



PLAVA LAGUNA OPEN **UMAG**  
CROATIA 24.-30.7.2023.

# DAILY NEWS

#ATPUMAG • #33ATPUMAG • OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ATP TOURNAMENT • NO1 • 23.07.2023.

## 3 GRAND SLAM CHAMPIONS AT THE TOURNAMENT OPENING



WAPRINKA



## MAIN DRAW SINGLES



STATUS	NAT		
1	CZE	<b>LEHECKA, Jiri</b>	<b>J. LEHECKA [1]</b>
2		BYE	
3	AUT	THIEM, Dominic	
4		QUALIFIER	
5	CRO	CILIC, Marin	
6		QUALIFIER	
7		QUALIFIER	
8	ITA	<b>ARNALDI, Matteo</b>	
9	3	<b>AUT OFNER, Sebastian</b>	<b>S. OFNER [3]</b>
10		BYE	
11	AUS	POPYRIN, Alexei	
12	FRA	BONZI, Benjamin	
13	WC	CRO AJDUKOVIC, Duje	
14	WC	CRO PRIZMIC, Dino	
15	HUN	PIROS, Zsombor	
16	5	<b>AUS O'CONNELL, Christopher</b>	
17	6	<b>SUI WAWRINKA, Stan</b>	
18		QUALIFIER	
19	SUI	HUESLER, Marc-Andrea	
20	ARG	CORIA, Federico	
21	JPN	DANIEL, Taro	
22	WC	ESP LANDALUCE, Martin	
23		BYE	
24	4	<b>ESP CARBALLES BAENA, Roberto</b>	<b>R. CARBALLES BAENA [4]</b>
25	8	<b>ESP RAMOS-VINOLAS, Albert</b>	
26	ESP	MUNAR, Jaume	
27	HUN	MAROSZAN, Fabian	
28	ARG	CERUNDOLO, Juan Manuel	
29	ITA	CECCHINATO, Marco	
30		SHEVCHENKO, Alexander	
31		BYE	
32	2	<b>ITA SONEGO, Lorenzo</b>	<b>L. SONEGO [2]</b>

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	GORAN IVANIŠEVIĆ STADION	GRANDSTAND
	<b>Matches Start At 4:30 pm</b>	<b>Matches Start At 4:30 pm</b>
<b>1</b>	[WC] Duje AJDUKOVIC (CRO) vs [WC] Dino PRIZMIC (CRO)	[WC] Zvonimir BABIC (CRO) Luka MIKRUT (CRO) vs Nicolas BARRIENTOS (COL) Guillermo DURAN (ARG)
	<b>Not Before 6:00 pm</b>	<b>Not Before 6:00 pm</b>
<b>2</b>	Dominic THIEM (AUT) vs QUALIFIER	Alexei POPYRIN (AUS) Benjamin BONZI (FRA)
	<b>Not Before 9:00 pm</b>	<b>followed by:</b>
<b>3</b>	Marin CILIC (CRO) vs QUALIFIER	Taro DANIEL (JPN) [WC] Martin LANDALUCE (ESP)



# Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag

CITY, COUNTRY Umag, Croatia		TOURNAMENT DATES 24-30 July 2023	SURFACE Red Clay	TOTAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENT € 630,705
STATUS	NAT	QUALIFYING SINGLES		



1	<b>1</b>	<b>CHI TABILO, Alejandro</b>	D. DZUMHUR	
2		BIH DZUMHUR, Damir	64 46 76(4)	<b>F. MISOLIC [6]</b>
3	<b>Alt</b>	URU CUEVAS, Pablo	<b>F. MISOLIC [6]</b>	64 63
4	<b>6</b>	<b>AUT MISOLIC, Filip</b>	75 62	
5	<b>2</b>	<b>CHI BARRIOS VERA, Tomas</b>	<b>T. BARRIOS VERA [2]</b>	
6	<b>WC</b>	CRO SERDARUSIC, Nino	64 62	<b>J. DE JONG</b>
7		NED DE JONG, Jesper	<b>J. DE JONG</b>	62 64
8	<b>7</b>	<b>ITA BRANCACCIO, Raul</b>	46 62 63	
9	<b>3</b>	<b>ITA VAVASSORI, Andrea</b>	Z. KOLAR	
10		CZE KOLAR, Zdenek	62 46 76(6)	<b>F. COBOLLI</b>
11		ITA COBOLLI, Flavio	<b>F. COBOLLI</b>	64 62
12	<b>8</b>	<b>ITA NARDI, Luca</b>	61 75	
13	<b>4</b>	<b>KAZ SKATOV, Timofey</b>	<b>T. SKATOV [4]</b>	
14	<b>WC</b>	CRO BRKIC, Jerko	62 62	<b>F. BAGNIS [5]</b>
15		ITA MAESTRELLI, Francesco	<b>F. BAGNIS [5]</b>	57 64 62
16	<b>5</b>	<b>ARG BAGNIS, Facundo</b>	64 61	



## JERKO BRKIĆ WINS THIS YEAR'S ROAD TO UMAG BY PODRAVKA

This year's edition of Road to Umag by Podravka ends in a triumph by Jerko Brkić, a 24-year-old member of TK Split 1950. In the final stage of the Masters, a tournament played by four of the most successful players from three qualifying competitions, Brkić played a very even and suspenseful match ending in 7:5, 5:7, 12:10 against his team-mate Luka Mikrut and won the coveted award – a chance to play in the qualifiers for the main Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag tournament.

Brkić got a spot in the Masters after winning the qualifying tournament in Karlovac. The first competition was held in Split, the second in Karlovac, and the third in Samobor. In addition to Brkić and Mikrut, Luka Curavić and Domagoj Bilješko also got a chance to play in Umag. In the semi-final matches, Mikrut won 6:1, 6:2 against Curavić, and Brkić won 3:6, 7:5, 10:5 against Bilješko.



This was the third edition of Road to Umag by Podravka, which has now become a tradition, and ever more popular among Croatian tennis players (the only ones eligible to compete) whose placement in the individual ATP rankings isn't high enough for them to participate in the professional ATP tournament qualifications.

"I would like to thank all of the clubs which participated in the organisation," said tournament director Tomislav Poljak. "It makes me happy that this series has become very popular, and I think it proved to be a great idea." The previous two editions were won by Matija Pecotić. In both cases, he came very close to placing in the main tournament, having gone through the first qualifying round, but he lost in the decisive second round. This year, Brkić was defeated 6:2, 6:2 at the start of the qualifying tournament by Kazakhstani Timofey Skatov.

## QUALIFYING PLAYERS ROUND UP THE MAIN TOURNAMENT

The main tournament of this year's Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag was rounded up on Sunday night, with the last qualifying match. Most successful players of the qualifiers were Jesper de Jong from the Netherlands, Facundo Bagnis from Argentina, Filip Misolic from Austria, and Flavio Cobolli from Italy, who won their second round matches and got the chance to participate in the main draw of the tournament.



De Jong won 6:2, 6:4 against Tomás Barrios Vera from Chile, after a match in which he lost only one serve (this was also the only break point his opponent had). Bagnis turned around his match against Timofey Skatov after the Kazakhstani won the first set and had an early break point advantage in the second. In the end, the match was won by Bagnis (5:7, 6:4, 6:2), who participated in the quarter-finals in Umag two times: last year he lost against Carlos Alcaraz from Spain, and in 2019 against Italian Salvatore Caruso.

Filip Misolic, Austrian player of Croatian descent, won 6:4, 6:3 against Damir Džumhur from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

His only break point in the first set came in the tenth game, and Džumhur was better at the start of the second set, taking a 3:1 lead. However, he didn't win any more games by the end of the match. Cobolli won 6:4, 6:2 against Zdeněk Kolář from Czechia, marking the first time he will be participating in the main tournament: he lost at the start of the qualifiers last year and the year before. At the end of the qualifying tournament, the main tournament draws were made for the main tournament.

Bagnis will face the 2015 winner of the Umag tournament, Dominic Thiem from Austria. Cobolli will play against the 2012 Umag champion, Croatian Marin Čilić, while De Jong will face the seventh seed, Matteo Arnaldi from Italy. Last but not least, Misolic will play against the 2006 Umag winner, Swiss player Stan Wawrinka.



# TASTE OF SUMMER IN CROATIA

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## GRAND SLAM CHAMPIONS FACING QUALIFIERS



Tomislav Poljak, Director of Plava Laguna Croatia Open, Goran Ivanišević, Marin Čilić

The draw for this year's ATP Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag took place in the Taste Istria zone under the watchful eye of the chief referee Gerry Armstrong, who has been performing this function on behalf of the ATP for almost two decades.

All three Grand Slam winners participating in this year's tournament - Marin Čilić, Stan Wawrinka, and Dominic Thiem - have drawn opponents from the qualifiers. Additionally, one Croatian tennis player will definitely advance to the round of 16, as Dino Prižmić and Duje Ajduković will face each other in the first round.

The top four seeded players will have a bye in the opening round and will join the action in the round of 16. These players are Lehečka from the Czech Republic (1st seed), Sonogo from Italy (2nd seed), Ofner from Austria (3rd seed), and Carballés Baena from Spain (4th seed). In other words, their opponents will only be known after the completion of the first round.



"I'm happy to see Marin back here for the first time since 2014. Umag is more than a tournament, so I am expecting a lot of good matches next week. I'm looking forward to the matches, good performance by Croatian players, and seeing everyone there. Have a great time!

- Goran Ivanišević

"First of all, I am so glad to be back after all these years. I'm happy that I'm done with my rehabilitation, and my knee seems to be doing really well so I can't wait to get back on the court. This is where I started my career in 2005, Umag was my first ATP tournament. That really kind of rounds up my comeback story, and it makes me very happy and hopeful that I will do very well on the tournament. I'm playing against a player coming from the qualifiers. I still don't know who that will be, but it will be awesome in any case and I hope we all have an amazing week."

- Marin Čilić



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PHOTOS: PLITVICE LAKES NATIONAL PARK; PODRAČE, BRELA;  
LOPUD (ALEKSANDAR GOSPIĆ)



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## TENNIS LEGEND GORAN IVANIŠEVIĆ AWARDS THE TROPHY TO WINNERS OF THE SIXTH ANNUAL HEPI TOURNAMENT

Maja Mahne and Slaven Mađarić have won the title at the sixth annual HEPi tournament held on the Umag Tennis Academy courts sponsored by the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag. In the final match of the tournament, organised by HEP Opkrba for its buyers and the buyers of HEP Energija from Slovenia, Mahne and Mađarić won against Domagoj Radić and Mihovil Stanić, while the third place went to Dren Stoček and Milivoj Potkonjak.

Friend of the Umag ATP, Croatian tennis legend Goran Ivanišević, traditionally awarded the trophy to the winners and had a fun time meeting and talking to the tournament contestants.



“Today was a great day at the HEPi tournament! The winning team made sure we see some amazing tennis, and definitely deserved to win their title. I congratulate them on their success and fighting spirit. I always feel special being a part of this event organised by HEP Opkrba as the sponsor of the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag, the oldest tournament in this part of Europe. It is exciting to see this tournament grow with each year, and I am proud to be a part of this contribution to the tennis community,” said Goran Ivanišević.

Nada Podnar, Marketing Director at HEP Opkrba, said she was extremely satisfied by the way this sports and entertainment tournament, now held for the sixth time, is growing and evolving.

“It is wonderful to be back in Umag. We had some rain at the opening, but we still managed to have the tournament, and we are very happy with how it went. I would like to express my gratitude to Plava Laguna as the organiser of this wonderful sports event for the tremendous support they are giving us year after year.”

## FOR SEVEN YEARS NOW, HEP HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY CONNECTING TENNIS AND CHARITY THROUGH ITS “AS ZA SPAS” CAMPAIGN



Once again and for the seventh time, Hrvatska elektroprivreda (HEP), a long-time sponsor and friend of the Laguna Croatia Open Umag, is supporting the commendable charity campaign called “As za Spas”. This campaign is a part of the global “Aces for Charity” initiative aimed at connecting tennis and humanitarian efforts so as to support the local communities where the tournaments are held. During the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag, funds are being raised based on the number of aces served in the matches, and then a certain amount of money is donated to a local association or project.

Last year, with support from HEP, the funds were donated to the Croatian Wheelchair Tennis Federation in order to assist them in organising the ITF Wheelchair Croatia Open Umag by HEP, and this year will be no different.

This wonderful campaign is another reason to visit the gorgeous city of Umag and enjoy some fantastic tennis matches at the exhilarating and unique 33rd Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag.



# Energija koja pokreće Hrvatsku

**HEP** Više od  
struje



## SPECTACULAR PERFORMANCE BY JELENA ROZGA AT THE OPENING OF UMAG MUSIC NIGHTS



As part of the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag, regional music star Jelena Rozga threw a fantastic concert for the visitors and guests of the ATP tournament, set the atmosphere ablaze at the Dance Arena.

On this unique location and the main stage of the tournament, she performed some of her greatest hits, including Bižuterija, a song which won her a Porin award. The guests also had a chance to enjoy some legendary hits she sang over 20 years ago with Magazin, the extremely popular band from Split.

One of the most awarded Croatian singers made sure that the visitors to the Social Arena, packed to the rafters, have the best time, playing for them late into the evening.





“We have an excellent tennis week ahead of us. Exciting matches await us right from the first round of the main tournament of the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag. Today, we have a true Croatian derby starting at 4:30 PM with Dino Prižmić and Duje Ajduković both looking for ticket for the 2nd round. Right after them, we will enjoy the game of Dominic Thiem against the qualifier Facundo Bagnis. The first evening match of the year will be played by Marin Čilić, who is returning to Umag after nine years, against Italian Cobolli.”

Tomislav Poljak, Director of Plava Laguna Croatia Open

“We can proudly say that everything is ready for the 33rd edition of the Plava Laguna Croatia Open Umag. Despite enormous challenges caused by adverse weather conditions, we managed to restore the zone in an incredibly short period. I would like to thank everyone involved, from staff to partners, who with superhuman efforts brought back the deserved splendor to our tennis village. We are extremely proud to announce 20 top-notch Istrian winemakers in the Taste Istria zone, along with food trucks offering modern versions of Istrian dishes. This year our Social Arena will have selected exhibitors from the tennis world. Of course, we must not forget the fantastic Umag Music Nights program that this year hosts names like Jelena Rozga, Let3, Crvena Jabuka, and some of the most significant names in the world’s electronic scene, such as Fedde Le Grand. We have a truly special week ahead of us, with great tennis, gourmet delights, and entertainment.”

Arlen Brozić, Executive Committee Director



**Najviše volim kad se servira svježe ;)**



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# PLAVA LAGUNA CROATIA OPEN **UMAG**



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