

# ROTHESAY INTERNATIONAL – ATP MEDIA NOTES DAY 4 – THURSDAY 27 JUNE 2024

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## LEXUS ATP HEAD2HEAD: SINGLES QUARTER-FINALS

### **CENTRE COURT**

# Flavio Cobolli (ITA) vs [WC] Billy Harris (GBR)

## **First Meeting**

Flavio Cobolli | Age: 22 | World No. 49 (Career-High) | 2024: 18-15 (Geneva SF) | Eastbourne: 2-0 (2024 QF) > Broke into Top 200 in January 2022 and Top 100 in October 2023, achieving career-high No. 49 in June 2024 soon after reaching 1st ATP Tour SF in Geneva (d. No. 15 Shelton in 2R for biggest win of career).

- > Earned 1st Top 20 win over No. 18 Jarry en route to 1st Grand Slam 3R at 2024 Australian Open as Q.
- > Also reached ATP Tour QFs at 2023 Munich, 2024 Montpellier and 2024 Delray Beach.
- > Saved 3 MPs vs. Giron to win ATP Tour main draw debut 3-6 7-6 7-6 at 2021 Parma as 429th-ranked WC.
- > Won Challenger titles at 2022 Zadar and 2023 Lisbon and reached finals at 2021 Rome-2, 2021 Barletta and 2023 Olbia.
- > Peaked at No. 8 in juniors and ended junior career by winning 2020 Roland Garros boys' doubles title w/Stricker.

**NOTE**: Cobolli seeks his 2nd ATP Tour SF, 1st on grass, after reaching the stage in Geneva on clay last month (I. to Ruud). He is 11-2 vs. players ranked outside the Top 100 this year (including ATP qualifying), losing to No. 132 Moreno de Alboran in Delray Beach Q and No. 644 Nadal in Barcelona.

**Billy Harris** | Age: 29 | World No. 139 (Career-High) | 2024: 4-1 (Queen's, Eastbourne QF) | Eastbourne: 2-0 (2024 QF) > Broke into Top 500 in December 2021 and Top 200 in December 2023, earning a career-high No. 139 in June 2024 after reaching 1st ATP Tour QF at London / Queen's Club as WC.

- > Qualified to make ATP Tour debut at 2023 Sofia, defeating Huesler in 1R for first tour-level win of career.
- > Earned biggest win of career over No. 32 Etcheverry in 2024 London/Queen's Club 1R as WC.
- > Owns 46-50 Challenger record (0-1 in finals), reaching 1st SF and final at 2023 Les Franqueses Del Valles as Q and 172-131 record on ITF World Tennis Tour (5-6 in finals), winning most recent title at 2022 M25 Nottingham.
- > Spent first few years of professional career travelling around Europe in a transit van to save money while competing on the ITF World Tennis Tour.

**NOTE**: Harris is into his 2nd consecutive ATP Tour QF after reaching London/Queen's Club QF last week (I. to Musetti). He is 2-3 vs. Top 50 across all levels and bids to be the 5th British semi-finalist in tournament history (Rusedski - 1996-97, 1999, 2001-03, Henman - 1997, Edmund - 2019, Draper - 2022).

# [1] Taylor Fritz (USA) vs [Q] Shang Juncheng (CHN)

## **First Meeting**

**Taylor Fritz** | Age: 26 | World No. 13 | Career-High No. 5 | 2024: 28-12 (Delray Beach Title) | Eastbourne: 11-4 ('19, '22 Titles) > 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 and helped Team World capture Laver Cup in 2022 and 2023.

**NOTE**: Fritz aims to be the 1st 3-time champion in tournament history (2 - Bjorkman, Fritz, Gasquet, Karlovic, Lopez, Rusedski). He seeks his 3rd ATP Tour SF on grass, third at this venue (2019, 2022). He will return to being the <u>PIF ATP Rankings</u> No. 1 American on Monday.



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**Shang Juncheng** | Age: 19 | World No. 104 | Career-High No. 89 | 2024: 10-8 (Hong Kong SF) | Eastbourne: 2-0 (2024 QF) > #NextGen player earned a career-high No. 89 in May 2024, becoming the first Chinese teenager to break inside Top 100 in PIF ATP Rankings history (since 1973).

- > Defeated No. 16 Tiafoe for biggest win of career to reach 1st ATP Tour SF in Hong Kong.
- > Reached 1st Grand Slam 3R and became the first Chinese man in 3R of Australian Open in Open Era.
- > Made ATP Tour debut at 2022 Rio de Janeiro as a WC, before earning 1st tour-level win at 2023 Australian Open, beating Otte in 1R as Q (I. to Tiafoe in 2R).
- > Owns 37-27 record on ATP Challenger Tour, highlighted by 1st title at 2022 Lexington.
- > Father, Yi, was a professional football player and his mother, Na, was a world champion table tennis player.
- > His nickname is Jerry after the cartoon character of his favorite childhood show.

**NOTE**: Shang is seeking his 2nd ATP Tour SF, 1st on grass after 2024 Hong Kong on hard courts (I. to Rublev in SF, d. No. 16 Tiafoe in QF for lone Top 20 win). He is 1-5 vs. Top 20 and aims to become the 2nd Chinese man to make a grass tour-level semi-final in Open Era after Zhang in Halle last week (I. to Sinner).

#### COURT 1

# [Q] Max Purcell (AUS) vs Miomir Kecmanovic (SRB)

**First Tour-Level Meeting** 

Other Meeting

18 Zhangjiagang CH (China)

Hard R32 Miomir Kecmanovic

6-3 3-6 6-3

Max Purcell | Age: 26 | World No. 94 | Career-High No. 40 | 2024: 8-14 (Eastbourne QF) | Eastbourne: 5-1 (2021 SF)

- > Broke into singles Top 200 in 2021 and Top 100 in March 2023, reaching career-high No. 40 in October 2023.
- > Reached 1st ATP Tour singles SF at 2021 Eastbourne as LL, then beat No. 7 Ruud for biggest win of career en route to 1st ATP Masters 1000 QF at 2023 Cincinnati (I. to No. 1 Alcaraz).
- > Replaced 2-time Olympic gold medallist Murray in 2020 Tokyo Olympics draw and defeated No. 15 Auger-Aliassime in 1R (held in 2021).
- > Compiled a 34-7 record on the ATP Challenger Tour in 2023 (3-3 in finals), going on an 18-match winning streak and capturing three titles in as many weeks in Chennai, Bengaluru and Pune.
- > Owns career-high No. 25 in doubles, reaching 2020 and 2022 Australian Open finals and captured 2022 Wimbledon title w/Ebden, becoming first All-Aussie men's doubles Wimbledon champions since Woodbridge/Woodforde in 2000.

**NOTE**: Purcell is looking for his 2nd ATP Tour SF after 2021 Eastbourne (I. to Sonego). He avenged the loss to Sonego in 2R and earned 5 of his 6 tour-level wins on grass at this event (d. Mannarino in 2022 Newport 1R).

**Miomir Kecmanovic** | Age: 24 | World No. 53 | Career-High No. 27 | 2024: 15-17 (2 QFs) | Eastbourne: 4-1 (2023-24 QF) > Broke into Top 40 after winning 1st ATP Tour title at 2020 Kitzbuhel and achieved career-high No. 27 in January 2023.

- > Earned personal-best 38 wins in 2022, reaching Australian Open 4R, Roland Garros 3R and Wimbledon 3R.
- > Advanced to ATP Masters 1000 QFs at 2019 Indian Wells as LL, 2022 Indian Wells and 2022 Miami, equaling biggest win of career in 2022 Indian Wells 4R vs. No. 6 Berrettini.
- > Beat Ruud and Davidovich Fokina to reach 2019 Next Gen ATP Finals SF (I. to eventual champion Sinner).
- > Defeated Tsitsipas in 3rd-set TB to win 2015 Orange Bowl junior title, then ended 2016 as World No. 1 junior ahead of No. 2 Tsitsipas.

**NOTE**: Kecmanovic is seeking his 14th ATP Tour SF (4-9), 2nd on grass after 2019 Antalya (I. to Sonego in F). He would be the 1st Serbian semi-finalist in Eastbourne since Djokovic won the title in 2017.

[LL] Aleksandar Vukic (AUS) vs [Q] Yoshihito Nishioka (JPN) Vukic Leads 1-0 23 Atlanta (U.S.A.) Aleksandar Vukic Hard R16 4-6 7-5 7-6(3) **Other Meetings** 18 Kobe CH (Japan) R16 Yoshihito Nishioka Hard 6-27-6(2)24 Eastbourne Q (Great Britain) Grass Q2 **Yoshihito Nishioka** 7-6(3) 6-4

**Aleksandar Vukic** | Age: 28 | World No. 81 | Career-High No. 48 | 2024: 10-15 (3 QFs) | Eastbourne: 3-1 (2024 QF) > Broke into Top 200 in March 2020 prior to COVID-19 suspension of ATP Tour, then achieved career-high No. 48 in August 2023 soon after reaching 1st ATP Tour final at 2023 Atlanta.

- > Also advanced to ATP Tour QFs at 2022 Adelaide-2, 2022 Sofia, 2024 Marrakech, 2024 's-Hertogenbosch and 2024 Eastbourne.
- > Qualified and defeated No. 15 Coric for biggest win of career en route to 3R at 2023 ATP Masters 1000 Toronto.



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- > Won Challenger titles at 2022 Bengaluru-2 and 2023 Busan and reached Challenger finals at 2021 and 2022 Champaign, where he was a 3-time All-American for University of Illinois from 2015-18.
- > Born in Sydney after parents and older brother fled Montenegro during breakup of Yugoslavia in early-1990s.

**NOTE**: Vukic is seeking his 2nd ATP Tour SF, 1st on grass after 2023 Atlanta on hard courts (d. Humbert in SF and I. to Fritz in F). He aims to equal personal-best 11 tour-level wins in a season (2023 - 11).

ATP Tour Quarter-final Qualifying Rematches - Vukic and Nishioka is the 3rd quarter-final Q2 rematch on record.

Qualifier	Lucky Loser	Event	Q2 Result	QF Result
Jozef Kovalik	Thiago Monteiro	2018 Hamburg	Kovalik 6-3 3-6 6-0	Kovalik 3-6 6-3 6-2
Matthias Bachinge	r Yannick Maden	2018 Metz	Bachinger 7-6(6) 6-3	Bachinger 6-3 2-6 6-4
Yoshihito Nishioka Aleksandar Vukic		2024 Fastbourne	Nishioka 7-6(3) 6-4	

**Yoshihito Nishioka** | Age: 28 | World No. 102 | Career-High No. 24 | 2024: 9-9 (Eastbourne QF) | Eastbourne: 2-1 (2024 QF) > Japanese left-hander achieved career-high No. 24 in June 2023 after advancing to Grand Slam 4R at 2023 Australian Open and Roland Garros for the 1st time in career.

- > Earned biggest win of career over No. 2 Ruud en route to 2nd ATP Tour title at 2022 Seoul.
- > Saved 2 MPs vs. Shapovalov en route to 1st title at 2018 Shenzhen as 171st-ranked Q.
- > Rallied from a set down 3 times en route to 2020 Delray Beach final and saved 1 MP vs. de Minaur en route to 2022 Washington final.
- > Defeated countryman and World No. 5 Nishikori en route to 2019 ATP Masters 1000 Cincinnati QF as Q.

**NOTE**: Nishioka posted 2 of 3 career grass tour-level wins this week (3-9) and is seeking his 8th ATP Tour SF (5-2), 1st on grass after 7 on hard courts. He aims to be the fourth Japanese ATP Tour semi-finalist on grass after Nishikori (3), Matsuoka (1), and Sugita (1).