



DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DAILY NEWSLETTER

the Baseline



FEBRUARY 17 - 29, 2020 DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS STADIUM

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020

20TH TITLE FOR SIMONA HALEP AT THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY!



Top seed Simona Halep defeated Elena Rybakina 3-6 6-3 7-6(5) on Saturday to claim her second Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships title. It was arguably the most dramatic final in the history of the women's event and a fitting end to the 20th anniversary celebrations of the tournament hosting the WTA Tour.

In what proved to be an exciting week of ups and downs for her, Halep saved a match point in her opening match against Ons Jabeur, fought back from a set down to defeat Aryna Sabalenka and then produced a near flawless performance against Jennifer Brady in the semi-finals, committing just eight unforced errors, before bringing her week to a dramatic conclusion.

There were countless tremendous rallies which stretched both players to the limit, and the outcome of the final remained in doubt right up until the final ball as both players competed at the very highest level.

“ Well, it feels great that I could win it. Actually, it was amazing, she fought till the end. She didn't give up any balls. It was really tough mentally. The pressure was very high. But I want it badly, so that's why I fought till the end. ”

What's on Today

Matches

- Matches start at 2.00pm on Centre Court and Court 1
- Evening session of play begins at 7.00pm
- Match of the day is Novak Djokovic vs Malek Jaziri at 7pm

Activities

- The J.P. Morgan Kids' Day is taking place this morning!

Competitions

- Catch & Win is on Centre Court at 6.45pm. Be in your seat to win some great prizes
- Catch an autographed signed ball after the 7.00pm match



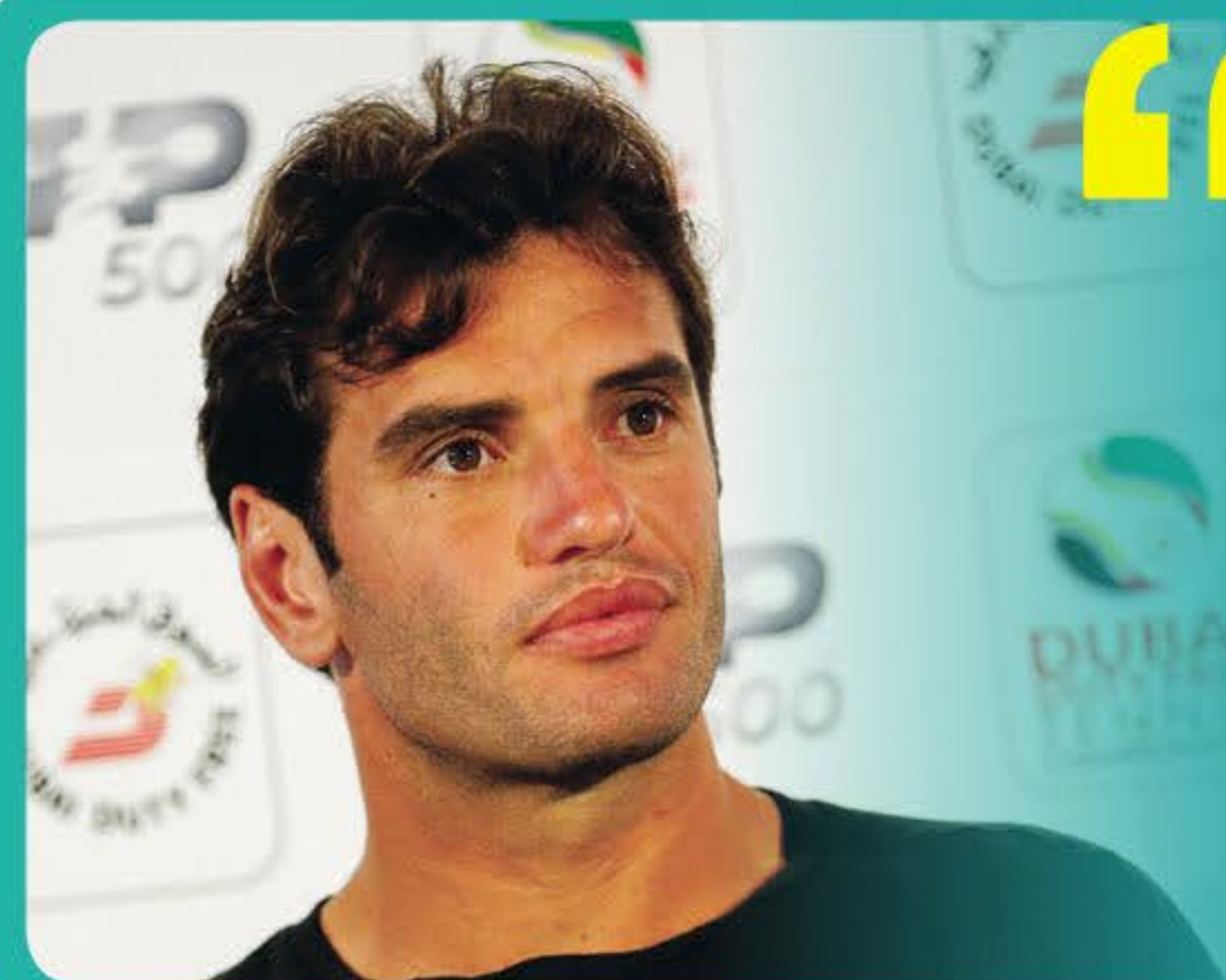
NOVAK DJOKOVIC WILL FACE FORMER SEMI-FINALIST MALEK JAZIRI TODAY!

Top seed and world number one Novak Djokovic is ready for action this week, in what will be his first tournament since lifting the Australian Open trophy for the eighth time last month. He will face former semi-finalist Malek Jaziri which was revealed at the ATP Draw on Saturday.

And this is what they said before today's match.



“ We are good friends, we got along very well since I came on the tour. He was very nice to me. We know each other well. We trained a lot in Dubai actually and of course the other tournaments. I’ve played him here four, five years ago. Yeah, it’s quite odd for him to always draw first seeds so many times. He’s going to get probably a lot of support, as well. ”



“ Everything starts with a smile: you smile at life, life will smile at you. It is a great opportunity for me to play Novak, I don’t look at it in a bad way. I know it will be a tough match. I am reconstructing my game, because last season I was injured a lot, so I am thankful to Dubai Duty Free for the wildcard. ”

ATP DRAW



L-R: Dan Evans, Andrey Rublev, Karen Khachanov, Malek Jaziri, Colm McLoughlin, Executive Vice Chairman and CEO, Dubai Duty Free, Salah Tahlak, Tournament Director, Naser Yousef, Secretary General, UAE Tennis Federation, Ramesh Cidambi, Chief Operating Officer, Dubai Duty Free, Sinead El Sibai, Senior Vice-President Marketing, Dubai Duty Free, Lars Graff, ATP Supervisor

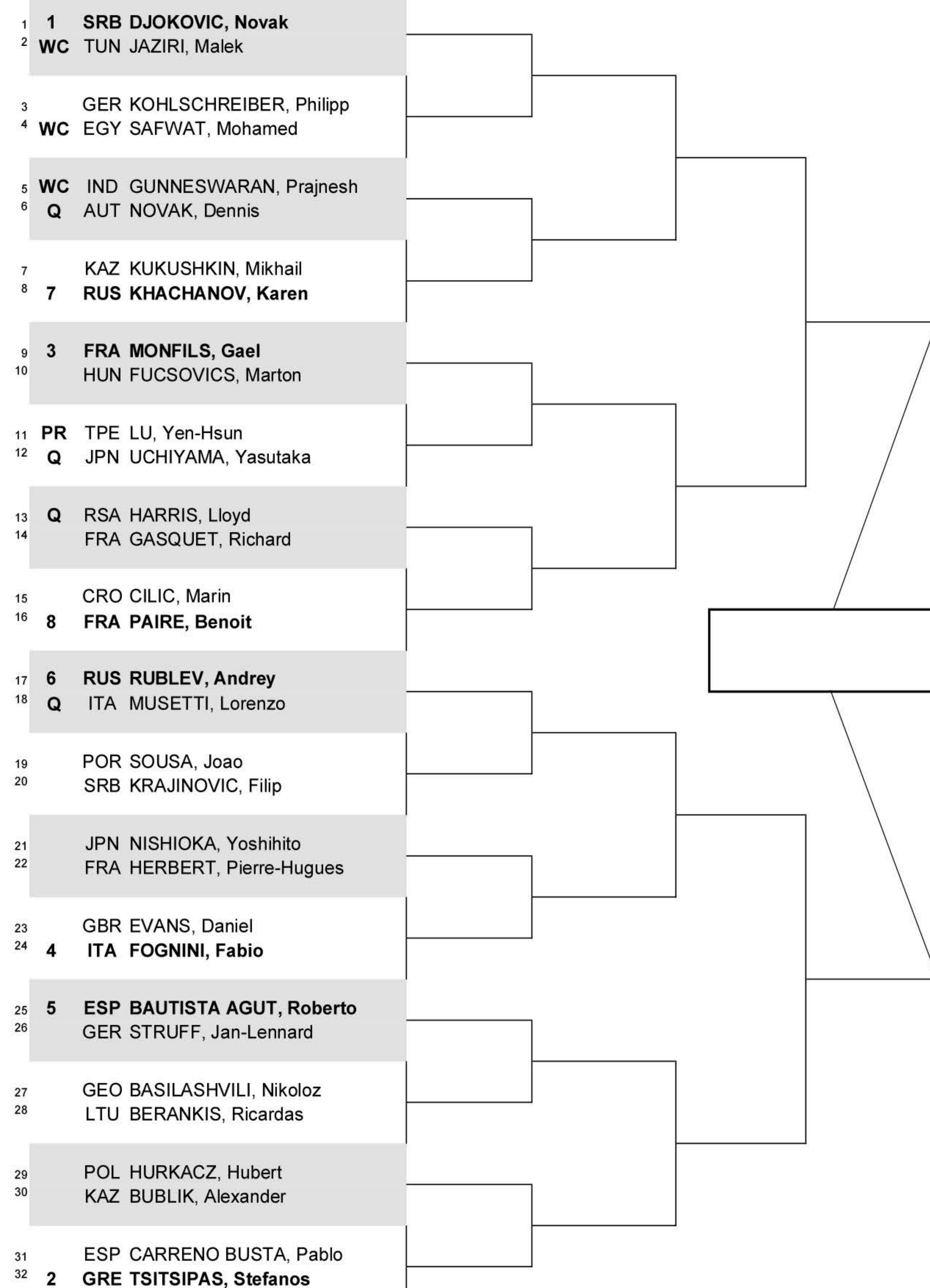


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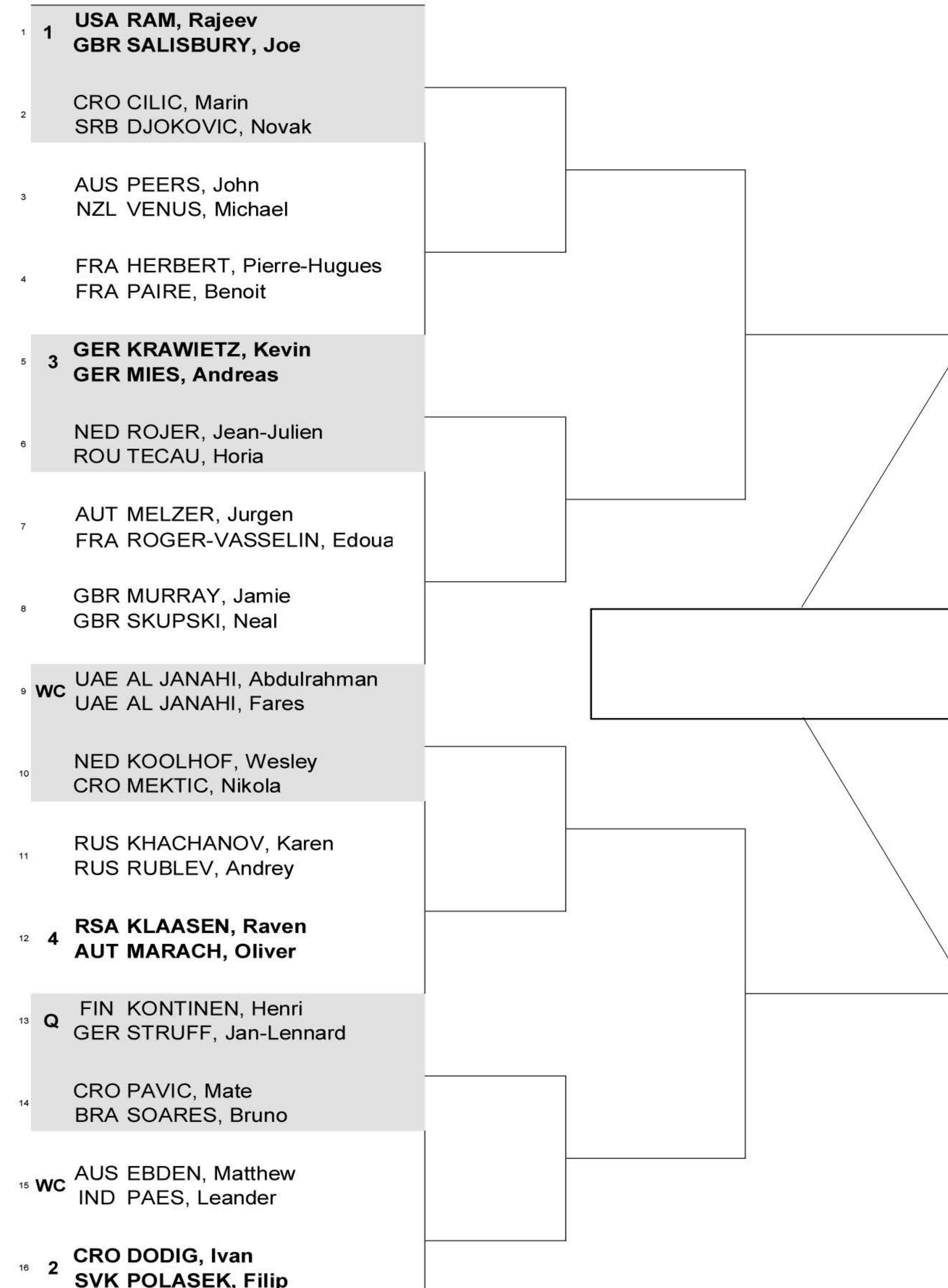
Dubai, UAE 24-29 February 2020



MAIN DRAW SINGLES



MAIN DRAW DOUBLES



ORDER OF PLAY

CENTRE COURT	COURT 1
Matches Start At: 2:00 pm	Matches Start At: 2:00 pm
Mikhail KUKUSHKIN (KAZ) vs Karen KHACHANOV (RUS) [7]	John PEERS (AUS) Michael VENUS (NZL) vs Pierre-Hugues HERBERT (FRA) Benoit PAIRE (FRA)
Not Before 4:00 pm	followed by
Philipp KOHLSCHREIBER (GER) vs [WC] Mohamed SAFWAT (EGY)	[Q] Henri KONTINEN (FIN) Jan-Lennard STRUFF (GER) vs Mate PAVIC (CRO) Bruno SOARES (BRA)
	followed by
	Andrey RUBLEV (RUS) [6] vs [Q] Lorenzo MUSETTI (ITA)
Not Before 7:00 pm	followed by
Novak DJOKOVIC (SRB) [1] vs [WC] Malek JAZIRI (TUN)	[Q] Lloyd HARRIS (RSA) vs Richard GASQUET (FRA)
followed by	
Gael MONFILS (FRA) [3] vs Marton FUCSOVICS (HUN)	

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