



FAYEZ SAROFIM & CO. U.S. MEN'S CLAY COURT CHAMPIONSHIP – ATP MEDIA NOTES

DAY 6 – SATURDAY 5 APRIL 2025

River Oaks Country Club | Houston, TX, USA | 31 March - 6 April 2025

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LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: SINGLES SEMI-FINALS

NOTE: Houston SF lineup features 3rd all-American SF in tournament's Open Era history (Graebner, Pasarell, Richey, S. Smith in 1968, held in Milwaukee and Agassi, Arias, Courier, Duncan in 1988, held in Charleston). It will be 3rd all-American Houston final in last 4 editions after Opelka d. Isner in 2022 and Shelton d. Tiafoe in 2024.

All-American ATP Tour Semi-Finals since 2000

2025 Houston (Brooksby, Nakashima, Paul, Tiafoe)

2024 Newport (Eubanks, Giron, Michelsen, Opelka)

2024 Delray Beach (Fritz, Giron, Paul, Tiafoe)

2022 Dallas (Brooksby, Giron, Isner, Opelka)

2004 San Jose (Agassi, Fish, Kendrick, Roddick)

2003 Memphis (Dent, Roddick, Spadea, Vahaly)

STADIUM COURT

[1] Tommy Paul (USA) vs [Q] Jenson Brooksby (USA)

Paul Leads 3-0

22 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati (U.S.A.) Hard R64 Tommy Paul

6-3 6-2

23 Australian Open (Australia) Hard R32 Tommy Paul

6-1 6-4 6-3

25 Dallas (U.S.A.) Hard R32 Tommy Paul

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

Tommy Paul | Age: 27 | World No. 13 | Career-High No. 9 | 2025: 15-5 (3 SFs) | Houston: 4-3 (2025 SF)

> Former World No. 3 junior achieved career-high No. 9 in January 2025 after earning personal-best 45 wins during 2024 season, highlighted by biggest of 4 ATP Tour title at London/Queen's Club.

> At 2023 Australian Open, became 1st American man to reach SF of that event since Roddick in 2009.

> Defeated junior rivals Fritz and Tiafoe en route to 1st ATP Tour final and title at 2021 Stockholm.

> In 2024, captured titles in Dallas, London/Queen's Club and Stockholm and advanced to ATP Masters 1000 SFs in Indian Wells and Rome, defeating reigning champion No. 4 Medvedev in Rome 4R.

> 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 reach his 8th ATP Tour final (4-3), 1st on clay, and 3rd on home soil after 2024 Dallas (d. Giron) and 2024 Delray Beach (l. to Fritz). He is 5-0 vs. Americans this season and 18-1 vs. players ranked outside Top 100 since August 2023, lone loss to No. 204 Damm via RET at 2024 ATP Masters 1000 Miami.

American ATP Tour Finalists in 2025 – two of Paul, Brooksby, Nakashima, and Tiafoe will join the list.

Player

Event/Result

Reilly Opelka Brisbane (l. to Lehecka)

Sebastian Korda Adelaide (l. to Auger-Aliassime)

Aleksandar Kovacevic Montpellier (l. to Auger-Aliassime)

Jenson Brooksby | Age: 24 | World No. 507 | Career-High No. 33 | 2025: 5-4 (Houston SF) | Houston: 3-1 (2025 SF)

> Achieved career-high No. 33 in June 2022, then defeated 6-time champion Isner at 2022 Atlanta en route to 3rd ATP 250 final on home soil.

> Advanced to 1st ATP Tour QF, SF and final in his grass-court debut at 2021 Newport, becoming 2nd-youngest finalist at age 20 in 46-year tournament history (Rusedski, 19, in 1993).

> Reached 2021 US Open 4R as 20-year-old WC, becoming youngest American in US Open 4R since Roddick, 20, in 2002.

> Defeated No. 3 Ruud for biggest win of career and to reach 2023 Australian Open 3R and did not play another tournament until 2025 Australian Open.

> Qualified at 2019 US Open and ended former World No. 4 Berdych's career for 1st tour-level win, then missed entire 2020 season due to toe injury.

NOTE: Brooksby saved 1 MP vs. F.A. Gomez in Q1 & 3 MPs vs. Tabilo in 2R and now seeks 4th ATP Tour final (0-3, all on home soil), 1st since 2022 Atlanta (l. to de Minaur). He would be 2nd Q finalist since the event moved to Houston in 2001 (Q Zabaleta l. to Karlovic in 2007), and 6th ATP Tour finalist ranked outside Top 500 (since 1990).

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Finalists Ranked Outside Top 500 in ATP Tour Era (since 1990):

Ranking	Player	Tournament
No. 866	Raemon Sluiter	2009 's-Hertogenbosch (l. to Be. Becker)
No. 777	Marin Cilic	2024 Hangzhou (d. Zhang)
No. 590	Pat Cash	1990 Seoul (l. to Antonitsch)
No. 574	Kevin Ullyett	1999 Nottingham (l. to Pioline)
No. 550	Lleyton Hewitt	1998 Adelaide (d. Stoltenberg)

[4] Brandon Nakashima (USA) vs [2] Frances Tiafoe (USA)
Tiafoe Leads 4-1

21 Acapulco (Mexico)	Hard	R32	Frances Tiafoe	6-4 6-7(5) 7-6(5)
22 ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells (U.S.A.)	Hard	R64	Frances Tiafoe	6-4 6-4
22 ATP Masters 1000 Miami (U.S.A.)	Hard	R64	Frances Tiafoe	3-6 7-6(5) 6-4
22 Atlanta (U.S.A.)	Hard	QF	Frances Tiafoe	6-4 6-2
24 Tokyo (Japan)	Hard	R32	Brandon Nakashima	7-5 6-3

Other Meeting

20 Dallas CH (U.S.A.)	Hard	R16	Frances Tiafoe	3-6 7-6(2) 7-5
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Brandon Nakashima | Age: 23 | World No. 33 | Career-High No. 32 | 2025: 11-8 (2 SFs) | Houston: 4-1 (2025 SF)

> Former World No. 3 junior broke into Top 50 in July 2022 and achieved career-high No. 32 in March 2025.

> Returned to Milan and went 5-0 to capture 2022 Next Gen ATP Finals title after reaching SF in 2021.

> 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.

> 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, before reaching US Open 4R in 2024 with wins over No. 15 Rune and No. 18 Musetti.

NOTE: Nakashima seeks his 4th ATP Tour final (1-2), 1st since claiming 2022 San Diego title (d. Giron, 0-4 in SFs since), and 1st on clay. He would secure career-high No. 30 on PIF ATP Rankings with a SF win and has posted 4 Top 20 wins vs. Americans since August – No. 12 Paul at ATP Masters 1000 Montreal, No. 11 Fritz at ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati, No. 15 Tiafoe in Tokyo, and No. 12 Paul in Vienna.

Frances Tiafoe | Age: 27 | World No. 17 | Career-High No. 10 | 2025: 8-6 (Houston SF) | Houston: 12-5 (2023 Title)

> 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 to own ATP Tour titles on all three surfaces.

> Joined Fritz in Top 10 to mark 1st time two American men were ranked in Top 10 since 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 remains 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 his 10th ATP Tour final (3-6) and would be the 2nd active American to achieve this feat. He bids to become 4th player to reach 3 consecutive finals in Houston after Connors (1976-79), A. Gomez (1983-86) and Roddick (2001-05), defeating Etcheverry for the 2023 title and losing to Shelton in the final last year.

Most Tour-Level Finals Among Active American Men

Player	Finals	Player	Finals
Taylor Fritz	16 (8-8)	Reilly Opelka	7 (4-3)
Sebastian Korda	9 (2-7)	Tommy Paul	7 (4-3)
Frances Tiafoe	9 (3-6)	Maxime Cressy	4 (1-3)

Active Players to Reach 3+ Consecutive Finals of Clay ATP Tour/Grand Slam Events

Player	Event/Years
Kei Nishikori	2014-16 Barcelona
Novak Djokovic	2014-16 Roland Garros
Novak Djokovic	2014-17 ATP Masters 1000 Rome
Novak Djokovic	2019-21 ATP Masters 1000 Rome

LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: POTENTIAL SINGLES FINALS

[1] Tommy Paul (USA) vs [4] Brandon Nakashima (USA)

22 's-Hertogenbosch (Netherlands)	Grass	R32	Brandon Nakashima
23 Lyon (France)	Clay	QF	Brandon Nakashima
24 ATP Masters 1000 Montreal (Canada)	Hard	R32	Brandon Nakashima
24 Vienna (Austria)	Hard	R32	Brandon Nakashima

Other Meeting

19 Cary CH (U.S.A.)	Hard	R16	Tommy Paul
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Nakashima Leads 4-0

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

[1] Tommy Paul (USA) vs [2] Frances Tiafoe (USA)

20 Delray Beach (U.S.A.)	Hard	R16	Frances Tiafoe
21 Stockholm (Sweden)	Hard	SF	Tommy Paul
22 Adelaide-2 (Australia)	Hard	R32	Tommy Paul
24 Delray Beach (U.S.A.)	Hard	SF	Tommy Paul

Other Meetings

15 U.S.A. F5 (U.S.A.)	Clay	QF	Frances Tiafoe
16 Lexington CH (U.S.A.)	Hard	R32	Frances Tiafoe

Paul Leads 3-1

7-5 7-6(4)
5-7 7-6(5) 6-4
6-2 6-3
6-2 6-2

[Q] Jenson Brooksby (USA) vs [4] Brandon Nakashima (USA)

Other Meeting

19 M25 Los Angeles (U.S.A.)	Hard	R16	Jenson Brooksby
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First Tour-Level Meeting

2-6 7-6(10) 7-5

[Q] Jenson Brooksby (USA) vs [2] Frances Tiafoe (USA)

21 Washington (U.S.A.)	Hard	R32	Jenson Brooksby
22 Atlanta (U.S.A.)	Hard	SF	Jenson Brooksby

Brooksby Leads 2-0

7-6(4) 7-5
6-1 6-4

LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: DOUBLES FINAL

Federico Agustin Gomez (ARG) / Santiago Gonzalez (MEX) vs Fernando Romboli (BRA) / John-Patrick Smith (AUS)

First Meeting

Gomez/Gonzalez Notes

- > Argentinian/Mexican duo is 3-0 as a pair, making their team debut this week.
- > Gomez would be the second Argentinian doubles champion in tournament history after Zeballos in 2017 (w/Peralta). He lost in singles qualifying after holding 1 MP vs eventual semifinalist Brooksby.
- > Gonzalez finished runner-up in Houston in 2016 (w/Estrella Burgos) before taking the 2019 title (w/Qureshi).
- > They defeated No. 1 seeds Galloway/Withrow and No. 3 seeds Krajicek/Ram, going 29/30 in service games and not dropping a set en route to final.
- > Gomez is ranked No. 170 (career-high No. 133 in November 2024) and would reach No. 116 with the title, while Gonzalez is ranked No. 54 (career-high No. 7 in 2023). Team is ranked No. 63 on [PIF ATP Doubles Team Rankings](#).
- > Gomez, 28, is playing in his 1st ATP Tour final in 2nd ATP Tour main draw event after 2024 Cordoba (w/Olivo, I. to Gonzalez/Molteni in SF), having won 4 Challenger doubles titles in 2023-24.
- > Gonzalez, 42, is playing in his 41st tour-level doubles final (23-17), 1st since last March in Acapulco (w/N. Skupski) and seeks 1st title since 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Paris (w/Roger-Vasselin). He is the 3rd-oldest player in the Top 100 after Bopanna (45) and Rojer (43) and would be the oldest champion in tournament history.

Romboli/Smith Notes

- > Brazilian/Australian duo is 6-1 as a pair, making their team debut by reaching ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells SF last month (I. to Korda/Thompson).
- > They did not drop a set en route to final, winning 32/33 service games.
- > The two partners were born within 20 days of each other – Romboli on Jan 4th 1989, Smith on Jan 24th that year..
- > Romboli looks to be the 1st Brazilian champion in tournament history (Kirmayr/Motta lost the 1983 final, held in Indianapolis).
- > Smith title win would maintain a 3-year streak of Australian doubles champions in Houston (2022 – Ebden/Purcell, 2023-24 – Purcell/Thompson).
- > Romboli is ranked No. 66 (career-high) and would jump to No. 60 with the title, while Smith is ranked No. 71 (career-high No. 52 in 2017). Team is ranked No. 20 on [PIF ATP Doubles Team Rankings](#).
- > Romboli, 36, is playing his 2nd ATP Tour final after winning 2021 Umag w/Vega Hernandez (d. Brkic/Cacic).
- > Smith, 36, is 1-4 in ATP Tour finals, seeking his 2nd title after 2018 Atlanta w/Monroe (d. R. Harrison/Ram) and playing in his first final on clay.