

# 2024 DAVIS CUP FINALS GROUP STAGE

## 14 SEPTEMBER – DAY FIVE PREVIEW NOTES

## Group A – Unipol Arena, Bologna, Italy

1500 CEST/1300 GMT Belgium v Brazil Pages 4-8

Group B – Pabellon Municipal Fuente de San Luis, Valencia, Spain

1600 CEST/1400 GMT Czechia v France Pages 9-13

Group C – Hengqin International Tennis Center, Zhuhai, China, P.R.

1400 CST/0600 GMT      Germany v USA      Pages 14-18

## **Group D – AO Arena, Manchester, Great Britain**

1300 BST/1200 GMT Finland v Argentina Pages 19-23

## On court today:

- In Bologna, Belgium return to court today after a narrow defeat to Italy on Friday, with Brazil their opponents this afternoon. The Belgians impressed despite the loss to the hosts – and they remain in the hunt for a quarterfinal place. Brazil, who have suffered a pair of 1-2 defeats this week, can also still make it to the Final 8 – but they must win today and hope for a kind result in the tie between Italy and Netherlands on Sunday if they are to make their first appearance in the Davis Cup quarterfinals since 2001. Belgium have won all 4 of the nations' previous Davis Cup encounters, most recently a victory in the 2019 Qualifiers, and will be keen to maintain that winning record today.
- In Valencia, Czechia and France will contest their 18th Davis Cup meeting – and while neither team can advance to the Final 8 Knockout Stage this season after both fell to Australia and Spain earlier this week, there is still pride to play for, as well as Davis Cup Nations Ranking points, which could affect seedings in future draws. The French have won their last 3 Davis Cup ties against the Czechs – which has seen them move ahead in the rivalry, which they now lead 10-7. France managed to win one match against both Australia and Spain, while Czechia have to a 0-3 defeat against both teams this week.
- In Zhuhai, Germany and USA face off with top spot in Group C on the line. The Germans have been impressive in victories against Slovakia and Chile this week – and will hope to round off a perfect week before they head to Malaga in November for their first quarterfinal appearance since 2022. The Americans, meanwhile, have also looked strong in their 2 victories over the opening days here – and, like Germany, have secured a first quarterfinal berth since 2022. This will be the teams' 11th meeting in Davis Cup but their first since they met in the semifinals in 1991.
- In Manchester, last year's semifinalists Finland face Argentina knowing that they must win if they are to have any hope of returning to Malaga in November. The Finns have lost twice this week, but their doubles victory against Great Britain on Wednesday means that they still have a chance of finishing in the top 2 in the group. For Argentina, who recorded an excellent victory against the Brits on Friday, another win today will move them closer to a first Davis Cup quarterfinal appearance since 2019. The 2 nations have met twice before in Davis Cup and are tied at 1-1 in their rivalry – Finland won their most-recent encounter, a 3-1 triumph in last year's Qualifiers.

## Group Stage

### Group A Table

Pos.	Nation	Played	Ties win-loss	Matches win-loss	Sets win-loss	Games win-loss
1.	Italy	2	2-0	4-2 (67%)	10-6 (63%)	91-87 (51%)
2.	Belgium	2	1-1	3-3 (50%)	7-9 (44%)	88-82 (52%)
3.	Netherlands	2	1-1	3-3 (50%)	8-6 (57%)	78-79 (50%)
4.	Brazil	2	0-2	2-4 (33%)	5-9 (36%)	78-87 (47%)

### Group B Table\*

Pos.	Nation	Played	Ties win-loss	Matches win-loss	Sets win-loss	Games win-loss
1.	Australia	2	2-0	5-1 (83%)	10-4 (71%)	79-57 (58%)
2.	Spain	2	2-0	5-1 (83%)	11-5 (69%)	90-68 (57%)
3.	France	2	0-2	2-4 (33%)	6-9 (40%)	73-77 (49%)
4.	Czechia	2	0-2	0-6 (0%)	3-12 (20%)	52-92 (36%)

### Group C Table

Pos.	Nation	Played	Ties win-loss	Matches win-loss	Sets win-loss	Games win-loss
1.	Germany	2	2-0	6-0 (100%)	12-1 (92%)	79-49 (62%)
2.	USA	2	2-0	6-0 (100%)	12-4 (75%)	88-75 (54%)
3.	Chile	2	0-2	0-6 (0%)	3-12 (20%)	66-87 (43%)
4.	Slovakia	2	0-2	0-6 (0%)	2-12 (14%)	58-80 (42%)

### Group D Table

Pos.	Nation	Played	Ties win-loss	Matches win-loss	Sets win-loss	Games win-loss
1.	Canada	2	2-0	5-1 (83%)	11-2 (85%)	74-48 (61%)
2.	Argentina	2	1-1	3-3 (50%)	6-7 (46%)	63-67 (48%)
3.	Great Britain	2	1-1	3-3 (50%)	6-6 (50%)	68-67 (50%)
4.	Finland	2	0-2	1-5 (17%)	2-10 (17%)	52-75 (41%)

\*Carlos Alcaraz's victory against Tomas Machac (6-7(3) 6-1 0-0 ret.) counts as 6-7(3) 6-1 6-0 for the purposes of group standings; Alexei Popyrin's victory against Tomas Machac (1-0 ret.) counts as 6-0 6-0 for the purposes of group standings.

## Final 8 Knockout Stage

The draw for the Final 8 Knockout Stage will take place during the week commencing Monday 16 September (date and time to be confirmed).



## Final 8 Progression Scenarios

An overview of the Final 8 Knockout Stage progression scenarios ahead of day five at the 2024 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage:

### Group B

- Czechia:
  - Will finish in 3rd place in Group B if they defeat France
  - Will finish in 4th place in Group B if they lose to France
- France:
  - Will finish in 3rd place in Group B if they defeat Czechia
  - Will finish in 4th place in Group B if they lose to France

### Group C

- Germany
  - Will advance to the Final 8 Knockout Stage as group winners if they defeat USA
  - Will advance to the Final 8 Knockout Stage as group runners-up if they lose to USA
- USA:
  - Will advance to the Final 8 Knockout Stage as group winners if they defeat Germany
  - Will advance to the Final 8 Knockout Stage as group runners-up if they lose to Germany

All teams must complete their three Group Stage ties. All group standings are provisional until confirmed by the tournament referee.

**PLEASE NOTE: updated preview notes including scenarios for Groups A and D will be published prior to the start of play at those venues on Saturday**

## GROUP A – BELGIUM v BRAZIL

BOLOGNA – 1500 CEST/1300 GMT

### Head-to-head: Belgium lead 4-0

1960	Europe second round	unknown	Brussels (BEL)	Belgium d. Brazil 3-2
1993	World Group first round	Clay (O)	Brussels (BEL)	Belgium d. Brazil 3-1
2016	World Group play-offs	Hard (I)	Ostend (BEL)	Belgium d. Brazil 4-0
2019	Qualifiers	Clay (I)	Uberlandia (BRA)	Belgium d. Brazil 3-1

A 5th Davis Cup meeting for Belgium and Brazil, with the Belgians bidding to maintain their unbeaten record in the nations' head-to-head. Their most-recent meeting came in the 2019 Qualifiers – the first year of the current format – when Belgium recorded a convincing away victory to advance to the Finals.

BELGIUM	v	BRAZIL
13	Davis Cup Nations Ranking	16
Runners-up	Best Davis Cup Result	Interzonal Final 1966, 1971
1904, 2015, 2017	First Year Played	Semifinals 1992, 2000
1904	Seasons Played	1932
101	Ties Played	75
205	Ties Win-Loss	171
104-101		94-77

### Belgium – Team Information

- **BELGIUM** are bidding to reach the quarterfinals for the first time since 2018. They are making their 3rd appearance at the Davis Cup Finals.
- **Last season**, Belgium fell to Korea, Republic 2-3 in the Qualifiers in Seoul in February, before defeating Uzbekistan 3-1 in a World Group I tie in September.
- **In the Qualifiers this year**, Belgium defeated Croatia 3-1 in Varazdin to secure their place at the Finals.
- Belgium are **3-time Davis Cup runners-up**, in 1904, 2015 and 2017. They are one of 3 nations, alongside India and Romania, to have reached multiple Davis Cup finals but are yet to win a title, and are one of 17 nations to have reached multiple Davis Cup finals.
- Belgium are ranked No. 13 in the **Davis Cup Nations Ranking**. Their best ranking is No. 3, which they held from November 2017 to September 2018 and from September to December 2019.

### Belgium – Historical Information

#### Most Davis Cup match-wins by a Belgian player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Jacques Brichant	71-49
2.	Philippe Washer	66-36
3.	Andre Lacroix	35-25
4.	David Goffin	29-10
5.	Patrick Hombergen	26-31

#### Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a Belgian player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Jacques Brichant	52-27
2.	Philippe Washer	46-18
3.	David Goffin	29-6
4.	Steve Darcis	23-12
5.	Andre Lacroix	21-19

**Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a Belgian player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Philippe Washer	20-18
2.	Jacques Brichant	19-22
3=	Leopold de Borman	14-5
	Andre Lacroix	14-6
5.	Patrick Hombergen	11-7

**Most Davis Cup ties played by a Belgian player**

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Jacques Brichant	42
2.	Philippe Washer	39
3.	Olivier Rochus	30
4=	Steve Darcis	25
	Andre Lacroix	25

**Belgium – Player Information**

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Zizou Bergs	2021	4	8	6-5	0-0
Raphael Collignon	2024	1	1	0-1	0-0
Alexander Blockx	2024	1	1	0-1	0-0
Sander Gille	2018	6	15	0-0	7-8
Joran Vliegen	2018	6	14	0-0	7-7

**ZIZOU BERGS**

- Age:** 25 (born 3 June 1999 in Lommel, Belgium)
- Rankings:** 72 (singles), 630 (doubles)
- Davis Cup:** After winning just one of the first 5 Davis Cup matches he contested, Bergs has won 5 of the last 6 matches he has contested in the competition – including defeating Marin Cilic and Duje Ajdukovic during Belgium's victory against Croatia in the Qualifiers this year, and his 2 opening matches at this year's Finals, defeating Netherlands' Tallon Griekspoor on Tuesday and Italy's Flavio Cobolli on Friday.

**RAPHAEL COLLIGNON**

- Age:** 22 (born 13 January 2002 in Rochester, MN, USA)
- Rankings:** 194 (singles), 1143T (doubles)
- Davis Cup:** Collignon made his Davis Cup debut on Tuesday, falling to Botic van de Zandschulp in the opening match of Belgium's victory against Netherlands.

**ALEXANDER BLOCKX**

- Age:** 19 (born 8 April 2005 in Antwerp, Belgium)
- Rankings:** 253 (singles), 2303T (doubles)
- Davis Cup:** Blockx made his Davis Cup debut on Friday, falling to Matteo Berrettini in the opening match of Belgium's defeat to Italy.

**SANDER GILLE**

- Age:** 33 (born 15 January 1991 in Hasselt, Belgium)
- Rankings:** unranked (singles), 32T (doubles)
- 2024 doubles highlights:** Won Monte Carlo; RU Hong Kong; SF Estoril; QF Roland Garros
- Davis Cup:** Gille has won 7 of the 15 Davis Cup matches he has contested, 14 of which have come alongside Vliegen. The pair have played 2 decisive doubles matches this week, defeating Netherlands' Wesley Koolhof/Van De Zandschulp on Tuesday but falling to Italy's Simone Bolelli/Andrea Vavassori on Friday. They also defeated Ivan Dodig/Mate Pavic in Belgium's 3-1 victory against Croatia in the Qualifiers in February. He has played only one Davis Cup match with a different partner – when he and David Goffin fell to Harri Heliovaara/Emil Ruusuvuori in doubles during Belgium's victory over Finland in the 2022 Qualifiers.

- **JORAN VLIEGEN**

- **Age:** 31 (born 7 July 1993 in Maaseik, Belgium)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 32T (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Monte Carlo; RU Hong Kong; SF Estoril; QF Roland Garros
- **Davis Cup:** Vliegen has won 7 of the 14 Davis Cup matches he has contested, all of which have come alongside Gille. The pair have played 2 decisive doubles matches this week, defeating Netherlands' Koolhof/Van De Zandschulp on Tuesday but falling to Italy's Bolelli/Vavassori on Friday. They also defeated Dodig/Pavic in Belgium's 3-1 victory against Croatia in the Qualifiers in February.

### Brazil – Team Information

- **BRAZIL** are bidding to reach the quarterfinals for the first time since 2001. This is their first appearance at the Davis Cup Finals.
- **Last season**, Brazil defeated China, P.R. 4-0 in the World Group I Play-Offs in Florianopolis in February before defeating Denmark 3-1 in a World Group I tie in Hillerod in September.
- **In the Qualifiers this year**, Brazil defeated Sweden 3-1 in Helsingborg in February to secure their place at the Finals for the first time. Thiago Monteiro defeated both Karl Friberg and Elias Ymer in singles, and Rafael Matos/Felipe Meligeni Alves defeated Filip Bergevi/Andre Goransson in doubles.
- Brazil's **best Davis Cup performance** is reaching the semifinals on 2 occasions – in 1992 (I. Switzerland) and 2000 (I. Australia). They also reached the Inter Zonal Final (the round before the Challenge Round) in both 1966 and 1971.
- Brazil are currently ranked at No. 16 in the **Davis Cup Nations Ranking**. Their highest-ranking is No. 6, which they achieved when the rankings were launched in December 2001.

### Brazil – Player Information

**Most Davis Cup match-wins by a Brazilian player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Tomas Koch	74-44
2.	Jose-Edison Mandarino	68-41
3=	Carlos Kirmayr Gustavo Kuerten	34-22 34-18
5.	Cassio Motta	28-21

**Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a Brazilian player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Tomas Koch	46-32
2.	Jose-Edison Mandarino	41-31
3=	Thomaz Bellucci Gustavo Kuerten	21-15 21-11
5.	Carlos Kirmayr	17-15

**Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a Brazilian player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Tomas Koch	28-12
2.	Jose-Edison Mandarino	27-10
3.	<b>Marcelo Melo</b>	<b>19-6</b>
4.	Carlos Kirmayr	17-7
5=	Cassio Motta Bruno Soares	15-5 15-5

**Most Davis Cup ties played by a Brazilian player**

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Tomas Koch	44
2.	Jose-Edison Mandarino	43
3.	Carlos Kirmayr	28
4.	Cassio Motta	27
5=	<b>Marcelo Melo</b>	<b>25</b>
	Jaime Oncins	25

**Brazil – Player Information**

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Thiago Monteiro	2016	8	15	12-13	0-0
Joao Fonseca	2024	1	2	1-1	0-0
Felipe Meligeni Alves	2020	4	7	1-1	5-1
Rafael Matos	2021	4	7	0-0	6-1
Marcelo Melo	2008	13	25	1-0	19-6

- **THIAGO MONTEIRO**

- **Age:** 30 (born 31 May 1994 in Fortaleza, Brazil)
- **Rankings:** 76 (singles), 538T (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** QF Rio de Janeiro, Bastad
- **Davis Cup:** Monteiro's 4-match Davis Cup winning streak ended on Wednesday after he fell to Italy's Matteo Arnaldi in a 3-set match which lasted 3 hours 39 minutes. He also fell to Tallon Griekspoor during Brazil's defeat to Netherlands on Thursday. Prior to this week, he had previously won all 4 Davis Cup matches he has contested since the beginning of last season, defeating China, P.R.'s Cui Jie in the World Group I Playoffs and Denmark's Holger Rune in World Group I in 2023, and defeating Karl Friberg and Elias Ymer in Brazil's 3-1 victory against Sweden in the Qualifiers in February this year.

- **JOAO FONSECA**

- **Age:** 18 (born 21 August 2006 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
- **2024 singles highlights:** QF Rio de Janeiro, Bucharest
- **Rankings:** 158 (singles), 511 (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Fonseca made his Davis Cup debut on Wednesday, falling to Matteo Berrettini in the opening match of Brazil's defeat to Italy, before recording his first Davis Cup match-win on Thursday, defeating Netherlands' Botic van de Zandschulp in straight sets. He was also nominated for Brazil's Qualifiers tie against Sweden in February but did not contest a match.

- **FELIPE MELIGENI ALVES**

- **Age:** 26 (born 19 February 1998 in Campinas, Brazil)
- **Rankings:** 165 (singles), 613 (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Meligeni Rodrigues Alves has won one of the 2 Davis Cup singles matches he has contested – he defeated Lebanon's Hady Habib in 2021 World Group I but fell to Portugal's Joao Sousa in 2022 World Group I. He has won 5 of the 6 doubles matches he has contested in the competition, including all 3 Davis Cup doubles matches he has played across 2023 and 2024. He and Matos defeated China, P.R.'s Cui/Zhang Ze and Denmark's Johannes Ingildsen/Christian Sigsgaard during Brazil's 2 victories last season, and defeated Filip Bergevi/Andre Goransson in Brazil's 3-1 victory against Sweden in the Qualifier in February this year.

- **RAFAEL MATOS**

- **Age:** 28 (born 6 January 1996 in Porto Alegre, Brazil)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 35 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Rio de Janeiro, Stuttgart, Bastad; RU Washington; SF Buenos Aires, Santiago, Bucharest
- **Davis Cup:** Matos' unbeaten record in Davis Cup matches ended on Thursday, when he and Melo lost the deciding doubles match to Netherlands' Wesley Koolhof/Van De Zandschulp on Thursday. He had previously won all 6 matches he has contested in the competition since making his debut in 2021 – including his victory against Italy's Simone Bolelli/Andrea Vavassori alongside Melo on Wednesday. He and Meligeni Alves defeated Bergevi/Goransson in Brazil's 3-1 victory against Sweden in the Qualifiers in February.

- **MARCELO MELO**

- **Age:** 40 (born 23 September 1983 in Belo Horizonte, Brazil)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 37 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Stuttgart; RU Monte Carlo, Washington; SF Buenos Aires, Santiago
- **Davis Cup:** Melo has made his first Davis Cup appearances since 2019 this week, partnering Matos to a victory against Italy's Bolelli/Vavassori and a defeat to Netherlands' Koolhof/Van De Zandschulp. Prior to this week, his last appearance in the competition came during Brazil's 2019 World Group I victory against Barbados, when he and Bruno Soares defeated Darian King/Haydn Lewis in the doubles match. He is in 3rd place on the list for most Davis Cup doubles matches won by a Brazilian player. He will also claim sole ownership of 5th place on the list for most Davis Cup ties contested by a Brazilian player, ahead of current captain Jaime Oncins, if he plays today.

## GROUP B – CZECHIA v FRANCE

VALENCIA – 1600 CEST/1400 GMT

### Head-to-head: France lead 10-7

1924	Europe Final	Clay (O)	Evian-les-Bains (FRA)	France d. Czechoslovakia 5-0
1926	Europe Quarterfinal	Clay (O)	Prague (TCH)	France d. Czechoslovakia 3-0
1937	Europe Quarterfinal	Clay (O)	Prague (TCH)	Czechoslovakia d. France 4-1
1947	Europe Semifinal	Unknown	Prague (TCH)	Czechoslovakia d. France 4-0
1949	Europe Quarterfinal	Clay (O)	Paris (FRA)	France d. Czechoslovakia 3-2
1957	Europe Second Round	Clay (O)	Lyon (FRA)	France d. Czechoslovakia 4-0
1966	Europe Semifinal	Clay (O)	Paris (FRA)	France d. Czechoslovakia 4-1
1975	Europe Final	Clay (O)	Prague (TCH)	Czechoslovakia d. France 3-2
1979	Europe Semifinal	Clay (O)	Paris (FRA)	Czechoslovakia d. France 4-1
1980	Europe Semifinal	Clay (O)	Prague (TCH)	Czechoslovakia d. France 5-0
1982	World Group Quarterfinal	Clay (O)	Paris (FRA)	France d. Czechoslovakia 3-2
1984	World Group Quarterfinal	Carpet (I)	Hradec Kralove (TCH)	Czechoslovakia d. France 3-2
2002	World Group Quarterfinal	Carpet (I)	Pau (FRA)	France d. Czechia 3-2
2009	World Group First Round	Carpet (I)	Ostrava (CZE)	Czechia d. France 3-2
2014	World Group Semifinal	Clay (O)	Paris (FRA)	France d. Czechia 4-1
2016	World Group Quarterfinal	Hard (I)	Trinec (CZE)	France d. Czechia 3-1
2021	Finals Group C	Hard (I)	Innsbruck (AUT)	France d. Czechia 2-1

A 18th Davis Cup meeting for the French and the Czechs, with France having moved ahead in the nations' head-to-head by winning their 3 most-recent ties – a semifinal in Paris in 2014, a quarterfinal in Trinec in 2016 and a Finals Group Stage tie in Innsbruck in 2021. France have won 4 of the 5 ties the nations have contested in the last 20 years, with Czechia's only victory over the French in that time coming in a World Group first round clash in 2009.

### CZECHIA

8	
<b>Champions 1980, 2012, 2013</b>	
1921	
90	
225	
<b>137-88</b>	

### v

<b>Davis Cup Nations Ranking</b>	
<b>Best Davis Cup Result</b>	
<b>First Year Played</b>	
<b>Seasons Played</b>	
<b>Ties Played</b>	
<b>Ties Win-Loss</b>	

### FRANCE

11	
<b>Champions 10 times</b>	
1904	
104	
273	
<b>176-97</b>	

### Czechia – Team Information

- **CZECHIA** are making their 3rd appearance at the Davis Cup Finals. They are not able to advance to the quarterfinals this season.
- **Last season**, Czechia reached the quarterfinals for the first time since 2016. They defeated Portugal 3-1 in the Qualifiers in Maia in February to secure their place at the Finals, before finishing in first place in Finals Group C in Valencia in September, defeating Spain 3-0, Korea, Republic 3-0 and Serbia 3-0. They fell to Australia 1-2 in the quarterfinals at the Final 8 Knockout Stage in Malaga in November.
- **In the Qualifiers this year**, Czechia defeated Israel 4-0 in Trinec to secure their place at the Finals. Jakub Mensik and Jiri Lehecka both won singles matches, and Tomas Machac/Adam Pavlasek sealed the tie by winning the doubles match, before Vit Kopriva also won his singles match.
- Czechia are **3-time Davis Cup champions** – they won the title in 1980 (d. Italy) and won back-to-back titles in 2012-13, defeating Spain in 2012 and Serbia in 2013.
- **Prior to 1994**, Czech players represented Czechoslovakia. Before the nation divided into Czechia and Slovakia, Czechoslovakia won the Davis Cup title in 1980 and finished as runners-up to Sweden in 1975.
- Czechia are currently ranked No. 8 on the **Davis Cup Nations Ranking**. They held the No. 1 ranking between April 2013 and November 2015 and are one of only 10 nations (alongside Argentina, Australia, Canada, Croatia, France, Great Britain, Italy, Russia and Spain) to have been ranked No. 1 since the Davis Cup Nations Ranking was introduced in 2001.

## Czechia – Historical Information

### Most Davis Cup match-wins by a Czech player\*

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Tomas Berdych	50-17
2.	Radek Stepanek	35-18
3.	Jiri Novak	27-7
4=	Petr Korda Lukas Rosol	16-7 16-13

### Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a Czech player\*

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Tomas Berdych	29-15
2.	Jiri Novak	17-5
3.	Radek Stepanek	15-13
4.	Lukas Rosol	14-10
5=	Petr Korda Bohdan Ulihrach Jiri Vesely	11-5 11-7 11-11

### Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a Czech player\*

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Tomas Berdych	21-2
2.	Radek Stepanek	20-5
3.	Jiri Novak	10-2
4=	Adam Pavlasek David Rikl	7-5 7-3

### Most Davis Cup ties played by a Czech player\*

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Tomas Berdych	29
2.	Radek Stepanek	26
3.	Jiri Novak Lukas Rosol	17 17
5.	Jiri Vesely	16

\*records apply only to the Czech team that has competed since 1993

## Czechia – Player Information

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Tomas Machac	2021	4	12	7-3	2-5
Jiri Lehecka	2019	5	13	8-5	0-5
Jakub Mensik	2023	2	6	2-1	2-2
Adam Pavlasek	2015	5	12	1-0	7-5

- **TOMAS MACHAC**

- **Age:** 23 (born 13 October 2000 in Beroun, Czechia)
- **Rankings:** 35 (singles), 51 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** RU Geneva; QF Marseille, Miami; R16 US Open
- **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Marseille; SF Australian Open, Barcelona, Paris 2024 Olympics (4th place); QF Roland Garros
- **Davis Cup:** Machac made his Davis Cup debut at the 2021 Finals, defeating both France's Richard Gasquet and Great Britain's Daniel Evans at the event. He has won 7 of the 10 Davis Cup singles matches he has played, with his only singles defeats in the competition coming against Argentina's Diego Schwartzman in the 2022 Qualifiers and his 2 defeats this week, having retired against both Spain's Carlos Alcaraz and Australia's Alexei Popyrin. He defeated Cukierman/Edan Leshem in doubles alongside Pavlasek during Czechia's victory against Israel in the Qualifiers this year after the Israeli pair retired trailing 4-1.

- **JIRI LEHECKA**

- **Age:** 22 (born 8 November 2001 in Mlada Boleslav, Czechia)
- **Rankings:** 37 (singles), unranked (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** Won Adelaide; SF Madrid; QF Dubai, Indian Wells
- **Davis Cup:** Lehecka made his Davis Cup debut in 2019, falling to Robin Haase in the 4th match of Czechia's defeat to Netherlands in the Qualifiers. He has lost 3 of his last 4 matches in the competition – falling to both Alex de Minaur and Matthew Ebden/Max Purcell alongside Pavlasek during Czechia's defeat to Australia in the quarterfinals last year, and fell to Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut in his opening match here this week. His only victory in that time came against Daniel Cukierman during Czechia's victory against Israel in the Qualifiers this year. He has won 8 of the 13 singles matches he has contested in the competition, but lost all 5 Davis cup doubles matches he has played.

- **JAKUB MENSIK**

- **Age:** 19 (born 1 September 2005 in Prostejov, Czechia)
- **Rankings:** 67 (singles), unranked (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** RU Doha; SF Umag; QF Mallorca
- **Davis Cup:** Mensik made his Davis Cup debut at the 2023 Finals Group Stage, and won the first 4 matches he contested in the competition, partnering Pavlasek to defeat Spain's Alejandro Davidovich Fokina/Marcel Granollers and Korea, Rep.'s Nam Jisung/Song Minkyu, defeating Serbia's Dusan Lajovic in singles. He then defeated Yshal Oliel in Czechia's victory against Israel in the Qualifiers this year. His winning start to his Davis Cup career came to an end this week – he and Pavlasek fell to Spain's Alcaraz/Marcel Granollers in doubles on Wednesday, and he lost both matches he contested during Czechia's defeat to Australia on Thursday, falling to Thanasi Kokkinakis in singles and to Matthew Ebden/Max Purcell in doubles alongside Pavlasek.

- **ADAM PAVLASEK**

- **Age:** 29 (born 8 October 1994 in Bilovc, Czechia)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 41 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** RU Madrid; SF Hong Kong, Doha, Dubai, Paris 2024 Olympics (4th place); QF Australian Open
- **Davis Cup:** Pavlasek has won 4 of the 8 Davis Cup matches he has contested since making his return to the Czech team for the first time since 2018 at the 2023 Qualifiers, all in doubles. He and Mensik have lost both matches they have contested at this year's Finals, falling to Spain's Alcaraz/Granollers on Wednesday and to Australia's Ebden/Purcell on Thursday.

### France – Team Information

- **FRANCE** are making their 5th appearance at the Davis Cup Finals. They are not able to advance to the quarterfinals this season.
- **Last season**, defeated Hungary 3-2 in Tatabanya to secure their place at the Finals, before finishing in 3rd place in Finals Group B in Manchester, defeating Switzerland 3-0 before falling to both Australia and Great Britain 1-2.
- **In the Qualifiers this year**, France defeated Chinese Taipei 4-0 in Taipei City to secure their place at the Finals. All 5 members of their team for the tie won a match, with Luca van Assche and Adrian Mannarino winning singles matches on the opening day, Nicolas Mahut/Edouard Roger-Vasselin winning the doubles match and Quentin Halys winning a dead singles match.
- France have **won the Davis Cup title on 10 previous occasions** – most recently in 2017, when they defeated Belgium in Lille. They have finished runner-up on 9 occasions, including in 2014 (I. Switzerland) and 2018 (I. Croatia).
- France are in **joint-3rd place on the list for most Davis Cup titles**, behind USA (32 titles) and Australia (28). They equalled Great Britain in 3rd place on the list after winning their 10th title in 2017.
- France are currently ranked No. 11 on the **Davis Cup Nations Ranking**. They are one of 10 nations to have held the No. 1 ranking (alongside Argentina, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Great Britain, Italy, Russia and Spain) – they were ranked No. 1 in 2002-03, again in 2004 and most recently from November 2017 to December 2021.

## France – Historical Information

### Most Davis Cup match-wins by a French player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Pierre Darmon	47-21
2.	Henri Cochet	44-14
3.	Francois Jauffret	43-27
4.	Henri Leconte	41-25
5.	Rene Lacoste	40-11

### Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a French player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Pierre Darmon	44-17
2=	Henri Cochet	34-8
	Francois Jauffret	34-17
4.	Rene Lacoste	32-8
5.	Robert Haillet	29-13

### Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a French player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Jacques Brugnon	22-9
2.	Guy Forget	21-4
3.	Michael Llodra	20-8
4.	Paul Remy	18-6
5=	Jean Borotra	17-6
	Henri Leconte	17-5
	Nicolas Mahut	17-7

### Most Davis Cup ties played by a French player

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Francois Jauffret	36
2.	Pierre Darmon	34
3.	Jean Borotra	32
4.	Jacques Brugnon	31
5=	Henri Leconte	28
	Michael Llodra	28

## France – Player Information

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Ugo Humbert	2023	2	3	5-2	0-0
Arthur Fils	2023	2	3	0-3	0-0
Arthur Rinderknech	2021	3	6	1-1	2-3
Pierre-Hugues Herbert	2016	7	14	0-1	11-2
Edouard Roger-Vasselin	2023	2	6	0-0	2-3

- **UGO HUMBERT**

- **Age:** 26 (born 26 June 1998 in Metz, France)
- **Rankings:** 18 (singles), 351 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** Won Marseille, Dubai; SF 's-Hertogenbosch; QF Doha, Monte Carlo; R16 Wimbledon
- **2024 doubles highlights:** RU Gstaad
- **Davis Cup:** Humbert made his Davis Cup debut during France's victory over Hungary in the 2023 Qualifiers, defeating Marton Fucsovics in the 2nd match of the tie before defeating Fabian Marozsan in the decisive 5th match. He won 2 of the 3 matches he contested at the 2023 Finals, defeating Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka and Great Britain's Cameron Norrie but falling to Australia's Alex de Minaur. He has won one of the 2 matches he has contested at this year's Finals, defeating Australia's Alexei Popyrin on Tuesday but falling to Spain's Carlos Alcaraz on Friday.

- **ARTHUR FILS**

- **Age:** 20 (born 12 June 2004 in Bondoufle, France)
- **Rankings:** 25 (singles), 247 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** Won Hamburg; SF Auckland; QF Hong Kong, Santiago, Barcelona, Halle; R16 Wimbledon
- **Davis Cup:** Fils made his Davis Cup debut at the 2023 Finals Group Stage, losing the only match he has contested in the competition to date against Great Britain's Daniel Evans. He has lost both matches he has contested at this year's Finals, falling to Australia's Thanasi Kokkinakis on Tuesday and to Spain's Roberto Bautista Agut on Friday.

- **ARTHUR RINDERKNECH**

- **Age:** 29 (born 23 July 1995 in Gassin, France)
- **Rankings:** 58 (singles), 352 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** SF Atlanta; QF Marseille, Lyon
- **Davis Cup:** Rinderknech made his Davis Cup debut at the 2021 Finals, winning one of the 2 matches he contested. He recorded his only Davis Cup singles victory by defeating Emilio Gomez during France's victory over Ecuador in the 2022 Qualifiers and has contested only doubles matches in the 4 ties he has contested since then. His last Davis Cup appearance came during the 2023 Qualifiers, when he and Nicolas Mahut fell to Hungary's Marozsan/Mate Valkusz.

- **PIERRE-HUGUES HERBERT**

- **Age:** 33 (18 March 1991 in Schiltigheim, France)
- **Rankings:** 129 (singles), 806 (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Herbert made his Davis Cup debut in 2016 and was a member of the French teams which won the title in 2017 and finished as runners-up in 2018, winning the doubles match in both finals. He has won 11 of the 13 doubles matches he has contested in the competition – with his only defeat coming against Croatia's Marin Cilic/Ivan Dodig alongside Mahut in the 2016 World Group semifinals and against Australia's Matthew Ebden/Max Purcell in his first match at the Finals this year on Tuesday. Prior to this week, his last Davis Cup appearance came during the 2022 Qualifiers, when he and Mahut defeated Ecuador's Gonzalo Escobar/Diego Hidalgo.

- **EDOUARD ROGER-VASSELIN**

- **Age:** 40 (born 28 November 1983 in Gennevilliers, France)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 22 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** RU Hamburg; SF Lyon
- **Davis Cup:** Roger-Vasselin made his Davis Cup debut at the 2023 Finals Group Stage, winning one of the 3 matches he contested. He also won the doubles match during France's victory over Chinese Taipei in the Qualifiers this year, partnering Mahut to defeat Hsu Yu Hsiou/Jason Jung, but lost his opening match at the Finals this week, falling to Australia's Ebden/Purcell alongside Herbert.

## GROUP C – GERMANY v USA

ZHUHAI – 1400 CST/0600 GMT

### Head-to-head: USA lead 7-3

1913	World Group semifinal	Grass (O)	Nottingham (GBR)	USA d. Germany 5-0
1929	Interzonal final	Clay (O)	Berlin (GER)	USA d. Germany 5-0
1932	Interzonal final	Clay (O)	Paris (FRA)	USA d. Germany 3-2
1935	Interzonal final	Grass (O)	London (GBR)	USA d. Germany 4-1
1937	Interzonal final	Grass (O)	London GBR)	USA d. Germany 3-2
1970	Final	Hard (O)	Cleveland (USA)	USA d. Germany, F.R. 5-0
1985	World Group quarterfinal	Clay (O)	Hamburg (FRG)	Germany, F.R. d. USA 3-2
1987	World Group first round	Carpet (I)	Hartford (USA)	Germany, F.R. d. USA 3-2
1989	World Group semifinal	Carpet (I)	Munich (FRG)	Germany, F.R. d. USA 3-2
1991	World Group semifinal	Clay (I)	Kansas City (USA)	USA d. Germany 3-2

An 11th Davis Cup meeting for Germany and USA – but their first in 33 years. The Americans won the teams' first 6 meetings – including their only previous meeting in a Davis Cup final, in 1970 – before the Germans recorded 3 consecutive Davis Cup wins against USA in the 1980s. Their last meeting came in the semifinals in 1991, with the Americans ending that losing streak with a 3-2 victory.

GERMANY	v	USA
4		9
<b>Champions 1988, 1989, 1993</b>	<b>Davis Cup Nations Ranking</b>	<b>Champions 32 times</b>
1913	<b>Best Davis Cup Result</b>	1900
88	<b>First Year Played</b>	109
243	<b>Seasons Played</b>	308
<b>159-84</b>	<b>Ties Played</b>	<b>229-79</b>
	<b>Ties Win-Loss</b>	

### Germany – Team Information

- **GERMANY** have reached the quarterfinals for the 4th time since the Davis Cup Finals were introduced in 2019 after winning their opening 2 ties this week. This is their 4th Finals appearance.
- **Last season**, Germany fell to Switzerland 2-3 in the Qualifiers in Trier in February before defeating Bosnia and Herzegovina 4-0 in a World Group I tie in Mostar in September.
- **In the Qualifiers this year**, Germany defeated Hungary 3-2 in Tatabanya to secure their place at the Finals. Jan-Lennard Struff defeated Mate Valkusz in the 4th match of the tie to seal the victory for Germany.
- Germany have won **3 Davis Cup titles**, most recently in 1993 when they defeated Australia. They also won the title in 1988-89, defeating Sweden on both occasions – it is one of only 8 successful Davis Cup title defences since the abolition of the Challenge Round in 1972. Since the current format was introduced in 2019, their best result is reaching the semifinals in 2021 (I. Russian Tennis Federation).
- Germany rose to No. 4 on the **Davis Cup Nations Rankings** in February this year – their best ranking since the rankings were introduced in 2001.

### Germany – Historical Information

#### Most Davis Cup match-wins by a German player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Gottfried von Cramm	82-19
2.	Wilhelm Bungert	66-36
3.	Boris Becker	54-12
4.	Christian Kuhnke	51-23
5.	Henner Henkel	49-17

**Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a German player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Gottfried von Cramm	58-10
2.	Wilhelm Bungert	52-27
3.	Boris Becker	38-3
4.	Christian Kuhnke	35-15
5.	Henner Henkel	33-13

**Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a German player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Gottfried von Cramm	24-9
2.	<b>Tim Puetz</b>	<b>17-1</b>
3=	Boris Becker	16-9
	Henner Henkel	16-4
	Christian Kuhnke	16-8

**Most Davis Cup ties played by a German player**

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Wilhelm Bungert	43
2.	Gottfried von Cramm	37
3.	Christian Kuhnke	32
4.	Boris Becker	28
5.	Henner Henkel	27

**Germany – Player Information**

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Yannick Hanfmann	2017	3	4	3-1	0-0
Maximilian Marterer	2023	2	3	3-0	0-0
Henri Squire	2024	0	0	0-0	0-0
Kevin Krawietz	2019	5	15	0-1	15-1
Tim Puetz	2017	6	17	0-0	17-1

**YANNICK HANFMANN**

- **Age:** 32 (born 13 November 1991 in Karlsruhe, Germany)
- **Rankings:** 96 (singles), 83 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** SF Kitzbuhel; QF Cordoba
- **2024 doubles highlights:** SF Australian Open, Halle
- **Davis Cup:** Hanfmann has recorded his 2nd and 3rd Davis Cup match-wins this week, defeating Slovakia's Jozef Kovalik and Chile's Alejandro Tabilo. He had contested just 2 Davis Cup ties prior to this week – he made his debut during the 2017 World Group play-offs, falling to Portugal's Joao Domingues in a dead singles match. His only other Davis Cup appearance came during Germany's World Group I victory against Bosnia and Herzegovina last year, when he defeated Damir Dzumhur in straight sets.

**MAXIMILIAN MARTERER**

- **Age:** 29 (born 15 June 1995 in Nuremberg, Germany)
- **Rankings:** 104 (singles), unranked (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Marterer has contested his first live Davis Cup matches this week, defeating Slovakia's Lukas Klein and Chile's Tomas Barrios Vera. His only previous Davis Cup appearance came during Germany's World Group I victory against Bosnia and Herzegovina last year, defeating Andrej Nedic in a dead singles match.

**HENRI SQUIRE**

- **Age:** 23 (born 27 September 2000 in Duisburg, Germany)
- **Rankings:** 187 (singles), unranked (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Squire could make his Davis Cup debut today, having been nominated for the first time this week.

- **KEVIN KRAWIETZ**
  - **Age:** 32 (born 24 January 1992 in Coburg, Germany)
  - **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 13T (doubles)
  - **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Hamburg; RU Brisbane, Halle, US Open; SF Indian Wells, Miami; QF Australian Open, Wimbledon
  - **Davis Cup:** Krawietz has won 15 of the 16 Davis Cup matches he has contested, with his only defeat in the competition coming in the decisive doubles match of Germany's quarterfinal defeat to Canada in 2022, when he and Puetz fell to Vasek Pospisil/Shapovalov. He and Puetz have won both matches they have contested this week, defeating Slovakia's Klein/Igor Zelenay and Chile's Barrios Vera/Matias Soto. He will move into the Top 5 on the list for most Davis Cup doubles matches won by a German player if he wins the doubles match today.
- **TIM PUETZ**
  - **Age:** 36 (born 19 November 1987 in Frankfurt, Germany)
  - **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 13T (doubles)
  - **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Hamburg; RU Brisbane, Halle, US Open; SF Indian Wells, Miami; QF Australian Open, Wimbledon
  - **Davis Cup:** Puetz has won 17 of the 18 Davis Cup matches he has contested, with his only defeat in the competition coming in the decisive doubles match of Germany's quarterfinal defeat to Canada in 2022, when he and Krawietz fell to Pospisil/Shapovalov. He and Krawietz have won both matches they have contested this week, defeating Slovakia's Klein/Igor Zelenay and Chile's Barrios Vera/Soto. Those results have seen him claim sole ownership of 2nd place on the list for most Davis Cup doubles matches won by a German player.

## USA – Team Information

- **USA** have reached the quarterfinals for the 2nd time since the Davis Cup Finals were introduced in 2019 by winning their opening 2 ties this week. This is their 5th Finals appearance.
- **Last season**, USA defeated Uzbekistan 4-0 in the Qualifiers in Tashkent in February. They finished in 3rd place in Finals Group D in Split in September, defeating Croatia 2-1 but falling to Netherlands 1-2 and Finland 0-3.
- **In the Qualifiers this year**, USA defeated Ukraine 4-0 on neutral ground in Vilnius, Lithuania. Sebastian Korda and Christopher Eubanks recorded singles victories on day one before Austin Krajicek/Rajeev Ram recorded a doubles victory to seal the tie for USA.
- USA have contested **308 Davis Cup ties** – more than any other nation. They have also recorded more Davis Cup victories than any other nation and are bidding for their 230th Davis Cup victory today.
- USA won their **32nd Davis Cup title** in 2007, defeating Russia 4-1 in Portland, Oregon. USA are at the top of the all-time list for most Davis Cup titles – ahead of Australia (28 titles) and Great Britain and France (10 titles each).
- If USA win the title this year, 17 years after their most recent Davis Cup title, it will be the **longest gap between USA's Davis Cup successes**. Their title in 2007 came 12 years after their previous title in 1995.
- USA are currently ranked No. 9 on the **Davis Cup Nations Rankings**. Their best position since the rankings were introduced in 2001 is No. 2, which they reached for the first time in September 2007.

## USA – Historical Information

**Most Davis Cup match-wins by an American player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	John McEnroe	59-10
2.	Vic Seixas	38-17
3.	Stan Smith	35-7
4.	Bill Tilden	34-7
5.	Andy Roddick	33-12

**Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by an American player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	John McEnroe	41-8
2.	Andy Roddick	33-12
3.	Andre Agassi	30-6
4.	Arthur Ashe	27-5
5.	Bill Tilden	25-5

**Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by an American player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Mike Bryan	28-5
2.	Bob Bryan	26-5
3.	John van Ryn	22-2
4.	Stan Smith	20-3
5.	John McEnroe	18-2

**Most Davis Cup ties played by an American player**

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Mike Bryan	33
2.	Bob Bryan	31
3.	John McEnroe	30
4.	Andy Roddick	25
5=	Wilmer Allison Stan Smith John van Ryn	24 24 24

**USA – Player Information**

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Brandon Nakashima	2024	1	2	2-0	0-0
Mackenzie McDonald	2023	1	4	3-1	0-0
Reilly Opelka	2019	3	6	2-3	0-1
Rajeev Ram	2021	4	12	0-0	10-2
Austin Krajicek	2023	2	7	0-0	6-1

**BRANDON NAKASHIMA**

- **Age:** 23 (born 3 August 2001 in San Diego, CA, USA)
- **Rankings:** 40 (singles), 294 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** SF Stuttgart; QF Houston; R16 US Open
- **Davis Cup:** Nakashima made his Davis Cup debut on Wednesday, defeating Alejandro Tabilo in the 2nd match of USA's victory against Chile. He recorded his 2nd Davis Cup match-win on Friday, defeating Slovakia's Jozef Kovalik.

**MACKENZIE MCDONALD**

- **Age:** 29 (born 16 April 1995 in Piedmont, CA, USA)
- **Rankings:** 149 (singles), 84 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** QF Newport
- **2024 doubles highlights:** RU Cincinnati
- **Davis Cup:** McDonald made his Davis Cup debut at the 2023 Qualifiers, defeating Uzbekistan's Sergey Fomin in the opening match of the tie. He won one of the 2 matches he contested at the 2023 Finals Group Stage, defeating Croatia's Dino Prizmic but falling to Finland's Otto Virtanen. He won the only match he has contested at the Finals this week, defeating Slovakia's Lukas Klein on Friday.

- **REILLY OPELKA**

- **Age:** 27 (born 28 August 1997 in St Joseph, MI, USA)
- **Rankings:** 309 (singles), unranked (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** SF Newport
- **Davis Cup:** Opelka made his Davis Cup debut at the 2019 Finals, losing singles matches to both Canada's Vasek Pospisil and Italy's Fabio Fognini. His only other Davis Cup appearances to date came during the 2020-21 season with his only Davis Cup victory coming against Uzbekistan's Denis Istomin in the 2020 Qualifiers. He made his Davis Cup return on Wednesday, defeating Cristian Garin in the opening match of USA's victory against Chile.

- **RAJEEV RAM**

- **Age:** 40 (born 18 March 1984 in Denver, CO, USA)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 10 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Adelaide; RU Paris 2024 Olympics, Montreal; SF Hamburg; QF Roland Garros
- **Davis Cup:** Ram has won 10 of the 12 Davis Cup matches he has contested, all in doubles – including his victories alongside Krajicek this week, with the pair defeating both Chile's Tomas Barrios Vera/Matias Soto and Slovakia's Norbert Gombos/Klein. His only defeats in the competition came to Kazakhstan's Alexander Bublik/Aleksandr Nedovyesov alongside Jack Sock at the 2022 Finals Group Stage and to Finland's Harri Heliovaara/Patrick Kaukovalta alongside Krajicek at the 2023 Finals Group Stage. He and Krajicek won the 3 other matches they contested in the competition last year and also defeated Ukraine's Illya Beloborodko/Krutykh in the Qualifiers this year.

- **AUSTIN KRAJICEK**

- **Age:** 34 (born 16 June 1990 in Tampa, FL, USA)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 29 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** RU Dubai, Miami, Paris 2024 Olympics; SF Rotterdam, Queen's, Hamburg
- **Davis Cup:** Krajicek made his Davis Cup debut in USA's victory over Uzbekistan in the Qualifiers last year, when he and Ram defeated Sanjar Fayziev/Sergey Formin. The pair won 2 of the 3 doubles matches they contested at the Finals Group Stage, defeating Croatia's Ivan Dodig/Mate Pavic and Netherlands' Wesley Koolhof/Matwe Middelkoop but falling to Finland's Heliovaara/Kaukovalta. They defeated Ukraine's Beloborodko/Krutykh in the Qualifiers this year and have won both of their matches this week, defeating Chile's Barrios Vera/Soto and Slovakia's Gombos/Klein.

## GROUP D – FINLAND v ARGENTINA

MANCHESTER – 1300 BST/1200 GMT

### Head-to-head: tied 1-1

1960	Europe first round	unknown	Helsinki (FIN)	Argentina d. Finland 5-0
2023	Qualifiers	Hard (I)	Espoo (FIN)	Finland d. Argentina 3-1

A 3rd Davis Cup meeting for Finland and Argentina – with the winner of today's clash set to move ahead in their rivalry. Argentina won the team's first meeting, in Helsinki 64 years ago. But the Finns were victorious when the teams met again in the Qualifiers last year, winning 3-1 to advance to the Finals for the first time.

FINLAND	v	ARGENTINA
10		20
<b>Semifinals 2023</b>	<b>Davis Cup Nations Ranking</b>	<b>Champions 2016</b>
1928	<b>Best Davis Cup Result</b>	1923
79	<b>First Year Played</b>	69
142	<b>Seasons Played</b>	169
61-81	<b>Ties Played</b>	96-73
	<b>Ties Win-Loss</b>	

### Finland – Team Information

- [\*\*FINLAND\*\*](#) are bidding to reach the quarterfinals for the 2nd time. This is their 2nd Finals appearance.
- Last season, Finland recorded their **best Davis Cup result** by reaching the semifinals. They defeated Argentina 3-1 in the Qualifiers in Espoo in February to advance to the Finals for the first time, before finishing in 2nd place in Finals Group D in Split in September, falling to Netherlands 1-2 but defeating Croatia 2-1 and USA 3-0. At the Final 8 Knockout Stage in Malaga in November, they defeated Canada 2-1 in the quarterfinals before falling to Australia 0-2 in the semifinals.
- **In the Qualifiers this year**, Finland defeated Portugal 3-1 in Turku to secure their place at the Finals. The team did not lose a set in live play, with straight-sets victories for Otto Virtanen and Emil Ruusuvuori in singles and for Harri Heliovaara/Ruusuvuori in doubles.
- Finland are currently ranked at No. 10 on the **Davis Cup Nations Rankings** – their highest position since the rankings were introduced in 2001. They broke the Top 20 for the first time after advancing to the Final 8 last year and ended the 2023 season at No. 12 following their semifinal finish.

### Finland – Historical Information

#### Most Davis Cup match-wins by a Finnish player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Jarkko Nieminen	63-27
2.	Tuomas Ketola	28-34
3.	Olli Rahnasto	26-25
4.	<b>Harri Heliovaara</b>	<b>23-22</b>
5.	Henri Kontinen	22-10

#### Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a Finnish player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Jarkko Nieminen	48-11
2.	Olli Rahnasto	17-12
3.	Tuomas Ketola	16-22
4.	Leo Palin	15-9
5.	Emil Ruusuvuori	14-7

**Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a Finnish player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Henri Kontinen	16-6
2.	Jarkko Nieminen	15-16
<b>3.</b>	<b>Harri Heliovaara</b>	<b>14-8</b>
4.	Tuomas Ketola	12-12
5.	Olli Rahnasto	9-13

**Most Davis Cup ties played by a Finnish player**

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Jarkko Nieminen	35
2.	Tuomas Ketola	31
<b>3.</b>	<b>Harri Heliovaara</b>	<b>29</b>
4.	Olli Rahnasto	24
5.	Henri Kontinen	22

**Finland – Player Information**

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Otto Virtanen	2021	4	13	8-7	2-1
Eero Vasa	2016	4	7	1-6	0-0
Patrick Kauvalta	2023	1	2	0-1	1-0
Harri Heliovaara	2008	14	29	9-14	14-8
Patrik Niklas-Salminen	2016	6	9	2-4	2-3

**OTTO VIRTANEN**

- **Age:** 23 (born 21 June 2001 in Hyvinkää, Finland)
- **Rankings:** 109 (singles), 471 (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Virtanen won 5 of the 7 Davis Cup matches as Finland reached the semifinals in 2023, with a 5-match Davis Cup winning streak ending against Australia's Alexei Popyrin in the semifinals. He defeated Nuno Borges during Finland's victory against Portugal in the Qualifiers this season. He has won one of the 4 matches he has contested this week. He fell to Billy Harris in singles but defeated Daniel Evans/Neal Skupski alongside Heliovaara in doubles during Finland's defeat to Great Britain on Wednesday, and fell to Felix Auger-Aliassime in singles and to Auger-Aliassime/Denis Shapovalov in doubles alongside Heliovaara during Finland's defeat to Canada on Thursday.

**EERO VASA**

- **Age:** 27 (born 1 February 1997 in Turku, Finland)
- **Rankings:** 703 (singles), 360 (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Vasa made his Davis Cup debut in 2016 and has made 7 appearances in the competition. His only Davis Cup victory came during Finland's 2022 World Group I victory against New Zealand, when he defeated Kiranpal Pannu. He has lost the other 6 Davis Cup matches he has contested – including defeats to Portugal's Henrique Rocha in a dead singles match in the Qualifiers this year, and to both Great Britain's Evans and Canada's Shapovalov this week.

**PATRICK KAUKOVALTA**

- **Age:** 25 (born 1 December 1998 in Turku, Finland)
- **Rankings:** 831 (singles), 752 (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Kauvalta made his Davis Cup debut at the 2024 Finals. He and Heliovaara defeated USA's Austin Krajicek/Rajeev Ram in the Group Stage but he fell to Canada's Milos Raonic in the opening match of the quarterfinal.

- **HARRI HELIOVAARA**

- **Age:** 35 (born 4 June 1989 in Helsinki, Finland)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 15 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Marrakech, Lyon, Wimbledon; RU Bucharest; SF Acapulco, Eastbourne
- **Davis Cup:** Heliovaara has won 14 of the last 17 Davis Cup doubles matches he has contested – including his victory against Great Britain's Evans/Skupski alongside Virtanen on Wednesday. His only 3 defeats in that time came at the 2023 Finals Group Stage alongside Niklas-Salminen – when he fell to Netherlands' Wesley Koolhof/Matwe Middelkoop and Croatia's Ivan Dodig/Mate Pavic – and at the Finals Group Stage this year, when he and Virtanen fell to Canada's Auger-Aliassime/Shapovalov. He and Emil Ruusuvuori won the doubles match during Finland's victory against Portugal in the Qualifiers this season, defeating Borges/Francisco Cabral. He will equal Jarkko Nieminen in 2nd place on the list for most Davis Cup doubles matches won by a Finnish player if he wins the doubles match today.

- **PATRIK NIKLAS-SALMINEN**

- **Age:** 27 (born 5 March 1997 in Tampere, Finland)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 106 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** RU Marseille
- **Davis Cup:** Niklas-Salminen returned to the Finnish team at the 2023 Finals Group Stage for the first since 2021. He has won 2 of the 5 Davis Cup doubles matches he has contested – against Georgia's Nikoloz Basilashvili/George Tsivadze alongside Heliovaara in the 2017 Europe/Africa Group II first round and against Egypt's Mohamed Safwat/Sherif Sabry alongside Kontinen in the 2018 Europe/Africa Group II third round. He lost both Davis Cup matches he contested last year, partnering Heliovaara in defeats to Netherlands' Koolhof/Middelkoop and Croatia's Dodig/Pavic. He was nominated for the Qualifiers this season but did not contest a match.

### Argentina – Team Information

- **ARGENTINA** are bidding to reach the quarterfinals for the first time since 2019. This is their 3rd appearance at the Davis Cup Finals.
- **Last season**, Argentina fell to Finland 1-3 in the Qualifiers in Espoo in February before defeating Lithuania 4-0 in a World Group I tie in Buenos Aires in September.
- **In the Qualifiers this year**, Argentina defeated Kazakhstan 3-2 in Rosario to secure their place at the Finals. Sebastian Baez defeated Dmitry Popko in a final-set tiebreak in the decisive 5th match to seal the victory for Argentina.
- In 2016, Argentina **won the Davis Cup title for the first time in their history**. They defeated Poland 3-2 in Gdansk, Italy 3-1 in Pesaro, Great Britain 3-2 in Glasgow and Croatia 3-2 in Zagreb to become just the 2nd nation to win the title after playing all four ties away from home after France in 2001.
- Prior to winning the title in 2016, Argentina held the record for **most appearances in the Davis Cup final without victory**. They have finished runner-up on 4 occasions – in 1981, 2006, 2008 and 2011.
- Argentina are currently ranked No. 20 on the **Davis Cup Nations Rankings** since September – their lowest position since the rankings were introduced in 2001. They are one of 10 nations to have been ranked No. 1 since the rankings were introduced in 2001 (alongside Australia, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, France, Great Britain, Italy, Russia and Spain), having been ranked No. 1 between November 2016 and October 2017.

### Argentina – Historical Information

**Most Davis Cup match-wins by a Argentinian player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Guillermo Vilas	57-24
2.	David Nalbandian	39-11
3.	Jose Luis Clerc	31-24
4.	Ricardo Cano	23-20
5.	Javier Frana	18-19

**Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a Argentinian player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Guillermo Vilas	45-10
2.	David Nalbandian	23-6
3.	Jose Luis Clerc	20-14
4.	Juan Martin del Potro	15-4
5=	Ricardo Cano Julian Ganzabal Martin Jaite	14-13 14-8 14-17

**Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a Argentinian player**

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	David Nalbandian	16-5
2.	Guillermo Vilas	12-4
3.	Jose Luis Clerc	11-10
4.	Lucas Arnold Ker	10-3
5=	Ricardo Cano Javier Frana Horacio Zeballos	9-7 9-11 9-6

**Most Davis Cup ties played by a Argentinian player**

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Guillermo Vilas	29
2.	David Nalbandian	26
3.	Ricardo Cano	23
4.	Jose Luis Clerc	22
5.	Javier Frana	20

**Argentina – Player Information**

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Sebastian Baez	2022	3	7	3-4	0-0
Francisco Cerundolo	2022	3	7	4-4	0-0
Tomas Martin Etcheverry	2023	2	3	2-1	0-0
Andres Molteni	2017	3	6	0-0	3-3
Maximo Gonzalez	2017	7	17	0-0	9-8

**• SEBASTIAN BAEZ**

- **Age:** 23 (born 28 December 2000 in Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- **Rankings:** 26 (singles), 194 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** Won Rio de Janeiro, Santiago; SF Cordoba, Hamburg; QF Buenos Aires, Geneva, Kitzbuhel
- **Davis Cup:** Baez made his Davis Cup debut during the 2022 Qualifiers, defeating Czechia's Jiri Lehecka in the only match he contested. He lost all 3 matches he contested at the 2022 Finals, but won the only match he contested in the competition in 2023, defeating Ricardas Berankis during Argentina's World Group I victory over Lithuania. He also won the decisive 5th match of Argentina's victory against Kazakhstan in the Qualifiers this year, defeating Dmitry Popko 64 36 76(6), but lost his opening match at this year's Finals, falling to Canada's Felix Auger-Aliassime on Tuesday.

- **FRANCISCO CERUNDOLO**

- **Age:** 26 (born 13 August 1998 in Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- **Rankings:** 31 (singles), 296 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** Won Umag; SF Rio de Janeiro; QF Bucharest, Madrid, Hamburg; R16 Roland Garros
- **Davis Cup:** Cerundolo made his Davis Cup debut at the 2022 Finals Group Stage. He lost both matches he contested at the event, falling to both Italy's Jannik Sinner and Croatia's Borna Coric. He recorded his first Davis Cup match-wins in 2023, defeating Otto Virtanen during Argentina's defeat to Finland in the Qualifiers and defeating Villus Gaubas during Argentina's World Group I victory over Lithuania. He won one of the 2 matches he contested during Argentina's victory against Kazakhstan in the Qualifiers this year, defeating Popko but falling to Timofei Skatov. He lost his opening match at this year's Finals, falling to Canada's Denis Shapovalov on Tuesday, but won his 2nd match on Friday, defeating Great Britain's Jack Draper.

- **TOMAS MARTIN ETCHEVERRY**

- **Age:** 25 (born 18 July 1999 in La Plata, Argentina)
- **Rankings:** 34 (singles), 219 (doubles)
- **2024 singles highlights:** RU Lyon; SF Houston, Barcelona; QF Cordoba, Buenos Aires, Gstaad
- **Davis Cup:** Etcheverry made his Davis Cup debut during Argentina's World Group I victory against Lithuania last year, defeating Edas Butvilas in a dead singles match. He contested his first Davis Cup match in live play during Argentina's victory against Kazakhstan in the Qualifiers this year, falling to Skatov in the 2nd match of the tie, and also won his first match at this year's Finals, defeating Great Britain's Daniel Evans on Thursday.

- **ANDRES MOLTENI**

- **Age:** 36 (born 15 March 1988 in Buenos Aires, Argentina)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 30 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Cordoba, Barcelona; SF Lyon; QF Australian Open, Wimbledon, US Open
- **Davis Cup:** Molteni made his 2nd and 3rd Davis Cup appearances in 2023, having previously contested one tie in 2017. He has won 2 of the 3 matches he has contested in the competition this year – he and Gonzalez won the doubles match of Argentina's victory against Kazakhstan in the Qualifiers this year, defeating Aleksandr Nedovyesov/Popko, and won their opening match at this year's Finals on Tuesday, defeating Canada's Vasek Pospisil/Shapovalov, but fell to Great Britain's Evans/Neal Skupski on Friday.

- **MAXIMO GONZALEZ**

- **Age:** 41 (born 20 July 1983 in Tandil, Argentina)
- **Rankings:** unranked (singles), 34 (doubles)
- **2024 doubles highlights:** Won Cordoba, Barcelona; SF Lyon; QF Australian Open, Wimbledon, US Open
- **Davis Cup:** Gonzalez has won 3 of the 5 Davis Cup matches he has contested since the beginning of last season. He and Molteni fell to Heliovaara/Ruusuvuori during Argentina's defeat to Finland in the 2023 Qualifiers but defeated Tadas Babelis/Butvilas during Argentina's World Group I victory over Lithuania. The pair then defeated Kazakhstan's Nedovyesov/Popko in the Qualifiers this year and won their opening match at this year's Finals on Tuesday, defeating Canada's Pospisil/Shapovalov – but lost their 2nd match here on Friday, falling to Great Britain's Evans/Skupski.