



## BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL PRESENTED BY ANZ – ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 5 – THURSDAY 8 JANUARY 2026

Queensland Tennis Centre | Brisbane, Australia | 4-11 January 2026

### ATP Tour

ATPTour.com  
@ATPTour  
#ThisIsTennis

### Tournament

brisbaneinternational.com.au  
@BrisbaneTennis  
#BrisbaneTennis

### Media

Interview Queries: rachna.nayyar@ATPTour.com (ATP PR)  
Facts & Stats Queries: mediainfo@atptour.com  
Press Officer: Alena Wilson (brisbanemediainfo@tennis.com.au)

## LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: THURSDAY SECOND-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

### PAT RAFTER ARENA

#### [Q] Rinky Hijikata (AUS) vs Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard (FRA)

#### First Tour-Level Meeting

##### Other Meeting

25 Bordeaux CH (France)

Clay SF G. Mpetshi Perricard 7-5 7-6(5)

**Rinky Hijikata** | Age: 24 | World No. 111 | Career-High No. 62 | Career: 36-54 (1 SF) | Brisbane: 3-2 (2024 QF)  
> Former World No. 9 junior broke into Top 100 after reaching 2023 US Open 4R as WC, then achieved career-high No. 62 in August 2024.  
> Rallied from a set down three times to reach 1st ATP Tour SF at 2023 's-Hertogenbosch as LL.  
> Defeated [1] Koolhof/Skupski en route to 2023 Australian Open doubles title in team debut w/Kubler, joining Kokkinakis/Kyrgios as 2nd straight All-Aussie WCs to win their home Grand Slam championship.  
> Also at 2023 Aus. Open, rallied from 2 sets down vs. Hanfmann for 1st Grand Slam main draw singles win of career.  
> Won 4 Challenger singles titles on home soil: Playford in 2022, 2024, and 2025 and Burnie immediately after 2023 Australian Open.  
> Played college tennis at University of North Carolina from 2020-21, earning All-American honours as a sophomore before turning pro.

**NOTE:** Hijikata defeated No. 77 Walton in 1R and aims to earn back-to-back tour-level Top 100 wins for the first time since Adelaide last January (d. No. 53 Goffin in 1R and No. 37 Nakashima in 2R). He seeks 8th ATP Tour QF (1-6) and record 8th consecutive win across all levels after winning Playford CH to end 2025 season.

#### Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard | Age: 22 | World No. 67 | Career-High No. 29 | Career: 38-41 (2 Titles) | Brisbane: 4-1 (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 2024 Basel title without dropping serve all tournament (60/60 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 hit 24 aces to upset No. 4 seed Paul in 1R in final set tie-break, and now seeks 7th ATP Tour QF (5-1), 2nd consecutive in Brisbane, to become the 5th Frenchmen to reach multiple Brisbane QFs.

#### Frenchmen with Multiple Quarter-Finals in Tournament History:

Player	Year
Richard Gasquet	2009, 2010
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga	2009, 2019
Gilles Simon	2012, 2013
Jeremy Chardy	2014, 2019

## [Q] Raphael Collignon (BEL) vs Grigor Dimitrov (BUL)

## First Meeting

**Raphael Collignon** | Age: 23 | World No. 84 | Career-High No. 73 | Career: 10-14 (1 SF) | Brisbane: 1-0 (2026 2R)

- > Broke into Top 100 in February 2025 and achieved career-high No. 73 in October 2025 after reaching his first ATP Tour SF in Brussels.
- > Posted first ATP Tour win over former-World No. 9 Fognini in Marrakech 1R in April before losing to Borges in 2R.
- > Defeated former finalist No. 12 Ruud to reach 2025 US Open 3R and upset No. 8 de Minaur for biggest win of career to lead Belgium to victory in 2025 Davis Cup Qualifiers vs. Australia.
- > Earned 1st Challenger title by defeating No. 84 van de Zandschulp in 2024 Luedenscheid final and defeated No. 97 Coric en route to 2nd title at Lyon (Décines-Charpieu).
- > Coached by Belgium's Davis Cup captain and former World No. 38 Steve Darcis.
- > Injured his thumb in Hamburg, a week before Roland Garros, to delay his Grand Slam main draw debut, before playing in his 1st Grand Slam main draw at Wimbledon (l. to Cilic).

**NOTE:** Collignon seeks 2nd ATP Tour QF after Brussels in October (l. to Auger Aliassime in SF) and attempts to become 1st Belgian quarter-finalist in tournament history. He is No. 76 on [PIF ATP Live Rankings](#) and could jump to new career-high No. 71 with a 2R win. He is 6-2 vs. Top 50 since August, including win over No. 23 Shapovalov in 1R.

**Grigor Dimitrov** | Age: 34 | World No. 47 | Career-High No. 3 | Career: 478-302 (9 Titles) | Brisbane: 27-7 (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 looks for 9th Brisbane QF in 10 appearances at the event (lone 2R loss to Cilic in 2014) and owns most match wins (27) and titles (2; tied w/Murray) in tournament history. He is 13-3 vs. Belgian players in his career, including win over Goffin to win the biggest title of his career at 2017 Nitto ATP Finals.

### Brisbane Win Leaders in Tournament History:

Player	Wins	Player	Wins
Grigor Dimitrov	27	Alexandr Dolgopolov	10
Kei Nishikori	18	Roger Federer	10
Radek Stepanek	15	Andy Murray	10
Milos Raonic	11	Andy Roddick	9

## SHOW COURT 1

### [7] Cameron Norrie (GBR) vs Aleksandar Kovacevic (USA)

23 Los Cabos (Mexico)

Hard R16 Aleksandar Kovacevic 5-7 7-6(7) 6-4

### Kovacevic Leads 1-0

**Cameron Norrie** | Age: 30 | World No. 28 | Career-High No. 8 | Career: 244-180 (5 Titles) | Brisbane: 1-0 (2026 2R)

- > 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 saved 3 consecutive MPs to beat Humbert in 1R and is now looking for 48th tour-level quarter-final of career to become the third British man to reach this stage at the event after Murray (2012-13) and Edmund (2017-18).

**Aleksandar Kovacevic** | Age: 27 | World No. 58 (Career-High) | Career: 30-55 (2 Finals) | Brisbane: 1-0 (2026 2R)  
> 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 seeks 8th ATP Tour QF (3-4), first since run to Los Cabos final in July (l. to Shapovalov), and first in Australia. He is 3-12 vs. Top 30 opponents, earning wins against No. 13 Norrie at 2023 Los Cabos and No. 10 Rublev twice in Montpellier SF last January and Los Cabos SF in July.

## [Q] Quentin Halys (FRA) vs Brandon Nakashima (USA)

## First Meeting

**Quentin Halys** | Age: 29 | World No. 91 | Career-High No. 46 | Career: 48-86 (1 Final) | Brisbane: 1-0 (2026 2R)  
> Former World No. 3 junior earned 1st ranking point at age 15 in 2012, entered Top 200 in 2015, broke into Top 100 in 2022 and achieved career-high No. 46 in June 2025 after run to Roland Garros 3R.  
> As World No. 220, advanced to 3R of 2024 Wimbledon as Q and came from qualifying to reach 1st ATP Tour final in Gstaad the following week.  
> Saved 3 MPs for 1st Top 20 win vs. No. 18 de Minaur en route to 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Miami 4R and earned biggest win of career over No. 9 Rublev at 2025 Dubai for 1st Top 10 win in 11th attempt.  
> Posted 43-10 Challenger record in 2022 (3-4 in finals), winning titles at Pau, Lille and Ismaning.  
> Defeated future World No. 3 Tsitsipas en route to 2nd of 7 career Challenger titles at 2018 Quimper.  
> Went 129-46 in singles and 83-35 in doubles on ITF Junior Circuit, ending junior career with run to 2014 US Open boys' singles final after winning 2014 Roland Garros boys' doubles title with countryman Bonzi.

**NOTE:** Halys seeks 7th ATP Tour QF (3-3), first since Dubai in February (l. to Auger Aliassime in SF). He is 12-44 vs. Top 50 players, 5-27 on hard courts, aiming to record consecutive Top 50 wins on the surface for the first time in career (d. No. 50 Popyrin in 1R).

**Brandon Nakashima** | Age: 24 | World No. 33 | Career-High No. 29 | Career: 128-109 (1 Title) | Brisbane: 1-0 (2026 2R)  
> 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 looking for 23rd ATP Tour QF of career, 15th on hard courts, and first since Tokyo in September (l. to Alcaraz). This would mark his second QF appearance on Australian soil after 2022 Sydney (l. to Opelka).