



2024 AUSTRALIAN OPEN

DAY 3 MEN'S NOTES

Tuesday 16 January

1st Round Bottom Half

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On court today...

- World No. 2 Carlos Alcaraz returns to the Australian Open for the first time in 2 years today, with the 2-time Grand Slam champion facing Richard Gasquet in the 2nd night match on Rod Laver Arena. Alcaraz withdrew from the tournament last year due to a right leg injury, and will be hoping that he can bring his stellar Grand Slam form to Melbourne this fortnight – his last 4 Grand Slam appearances have yielded 2 titles and 2 semifinal finishes. Gasquet, meanwhile, is seeking an upset victory that would see him claim sole ownership of 3rd place on the Open Era list for most Australian Open match-wins by a Frenchman, ahead of Sebastian Grosjean and Gilles Simon.
- In the first men's match of the day on RLA, No. 8 seed Holger Rune faces a tricky encounter with Japan's Yoshihito Nishioka, a talented lefthander who, like Rune, recorded his best Australian Open result by reaching the round of 16 in 2023. One of this duo is destined for an earlier exit this year – and while Rune is the higher-ranked of the pair, Nishioka won their only previous match, in the 1st round at Adelaide 1 last season. Like Alcaraz, Rune is bidding to become the youngest player to win the Australian Open title since Novak Djokovic won his first major title here at the age of 20 in 2008 – but he must navigate a tough 1st round clash today if he is to retain a chance of doing so.
- More Australian players are in 1st round action on day three and among them is Thanasi Kokkinakis, who returns to Melbourne Park after an epic 5-set defeat to Andy Murray in the 2nd round in 2023. Kokkinakis faces Australian Open debutant Sebastian Ofner on John Cain Arena today, and will hope for a good start as he looks to get past the opening week of a Grand Slam for the first time in his career. Other home players beginning their campaigns today include Max Purcell, who will look for his first Australian Open singles victory when he faces qualifier Mate Valkusz, and wild card James McCabe, who is making his Grand Slam debut and is up against American teenager Alex Michelsen.
- Grigor Dimitrov enjoyed a perfect start to his 2024 season by winning his first title in more than 6 years at Brisbane earlier this month – and he will hope that he can continue the momentum when he takes on Marton Fucsovics in the 1st round on JCA this afternoon. Dimitrov will be wary of the threat posed by the Hungarian – Fucsovics leads the head-to-head between the 2 players and has reached the last 16 here twice before. But Melbourne Park also holds good memories for Dimitrov, who reached the last 4 here in 2017.

NO. 2 CARLOS ALCARAZ (ESP) v RICHARD GASQUET (FRA)

Head-to-head: Alcaraz leads 1-0

2021 Umag Clay (O) FR Alcaraz 62 62

A 2nd meeting for Alcaraz and Gasquet. Their first meeting came in the final at 2021 Umag, with Alcaraz winning in straight sets to win his first Tour-level title.

Alcaraz has lost a Tour-level match to a player ranked as low as No. 131 Gasquet on 2 previous occasions – to No. 337 Alexander Erler in the 1st round at 2021 Kitzbuhel and to No. 135 Fabian Marozsan in the 3rd round at 2023 Rome-1000. The lowest-ranked player to have defeated Alcaraz at a Grand Slam is No. 95 Mikael Ymer in the 2nd round at the 2021 Australian Open.

ALCARAZ	v	GASQUET
20	Age	37
2	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	131
12	Titles	16
41-9	Career Grand Slam Record	115-71
3-2	Australian Open Record	25-16
155-43	Career Record	602-390
75-27	Career Record - Hard	355-233
0-0	2024 Record	0-1
0-0	2024 Record - Hard	0-1
9-1	Career Five-Set Record	12-14
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	2
55-34	Career Tiebreak Record	227-189
0-0	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **ALCARAZ** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 3rd time. This is his 3rd Australian Open appearance and his 12th Grand Slam overall.
- Alcaraz **missed the 2023 Australian Open** due to a right leg injury. On his most-recent appearance here, in 2022, he recorded his best Australian Open result by reaching the 3rd round (l. Matteo Berrettini).
- Alcaraz has **never lost in the 1st round at a Grand Slam**. His worst performances at the Grand Slams are 2nd round finishes on 2 occasions – as a qualifier on his Grand Slam debut at the 2021 Australian Open (d. Botic van de Zandschulp, l. Mikael Ymer) and as a wild card at 2021 Wimbledon (d. Yasutaka Uchiyama, l. Daniil Medvedev).
- Alcaraz won his **2nd Grand Slam title** at 2023 Wimbledon, defeating Novak Djokovic in 5 sets in the final. Aged 20 years 72 days, he became the 3rd-youngest player in the Open Era to win the Wimbledon men's singles title and the 5th man in the Open Era to win multiple Grand Slam titles prior to turning 21. He won his first Grand Slam title at the 2022 US Open (d. Casper Ruud) – aged 19 years 129 days, he became the youngest Grand Slam men's singles champion since Rafael Nadal (19 years 2 days) at 2005 Roland Garros and youngest US Open men's singles champion since Pete Sampras (19 years 28 days) in 1990.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Alcaraz reached the semifinals at both Roland Garros (l. Djokovic) and the US Open (l. Medvedev).
- At 20 years 268 days, Alcaraz is bidding to become the **youngest Australian Open men's singles champion** since Djokovic won the title here in 2011 aged 20 years 250 days. (NB ages calculated at the end of the tournament)
- Alcaraz is also bidding to become the **3rd man in the Open Era to win 3 Grand Slam titles prior to turning 21** – after Mats Wilander (who won 4 Grand Slam titles prior to turning 21) and Bjorn Borg (3).
- Alcaraz **won 6 titles in 2023** and finished 2nd on the list for most Tour-level titles last season – behind Djokovic, who won 7 titles. In addition to his Wimbledon title, he also won the title at Buenos Aires (d. Cameron Norrie), Indian Wells-1000 (d. Medvedev), Barcelona (d. Stefanos Tsitsipas), Madrid-1000 (d. Jan-Lennard Struff) and Queen's (d. Alex de Minaur).
- Alcaraz's **other highlights in 2023** were finishing runner-up at Rio de Janeiro (l. Norrie) and Cincinnati-1000 (l. Djokovic), reached the semifinals at Miami-1000 (l. Jannik Sinner), Beijing (l. Sinner) and the ATP Finals

(I. Djokovic), and reached the quarterfinals at Canada-1000 in Toronto (I. Tommy Paul). He is contesting his first match of the 2024 season today.

- Alcaraz has won 9 of the 10 **five-set matches** he has contested at Tour-level. His only defeat in a 5-set match came against Berrettini in the 3rd round here in 2022 – the only 5-set match he has contested at the Australian Open.
- Aged 19 years 130 days, Alcaraz became the **youngest world No. 1 in history** after winning the title at the 2022 US Open and has been ranked either No. 1 or No. 2 since then. He plays here at No. 2 and is one of 3 players in contention for the post-Australian Open No. 1 ranking, alongside Djokovic and Medvedev.
- Alcaraz has played **Davis Cup** for Spain since 2022 and has won 2 of the 3 matches he has contested in the competition. Spain have been awarded a wild card for the 2024 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage in September.
- Alcaraz **led Spain to victory at the 2018 Junior Davis Cup Finals** in Budapest, defeating France in the title match. He also reached the quarterfinals of the boys' singles at 2019 Wimbledon (I. Martin Damm) and reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 22 in January 2020. He never contested the junior event at the Australian Open.
- Alcaraz is coached by former world No. 1 Juan Carlos Ferrero, whose best result here was reaching the semifinals in 2004.
- **GASQUET** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 12th time. This is his 17th Australian Open appearance.
- **Last year here**, Gasquet fell to Ugo Humbert in the 1st round. It was the first time that he had lost in the 1st round here since 2010.
- Gasquet is bidding to end a **5-match losing streak at the Grand Slams**. He reached the 3rd round at the 2022 US Open, defeating Taro Daniel and Miomir Kecmanovic before falling to Rafael Nadal, but lost in the 1st round at all 4 Grand Slam tournaments last year. In addition to his defeat to Humbert here, he fell to Arthur Rinderknech at Roland Garros, Corentin Moutet at Wimbledon and Fabian Marozsan at the US Open.
- Gasquet's **best Australian Open result** is reaching the round of 16 on 4 occasions – in 2007 (I. Tommy Robredo), 2008 (I. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga), 2012 (I. David Ferrer) and 2013 (I. Tsonga).
- Gasquet's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the semifinals on 3 occasions – at Wimbledon in 2007 (I. Federer) and 2015 (I. Djokovic), and at the 2013 US Open (I. Nadal).
- Gasquet is contesting his 73rd Grand Slam event. He is in **joint-3rd place on the all-time list for most Grand Slam men's singles appearances**, alongside Novak Djokovic who is also competing at his 73rd Grand Slam event here. Roger Federer and Feliciano Lopez, who both made 81 Grand Slam appearances, are the only men in history to have competed at the Grand Slams more often than Gasquet.
- Gasquet is bidding to record his 26th Australian Open match-win and claim sole ownership of **3rd place on the Open Era list for most Australian Open match-wins by a Frenchman**, ahead of Sebastien Grosjean and Gilles Simon. Tsonga (37 Australian Open match-wins) and Gael Monfils (34) are the only Frenchmen in the Open Era to have recorded more victories here than Gasquet.
- Gasquet is bidding to record his 116th Grand Slam match-win. He is in **3rd place on the Open Era list for most Grand Slam match-wins by a Frenchman** – behind Monfils and Tsonga (both 121).
- Gasquet's best result in 2023 was winning his **16th Tour-level title** – and first since 2018 – at Auckland (d. Cameron Norrie). He also reached the quarterfinals at Stuttgart (I. Jan-Lennard Struff) and Winston-Salem (I. Sebastian Korda).
- **At Challenger-level in 2023**, Gasquet finished runner-up at the San Benedetto Challenger (ITA) (I. Benoit Paire) and reached the semifinals at the Bordeaux Challenger (FRA) (I. Humbert) and the Orleans Challenger (FRA) (I. Tomas Machac).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Gasquet fell in the 1st round as a wild card at Auckland (I. Arthur Fils). He also reached the quarterfinals at the Noumea Challenger (CAL), defeating Ilya Marchenko and Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard before falling to Gijs Brouwer.

- Gasquet is bidding to end an **8-match losing streak against Top 5 players at the Grand Slams**. He has not defeated a Top 5 player at a Grand Slam since defeating No. 4 Stan Wawrinka in the quarterfinals at 2015 Wimbledon. He has a 3-21 win-loss record against Top 5 players at the Grand Slams and an 11-62 win-loss record against Top 5 players at Tour-level overall.
- Gasquet is bidding to **defeat a Top 5 player at the Australian Open for the first time**. He has lost both of his previous matches against Top 5 players here – to No. 5 Ferrer in the round of 16 in 2012 and No. 2 Federer in the 3rd round in 2018. The highest-ranked player he has defeated at the Australian Open is No. 9 Janko Tipsarevic in the 3rd round in 2012.
- Gasquet has lost both **5-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open – against Fernando Gonzalez in the 3rd round in 2009 and against Mikhail Youzhny in the 1st round in 2010. He has a 12-14 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Gasquet is a **former Top 10 player**, having reached a career-high ranking of No. 7 in July 2007. He dropped to No. 131 on Monday, ending his streak of 843 consecutive weeks in the Top 100, having been ranked inside the Top 100 since April 2005.
- Gasquet was a **successful junior**. He ended the 2002 season as junior world No. 1 after winning the boys' singles titles at Roland Garros (d. Laurent Recouderc) and the US Open (d. Marcos Baghdatis) and reaching the semifinals in the boys' singles at the Australian Open (l. Todd Reid).
- Gasquet has played **Davis Cup** since 2005 and has a 20-13 overall win-loss record in the competition. He was a member of France's winning team in 2017, winning the doubles match in the final against Belgium alongside Pierre-Hugues Herbert. He was also a member of the team which finished as runners-up to Switzerland in 2014. France will play away against Chinese Taipei in the 2024 Davis Cup Qualifiers in February.
- Gasquet is coached by Julien Cassaigne.

NO. 6 ALEXANDER ZVEREV (GER) v DOMINIK KOEPFER (GER)

Head-to-head: Zverev leads 2-0

2021	Acapulco	Hard (O)	SF	Zverev	64 76(5)
2021	Halle	Grass (O)	R32	Zverev	64 36 63

A 3rd Tour-level meeting for Zverev and Koepfer, but their first at a Grand Slam. Both of their previous meetings came in 2021.

This is the 15th all-German men's singles match here in the Open Era. Zverev has been involved in the 2 most recent all-German matches at the Australian Open, defeating Peter Gojowczyk in the 2nd round in 2018 and defeating Daniel Altmaier in the 1st round in 2022.

At the Grand Slams overall, today's match is the 79th all-German men's singles match in the Open Era. There was one all-German singles match at the Grand Slams in 2023 – Zverev defeated Altmaier in the 1st round at the US Open.

Zverev is facing a German player at Tour-level for the 30th time. He has a 23-6 win-loss record against German players at Tour-level and has won his last 6 Tour-level matches against German players, with his last defeat to a Germany player coming against Dustin Brown in the 2nd round at 2019 Stuttgart. He has a 5-2 win-loss record against German players at the Grand Slams.

Koepfer is facing a German player at Tour-level for the 8th time. He has a 3-4 win-loss record against German players at Tour-level but lost the only match he has played against a German player at the Grand Slams, falling to Oscar Otte in the 1st round at Wimbledon last year.

Zverev has a 3-2 win-loss record against lefthanded players at the Australian Open, with his only defeats to lefthanded players here coming against Rafael Nadal in the 3rd round in 2017 and to Denis Shapovalov in the round of 16 in 2022. He has a 7-5 win-loss record against lefthanded players at the Grand Slams and a 55-17 win-loss record against lefthanded players at Tour-level overall.

ZVEREV	v	KOEPFER
26	Age	29
6	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	62
21	Titles	0
83-31	Career Grand Slam Record	12-13
20-8	Australian Open Record	2-3
398-178	Career Record	44-54
237-111	Career Record - Hard	26-31
4-1	2024 Record	0-0
4-1	2024 Record - Hard	0-0
19-10	Career Five-Set Record	2-0
3	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
152-107	Career Tiebreak Record	27-17
1-2	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **ZVEREV** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 8th straight year. This is his 9th Australian Open appearance and his 32nd Grand Slam overall.
- Zverev has **lost in the 1st round at a Grand Slam on 4 previous occasions** – including on his Australian Open debut in 2016 (l. Andy Murray). He also fell in the 1st round as a qualifier at the 2015 US Open (l. Philipp Kohlschreiber), as No. 9 seed at 2017 Roland Garros (l. Fernando Verdasco) and as No. 6 seed at 2019 Wimbledon (l. Jiri Vesely).
- **Last year here**, on his first Grand Slam appearance since retiring due to an ankle injury in his semifinal match against Rafael Nadal at 2022 Roland Garros, Zverev reached the 2nd round. He defeated lucky loser Juan Pablo Varillas in 5 sets before falling to lucky loser Michael Mmoh in 4 sets.
- Zverev's **best Australian Open result** is reaching the semifinals in 2020, where he fell to Dominic Thiem in 4 sets. It was the first time he had reached the semifinals at a Grand Slam.

- Zverev's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the final at the 2020 US Open, falling to Thiem in 5 sets despite holding a 2-0 lead.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Zverev reached the semifinals at Roland Garros (l. Casper Ruud), the quarterfinals at the US Open (l. Carlos Alcaraz) and the 3rd round at Wimbledon (l. Matteo Berrettini).
- Zverev's **best results in 2023** were winning the titles at Hamburg (d. Laslo Djere) and Chengdu (d. Roman Safiullin). He also reached the semifinals at Dubai (l. Andrey Rublev), Geneva (l. Nicolas Jarry), Halle (l. Alexander Bublik), Cincinnati-1000 (l. Novak Djokovic) and Beijing (l. Daniil Medvedev).
- Prior to the Australian Open, Zverev was a **member of the German team which won the United Cup**. He won 4 of the 5 singles matches he contested, defeating Italy's Lorenzo Sonego, France's Adrian Mannarino, Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas and Poland's Hubert Hurkacz, but falling to Australia's Alex de Minaur.
- Zverev has won the last 3 **five-set matches** he has contested, recovering from 0-2 down to defeat Sebastian Baez in 5 sets in the 2nd round at 2022 Roland Garros last year, before recording 5-set victories against Varillas in the 1st round here last year and against Jannik Sinner in the round of 16 at the US Open last year. He has a 3-2 win-loss record in 5-set matches at the Australian Open and a 19-10 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Zverev rose to a **career-high ranking** of No. 2 in June 2022 after reaching the semifinals at Roland Garros. He returned to the Top 10 for the first time since November 2022 in September last year after reaching the quarterfinals at the US Open. He plays here at No. 6.
- Zverev **won Olympic singles gold for Germany** at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Tennis Event in 2021, defeating Russian Olympic Committee's Karen Khachanov in the final. It was Germany's 3rd Olympic gold medal in tennis – after Steffi Graf in women's singles at Seoul 1988 and Boris Becker/Michael Stich in men's doubles at Barcelona 1992.
- Zverev is **one of 6 former junior Australian Open singles champions** in this year's men's main draw. He defeated Stefan Kozlov to win the boys' singles title here in 2014. He also finished runner-up at 2013 Junior Roland Garros (l. Christian Garin) and was named 2013 ITF Junior World Champion. Stefan Edberg is the only player to have won both the boys' singles and men's singles titles here in the Open Era.
- Zverev has played **Davis Cup** for Germany since 2016 and has an 9-6 overall win-loss record in the competition. Germany play away against Hungary in the 2024 Davis Cup Qualifiers in February.
- Zverev is coached by his father, Alexander Zverev Sr.
- Lefthander **KOEPFER** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 3rd time. This is his 4th Australian Open appearance and his 14th Grand Slam overall.
- Koepfer's **best Australian Open result** is reaching the 2nd round on 2 occasions – in 2021 (d. Hugo Dellien, l. Dominic Thiem) and 2022 (d. Carlos Taberner, l. Reilly Opelka). He missed the event last year due to a left arm injury.
- Koepfer's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 at the 2019 US Open. He defeated Jaume Munar, Opelka, and Nikoloz Basilashvili before falling to eventual finalist Daniil Medvedev.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Koepfer lost in the 1st round at Wimbledon (l. Oscar Otte) and at the US Open (l. Carlos Alcaraz). He fell in the final round of qualifying at Roland Garros (l. Thiago Seyboth Wild).
- Koepfer is bidding to end a **4-match Grand Slam losing streak** and record his first Grand Slam match-win since reaching the 2nd round here in 2022. He has lost in the 1st round at all 3 Grand Slam tournaments he has contested since then – at 2022 Wimbledon (l. Daniel Elahi Galan) and at both Wimbledon and the US Open last year.
- Koepfer's **best Tour-level result in 2023** was reaching the semifinals at Los Cabos (l. Alex de Minaur). He also reached the quarterfinals at Atlanta (l. JJ Wolf).
- Koepfer's best results at Challenger-level in 2023 were winning his **3rd and 4th Challenger titles** – as a qualifier at the Mexico City Challenger (MEX) (d. Thiago Agustin Tirante) and as an alternate at the Turin Challenger (ITA) (d. Federico Gaio). He also finished as runner-up at the San Luis Potosi Challenger (MEX) (l. Tomas Barrios Vera), the Prague Challenger (CZE) (l. Jakub Mensik) and the Calgary Challenger (CAN) (l. Liam Draxl).

- Prior to the Australian Open, Koepfer won his **5th Challenger title** at the Canberra Challenger (AUS) (d. Mensik).
- Koepfer is bidding to record his **2nd victory against a Top 10 player**. He has a 1-13 win-loss record against Top 10 players at Tour-level, with his only victory coming against No. 9 Gael Monfils in the 2nd round at Rome-1000 in 2020. He has lost all 6 matches he has contested against Top 10 players at the Grand Slams. The highest-ranked player he has defeated at the Grand Slams is No. 18 Nikoloz Basilashvili in the 3rd round at the 2019 US Open.
- Koepfer has won both **five-set matches** he has contested at Tour-level, defeating Soonwoo Kwon in the 2nd round at 2021 Wimbledon and Quentin Halys in the 1st round at the 2021 US Open. He has a 2-1 win-loss record in 5-set matches overall, having lost to Norbert Gombos in the final round of qualifying at 2018 Wimbledon.
- Koepfer reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 50 in May 2021. He returned to the Top 100 for the first time since June 2022 in June last year. He plays here at No. 62.
- Koepfer **played college tennis** at Tulane University in 2013-16 and was named NCAA All-American in 2015 and 2016.
- Koepfer made his **Davis Cup debut** in 2020 and was part of the German team that reached the semifinals in 2021. He has a 2-2 overall win-loss record in the competition. Germany will play away against Hungary in the 2024 Davis Cup Qualifiers in February.
- Koepfer is coached by Billy Hesier and Rhyne Williams.

NO. 8 HOLGER RUNE (DEN) v YOSHIHITO NISHIOKA (JPN)

Head-to-head: Nishioka leads 1-0

2023 Adelaide 1 Hard (O) R32 Nishioka 26 64 64

A 2nd Tour-level meeting for Rune and Nishioka. They also met in Australia last year, with Nishioka winning the pair's 1st round match at Adelaide 1.

Rune is facing a lefthanded player at the Australian Open for the first time. He has won 3 of the 4 matches he has contested against lefthanded players at the Grand Slams, with his only Grand Slam defeat to a lefthanded player coming against Cameron Norrie in the 3rd round at the 2022 US Open. He has an 11-13 win-loss record against lefthanded players at Tour-level overall.

RUNE	v	NISHIOKA
20	Age	28
8	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	61
4	Titles	2
15-9	Career Grand Slam Record	17-30
3-2	Australian Open Record	8-8
98-63	Career Record	115-131
52-35	Career Record - Hard	98-99
4-1	2024 Record	0-0
4-1	2024 Record - Hard	0-0
2-2	Career Five-Set Record	6-4
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	1
45-29	Career Tiebreak Record	46-39
2-1	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **RUNE** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd straight year. This is his 3rd Australian Open appearance and his 10th Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, Rune recorded his **best Australian Open result** by reaching the round of 16. He defeated Filip Krajinovic, Maxime Cressy and Ugo Humbert for his first Australian Open match-wins before falling to Andrey Rublev in 5 sets.
- Rune's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the quarterfinals on 3 occasions – at Roland Garros in 2022 and 2023, falling to Casper Ruud on both occasions, and at 2023 Wimbledon (l. Carlos Alcaraz). He became the first Danish man to reach a Grand Slam quarterfinal since Jan Leschly at the 1967 US Championships.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Rune fell to Roberto Carballes Baena in the 1st round at the US Open. He has lost in the 1st round on 4 of his 9 previous Grand Slam appearances, including on his Australian Open debut in 2022, when he fell to Soonwoo Kwon in 5 sets.
- At 20 years 274 days, Rune is bidding to become the **youngest Australian Open men's singles champion** since Novak Djokovic won the title here in 2008 aged 20 years 250 days. (NB ages calculated at the end of the tournament)
- Rune's best result in 2023 was winning his **4th Tour-level title** at Munich (d. Botic van de Zandschulp). He also finished runner-up at Monte-Carlo-1000 (l. Rublev) and Rome-1000 (l. Daniil Medvedev), and reached the semifinals at Montpellier (l. Maxime Cressy), Acapulco (l. Alex de Minaur), Queen's (l. De Minaur) and Basel (l. Felix Auger-Aliassime).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Rune finished runner-up at Brisbane, falling to Grigor Dimitrov in the final.
- Rune has lost both of the **5-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open – falling in 5 sets to Kwon in the 1st round in 2022 and to Rublev in the round of 16 in 2023. He has won the 2 other 5-set matches he contested, against Francisco Cerundolo in the round of 16 at 2023 Roland Garros and against Alejandro Davidovich Fokina in the 3rd round at 2023 Wimbledon.
- Rune **broke the Top 5 for the first time in August 2023**, reaching a career-high ranking of No. 4 the same month. He plays here 4 places lower at No. 8.

- Rune is a **former junior world No. 1**. He won the boys' singles title at 2019 Roland Garros (d. Toby Kodat) and reached the top ranking in October that year. He reached the 2nd round on his only appearance in the boys' singles here in 2019 (d. Dominic Stricker, I. Bu Yunchakete).
- Rune has played **Davis Cup** for Denmark since 2018 and has a 7-2 overall win-loss record in the competition. Denmark will play away against Mexico in the 2024 Davis Cup World Group I Play-offs in February.
- Rune is coached by Boris Becker, who won the title here in 1991 and 1996, and Severin Luthi.
- Lefthander **NISHIOKA** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 6th time. This is his 9th Australian Open appearance and his 31st Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, Nishioka recorded his **best Grand Slam result** by reaching the round of 16. He defeated Mikael Ymer, Dalibor Srvcina and Mackenzie McDonald before falling to Karen Khachanov. He also reached the round of 16 at Roland Garros last year, where he defeated JJ Wolf, Max Purcell and Thiago Seyboth Wild before falling to Tomas Martin Etcheverry.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Nishioka fell in the 1st round at Wimbledon (l. Daniel Elahi Galan) and the US Open (l. Stan Wawrinka). He has lost in the 1st round on 7 of his last 9 Grand Slam appearances.
- Nishioka's **best result in 2023** was finishing runner-up at Zhuhai (l. Khachanov). He also reached the semifinals at Adelaide 1, retiring due to a right hip injury against Sebastian Korda. He is contesting his first match of the 2024 season today.
- Nishioka is bidding to end a **7-match losing streak against Top 10 players**. He has not defeated a Top 10 player since defeating No. 2 Casper Ruud in the quarterfinals at the 2022 Seoul. He has a 4-22 win-loss record against Top 20 players at Tour-level overall.
- Nishioka is bidding to **defeat a Top 10 player at a Grand Slam for the first time**. He has lost all 6 of his previous matches against a Top 10 player at the Grand Slams, including his only previous match against a Top 10 player here – against No. 2 Novak Djokovic in the 3rd round in 2020. The highest-ranked player he has defeated at a Grand Slam is No. 22 Felix Auger-Aliassime in the 1st round at 2020 Roland Garros and the highest-ranked player he has defeated at the Australian Open is No. 29 Philipp Kohlschreiber in the 1st round in 2018.
- Nishioka is one of **18 lefthanders** who started in the men's main draw at the Australian Open this year. Just 6 lefthanded players have won the Australian Open men's singles title in the Open Era, most recently Rafael Nadal in 2009 and 2022.
- Nishioka reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 24 in June last year. He plays here at No. 61.
- Nishioka won the only **5-set match** he has contested at the Australian Open, defeating Kohlschreiber in 5 sets in the 1st round in 2018. He has a 6-4 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Nishioka had a **good junior career**. He reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 12 and reached the semifinals of the boys' singles at the 2012 US Open (l. Filip Peliwo). In 2013, he reached the 3rd round in his only appearance in the boys' singles here (l. Matej Maruscak).
- Nishioka has played **Davis Cup** since 2015 and has a 6-6 overall win-loss record in the competition. Japan will play against Lebanon in Egypt in the 2024 Davis Cup World Group I Play-offs in February.
- Nishioka is coached by Christian Zahalka.

NO. 11 CASPER RUUD (NOR) v ALBERT RAMOS-VINOLAS (ESP)

Tour-level head-to-head: tied 3-3

2017	Barcelona	Clay (O)	R32	Ramos-Vinolas	76(6) 64
2018	Roland Garros	Clay (O)	R64	Ramos-Vinolas	64 62 64
2019	Madrid-1000 Qualifying Draw	Clay (O)	R16	Ramos-Vinolas	26 76(3) 61
2019	Kitzbuhel	Clay (O)	SF	Ramos-Vinolas	75 64
2020	Santiago	Clay (O)	SF	Ruud	76(5) 62
2022	Wimbledon	Grass (O)	R128	Ruud	76(1) 76(9) 62
2022	Gstaad	Clay (O)	SF	Ruud	62 60

A 7th Tour-level meeting for Ruud and Ramos-Vinolas and their 3rd at a Grand Slam – but their first on a hard court. Ramos-Vinolas won the pair's first 3 meetings (and their only meeting below Tour-level), but Ruud has won their 3 most-recent meetings in straight sets.

Ruud is facing a lefthanded player at the Australian Open for the first time. He has a 3-5 win-loss record against lefthanded players at the Grand Slams and a 29-18 win-loss record against lefthanded players at Tour-level overall.

RUUD	v	RAMOS-VINOLAS
25	Age	35*
11	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	85
10	Titles	4
36-20	Career Grand Slam Record	25-48
5-4	Australian Open Record	3-12
213-115	Career Record	278-322
79-64	Career Record - Hard	75-138
3-0	2024 Record	0-0
3-0	2024 Record - Hard	0-0
6-6	Career Five-Set Record	8-9
1	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
70-61	Career Tiebreak Record	103-154
0-0	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-0

*Turns 36 on Wednesday 17 January

- **RUUD** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 4th time. This is his 5th Australian Open appearance and his 21st Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Ruud reached the 2nd round (d. Tomas Machac, l. Jenson Brooksby).
- Ruud's **best Australian Open result** is reaching the round of 16 in 2021. He retired due to an abdominal injury after the opening 2 sets of his match against Andrey Rublev.
- Ruud reached his **3rd Grand Slam final last year**, finishing runner-up to Novak Djokovic at Roland Garros. He reached his first 2 Grand Slam finals in 2022, finishing runner-up at both Roland Garros (l. Rafael Nadal) and the US Open (l. Carlos Alcaraz). He is the only Norwegian player in history to have contested a Grand Slam singles final.
- At 25 years 37 days, Ruud is bidding to become the **youngest Australian Open men's singles champion** since Novak Djokovic won the title here in 2012 aged 24 years 252 days. (NB ages calculated at the end of the tournament)
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Ruud reached the 2nd round at both Wimbledon (d. Laurent Lokoli, l. Liam Broady) and the US Open (d. Emilio Nava, l. Zhang Zhizhen).
- Ruud's **best result in 2023** was winning the title at Estoril (d. Miomir Kecmanovic). He also finished runner-up at Bastad (l. Rublev), reached the semifinals at Rome-1000 (l. Holger Rune) and reached the quarterfinals at Geneva (l. Nicolas Jarry), Hamburg (l. Arthur Fils) and Beijing (l. Carlos Alcaraz).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Ruud represented Norway at the United Cup, winning all 3 singles matches he contested as Norway reached the quarterfinals. He defeated Netherlands' Tallon Griekspoor, Croatia's Borna Coric and France's Adrian Mannarino in straight sets.

- Ruud has won one of the 2 **five-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open, defeating Quentin Halys in 5 sets in the 1st round in 2018 but falling to Egor Gerasimov in 5 sets in the 1st round in 2020. He has a 6-6 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Ruud reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 2 after his runner-up finish at the US Open in September. He dropped outside the Top 10 for the first time since August 2021 in November last year and plays here at No. 11.
- Ruud is a **former junior world No. 1**. He reached the top of the boys' world rankings in January 2016, becoming the first Norwegian player to reach the No. 1 ranking. His best result as a junior was winning the title at the Grade A Osaka Mayor's Cup in 2015 (d. Mate Valkusz). He never contested the junior event here.
- Ruud has played **Davis Cup** for Norway since 2015 and has a 23-9 overall win-loss record in the competition. Norway will play against Latvia in the 2024 Davis Cup World Group I Play-offs in February.
- Ruud is coached by his father, Christian, who reached the round of 16 here in 1997.
- Lefthander **RAMOS-VINOLAS** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 3rd time – and for the first time since 2018. This is his 13th Australian Open appearance and his 49th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Ramos-Vinolas fell to Maxime Cressy in the 1st round. He has lost in the 1st round on 10 of his previous 12 appearances here.
- Ramos-Vinolas' **best Australian Open result** is reaching the 3rd round in 2018, when he defeated Jared Donaldson and Tim Smyczek before falling to Novak Djokovic. He has advanced beyond the 1st round on one other occasion – in 2016, when he reached the 2nd round (d. Borna Coric, l. Marin Cilic).
- Ramos-Vinolas' **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the quarterfinals at 2016 Roland Garros, where he defeated Horacio Zeballos, Marco Trungelliti, Jack Sock and Raonic before falling to Stan Wawrinka.
- Ramos-Vinolas is bidding to end a **5-match Grand Slam losing streak**. His last Grand Slam match-win came in a 2nd round finish at the 2022 US Open (d. Norbert Gombos, l. Cilic). In addition to his 1st round defeat here last year, he also fell in the 1st round at Roland Garros (l. Stan Wawrinka), Wimbledon (l. Hubert Hurkacz) and the US Open (l. Alex Michelsen) in 2023.
- Ramos-Vinolas' **best result in 2023** was finishing runner-up at Gstaad (l. Pedro Cachin). He also reached the semifinals at Cordoba (l. Federico Coria) and the quarterfinals at Rio de Janeiro (l. Bernabe Zapata Miralles). He is contesting his first match of the 2024 season today.
- Ramos-Vinolas recorded **one Tour-level match-win on hard courts in 2023** – at Sofia, where he reached the 2nd round (d. Roberto Carballes Baena, l. Adrian Mannarino). He lost in the 1st round at 7 other Tour-level events he played on hard court and lost both matches he played at the 2023 United Cup.
- **At Challenger-level in 2023**, Ramos-Vinolas' best results were reaching the semifinals at the Bad Waltersdorf Challenger (AUT) (l. Andrea Pellegrino), the Lisbon Challenger (POR) (l. Benjamin Hassan) and the Valencia Challenger (ITA) (l. Fabio Fognini). He reached the quarterfinals at 4 other Challenger-level events.
- Ramos-Vinolas is bidding to end a **12-match losing streak against Top 20 players at the Grand Slams**. He has not defeated a Top 20 player at a Grand Slam since defeating No. 17 Lucas Pouille in the 3rd round at 2017 Roland Garros. He has a 2-21 win-loss record against Top 20 players at the Grand Slams overall, with his only other victory coming against No. 9 Raonic in the round of 16 at 2016 Roland Garros.
- Ramos-Vinolas has **won one of his last 13 matches against Top 20 players at Tour-level**. His only victory against a Top 20 player in that time came against No. 15 Diego Schwartzman in the 2nd round at 2022 Montreal-1000. He has a 24-93 win-loss record against Top 20 players at Tour-level overall.
- Ramos-Vinolas has lost all 4 **five-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open – against Marcos Baghdatis in the 1st round in 2013, Lukas Lacko in the 1st round in 2017, Alex Bolt in the 1st round in 2020 and Sebastian Baez in the 1st round in 2022. He has an 8-9 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Ramos-Vinolas is one of **18 lefthanders** who started in the men's main draw at the Australian Open this year. Just 6 lefthanded players have won the Australian Open men's singles title in the Open Era, most recently Rafael Nadal in 2009 and 2022.

- Ramos-Vinolas is a **former Top 20 player**, having reached a career-high ranking of No.17 in May 2017. He plays here at No. 85.
- Ramos-Vinolas has played **Davis Cup** for Spain since 2013 and has a 6-4 overall win-loss record in the competition. He lost both matches he contested as Spain fell in the Finals Group Stage in 2023. Spain have been awarded a wild card for the 2024 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage in September.
- Ramos-Vinolas is coached by Jose Maria Diaz and Tiago Leivas.

NO. 13 GRIGOR DIMITROV (BUL) v MARTON FUCSOVICS (HUN)

Head-to-head: Fucsovics leads 2-1

2020	Cincinnati-1000	Hard (O)	R32	Fucsovics	75 46 62
2020	US Open	Hard (O)	R64	Fucsovics	67(5) 76(4) 36 64 61
2021	San Diego	Hard (O)	R32	Dimitrov	63 16 75

A 4th Tour-level for Dimitrov and Fucsovics and their 2nd at a Grand Slam. The pair have previously only met on American hard courts. Fucsovics won their only previous meeting at a Grand Slam, winning in 5 sets in the 2nd round at the 2020 US Open.

DIMITROV	v	FUCSOVICS
32	Age	31
13	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	70
9	Titles	1
84-52	Career Grand Slam Record	29-26
31-13	Australian Open Record	11-6
426-273	Career Record	150-146
280-177	Career Record - Hard	88-88
5-0	2024 Record	0-1
5-0	2024 Record - Hard	0-1
11-9	Career Five-Set Record	10-8
1	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
174-166	Career Tiebreak Record	60-80
1-0	2024 Tiebreak Record	1-1

- **DIMITROV** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 13th time. This is his 14th Australian Open appearance and his 53rd Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Dimitrov reached the 3rd round, defeating Aslan Karatsev and Laslo Djere before falling to Novak Djokovic. He has lost in the 1st round here once before – in 2013, when he fell to Julien Benneteau in straight sets.
- Dimitrov's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the semifinals on 3 occasions – including once at the Australian Open, in 2017 (l. Rafael Nadal). He also reached the semifinals at 2014 Wimbledon (l. Djokovic) and the 2019 US Open (l. Daniil Medvedev).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Dimitrov reached the round of 16 at both Roland Garros (l. Alexander Zverev) and Wimbledon (l. Holger Rune), and the 3rd round at the US Open (l. Zverev).
- Dimitrov holds the **longest active streak of consecutive Grand Slam men's singles appearances**. He is making his 52nd consecutive Grand Slam appearance, having contested every Grand Slam tournament since the 2011 Australian Open. It is the joint-7th longest streak of Grand Slam men's singles appearances in the Open Era.
- Dimitrov's **best results in 2023** were finishing runner-up at Geneva (l. Nicolas Jarry) and Paris-1000 (l. Djokovic). He also reached the semifinals at Rotterdam (l. Medvedev), Washington (l. Daniel Evans), Chengdu (l. Zverev) and Shanghai-1000 (l. Andrey Rublev).
- Prior to the Australian Open, Dimitrov won his **first Tour-level title for more than 6 years** at Brisbane (d. Rune). It was his 8th Tour-level title and his first since defeating David Goffin to win the 2017 ATP Finals. Of his 8 Tour-level titles, 7 have come on hard courts.
- The Australian Open is Dimitrov's **most successful Grand Slam event** in terms of matches won. He has a 31-13 win-loss record here, compared to a 19-13 win-loss record at Wimbledon and 17-13 at both Roland Garros and the US Open.
- Dimitrov has won 2 of the last 5 **five-set matches** he has contested. His only victories in 5-set matches in that time came against Roger Federer in the quarterfinals at the 2019 US Open and against Alex Molcan in the 1st round at the US Open last year, when he recovered from 0-2 to win for the first time in his career. He has a 3-3 win-loss record in 5-set matches at the Australian Open and an 11-9 win-loss record in 5-set matches overall.
- Dimitrov reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 3 after winning the title at the 2017 ATP Finals. He plays here at No. 13 – his highest-ranking since November 2018 when he was ranked at No. 10.

- Dimitrov is a **former junior world No. 1**. He reached the No. 1 ranking in September 2008 after winning the boys' singles titles at both Wimbledon (d. Henri Kontinen) and the US Open (d. Devin Britton) that season. He never contested the boys' singles at the Australian Open.
- Dimitrov is coached by Daniel Vallverdu and Jamie Delgado.
- **FUCSOVICS** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 6th time. This is his 7th Australian Open appearance and his 27th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Fucsovics reached the 3rd round, defeating Federico Coria and Lloyd Harris before falling to Jannik Sinner in 5 sets despite holding a 2-0 lead.
- Fucsovics' **best Australian Open result** is reaching the round of 16 on 2 occasions – losing to Roger Federer on both occasions, in 2018 and 2020.
- Fucsovics' **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the quarterfinals at 2021 Wimbledon (l. Novak Djokovic). He became the first Hungarian man to reach a Grand Slam quarterfinal since Balazs Taroczy at 1981 Roland Garros and the first to do so at Wimbledon since Jozsef Asboth in 1948.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Fucsovics reached the 3rd round at Wimbledon, where he defeated Tallon Griekspoor and Marcos Giron before falling to Daniil Medvedev, and reached the 2nd round at both Roland Garros (d. Hugo Grenier, l. Djokovic) and the US Open (d. Sebastian Korda, l. Rinky Hijikata).
- Fucsovics' **best result in 2023** was reaching the semifinals as a qualifier at Stuttgart (l. Frances Tiafoe). He also reached the quarterfinals at Sofia (l. Pavel Kotov), the round of 16 at Indian Wells-1000 (l. Taylor Fritz) and the 3rd round at Rome-1000 (l. Cameron Norrie) and Shanghai-1000 (l. Francisco Cerundolo).
- Also in 2023, Fucsovics won his **6th career Challenger title** at the Canberra Challenger (AUS) (d. Leandro Riedi). He also reached the quarterfinals at the Segovia Challenger (ESP) (l. Terence Atmane).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Fucsovics fell to Matteo Arnaldi in the 1st round at Brisbane.
- Fucsovics is bidding to end a **4-match losing streak against Top 20 players at the Grand Slams**. He has not defeated a Top 20 player at a Grand Slam since defeating No. 7 Andrey Rublev in the round of 16 at 2021 Wimbledon. He has a 7-14 win-loss record against Top 20 players at the Grand Slams (including a 3-5 win-loss record against Top 20 players at the Australian Open) and a 19-51 win-loss record against Top 20 players at Tour-level overall.
- Fucsovics has won 3 of the 5 **five-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open, defeating both Marc Polmans and Stan Wawrinka in 5 sets here in 2021 and defeating Coria in 5 sets in the 1st round here last year. He has a 10-8 win-loss record in 5-set matches overall.
- Fucsovics reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 31 in March 2019. He plays here at No. 70.
- Fucsovics was a **successful junior**. He won the boys' singles title at 2010 Wimbledon, defeating Benjamin Mitchell in the final. He also reached the semifinals of the boys' singles here in 2010 (l. Sean Berman) and at the 2010 US Open (l. Jack Sock).
- Fucsovics made his **Davis Cup debut** in 2010 and has a 32-20 overall win-loss record in the competition, placing him 3rd on the all-time list for most Davis-Cup match wins by a Hungarian player, behind Taroczy (76 wins) and Istvan Gulyas (34). Hungary will play at home to Germany in the 2024 Davis Cup Qualifiers in February.
- Fucsovics is coached by Peter Nagy.

NO. 14 TOMMY PAUL (USA) v GREGOIRE BARRERE (FRA)

Tour-level head-to-head: Paul leads 2-0

2016	Lyon Challenger (FRA)	Clay (O)	QF	Barrere	62 63
2016	Blois Challenger (FRA)	Clay (O)	R32	Barrere	62 64
2023	Lyon	Clay (O)	R16	Paul	76(6) 46 63
2023	Eastbourne	Grass (O)	SF	Paul	64 63

A 3rd Tour-level meeting for Paul and Barrere, but their first at a Grand Slam or on a hard court. Paul has won both of their previous Tour-level matches, both of which came last season, but Barrere won on both occasions they met at Challenger-level in 2016.

PAUL	v	BARRERE
26	Age	29
14	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	83
1	Titles	0
22-17	Career Grand Slam Record	7-16
9-4	Australian Open Record	1-2
132-107	Career Record	34-55
102-74	Career Record - Hard	21-34
1-1	2024 Record	0-0
1-1	2024 Record - Hard	0-0
6-4	Career Five-Set Record	2-2
1	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
50-60	Career Tiebreak Record	26-30
0-0	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **PAUL** is bidding to maintain his record of always reaching the 2nd round here. This is his 5th Australian Open appearance and his 18th Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, Paul recorded his **best Grand Slam result** by reaching the semifinals. He defeated Jan-Lennard Struff, Alejandro Davidovich Fokina, Jenson Brooksby, Roberto Bautista Agut and Ben Shelton before falling to Novak Djokovic in the last 4. He became the first American player to contest an Australian Open men's singles semifinal since Andy Roddick in 2009.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Paul reached the round of 16 at the US Open (l. Shelton), the 3rd round at Wimbledon (l. Jiri Lehecka) and the 2nd round at Roland Garros (l. Nicolas Jarry)
- Paul's **best results in 2023** were runner-up finishes at Acapulco (l. Alex de Minaur) and Eastbourne (l. Francisco Cerundolo). He also reached the semifinals at Toronto-1000 (l. Jannik Sinner) and the quarterfinals at Delray Beach (l. Radu Albot), Lyon (l. Brandon Nakashima), Newport (l. John Isner), Los Cabos (l. De Minaur) and Tokyo (l. Shelton).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Paul reached the quarterfinals at Adelaide. He received a bye through the 1st round and defeated Alex Bolt in the 2nd round before falling to Jack Draper in the quarterfinals.
- Paul has won both **five-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open – recording 5-set victories against Grigor Dimitrov in the 2nd round in 2020 and Davidovich Fokina in the 2nd round in 2023. He has a 6-4 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Paul reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 12 in October 2023. He plays here 2 places lower at No. 14.
- Paul had a **successful junior career**. He won the 2015 Roland Garros boys' singles title (d. Fritz), finished runner-up in the boys' singles at the 2015 US Open (l. Fritz) and reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 3 in September 2015. He never competed in the junior event here.
- Paul has played **Davis Cup** for USA since 2020 and has a 5-4 overall win-loss record in the competition. He won one of the 3 matches he contested in the competition in 2023 as USA fell in the Finals Group Stage. USA will play against Ukraine in Lithuania in the 2024 Davis Cup Qualifiers in February.
- Paul is coached by Brad Stine.

- **BARRERE** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd time. This is his 3rd Australian Open appearance and his 17th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Barrere fell to Tomas Martin Etcheverry in the 1st round.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Barrere reached the 2nd round at Wimbledon (d. Lloyd Harris, l. Denis Shapovalov) but lost in the 1st round at Roland Garros (l. Emil Ruusuvuori) and the US Open (l. Jakub Mensik).
- Barrere's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the 2nd round on 7 occasions – including once at the Australian Open, on his debut here in 2020 (d. Mohamed Safwat, l. Guido Pella).
- Barrere's best result in 2023 was reaching his **first Tour-level semifinal** at Eastbourne (l. Paul). He also reached the quarterfinals at Montpellier (l. Holger Rune) and the 3rd round at both Miami-1000 (l. Christopher Eubanks) and Rome-1000 (l. Francisco Cerundolo).
- Also in 2023, Barrere won his **6th career Challenger title** at the Quimper Challenger (FRA) (d. Arthur Fils). He also reached the semifinals at the Rennes Challenger (FRA) (l. Maxime Cressy).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Barrere lost in qualifying at both Brisbane and Auckland. He reached the 2nd round of qualifying at Brisbane (d. Dane Sweeny, l. James Duckworth) but fell in the 1st round of qualifying at Auckland (l. Alex Michelsen).
- Barrere is bidding to **defeat a Top 20 player for the 3rd time**. He has a 2-14 win-loss record against Top 20 players at Tour-level overall, with his 2 victories coming against No. 12 Cameron Norrie in the 2nd round at 2023 Miami-1000, and No. 11 Karen Khachanov in the 2nd round at 2023 Rome-1000.
- Barrere is bidding to **defeat a Top 20 player at a Grand Slam for the first time**. He has lost all 5 of his previous matches against Top 20 players at the Grand Slams. The highest-ranked player he has defeated at a Grand Slam is No. 62 Norrie in the 1st round at the 2019 US Open.
- Barrere has won 2 of the 4 **five-set matches** he has contested at Tour-level. He has also contested one 5-set match below Tour-level – he recovered from 0-2 down to defeat Liam Broady in 5 sets in the final round of qualifying at 2019 Wimbledon.
- Barrere **broke the Top 50 for the first time** in June 2023, reaching a career-high ranking of No. 49 the same month. He plays here at No. 83.
- Barrere is coached by Nicolas Copin.

NO. 19 CAMERON NORRIE (GBR) v JUAN PABLO VARILLAS (PER)

Head-to-head: Norrie leads 1-0

2023 Buenos Aires Clay (O) SF Norrie 76(5) 64

A 2nd meeting for Norrie and Varillas but their first on a hard court or at a Grand Slam.

Varillas has won the only match he has played against a lefthanded opponent at a Grand Slam, defeating Shang Juncheng in the 1st round at Roland Garros last year. He has a 7-8 win-loss record against lefthanded players at Tour-level overall.

NORRIE	v	VARILLAS
28	Age	28
22	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	81
5	Titles	0
29-24	Career Grand Slam Record	4-5
4-5	Australian Open Record	0-1
190-137	Career Record	36-38
115-89	Career Record - Hard	4-11
2-1	2024 Record	0-0
2-1	2024 Record - Hard	0-0
5-5	Career Five-Set Record	4-3
2	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	3
55-64	Career Tiebreak Record	18-16
1-2	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- Lefthander **NORRIE** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 3rd time. This is his 6th Australian Open appearance and his 25th Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, Norrie equalled his **best Australian Open result**, defeating Luca van Assche and Constant Lestienne before falling to Jiri Lehecka in the 3rd round in five sets. He also reached the 3rd round here in 2021, defeating Daniel Evans and Roman Safiullin before falling to Rafael Nadal.
- Norrie's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the semifinals at 2022 Wimbledon, defeating Pablo Andujar, Jaume Munar, Steve Johnson, Tommy Paul and David Goffin before falling to eventual champion Novak Djokovic. He became the 4th British man in the Open Era to reach the semifinals at Wimbledon after Roger Taylor, Tim Henman and Andy Murray.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Norrie reached the 3rd round at Roland Garros (l. Lorenzo Musetti) and the US Open (l. Matteo Arnaldi) but fell in the 2nd round at Wimbledon (l. Christopher Eubanks).
- Norrie's best result in 2023 was winning his **5th Tour-level title**, at Rio de Janeiro (d. Carlos Alcaraz). He also finished runner-up at Auckland (l. Richard Gasquet) and Buenos Aires (l. Alcaraz), reached the semifinals at Lyon (l. Francisco Cerundolo) and reached the quarterfinals at Indian Wells-1000 (l. Frances Tiafoe), Queen's (l. Sebastian Korda) and Zhuhai (l. Aslan Karatsev).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Norrie represented Great Britain at the United Cup, where he won one of the 2 singles matches he contested – defeating Australia's Alex de Minaur but falling to USA's Taylor Fritz. He also competed at Auckland, defeating Van Assche in his opening match before giving a walkover to Alejandro Tabilo in the quarterfinals due to a wrist injury.
- Norrie has lost both **5-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open – against Pierre-Hugues Herbert in the 1st round in 2020 and against Lehecka in the 3rd round last year. He has a 5-5 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Norrie **broke the Top 10 for the first time** in April 2022, becoming the 4th British man – after Greg Rusedski, Henman and Murray – to reach the Top 10. He reached a career-high ranking of No. 8 in August 2022. He plays here at No. 22.
- Norrie played **college tennis**. He represented Texas Christian University and finished his college career in 2017 as the NCAA's top-ranked male player. He compiled a 77-20 win-loss record in singles in college tennis from 2014 to 2017.

- Norrie was a **good junior**, reaching a career-high ranking of No. 10 in March 2013. He reached the 2nd round on both of his appearances in the boys' singles here – in 2012 (d. Tudor Cristian Sulea, I. Trey Strobel) and 2013 (d. Liu Siyu, I. Nick Kyrgios).
- Norrie made his **Davis Cup** debut for Great Britain in 2018 and has a 7-8 win-loss record in the competition. He was part of the British team that reached the quarterfinals last year. Great Britain have been awarded a wild card for the 2024 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage in September.
- Norrie is coached by Facundo Lugones.
- **VARILLAS** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the first time. This is his 2nd Australian Open appearance and his 6th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Varillas lost in the final round of qualifying but entered the main draw as a lucky loser to make his Australian Open debut and become the 5th Peruvian man to compete at the Australian Open – and the first since Luis Horna, who made 6 appearances here in 2003-08. He fell to Alexander Zverev in 5 sets in the 1st round
- Varillas' **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 at 2023 Roland Garros, where he defeated Shang Juncheng, Roberto Bautista Agut and Hubert Hurkacz before falling to Novak Djokovic in straight sets.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Varillas reached the 2nd round at the US Open (d. Miomir Kecmanovic, I. Taylor Fritz) but fell in the 1st round at Wimbledon (I. Lorenzo Musetti).
- Varillas is bidding to become the **3rd Peruvian man in history to reach the 2nd round at the Australian Open** – after Jaime Yzaga, who reached the quarterfinals here in 1991, and Horna, who reached the 3rd round here in 2006.
- Varillas' **best result in 2023** was reaching the semifinals as a qualifier at Buenos Aires (I. Norrie). He also reached the quarterfinals at Gstaad (I. Albert Ramos-Vinolas) and Antwerp (I. Arthur Fils).
- **Also in 2023**, Varillas finished runner-up at the Sanremo Challenger (ITA) (I. Luca van Assche) and reached the quarterfinals at the Lima Challenger (PER) (I. Luciano Darderi).
- Varillas is bidding to record his **5th Tour-level match-win on a hard court**. He lost the first 6 Tour-level hard court matches he played between 2018 and 2023, before defeating Kecmanovic in the 1st round at the US Open last year. He then reached the 2nd round at Chengdu (d. Cui Jie, I. Grigor Dimitrov) and won consecutive Tour-level matches on hard courts for the first time at Antwerp, defeating Fabian Marozsan and Alexander Shevchenko before falling to Fils in the quarterfinals.
- Varillas has won the last 3 **five-set matches** he has contested – all of which came at Roland Garros last year. He lost the only 5-set match he has contested at the Australian Open, to Zverev in the 1st round last year. He has a 4-3 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Varillas became the **5th Peruvian man to break the Top 100** – after Pablo Arraya, Carlos di Laura, Horna and Yzaga – in August 2022. He reached a career-high ranking of No. 60 in June last year. He plays here at No. 81.
- Varillas made his **Davis Cup** debut in 2015 and has a 16-12 overall win-loss record in the competition. Peru will play away against Chile in the 2024 Davis Cup Qualifiers in February.
- Varillas is coached by Diego Junqueira.

SEBASTIAN OFNER (AUT) v THANASI KOKKINAKIS (AUS)

Tour-level head-to-head: first meeting

2019 Australian Open Qualifying Draw Hard (O) R64 Kokkinakis 64 76(4)

A first Tour-level meeting for Ofner and Kokkinakis, and their first for 5 years at any level after meeting in the 2nd round of qualifying here in 2019.

Ofner lost his only previous match against a player at their at their home Grand Slam tournament, falling to Frances Tiafoe in the 2nd round at the US Open last year. He has a 2-2 win-loss record against Australian players at Tour-level overall, with both wins coming against Christopher O'Connell last year.

OFNER	v	KOKKINAKIS
27	Age	27
37	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	80
0	Titles	1
6-5	Career Grand Slam Record	10-18
0-0	Australian Open Record	4-7
28-30	Career Record	62-82
13-13	Career Record - Hard	51-63
4-2	2024 Record	0-2
4-2	2024 Record - Hard	0-2
2-0	Career Five-Set Record	4-5
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	2
15-12	Career Tiebreak Record	47-52
2-1	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-1

- **OFNER** is bidding to reach the 2nd round at a Grand Slam for the 4th time on his Australian Open debut. This is his 6th Grand Slam appearance overall.
- **Last year here**, on his 5th appearance in Australian Open qualifying, Ofner fell to Laurent Lokoli in the final round of qualifying. He also failed to qualify here in 2018-21.
- Ofner recorded his **first Grand Slam match-wins** by reaching the 3rd round as a qualifier at 2017 Wimbledon, defeating Thomaz Belluci and Jack Sock before falling to Alexander Zverev. After that result, he did not contest the main draw at a Grand Slams until 2022 Roland Garros, when he successfully qualified before falling to Zverev in the 1st round.
- Ofner's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 as a qualifier at Roland Garros last year, when he defeated Maxime Cressy, Sebastian Korda and Fabio Fognini before falling to Stefanos Tsitsipas.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Ofner reached the 2nd round at the US Open (d. Nuno Borges, l. Frances Tiafoe), but lost in the 1st round as a wild at Wimbledon (l. Jiri Lehecka).
- Ofner's **best Tour-level result in 2023** was reaching the semifinals at Astana (l. Adrian Mannarino). He also reached the quarterfinals at Bastad (l. Casper Ruud) and Sofia (l. Mannarino).
- Also in 2023, Ofner **won his 4th Challenger title** at Salzburg (AUT) (d. Lukas Neumayer) and finished as a runner-up at 5 other Challenger events – Tenerife (ESP) (l. Alexander Shevchenko), Antalya (TUR) (l. Fabian Marozsan), Zadar (CRO) (l. Alessandro Giannessi), Prague (CZE) (l. Dominic Stricker) and Ilkley (GBR) (l. Jason Kubler).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Ofner reached the semifinals at Hong Kong, where he defeated Mackenzie McDonald, Roberto Bautista Agut and Jan-Lennard Struff before falling to Emil Ruusuvuori. He also reached the 2nd round at Auckland (d. Denis Shapovalov, l. Roberto Carballes Baena).
- Ofner has won both **5-set matches** he has contested at Tour-level, defeating Sock in the 2nd round at 2017 Wimbledon and Fognini in the 3rd round at 2023 Roland Garros. He also won a 5-set match against Jay Clarke in the final round of qualifying at 2017 Wimbledon.
- Ofner reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 37 last week. He plays here at the same ranking.

- Ofner made his **Davis Cup** debut for Austria in 2018 but has lost all 3 matches he has contested in the competition. Austria will play away against Ireland in the 2024 Davis Cup World Group I Play-offs in February.
- Ofner is coached by Stefan Rettl and Wolfgang Thiem.
- **KOKKINAKIS** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 5th time and equal his best Australian Open result. This is his 8th Australian Open appearance and his 20th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Kokkinakis reached the 2nd round. He defeated Fabio Fognini in the 1st round but fell to Andy Murray in 5 sets in the 2nd round despite holding a 2-0 lead.
- Kokkinakis' **best Australian Open result** is reaching the 2nd round on 4 occasions – as a wild card on his Grand Slam debut in 2014 (d. Igor Sijsling, I. Rafael Nadal), as a wild card in 2015 (d. Ernests Gulbis, I. Sam Groth), as a wild card in 2021 (d. Soonwoo Kwon, I. Stefanos Tsitsipas) and as a direct acceptance last year.
- Kokkinakis' **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the 3rd round at Roland Garros on 2 occasions – as a wild card in 2015 (I. Novak Djokovic) and 2023 (I. Karen Khachanov).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Kokkinakis fell in the 1st round at the US Open (I. Hsu Yu Hsiou) but failed to qualify at Wimbledon, losing in the 1st round of qualifying (I. Leandro Riedi).
- Kokkinakis' **best Tour-level result in 2023** was reaching the semifinals as a wild card at Adelaide 2 (I. Roberto Bautista Agut). Apart from his 3rd round finish at Roland Garros, he failed to advance beyond the 2nd round at any other Tour-level event last season.
- Also in 2023, Kokkinakis **won his 5th Challenger title** at the Manama Challenger (BRN) (d. Abdullah Shelbayh). He also reached the semifinals at the Sydney Challenger (AUS) (I. Marc Polmans) and the Cagliari Challenger (ITA) (I. Laslo Djere).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Kokkinakis fell in the 1st round at Brisbane (I. Rinky Hijikata) and as a wild card at Adelaide (I. Dusan Lajovic).
- Kokkinakis has won one of the 4 **five-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open, having defeated Gulbis in 5 sets in the 1st round in 2015, but lost 5-set matches to Groth in the 2nd round in 2015, to Tsitsipas in the 2nd round in 2021 and to Murray in the 2nd round last year. He has a 4-5 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Kokkinakis is one of **15 Australian men** to begin the men's singles draw here this year – the most Australian men to compete at the Australian Open since 1998, when there were 17. He is looking to become the first home player to win the Australian Open men's singles title since Mark Edmondson in 1976.
- Kokkinakis reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 65 in November last year. He plays here at No. 80.
- Kokkinakis **won the 2022 Australian Open men's doubles title** alongside Kyrgios. The pair defeated Matthew Ebden/Max Purcell in the first all-Australian Grand Slam men's doubles final since the 1980 Australian Open. They became the first all-Australian team to win a Grand Slam men's doubles title since Todd Woodbridge/Mark Woodforde at 2000 Wimbledon.
- Kokkinakis is a **former Australian Open boys' singles finalist**, falling to Kyrgios in 2013. He also reached the boys' singles final at the 2013 US Open (I. Borna Coric) and won the boys' doubles title at 2013 Wimbledon with Kyrgios.
- Kokkinakis was a member of the **Australian team which reached the Davis Cup final for the first since 2003** in 2022. He was also a member of the team at the Finals Group Stage last year, but missed the Final 8 Knockout Stage in Malaga, where the team also finished as runners-up, due to an ankle injury. He has a 5-7 win-loss record in the competition. As runners-up in 2023, Australia have qualified automatically for the 2024 Finals Group Stage in September.
- Kokkinakis is coached by Todd Langman and Todd Ley.

(WC) JAMES MCCABE (AUS) v ALEX MICHELSEN (USA)

Head-to-head: first meeting

Michelsen is contesting his 2nd match against an Australian player at Tour-level – he defeated James Duckworth in the 2nd round at Newport last year. He is contesting his first Tour-level match against a wild card.

MCCABE	v	MICHELSEN
20	Age	19
269	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	91
0	Titles	0
0-0	Career Grand Slam Record	1-1
0-0	Australian Open Record	0-0
0-1	Career Record	7-10
0-1	Career Record - Hard	3-8
0-1	2024 Record	0-2
0-1	2024 Record - Hard	0-2
0-0	Career Five-Set Record	0-0
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
0-0	Career Tiebreak Record	3-3
0-0	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-1

- Wild card **MCCABE** is making his Grand Slam debut today.
- **Last year here**, as a wild card in qualifying, McCabe fell to Alexandre Muller in the 1st round of qualifying. He also fell in the 1st round of qualifying as a wild card in 2022 (l. Alejandro Tabilo). They are the only times he has competed in qualifying at the Grand Slams.
- McCabe **made his Tour-level debut** as a lucky loser at Adelaide this month, falling to Alexander Bublik in the 1st round of the main draw. He also attempted to qualify at Brisbane but fell to Dominic Thiem in the 1st round of qualifying.
- McCabe **played exclusively at Challenger-level in 2023**. His best results were reaching the semifinals at 3 events – as a qualifier at both Bengaluru (IND) (l. James Duckworth) and Puerto Vallarta (MEX) (l. Yuta Shimizu), and as a direct acceptance at Zhangjiagang (CHN) (l. Mikalai Haliak). He also reached the quarterfinals at the Burnie Challenger (AUS) (l. Rinky Hijikata) and the Granby Challenger (CAN) (l. James Kent Trotter).
- McCabe is one of **15 Australian men** to begin the men’s singles draw here this year – the most Australian men to compete at the Australian Open since 1998, when there were 17. He is looking to become the first home player to win the Australian Open men’s singles title since Mark Edmondson in 1976.
- McCabe **broke the Top 300 for the first time** in March last year and reached a career-high ranking of No. 258 in September 2023. He plays here at No. 269.
- McCabe reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 71 in October 2021. His best result at junior level was a runner-up finish at 2021 J1 Charleroi-Marcinelle (BEL) (l. Gabriel Debru). He reached the 2nd round as a wild card in the boys’ singles here in 2020 (d. Jerome Kym, l. Lilian Marmousez) – his only appearance in the junior events at the Grand Slams.
- McCabe is coached by his father, Patrick McCabe.
- **MICHELSEN** is bidding to reach the 2nd round at a Grand Slam for the 2nd time on his Australian Open debut. This is his 2nd Grand Slam overall.
- Michelsen **made his Grand Slam debut** as a wild card at the US Open last year. He defeated Albert Ramos-Vinolas in the 1st round for his first Grand Slam match-win before falling to Nicolas Jarry. It is the only previous occasion he has competed at a Grand Slam, either in the main draw or qualifying.
- Michelsen’s best result in 2023 was reaching his **first Tour-level final** at Newport in just his 2nd Tour-level event. He defeated Maxime Cressy, James Duckworth, Mackenzie McDonald and John Isner for his first Tour-level match-wins before falling to Adrian Mannarino in the final.

- Michelsen is bidding to record his **8th Tour-level match-win**. Other than his 4 victories at Newport and his 2nd round finish at the US Open last year, his only other Tour-level match-wins came in a 3rd round finish as a wild card at Winston-Salem last year, when he defeated Juan Pablo Varillas and Sebastian Ofner before falling to Laslo Djere.
- Michelsen won his **first 2 Challenger titles in 2023** – at Chicago (USA) (l. Yuta Shimizu) and Knoxville (USA) (d. Denis Kudla). He also finished runner-up at the Rome Challenger (USA) (l. Jordan Thompson) and the Champaign Challenger (USA) (l. Patrick Kypson) and reached the semifinals at the Waco Challenger (USA) (l. Alexandre Muller) and the Cary Challenger (USA) (l. Zachary Svajda).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Michelsen qualified for the main draw at both Brisbane and Auckland, but fell in the 1st round at both events – losing to Ugo Humbert at Brisbane and to Nuno Borges at Auckland.
- Michelsen is bidding to end a **6-match Tour-level losing streak**. Since his 2nd round finish at the US Open last year, he lost the 3 group stage matches he contested at the NextGen ATP Finals – where he fell to Hamad Medjedovic, Abdullah Shelbayh and Luca van Assche – and his 2 main draw matches at Brisbane and Auckland.
- Aged 19 years 156 days, Michelsen is the **4th-youngest man in the men’s singles draw**. He is one of 6 teenagers to begin the men’s singles here this year. (NB ages calculated at the end of the tournament)
- Michelson rose from outside the Top 500 at the beginning of the 2023 season to **break the Top 100 for the first time** in November. He plays here at a new career-high ranking of No. 91.
- Michelsen reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 25 in July 2022. He won the boys’ doubles title at 2022 Wimbledon alongside Sebastian Gorzny (d. Gabriel Debru/Paul Inchauspe) and finished runner-up in the boys’ doubles at the 2022 Australian Open alongside Daniel Vallejo (l. Bruno Kuzuhara/Coleman Wong). He never played the boys’ singles event here.
- Michelsen is coached by Jay Leavitt and Eric Diaz

MAX PURCELL (AUS) v (Q) MATE VALKUSZ (HUN)

Head-to-head: first meeting

Purcell is facing a qualifier at a Grand Slam for the first time. He has won one of his 4 meetings with qualifiers at Tour-level, defeating James Duckworth in the 1st round at 2021 Eastbourne, but losing all 3 matches he played against qualifiers in 2023 – to Pablo Llamas Ruiz in the 1st round at Lyon, to Zachary Svajda in the 1st round at Washington and to Hsu Yu-Hsiou in the 1st round at Shanghai-1000.

PURCELL	v	VALKUSZ
25	Age	25
45	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	214
0	Titles	0
1-7	Career Grand Slam Record	0-0
0-2	Australian Open Record	0-0
19-35	Career Record	1-4
13-24	Career Record - Hard	1-1
1-2	2024 Record	0-0
1-2	2024 Record - Hard	0-0
0-1	Career Five-Set Record	0-0
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
5-16	Career Tiebreak Record	1-0
0-0	2024 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **PURCELL** is bidding to reach the 2nd round at a Grand Slam for the 2nd time. This is his 3rd Australian Open appearance and his 8th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Purcell qualified for the main draw before falling to Emil Ruusuvuori in the 1st round. He also lost in the 1st round on his only other main draw appearance here – as a qualifier in 2020 (l. Jannik Sinner).
- Purcell is bidding to record his **2nd Grand Slam match-win**. He recorded his first Grand Slam match-win in a 2nd round finish at Roland Garros last year (d. Jordan Thompson, l. Yoshihito Nishioka) and subsequently fell in the 1st round at both Wimbledon (l. Andrey Rublev) and the US Open (l. Christopher O’Connell). He has lost in the 1st round on 6 of his previous 7 Grand Slam main draw appearances.
- Purcell’s **best Tour-level results in 2023** were reaching the quarterfinals at Cincinnati-1000 (l. Carlos Alcaraz) and Winston-Salem (l. Jiri Lehecka).
- **At Challenger-level in 2023**, Purcell won the title at 3 consecutive Challenger events in February-March – at Chennai (IND) (d. Nicolas Moreno de Alboran), Bengaluru (IND) (d. James Duckworth) and Pune (d. Luca Nardi). He also finished runner-up at the Lille Challenger (FRA) (l. Otto Virtanen), the Gwangju Challenger (KOR) (l. Thompson) and the Busan Challenger (KOR) (l. Aleksandar Vukic).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Purcell reached the 2nd round at Auckland (d. Kiranpal Pannu, l. Taro Daniel) but lost in the 1st round at Brisbane (l. Holger Rune).
- Purcell lost the only **5-set match** he has contested to date, falling to Adrian Mannarino in 5 sets in the 1st round at 2022 Wimbledon.
- Purcell **broke the Top 50 for the first time** in August last year after reaching his first Masters-1000 quarterfinal at Cincinnati-1000. He reached a career-high ranking of No. 40 in October and plays here at No. 45.
- Purcell made his **Davis Cup** debut for Australia in 2022 and has been a member of the team as they have finished runners-up to Canada in 2022 and to Italy in 2023. He has a 7-3 overall win-loss record in the competition overall but has lost both Davis Cup singles matches he has played. As runners-up last year, Australia have qualified automatically for the 2024 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage in September.
- Purcell is a **Grand Slam men’s doubles champion**. He won the men’s doubles title at 2022 Wimbledon last year alongside Matthew Ebden, defeating Nikola Mektic/Mate Pavic in the final. They became the 6th all-Australian pair to win the men’s doubles title at Wimbledon in the Open Era and the first since Todd Woodbridge/Mark Woodforde in 2000. He also reached the 2022 Australian Open men’s doubles alongside Ebden (l. Thanasi Kokkinakis/Nick Kyrgios).

- Purcell is coached by Cole Smith.
- Qualifier **VALKUSZ** is making his Grand Slam debut today.
- Valkusz defeated Wu Tung-Lin (TPE) 76(0) 64, No. 17 seed Francisco Comesana (ARG) 26 64 62 and Andrea Vavassori (ITA) 61 64 in the 3 rounds of Australian Open qualifying last week. It is the **first time he has qualified at a Grand Slam** on his 3rd attempt.
- **At the Grand Slams in 2023**, Valkusz fell in the 1st round of qualifying at both Wimbledon (l. Nicola Pietrangeli) and the US Open (l. Terence Atmane). He was ranked too low to enter qualifying at the Australian Open or Roland Garros.
- Valkusz is bidding to record his **2nd Tour-level match-win**. His only previous victory at Tour-level came in a 2nd round finish as a lucky loser at Metz in November (d. Daniel Altmaier, l. Alexander Shevchenko). His only other Tour-level appearances came in Hungary's 2018 Davis Cup World Group play-off defeat to Czechia, when he fell to both Lukas Rosol and Jiri Vesely, and as a wild card at 2019 Budapest, when he fell to Jannik Sinner in the 1st round.
- Valkusz won his **first Challenger title in 2023** – at the Skopje Challenger (MKD) (d. Comesana). Elsewhere at Challenger-level last year, he finished runner-up at the Ostrava Challenger (CZE) (l. Zdenek Kolar) and reached the semifinals at the Tenerife Challenger (ESP) (l. Sebastian Ofner) and the Braga Challenger (POR) (l. Duje Ajdukovic)
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Valkusz fell in the 1st round at the Nonthaburi Challenger (THA) (l. Hsu Yu Hsiou).
- Valkusz is **facing a Top 50 player, at any level, for the first time**. The highest-ranked player he has previously faced, at any level, is No. 54 Altmaier, who he defeated in the 1st round at Metz last year.
- Valkusz reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 204 in June 2023. He plays here at No. 214.
- Valkusz is a **former junior world No. 1**. He reached the top ranking in January 2016 and won 2 Grade 1 tournaments in 2015 – the Canadian Open (d. Felix Auger-Aliassime) and the Yucatan Cup (d. Kenneth Raisma). His best performance in the boys' singles here was reaching the 3rd round in 2016 (l. Oliver Anderson).
- Valkusz made his **Davis Cup** debut in 2018 and has a 3-2 overall win-loss record in the competition. His only singles appearances to date came on his debut, during Hungary's 2018 defeat to Czechia. Hungary will play at home against Germany in the 2024 Davis Cup Qualifiers in February.
- Valkusz player is coached by Zoltan Kuharszky.

MACKENZIE MCDONALD (USA) v (WC) SHANG JUNCHENG (CHN)

Head-to-head: McDonald leads 1-0

2023 Zhuhai Hard (O) R32 McDonald 64 67(3) 63

A 2nd meeting for McDonald and Shang – McDonald won in 3 sets on the pair's only previous meeting, in the 1st round at Zhuhai last year.

McDonald is facing a wild card at a Grand Slam for the first time. He has a 6-1 win-loss record against wild cards at Tour-level overall, with his only defeat to a wild card coming against Nick Kyrgios in the 1st round at 2022 Houston.

McDonald is facing a lefthanded player for the 3rd consecutive Australian Open match. He defeated Rafael Nadal in the 2nd round here last year before falling to Yoshihito Nishioka. He has a 2-3 win-loss record against lefthanded players at the Grand Slams and an 11-15 win-loss record against lefthanded players at Tour-level overall.

MCDONALD	v	SHANG
28	Age	18
42	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	140
0	Titles	0
18-21	Career Grand Slam Record	1-2
8-6	Australian Open Record	1-1
101-114	Career Record	7-12
79-83	Career Record - Hard	7-10
1-2	2024 Record	3-1
1-2	2024 Record - Hard	3-1
2-8	Career Five-Set Record	0-1
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
42-44	Career Tiebreak Record	5-5
0-2	2024 Tiebreak Record	3-2

- **MCDONALD** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 6th time. This is his 7th Australian Open appearance and his 22nd Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, McDonald reached the 3rd round, when he defeated Brandon Nakashima and Rafael Nadal before falling to Yoshihito Nishioka.
- McDonald has **lost in the 1st round here once before** – in 2020, when he fell to Daniel Evans in 5 sets despite holding a 2-0 lead. He has a 1-2 win-loss record in 5-set matches at the Australian Open and a 2-8 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- McDonald's best **Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 on 2 occasions – including once at the Australian Open. He reached the last 16 here in 2021, when he defeated Marco Cecchinato, Borna Coric and Lloyd Harris before falling to Daniil Medvedev. At No. 192 he became the lowest-ranked man to reach the round of 16 at the Australian Open since No. 248 Guillermo Canas in 2004. He also reached the round of 16 at 2018 Wimbledon (l. Milos Raonic).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, McDonald reached the 2nd round at the US Open (d. Felix Auger-Aliassime, l. Borna Gojo) but fell in the 1st round at Roland Garros (l. Sebastian Korda) and Wimbledon (l. Alexander Bublik).
- McDonald's **best results in 2023** were reaching the semifinals at Delray Beach (l. Taylor Fritz) and Eastbourne (l. Francisco Cerundolo). He also reached the quarterfinals at Acapulco (l. Tommy Paul), 's-Hertogenbosch (l. Rinky Hijikata), Newport (l. Alex Michelsen), Toronto-1000 (l. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina) and Zhuhai (l. Karen Khachanov).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, McDonald reached the 2nd round at Adelaide (d. Miomir Kecmanovic, l. Jack Draper) but fell in the 1st round at Hong Kong (l. Sebastian Ofner).
- McDonald broke the Top 50 for the first time in February 2022 and reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 37 in October last year. He plays here at No. 42.

- McDonald had a **good junior career**. He reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 12 in April 2012 and reached the semifinals of the boys' singles here as a qualifier in 2012 (l. Filip Peliwo).
- McDonald played **college tennis** at UCLA in 2014-16, winning the 2016 NCAA singles and doubles titles before turning professional.
- McDonald is currently without a permanent coach.
- Wild card **SHANG** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd straight year. This is his 2nd Australian Open appearance and his 3rd Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, as a qualifier on his Grand Slam debut, Shang reached the 2nd round (d. Oscar Otte, l. Frances Tiafoe). His victory against Otte in the 1st round was his first Tour-level match-win. Aged 17 years 361 days, Shang became the youngest Asian man to reach the 2nd round at a Grand Slam in the Open Era.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Shang qualified for the main draw at Roland Garros but fell to Juan Pablo Varillas in 5 sets in the 1st round despite holding a 2-0 lead. It is the only 5-set match he has contested to date. He fell in the final round of qualifying at the US Open (l. Otto Virtanen) and fell in the 1st round of qualifying at Wimbledon (l. Matteo Arnaldi).
- Shang's **best Tour-level result in 2023** was reaching the 3rd round as a qualifier at Washington, where he defeated Emilio Gomez and Ben Shelton before falling to Tiafoe. He reached the 2nd round as a qualifier at both the Australian Open and Atlanta (d. Shelton, l. Kei Nishikori), but fell in the 1st round at the 5 other Tour-level events he contested.
- Shang's **best Challenger-level results in 2023** were reaching the semifinals at the Chicago Challenger (USA) (l. Alex Michelsen) and the Shanghai Challenger (CHN) (l. Yosuke Watanuki) and reaching the quarterfinals as a qualifier at the Ilkley Challenger (GBR) (l. Jason Kubler).
- Prior to the Australian Open, Shang reached his **first Tour-level semifinal** as a wild card at Hong Kong, where he defeated Laslo Djere, Botic van de Zandschulp and Tiafoe before falling to Andrey Rublev.
- Shang is one of **18 lefthanders** who started in the men's main draw at the Australian Open this year. Just 6 lefthanded players have won the Australian Open men's singles title in the Open Era, most recently Rafael Nadal in 2009 and 2022.
- Aged 18 years 360 days, Shang is the **3rd-youngest man in the men's singles draw**. He is one of 6 teenagers to begin the men's singles here this year. (NB ages calculated at the end of the tournament)
- Shang plays here at a **new career-high ranking** of No. 140.
- Shang is a **former junior world No. 1**. He reached the No. 1 ranking in July 2021 and finished runner-up in the boys' singles at the 2021 US Open (l. Daniel Rincon). He was named ITF Junior World Champion for 2021. He never competed in the boys' singles here.
- Shang is coached by Martin Alund.

DANIEL EVANS (GBR) v LORENZO SONEGO (ITA)

Head-to-head: Sonego leads 2-0

2020	Vienna	Hard (I)	SF	Sonego	63 64
2023	Miami-1000	Hard (O)	R64	Sonego	46 63 62

A 3rd Tour-level meeting for Evans and Sonego, but their first at a Grand Slam. Sonego is bidding to maintain a perfect record against Evans.

EVANS	v	SONEGO
33	Age	28
38	ATP Ranking (15 Jan)	46
2	Titles	3
29-28	Career Grand Slam Record	21-21
8-7	Australian Open Record	5-5
147-159	Career Record	123-129
110-104	Career Record - Hard	56-69
1-1	2024 Record	1-3
1-1	2024 Record - Hard	1-3
4-6	Career Five-Set Record	4-4
2	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	1
66-66	Career Tiebreak Record	71-66
0-0	2024 Tiebreak Record	2-1

- **EVANS** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 6th time. This is his 8th Australian Open appearance and his 29th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Evans reached the 3rd round. He defeated Facundo Bagnis and Jeremy Chardy before falling to Andrey Rublev.
- Evans' **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 on 2 occasions – including once at the Australian Open. He reached the last 16 here in 2017, defeating Facundo Bagnis, Marin Cilic and Bernard Tomic before falling to Jo-Wilfried Tsonga. He also reached the round of 16 at the 2021 US Open (l. Daniil Medvedev).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Evans reached the 3rd round at the US Open, where he defeated Daniel Elahi Galan and Botic van de Zandschulp before falling to Carlos Alcaraz, but fell in the 1st round at both Roland Garros (l. Thanasi Kokkinakis) and Wimbledon (l. Quentin Halys).
- Evans' best result in 2023 was winning his **2nd Tour-level title** at Washington (d. Tallon Griekspoor). He also reached the semifinals at Marrakech (l. Roberto Carballes Baena) and Barcelona (l. Carlos Alcaraz). He went on a 7-match losing streak between reaching the semifinals at Barcelona and entering Washington.
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Evans reached the 2nd round at Adelaide (d. Rinky Hijikata, l. Alexander Bublik).
- Evans won the only **5-set match** he has contested at the Australian Open – he recovered from 0-2 down to defeat McDonald in 5 sets in the 1st round in 2020. He has a 4-6 win-loss record in 5-set matches overall. He has not contested a 5-set match since defeating Alexei Popyrin in the 3rd round at the 2021 US Open.
- Evans reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 21 in August 2023 after winning the title at Washington. He plays here at No. 38.
- Evans has played **Davis Cup** for Great Britain since 2009 and has a 16-21 overall win-loss record in the competition. He won 4 of the 5 matches he contested at the Finals Group Stage last year, including in the doubles that saw Great Britain defeat France to advance to the quarterfinals. He withdrew from the team for the Final 8 in Malaga after suffering a calf injury. Great Britain have been awarded a wild card for the 2024 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage in September.
- Evans is coached by Sebastian Prieto.

- **SONEGO** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 5th time. This is his 6th Australian Open appearance and his 22nd Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Sonogo defeated Nuno Borges before falling to Hubert Hurkacz in the 2nd round.
- Sonogo's **best Australian Open result** is reaching the 3rd round in 2022. He defeated Sam Querrey and Oscar Otte before falling to Miomir Kecmanovic.
- Sonogo's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 on 3 occasions – at 2020 Roland Garros (l. Diego Schwartzman), 2021 Wimbledon (l. Roger Federer), and 2023 Roland Garros (l. Karen Khachanov).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2023**, Sonogo reached the 2nd round at the US Open (d. Nicolas Moreno de Alboran, l. Jannik Sinner) but fell to Matteo Berrettini in the 1st round at Wimbledon.
- Sonogo's **best result in 2023** was reaching the semifinals at Umag (l. Stan Wawrinka). He also reached the quarterfinals at Montpellier (l. Sinner), Dubai (l. Alexander Zverev) and Metz (l. Fabio Fognini).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Sonogo represented Italy at the United Cup, but lost both singles matches he played, falling to France's Adrian Mannarino and Germany's Zverev. He reached the 2nd round at Adelaide (d. Yannick Hanfmann, l. Sebastian Korda).
- Sonogo has lost both **5-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open, falling to Feliciano Lopez in 5 sets in the 2nd round in 2021, despite holding a 2-0 lead, and falling to Hurkacz in the 2nd round last year. He has a 4-4 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Sonogo reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 21 in October 2021. He plays here at No. 46.
- Sonogo was a member of the **Italian team that won their 2nd Davis Cup title in 2023**. He won 3 of the 4 matches he played across singles and doubles at the Finals Group Stage in Bologna, before winning both doubles matches he contested alongside Jannik Sinner in the quarterfinals and semifinals at the Final 8 Knockout Stage in Malaga in November. He made his Davis Cup debut at the 2021 Finals and has a 9-3 overall win-loss record in the competition. As defending champions, Italy have automatically qualified for the 2024 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage in September.
- Sonogo is coached by Gipo Arbino.