



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

**PREVIEW & DAY 1 – MONDAY 4 APRIL 2022**

River Oaks Country Club | Houston, TX, USA. | 4-10 April 2022

**ATP Tour**  
ATPTour.com  
@ATPTour  
#ThisIsTennis

**Tournament**  
mensclaycourt.com  
@mensclaycourt  
#USClay

**Media**  
Greg Sharko: greg.sharko@atptour.com (ATP PR)  
Pete Holtermann: pete@holtermmediainc.com (Press Officer)  
TennisTV.com

## 2022 FAYEZ SAROFIM & CO. U.S. MEN'S CLAY COURT CHAMPIONSHIP SINGLES

SEED	PLAYER	2022 W-L (BEST FINISH)	EVENT W-L (BEST FINISH)
1	Gasper Ruud (NOR)	13-4 (Buenos Aires Title)	4-1 (2019 Final)
2	Taylor Fritz (USA)	16-5 (Indian Wells Title)	3-2 (2018 SF)
3	Reilly Opelka (USA)	13-6 (Dallas Title)	0-3 (2019 2R)
4	John Isner (USA)	6-8 (Dallas SF)	15-10 (2013 Title)
5	Cristian Garin (CHI)	3-7 (Aus. Open 3R)	5-0 (2019 Title)
6	Frances Tiafoe (USA)	4-5 (Miami 4R)	1-3 (2018 2R)
7	Tommy Paul (USA)	14-7 (Delray Beach SF)	1-1 (2016 2R)
8	Jenson Brooksby (USA)	9-4 (Dallas Final)	0-0 (Debut)

<b>Tournament History</b>	20th edition in Houston (2001-2019, 2022)
<b>Singles Final</b>	Sunday 10 April 1:00 pm
<b>Wild Cards (3)</b>	Nick Kyrgios (AUS), Jack Sock (USA), J.J. Wolf (USA)
<b>Qualifiers (4)</b>	Gijs Brouwer (NED), Christian Harrison (USA), Mitchell Krueger (USA), Max Purcell (AUS)
<b>Lucky Losers (2)</b>	Steven Diez (CAN), TBD
<b>Oldest Player</b>	Feliciano Lopez (40)
<b>Tournament Records</b>	<u>Most Titles</u> – Jimmy Connors (4) <u>Most Wins</u> – Jimmy Connors (36) <u>Youngest Champion</u> – Andre Agassi, 18, in 1988 <u>Oldest Champion</u> – Andre Agassi, 32, in 2003 <u>Highest-Ranked Champion</u> – No. 1 Jimmy Connors in 1974, 1976, 1978 <u>Lowest-Ranked Champion</u> – No. 352 Fernando Gonzalez in 2000 <u>Last American Champion</u> – Steve Johnson in 2018

## COUNTRY BREAKDOWN (10)

<b>United States (15)</b>	Jenson Brooksby, Taylor Fritz, Marcos Giron, Christian Harrison, John Isner, Steve Johnson, Mitchell Krueger, Denis Kudla, Mackenzie McDonald, Reilly Opelka, Tommy Paul, Sam Querrey, Jack Sock, Frances Tiafoe, J.J. Wolf
<b>Australia (3)</b>	Nick Kyrgios, Max Purcell, Jordan Thompson
<b>Chile (2)</b>	Cristian Garin, Alejandro Tabilo
<b>Canada (1)</b>	Steven Diez
<b>Colombia (1)</b>	Daniel Elahi Galan
<b>Germany (1)</b>	Peter Gojowczyk
<b>Netherlands (1)</b>	Gijs Brouwer
<b>Peru (1)</b>	Juan Pablo Varillas
<b>Spain (1)</b>	Feliciano Lopez
<b>Uruguay (1)</b>	Pablo Cuevas

**NOTE:** Country breakdown excludes 1 lucky loser (TBD on Monday)

## ATP RANKING POINTS AND PRIZE MONEY

Fayez Sarofim & Co. U.S. Men's Clay Court Championship	W	F	SF	QF	R16	R32
Singles Ranking Points	250	150	90	45	20*	0
Singles Prize Money (\$)	90,495	52,790	31,035	17,985	10,440	6,380
Doubles Ranking Points	250	150	90	45	0	--
Doubles Prize Money (\$)	31,440	16,820	9,860	5,510	3,250	--

\* Singles players who receive a bye in R32 and lose in R16 earn 0 ranking points

## 2022 FAYEZ SAROFIM & CO. U.S. MEN'S CLAY COURT CHAMPIONSHIP DOUBLES

SEED	PLAYER	TEAM (BEST FINISH)	2022 (BEST FINISH)	EVENT (BEST FINISH)
1	Matthew Ebden (AUS) Max Purcell (AUS)	9-3 (2022 Aus. Open Final)	6-3 (Aus. Open Final) 6-2 (Aus. Open Final)	1-1 (2014 QF) 0-0 (Debut)
2	Santiago Gonzalez (MEX) Lukasz Kubot (POL)	0-0 (Debut)	18-7 (2 titles) 0-2 (2 times in 1R)	11-7 (2019 Title) 0-0 (Debut)
3	Nick Kyrgios (AUS) Jack Sock (USA)	15-3 (2018 Lyon Title)	9-2 (Aus. Open Title) 8-1 (Indian Wells Title)	0-1 (2018 1R) 1-2 (2013 QF)
4	Hans Hach Verdugo (MEX) Austin Krajicek (USA)	0-0 (2022 Monterrey CH Title)	8-6 (2 times in SF) 6-6 (Dubai SF)	0-0 (Debut) 3-2 (2019 SF)

**Doubles Final:** Saturday 9 April following both singles semi-finals.

## FAYEZ SAROFIM & CO. U.S. MEN'S CLAY COURT CHAMPIONSHIP SINGLES FINALS (since 2008)

YEAR	CHAMPION	FINALIST	SCORE
2019	<b>Cristian Garin (CHI)</b>	Casper Ruud (NOR)	7-6(4) 4-6 6-3
2018	<b>Steve Johnson (USA)</b>	Tennys Sandgren (USA)	7-6(2) 2-6 6-4
2017	<b>Steve Johnson (USA)</b>	Thomaz Bellucci (BRA)	6-4 4-6 7-6(5)
2016	Juan Monaco (ARG)	<b>Jack Sock (USA)</b>	3-6 6-3 7-5
2015	<b>Jack Sock (USA)</b>	<b>Sam Querrey (USA)</b>	7-6(9) 7-6(2)
2014	Fernando Verdasco (ESP)	Nicolas Almagro (ESP)	6-3 7-6(4)
2013	<b>John Isner (USA)</b>	Nicolas Almagro (ESP)	6-3 7-5
2012	Juan Monaco (ARG)	<b>John Isner (USA)</b>	6-2 3-6 6-3
2011	Ryan Sweeting (USA)	Kei Nishikori (JPN)	6-4 7-6(3)
2010	Juan Ignacio Chela (ARG)	<b>Sam Querrey (USA)</b>	5-7 6-4 6-3
2009	Lleyton Hewitt (AUS)	Wayne Odesnik (USA)	6-2 7-5
2008	Marcel Granollers (ESP)	James Blake (USA)	6-4 1-6 7-5

**BOLD:** Player in 2022 Fayez Sarofim & Co. U.S. Men's Clay Court Championship singles draw.

## FAYEZ SAROFIM & CO. U.S. MEN'S CLAY COURT CHAMPIONSHIP DOUBLES FINALS (since 2008)

YEAR	CHAMPION	FINALIST	SCORE
2019	<b>Santiago Gonzalez/Aisam-Ul-Haq Qureshi</b>	Ken Skupski/Neal Skupski	3-6 6-4 [10-6]
2018	Max Mirnyi/Philipp Oswald	Andre Begemann/Antonio Sancic	6-7(2) 6-4 [11-9]
2017	Julio Peralta/Horacio Zeballos	Dustin Brown/Frances Tiafoe	4-6 7-5 [10-6]
2016	Bob Bryan/Mike Bryan	Victor Estrella Burgos/ <b>Santiago Gonzalez</b>	4-6 6-3 [10-8]
2015	Ricardas Berankis/Teymuraz Gabashvili	<b>Treat Huey</b> /Scott Lipsky	6-4 6-4
2014	Bob Bryan/Mike Bryan	David Marrero/Fernando Verdasco	4-6 6-4 [11-9]
2013	Jamie Murray/John Peers	Bob Bryan/Mike Bryan	1-6 7-6(3) [12-10]
2012	James Blake/ <b>Sam Querrey</b>	<b>Treat Huey</b> /Dominic Inglot	7-6(14) 6-4
2011	Bob Bryan/Mike Bryan	John Isner/ <b>Sam Querrey</b>	6-7(4) 6-2 [10-5]
2010	Bob Bryan/Mike Bryan	Stephen Huss/Wesley Moodie	6-3 7-5
2009	Bob Bryan/Mike Bryan	Jesse Levine/Ryan Sweeting	6-1 6-2
2008	Ernesto Gulbis/Rainer Schuttler	<b>Pablo Cuevas</b> /Marcel Granollers	7-5 7-6(3)

**BOLD:** Player in 2022 Fayez Sarofim & Co. U.S. Men's Clay Court Championship doubles draw – no teams from past finals are intact.

## ATP HEAD2HEAD: MONDAY FIRST-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

### STADIUM

#### [Q] Gijs Brouwer (NED) vs Feliciano Lopez (ESP)

#### First Meeting

**Gijs Brouwer** | Age: 26 | World No. 361 | Career-High No. 339 | 2022: 0-0 (Turin CH 2R) | Event: 0-0 (Debut)

> Broke into Top 400 in 2021 before reaching his career-high at No. 339 in March 2022.

> Achieved his best career win at 2019 Knoxville CH over No. 93 Schnur.

> Holds a 14-22 record on Challenger level in singles, his best result being the quarter-final showing at 2019 Knoxville CH.

> Won an ATP Challenger doubles title at 2021 Puerto Vallarta CH partnering w/Stadler.

> He was born in Houston, TX, USA, where he made his tour-level debut at 2022 Houston after qualifying in his first ever ATP Tour qualifying attempt.

**NOTE:** Brouwer is chasing his 1st ever tour-level win. He has a 2-7 record vs. Top 200 opponents across all levels.

**Feliciano Lopez** | Age: 40 | World No. 118 | Career-High No. 12 | 2022: 0-3 (3 times in 1R) | Event: 8-5 (2012, 2016 SF)

> Former World No. 12 ended 2021 at No. 106 after finishing 19 straight years in Top 100 (2002-20).

> Captured singles and doubles titles at 2019 London/Queen's Club as 37-year-old, becoming oldest player to sweep both titles at same event since Rosewall, 40, at 1975 Jackson.

> Counts victories over No. 1 Nadal (2010 London/Queen's Club) and No. 1 Djokovic (2016 Dubai) among his 39 Top-10 wins and 503 singles wins overall.

> Three-time Wimbledon quarter-finalist competed in record 79th consecutive Grand Slam men's singles main draw at 2022 Australian Open.

> Defeated No. 1 seeds and previous 3 champions to win 2016 Roland Garros doubles title w/M. Lopez.

**NOTE:** Lopez, the oldest player in the draw, is seeking his 1st win of the season, after starting the year 0-5 across all levels. He is seeking his 1st ATP Tour win since beating No. 162 Huesler at 2021 Gstaad last July.

#### Steve Johnson (USA) vs Denis Kudla (USA)

##### 14 Houston (U.S.A.)

18 Australian Open (Australia)

21 Newport (U.S.A.)

##### Other Meetings

11 U.S.A. F24 (U.S.A.)

12 Izmir CH (Turkey)

12 Tiburon CH (U.S.A.)

14 Le Gosier CH (Guadeloupe)

Clay R32

Hard R128

Grass R32

Hard QF

Hard QF

Hard QF

Hard QF

##### Steve Johnson

Denis Kudla

Denis Kudla

Steve Johnson

Steve Johnson

Steve Johnson

Steve Johnson

#### Kudla Leads 2-1

6-3 7-6(4)

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

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

6-3 6-3

6-3 5-7 6-4

6-1 6-2

6-4 6-0

**Steve Johnson** | Age: 32 | World No. 108 | Career-High No. 21 | 2022: 6-6 (Indian Wells 3R) | Event: 11-5 (2017-18 Title)

> Achieved career-high No. 21 and became No. 1 American during 2016 season.

> Won grass-court titles at 2016 Nottingham and 2018 Newport, as well as clay-court titles at Houston in 2017 and 2018, becoming 1st repeat champion at event since Roddick in 2001-02.

> Posted 7 wins at 2016 Rio Olympics, finishing as doubles bronze medallist w/Sock and singles quarter-finalist (l. to eventual gold medallist Murray in 3rd-set TB).

> Defeated then-No. 37 Dimitrov to reach 2016 Wimbledon 4R, but owns 1-9 record in Grand Slam 3R with all 9 losses to Top-15 players.

> One of the greatest college tennis players of all time, sweeping 2009-12 NCAA team titles with USC, winning 2011-12 NCAA singles titles and ending career with 72 straight singles wins.

**NOTE:** Johnson, the only player in the field with multiple tournament wins in Houston (2017-18 Champion), is 5-1 in his opening rounds on tour-level this year. His first tour-level win in Houston came against Kudla in 2014 1R.

**Denis Kudla** | Age: 29 | World No. 81 | Career-High No. 53 | 2022: 3-6 (Miami 3R) | Event: 2-4 (2016, 2018 2R)

> Earned 1st ranking point at age 15 in 2008, broke into Top 100 in 2013 and achieved career-high No. 53 in 2016.

> Qualified en route to 1st ATP Tour SF at 2015 Atlanta and 2nd ATP Tour SF at 2018 Halle.

- > Posted tour-level records of 25-23 on grass (.521), 34-77 on hard (.306) and 5-14 on clay (.263), highlighted by biggest win of career over No. 16 Monfils at 2019 Stuttgart grass-court event.
- > Defeated future World No. 3 A. Zverev en route to 2015 Wimbledon 4R as WC and has qualified at Australian Open 3 times, Roland Garros twice and Wimbledon 3 times.
- > Former World No. 3 junior began his pro career after reaching 2010 US Open boys' singles final.

**NOTE:** Kudla has won 9 of his last 10 matches across all levels, winning the ATP Challenger in Phoenix and reaching 3R at ATP Masters 1000 Miami from qualifying including a win over No. 21 Sonogo in 2R.

## [6] Frances Tiafoe (USA) vs Marcos Giron (USA)

21 ATP Masters 1000 Paris (France)

Hard

R64

Marcos Giron

## Giron Leads 1-0

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

**Frances Tiafoe** | Age: 24 | World No. 30 | Career-High No. 29 | 2022: 4-5 (Miami 4R) | Event: 1-3 (2018 2R)

- > Former World No. 2 junior achieved career-high No. 29 in 2019 and earned personal-best 33 victories in 2021, including biggest career win over No. 3 Tsitsipas en route to Vienna final.
- > Won 1st ATP Tour title as 20-year-old at 2018 Delray Beach and remains youngest American champion since Roddick, 19, at 2002 Houston.
- > Defeated Dimitrov on 21st birthday to reach 1st Grand Slam QF at 2019 Australian Open, becoming youngest American Grand Slam quarter-finalist since Roddick, 20, at 2003 Wimbledon.
- > Advanced to US Open 4R in 2020 and 2021, becoming 1st American to do so in back-to-back years since Fish and Roddick in 2011 and 2012.
- > 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 coming into the match with a 3-match losing streak on clay on tour-level, last win coming vs. No. 119 Alcaraz at 2021 Barcelona in April.

**Marcos Giron** | Age: 28 | World No. 53 | Career-High No. 52 | 2022: 6-8 (Melbourne, Dallas SF) | Event: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Qualified en route to ATP Masters 1000 Paris 3R in both 2020 and 2021, earning biggest win of career over No. 10 Berrettini in 2020.
- > Also in city of Paris, rallied from 6-2 6-4 5-1 down and saved 3 MPs vs. Dimitrov en route to 2021 Roland Garros 3R.
- > Began 2019 with Orlando Challenger title as World No. 308 and ended 2019 with Houston Challenger title as World No. 123 (d. Karlovic after saving 6 MPs).
- > Turned pro in 2014 after winning NCAA singles title for UCLA, then underwent surgeries on both hips and missed 8+ months in 2016.

**NOTE:** Giron is seeking his first career ATP 250 win on clay. He has a 4-5 tour-level record on clay highlighted by reaching 3R at 2021 Roland Garros, including a win over No. 17 Dimitrov.

## [WC] J.J. Wolf (USA) vs [8] Jenson Brooksby (USA)

## First Meeting

**J.J. Wolf** | Age: 23 | World No. 157 | Career-High No. 120 | 2022: 3-3 (3 times in 2R) | Event: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Achieved career-high No. 120 on 14 September 2021. Broke into Top 200 on 18 November 2019 after winning Champaign, USA Challenger title. Already ranked in Top 300 when he turned pro on 17 July 2019.
- > Qualified and made ATP Tour main draw debut at 2020 Cincinnati (l. to Gasquet), which typically is his hometown event but was played for one year only in New York City. Advanced to final round of qualifying at Cincinnati in 2018 and 2019.
- > Peaked at No. 18 in juniors on 16 May 2016. Suffered boys' singles losses to future Top-20 ATP players Auger-Aliassime, de Minaur and Shapovalov. Won 2016 USTA Boys' 18s National Championship in doubles w/McNally and reached singles final in 2017.

**NOTE:** This is J.J. Wolf's first career tour-level match on clay. He is seeking his first win over his countrymen on tour-level.

**Jenson Brooksby** | Age: 21 | World No. 36 | Career-High No. 36 | 2022: 6-3 (Dallas Final) | Event: 0-0 (Debut)

- > Broke into Top 50 after advancing to 2nd ATP Tour final of career at 2022 Dallas and achieved career-high No. 36 in April 2022.
- > 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 45-year tournament history (Rusedski, 19, in 1993).

- > Defeated No. 15 Auger-Aliassime for biggest win of career en route to 2021 Washington SF as 130th-ranked WC, becoming lowest-ranked semi-finalist at tournament since No. 416 Isner in 2007.
- > Reached 2021 US Open 4R as 20-year-old WC, becoming youngest American in US Open 4R since Roddick, 20, in 2002.
- > 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 is seeking his 1st career tour-level on clay in his 2nd tour-level match on the surface (l. to No. 26 Karatsev at 2021 Roland Garros 1R). He holds a 5-1 record vs. Americans on tour-level.