



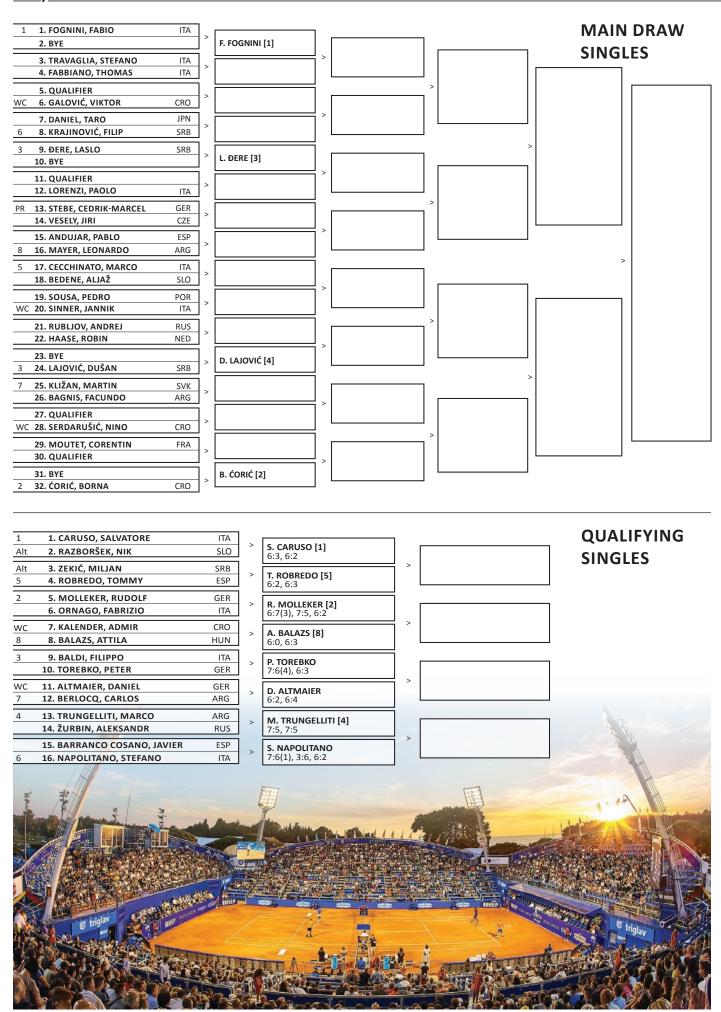
## PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN UMAG 12.-21.7.2019.

# Bally Revised Ba

**ORDER OF PLAY PARTY PROGRAMME GORAN IVANIŠEVIĆ STADIUM COURT 1** 11:00 **GRANDSTAND** Kids' Week 10:00-22:00 Salvatore Caruso (ITA) vs. Rudolf Molleker (GER) vs. Peter Torebko (GER) vs. **Kviki Gaming Corner** Tommy Robredo (ESP) Attila Balazs (HUN) Daniel Altmaier (GER) 16:00-17:00 not before 19:00 Followed by **SUper Tennis on water Challenge** Marco Cecchinato (ITA) vs. Cedric-Marcel Stebe (GER) vs. COURT 2 Aljaz Bedene (SLO) Jiry Vesely (CZE) **ISTRIA GOURMET** 16:00 **FESTIVAL & MUSIC** Followed by Marco Trungelliti (ARG) vs. Pedro Sousa (POR) vs. Stefano Napolitano (ITA) 21:00 Jannik Sinner (ITA) Wine tasting - young malvasia

Tickets are available on the official website www.croatiaopen.hr. FREE ENTRY TO THE PARTY PROGRAM.







#### Lawrence Frankopan

The director's view

#### Goran Ivanišević



The legend's view

## SETTING OFF AT FULL STEAM!

This is obviously quite a big year for us. A big 30-year anniversary, an amazing milestone for the tournament. I have to thank everyone who has worked so hard throughout the years. We will celebrate this moment as a huge momentum for tennis, because having this event for so long, having received many awards and getting recognition speaks for itself.

This would never have happened if we didn't have a lot of hardworking people working in the shadows behind the main stage, and without them it wouldn't have been possible. I've come to know them well in recent years. and it's rare to find such enthusiasts who work on the tiniest details with so much passion. This is the reason why we're moving forward, and I believe all our visitors will feel that this year as well. First and foremost, Patrick Rafter and Goran Ivanisevic will give us a great exhibition match to highlight the week. The match between the two Gorans was another great opportunity to celebrate Croatian tennis and its history.

Regarding the main draw, we're proud to have one of the strongest fields in recent years. Having a Top 10 player in the draw with Fabio Fognini is just great for the event, along with homegrown hero Borna Coric. The two of them have the biggest

media presence; they are tennis players who can count on winning tournaments anywhere. But they won't simply be able to stroll into the title, because there are a few other players who have begun to move up towards high rankings.

We are very, very excited and it is going to be very interesting, but however the draw goes, it will be a great opportunity for audiences to see some great tennis, whatever the part of the draw, whatever the court. Our approach is basically not to have any uninteresting matches. Neither at the beginning of the week, nor in the middle of the week, nor in the finals.

Monday will prove that. We have a player in the qualifying rounds who was both a champion and a defeated finalist, and I think there isn't a tennis fan who doesn't hold Tommy Robredo in high regard. After that, we're ready to enjoy a match between Marco Cecchinato and Aljaz Bedene. We're setting off at full steam!

## THE AUDIENCE WERE SATISFIED

Our first exhibition match is behind us, and when they ask me my impressions, I say: the most important thing is that the audience were satisfied and said it was fun, that they laughed, relaxed... and left in a good mood. The goal wasn't for this to be just a tennis match, but much more.

From the court, I can't judge how we were playing, whether we looked silly after thirty years. Prpic told journalists an hour or so before the start that he was a bit worried how it would look, and then just before we started, both of us found ourselves thinking "wish we hadn't played the finals in 1990, at least we wouldn't be here now." But it was great, plenty of people came, they laughed, cheered, applauded... So they probably had a good time

With the muscle pulls I have, I couldn't really run and I had to be careful, which surely showed, but I think that's not important when the atmosphere is so good. Of course, it's a lot easier to play when you can run, and at exhibitions, that means you can have variations, you can "fool around" a bit, do something you don't usually do. But all in all, we showed we can still hit the ball and play well.

There's one more exhibition match left, and I'm getting ready for my duel with Patrick Rafter on Wednesday. The result is irrelevant. I won the more important match in 2001, so if Patrick happens to win on Wedne-

sday, let it be so. I'd like to invite all tennis fans to come, and especially tennis nostalgics, because it will be interesting. It will be a great story and I'm glad Patrick will be here with us. I know all sports lovers remember that Wimbledon final – not just those who love tennis – and I hope we fill up the stadium. I also invite all young tennis players and even the professionals who are here in Umag to come and see how you return a volley. They could learn a lot.

In the meantime, come to the tournament matches to enjoy some wor-Id-class tennis. We've got very, very good players in the main draw, both in the upper and lower half, and it won't be easy for anyone. The favourites are only on paper, they'll have to work hard to win. There will be players in every round who are outsiders but who might surprise us. Just look how many great players weren't seeded and you'll see immediately how many potential "land mines" there are for the best-ranked players. But that's good, it means it's a solid tournament, that there's a breadth of great players, and that means the tennis will be at a high level as well.



# THE TOURNAMENT CELEBRATES ITS 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

The 30th anniversary edition of the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag tennis tournament received a well-deserved celebration on Trg Slobode square in Umag. Just before the celebration, at the formal reception at the Town Hall, Umag mayor Vili Bassanese handed a certificate of appreciation to Slavko Rasberger, the first director of the ATP tournament.

The founder of the Umag tourna-

ment could not hide his tears at receiving this recognition, and he thanked everyone who has contributed to putting Umag and Croatia on the international tennis map. "First and foremost, I would like to thank my family, but also the best team in the world and everyone involved creating it. This is one of the greatest recognitions I've ever received and it has made me especially emotional, but also proud at

what the tournament has become," said Slavko Rasberger in his speech. Rasberger was congratulated in the name of Plava Laguna by Neven Staver, president of the tournament's organising board and Plava Laguna's managing board president.

"I would like to congratulate Mr. Rasberger, founder of the Umag tournament, for his immeasurable contribution to the development of ATP in Umag, as well as to the development of tennis both in Croatia and abroad," said Staver A birthday cake was cut and musician Goran Griff sang the tournament hymn What a Wonderful World, creating a lovely atmosphere on the crowded town square. As a souvenir of the 30th edition of Croatia's longest-running ATP tournament, hostesses also distributed branded tennis balls to citizens and guests.





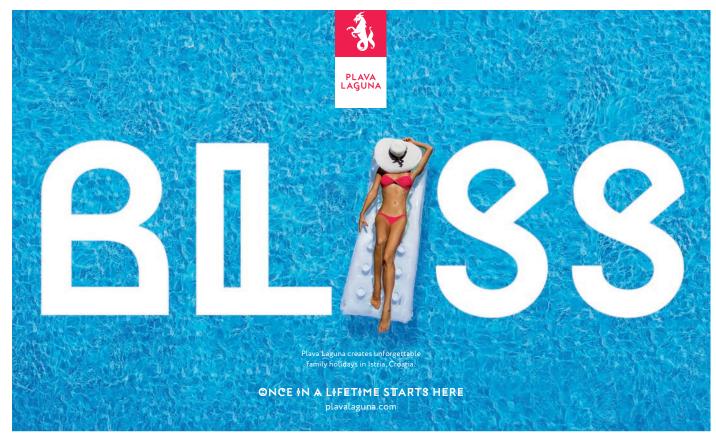












## CHILDREN FROM VUKOVAR AT THE TOURNAMENT IN UMAG

Six kids from Vukovar have joined the ball boy & girl team this year sponsored by the tournament and the Marin Cilic Foundation. In cooperation with Vukovar Tennis Camp, within which a group of enthusiasts has been organising a free summer tennis camp for children from Vukovar for a few years, this team of six young tennis players has a unique opportunity to participate in the 30th edition of the only ATP tournament in Croatia.

"We're glad to have been able to work with the Marin Cilic Foundation to let these young tennis players from Vukovar join us at the ATP tournament, where they will meet their tennis idols in person. We're sure they will take home unforgettable memories and lots of useful experience from Umag," said Lawrence Frankopan, director of Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag.

Aside from being a part of the ball boy & girl team, these youngsters

from Vukovar will have the chance to meet some of their tennis idols up close through Kids' Week. By actively participating in the tournament and socialising with their peers from Istria, the children from Vukovar will have a week full of sporting excitement.

"Last year, working on the Vukovar Tennis Camp project, we had the pleasure of meeting young tennis lovers from Vukovar, and we're very happy to have the opportunity to support this great initiative this year as well, again with the support of the camp. Socialising with their peers from other parts of Croatia and enjoying a world-class international sporting event like ATP Umag is sure to have a positive influence on the development of these great young kids," said Nevena Mrkonjic, director of the Marin Cilic Foundation.



## YET ANOTHER EDITION OF KIDS' WEEK

Throughout its 30 years, the Umag ATP tournament has received numerous recognitions from all over, one of which was for its well-organised Kids' Week. It started as a typical one-day event for kids, then grew into a week-long event full of great fun for everyone: both players and young tennis lovers. Throughout the years, a lot of effort is invested into organising Kids' Week, and ATP has recognised this

by giving the tournament an Award of Excellence. However, we cannot rest on our laurels, so every year the experience is even better, and this year is no different.

Kids' Week will be held from Monday to Friday on the concrete court next to the Grandstand, and one or more tennis players will appear as guests every day. On Monday at around 11AM, the first to join the kids will be Nino Serdarusic.



#### 30 YEARS

### Lucky losers won the titles twice

Ukrainian Dmitri Poliakov in 1991 and Russian Andrei Rublev in 2017 managed to win the Umag title as lucky losers, e. g. as players who lost in the last round of qualifying event, but were then promoted to the main draw after late withdrawals. It happens very rarely at the big ATP events, but both managed to accomplish the feat, showing that sometimes just some luck is needed.



## Line judge training throughout the tournament's first weekend

During the first weekend of the 30th Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag, on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 July, line judge training was held at ATP Goran Ivanisevic Stadium.

Foreign ATP experts were involved in this training session, and highly experienced local line judges have also provided great support for this project.



MAIN DRAW STARTS ON MONDAY

## A TOUGH TASK FOR THE DEFENDING CHAMPION

The main draw of the 30th Plava Laguna Croatia Open will start on Monday afternoon, and the defending champion will begin his new campaign in Umag on the very first day. And it will be no easy task for him! Marco Cecchinato, who played very well last year and attained some of the finest results of his

career, will play against a highly demanding opponent, Aljaz Bedene, who played briefly under the British flag but is now playing for Slovenia again. The match will be played at Goran Ivanisevic Stadium, beginning at 7PM at the earliest. The fact that Cecchinato lost both of his previous encounters with

Bedene is surely not good news for him. One of these took place just a few months ago in Rio de Janeiro, on clay as well, and this might be a very good reason for Cecchinato to take this match very seriously. Moreover, red clay is Bedene's favourite surface. "I think it's the best moment of

> my life," Cecchinato said after raising the trophy last year. "This year I've won two titles, I made the semi-finals at Roland Garros. I'm very happy because I'm playing very, very well." This year, he added the Buenos Aires trophy to his list of victories and continued his rise through the ATP singles rankings, reaching 16th place. Bedene is a familiar foe in Umag, and not many players are as keen to play in Stella Maris as he is. Since his first appearance in Umag in 2011, he has

not missed a single season, and he will continue this tradition this year. His best effort was in the quarterfinals in 2013, when he lost to the eventual champion, Spaniard Tommy Robredo. Robredo will also be in action before him on the very same court (starting at 4:30PM) in the last round of the qualifying event against Italian Salvatore Caruso. All three other qualifying matches will begin at nearly the same moment, after which the main draw will be completed with the last four names. Among others, Croats Viktor Galovic and Nino Serdarusic will learn who will they play against in the main draw opening round. The other main draw matches on the opening day will feature Pedro Susa from Portugal playing against Jannik Sinner from Italy and Cedric-Marcel Stebe from Germany against Jiri Vesely from the Czech Republic.



## FIT LAGUNA OUTDOOR GYM POWERFIDE

#### Ponedjeljak 15.7.

7:30 Trčanje/Jogging

9:00-12:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 10:00 – 11:00 Vježbe za djecu/Kids Workout 12:00 – 12:30 Vježbe istezanja za djecu/Kids Stretching 13:00-19:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 19:00-20:00 Grupni trening/Group training 20:00-21:00 Druženje sa trenerima i vježbačima/Networking with trainters and practitioners

#### Utorak 16.7.

8:00 Joga

9:00-12:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 10:00 – 11:00 Vježbe za djecu/Kids Workout 12:00 – 12:30 Vježbe istezanja za djecu/Kids Stretching 13:00-19:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 19:00-20:00 Grupni trening/Group training 20:00-21:00 Druženje sa trenerima i vježbačima/Networking with trainters and practitioners

#### Srijeda 17.7.

7:30 Trčanje/Jogging

9:00-12:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 10:00 – 11:00 Vježbe za djecu/Kids Workout 12:00 – 12:30 Vježbe istezanja za djecu/Kids Stretching 13:00-19:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 19:00-20:00 Grupni trening/Group training 20:00-21:00 Druženje sa trenerima i vježbačima/Networking with trainters and practitioners

#### Četvrtak 18.7.

8:00 Joga

9:00-12:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 10:00 – 11:00 Vježbe za djecu/Kids Workout 12:00 – 12:30 Vježbe istezanja za djecu/Kids Stretching 13:00-19:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 19:00-20:00 Grupni trening/Group training 20:00-21:00 Prezentacija streatworkout/Streatwork presentation















#### Petak 19.7.

7:30 Trčanje/Jogging

9:00-12:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 10:00 – 11:00 Vježbe za djecu/Kids Workout 12:00 – 12:30 Vježbe istezanja za djecu/Kids Stretching 13:00-19:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 19:00-20:00 Grupni trening/Group training 20:00-21:00 Druženje sa trenerima i vježbačima/Networking with trainters and practitioners

#### Subota 20.7.

8:00 joga

9:00-12:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 10:00 – 11:00 Vježbe za djecu/Kids Workout 12:00 – 12:30 Vježbe istezanja za djecu/Kids Stretching 13:00-19:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 19:00-20:00 Grupni trening/Group training 20:00-21:00 Druženje sa trenerima i vježbačima/Networking with trainters and practitioners

#### Nedjelja 21.7.

9:00-12:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings 13:00-19:00 Individualni treninzi/Individual Trainings

Dodatni sadržaj/Additional program:

- Treninzi i utakmice vaterpolo kluba Adriatic / Trainings and matches by Water Polo Club Adriatic
- · Vježbanje na surff steperima / Surff Stepper Exercising
- · Ulični tenis / Street Tennis
- · Mini nogomet / Mini football

#### Note

Sve grupne i individualne vježbe za djecu i odrasle u organizaciji su i pod vodstvom atletskih klubova i/ili sportskih stručnjaka, odnosno profesionalnih trenera / All training activities, for children and adults, are organized by athletic clubs and professional trainers.







## SINNER AND TRAVAGLIA SHOWED THEIR EXCELLENT GAMING SKILLS

Besides world-class tennis, a great party programme and gourmet food, visitors to the 30th Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag also have the opportunity to enjoy exciting video games.

As a part of the Players Party, a gaming tournament was held this

Sunday at the Social Arena – the ATP Mario Kart Championship led by Good Game Global and sponsored by Podravka.

A total of sixteen tennis players and coaches took part in the tournament, divided into eight pairs. Players and coaches played this popular game on Nintendo Switch consoles, and after a long, unpredictable battle, the youngest won – Jannik Sinner and Stefano Travaglia. The Italians beat Croatian opponents Borna Coric and Nino Serdarusic in the finals, and Laslo Dere, Dusan Lajovic, Filip Krajinovic, Tommy Robredo, Nenad Zimonjic and others all displayed their excellent gaming skills.

Fans followed their favourites via a live stream on the Good Game Global YouTube channel.





#### ATP 250



## PLAVA LAGUNA 12.-21.7.2019.

**SINCE 1990** 

































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MEDIJSKI POKROVITELJI









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# PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPENUMAG 12.-21.7.2019.

S YEARS