



2025 AUSTRALIAN OPEN

DAY 1 MEN'S NOTES

Sunday 12 January

1st Round Bottom Half

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On court today...

- Two-time Grand Slam finalist and No. 2 seed Alexander Zverev takes to Rod Laver Arena this evening as he begins his campaign to become the first German player to win a Grand Slam men's singles title since Boris Becker won the 1996 Australian Open. He faces wild card and former Top-10 player Lucas Pouille, who is making only his 2nd Australian Open appearance since his career-best Grand Slam run to the semifinals here in 2019. Pouille is making his first Tour-level appearance since reaching the 3rd round at Wimbledon last year, while Zverev comes to Melbourne off the back of representing Germany at the United Cup. Zverev and Pouille have not met at Tour-level before, though their only meeting at any senior level also came on Australian soil, in the group stage of the 2019 Hopman Cup, when Zverev won in 3 sets.
- No. 6 seed Casper Ruud opens the action on Rod Laver Arena as he faces Spain's Jaume Munar for a place in the 2nd round. While Ruud is a 3-time Grand Slam finalist, his best result here is reaching the round of 16 in 2021. On the other side of the net, world No. 61 Munar will equal his best Grand Slam result should he defeat the Norwegian today. He has reached the 2nd round at a major on 10 occasions, including here in 2020 and last year. Ruud has won 2 of the pair's 3 meetings at Tour-level and 3 of their 4 meetings at all professional levels, but Munar won their most recent match, their only match on hard courts, at 2022 Tokyo.
- Frenchman Arthur Fils will open play on Margaret Court Arena as he takes on Finland's Otto Virtanen. Fils, seeded at No. 20, is making just his 2nd appearance at the Australian Open, having reached the 2nd round on his debut here last year by defeating Jiri Vesely before falling to Talon Griekspoor. Meanwhile, Virtanen is making his Australian Open debut in what is 8th Grand Slam main draw appearance overall. The 2 men have met before, but not at Tour-level, with Fils winning their only previous meeting in the quarterfinals at the Quimper Challenger in France in 2023.
- Two all-lefthanded match-ups are taking place in the men's main draw today, as No. 14 seed Ugo Humbert takes on Italian qualifier Matteo Gigante in the final match of the day on John Cain Arena, while Frenchman Hugo Gaston faces Australian wild card Omar Jasika in the first match on Court 3.

NO. 2 ALEXANDER ZVEREV (GER) v (WC) LUCAS POUILLE (FRA)

Tour-level head-to-head: first meeting

2019 Hopman Cup Hard (I) R2 Zverev 63 67(8) 62

A first Tour-level meeting for Zverev and Pouille. Their only previous meeting at any level came at the 2019 Hopman Cup, where Zverev recorded a 3-set victory during the group stage.

Zverev has lost Grand Slam matches to players ranked as low as No. 104 Pouille on 4 previous occasions – including once at the Australian Open, when he fell to No. 107 Michael Mmoh in the 2nd round here in 2022. His 3 other Grand Slam defeats to players ranked as low as Pouille came at Wimbledon – against No. 105 Denis Kudla in the 2nd round in 2015, No. 138 Ernests Gulbis in the 3rd round in 2018 and No. 124 Jiri Vesely in the 1st round in 2019.

Zverev has won 5 of the 6 matches he has contested against wild cards at the Grand Slams – including his only previous match against a wild card at the Australian Open, when he defeated Alex Bolt in the 3rd round in 2019. His only defeat to a wild card at a major came on his Grand Slam debut at 2015 Wimbledon, when he fell to Kudla in the 2nd round.

ZVEREV	v	POUILLE
27	Age	30
2	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	104
23	Titles	5
101-35	Career Grand Slam Record	33-29
25-9	Australian Open Record	5-7
465-198	Career Record	144-132
275-123	Career Record - Hard	86-77
2-0	2025 Record	0-0
2-0	2025 Record - Hard	0-0
23-13	Career Five-Set Record	10-5
3	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	1
181-126	Career Tiebreak Record	79-67
0-0	2025 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **ZVEREV** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 9th straight year. This is his 10th Australian Open appearance and his 36th 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, Zverev equalled his **best Australian Open result** by reaching the semifinals, where he fell to Daniil Medvedev in 5 sets despite holding a 2-0 lead. He also reached the semifinals here in 2020, where he fell to Dominic Thiem in 4 sets.
- Zverev is a **2-time Grand Slam finalist**. He finished runner-up at both the 2020 US Open, falling to Thiem in 5 sets despite holding a 2-0 lead, and 2024 Roland Garros, falling to Carlos Alcaraz in 5 sets.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Zverev reached the quarterfinals at the US Open and the round of 16 at Wimbledon, falling to Taylor Fritz on both occasions.
- If Zverev wins the title here on his 36th Grand Slam appearance, he will go **joint-2nd on the Open Era list for most attempts before winning a first Grand Slam men's singles title** – alongside Stan Wawrinka, who won his first major title on his 36th Grand Slam appearance at the 2014 Australian Open. Goran Ivanisevic, who won his only major title at 2001 Wimbledon on his 48th Grand Slam appearance, is at the top of the list.
- If Zverev wins the title here on his 10th Australian Open appearance, he will go **top of the Open Era list for most attempts before winning the Australian Open men's singles title** – ahead of 1998 champion Petr Korda and 2014 champion Wawrinka, who both won the title here on their 9th Australian Open appearances.

- Zverev is bidding to become the **first German man to win a Grand Slam title since Boris Becker at the 1996 Australian Open**. If he reaches the final here, he will become the 3rd German man in the Open Era to reach the final at the Australian Open – after Becker (1991 and 1996) and Rainer Schuettler (2003).
- Zverev's **best results in 2024** were winning the titles at Rome-1000 (d. Nicolas Jarry) and Paris-1000 (d. Ugo Humbert). He also won the United Cup with Team Germany, finished runner-up at Roland Garros and Hamburg (l. Arthur Fils), and reached the semifinals at the Australian Open, Los Cabos (l. Jordan Thompson), Miami-1000 (l. Grigor Dimitrov), Halle (l. Hubert Hurkacz), Cincinnati-1000 (l. Jannik Sinner) and the ATP Finals (l. Fritz). He reached the quarterfinals at 6 other Tour-level events – including on his defence of the gold medal at the Paris 2024 Olympic Tennis Event (l. Lorenzo Musetti).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Zverev represented Germany at the United Cup, winning both singles matches he contested – against Brazil's Thiago Monteiro and China, P.R.'s Zhang Zhizhen.
- Zverev is bidding to win his **24th Tour-level singles title**. He is in 2nd place on the list for most Tour-level titles won among active players – behind Novak Djokovic (99 titles).
- Zverev contested 3 **five-set matches** at the Australian Open last year, recording 5-set victories against Lukas Klein in the 2nd round and Cameron Norrie in the round of 16 before falling to Medvedev in 5 sets in the semifinals. He has a 5-3 win-loss record in 5-set matches at the Australian Open and a 23-13 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 plays here at the same ranking.
- 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 singles 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. 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 is coached by his father, Alexander Zverev Sr.
- Wild card **POUILLE** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd time. This is his 8th Australian Open appearance and his 31st Grand Slam overall.
- Pouille is making his **2nd Australian Open appearance in the last 6 years**. His only other appearance here in that time – in either the main draw or qualifying – came in 2022, when he received a main draw wild card but fell to Zdenek Kolar in the 1st round. He was ranked too low to enter qualifying here last year.
- Pouille's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the semifinals at the 2019 Australian Open (l. Novak Djokovic). He is one of 7 Frenchman to have reached the semifinals here in the Open Era. He has lost in the 1st round on his 6 other Australian Open main draw appearances.
- **At the Grand Slams last year**, Pouille reached the 3rd round as a qualifier at Wimbledon, defeating Laslo Djere and Thanasi Kokkinakis before giving a walkover to Alex de Minaur due to an abdominal injury. He fell in the 1st round of qualifying at Roland Garros (l. Hamad Medjedovic) and in the final round of qualifying at the US Open (l. Otto Virtanen).
- Pouille recorded **3 Tour-level match-wins in 2024**. In addition to his 3rd round finish at Wimbledon, he also reached the 2nd round as a qualifier at Indian Wells-1000 (d. Daniel Altmaier, l. Stefanos Tsitsipas). He lost in the 1st round on his 2 other Tour-level appearances last year – as a wild card at Marseille (l. Harold Mayot) and as a qualifier at Estoril (l. Nuno Borges).
- Pouille **won 2 titles at Challenger-level in 2024** – at Malthausen (GER) (d. Jozef Kovalik) and Mouilleron Le Captif (FRA) (d. Quentin Halys). He also finished runner-up at the Nonthaburi 1 Challenger (THA), where he retired in the final against Valentin Vacherot, the Saint Tropez Challenger (FRA) (l. Gijs Brouwer) and the Saint-Brieuc Challenger (FRA) (l. Benjamin Bonzi).

- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Pouille reached the final round of qualifying at Brisbane (d. Jason Kubler, I. Nishesh Basavareddy). He withdrew from Auckland due to an abdominal strain. He is contesting his first Tour-level match since Wimbledon last year.
- Pouille is bidding to **defeat a Top 5 player for the 2nd time**. He has a 1-13 win-loss record against Top 5 players, with his only victory coming against No. 5 Rafael Nadal in the round of 16 at the 2016 US Open. He has since lost all 10 matches he has contested against Top 5 players at Tour-level.
- Pouille has won one of the 2 **five-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open. He fell to Gael Monfils in 5 sets in the 1st round here in 2015 despite holding a 2-0 lead, but defeated Alexei Popyrin in 5 sets in the 3rd round here in 2019. He has a 10-5 win-loss record in 5-set matches overall.
- Pouille is a **former Top 10 player**. He reached a career-high ranking of No. 10 in March 2018. He dropped as low as No. 678 in May 2023 but re-entered the Top 100 for the first time since July 2021 in October last year before finishing the season at No. 101. He plays here at No. 104.
- Pouille was a **good junior**. He achieved a career-high junior ranking of No. 23 in January 2012 and reached the boys' singles quarterfinals at the 2011 Australian Open (l. Luke Saville). He never competed in the boys' singles here.
- Pouille made his **Davis Cup** debut for France in 2016 and was part of the team that won France's 10th Davis Cup title in 2017. He won 2 of the 4 matches he played that season, including defeating Steve Darcis in the deciding match of the final. He has a 7-4 win-loss record in the competition overall but has not competed in Davis Cup since 2018. France play at home against Brazil in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 1-2 February.
- Pouille is coached by Eric Winogradsky and Nicolas Copin.

NO. 6 CASPER RUUD (NOR) v JAUME MUNAR (ESP)

Tour-level head-to-head: Ruud leads 2-1

2016	Santiago Challenger (CHI)	Clay (O)	R32	Ruud	62 62
2018	Bastad	Clay (O)	R32	Ruud	67(7) 64 60
2022	Gstaad	Clay (O)	QF	Ruud	76(3) 76(4)
2022	Tokyo	Hard (O)	R32	Munar	63 63

A 4th Tour-level meeting for Ruud and Munar, their 2nd on a hard court and their first at a Grand Slam. Ruud won the pair's first two meetings, both on clay, but Munar won their only previous meeting on a hard court at 2022 Tokyo. They also met once at Challenger-level, with Ruud winning in straight sets at the Santiago Challenger (CHI) in 2016.

Ruud and Munar were contemporaries at junior-level. They contested one match as juniors, with Ruud winning 16 75 62 in the 2nd round of the boys' singles at 2015 Roland Garros.

RUUD	v	MUNAR
26	Age	27
6	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	61
12	Titles	0
46-24	Career Grand Slam Record	10-24
7-5	Australian Open Record	2-6
263-140	Career Record	93-135
104-81	Career Record - Hard	24-54
2-0	2025 Record	3-1
2-0	2025 Record - Hard	3-1
9-6	Career Five-Set Record	2-5
2	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	1
88-72	Career Tiebreak Record	46-49
1-0	2025 Tiebreak Record	1-1

- **RUUD** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 5th time. This is his 6th Australian Open appearance and his 25th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Ruud reached the 3rd round. He defeated Albert Ramos-Vinolas and Max Purcell before falling to Cameron Norrie.
- 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 has reached **3 Grand Slam finals**, finishing as runner-up at 2022 Roland Garros (l. Rafael Nadal), the 2022 US Open (l. Carlos Alcaraz), and 2023 Roland Garros (l. Novak Djokovic). He is the only Norwegian player in history to have contested a Grand Slam singles final at professional level.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Ruud reached the semifinals at Roland Garros (l. Alexander Zverev), the round of 16 at the US Open (l. Taylor Fritz) and the 2nd round at Wimbledon (l. Fabio Fognini).
- Ruud's **best results in 2024** were winning the title at Barcelona (d. Stefanos Tsitsipas) and Geneva (d. Tomas Machac). He also finished runner-up at Los Cabos (l. Jordan Thompson), Acapulco (l. Alex de Minaur) and Monte Carlo-1000 (l. Tsitsipas) and reached the semifinals at Estoril (l. Pedro Martinez) and the ATP Finals (l. Jannik Sinner).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Ruud represented Norway at the United Cup, winning both singles matches he contested – against Czechia's Tomas Machac and Poland's Hubert Hurkacz.
- Ruud has won 2 of the 3 **five-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open. He recorded 5-set victories against Quentin Halys in the 1st round in 2018 and against Purcell in the 2nd round last year but fell to Egor Gerasimov in 5 sets in the 1st round in 2020. He has a 9-6 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 2022. He plays here at No. 6.

- 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 27-10 overall win-loss record in the competition. Norway play at home against Argentina in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 30-31 January.
- Ruud is coached by his father, Christian, who reached the round of 16 here in 1997, and Pedro Clar.
- **MUNAR** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 3rd time. This is his 7th Australian Open appearance and 25th Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, Munar equalled his **best Australian Open result** by reaching the 2nd round (d. Alexander Shevchenko, I. Adrian Mannarino). He also reached the 2nd round here in 2020 (d. Hugo Gaston, I. Alexei Popyrin).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Munar reached the 2nd round at Roland Garros (d. Roberto Bautista Agut, I. Alex de Minaur) and Wimbledon (d. Billy Harris, I. De Minaur) but lost in the 1st round at the US Open (I. Gabriel Diallo).
- Munar's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the 2nd round on 10 occasions. In addition to his 2nd round finishes here in 2020 and 2024, he has reached the 2nd round at Roland Garros 4 times (2018, 2021, 2022 and 2024), at Wimbledon 3 times (2022, 2023 and 2024) and once at the US Open (2018).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Munar reached the semifinals at Hong Kong (I. Alexandre Muller). It was his first appearance in a Tour-level semifinal since March 2023, when he reached the semifinals at Santiago (I. Nicolas Jarry).
- Munar's best **Tour-level results in 2024** were quarterfinals finishes at Cordoba (I. Facundo Bagnis) and Santiago (I. Sebastian Baez).
- Also in 2024, Munar won his **10th Challenger title** at the Bad Waltersdorf Challenger (AUT) (d. Thiago Seyboth Wild). He also finished runner-up at both the Aix En Provence Challenger (FRA) (I. Alejandro Tabilo) and the Genoa Challenger (ITA) (I. Francesco Passaro).
- Munar is bidding to defeat a **Top 10 player at a Grand Slam for the first time** on his 4th attempt. He has lost all 3 matches he has played against Top 10 players at the Grand Slams – against No. 3 Dominic Thiem in the 1st round at the 2020 US Open, No. 6 Stefanos Tsitsipas in the 1st round at 2020 Roland Garros and No. 9 De Minaur in the 2nd round at 2024 Wimbledon. The highest-ranked player he has defeated at a Grand Slam is No. 41 Ferrer in the 1st round at 2018 Roland Garros.
- Munar has **won one of the last 12 matches he has contested against Top 10 players at Tour-level**, with his only victory in that time coming against No. 3 Ruud in the 1st round at 2022 Tokyo. He has a 2-14 win-loss record against Top 10 players at Tour-level overall, with his only other victory against a Top 10 player coming against No. 3 Alexander Zverev in the 2nd round at 2019 Marrakech.
- Munar has lost his last 5 **five-set matches** – including both 5-set matches he has contested at the Australian Open. He lost 5-set matches to Aslan Karatsev in the 1st round here in 2022 and to Mannarino in the 2nd round here last year. He has a 2-5 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Munar reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 52 in May 2019. He plays here at No. 61.
- Munar **was part of the Spanish team that won the 2013 Junior Davis Cup Finals** in San Luis Potosi, defeating Korea, Rep. in the final. He achieved a career-high junior ranking of No. 3 in January 2015, and finished runner-up in the boys' singles at 2014 Roland Garros (I. Andrey Rublev). He reached the 2nd round in his only appearance in the boys' singles here (d. Filippo Baldi, I. Harry Bouchier).
- Munar is coached by Javier Fernandez and Miguel Sanchez.

NO. 14 UGO HUMBERT (FRA) v (Q) MATTEO GIGANTE (ITA)

Head-to-head: first meeting

Humbert has never lost a Grand Slam match to a player ranked as low as No. 146 Gigante before. The lowest-ranked player he has lost a Grand Slam match to is No. 141 Peter Gojowczyk in the 1st round at the 2021 US Open.

Humbert has won 3 of the 4 matches he has contested against qualifiers at the Grand Slams – including his only previous match against a qualifier at the Australian Open, when he defeated David Goffin in the 1st round here last year. His only defeat to a qualifier at a Grand Slam came against Gojowczyk in the 1st round at the 2021 US Open. Humbert has won 11 of his last 12 matches against qualifiers at Tour-level, and has a 24-9 win-loss record against qualifiers at Tour-level overall.

Humbert and Gigante are 2 of the 19 lefthanded players to begin the men's singles here this year. Humbert has a 2-1 win-loss record against fellow lefthanders at the Grand Slams, a 14-14 win-loss record against fellow lefthanders at Tour-level and a 27-22 win-loss record against fellow lefthanders at all levels as a professional. Gigante won his only previous Tour-level match against a fellow lefthander and has a 5-2 win-loss record against fellow lefthanders at all levels as a professional.

HUMBERT	v	GIGANTE
26	Age	23
14	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	146
6	Titles	0
17-24	Career Grand Slam Record	0-0
5-6	Australian Open Record	0-0
144-126	Career Record	1-2
105-77	Career Record - Hard	0-0
1-1	2025 Record	0-0
1-1	2025 Record - Hard	0-0
3-8	Career Five-Set Record	0-0
1	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
68-75	Career Tiebreak Record	1-0
0-1	2025 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **HUMBERT** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 3rd straight year. This is his 7th Australian Open appearance and his 25th Grand Slam overall.
- Humbert has **lost in the 1st round here on 3 occasions** – on his Australian Open debut in 2019, when he lost to Jeremy Chardy in 5 sets, and in 2020 (l. John Millman) and 2022 (l. Richard Gasquet). He has lost in the 1st round at the Grand Slams on a total of 14 occasions.
- Last year here, Humbert equalled his **best Australian Open result** by reaching the 3rd round, defeating David Goffin and Zhang Zhizhen before falling to Hubert Hurkacz. He also reached the 3rd round in 2023 (l. Holger Rune).
- Humbert's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 on 2 occasions – on his Wimbledon debut in 2019 (l. Novak Djokovic) and again at Wimbledon last year (l. Carlos Alcaraz).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Humbert reached the 2nd round at the US Open (d. Thiago Monteiro, l. Francisco Comesana) but fell in the 1st round at 2024 Roland Garros (l. Lorenzo Sonego).
- Humbert's best results in 2024 were winning his **5th and 6th Tour-level titles** at Marseille (d. Grigor Dimitrov) and Dubai (d. Alexander Bublik), becoming the 3rd male player to win his first 6 Tour-level finals after Ernests Gulbis and Martin Klizan. He also finished runner-up at Tokyo (l. Arthur Fils) and Paris-1000 (l. Alexander Zverev), reached the semifinals at 's-Hertogenbosch (l. Alex de Minaur) and the quarterfinals at Doha (l. Gael Monfils) and Monte Carlo-1000 (l. Casper Ruud).
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Humbert represented France at the United Cup, winning one of the 2 singles matches he contested. He defeated Switzerland's Dominic Stricker but fell to Italy's Flavio Cobolli.
- Humbert lost both of the **5-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open – falling in 5 sets to both Chardy in the 1st round in 2019 and Nick Kyrgios in the 2nd round in 2021. He has a 3-8 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall, with all 3 of his victories having come at Wimbledon.

- Humbert reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 13 in April last year. He plays here at No. 14.
- Humbert reached a **career-high junior ranking of No. 18** in January 2016. He reached the 2nd round in his only appearance in the boys' singles here in 2016 (l. Oliver Anderson).
- Humbert has played **Davis Cup** for France since 2023 and has a 5-2 overall win-loss record in the competition. France play at home against Brazil in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 1-2 February.
- Humbert is coached by Chardy, who reached the quarterfinals here in 2013.
- Qualifier **GIGANTE** is making his Grand Slam debut today.
- As No. 32 seed in qualifying, Gigante defeated Nick Hardt (DOM) 62 62, Lukas Neumayer (AUT) 63 64, and Henrique Rocha (POR) 64 75 to **qualify for the main draw at a Grand Slam for the first time** on his 8th attempt.
- **Last year here**, on his only previous appearance in Australian Open qualifying, Gigante fell in the 1st round of qualifying (l. Dane Sweeny).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Gigante reached the final round of qualifying at Roland Garros (l. Gustavo Heide) and the 2nd round of qualifying at Wimbledon (l. Alejandro Moro Canas) but fell in the 1st round of qualifying at the US Open (l. Daniel Galan).
- Gigante **won his 3rd and 4th Challenger titles in 2024** – at the Nonthaburi 3 Challenger (THA) (d. Hong Seongchan) and the Tenerife 2 Challenger (ESP) (d. Stefano Travaglia). He also finished runner-up at the Tenerife 3 Challenger (ESP) (l. Mikhail Kukushkin) and the Manacor Challenger (ESP) (l. Duje Ajdukovic).
- **Prior to Australian Open qualifying this year**, Gigante was a member of the Italian team at the United Cup but did not contest a match.
- Gigante is bidding to record his **2nd Tour-level match-win**. He recorded his first Tour-level match-win in a 2nd round finish as a wild card at Rome-1000 last year (d. Giulio Zeppieri, l. Francisco Cerundolo). His only other Tour-level appearance came as a qualifier at 2024 Marakech, where he retired due to an abdominal injury during his 1st round match against Roberto Carballes Baena.
- Gigante is **facing a Top 20 player for the first time**. The highest-ranked player he has faced at any level is No. 22 Cerundolo in the 2nd round at Rome-1000 last year. The highest-ranked player he has defeated at any level is No. 88 Tomas Martin Etcheverry in the quarterfinals at the 2022 Forli Challenger (ITA).
- Gigante reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 132 in June last year. He plays here at No. 146.
- Gigante reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 51 in February 2020. He reached the 2nd round in the boys' singles here in 2020 in his only appearance at a junior Grand Slam event (d. Evgeny Philippov, l. Dalibor Svrčina).
- Gigante is coached by Marco Gulisano.

NO. 20 ARTHUR FILS (FRA) v OTTO VIRTANEN (FIN)

Tour-level head-to-head: first meeting

2023 Quimper Challenger (FRA) Hard (O) QF Fils 46 62 63

A first Tour-level meeting for Fils and Virtanen. Fils won their only meeting below Tour-level, at the 2023 Quimper Challenger (FRA).

FILS	v	VIRTANEN
20	Age	23
20	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	92
3	Titles	0
6-7	Career Grand Slam Record	2-4
1-1	Australian Open Record	0-0
62-48	Career Record	11-15
38-29	Career Record - Hard	7-10
1-1	2025 Record	0-0
1-1	2025 Record - Hard	0-0
2-1	Career Five-Set Record	0-3
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
25-19	Career Tiebreak Record	9-8
1-0	2025 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **FILS** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd consecutive year. This is his 2nd Australian Open appearance and his 8th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, on his Australian Open debut, Fils reached the 2nd round (d. Jiri Vesely, l. Tallon Griekspoor).
- Fils' **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 at Wimbledon last year, defeating Dominic Stricker, Hubert Hurkacz and Roman Safiullin before falling to Alex de Minaur.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Fils reached the 2nd round at the US Open (d. Learner Tien, l. Gabriel Diallo) but fell in the 1st round at Roland Garros (l. Matteo Arnaldi).
- Fils' best results in 2024 were winning his **2nd and 3rd Tour-level titles** – at Hamburg (d. Alexander Zverev) and Tokyo (d. Ugo Humbert). He also reached the semifinals at Auckland (l. Alejandro Tabilo) and Basel (l. Ben Shelton), and the quarterfinals at Hong Kong (l. Andrey Rublev), Santiago (l. Pedro Martinez), Barcelona (l. Dusan Lajovic) and Halle (l. Alexander Zverev).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Fils reached the quarterfinals at Hong Kong. He received a bye through the 1st round and defeated Zizou Bergs in the 2nd round before falling to Alexandre Muller.
- Fils has won 2 of the 3 **five-set matches** he has contested. He recorded 5-set victories against both Griekspoor in the 1st round at the 2023 US Open and Safiullin in the 3rd round at 2024 Wimbledon, but fell in 5 sets to Arnaldi in the 2nd round at the 2023 US Open.
- Fils reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 20 in July last year. He plays here at the same ranking.
- Fils was a **successful junior**. He reached a career-high ranking of No. 3 in July 2021, a month after finishing runner-up in the boys' singles at 2021 Roland Garros (l. Luca van Assche). He also won the 2021 Roland Garros boys' doubles title alongside Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard. He never contested the junior event at the Australian Open.
- Fils has played **Davis Cup** for France since 2023 and has a 1-3 win-loss record in the competition. France play at home against Brazil in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 1-2 February.
- Fils is coached by former world No. 3 Sergi Bruguera, who reached the round of 16 here in 1993, and former world No. 4 Sebastien Grosjean, who reached the semifinals here in 2001.

- **VIRTANEN** is bidding to reach the 2nd round at a Grand Slam for the 3rd time on his Australian Open debut. This is his 5th Grand Slam appearance overall.
- **Last year here**, Virtanen fell in the 1st round of qualifying (l. Andrea Vavassori). He also fell in the 1st round of qualifying in 2023 (l. Nicolas Jarry).
- Virtanen's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the 2nd round as a qualifier at both 2024 Wimbledon (d. Max Purcell, l. Tommy Paul) and the 2024 US Open (d. Quentin Halys, l. Alex de Minaur).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Virtanen competed as a lucky loser at Roland Garros but fell to Filip Misolic in 5 sets in the 1st round despite holding a 2-0 lead.
- Virtanen recorded **4 Tour-level match-wins in 2024**. In addition to his 2nd round finishes at Wimbledon and the US Open, he defeated Nuno Borges during Finland's Davis Cup Qualifiers victory over Portugal and reached the 2nd round at Almaty (d. Fabio Fognini, l. Karen Khachanov).
- Virtanen won his **4th, 5th and 6th Challenger titles in 2024** – at the Pau Challenger (FRA) (d. Leandro Riedi), the Lugano Challenger (SUI) (d. Daniel Masur) and the Brest Challenger (FRA) (d. Benjamin Bonzi). He also reached the semifinals at the Lille Challenger (FRA) (l. Arthur Rinderknech).
- Virtanen is bidding to defeat a **Top 20 player for the first time** on his 3rd attempt. He lost both matches he has played against Top 20 players – against No. 13 Paul in the 2nd round at 2024 Wimbledon and No. 10 De Minaur in the 2nd round at the 2024 US Open. The highest-ranked player he has defeated at any level in No. 39 Mackenzie McDonald at the 2023 Davis Cup Finals Group Stage.
- Virtanen has lost all 3 **five-set matches** he has contested – to Tomas Martin Etcheverry in the 1st round at the 2023 US Open, to Misolic in the 1st round at 2024 Roland Garros and to Paul in the 2nd round at 2024 Wimbledon.
- Virtanen **broke the Top 100 for the first time** in October last year and reached a career-high ranking of No. 91 in November. He plays here once place lower at No. 92.
- Virtanen was a **good junior**. He reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 6 in December 2018 and reached the quarterfinals of the boys' singles at the 2019 Australian Open (l. Giulio Zeppieri).
- Virtanen has played **Davis Cup** for Finland since 2020 and was part of the Finnish team that reached the semifinals for the first time in 2023. He has a 10-9 win-loss record across singles and doubles in the competition. Finland play away against Austria in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 31 January-1 February.
- Virtanen is coached by Jan de Witt.

NO. 24 JIRI LEHECKA (CZE) v (WC) LI TU (AUS)

Head-to-head: first meeting

Lehecka has won both of his previous matches against wild cards at the Grand Slams – against Christopher Eubanks in the 2nd round at the 2023 Australian Open and against Sebastian Ofner in the 1st round at 2023 Wimbledon.

Lehecka is facing an Australian player here for the first time. He has a 2-3 win-loss record against Australian players at Tour-level overall. He is contesting his 2nd match against a player at their home Grand Slam, having recovered from 0-2 down to defeat Mitchell Krueger in 5 sets in the 2nd round at the 2024 US Open.

LEHECKA	v	TU
23	Age	28
24	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	179
2	Titles	0
11-10	Career Grand Slam Record	0-2
5-3	Australian Open Record	0-1
82-66	Career Record	2-10
61-44	Career Record - Hard	1-7
5-0	2025 Record	1-1
5-0	2025 Record - Hard	1-1
4-1	Career Five-Set Record	0-0
1	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
31-24	Career Tiebreak Record	2-10
0-1	2025 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **LEHECKA** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 3rd consecutive year. This is his 4th Australian Open appearance and his 11th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Lehecka reached the 2nd round (d. Bernabe Zapata Miralles, l. Alex Michelsen).
- Lehecka's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the quarterfinals here in 2023. He recorded victories against Borna Coric, Christopher Eubanks, Cameron Norrie and Felix Auger-Aliassime before falling to Stefanos Tsitsipas.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Lehecka reached the 3rd round at the US Open (l. Andrey Rublev) but withdrew from both Roland Garros and Wimbledon due to a lower back injury.
- Lehecka's best result in 2024 was winning his **first Tour-level title** at Adelaide (d. Jack Draper). His other highlights last season were finishing runner-up at Antwerp (l. Roberto Bautista Agut) and reaching the semifinals at Madrid-1000, where he retired due to a lower back injury against Auger-Aliassime, and Belgrade (l. Denis Shapovalov).
- Prior to the Australian Open, Lehecka won his **2nd Tour-level title** at Brisbane. He defeated Holger Rune, Yoshihito Nishioka and Nicolas Jarry before Grigor Dimitrov retired in their semifinal match due to a left hip injury and Reilly Opelka retired in the final due to a back injury. He became the first player to win a Tour-level title following retirements in the semifinals and final since Lleyton Hewitt at 2004 Sydney. He withdrew from Adelaide due to fatigue.
- Lehecka has won 4 of the 5 **five-set matches** he has contested, with his only defeat coming in the first 5-set match he contested – against Filip Krajinovic in the 1st round at 2022 Wimbledon. He won the only 5-set match he has contested at the Australian Open – against Norrie in the 3rd round here in 2023.
- Lehecka reached a career-high ranking of No. 23 in January last year. He plays here one place lower at No. 24.
- Lehecka had a **good junior career**. He reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 10 in March 2019 and reached the quarterfinals of the boys' singles at both the Australian Open and US Open in 2019, falling to Emilio Nava on both occasions. He also won the boys' doubles title at 2019 Wimbledon alongside Jonas Forejtek.
- Lehecka made his **Davis Cup** debut for Czechia in 2019 and has an 8-11 overall win-loss record in the competition. Czechia play at home against Korea, Rep. in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 31 January-1 February.
- Lehecka is coached by Michal Navratil.

- Wild card **TU** is bidding to record his first Grand Slam match-win. This is his 2nd Australian Open appearance and his 3rd Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Tu fell to Joris de Loore in the 1st round of qualifying. He also fell in qualifying here in 2022 and 2023.
- Tu made his **Grand Slam debut** as a wild card at the 2021 Australian Open, falling to Feliciano Lopez in the 1st round. He made his 2nd Grand Slam main draw appearance as a qualifier at the US Open last year, falling to Carlos Alcaraz in the 1st round.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Tu reached the 2nd round of qualifying at both Roland Garros (d. Oliver Crawford, l. Mikhail Kukushkin) and Wimbledon (d. Valentin Royer, l. Luca van Assche).
- Tu **lost in the 1st round at all 4 Tour-level events he contested in 2024** – as a qualifier at Brisbane (l. Daniel Altmaier), Newport (l. Eliot Spizzirri), the US Open and Shanghai-1000 (l. Marcos Giron).
- Tu **played mainly at Challenger-level in 2024**. His best results were runner-up finishes at the Lexington Challenger (USA) (l. Joao Fonseca) and the Yokohama Challenger (JPN) (l. Yuta Shimizu). He also won a title on the ITF World Tennis Tour at M25 Traralgon (AUS) (d. Alex Bolt).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Tu reached the 2nd round as a wild card at Adelaide (d. James Duckworth, l. Benjamin Bonzi). He reached the final round of qualifying at Brisbane (d. Lukas Klein, l. Yoshihito Nishioka).
- Tu is bidding to record his **3rd Tour-level match-win**. In addition to his 2nd round finish at Adelaide this year, his other Tour-level match-win came in a 2nd round finish as a qualifier at 2023 Newport (d. Aleksandar Vukic, l. Mackenzie McDonald).
- Tu is bidding to **defeat a Top 50 player for the first time on his 3rd attempt**. He has lost both of his previous matches against Top 50 players, at any level – against No. 3 Alcaraz at the 2024 US Open and against No. 47 Giron at 2024 Shanghai-1000. The highest-ranked player he has defeated, at any level, is No. 83 Vukic in the 1st round at 2023 Newport.
- Tu is one of **14 Australian men** to begin the men's singles draw here this year – the joint-most of any nation, alongside USA. He is looking to become the first home player to win the Australian Open men's singles title since Mark Edmondson in 1976.
- Tu reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 172 in November last year. He plays here at No. 179.
- Tu is coached by David Macpherson and Ben Milner.

NO. 26 TOMAS MACHAC (CZE) v SUMIT NAGAL (IND)

Head-to-head: first meeting

MACHAC	v	NAGAL
24	Age	27
26	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	96
0	Titles	0
10-10	Career Grand Slam Record	2-7
4-4	Australian Open Record	1-2
51-42	Career Record	15-36
35-31	Career Record - Hard	8-20
2-2	2025 Record	0-1
2-2	2025 Record - Hard	0-1
2-2	Career Five-Set Record	0-0
1	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
21-19	Career Tiebreak Record	4-6
1-1	2025 Tiebreak Record	1-0

- **MACHAC** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 4th time. This is his 5th Australian Open appearance and his 11th Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, Machac recorded his **best Australian Open result** by reaching the 3rd round. He defeated Shintaro Mochizuki and Frances Tiafoe before falling to Karen Khachanov.
- Machac's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 at the US Open last year. He defeated Fabio Fognini, Sebastian Korda and David Goffin before falling to Jack Draper.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Machac reached the 3rd round at Roland Garros – where he defeated Nuno Borges and Mariano Navone before falling to Daniil Medvedev – and the 2nd round at Wimbledon (d. Goffin, I. Roman Safiullin).
- Machac's best result in 2024 was reaching his **first Tour-level final** at Geneva (l. Casper Ruud). He also reached the semifinals at Tokyo (l. Ugo Humbert) and Shanghai-1000 (l. Jannik Sinner) and the quarterfinals at Marseille (l. Hubert Hurkacz), Miami-1000 (l. Sinner) and Vienna (l. Draper).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Machac represented Czechia at the United Cup, winning 2 of the 4 singles matches he contested. He defeated both Poland's Hurkacz and Italy's Flavio Cobolli but fell to Norway's Ruud and USA's Taylor Fritz.
- Machac won both **5-set matches** he contested in 2024 – against Navone in the 2nd round at Roland Garros and against Goffin in the 1st round at Wimbledon, when he successfully recovered from 0-2 down for the first time in his career. He has a 2-2 win-loss record in 5-set matches overall.
- Machac reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 25 in October last year. He plays here one place lower at No. 26.
- Machac reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 16 in January 2018. He lost in the 1st round on his only appearance in the boys' singles at the Australian Open in 2018 (l. Rudolf Molleker).
- Machac **won the mixed doubles gold medal at the Paris 2024 Olympic Tennis Event**. He partnered Katerina Siniakova to victory over China, P.R.'s Wang Xinyu/Zhang Zhizhen in the final to win Czechia's 2nd gold medal at the Olympic Tennis Event (after Siniakova and Barbora Krejčíková won women's doubles gold at Tokyo 2020). He also reached the semifinals alongside Adam Pavlasek in men's doubles but fell to USA's Austin Krajicek/Rajeev Ram in the semifinals and to USA's Fritz/Tommy Paul in the bronze medal match.
- Machac made his **Davis Cup** debut for Czechia at the 2021 Davis Cup Finals and has a 9-8 win-loss record in the competition. Czechia will play at home against Korea, Rep. in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 31 January-1 February.
- Machac is coached by Daniel Vacek.

- **NAGAL** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd time. This is his 3rd Australian Open appearance and his 8th Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, as a qualifier making his first Grand Slam main draw appearance since the 2021 Australian Open, Nagal equalled his **best Grand Slam result** by reaching the 2nd round (d. Alexander Bublik, l. Shang Juncheng). He also reached the 2nd round at the 2020 US Open (d. Bradley Klahn, l. Dominic Thiem). He is the only Indian player, man or woman, to have recorded a Grand Slam match-win since Somdev Devvarman reached the 2nd round at the 2013 US Open.
- Nagal **lost in the 1st round at the 3 other Grand Slam events in 2024** – falling to Karen Khachanov at Roland Garros, Miomir Kecmanovic at Wimbledon and Tallon Griekspoor at the US Open.
- Nagal **reached the 2nd round at 5 Tour-level events in 2024**. In addition to his 2nd round finish here, he also reached the 2nd round at Marrakech (d. Corentin Moutet, l. Lorenzo Sonego), as a qualifier at Monte Carlo-1000 (d. Matteo Arnaldi, l. Holger Rune) and as a direct acceptance at both Bastad (d. Elias Ymer, l. Mariano Navone) and Kitzbuhel (d. Lukas Klein, l. Pedro Martinez).
- Nagal **won 2 titles at Challenger-level in 2024** – at the Chennai Challenger (IND) (d. Luca Nardi) and the Heilbronn Challenger (GER) (d. Alexander Ritschard). He also finished runner-up at the Perugia Challenger (ITA) (l. Luciano Darderi).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Nagal qualified for the main draw at Auckland but fell in the 1st round (l. Alex Michelsen). He also fell in the 1st round at the Canberra Challenger (AUS) (l. Patrick Kypson).
- Nagal is bidding to end an **8-match losing streak at Tour-level**. Since his 2nd round finish at Kitzbuhel last year, he has lost in the 1st round at all 7 Tour-level events he has contested.
- Nagal broke the Top 100 for the first time in February last year and reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 68 in July. He plays here at No. 96.
- Nagal reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 23 in February 2015. His best junior Grand Slam singles result was reaching the 3rd round of the boys' singles here in 2015 (l. Marc Polmans). He also won the boys' doubles title at 2015 Wimbledon alongside Hoang Nam Ly (d. Reilly Opelka/Akira Santillan).
- Nagal has played **Davis Cup** for India since 2016 and has a 6-4 win-loss record in the competition. India play at home against Togo in the 2025 World Group I Play-offs on 1-2 February.
- Nagal is coached by Sascha Nensel.

(Q) GAUTHIER ONCLIN (BEL) v REILLY OPELKA (USA)

Head-to-head: first meeting

Opelka has lost both of his previous matches against qualifiers at the Grand Slams – against Dominik Koepfer in the 2nd round at the 2019 US Open and against Jack Sock in the 1st round at 2020 Roland Garros. He has a 14-9 win-loss record against qualifiers at Tour-level overall.

Onclin is facing an American player for the 3rd consecutive match, having defeated Aleksandar Kovacevic and Mackenzie McDonald in the final 2 rounds of qualifying here. He has an 8-4 win-loss record against American opponents at all levels.

ONCLIN	v	OPELKA
23	Age	27
236	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	171
0	Titles	4
0-0	Career Grand Slam Record	13-16
0-0	Australian Open Record	4-5
0-0	Career Record	100-93
0-0	Career Record - Hard	79-65
0-0	2025 Record	4-1
0-0	2025 Record - Hard	4-1
0-0	Career Five-Set Record	1-4
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
0-0	Career Tiebreak Record	90-89
0-0	2025 Tiebreak Record	4-0

- Qualifier **ONCLIN** is making his Tour-level debut today.
- Onclin defeated Roman Andres Burruchaga (ARG) 16 60 76(7), No. 7 seed Aleksandar Kovacevic (USA) 36 76(5) 61 and No. 25 seed Mackenzie McDonald (USA) 67(7) 76(5) 61 to **qualify at a Grand Slam for the first time** on his 5th attempt. He fell to Kovacevic in the 1st round of qualifying here last year – his only previous appearance in qualifying at the Australian Open.
- Onclin **played mainly at Challenger and ITF World Tennis Tour level events in 2024**. His best result was reaching his first Challenger final at the Prague 2 Challenger (CZE) (l. Jiri Vesely). He also won 3 titles at M25-level on the ITF World Tennis Tour and finished runner-up at 3 other M25 events. He was ranked too low to enter qualifying at Roland Garros, Wimbledon and the US Open.
- Gauthier is bidding to extend a **13-match singles winning streak at all levels**. He ended the 2024 season by winning back-to-back events at M25 Vale do Lobo (POR) (d. Frederico Ferreira Silva) and M25 Monastir (TUN) (d. Lorenzo Giustino) before winning his 3 matches in qualifying here. He did not contest an event in singles prior to Australian Open qualifying this season, but did contest the doubles event at the Canberra Challenger (AUS), partnering Hugo Gaston in a 1st round defeat to Hayden Jones/Pavle Marinkov.
- Onclin reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 194 in September 2023. He plays here at No. 236.
- Onclin reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 8 in September 2019 and his best result at junior-level was winning the title at 2019 J1 Roehampton (GBR) (d. Liam Draxl). He lost in the 1st round on his only appearance in the boys' singles here in 2019 (l. Harry Wendelken).
- Onclin is coached by Steve Darcis.
- **OPELKA** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 4th time. This is his 6th Australian Open appearance and his 17th Grand Slam overall.
- Opelka is making his **first Australian Open appearance since 2022**, when he recorded his best Australian Open result by reaching the 3rd round (l. Denis Shapovalov).
- Opelka's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 at the 2021 US Open (l. Lloyd Harris).

- Opelka has **struggled with injuries in recent years**. He played just one match between August 2022 and July 2024 – a victory over Tennys Sandgren at the 2023 Charlottesville Challenger (USA) before withdrawing ahead of his 2nd round match – having undergone hip surgery in 2022. He made his return to the Tour as a wild card at 2024 Newport, where he reached the semifinals (l. Alex Michelsen).
- Opelka recorded **7 Tour-level match-wins in 2024**. In addition to winning 3 matches en route to the semifinals at Newport, he also recorded 2nd round finishes at Atlanta (d. Aleksandar Kovacevic, l. Alejandro Davidovich Fokina) and as a wild card at Washington (d. James Duckworth, l. Jordan Thompson) and won both Davis Cup singles matches he contested, defeating both Chile's Cristian Garin and Germany's Henri Squire at the Finals Group Stage.
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Opelka finished runner-up at Brisbane. He defeated Federico Gomez, Matteo Arnaldi, Novak Djokovic and Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard before retiring due to a back injury in the final against Jiri Lehecka. It was his 7th appearance in a Tour-level final and his first since he won the title at 2022 Houston. Ranked No. 293 he also became the 2nd-lowest ranked player to defeat Djokovic in a Tour-level match.
- Opelka has a 1-4 win-loss record in **5-set matches**, with all 4 of his defeats coming at the Australian Open – against David Goffin in the 1st round in 2017, Thomas Fabbiano in the 2nd round in 2019, Fabio Fognini in the 1st round in 2020, despite holding a 2-0 lead, and Taylor Fritz in the 2nd round in 2021. His only victory in a 5-set match came against Stan Wawrinka in the 2nd round at 2019 Wimbledon.
- Opelka is a **former Top 20 player**. He reached a career-high ranking of No. 17 in February 2022. He plays here at No. 171 and entered the main draw using a protected ranking of No. 33.
- Opelka was a **successful junior**, reaching a career-high junior ranking of No. 4 in July 2015. He won the boys' singles title at 2015 Wimbledon, defeating Mikael Ymer in the final, and finished runner-up in the boys' doubles event with Akira Santillan. He also reached the quarterfinals of the boys' singles at 2015 Roland Garros (l. Michael Mmoh). He never competed in the junior event here.
- Opelka made his **Davis Cup** debut for USA in 2019 and has a 3-4 overall win-loss record in the competition. USA play away against Chinese Taipei in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 31 January-1 February.
- Opelka is coached by Jay Berger and Friedrich Kunath.

HUGO GASTON (FRA) v (WC) OMAR JASIKA (AUS)

Head-to-head: first meeting

This is one of 3 matches between Australian and French players in the men's singles 1st round here this year – alongside Adam Walton's match against Quentin Halys (which also takes place on Court 3 today) and Alexei Popyrin's match against Corentin Moutet.

These are the 326th, 327th and 328th men's singles matches between Australian and French players at the Grand Slams in the Open Era. In the 325 matches contested to date, Australian players have won 179 and French players have won 146.

These are 109th, 110th and 111th men's singles matches between Australian and French players at the Australian Open in the Open Era. In the 108 matches contested to date, Australian players lead 56-52. [NB there have been 91 men's singles matches between Australian and French players at Roland Garros in the Open Era; Australian players lead 49-42]

Gaston lost his only previous match against an Australian player at the Australian Open, falling to Christopher O'Connell in the 1st round here in 2022. He has a 2-1 win-loss record against Australian players at the Grand Slams and a 3-2 win-loss record against Australian players at Tour-level overall.

Jasika lost his only previous match against a French player at the Australian Open, falling to Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the 2nd round here in 2016. It is his only previous Tour-level match against a French player.

Gaston and Jasika are 2 of the 19 lefthanded players to begin the men's singles here this year. Gaston has a 1-3 win-loss record against fellow lefthanders at the Grand Slams and an 8-10 win-loss record against fellow lefthanders at Tour-level overall. Jasika is facing a fellow lefthander for the first time in a Tour-level match.

GASTON	v	JASIKA
24	Age	27
81	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	180
0	Titles	0
8-13	Career Grand Slam Record	1-3
1-3	Australian Open Record	1-3
40-56	Career Record	1-4
17-33	Career Record - Hard	1-4
0-0	2025 Record	0-0
0-0	2025 Record - Hard	0-0
3-1	Career Five-Set Record	0-0
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
23-16	Career Tiebreak Record	0-1
0-0	2025 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- Lefthander **GASTON** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd straight year. This is his 4th Australian Open appearance and his 14th Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, Gaston fell to Lloyd Harris in the final round of qualifying but entered the main draw as a lucky loser. He defeated Roberto Carballes Baena for his **first Australian Open main draw match-win** before falling to Taylor Fritz in the 2nd round. He fell in the 1st round on his 2 other main draw appearances here – as a wild card in 2020 (l. Jaume Munar) and as a direct acceptance in 2022 (l. Christopher O'Connell).
- Gaston **lost in the 1st round at the 3 other Grand Slam events in 2024** – as a direct acceptance at both Roland Garros (l. Ben Shelton) and the US Open (l. Facundo Diaz Acosta) and as a qualifier at Wimbledon (l. Alexandre Muller).
- Gaston's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the round of 16 as a wild card on his Roland Garros debut in 2020, when he defeated Maxime Janvier, Yoshihito Nishioka and Stan Wawrinka before falling to Dominic Thiem. Ranked No. 239, he became the lowest-ranked man to reach the round of 16 at Roland Garros since No. 283 Arnaud di Pasquale in 2002, and the lowest-ranked man to reach the round of 16 at a Grand Slam since No. 248 Guillermo Canas at the 2004 Australian Open.

- Gaston's **best result in 2024** was reaching his 2nd Tour-level final at Kitzbuhel (l. Matteo Berrettini). He also reached the semifinals at Antwerp (l. Roberto Bautista Agut) and the quarterfinals as a qualifier at Lyon (l. Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard). He also won his 4th title at Challenger-level – at the Lyon Challenger (FRA) (d. Muller).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Gaston fell in the 1st round at the Canberra Challenger (AUS) (l. Yosuke Watanuki) and fell in the 1st round of qualifying at Adelaide (l. Yannick Hanfmann).
- Gaston has won 3 of the 4 **five-set matches** he has contested at Tour-level, with his only defeat in a 5-set match coming against Thiem in the round of 16 at 2020 Roland Garros.
- Gaston reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 58 in July 2022. He plays here at No. 81.
- Gaston was a **successful junior**, reaching a career-high junior ranking of No. 2 in October 2018. He won the gold medal in boys' singles at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires, defeating Facundo Diaz Acosta in the final. He reached the quarterfinals on his only appearance in the boys' singles here in 2018 (l. Marko Miladinovic).
- Gaston is coached by Younes El Aynaoui, who reached the quarterfinals here in 2000 and 2003.
- Wild card **JASIKA** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd time. This is his 4th Grand Slam overall, with all 3 of his previous appearances at the Grand Slams coming at the Australian Open.
- **Last year here**, Jasika qualified for the main draw to make his first Australian Open appearance since 2017. He fell to Hubert Hurkacz in the 1st round.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams last year**, Jasika fell in the 1st round of qualifying at both Roland Garros (l. Dalibor Svrčina) and Wimbledon (l. Zizou Bergs). They were his first appearances in qualifying at a Grand Slam other than the Australian Open. He was ranked too low to enter qualifying at the US Open.
- Jasika's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the 2nd round here as a wild card on his Grand Slam debut in 2016 (d. Ilya Marchenko, l. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga). On his only other main draw appearance here, as a wild card in 2017, he fell to David Ferrer in the 1st round.
- Jasika is bidding to record his **2nd Tour-level match-win**. His only previous Tour-level match-win came in his 2nd round finish here in 2016. His only other Tour-level appearances came as a wild card at 2014 Kuala Lumpur, when he fell to Rajeev Ram in the 1st round, and at the Australian Open in 2017 and 2024.
- Jasika **played mainly at Challenger-level and on the ITF World Tennis Tour in 2024**. His best result was winning his 2nd title at Challenger-level at the Burnie 1 Challenger (AUS) (d. Alex Bolt) – 7 years after he won his first Challenger title at the same event. He also reached the quarterfinals at the Playford Challenger (AUS) (l. Rinky Hijikata) and the Sydney Challenger (AUS) (l. Tristan Schoolkate) and won 6 titles on the ITF World Tennis Tour.
- **Prior to the Australian Open**, Jasika competed as an alternate in qualifying at Adelaide but retired due to a right knee injury against Hijikata in the 1st round of qualifying. He was also a member of the Australian team at the United Cup but did not contest a match.
- Jasika is one of **14 Australian men** to begin the men's singles draw here this year – the joint-most of any nation, alongside USA. He is looking to become the first home player to win the Australian Open men's singles title since Mark Edmondson in 1976.
- Jasika **broke the Top 200 for the first time** in September last year and reached a career-high ranking of No. 177 in November. He plays here 3 places lower at No. 180.
- Jasika had a **successful junior career**. He won both the boys' singles and boys' doubles titles at the 2014 US Open, defeating Quentin Halys in the singles final and partnering Naoki Nakagawa to defeat Rafael Matos/Joao Menezes in the doubles final. He reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 6 and reached the 3rd round on both his appearances in the boys' singles here – in 2013 (l. Nick Kyrgios) and 2014 (l. Petros Chrysochos).
- Jasika is coached by his father, Admir Jasika.

DAMIR DZUMHUR (BIH) v ALEKSANDAR VUKIC (AUS)

Head-to-head: first meeting

Dzumhur is facing an Australian player at the Australian Open for the 3rd time. He defeated John Millman in the 2nd round in 2018 but fell to James Duckworth in the 1st round in 2021. He has a 4-9 win-loss record against Australian players at Tour-level overall.

DZUMHUR	v	VUKIC
32	Age	28
83	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	67
3	Titles	0
16-26	Career Grand Slam Record	3-10
5-8	Australian Open Record	1-4
129-145	Career Record	42-55
80-97	Career Record - Hard	28-38
0-0	2025 Record	1-2
0-0	2025 Record - Hard	1-2
6-6	Career Five-Set Record	1-2
2	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
43-50	Career Tiebreak Record	35-25
0-0	2025 Tiebreak Record	0-1

- **DZUMHUR** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 4th time. This is his 9th Australian Open and his 27th Grand Slam overall.
- Dzumhur is making his **first Grand Slam main draw appearance since the 2022 Australian Open**. He has lost in qualifying at the last 8 Grand Slam tournaments, reaching the 2nd round of qualifying at the Australian Open in both 2023 (d. Dimitar Kuzmanov, l. Max Purcell) and 2024 (d. Timofei Skatov, l. Giulio Zeppieri).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Dzumhur reached the final round of qualifying at Wimbledon, where he retired against Alejandro Moro Canas, but fell in the 1st round of qualifying at both Roland Garros (l. Henri Squire) and the US Open (l. Alex Bolt).
- Dzumhur's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the 3rd round on 5 occasions – including twice at the Australian Open. He reached the 3rd round here as a qualifier on his Grand Slam debut in 2014 (l. Tomas Berdych) and as the No. 28 seed in 2018 (l. Rafael Nadal). He also reached the 3rd round at Roland Garros in 2015 (l. Roger Federer) and 2018 (l. Alexander Zverev) and at the 2017 US Open (l. Andrey Rublev).
- Dzumhur recorded **2 Tour-level match-wins in 2024**, both of which came in Davis Cup ties for Bosnia and Herzegovina. He defeated Bulgaria's Yanaki Milev in the World Group II Play-offs in February and defeated Chinese Taipei's Tseng Chin Hsin in World Group I in September. He lost the 4 other Tour-level matches he contested last season – falling to Chinese Taipei Wu Tung-Lin in Davis Cup World Group I and losing in the 1st round at Hangzhou (l. Rinky Hijikata), Shanghai-1000 (l. Gael Monfils) and Almaty (l. Maximilian Marterer).
- Dzumhur **led the Tour for most titles won at Challenger-level in 2024**. He won 6 Challenger titles last season – at Barletta (ITA) (d. Harold Mayot), Ostrava (CZE) (d. Squire), Zagreb (CRO) (d. Luka Mikrut), Santo Domingo (DOM) (d. Andres Andrade), Istanbul (TUR) (d. Hamad Medjedovic) and Maia (POR) (d. Francesco Passaro). He also reached the semifinals at 3 other Challenger events.
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Dzumhur reached the 2nd round at the Canberra Challenger (AUS) (d. Hady Habib, l. Vit Kopriva) but fell in the 1st round of qualifying at Adelaide (l. James McCabe).
- Dzumhur has won **3 Tour-level singles titles**. He became the first player from Bosnia and Herzegovina to win a Tour-level title by defeating Fabio Fognini in the final at 2017 St. Petersburg. He also won the titles on hard courts at Moscow in 2017 (d. Ricardas Berankis) and on grass at Antalya in 2018 (d. Mannarino).
- Dzumhur is a **former Top 30 player**, having reached a career-high ranking of 23 in July 2018. He re-entered the Top 100 for the first time since February 2020 in August last year. He ended the 2024 season at No. 83 and plays here at the same ranking.

- Dzumhur had a good **junior career**. He reached a career-high No. 3 in the junior rankings after reaching the quarterfinals of the boys' singles at 2010 Wimbledon (l. Benjamin Mitchell). He also won a bronze medal at the 2010 Youth Olympic Games in Singapore (d. Victor Baluda). He never contested the junior event here.
- Dzumhur has played **Davis Cup** for Bosnia and Herzegovina since 2010 and has a 24-17 win-loss record in the competition. Bosnia and Herzegovina play away against Uzbekistan in the 2025 World Group I Play-offs on 31 January-1 February.
- Dzumhur is coached by Antonio Sancic.
- **VUKIC** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd time. This is his 5th Australian Open appearance and his 11th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, Vukic fell to Jordan Thompson in 5 sets in the 1st round.
- Vukic is bidding to record his **4th Grand Slam match-win**. His only previous victories at the Grand Slams came in 2nd round finishes as a wild card at the 2022 Australian Open (d. Lloyd Harris, l. Radu Albot) and as a direct acceptance at Wimbledon in both 2023 (d. Daniel Altmaier, l. Quentin Halys) and 2024 (d. Sebastian Ofner, l. Carlos Alcaraz).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Vukic fell in the 1st round at Roland Garros (l. Zhang Zhizhen) and the US Open (l. Max Purcell).
- Vukic's **best results in 2024** were reaching the semifinals as a lucky loser at Eastbourne (l. Taylor Fritz) and as a direct acceptance at Almaty (l. Karen Khachanov). He also reached the quarterfinals at Marrakech (l. Mariano Navone), 's-Hertogenbosch (l. Tallon Griekspoor) and Newport (l. Christopher Eubanks).
- Also in 2024, Vukic reached the semifinals at the Phoenix Challenger (USA) (l. Matteo Berrettini) and the Taipei 2 Challenger (TPE) (l. Adam Walton).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Vukic reached the 2nd round as a wild card at Brisbane (d. David Goffin, l. Grigor Dimitrov) but fell in the 1st round as a direct acceptance at Adelaide (l. Marcos Giron).
- Vukic is one of **14 Australian men** to begin the men's singles draw here this year – the joint-most of any nation, alongside USA. He is looking to become the first home player to win the Australian Open men's singles title since Mark Edmondson in 1976.
- Vukic has won one of the 3 **five-set matches** he has contested. He lost 5-set matches to Brandon Holt in the 1st round here in 2023 and to Jordan Thompson in the 1st round here last year before recording his first victory in a 5-set match by defeating Ofner in 5 sets in the 1st round at Wimbledon last year.
- Vukic reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 48 in August. He plays here at No. 67.
- Vukic played **college tennis**. He represented the University of Illinois from 2015 to 2018 and was named a 3-time All-American and 2017 Big Ten Athlete of the Year.
- Vukic is coached by Nuno Lencastre and Jay Gooding.

KEI NISHIKORI (JPN) v (Q) THIAGO MONTEIRO (BRA)

Head-to-head: Nishikori leads 1-0

2019 Wimbledon Grass (O) R128 Nishikori 64 76(3) 64

A 2nd meeting for Nishikori and Monteiro, with Nishikori having won their only previous meeting, in the 1st round at 2019 Wimbledon, in straight sets. Nishikori was ranked at No. 7 at the time of that match.

Nishikori has won 16 of the 17 Grand Slam matches he has contested against qualifiers – including all 3 of his previous matches against qualifiers at the Australian Open. His only defeat to a qualifier at a Grand Slam came against Daniel Evans in the 1st round at the 2013 US Open. He has a 49-11 win-loss record against qualifiers at Tour-level overall.

Nishikori is facing a lefthanded player at the Australian Open for the first time since he defeated Austin Krajicek in the 2nd round here in 2016. He has a 2-3 win-loss record against lefthanded players at the Australian Open, a 13-8 win-loss record against lefthanded players at the Grand Slams and a 62-28 win-loss record against lefthanded players at Tour-level overall.

NISHIKORI	v	MONTEIRO
35	Age	30
74	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	106
12	Titles	0
103-45	Career Grand Slam Record	7-23
27-10	Australian Open Record	1-5
445-222	Career Record	92-132
298-146	Career Record - Hard	26-54
4-1	2025 Record	0-2
4-1	2025 Record - Hard	0-2
28-8	Career Five-Set Record	1-5
4	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
142-98	Career Tiebreak Record	54-61
0-0	2025 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **NISHIKORI** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 9th time. This is his 11th Australian Open appearance and his 47th Grand Slam overall.
- Nishikori has **lost in the 1st round at the Australian Open twice before** – on his debut here in 2009 (l. Jurgen Melzer) and on his most-recent appearance here in 2021 (l. Pablo Carreno Busta). He missed more than 18 months on Tour in 2021-23, undergoing hip surgery in January 2022 and delaying his return due to an ankle injury. He missed a further 7 months from August 2023 to March 2024 due to a knee injury.
- Nishikori's **best Australian Open result** is reaching the quarterfinals on 4 occasions – in 2012 (l. Andy Murray), 2015 (l. Stan Wawrinka), 2016 (l. Djokovic) and 2019, when he retired against Djokovic due to a quad strain. He is the only Japanese man in the Open Era to have reached the quarterfinals here.
- At the 2014 US Open, Nishikori became the **first player from an Asian nation to contest a Grand Slam men's singles final** after defeating 3 Top 10 players – Milos Raonic, Wawrinka and Djokovic – in consecutive matches before falling to Marin Cilic in the title match.
- Nishikori contested his **first 2 Grand Slam tournaments since 2021 last season**. He reached the 2nd round at Roland Garros, defeating Gabriel Diallo in 5 sets before retiring due to a right shoulder injury against Ben Shelton and lost in the 1st round at Wimbledon, falling to Arthur Rinderknech in 5 sets. He did not compete at the US Open.
- Nishikori's **best Tour-level results in 2024** were reaching the quarterfinals at Montreal-1000 (l. Matteo Arnaldi) and as a wild card Tokyo (l. Holger Rune).
- **At Challenger-level last year**, Nishikori won the title at the Helsinki Challenger (FIN) (d. Luca Nardi) and reached the semifinals at the Bratislava 2 Challenger (SVK) (l. Roman Safiullin).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Nishikori finished runner-up at Hong Kong (l. Alexandre Muller). It was his 27th appearance in a Tour-level final and his first since he won the title at 2019 Brisbane.

- Nishikori has won 7 of the 8 **five-set matches** he has contested at the Australian Open, with his only defeat in a 5-set match here coming against Roger Federer in the round of 16 in 2017. He has a 28-8 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall.
- Nishikori is a **former Top 5 player**. He reached a career-high ranking of No. 4 in March 2015. He began the 2024 season at No. 352, ended the year at No. 106 and re-entered the Top 100 for the first time since June 2022 this week after his runner-up finish at Hong Kong. He plays here at No. 74 and entered the draw using a protected ranking of No. 48.
- Nishikori reached a **career-high junior ranking of No. 7** in July 2006. He reached the quarterfinals of the boys' singles at both the Australian Open (l. Alexandre Sidorenko) and Roland Garros (l. Petru-Alexandru Lunceanu) that year, and also won the Roland Garros boys' doubles title in 2006 with Emiliano Massa.
- Nishikori made his **Davis Cup** debut for Japan in 2008 and has a 21-3 overall win-loss record in the competition. He returned to the team for the first time since 2016 for their World Group I victory against Colombia last year. Japan play at home against Great Britain in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 31 January-1 February.
- Nishikori is coached by 2002 Australian Open men's singles champion Thomas Johansson.
- Lefthander **MONTEIRO** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 2nd time. This is his 6th Australian Open appearance and his 24th Grand Slam overall.
- As No. 6 seed, Monteiro defeated Jason Kubler (AUS) 76(4) 76(4), Valentin Royer (FRA) 76(1) 63 and Kimmer Coppejans (BEL) 64 63 to **qualify for the main draw here this year**. It was the first time he has successfully qualified here on his 3rd appearance in Australian Open qualifying and the 4th time he has successfully qualified on his 14th appearance in qualifying at a Grand Slam.
- Monteiro's **best Australian Open result** is reaching the 2nd round in 2021 (d. Andrej Martin, l. Andrey Rublev). He has lost in the 1st round on his 4 other appearances in the main draw here, including his most-recent appearance in 2023 (l. Constant Lestienne). He did not compete here in 2024, beginning his season at the Punta del Este Challenger (URU) later in January.
- Monteiro's **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the 3rd round at 2020 Roland Garros. He defeated Nikoloz Basilashvili and Marcus Giron before falling to Marton Fucsovics.
- **At the Grand Slams in 2024**, Monteiro fell in the 1st round as a qualifier at Roland Garros (l. Miomir Kecmanovic) and as a direct acceptance at both Wimbledon (l. Alexei Popyrin) and the US Open (l. Ugo Humbert).
- Monteiro is bidding to end a **7-match losing streak at the Grand Slams**. He has lost in the 1st round on his last 6 main draw appearances at the Grand Slams, with his last victory at a Grand Slam coming in a 2nd round finish at the 2022 US Open (d. Alex Molcan, l. Karen Khachanov).
- Monteiro's **best Tour-level results in 2024** were reaching the quarterfinals at Rio de Janeiro (l. Sebastian Baez) and Bastad (l. Duje Ajdukovic) and the round of 16 as a qualifier at Rome-1000 (l. Zhang Zhizhen). He also reached the semifinals at 2 Challenger-level events – at Santa Cruz (BOL) (l. Camilo Ugo Carabelli) and Salzburg (AUT) (l. Kyrian Jacquet).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Monteiro represented Brazil at the United Cup. He lost both singles matches he contested, falling to China, P.R.'s Zhang and to Germany's Alexander Zverev.
- Monteiro lost the only **5-set match** he has contested at the Australian Open, falling to Benoit Paire in 5 sets in the 1st round here in 2022. He has a 1-5 win-loss record in 5-set matches at Tour-level overall, with his only victory coming in the first 5-set match he contested – against Alexandre Muller in the 1st round at 2017 Roland Garros.
- Monteiro reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 61 in October 2022. He plays here at No. 106.
- Monteiro made his **Davis Cup** debut for Brazil in 2016 and has a 13-13 win-loss record in the competition. Brazil play away against France in the 2025 Qualifiers 1st Round on 1-2 February.
- Monteiro is coached by Ruben Ramirez-Hidalgo and Pablo Fuentes.

ADAM WALTON (AUS) v QUENTIN HALYS (FRA)

Head-to-head: first meeting

This is one of 3 matches between Australian and French players in the men's singles 1st round here this year – alongside Omar Jasika's match against Hugo Gaston (which also takes place on Court 3 today) and Alexei Popyrin's match against Corentin Moutet.

These are the 326th, 327th and 328th men's singles matches between Australian and French players at the Grand Slams in the Open Era. In the 325 matches contested to date, Australian players have won 179 and French players have won 146.

These are 109th, 110th and 111th men's singles matches between Australian and French players at the Australian Open in the Open Era. In the 108 matches contested to date, Australian players lead 56-52. [NB there have been 91 men's singles matches between Australian and French players at Roland Garros in the Open Era; Australian players lead 49-42]

Walton is bidding to defeat a French player at Tour-level for the first time. He has lost all 4 of his previous matches against French players at Tour-level, including both of his previous matches against French players at the Grand Slams.

Halys won his only previous match against an Australian player at a Grand Slam and has a 5-3 win-loss record against Australian players at Tour-level overall.

WALTON	v	HALYS
25	Age	28
91	ATP Ranking (6 Jan)	71
0	Titles	0
1-4	Career Grand Slam Record	8-21
0-1	Australian Open Record	2-7
3-13	Career Record	35-62
1-10	Career Record - Hard	20-43
0-2	2025 Record	0-0
0-2	2025 Record - Hard	0-0
0-1	Career Five-Set Record	1-7
0	Comebacks from 0-2 Down	0
1-8	Career Tiebreak Record	25-44
0-1	2025 Tiebreak Record	0-0

- **WALTON** is bidding to reach the 2nd round at a Grand Slam for the 2nd time. This is his 2nd Australian Open appearance and his 5th Grand Slam overall.
- **Last year here**, as a wild card on his Grand Slam debut, Walton fell to Matteo Arnaldi in the 1st round.
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Walton reached the 2nd round at Wimbledon – where he defeated Federico Coria for his first Grand Slam match-win before falling to Francisco Comesana – but fell in the 1st round as a wild card at Roland Garros (l. Arthur Rinderknech) and as a direct acceptance at the US Open (l. Alexandre Muller).
- Walton is bidding to record his **4th Tour-level match-win**. His only Tour-level match-wins to date all came in 2024 – in addition to his 2nd round finish at Wimbledon, he also reached the 2nd round as a qualifier at Mallorca (d. Yannick Hanfmann, l. Paul Jubb) and as a lucky loser at Atlanta (d. Miomir Kecmanovic, l. Rinderknech).
- Walton **won his 2nd and 3rd Challenger titles in 2024** – at the Burnie 2 Challenger (AUS) (d. Dane Sweeny) and the Taipei Challenger (TPE) (d. Ilya Marchenko). He also finished runner-up at the Pune Challenger (IND) (l. Valentin Vacherot), the Acapulco Challenger (MEX) (l. Giovanni Mpetshi Perricard), the Guangzhou Challenger (CHN) (l. Tristan Schoolkate) and the Taipei 2 Challenger (TPE) (l. Taro Daniel), and reached the semifinals at the Morelos Challenger (MEX) (l. Mpetshi Perricard) and the Shenzhen Challenger (CHN) (l. Mackenzie McDonald).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Walton fell in the 1st round as a wild card at Brisbane (l. Frances Tiafoe) and as a qualifier at Adelaide (l. Arthur Cazaux).

- Walton is one of **14 Australian men** to begin the men's singles draw here this year – the joint-most of any nation, alongside USA. He is looking to become the first home player to win the Australian Open men's singles title since Mark Edmondson in 1976.
- Walton lost the only **5-set match** he has contested – to Comesana in the 2nd round at Wimbledon last year.
- Walton **broke the Top 100 for the first time** in May 2024 and reached a career-high ranking of No. 86 in August. He plays here at No. 91.
- Walton **played college tennis** for the University of Tennessee between 2017 and 2022, winning the 2021 NCAA title in men's doubles alongside Pat Harper and earning all-American honours in singles in 2022.
- Walton reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 60 in January 2017. He lost in the 1st round on both of his appearances in the boys' singles here – in 2016 (l. Lez Kazakov) and 2017 (l. Dan Added).
- Walton is coached by Andrew Roberts.
- **HALYS** is bidding to reach the 2nd round here for the 3rd time. This is his 8th Australian Open appearance and 22nd Grand Slam overall.
- Last year here, Halys equalled his **best Australian Open result** by reaching the 2nd round (d. Lloyd Harris, l. Sebastian Korda). He also reached the 2nd round as a wild card on his debut here in 2016 (d. Ivan Dodig, l. Novak Djokovic).
- Halys' **best Grand Slam result** is reaching the 3rd round at Wimbledon on 2 occasions – as a direct acceptance in 2023 (l. Jannik Sinner) and as a qualifier in 2024 (l. Holger Rune).
- **Elsewhere at the Grand Slams in 2024**, Halys fell in the 1st round as a qualifier at the US Open (l. Otto Virtanen). He fell to Filip Misolic in the final round of qualifying at Roland Garros.
- Halys' best result in 2024 was reaching his **first Tour-level final** as a qualifier at Gstaad (l. Matteo Berrettini). He also reached the quarterfinals as a qualifier at Metz (l. Benjamin Bonzi).
- **At Challenger-level in 2024**, Halys finished runner-up at the Rennes Challenger (FRA) (l. Jacob Fearnley) and the Mouilleron Le Captif Challenger (FRA) (l. Lucas Pouille) and reached the semifinals at the Cherbourg Challenger (FRA) (l. Zsombor Piros).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Halys attempted to qualify at Adelaide but retired due to a left wrist injury against Jacob Bradshaw in the 1st round of qualifying.
- Halys has lost 7 of the 8 **five-set matches** he has contested – including both 5-set matches he has contested at the Australian Open, against Casper Ruud in the 1st round in 2018 and against Filip Krajinovic in the 1st round in 2020. His only victory in a 5-set match came against Karen Khachanov in the 2nd round at Wimbledon last year.
- Halys reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 61 in January 2023. He plays here at No. 71.
- Halys had a **good junior career**, reaching a career-high junior ranking of No. 3 in March 2014. He finished runner-up in the boys' singles at the 2014 US Open (l. Omar Jasika) and reached the semifinals in the boys' singles here in 2014 (l. Stefan Kozlov). He won the boys' doubles title at 2014 Roland Garros alongside Benjamin Bonzi and finished runner-up in the boys' doubles at the 2014 Australian Open alongside Johan-Sebastien Tatlot.
- Halys is coached by Olivier Malcor.