

The News Bulletin of the
International Tennis Federation
www.itftennis.com



DAVIS CUP[®] by BNP PARIBAS Spain begins title defence

Spain begins the defence of its Davis Cup title when the first round of the 2009 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas gets underway this Friday, with 15 of the world's Top 20 players in action. The largest annual international team competition in sport has attracted 128 entries in 2009, with a total of eight World Group first round ties and 26 Zonal Group I and II ties taking place on 6-8 March.

Spain features four of the six players that contributed to its title success in 2008, with ITF World Champion Rafael Nadal, Tommy Robredo, David Ferrer and Feliciano Lopez lining up against Serbia on clay in Benidorm. World No. 3 Novak Djokovic heads a full-strength Serb line-up.



Spain's winning Davis Cup team
(Photo: Paul Zimmer)

USA, the 2007 champions, will start as favourites in their tie against Switzerland indoors in Birmingham, Alabama. With Roger Federer sidelined through injury, Stanislas Wawrinka will head the Swiss challenge against a familiar-looking US team of Andy Roddick, James Blake, and Bob and Mike Bryan.

Last year's beaten finalists Argentina will also be expected to progress at home on clay against Netherlands. In other first round matches Czech Republic hosts France in Ostrava; Croatia is at home to Chile in Porec; Romania takes on Russia in Sibiu; Germany hosts Austria in Garmisch; while Sweden is at home to Israel in Malmo. The Malmo tie is set to be played behind closed doors at the decision of the Malmo local government.

The eight first round winners will contest the World Group quarterfinals on 10-12 July, while the eight first round losers will compete in the World Group Play-offs on 18-20 September, alongside eight qualifiers from Zone Group I.



Novak Djokovic (SRB)
(Photo: Srdjan Stevanovic)

BNP Paribas, the Official Bank of Davis Cup, is beginning its eighth year of title sponsorship. International sponsors are Rolex (Official Timekeeper), Turismo Madrid (Official Tourist Destination), Hugo Boss (Official Men's Fashion Clothing Sponsor) and NH Hoteles (Official Hotel). International partners are NTT Communications (Official Managed Hosting Partner) and Wilson Sporting Goods (Official Ball).

For the first time in 2009, ATP Ranking Points will be awarded for Davis Cup matches in World Group and World Group Play-off ties. Points will be awarded for live rubbers only, and accumulated points for all Davis Cup play will count as one result, and form part of the ATP World Tour 500 category, the best of which count towards a player's ATP ranking.

The ITF launched a Spanish version of its official Davis Cup website (www.daviscup.com) at the 2008 Final: www.daviscup.com/es. This weekend both websites will feature live scoring from the World Group ties, plus reports, photographs, audio interviews, and full results from all the ties. There is also the Davis Cup Radio audio service. Davis Cup by BNP Paribas will be broadcast on TV in all 16 nations contesting the World Group first round ties.

Nominations for all ties can be found on the Davis Cup website. The draws will take place on **Thursday 5 March**.



Brno to host Fed Cup semifinal

The Czech Tennis Association has announced that the Starobrno Rondo Arena in Brno will stage the Fed Cup by BNP Paribas World Group Semifinal between Czech Republic and USA on 25-26 April. This is subject to a successful site visit by the ITF.

Czech Republic, contesting its first semifinal since 1997, is facing USA for the first time since 2003, when the Americans won 5-0 in a first round tie in Lowell, Massachusetts. USA leads the overall head-to-head match-up 8-2, but nine of the previous ties were played in the old week-long format of Fed Cup.

The ITF has granted the Italian Tennis Federation an extension until Monday 9 March to announce the venue for the semifinal between Italy and defending champion Russia.

Russia, bidding for its fifth title in six years, has won all four previous ties against Italy. The two nations last met in the 2007 Final in Moscow, where the Russians won 4-0 to succeed Italy as champions. On their only previous meeting in Italy, Russia won 4-1 in the first round on clay in Brindisi en route to the title. For further information please visit www.fedcup.com and www.fedcup.com.es.



Czech Fed Cup first round team
(Photo: Sergio Carmona)

Myanmar event launches 2009 ITF Junior Team Competitions

Qualifying events leading up to the World Junior Tennis Finals in Prostějov in August and Junior Davis Cup/Junior Fed Cup by BNP Paribas Finals in San Luis Potosí in September are being held on all continents in the first half of the year.

The first event is this week's Junior Davis Cup, Junior Fed Cup and World Junior Tennis Asia/Oceania pre-qualifying in Yangon, Myanmar. Four boys' and girls' teams will compete for three available places in the 14-and-under final qualifying event in Malaysia, while seven boys' and four girls' teams will compete for the three available places in the 16-and-under final qualifying event in Shepparton, Australia.

The full list of dates for the 2009 qualifying events of the ITF Junior Team Competitions is as follows:

World Junior Tennis Competition (14 & Under)

Africa (number of countries TBC):	13-19 April, Casablanca, Morocco
Asia/Oceania (18 countries):	Pre-qualifying: 2-4 March, Yangon, Myanmar Final qualifying boys: 5-10 May, Kuching, Malaysia Final qualifying girls: 11-16 May, Kuching, Malaysia
Europe (32 countries):	Pre-qualifying: 28-30 June, various venues Final qualifying boys: 3-5 July, TBC, Spain Final qualifying girls: 6-8 July, Loano, Italy
North/Central America & the Caribbean (16 countries):	Pre-qualifying: 06-11 April, El Salvador Final qualifying: 1-3 May, Boca Raton, FL, USA
South America (10 countries):	27 April-2 May, Punta del Este, Uruguay

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ITF Junior Team Competitions (cont. from page 2)

Junior Davis Cup & Junior Fed Cup by BNP Paribas (16 & Under)

Africa (number of countries TBC):	13-19 April, Casablanca, Morocco
Asia/Oceania (20 countries):	Pre-qualifying: 2-9 March, Yangon, Myanmar Final qualifying: 15-20 April, Shepparton, Australia
Europe (30 countries):	Pre-qualifying: 29-31 July, various venues Final qualifying boys: 3-5 August, Le Touquet, France Final qualifying girls: 3-5 August, Leysin, Switzerland
North/Central America & the Caribbean (20 countries):	Pre-qualifying: 23-28 March, Dominican Republic Final qualifying: 1-3 May, Boca Raton, FL, USA
South America (10 countries)	4-9 May, Quito, Ecuador

NEWS IN BRIEF

Invacare World Team Cup entries

The ITF has announced the direct entries and wildcards for the 2009 Invacare World Team Cup wheelchair event in Nottingham, Great Britain on 27 July - 2 August. Sixteen nations will contest the Men's World Group 1, World Group 2 and women's events while eight nations will contest the quad and junior events.

Portugal, awarded a wildcard for Men's World Group 2, is set to play in the Invacare World Team Cup for the first time. Brazil, South Africa and Spain are set to contest the junior event for the first time. For a full list of entries, visit www.itftennis.com/wheelchair.

Obituary - Bill Pickup

The ITF was saddened to learn of the death of former umpire **Bill Pickup** of Great Britain at the age of 83 after a short illness. Pickup became an umpire at Wimbledon in 1965 and officiated there for 37 years, including the 1981 women's singles final. He subsequently worked behind the scenes in the referee's office where he became one of Britain's best-known officials.

Wimbledon Centre Court celebration

The All England Club, Wimbledon, announced that a star line-up of Andre Agassi, Steffi Graf, Kim Clijsters and Tim Henman will become the first to play tennis under the new Centre Court roof as part of its *A Centre Court Celebration* event on Sunday 17 May. The event is designed to test the new roof and air management system with live tennis in front of a capacity crowd of 15,000.

National Association updates

Aruba - ARU

Aruba Lawn Tennis Bond

New President:

Mrs Mieke Krohn

Colombia - COL

Federacion Colombiana de Tenis

New Secretary:

Mr Carlos H Ortiz

Mexico - MEX

Federacion Mexicana de Tenis

New Secretary:

Mr Alfonso Vega Gonzalez

ITF Wheelchair Rankings

2 March 2009

MEN'S SINGLES RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	KUNIEDA, Shingo (JPN)	4763
2nd	AMMERLAAN, Robin (NED)	3302
3rd	HOUDET, Stephane (FRA)	2786
4th	OLSSON, Stefan (SWE)	2273
5th	SCHEFFERS, Maikel (NED)	2117
6th	JEREMIASZ, Michael (FRA)	2099
7th	KRUSZELNICKI, Tadeusz (POL)	1904
8th	LEGNER, Martin (AUT)	1623
9th	SAIDA, Satoshi (JPN)	1594
10th	PEIFER, Nicolas (FRA)	1425

WOMEN'S SINGLES RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	VERGEER, Esther (NED)	4001
2nd	HOMAN, Korie (NED)	2985
3rd	GRIFFIOEN, Jiske (NED)	1909
4th	GRAVELLIER, Florence (FRA)	1735
5th	WALRAVEN, Sharon (NED)	1577
6th	VAN KOOT, Aniek (NED)	1007
7th	SEVENANS, Annick (BEL)	971
8th	FRIDMAN, Ilanit (ISR)	962
9th	DI TORO, Daniela (AUS)	937
10th	SHUKER, Lucy (GBR)	916

QUAD SINGLES RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	NORFOLK, Peter (GBR)	3577
2nd	WAGNER, David (USA)	3234
3rd	TAYLOR, Nicholas (USA)	1745
4th	ANDERSSON, Johan (SWE)	1534
5th	VAN ERP, Bas (NED)	1121

Visit the ITF websites

ITF homepage: www.itftennis.com

Davis Cup website: www.daviscup.com
www.daviscup.com/es

Fed Cup website: www.fedcup.com
www.fedcup.com/es

ITF Store: <http://store.itftennis.com>

ITF Junior Rankings

JUNIOR BOYS RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	BHAMBRI, Yuki (IND)	1508.75
2nd	DIMITROV, Grigor (BUL)	1087.50
3rd	YANG, Tsung-Hua (TPE)	911.25
4th	URIGUEN, Julien (GUA)	690.00
5th	PEREIRA, Jose (BRA)	635.00
6th	KRAJINOVIC, Filip (SRB)	635.00
7th	BUCHANAN, Chase (USA)	630.00
8th	CARRENO-BUSTA, Pablo (ESP)	628.75
9th	BASIC, Mirza (BIH)	620.00
10th	OBRY, Julien (FRA)	618.75

JUNIOR GIRLS RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	LERTCHEEWAKARN, Noppawan (THA)	1150.00
2nd	ROBSON, Laura (GBR)	1126.25
3rd	BOGDAN, Ana (ROU)	1015.00
4th	BOGDAN, Elena (ROU)	938.75
5th	TOMLJANOVIC, Ajla (CRO)	861.25
6th	NARA, Kurumi (JPN)	790.00
7th	OUUDIN, Melanie (USA)	757.50
8th	HALEP, Simona (ROU)	750.00
9th	BABOS, Tímea (HUN)	735.00
10th	EMBREE, Lauren (USA)	726.25



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THIS WEEK IS PRODUCED BY:
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Results week commencing 23 February

ITF MEN'S CIRCUIT

SPAIN F7 FUTURES, TERRASA (\$10,000)

Singles

Adrian Menendez-Maceiras (ESP) d. Georgi Rumenov Payakov (ESP) 64 63

Doubles

Francesco Aldi/Alessandro Piccari (ITA) d. Jose Checa-Calvo/Steven Diez (ESP) 60 62

USA F5 FUTURES, HARLINGEN, TX (\$15,000)

Singles

Jesse Witten (USA) d. Uladzimir Ignatik (BLR) 75 64

Doubles

Javier Herrera-Eguiluz (MEX)/Jarmere Jenkins (USA) d. Treat Conrad Huey (PHI)/Todd Paul (USA) 16 62 [10-8]

ITF WOMEN'S CIRCUIT

\$50,000 BIBERACH (GER)

Singles

Karolina Sprem (CRO) d. Kirsten Flipkens (BEL) 61 62

Doubles

Melanie Klaffner/Sandra Klemenschits (AUT) d. Kristina Barrois (GER)/Yvonne Meusburger (AUT) 36 64 [17-15]

\$50,000 CLEARWATER, FL (USA)

Singles

Julie Coin (FRA) d. Yanina Wickmayer (BEL) 36 11 def.

Doubles

Lucie Hradecka/Michaela Pastikova (CZE) d. Maria-Elena Camerin (ITA)/Yanina Wickmayer (BEL) def.

ITF JUNIOR CIRCUIT

MAR DEL PLATA, ARGENTINA, GRADE 2

Boys Singles

Andrea Collarini (ARG) d. Juan Vazquez-Valenzuela (ARG) 64 62

Girls Singles

Aleksandrina Naydenova (BUL) d. Camila Silva (CHI) 46 75 63

Boys Doubles

Andrea Collarini/Agustin Velotti (ARG) d. Jack Carpenter/James Marsalek (GBR) oo ret.

Girls Doubles

Stephanie Cornish (GBR)/Aleksandrina Naydenova (BUL) d. Laura Pigossi Herrmann De Andrade/Carla Forte (BRA) 61 60

SIAULIAI, LITHUANIA, GRADE 3

Boys Singles

Dovydas Sakinis (LTU) d. Andrei Vasilevski (BLR) 63 63

Girls Singles

Diana Marcinkevica (LAT) d. Ilona Kremen (BLR) 60 30 ret.

Boys Doubles

Arturs Kazijevs/Mikelis Libietis (LAT) d. Vladzimir Kruk/Yaraslau Shyla (BLR) 76(3) 75

Girls Doubles

Viktoriya Kisialeva/Sviatlana Pirazhenka (BLR) d. Volha Kalodzitsa (BLR)/Diana Marcinkevica (LAT) 64 62

LA LIBERTAD, EL SALVADOR, GRADE 4

Boys Singles

Gabriel Flores Ruiz (PUR) d. Garret Brasseaux (USA) 62 26 64

Girls Singles

Karen Hernandez (MEX) d. Annie Mulholland (USA) 64 64

Boys Doubles

Garret Brasseaux/Kurt Thein (USA) d. Diego Castillo (GUA)/Andrew Ochotta (CAN) 63 62

Girls Doubles

Charlotte Calhoun (USA)/Juliana Gajic (CAN) d. Annie Mulholland (USA)/Natella Nabieva (UZB) 62 46 [10-5]

NURNBERG, GERMANY, GRADE 4

Boys Singles

Yann Renault (FRA) d. Peter Heller (GER) 46 63 64

Girls Singles

Irina Khromacheva (RUS) d. Julia Kimmelman (GER) 64 61

Boys Doubles

Jannick Lupescu (NED)/Yann Renault (FRA) d. Jaroslav Beranek/Lukas Vrnak (CZE) 63 61

Girls Doubles

Megane Bianco (SUI)/Irina Khromacheva (RUS) d. Kim Berghaus (GER)/Kimberley Cassar (MLT) 76(4) 64

OSLO, NORWAY, GRADE 4

Boys Singles

Leandro Toledo (GER) d. Lars Bastiansen (NOR) 64 75

Girls Singles

Mukhabbat Saidova (RUS) d. Caroline Rohde-Moe (NOR) 46 64 61

Boys Doubles

Mads Engsted/Esben Hess-Olesen (DEN) d. Mons Knudtzon/Oystein Steiro (NOR) 75 62

Girls Doubles

Elena Fayner/Mukhabbat Saidova (RUS) d. Amy Bowtell (IRL)/Caroline Rohde-Moe (NOR) 67(6) 75 [10-7]

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, GRADE 5

Boys Singles

Guyanga Weerasekera (SRI) d. Prakit Sornjaratsuwan (THA) 60 62

Girls Singles

Kanami Tsuji (JPN) d. Jithmie Jayawickrema (SRI) 61 64

Boys Doubles

Amresh Jayawickrema/Dineshkanthan Thangarajah (SRI) d. Natasith Luesantia/Tas Suwanasang (THA) 36 63 [15-13]

Girls Doubles

Yoko Nagai/Emi Okazaki (JPN) d. Erina Fukukawa/Kanami Tsuji (JPN) 46 63 [10-7]

ITF WHEELCHAIR CIRCUIT

HOBART, AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA, ITF FUTURES SERIES

Men's Singles

Adam Kellerman (AUS) d. Michael Dobbie (AUS) 76(5) 63

Men's Doubles

Michael Dobbie/Adam Kellerman (AUS) d. Richard Engles/Jerry Markoja (AUS) 62 76(1)

This Week Next Week

Events - week commencing 2 March 2009

MEN

DAVIS CUP BY BNP PARIBAS, WORLD GROUP FIRST ROUND AND ZONAL TIES

Brazil F1 Futures	CANCELLED	\$10,000
Canada F1 Futures	Gatineau	\$10,000
Portugal F1 Futures	Faro	\$10,000
Spain F8 Futures	Sabadell	\$10,000
Switzerland F1 Futures	Greifensee	\$10,000
Kazakhstan F1 Futures	Astana	\$15,000
USA F6 Futures	McAllen, TX	\$15,000

WOMEN

Egypt	Giza	\$10,000
France	Lyon	\$10,000
Germany	Buchen	\$10,000
Israel	Raanana	\$10,000
Spain	CANCELLED	\$10,000
Australia	Sydney	\$25,000
Belarus	Minsk	\$25,000
USA	Fort Walton Beach, FL	\$25,000

SENIORS

France	Menton	Grade 1
USA	Houston Texas	Grade 1
Australia	Melbourne	Grade 2
South Africa	Bleomfontein	Grade 2
Egypt	Cairo	Grade 4
Sweden	Gothenburg	Grade 4
Bolivia	Santa Cruz	Grade B2

JUNIORS

JUNIOR DAVIS CUP/FED CUP BY BNP PARIBAS, WORLD JUNIOR TENNIS PRE-QUALIFYING, MYANMAR

Indonesia	Jakarta	Grade 2
Luxembourg	Esch/Alzette	Grade 2
Uruguay	Montevideo	Grade 2
Costa Rica	San Jose	Grade 3
Russia	Izhevsk	Grade 3
Sweden	Kramfors	Grade 3
Latvia	Jurmala	Grade 4

WHEELCHAIR

Chinese Taipei	Taipei	ITF 3 Series
New Zealand	Hamilton	ITF 3 Series
Switzerland	Bien	ITF 3 Series

Visit www.itftennis.com for full contact details for all forthcoming events

This Week Next Week

Events - week commencing 9 March 2009

MEN	Brazil F2 Futures	CANCELLED	\$10,000
	Canada F2 Futures	Montreal	\$10,000
	Portugal F2 Futures	Lagos	\$10,000
	Spain F9 Futures	Badalona	\$10,000
	Switzerland F2 Futures	Greifensee	\$10,000
	France F4 Futures	Lille	\$15,000
	Great Britain F3 Futures	Tipton	\$15,000
	Kazakhstan F2 Futures	Almaty City	\$15,000
	New Zealand F1 Futures	Auckland	\$15,000
WOMEN	Egypt	Giza	\$10,000
	France	Dijon	\$10,000
	Italy	Rome	\$10,000
	New Zealand	North Shore City	\$10,000
	Spain	Las Palmas	\$10,000
SENIORS	Belarus	Logoisk	Grade 4
	Bolivia	Tarija	Grade 4
JUNIORS	Paraguay	Lambere	Grade 1
	Thailand	Nonthaburi	Grade 1
	Brunei	Bander Seri Begawan	Grade 4
	Malaysia	Malacca	Grade 4
	Panama	Llanos de Curundu	Grade 4
	Sweden	Kramfors	Grade 4
WHEELCHAIR	Japan	Fukuoka	ITF Futures Series
	Puerto Rico	Caguas	ITF Futures Series

Visit www.itftennis.com for full contact details for all forthcoming events