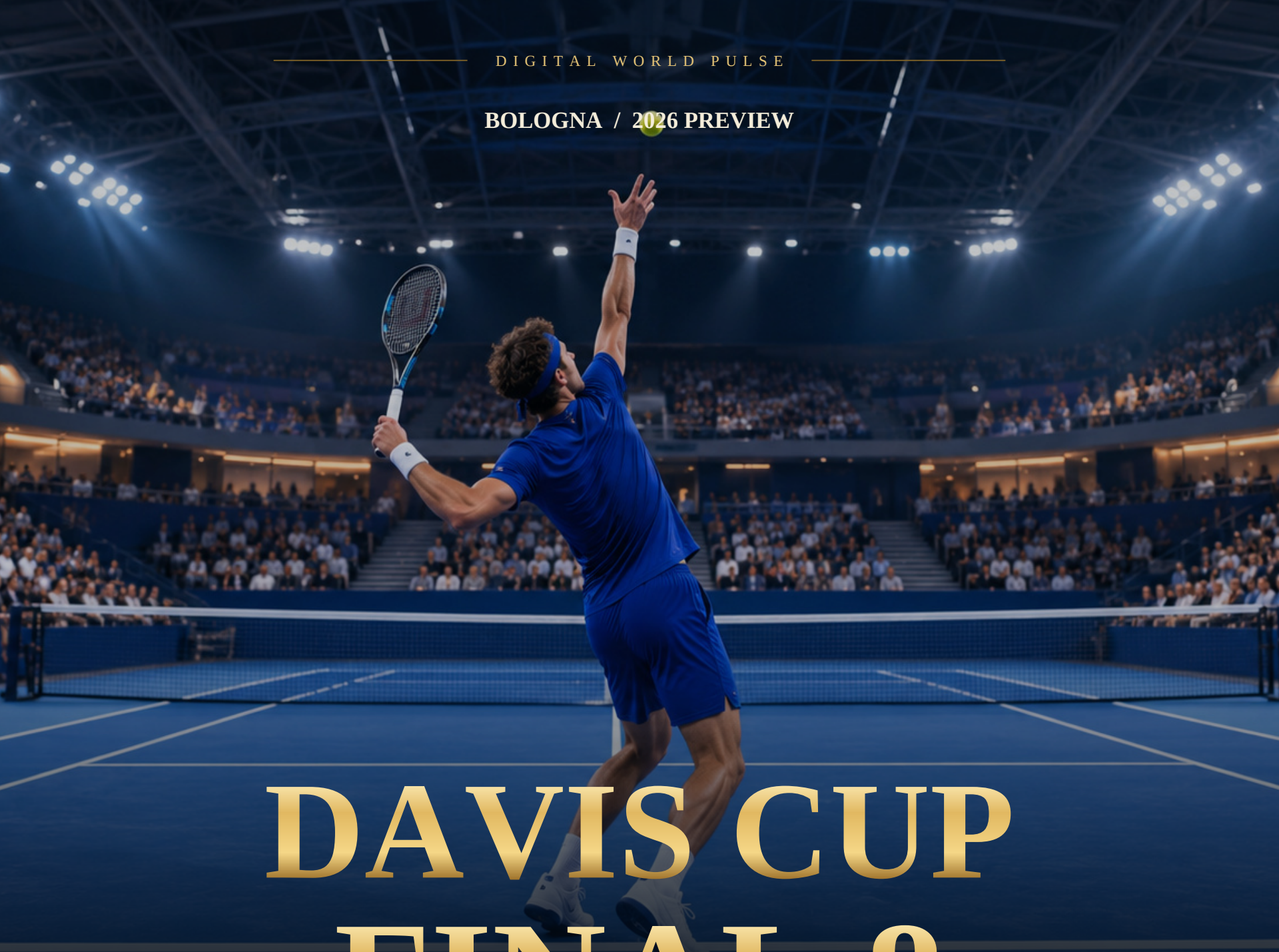
BOLOGNA / 2026 PREVIEW



DAVIS CUP FINAL 8

24–29 NOVEMBER 2026

BOLOGNAFIERE ARENA · ITALY

8	7	6
NATIONS	KNOCKOUT TIES	DAYS OF TENNIS

The draw, full squads, and how each tie could be decided.

OPEN THE PREVIEW ›

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READING THE GUIDE

Confirmed sessions and squads come first. The semifinal and championship pages show projected paths. Individual lineups are confirmed tie by tie.

Editorial and roster snapshot: 12 November 2026.

SESSION SCHEDULE

24–29 November 2026 · BolognaFiere Arena · Hard court

DAY	TIE / ROUND	CET	UK	ET	PT
Tue 24 Nov	**Czechia vs Canada** *Quarterfinal 1*	**16:00**	**15:00**	**10:00 AM**	**7:00 AM**
Wed 25 Nov	**Italy vs Korea Republic** *Quarterfinal 2*	**16:00**	**15:00**	**10:00 AM**	**7:00 AM**
Thu 26 Nov	**Great Britain vs Germany** *Quarterfinal 3*	**10:00**	**09:00**	**4:00 AM**	**1:00 AM**
Thu 26 Nov	**Austria vs Spain** *Quarterfinal 4*	**17:00***	**16:00***	**11:00 AM***	**8:00 AM***
Fri 27 Nov	**Winners of QF1 and QF2** *Semifinal 1*	**16:00**	**15:00**	**10:00 AM**	**7:00 AM**
Sat 28 Nov	**Winners of QF3 and QF4** *Semifinal 2*	**12:00**	**11:00**	**6:00 AM**	**3:00 AM**
Sun 29 Nov	**Winners of SF1 and SF2** *Final*	**15:00**	**14:00**	**9:00 AM**	**6:00 AM**

** Austria vs Spain will not start before the listed time.*

WHAT THE TIMES MEAN

These are the starts of team ties, not start times for all individual matches. The second singles and any doubles follow the match before them. CET is Bologna local time; UK is GMT, ET is EST and PT is PST.

Official schedule **Official event FAQ** **ATP tournament page**

BRACKET & TIE FORMAT

The official draw and the order of play

TOP HALF

Czechia vs Canada
Quarterfinal 1

Italy vs Korea Republic
Quarterfinal 2

Semifinal 1: winners meet

Friday, 27 November

See the projected path ›

BOTTOM HALF

Great Britain vs Germany
Quarterfinal 3

Austria vs Spain
Quarterfinal 4

Semifinal 2: winners meet

Saturday, 28 November

See the projected path ›

FINAL · WINNER OF SEMIFINAL 1 VS WINNER OF SEMIFINAL 2

Sunday, 29 November · 15:00 CET

ONE DAY, FIRST TO TWO MATCH WINS

01 Opening singles

No. 2 vs No. 2 among the selected singles players.

02 Second singles

No. 1 vs No. 1. A second win clinches the tie.

03 Doubles

If singles are split, doubles decides the tie.

After a 2–0 singles sweep, doubles normally still goes ahead in a quarterfinal or semifinal unless both teams and the referee agree to skip it. In the final, no doubles is played at 2–0.

Official schedule **2026 regulations**



QUARTERFINAL 1 / TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2026

CZECHIA VS CANADA

The opening tie could turn on the No. 2 match

CET	UK	ET	PT
16:00	15:00	10:00 AM	7:00 AM

THE OPENING SINGLES

Menšík was No. 16 and Shapovalov No. 50 on 9 November. If they are selected opposite each other, Menšík can use first serves to avoid playing every point on Shapovalov’s terms. The Canadian left-hander’s angle can still pull a returner far enough wide to open the next shot.

THE SECOND SINGLES

Auger-Aliassime and Lehečka were separated by one ranking place. Both delivered two singles wins in September. Canada’s best chance to level or clinch is to keep Auger-Aliassime serving from in front; Lehečka can change the exchange by taking early returns through the middle.

IF IT REACHES DOUBLES

Berdych can turn to Rikl and Pavlásek, with Macháč also giving the squad flexibility. Canada can choose whether to use specialists or bring a singles player back. Czechia get the lean if they take the opener and reach 1–1 with a prepared pair.

2–1

AT THE CLINCH

PROJECTED TIE SCORE

Czechia

Czechia have a stronger projected opener and a clearer specialist doubles option.

Editorial forecast. Player pairings depend on the official order of play.

Official schedule **Official nominations** **ATP rankings, 9 Nov** **Czech Tennis update**



QUARTERFINAL 2 / WEDNESDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2026

ITALY VS KOREA REPUBLIC

The hosts can win through singles depth

CET	UK	ET	PT
16:00	15:00	10:00 AM	7:00 AM

THE OPENING SINGLES

Volandri can select Darderi or Musetti alongside Cobolli. They offer different ways to get ahead: early forehand pressure from Darderi or a change of height and pace from Musetti. Korea’s best reply is to protect the first service games and make the favourite win the longer exchanges.

THE SECOND SINGLES

Cobolli was world No. 6 in the 9 November snapshot and won all three of his Final 8 singles in 2025. If he meets Kwon, a firm first return through the middle can deny Korea the angle to counter. Kwon needs enough quick service points to hold the score close.

IF IT REACHES DOUBLES

Korea’s route improves sharply if they win either singles match. Italy still have a settled option in Bolelli and Vavassori, which matters if an upset in one rubber forces a decider. The baseline pick assumes Italy win the first two matches.

2–0

AT THE CLINCH

PROJECTED TIE SCORE

Italy

Italy can choose from three ranked singles options and retain an established doubles pair.

Editorial forecast. Player pairings depend on the official order of play.

Official schedule **Official nominations** **ATP rankings, 9 Nov** **Bologna event guide**

QUARTERFINAL 3 / THURSDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2026



GREAT BRITAIN VS GERMANY

Britain’s strongest route runs through the opener

CET	UK	ET	PT
10:00	09:00	4:00 AM	1:00 AM

THE OPENING SINGLES

A likely Norrie–Struff matchup puts a premium on the second shot. Norrie can extend service points with a deep return; Struff can cut those exchanges short by landing his first serve and taking the next ball early. Hanfmann’s addition gives Germany a different selection if needed.

THE SECOND SINGLES

Zverev was world No. 1 on 9 November and won both singles against Croatia. If Fery is Britain’s No. 1, his task is to make the German play another ball on serve and exploit any loose return games. Zverev has the stronger route to this point.

IF IT REACHES DOUBLES

Patten and Skupski give Britain a credible response to Krawietz and Pütz. Germany’s established pair helped win the Croatia tie, but this is the quarterfinal in which the doubles choice is least likely to feel like a fallback. The first set of the decider could carry real weight.

2–1

AT THE CLINCH

PROJECTED TIE SCORE

Germany

Zverev’s singles edge and the Krawietz–Pütz partnership give Germany two plausible points.

Editorial forecast. Player pairings depend on the official order of play.

Official schedule **Official nominations** **ATP rankings, 9 Nov** **DTB squad update**

QUARTERFINAL 4 / THURSDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2026

AUSTRIA VS SPAIN

Spain’s best chance is to keep it out of doubles

CET	UK	ET	PT
17:00*	16:00*	11:00 AM*	8:00 AM*

** Not before these times; the evening session follows the earlier tie.*

THE OPENING SINGLES

Jódar and Davidovich Fokina were Nos. 11 and 17 on 9 November. Either would give Spain a strong opening singles option. Austria can counter by holding serve and bringing the first set to a tight finish, where a few strong first strikes matter more than the rankings gap.

THE SECOND SINGLES

If Alcaraz plays Rodionov, Spain have the more convincing point on paper. Rodionov already showed he can close a high-pressure tie by beating Bergs in September. His route here is to take away Alcaraz’s time before the Spaniard can change direction and take over the exchange.

IF IT REACHES DOUBLES

Miedler and Oberleitner beat Belgium’s doubles team in Vienna. Austria would welcome that route again. Granollers gives Spain a specialist at the net, but his partner is a selection decision. The 2–0 forecast rests on Spain’s singles depth, not a guaranteed doubles advantage.

2–0
AT THE CLINCH

PROJECTED TIE SCORE

Spain

Spain can put two strong singles players on court before Austria’s doubles strength comes into play.

Editorial forecast. Player pairings depend on the official order of play.

Official schedule **Official nominations** **ATP rankings, 9 Nov** **Austria’s qualifying run**

CZECHIA & CANADA

Nominated teams and selection questions

Czechia

NO. 4 SEED

Captain: Tomáš Berdych

NOMINATED SQUAD

Jiří Lehečka · Jakub Menšík · Tomáš Macháč · Patrik Rikl · Adam Pavlásek

ROUTE TO BOLOGNA

Beat the United States 3–2 in Prague. Lehečka won twice and Menšík defeated Ben Shelton in the reverse singles to keep the tie alive.

SELECTION TO WATCH

Lehečka and Menšík were Nos. 15 and 16 on 9 November. The later addition of Macháč gives Berdych a third singles option.

Canada

2022 CHAMPION

Captain: Frank Dancevic

NOMINATED SQUAD

Félix Auger-Aliassime · Denis Shapovalov · Gabriel Diallo · Liam Draxl · Duncan Chan

ROUTE TO BOLOGNA

Beat France 3–1 in Québec City. Auger-Aliassime won two singles, including a three-set clincher against Arthur Rinderknech.

SELECTION TO WATCH

Shapovalov offers a left-handed first strike; Diallo brings a different serve profile. Dancevic’s choice changes the opening matchup.

Squads as announced through 12 November. Nomination does not guarantee a place in the order of play.

Official nominations **Czech Tennis update** **September results** **ATP rankings, 9 Nov**

ITALY & KOREA REPUBLIC

Nominated teams and selection questions

Italy

NO. 1 SEED

Captain: Filippo Volandri

NOMINATED SQUAD

Flavio Cobolli · Luciano Darderi · Lorenzo Musetti · Andrea Vavassori · Simone Bolelli

ROUTE TO BOLOGNA

Received the host wild card. Italy won the 2023, 2024 and 2025 editions, beating Spain 2–0 in last year’s final.

SELECTION TO WATCH

Cobolli heads the named group. Darderi and Musetti give Volandri two credible choices for the opener; Sinner was not nominated.

Korea Republic

FINAL 8 DEBUT

Captain: Chung Jong-sam

NOMINATED SQUAD

Kwon Soon-woo · Chung Hyeon · Park Ui-sung · Nam Ji-sung · Hong Seong-chan

ROUTE TO BOLOGNA

Beat India 3–1 in Seoul on outdoor hard court to reach this stage for the first time.

SELECTION TO WATCH

Kwon and Chung are the headline names. If the captain keeps Park and Nam for doubles, Korea need one singles win to reach that option.

Squads as announced through 12 November. Nomination does not guarantee a place in the order of play.

Official nominations **Final 8 overview** **September results** **Bologna event guide**

GREAT BRITAIN & GERMANY

Nominated teams and selection questions

Great Britain

SEPTEMBER QUALIFIER

Captain: Leon Smith

NOMINATED SQUAD

Arthur Fery · Cameron Norrie · Henry Patten · Neal Skupski

ROUTE TO BOLOGNA

Beat Ecuador 4–0 in London. Patten and Skupski clinched qualification in doubles.

SELECTION TO WATCH

Fery and Norrie are the two named singles options at this snapshot. Patten and Skupski give Smith a specialist doubles route.

Germany

NO. 3 SEED

Captain: Michael Kohlmann

NOMINATED SQUAD

Alexander Zverev · Jan-Lennard Struff · Yannick Hanfmann · Kevin Krawietz
Tim Pütz

ROUTE TO BOLOGNA

Beat Croatia 3–1 in Halle. Zverev won twice and Krawietz with Pütz took the doubles point against Nikola Mektić and Mate Pavić.

SELECTION TO WATCH

Hanfmann completed the squad on 11 November. Kohlmann can choose between Struff and Hanfmann for a second singles place.

Squads as announced through 12 November. Nomination does not guarantee a place in the order of play.

Official nominations **DTB squad update** **Britain’s qualifying tie**

AUSTRIA & SPAIN

Nominated teams and selection questions

Austria

SEPTEMBER QUALIFIER

Captain: Jürgen Melzer

NOMINATED SQUAD

Jurij Rodionov · Lukas Neumayer · Joel Schwärzler · Neil Oberleitner · Lucas Miedler

ROUTE TO BOLOGNA

Beat Belgium 3–1 on clay in Vienna. Miedler and Oberleitner won doubles; Rodionov then clinched against Zizou Bergs.

SELECTION TO WATCH

The doubles pair is Austria’s strongest route once singles are split. The choice of second singles player determines how realistic that is.

Spain

NO. 2 SEED

Captain: David Ferrer

NOMINATED SQUAD

Carlos Alcaraz · Rafael Jódar · Alejandro Davidovich Fokina · Pedro Martínez
Marcel Granollers

ROUTE TO BOLOGNA

Beat Chile 4–0 in Santiago. Spain were runners-up in Bologna in 2025 and won their most recent title in 2019.

SELECTION TO WATCH

Jódar and Davidovich Fokina give Ferrer a choice alongside Alcaraz. Granollers is the doubles specialist, with his partner to be confirmed.

Squads as announced through 12 November. Nomination does not guarantee a place in the order of play.

Official nominations **Austria’s qualifying run** **September results** **ATP rankings, 9 Nov**



TIE TACTICS / BOLOGNA

OPENING SINGLES

The No. 2 match sets the score for the rest of the tie

QF1 · CZECHIA VS CANADA

Watch the left-handed serve pattern

If Menšík faces Shapovalov, watch the Canadian serve wide on the ad side. A short return can leave him a forehand into the open court. A firm return down the middle gives Menšík a better chance to start the rally neutral.

QF2 · ITALY VS KOREA REPUBLIC

Make Italy play a second ball

Korea’s opener needs more than a few aces. Deep returns, even through the middle, can prevent Italy’s No. 2 from attacking immediately after serving. The early signal is whether Korea can reach 30-all in more than one return game.

QF3 · GREAT BRITAIN VS GERMANY

This is Britain’s best leverage point

A Norrie win would make the second singles a chance to clinch, with doubles still available if Zverev levels. If the opener goes to Germany, Fery could need to beat the world No. 1 just to bring Patten and Skupski into a live match.

QF4 · AUSTRIA VS SPAIN

Austria need the first set to stay close

Austrian first serves can compress the opening match into a handful of points. Watch whether the Spanish returner gets into enough second-serve points early. A break in each set is the simplest route for Spain to protect their singles edge.

Illustrative matchups only. Captains select the singles players and the referee applies the order of merit.

2026 regulations **Official nominations** **ATP rankings, 9 Nov**



TIE TACTICS / BOLOGNA

NO. 1 SINGLES

The strongest named singles players can clinch or rescue the tie

QF1 · WORLD NOS. 14 AND 15

Auger-Aliassime and Lehečka

This is the closest likely No. 1 match by ranking. Rather than counting winners alone, watch who takes control of the point after a first serve. The player who lands a deep return against the second serve can make the other defend one extra shot.

QF2 · ITALY’S LEAD OPTION

Cobolli against Korea’s selected No. 1

A 1–0 lead would let Cobolli play a clinching rubber. If the opener goes the other way, the same match becomes a rescue job. Korea can make his return games less comfortable by varying serve placement before he finds a rhythm.

QF3 · WORLD NO. 1

Zverev’s serve and the first return

Britain need to stretch Zverev’s service games and avoid letting him protect a lead with routine holds. Fery’s movement can help once the point is under way. The key is getting enough returns deep to make the serve-plus-one sequence less automatic.

QF4 · WORLD NO. 3

Alcaraz and the change of direction

Against Rodionov, Alcaraz’s ability to go down the line after an exchange through the middle can decide points before Austria reset. If Rodionov serves well enough to shorten points, he can keep the first set within one break.

Rankings are the 9 November snapshot. The official No. 1 selection is determined separately for each tie.

ATP rankings, 9 Nov **Official nominations** **2026 regulations**



TIE TACTICS / BOLOGNA

DOUBLES AT 1–1

What changes when one match decides the entire tie

QF1 · CZECHIA VS CANADA

A specialist pair or a returning singles player

Rikl and Pavlásek give Czechia two named doubles options. Canada can use a fresh pair or ask a singles player to return. Watch which team makes more first returns low enough to stop the opposing net player from cutting them off.

QF2 · ITALY VS KOREA REPUBLIC

Italy’s backstop

Bolelli and Vavassori give the hosts an established pairing if a singles point gets away. Park and Nam are in Korea’s squad. Against a strong first volley, Korea’s practical route is a low return at the server’s feet rather than trying to pass the net player cleanly.

QF3 · GREAT BRITAIN VS GERMANY

The doubles match to circle

Patten and Skupski clinched Britain’s September tie against Ecuador. Krawietz and Pütz earned Germany’s doubles point against Croatia. Focus on first-serve returns and whether either team gets a high volley through the middle.

QF4 · AUSTRIA VS SPAIN

Austria’s live upset route

Miedler and Oberleitner won against Belgium in Vienna, so Austria have a tested pair if they steal a singles point. Granollers can give Spain a different look at the net. The pairing and who serves first matter more here than the singles rankings.

These are options from the named squads, not confirmed pairings. Check the official lineup at the tie.

2026 regulations **Official nominations** **September results** **Austria’s qualifying run** **Britain’s qualifying tie**

FRIDAY SEMIFINAL

Friday, 27 November 2026 · projected matchup

CET	UK	ET	PT
16:00	15:00	10:00 AM	7:00 AM

CONFIRMED DRAW SLOT

Winner of Czechia vs Canada meets the winner of Italy vs Korea Republic.

BASELINE SCENARIO

Italy vs Czechia

Czechia could press Italy in the opener with a top-16 singles option. If the two singles split, Bolelli and Vavassori give Italy the narrower but more settled route to the second point.

IF CANADA ADVANCES

Auger-Aliassime can give Canada a credible No. 1 point. Canada’s chances rise if Shapovalov or the chosen No. 2 keeps Italy under pressure from the first set; Italy can still lean on the deeper selection and the doubles pair.

IF KOREA ADVANCES

An upset over Italy would mean Korea have already found a way to take two matches from stronger nominal singles depth. Their best next route would be another singles point and a decider, whether against Czechia or Canada.

2–1

AT THE CLINCH

PROJECTED TIE SCORE

Italy

The hosts can recover from a split in singles through their established doubles team.

Official schedule **Official nominations** **ATP rankings, 9 Nov**

SATURDAY SEMIFINAL

Saturday, 28 November 2026 · projected matchup

CET	UK	ET	PT
12:00	11:00	6:00 AM	3:00 AM

CONFIRMED DRAW SLOT

Winner of Great Britain vs Germany meets the winner of Austria vs Spain.

BASELINE SCENARIO

Germany vs Spain

Spain can start fast through Jódar or Davidovich Fokina. A projected Zverev–Alcaraz rubber gives Germany a route to 1–1, after which the established Krawietz–Pütz pair makes the difference in this forecast.

IF GREAT BRITAIN ADVANCES

Against Spain, Britain may need Norrie or Fery to win a singles rubber before their doubles specialists can matter. The British route is to keep Spain’s No. 2 from dictating early and make the tie as long as possible.

IF AUSTRIA ADVANCES

Austria’s upset path would likely have involved a split in singles and winning doubles. Against either Germany or Britain, repeating it would require beating a strong pair. Rodionov’s form would be the first thing to reassess.

2–1
AT THE CLINCH

PROJECTED TIE SCORE

Germany

Spain have a real sweep path; the pick leans Germany only if Zverev forces doubles.

Official schedule · Official nominations · ATP rankings, 9 Nov · DTB squad update

SUNDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2026 / CHAMPIONSHIP

CHAMPIONSHIP FORECAST

Projected final: Italy vs Germany

CET	UK	ET	PT
15:00	14:00	9:00 AM	6:00 AM

ITALY’S CLEAREST ROUTE

Italy’s second singles option can put the hosts ahead. A likely Darderi or Musetti match against Struff is more winnable than relying on a point against Zverev. If Germany level, Bolelli and Vavassori give Italy a familiar pairing for the clincher.

HOW GERMANY FLIPS IT

Struff or Hanfmann can turn the final by winning the opener. Germany then need only one more point and have two ways to get it: Zverev in singles or the established Krawietz–Pütz team. Even at 1–1 the doubles margin would be slim.

IF SPAIN COMES THROUGH INSTEAD

An Italy–Spain rematch would pit Italy’s selection depth against a higher-ranked Spanish lead option. With Alcaraz and Jódar available, Spain could win both singles. Italy’s best response would again be to take the opening match and make doubles relevant.

2–1
AT THE CLINCH

PROJECTED CHAMPION

Italy

Italy can take the opener and has the pair to win a narrow deciding doubles.

The finalists are not known. This scenario follows the picks on pages 5–8 and 16–17.

Official schedule **Official nominations** **Final 8 overview**

BEFORE FIRST SERVE

How to use the guide on match day

01 · CONFIRMED SESSIONS

Plan around the first ball, not the second match

Use the table on page 3 for the start of each team tie. Great Britain vs Germany starts at 10:00 CET on Thursday. Austria vs Spain is listed for no earlier than 17:00 CET, and can start later.

02 · ORDER OF PLAY

Check which singles players are named

The published squads list the captain’s options. The official order of play is released on the day of the tie. Once it is out, check who is No. 2, who is No. 1 and whether an expected player is sitting out.

03 · IF THE TIE IS LEVEL

Stay for the point that settles it

At 1–1, the doubles lineup is the information that matters. A singles player can be selected to play again under the rules. When one nation wins both singles, the tie is already decided even if doubles is played in a quarterfinal or semifinal.

04 · IN BOLOGNA

Check the session and gate time on your ticket

The official event FAQ lists gates opening two hours before most sessions. The Thursday evening session is the exception, with a 16:00 CET gate time. Check the latest event notice before travelling.

Back to session schedule ›

Open sources & disclaimer ›

Official schedule **Official event FAQ** **2026 regulations**

SOURCES & DISCLAIMER

Editorial snapshot: 12 November 2026

Official schedule
Seven sessions and the confirmed knockout draw.

Czech Tennis update
Tomáš Macháč added to the Czech squad.

2026 regulations
Singles selection and order, doubles changes and dead-match policy.

September results
All seven second-round qualifying ties and key matches.

ATP rankings, 9 Nov
Dated ATP singles ranking snapshot and original list link.

Bologna event guide
BolognaFiere Arena and the status of Italy’s squad.

Britain’s qualifying tie
LTA report on the 4–0 win over Ecuador.

Official nominations
Initial squads published on 26 October.

DTB squad update
Yannick Hanfmann named as Germany’s fifth player.

Official event FAQ
Session starts, gate times and order-of-play information.

Austria’s qualifying run
Official match recap of Austria’s victory over Belgium.

Final 8 overview
Host wild card, qualified nations and recent winners.

Draw and seedings
Official seeding and the Final 8 draw procedure.

ATP tournament page
Bologna tournament listing and hard-court surface.

HOW TO READ THE PICKS

Projected scores are team match wins at the point the tie is clinched. A score of 2–1 assumes decisive doubles; a 2–0 pick excludes any doubles played after a decision. Rankings, where shown, use the 9 November ATP singles list.

WHAT CAN CHANGE

Order of play, substitutions and times can change. Later rounds are scenarios based on earlier picks. Consult the official schedule and team updates close to the session.

EDITORIAL DISCLAIMER

This independent preview is for information and entertainment. Results are uncertain and this is not betting advice. Tennis imagery is illustrative and does not depict named players or the Bologna venue.

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