medal (held in 2021).
- > Reached US Open SF and Roland Garros QF in both 2017 and 2020, as well as 2016 US Open doubles final with countryman Garcia-Lopez.
- > Member of 2019 Davis Cup championship team and helped Team Spain reach ATP Cup finals in 2020 (5-1 in doubles) and 2022 (4-1 in singles).

NOTE: Carreno Busta aims to break a 13-match losing streak against Top 50 opponents and earn first win since defeating No. 29 Thompson at 2024 Davis Cup Final Group Stage (0-12 vs. Top 50 in 2025). He bids to be the second Spaniard to win a men's singles match in Brisbane this decade after Nadal in 2024 (d. Thiem, Kubler).

SHOW COURT 1

Brandon Nakashima (USA) vs [2] Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (ESP) Davidovich Fokina Leads 2-0

23 Adelaide-2 (Australia)	Hard	R32	A. Davidovich Fokina	6-2 7-6(3)
23 ATP Masters 1000 Miami (U.S.A.)	Hard	R64	A. Davidovich Fokina	6-4 7-6(5)

Brandon Nakashima | Age: 24 | World No. 33 | Career-High No. 29 | Career: 127-109 (1 Title) | Brisbane: 0-0 (Debut)

- > 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.
- > 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 13-33 vs. Top 20 (1-12 in 2025), seeking first win since defeating No. 13 Rune via RET in Acapulco 2R in February (3-0 RET, 0-11 since). He is 11-3 in opening round matches since June (after 11-1 start).

Alejandro Davidovich Fokina | Age: 26 | World No. 14 (Career-High) | Career: 158-145 (5 Finals) | Brisbane: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Broke into Top 20 in July 2025 and achieved career-high No. 14 in November 2025 after earning advancing 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 went 21-5 in opening rounds in 2025, finishing the year with personal-best 44 match wins. He is a Top-2 seed at an ATP Tour event for the third time in career, losing his opening round in both previous occasions at 2023 Mallorca (l. to Kotov in 2R) and 2025 Los Cabos (l. to Duckworth).

Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard (FRA) vs [4] Tommy Paul (USA)

First Meeting

Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard | Age: 22 | World No. 67 | Career-High No. 29 | Career: 37-41 (2 Titles) | Brisbane: 3-1 (2025 SF)

- > Began 2024 season as No. 205 and broke into Top 100 in May, Top 50 in July and achieved career-high No. 29 in February 2025.
- > Recorded 6-1 start to his career vs. Top 20 opponents, including wins over former champion No. 19 Auger-Aliassime and No. 14 Rune to win Basel title without dropping serve entire tournament (60 of 60 service games won).
- > Saved a championship point to win 1st ATP Tour title in his hometown of Lyon in 2024 as No. 117-ranked WC.
- > Entered 2024 Wimbledon as LL, defeating No. 21 Korda in 1R for 1st Grand Slam main draw win then became 1st lucky loser to reach Wimbledon 4R since Norman in 1995.
- > Owns 54-33 Challenger record (5-0 in finals), winning titles at 2023 Leon, 2024 Nottingham, 2024 Cuernavaca, 2024 Acapulco and 2025 Bordeaux.
- > Peaked at No. 4 in junior rankings during 2021 season, after advancing to 2021 Roland Garros boys' singles SF (l. to Fils) and winning the boys' doubles title w/Fils.

NOTE: Mpetshi Perricard is making his second appearance in Brisbane, seeking to break a 4-match losing streak and earn first win since defeating No. 8 Musetti en route to Brussels SF in October (8-8 vs. Top 20). Last year, defeated former champion Kyrgios and No. 18 Tiafoe to reach first of three ATP Tour SFs last season.

Tommy Paul | Age: 28 | World No. 20 | Career-High No. 8 | Career: 205-138 (4 Titles) | Brisbane: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Former World No. 3 junior achieved career-high No. 8 in June 2025 after becoming first American man since Agassi in 2003 to advance to both Australian Open and Roland Garros QFs in the same season.
- > At 2023 Australian Open, became 1st American man to reach SF 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 is playing in his first match since losing to Bublik in US Open 3R in August. He went 13-1 in opening rounds during the 2025 season, with his only loss coming vs. Evans in Eastbourne, and aims to open his season with a win for the 7th consecutive year. He is 12-2 vs. Frenchmen on tour-level since 2022 Wimbledon, both losses to Mannarino.

[7] Cameron Norrie (GBR) vs Ugo Humbert (FRA)

Humbert Leads 2-1

19 Lyon (France)	Clay	R32	Ugo Humbert	6-1 6-3
22 Rotterdam (Netherlands)	Hard	R32	Cameron Norrie	6-2 6-4
23 Davis Cup (Great Britain)	Hard	RR	Ugo Humbert	7-6(5) 3-6 7-5

Cameron Norrie | Age: 30 | World No. 28 | Career-High No. 8 | Career: 243-180 (5 Titles) | Brisbane: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Broke into Top 10 in April 2022 and achieved career-high No. 8 in September 2022, joining Henman, Murray and Rusedski as 4th Top-10 British man in history.
- > Advanced to 13 ATP Tour finals from May 2021-February 2023, highlighted by 2021 ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells title to become 1st British champion in 46-year tournament history.
- > Reached Grand Slam 4R, QF and SF for 1st time at 2022 Wimbledon, falling to eventual champion Djokovic in 4 sets and advanced to his 2nd Grand Slam QF at 2025 Wimbledon, losing to eventual finalist Alcaraz.
- > Earned 52 wins in 2021 and defeated No. 1 Alcaraz at 2025 ATP Masters 1000 Paris for biggest win of career.

> Born in South Africa to a Scottish father and Welsh mother, grew up in New Zealand, became No. 1 collegiate player in USA at Texas Christian University and has represented Great Britain since 2013.

NOTE: Norrie is making his tournament debut, aiming to become the third British man to win a match in Brisbane after Murray (2012-13, 2019) and Edmund (2017-18). He is 8-1 vs. Frenchmen in last 9 matches with a sole loss to Bonzi in 2024 Metz final.

Ugo Humbert | Age: 27 | World No. 36 | Career-High No. 13 | Career: 168-145 (7 Titles) | Brisbane: 1-1 (2024 2R)

> Broke into Top 20 in November 2023 and achieved career-high No. 13 in April 2024 soon after winning Dubai, joining Gulbis and Klizan as third player in Open Era to win 6th ATP Tour title in 6th final (now 7-3 in finals).

> Went on a 13-match winning streak on French indoor hard courts, capturing titles at 2023 Metz and 2024 Marseille and equaled biggest win of career over No. 2 Alcaraz en route to 1st ATP Masters 1000 final at 2024 Paris.

> Upset No. 6 A. Zverev and No. 7 Rublev en route to 3rd of 7 career titles at 2021 Halle.

> Won 1st ATP Tour title at 2020 Auckland as 21-year-old to become youngest French champion since Gasquet, 21, at 2007 Mumbai and saved 4 MPs vs. Evans en route to 2nd ATP Tour title at 2020 Antwerp.

> Defeated former No. 3 Thiem 6-3 6-0 to win 7th Challenger title of career at 2022 Rennes and in May 2023 earned 8th and 9th Challenger titles at Cagliari and Bordeaux in a 3-week span.

NOTE: Humbert is making his 3rd appearance at the event having played his first match in Australia at 2019 Brisbane as Q and losing to Uchiyama in 1R. French No. 3 went 4-7 vs. Top 30 opponents during 2025 season (45-52 overall).

SHOW COURT 2

[5] Denis Shapovalov (CAN) vs [Q] Raphael Collignon (BEL)

First Meeting

[Q] Rinky Hijikata (AUS) vs [WC] Adam Walton (AUS)

First Tour-Level Meeting

Other Meetings

23 Cary 1 CH (U.S.A.)

Hard

QF

Adam Walton

6-2 6-4

25 Adelaide Q (Australia)

Hard

Q2

Adam Walton

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