

# THE BASELINE

DAILY NEWSLETTER



## THE FINAL *FOUR*

Four of the top seven seeds are ready to do battle this afternoon, as the semifinals in Dubai get underway - your weekend starts here!

Day 5 | 01 March 2024

# EYES ON THE PRIZE

Reigning champion Daniil Medvedev’s victory over World No24 Alejandro Davidovich Fokina in the quarterfinals means his campaign for a second successive Dubai men’s singles title remains on track. Standing in the way of a first career title defence for the former US Open champion is French No1 Ugo Humbert.

The Frenchman’s Dubai debut has been a stellar one thus far, triumphing over former World No6 Gael Monfils, three-time Grand Slam champion Andy Murray, and emerging victorious in his third meeting this year with No3 Seed Hubert Hurkacz last night.

The 25-year-old currently leads the head-to-head against Medvedev two games to one. Humbert has his eyes on reaching a second final of the calendar year with a win over the current Dubai titleholder.

The other semifinal clash sees World No5 Andrey Rublev take on Kazakhstan’s Alexander Bublik, who has entered the top 20 of the ATP rankings for the first time. The pair have met five times previously, with the former leading the head-to-head four games to one. Rublev, the 2022 champion, will be looking to reach a third consecutive final at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships.



## WHAT’S ON TODAY?

Be in your seat from 1:30pm to watch all the semifinals action unfold. If you’re looking for fun family activities, check out the Tennis Village, and don’t forget to be on Centre Court at 6:45pm this evening for the Catch and Win, to have the chance to win some amazing prizes.

“

*I think for sure he is a huge inspiration. I think he won a lot of respect from spectators and in general from sport supporters. After the hip surgeries, where he now has iron hips, he was able to come back and win titles. It’s something unreal. I think for sure he will become a huge inspiration after this,” said Andrey Rublev speaking on Andy Murray, after the Brit announced it’s unlikely he will play past the summer.*



### DDFTC TRIVIA

- 1. Last year’s Dubai final featured two semifinalists from this year’s tournament - Rublev and Medvedev. How many games did Rublev win in total in his defeat to Medvedev in the 2023 final - 4, 6, or 8?
- 2. How many career titles does No1 Seed Daniil Medvedev have - 12, 15, or 20?
- 3. Who holds the record for the most consecutive Dubai titles? (Two players are tied for it)
- 4. Who did Rublev defeat in the 2022 Dubai final?



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dubai, UAE | 26 February - 2 March 2024



### MAIN DRAW SINGLES

<b>D. MEDVEDEV [1]</b> 63 75	<b>D. MEDVEDEV [1]</b> 36 63 63	<b>D. MEDVEDEV [1]</b> 62 63
<b>L. SONEGO</b> 64 57 61	<b>A. DAVIDOVICH FOKINA [8]</b> 76(7) 10 Ret'd	
<b>J. MENSIK</b> 46 63 76(7)		
<b>A. DAVIDOVICH FOKINA [8]</b> 63 46 61		
<b>H. HURKACZ [3]</b> 76(5) 67(4) 76(6)	<b>H. HURKACZ [3]</b> 76(5) 64	<b>U. HUMBERT [5]</b> 36 76(8) 63
<b>C. O'CONNELL</b> 62 64		
<b>A. MURRAY</b> 46 76(5) 63	<b>U. HUMBERT [5]</b> 62 64	
<b>U. HUMBERT [5]</b> 46 63 63		
<b>A. BUBLIK [7]</b> 26 63 76(5)	<b>A. BUBLIK [7]</b> 76(8) 76(2)	<b>A. BUBLIK [7]</b> 64 41 Ret'd
<b>T. GRIEKSPoor</b> 75 20 Ret'd		
<b>J. LEHECKA</b> 64 36 75	<b>J. LEHECKA</b> 67(6) 76(5) 64	
<b>K. KHACHANOV [4]</b> 62 63		
<b>B. VAN DE ZANDSCHULP</b> 76(3) 75	<b>S. KORDA</b> 61 60	<b>A. RUBLEV [2]</b> 64 43 Ret'd
<b>S. KORDA</b> 60 62		
<b>A. CAZAUX</b> 64 76(2)	<b>A. RUBLEV [2]</b> 64 64	
<b>A. RUBLEV [2]</b> 67(4) 62 64		

### MAIN DRAW DOUBLES

<b>R. BOPANNA</b> <b>M. EBDEN [1]</b> 76(4) 76(5)	<b>A. BEHAR</b> <b>A. PAVLASEK</b> 36 63 10-8
<b>A. BEHAR</b> <b>A. PAVLASEK</b> 36 63 10-8	
<b>T. GRIEKSPoor</b> <b>J. STRUFF</b> 63 76(5)	<b>T. GRIEKSPoor</b> <b>J. STRUFF</b> 64 64
<b>N. MAHUT</b> <b>E. ROGER-VASSELIN</b> 61 67(1) 11-9	
<b>Y. BHAMBRI</b> <b>R. HAASE</b> 67(6) 63 10-8	<b>Y. BHAMBRI</b> <b>R. HAASE</b> 64 76(1)
<b>J. MURRAY</b> <b>M. VENUS [3]</b> 63 67(2) 10-7	
<b>L. GLASSPOOL</b> <b>J. ROJER</b> 60 76(5)	<b>I. DODIG</b> <b>A. KRAJICEK [2]</b> 67(5) 63 10-5
<b>I. DODIG</b> <b>A. KRAJICEK [2]</b> 76(2) 76(4)	

# ORDER OF PLAY

## CENTRE COURT

Matches Start At: 1:30 pm

1

[Q] Yuki BHAMBRI (IND)  
Robin HAASE (NED)  
vs  
Ivan DODIG (CRO)  
Austin KRAJICEK (USA) [2]

followed by

2

Ariel BEHAR (URU)  
Adam PAVLASEK (CZE)  
vs  
Tallon GRIEKSPoor (NED)  
Jan-Lennard STRUFF (GER)

Not Before 5:00 pm

3

Alexander BUBLIK (KAZ) [7]  
vs  
Andrey RUBLEV [2]

Not Before 7:00 pm

4

Daniil MEDVEDEV [1]  
vs  
Ugo HUMBERT (FRA) [5]

**TRIVIA ANSWERS** | 1. 4 | 2. 20 | 3. Roger Federer and Novak Djokovic (3) | 4. Jiri Vesely



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