



DRAW CEREMONY WELCOME

WELCOME TO THE DRAW CEREMONY FOR THE 2023 QATAR EXXONMOBIL OPEN.

JOINING US THIS AFTERNOON, PLEASE WELCOME TO THE STAGE...

- ▶ SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE QATAR TENNIS FEDERATION AND GENERAL COORDINATOR OF THE QATAR EXXONMOBIL OPEN, **TARIQ DARWISH ZAINAL**
- ▶ VICE PRESIDENT & GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR - EXXONMOBIL QATAR, **SALEH AL MANA**
- ▶ QATAR EXXONMOBIL OPEN TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR, **KARIM ALAMI**
- ▶ QATAR TENNIS FEDERATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, **SAAD AL MOHANNADI**
- ▶ AND HERE TO CONDUCT THE DRAW, ATP TOUR-MANAGER, **DIEGO PEDRAZA NOVAK**
- ▶ ALONG WITH TOURNAMENT AND GOLD BADGE REFEREE, **DR. ASHRAF HAMOUDA**

PLAYER WELCOME

WE'RE ALSO HAPPY TO HAVE WITH US SEVERAL OF OUR PLAYERS WITH US TODAY, INCLUDING...

FERNANDO VERDASCO (ESP) CURRENT RANKING: 133

A VERY FAMILIAR FACE AROUND THE KHALIFA INTERNATIONAL TENNIS AND SQUASH COMPLEX - WHO HAS A HOME AT THE PEARL HERE IN DOHA...AND HE'S HAD SOME MEMORABLE MATCHES ON THESE COURTS OVER THE PAST 18-YEARS, INCLUDING HIS SEMIFINAL CLASH WITH NOVAK DJOKOVIC HERE IN 2017. FORMER WORLD #7, 2009 AUSTRALIAN OPEN SEMIFINALIST AND 3-TIME DAVIS CUP CHAMPION, **FERNANDO VERDASCO**.

QUENTIN HALYS (FRA) CURRENT RANKING: 62

AND THIS WEEK, HE'S MAKING HIS QATAR EXXONMOBIL OPEN DEBUT - AFTER A TREMENDOUS SEASON LAST YEAR ON THE ATP CHALLENGER TOUR - WHERE HE REACHED 7 FINALS, CAPTURED 3 OF HIS 6 CAREER TITLES -- AND JUST LAST MONTH, CLIMBED TO A CAREER-HIGH RANKING OF WORLD #61. AND FUN FACT - 12 YEARS AGO, HE WON 2 ITF JUNIORS TITLES HERE IN DOHA. FROM FRANCE, **QUENTIN HALYS**.

LORENZO SONEGO (ITA) CURRENT RANKING: 60

LAST SEASON, HE CAPTURED HIS 3RD CAREER SINGLES TITLE IN METZ - DEFEATING FORMER CHAMPIONS GILLES SIMON AND WORLD #10 HUBERT HURKACZ, WINNING THE TITLE WITHOUT DROPPING A SET. --- AND JUST AS IMPRESSIVE...HIS 2021 VIRAL HIT UN SOLO SECONDO JUST HIT ONE-MILLION PLAYS ON SPOTIFY LAST WEEK. SERIOUSLY, GIVE IT A LISTEN, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET THE SONG OUT OF YOUR HEAD. FROM ITALY, **LORENZO SONEGO**.



ANDREY RUBLEV

CURRENT RANKING: 5

- ▶ AND FINALLY, ANOTHER FRIENDLY AND FAMILIAR FACE HERE IN DOHA...WHO'S ENJOYED TREMENDOUS SUCCESS ON THESE COURTS. FIVE YEARS AGO, HE REACHED HIS FIRST DOHA FINAL. THEN, IN 2020, DURING A RAIN-SOAKED WEEK - HE WON BOTH HIS QUARTERFINAL AND SEMIFINAL MATCH ON THE SAME DAY AND WENT ON TO CAPTURE THE TITLE. IN 2021, HE WON THE DOUBLES TITLE ALONGSIDE ASLAN KARATSEV. WELCOME BACK OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST, ANDREY RUBLEV.

SPONSOR GRATITUDE

- ▶ BEFORE WE BEGIN TODAY'S DRAW, WE'D LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS WHO MAKE THIS TOURNAMENT POSSIBLE:
- ▶ EXXONMOBIL
 - ▶ OOREDOO
 - ▶ QNB
 - ▶ QATAR DUTY FREE
 - ▶ QATAR AIRWAYS
 - ▶ ASPETAR
 - ▶ ALFARDAN AUTOMOBILES (BMW)
 - ▶ AND ROLEX

DRAW CEREMONY BEGINS

AND NOW – THE OFFICIAL DRAW FOR THE 2023 QATAR EXXONMOBIL OPEN. DIEGO, IT'S ALL YOURS...

** DENIS ZIVKOVIC CONDUCTS THE DRAW CEREMONY

DRAW CEREMONY ENDS

- ▶ THANK YOU FOR JOINING US FOR TODAY'S DRAW CEREMONY.
- ▶ QUALIFYING STARTS AT 12:30 HERE AT THE KHALIFA INTERNATIONAL TENNIS AND SQUASH COMPLEX. MAIN DRAW PLAY WILL START MONDAY AT 2:30.
- ▶ IN JUST A MOMENT, WE'LL LET YOU SPEAK ONE-ON-ONE WITH THE PLAYERS AND DIGNITARIES. BUT FIRST, IF WE COULD HAVE ALL OF OUR DRAW CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS GATHER AT THE CENTER OF THE STAGE FOR SOME GROUP PHOTOS.
- ▶ NOW, THEY'VE CERTAINLY BEEN GENEROUS WITH THEIR TIME - WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SPEND A FEW MOMENTS WITH OUR PLAYERS AND DIGNITARIES FOR ONE-ON-ONE INTERVIEWS.
- ▶ WE LOOK FORWARD TO A MEMORABLE 2023 QATAR EXXONMOBIL OPEN. HAVE A GREAT AFTERNOON.