



## CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS – ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 4 – THURSDAY 22 JUNE 2023

The Queen's Club | London, Great Britain | 19-25 June 2023

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### CINCH CHAMPIONSHIPS TALKING POINTS

- All eight seeds reached the second round at **cinch Championships**, with three of them (**Holger Rune**, **Cameron Norrie**, **Lorenzo Musetti**) already booking their ticket to the quarter-finals on Wednesday. In fact, seeds are 11-1 so far in the tournament, with **Sebastian Korda** preventing the perfect record with his straight sets win over No. 4 seed **Frances Tiafoe**. Four seeds will take to the court on Thursday, highlighted by World No. 2 and top seed **Carlos Alcaraz**.
- **Alcaraz** faces Czech No. 1 **Jiri Lehecka** in their first meeting. The Spaniard will attempt to reach his 1st ATP Tour QF on grass, while Lehecka seeks the biggest win of his career and second Top 5 win. Alcaraz is 24-1 vs. players ranked outside the Top 20 this season with the only loss coming against No. 135 **Fabian Marozsan** at ATP Masters 1000 Rome 3R.
- Another Top 10 player on the schedule, World No. 8 **Taylor Fritz** will face the Frenchman **Adrian Mannarino**. Fritz attempts to join Korda in the quarter-finals in hopes to become the first American champion at the event since **Sam Querrey** in 2010. Mannarino seeks 3rd career Top 10 win on the surface, just a week after defeating World No. 3 **Daniil Medvedev** in 's-Hertogenbosch for biggest win of career.
- Opening the Centre Court play, No. 7 seed **Alex de Minaur** will aim to continue the form that saw him knock out the 5-time Queen's Club champion **Andy Murray** in the first round. The Australian meets **Diego Schwartzman** in the second round, where Schwartzman will seek his first ATP Tour QF in 11 months, last reaching the stage at 2022 Bastad on clay.
- 2014 champion **Grigor Dimitrov** battled through qualifying and defeated **Emil Ruusuvuori** to book his 2R spot without losing a set. He now faces No. 8 seed **Francisco Cerundolo**, who seeks his first ATP Tour QF on the surface. Dimitrov is attempting to capture his first Top 20 win on grass since defeating No. 11 Norrie at Queen's Club 1R last year.

### ATP HEAD2HEAD: THURSDAY SECOND-ROUND SINGLES MATCHES

#### CENTRE COURT

#### [7] Alex de Minaur (AUS) vs Diego Schwartzman (ARG)

#### First Meeting

**Alex de Minaur** | Age: 24 | World No. 18 | Career-High No. 15 | 2023: 18-12 (Acapulco Title) | Queen's: 5-3 (2021 SF)  
> Two-time Next Gen ATP Finals runner-up achieved career-high ranking of No. 15 in June 2021.  
> Earned personal-best 47 victories in 2022, then defeated No. 2 Nadal at 2023 United Cup for biggest win of career and captured biggest of 7 ATP Tour titles at 2023 Acapulco (d. Paul).  
> Reached 1st Grand Slam QF at 2020 US Open immediately after winning 1st ATP Tour doubles title at 2020 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati w/Carreno Busta in team debut and at same venue.  
> Defeated Murray to help Team World win 2022 Laver Cup and went 6-1 in Davis Cup play during the season, leading Australia to its 1st final since 2003.  
> Son to a Uruguayan father and Spanish mother, splits time between Australia and Spain, and speaks English, Spanish and French.

**NOTE:** de Minaur is 9-2 in ATP 500 tournaments this season, winning biggest career title in Acapulco and reaching the quarter-finals at Rotterdam and Barcelona. He seeks 30th tour-level quarter-final (17-11 + 1 W/O win), 6th of 2023.

**Diego Schwartzman** | Age: 30 | World No. 107 | Career-High No. 8 | 2023: 8-15 (2 times in 3R) | Queen's: 3-2 (2019 QF)  
> More than 2 years after rising to No. 11, broke into Top 10 at career-high No. 8 in 2020 and qualified for Nitto ATP Finals.

> Advanced to Grand Slam QF-or-better on 5 occasions, highlighted by win over No. 3 Thiem in 5:08 to reach 2020 Roland Garros SF.

> Earned biggest win of career over No. 2 Nadal en route to 1st ATP Masters 1000 final at 2020 Rome, having entered 0-9 vs. Nadal and 0-22 vs. Top 5.

> Shortest Top-8 player at 1.70m (5'7") since Solomon in 1981 at 1.68m (5'6"), Grand Slam semi-finalist since Solomon at 1980 Roland Garros, and ATP Masters 1000 finalist in series history (since 1990).

> Snapped 5-match losing streak with 5 straight wins at 2016 Istanbul, rallying from a set and 5-2 down vs. Dimitrov to capture 1st of 4 ATP Tour titles in 1st of 14 finals.

**NOTE:** Schwartzman is aiming to break a 12-match losing streak vs. Top 20 players to earn his first Top 20 win since defeating No. 9 Auger-Aliassime at 2022 Barcelona SF (22-78 overall). He is seeking his 50th career tour-level quarter-final, first since 2022 Bastad (l. to Carreno Busta) in July.

### **Adrian Mannarino (FRA) vs [3] Taylor Fritz (USA)**

### **Series Tied 2-2**

16 Nottingham (Great Britain)

Grass R64 Adrian Mannarino

6-3 6-2

17 Acapulco (Mexico)

Hard R32 Adrian Mannarino

3-6 7-6(5) 6-4

22 Acapulco (Mexico)

Hard R32 Taylor Fritz

6-3 6-3

23 Delray Beach (U.S.A.)

Hard QF Taylor Fritz

7-6(8) 6-4

**Adrian Mannarino** | Age: 34 | World No. 46 | Career-High No. 22 | 2023: 16-13 (3 QFs) | Queen's: 10-8 (2011, 2018 QF)  
> Achieved career-high No. 22 in 2018 and ended 10 straight years in Top 75 of Pepperstone ATP Rankings (2013-22).

> Captured 1st ATP Tour title in 7th final of career at 2019 's-Hertogenbosch and 2nd title in 11th final of career at 2022 Winston-Salem.

> Earned first Top 5 win over No. 5 Cilic to reach biggest final of career at 2017 Tokyo and biggest win of career over No. 3 Medvedev at 2023 's-Hertogenbosch.

> Posted personal-best 33 wins in 2017, ending season on 25-13 run including 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at Montreal.

> Reached 2022 Australian Open 4R and Wimbledon 4R in 2013, 2017 and 2018, but owns 0-19 record vs. Top-10 players at Grand Slams.

**NOTE:** Mannarino started his 2023 grass court season by earning biggest win of career over No. 3 Medvedev at 's-Hertogenbosch last week (l. to Thompson in QF) and now seeks 10th Top 10 win of career (9-50).

**Taylor Fritz** | Age: 25 | World No. 8 | Career-High No. 5 | 2023: 33-13 (Delray Beach Title) | Queen's: 1-1 (2023 2R)

> Former World No. 1 junior won 5th ATP Tour title at 2023 Delray Beach to achieve career-high No. 5 and become 1st American in Top 5 since Roddick in September 2009.

> Defeated No. 2 Nadal en route 2022 Nitto ATP Finals SF after beating him in 2022 ATP Masters 1000 Indian Wells final to become that event's 1st American men's champion since Agassi in 2001.

> Advanced to 1st Grand Slam 4R at 2022 Australian Open and 1st Grand Slam QF at 2022 Wimbledon after entering season with 0-7 record in Grand Slam 3R matches.

> Reached 1st ATP Tour final at 2016 Memphis as 18-year-old WC, becoming youngest American finalist since start of ATP Tour in 1990.

> Clinched inaugural United Cup for Team USA in 2023 after helping Team World capture 2022 Laver Cup.

**NOTE:** Fritz owns a 4-1 record vs. left-handers this season, on a 4-match winning streak since losing to No. 14 Norrie at 2023 United Cup RR. He aims to reach the quarter-finals at fourth consecutive grass court event played (2022 Eastbourne title, 2022 Wimbledon QF, 2023 Stuttgart QF).

### **[1] Carlos Alcaraz (ESP) vs Jiri Lehecka (CZE)**

### **First Meeting**

**Carlos Alcaraz** | Age: 20 | World No. 2 | Career-High No. 1 | 2023: 36-4 (4 Titles) | Queen's: 1-0 (2023 2R)

> Youngest and first teenage World No. 1 and year-end No. 1 in Pepperstone ATP Rankings history (since 1973), making record rise from No. 32 at end of 2021 to No. 1 at age 19 in September 2022.

> Beat Ruud in 2022 US Open final for No. 1 ranking, becoming youngest men's champion at US Open since Sampras, 19, in 1990 and at any Grand Slam event since Nadal, 19, at 2005 Roland Garros.

> Became youngest ATP 500 champion at 2022 Rio de Janeiro (165 events since 2009) and 3rd-youngest ATP Masters 1000 champion at 2022 Miami (294 events since 1990).

- > Captured 9 titles as a teenager (9-3 in finals), behind Borg (17), Nadal (16), Wilander (14), Becker (12) and Agassi (10) and 6th-youngest to win 10 tour-level titles behind: Wilander, Borg, Nadal, Becker and Agassi.
- > Improved to 4-0 in ATP Masters 1000 finals with repeat title at 2023 Madrid, 2nd-best start in Masters 1000 finals only behind Michael Chang and Jim Courier (both 5-0).
- > Youngest player to defeat both Nadal and Djokovic and 1st to do so at same clay-court event, beating them on back-to-back days en route to 2nd ATP Masters 1000 title at 2022 Madrid.
- > Reached 1st Grand Slam QF at 2021 US Open, becoming youngest men's quarter-finalist at US Open since Koch, 18, in 1963 (Amateur Era) and at any Grand Slam since Chang, 18, at 1990 Roland Garros.

**NOTE:** Alcaraz seeks 25th tour-level quarter-final (20-4), first on grass. Entering the event, he has reached at least the semi-finals in 7 out of 8 tournaments played this year (Rome 3R loss). He aims to earn his 2nd Top 50 win on grass (1-2), previously beating No. 36 Otte at 2022 Wimbledon 3R.

**Jiri Lehecka** | Age: 21 | World No. 36 (Career-High) | 2023: 21-13 (Doha SF) | Queen's: 1-0 (2023 2R)

- > Achieved career-high No. 36 in April 2023 after breaking into Top 50 in January 2023, Top 100 in February 2022 and Top 200 in August 2021.
- > Defeated No. 5 Rublev for biggest win of career and to reach 2023 Doha SF, after beating No. 7 Auger-Aliassime to reach 2023 Australian Open QF.
- > Celebrated 21st birthday during 2022 Next Gen ATP Finals and finished as runner-up.
- > Qualified in 2022 at Australian Open, Rotterdam, ATP Masters 1000 Monte Carlo, Belgrade and Munich, highlighted by SF run at Rotterdam.
- > Former World No. 10 junior won 2019 Wimbledon boys' doubles title with countryman Forejtek.

**NOTE:** Lehecka is 2-7 vs. Top 10 players (1-3 vs. Top 5), seeking biggest win of career over No. 2 Alcaraz to reach 6th tour-level quarter-final (2-3), fourth of 2023 (Aus. Open QF, Doha SF, Banja Luka QF).

## **[Q] Grigor Dimitrov (BUL) vs [8] Francisco Cerundolo (ARG) First Meeting**

**Grigor Dimitrov** | Age: 32 | World No. 26 | Career-High No. 3 | 2023: 19-11 (Geneva Final) | Queen's: 18-11 (2014 Title)

- > Former World No. 1 junior ended 2017 at career-high No. 3 after becoming 1st debutant to go 5-0 en route to Nitto ATP Finals title since McEnroe in 1978.
- > Top-ranked Bulgarian in history and only champion from his country, winning 8 titles including 2017 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati.
- > Surpassed 300 career wins in 2019, highlighted by biggest win over No. 1 Djokovic at 2013 ATP Masters 1000 Madrid.
- > Advanced to Grand Slam SFs at 2014 Wimbledon, 2017 Australian Open and 2019 US Open, as well as 8 ATP Masters 1000 SFs.
- > Posted 1st win in 8 meetings with Federer in 2019 US Open QF as World No. 78, becoming 2nd-lowest-ranked US Open men's semi-finalist in history (No. 174 Connors in 1991).

**NOTE:** Dimitrov is the only former champion left in the draw, winning the 2014 title after saving a championship point vs. Feliciano Lopez in the final. He aims to reach the Queen's Club quarter-finals for the fourth time in thirteenth appearance at the event (2012 SF, 2014 Title, 2017 SF).

**Francesco Cerundolo** | Age: 24 | World No. 19 (Career-High) | 2023: 24-15 (Lyon Final) | Queen's: 2-1 (2022-23 2R)

- > Broke into Top 100 and achieved new career-high ranking 11 times in 2022, then reached career-high No. 19 in June 2023 after reaching 2023 Roland Garros 4R for the first time (l. to Rune).
- > In July 2022 broke into Top 25 after defeating No. 5 Ruud en route to Bastad title and No. 8 Rublev en route to Hamburg SF.
- > As World No. 103 at 2022 Miami, became lowest-ranked semi-finalist in 37-year tournament history and 1st player to reach SF in his ATP Masters 1000 main draw debut since Janowicz at 2012 Paris.
- > Lost to countryman Schwartzman in 2021 Buenos Aires final as Q, 2022 Buenos Aires QF as Q and 2022 Rio de Janeiro SF as SE.
- > Owns 73-36 Challenger record (5-1 in finals), highlighted by 17-2 run to end 2020 season with three clay titles.
- > Father, Alejandro, also played pro tennis; younger brother, Juan Manuel, won 2021 Cordoba title; sister, Constanza, played for Argentine field hockey team that won gold medal at 2018 Youth Olympics.

**NOTE:** Cerundolo earned personal-best 24th win in a single season by defeating Paul in 1R and now seeks 14th ATP Tour QF (6-7), first on grass (10 on clay, 3 on hard courts).