



2018 NEW YORK OPEN PLAYER FIELD ANNOUNCED

Main Draw Highlighted by 2017 US Open Finalist, Top-Ranked Players from South Africa, Japan, Israel, and South Korea, the ATP Next Gen Finals Champion, and Strong American Field

LONG ISLAND (January 3, 2018) – The New York Open ATP World Tour tennis tournament will make its debut Feb. 11-18 with a player field highlighted by four of the world’s top-25 ranked players, the No. 1-ranked players from South Africa, Japan, Korea, and Israel, and nine Americans who have been accepted directly into the singles main draw.

Kevin Anderson, South Africa’s top ranked player and No. 14 in the world, has committed to play. Anderson holds three career titles and made it to the finals of the 2017 US Open. He also reached the quarterfinals of the 2017 ATP World Tour Masters 1,000 in Montreal, as well as the finals of the Citi Open ATP 500 tournament in Washington, DC.

Early commitments for the singles draw included top 50-ranked players **Sam Querrey** (No. 13); 2017 BB&T Atlanta Open and Hall of Fame Open champion **John Isner** (No. 17); four-time Memphis Open champion and world’s former No. 5 player **Kei Nishikori** (No. 22); 2017 Memphis Open winner **Ryan Harrison** (No. 47), and 2017 Next Gen ATP Finals champion **Hyeon Chung** (No. 58).

American players **Steve Johnson** (No. 44), **Jared Donaldson** (No. 54), **Donald Young** (No. 61), and **Frances Tiafoe** (No. 79), and former junior Wimbledon champions **Noah Rubin** and **Reilly Opelka** round out the strong U.S. field for the New York Open, the first U.S. stop of the year on the ATP World Tour.

World No. 28 **Adrian Mannarino** of France, Israel’s No. 1 player **Dudi Sela**, Russia’s **Evgeny Donskoy**, who defeated Roger Federer at the 2017 Dubai Tennis Championships, and **Victor Estrella Burgos** of the Dominican Republic, who is one of Latin America’s top competitors, are just a few players to watch in the tournament’s international field.

The 2018 New York Open will mark the return of the ATP World Tour to the New York metropolitan area and Long Island since 2005. GF Sports, a live events and sports media entertainment company, acquired the former Memphis Open in 2015 and partnered with Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment to move the tournament to Long Island. The event is one of the longest-running American tournaments on the ATP World Tour and the only indoor championship contested in the United States.

“One of our biggest goals for the New York Open is to continue the development of American tennis by providing a chance for young hopefuls, and veterans alike, with an opportunity to play and succeed,” said Josh Ripple, Tournament Director. “It’s really exciting to have a strong player field, and U.S. representation, for the tournament’s debut on Long Island.”

“We’re excited that NYCBLIVE will be the next stop on tour for an impressive field of the world’s top 100 ATP World Tour professionals, following the Australian Open,” said Brett Yormark, Chief Executive Officer of Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment. “The tournament will mark a new beginning for professional tennis on Long Island when it hosts Grand Slam champions and finalists, nine Americans, including the country’s rising stars, and a strong pool of international players next month.”

The full acceptance list is as follows:

First Name	Last Name	Country	Rank
Sam	Querrey	USA	13
Kevin	Anderson	RSA	14
John	Isner	USA	17
Kei	Nishikori	JPN	22
Adrian	Mannarino	FRA	28
Steve	Johnson	USA	44
Ryan	Harrison	USA	47
Jared	Donaldson	USA	54
Hyeon	Chung	KOR	58
Nikoloz	Basilashvili	GEO	59
Peter	Gojowczyk	GER	60
Donald	Young	USA	61
Dudi	Sela	ISR	67
Evgeny	Donskoy	RUS	72
Matthew	Ebden	AUS	76
Jeremy	Chardy	FRA	78
Frances	Tiafoe	USA	79
Ivo	Karlovic	CRO	80
Victor	Estrella Burgos	DOM	83
*Noah	Rubin	USA	201
*Reilly	Opelka	USA	229

*Denotes wild card entry.

On Feb. 11, guests who purchase an evening session ticket will have a chance to see tennis legend and honorary New York Open ambassador **John McEnroe** play U.S. Davis Cup champion **James Blake**, followed by a match between 2017 US Open women’s tennis champion **Sloane Stephens** and Canada’s No. 1 **Eugenie Bouchard**. All four players will take part in a mixed doubles matchup after singles play. All matches will be eight-game pro-sets.

Individual tickets for the main draw range from \$38 to \$72, and VIP packages range from \$172 to \$343 for the session and can be purchased online at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com), [NewYorkOpen.com](https://www.NewYorkOpen.com) and [NYCBLIVE.com](https://www.NYCBLIVE.com), or by calling 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased in person at the Ticketmaster Box Office at the Coliseum. Players are subject to change, and parking is \$15.

To request media credentials for the New York Open, please email media@newyorkopen.com.

ABOUT GF SPORTS:

GF Sports is a live events and sports media entertainment company created by New York-based private equity firm GF Capital. Formed in July 2015, the GF Sports tennis event portfolio includes two of the ATP World Tour's longest running American tournaments--the New York Open (formerly Memphis Open) and the BB&T Atlanta Open--as well as special event properties such as The Showdown, World Tennis Day, and The Skills Challenge.

GF Capital makes control-oriented, growth capital investments in branded consumer product and media companies, and its investments have included a number of sports and live entertainment companies. These include Repucom, a global leader in sports measurement, evaluation and intelligence, which was sold to Nielsen in 2016; Blue Man Group, the world-renowned entertainment company, acquired by Cirque de Soleil in 2017; and EEM World, a global leader in equestrian event production that owns and operates the *Longines Masters*. Additionally, GF Capital incubates new and emerging sport concepts utilizing its global perspective to help develop niche sports. In this vein, GF Capital has partnered with the Wolfpack Ninjas, widely known for their performance on the hit series "American Ninja Warrior", to operate the Wolfpack Ninja Tour. Veteran sport, media and entertainment executive Hank Ratner is a co-investor with GF Capital across the company's various sports properties.

For additional information, please visit www.gfcap.com

ABOUT THE ATP:

The ATP is the governing body of the men's professional tennis circuits - the ATP World Tour, the ATP Challenger Tour and the ATP Champions Tour. With 64 tournaments in 31 countries, the ATP World Tour showcases the finest male athletes competing in the world's most exciting venues.

From Australia to Europe and the Americas to Asia, the stars of the 2017 ATP World Tour will battle for prestigious titles and Emirates ATP Rankings points at ATP World Tour Masters 1000, 500 and 250 events, as well as Grand Slams (non ATP events). At the end of the season only the world's top 8 qualified singles players and doubles teams will qualify to compete for the last title of the season at the ATP Finals. Held at The O2 in London, the event will officially crown the 2017 ATP World Tour No. 1 presented by Emirates.

For more information, please visit www.ATPWorldTour.com.

ABOUT BROOKLYN SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT:

Brooklyn Sports & Entertainment (BSE) develops and operates state-of-the-art venues and manages premier sports franchises, delivering dynamic content and experiences for audiences. BSE oversees programming, marketing, sales, and operations for Barclays Center; NYCB LIVE, home of the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum; LIU Brooklyn Paramount Theatre; and Webster Hall. BSE manages and controls the Brooklyn Nets and its NBA G League team, the Long Island Nets, as well as the business operations of the NHL's New York Islanders.

Barclays Center, which opened on September 28, 2012, offers 17,732 seats for basketball, 15,795 for hockey, and up to 19,000 seats for concerts, and has 101 luxury suites, four bars/lounges, four clubs, and Parm Italian Restaurant & 40/40 CLUB by Tanduay Rum.

NYCB LIVE, home of the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum, reopened on April 5, 2017 after undergoing an extensive renovation. The Coliseum offers 14,500 seats for basketball, MMA and boxing, 13,900 for hockey, up to 15,000 for concerts, and 4,500 seats for its theater configuration.

With a focus on emerging businesses, BSE identifies and creates alliances, strategic partnerships and other business opportunities to ensure the success of its assets.

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