

Overview - Gerry Weber Open

Roger Federer was a late no-show for this event for the second time in three years. Both times his non-attendance has been attributed to fatigue after the French Open - at least this year he finally had the title to show for his efforts.

The major surprise of R1 was the defeat of Fernando Verdasco (No.3) to Philipp Petzschner - the Spaniard had beaten him 6-1 6-2 6-3 the week before in Paris but grass proven to be very much to the German's advantage this time around. All the other seeds safely made it into the next round and there were solid starts by several other home players as Tommy Haas, Philipp Kohlschreiber and Benjamin Becker all progressed.

That trio then all made the QF's by knocking out seeds in R2. Haas took the biggest scalp in Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (No.4), Kohlschreiber then got the better of Dmitry Tursunov (No.6) and Becker saw off yet another German player, Rainer Schuettler (No.8).

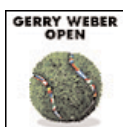
Incredibly they were joined in the last eight by Mischa Zverev who ousted the Tomas Berdych (No.5) and Andreas Beck who defeated the *lucky loser* Lukas Lacko who had stepped in for Federer. That made it five Germans in the QF's. It could even have been six if Nicolas Kiefer hadn't been forced to retire against Jurgen Melzer (No.7) due to an abdominal strain.

All this nearly overshadowed Novak Djokovic saving 5 match points before seeing off Florent Serra. The Serb battled back from 5-7 2-5 (0-40) to win 11 of the last 12 games of the 2'05" match.

Two all-German QF matches followed and both went to form as Haas proved too strong for Mischa Zverev and Kohlschreiber eventually wore down Andreas Beck in three sets. A reprieved Djokovic eased past Jurgen Melzer to set up a SF with Olivier Rochus who fought back from a set down to defeat Becker and make his first SF on tour since September 2007.

Both SF's were close affairs. Tommy Haas saw off Kohlschreiber 7-6 in the third set but only after Kohlschreiber had served for the match at 5-3 whilst Rochus blew set points in the first set of his match against Djokovic.

In the final, Haas pulled off a shock to defeat Djokovic. He moved to 12:9 in career finals with this first win on grass - *'It's such an incredibly nice feeling ... and to be in Germany as well, in front of German fans, is even more special'* Haas said afterwards. The 31-year-old German had now won tournaments on all four surfaces - a rare achievement on tour. Meanwhile, with this loss, Djokovic, dropped to 13:11 in career finals.



Gerry Weber Open

June 08-14, 2009

Outdoor, Grass - ATP World Tour 250

R32	LL-Lukas Lacko	76	R16	Lukas Lacko	56
R32	q-Harel Levy	62	R16	Andreas Beck	77
R32	Christophe Rochus	31	R16	Philipp Kohlschreiber	67
R32	Andreas Beck	66	R16	Dmitry Tursunov	46
R32	Philipp Kohlschreiber	66	R16	Jo-Wilfried Tsonga	36
R32	Bjorn Phau	42	R16	Tommy Haas	67
R32	Igor Kunitsyn	54	R16	Mischa Zverev	367
R32	Dmitry Tursunov [6]	76	R16	Tomas Berdych	626
R32	Jo-Wilfried Tsonga [4]	76	R16	Rainer Schuettler	464
R32	Fabrice Santoro	52	R16	Benjamin Becker	626
R32	wc-Tommy Haas	66	R16	Olivier Rochus	576
R32	Stefan Koubek	22	R16	Philipp Petzschner	752
R32	q-Joseph Sirianni	24	R16	Jurgen Melzer	6
R32	wc-Mischa Zverev	66	R16	Nicolas Kiefer	retd. 1
R32	Jan Hernych	45	R16	Florent Serra	751
R32	Tomas Berdych [5]	67	R16	Novak Djokovic	576
R32	Rainer Schuettler [8]	66	QF	Andreas Beck	633
R32	Marc Gicquel	34	QF	Philipp Kohlschreiber	366
R32	Victor Hanescu	44	QF	Tommy Haas	76
R32	wc-Benjamin Becker	66	QF	Mischa Zverev	62
R32	q-Fernando Vicente	00	QF	Benjamin Becker	733
R32	q-Olivier Rochus	66	QF	Olivier Rochus	666
R32	Philipp Petzschner	376	QF	Jurgen Melzer	14
R32	Fernando Verdasco [3]	664	QF	Novak Djokovic	66
R32	Jurgen Melzer [7]	166			
R32	Arnaud Clement	632	SF	Philipp Kohlschreiber	666
R32	Viktor Troicki	21	SF	Tommy Haas	277
R32	Nicolas Keifer	66	SF	Olivier Rochus	64
R32	Florent Serra	166	SF	Novak Djokovic	76
R32	Dudi Sela	642			
R32	Simone Bolelli	52	RU	Novak Djokovic	371
R32	Novak Djokovic [2]	76	W	Tommy Haas	666

	No. Matches	2 sets-3 sets	Ave. Sets/Match	Ave. Games/Match
R32	16 matches	12-3	2.06	20.00
R16	8 matches	4-4	2.50	24.75
QF	4 matches	2-2	2.50	24.00
SF	2 matches	1-1	2.50	28.50
F	1 match	0-1	3.00	29.00

Gerry Weber Open - Facts & Figures

Market Leaders	Odds
Roger Federer [1]	4/9
Novak Djokovic [2]	10/3
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga [4]	10/1
Fernando Verdasco [3]	12/1
Tomas Berdych [5]	33/1
Philipp Kohlschreiber	40/1
Tommy Haas	50/1
Dmitry Tursunov [6]	66/1
Nicolas Kiefer	100/1
Andreas Beck	100/1
Simone Bolleli	100/1
Jurgen Melzer [7]	100/1
Marc Gicquel	125/1
Victor Hanescu	150/1
Rainer Schuettler [8]	200/1

Performance Of The Seeded Players

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2009	-	RU	R1	R2	R2	R2	QF	R2
2008	W	-	R2	R2	QF	R1	R1	R1
2007	-	R2	QF	R1	R1	QF	W	RU
2006	W	-	R2	R1	RU	SF	QF	SF
2005	W	RU	R1	SF	R1	R1	SF	R2
2004	W	SF	SF	R1	R1	RU	R1	R1

Recent Winners/Leading Performers

	Winner	Runner-Up	Losing SF's
2009	Tommy Haas (50/1)	Novak Djokovic (10/3)	Kohlschreiber-Rochus
2008	Roger Federer (3/10)	Philipp Kohlschreiber (50/1)	Kiefer-Blake
2007	Tomas Berdych (20/1)	Marcos Baghdatis (16/1)	Nieminen-Kohlschreiber
2006	Roger Federer (3/10)	Tomas Berdych (20/1)	Haas-Vliegen
2005	Roger Federer (4/6)	Marat Safin (20/1)	Haas-Canas
2004	Roger Federer (1/1)	Mardy Fish (20/1)	Novak-Schuettler

Betting - Gerry Weber Open

Pre-Tournament Briefing :-

The late withdrawal of Federer meant that early birds were able to steal some fancy prices in the outright market before the inevitable reforming of the markets once the No.1 was confirmed as an absentee.

Given his record here, Federer would have been the obvious choice to win not just the top half of the draw but the whole tournament. Without him, there was a case to be made for Philipp Kohlschreiber (40/1) who had past form here along with both Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (10/1) and Tomas Berdych (33/1).

In time Tsonga might prove to be the pick of those three but here the French player had the least experience and was the shortest price, making either Kohlschreiber or Berdych the call. Prior to this week Haas (50/1) had never won on grass nor had he been in particularly good form in 2009.

The bottom half was dominated by Novak Djokovic (10/3). He was by far the best option in terms of ability and form when compared to Verdasco (12/1) or even Nicolas Kiefer (100/1) who had previous form both here and on grass.

Post-Tournament Review :-

Haas, who hadn't won since 2007, rolled back the years with a string of good performances. He won on merit beating decent players like Koubek, Tsonga, Kohlschreiber and Djokovic en route to the title - although had Federer played it probably would have been a different story.

Djokovic played inconsistently - maybe just early season grass form - but still could and should have beaten Haas. Slight doubts over his mental resolve still remain, shown by his record in finals (only 54%).

Kohlschreiber played well as did fellow Germans Becker and Zverev - always worth noting players on home soil. Of the rest both Verdasco and Tsonga were the biggest disappointments, possibly this was just a case of them taking time to get up to speed on the grass courts.

Pointers for 2010 :-

Federer has won on his last five visits here. However, that form tends to belie an event which sees more than its fair share of surprises. Grass-court form is a rare commodity so it should pay to stick with proven performers on the surface such as Tomas Berdych and possibly Philipp Kohlschreiber. Also should Jo-Wilfried Tsonga return the Frenchman could well develop into a useful performer on grass. An early loss in Paris can also be an advantage.