

## Overview - Open 13

The late withdrawal of Richard Gasquet (No.6) took some of the edge of this event but it was still an event of quality with half the field having won an event previously on the ATP Tour!

As such it was perhaps no surprise to see Gael Monfils (No.3) along with Tomas Berdych (No.5) and Marat Safin (No.7) lose out to Mathieu, Youzhny and Clement respectively in R1 - each could count themselves unlucky to meet a decent opponent first time out.

Even Novak Djokovic (No.1) had to beat recent Johnnesburg RU, Chardy, and Gilles Simon (No.2) was made to face the talented Bulgarian teenager, Grigor Dimitrov, which he did - but only just! And in total no fewer than 10 of the 16 matches went to a deciding set.

R2 was slight less demanding, although Simon again needed three sets to win, this time against Rainer Schuettler. However, the other remaining seeds - Djokovic, Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (No.4) and Feliciano Lopez (N.8) - all made it to the QF's in straight sets.

Good wins also came for Mikhail Youzhny over Andreas Seppi, after his good R1 success over Tomas Berdych, and Michael Llodra who saw off fellow-countryman, Paul-Henri Mathieu, to also make the last eight.

Not too much drama in the QF's. Djokovic saw off the unseeded German, Mischa Zverev, in just over an hour and Gilles Simon didn't even take that long to account for Julien Benneteau. In the other two matches, Llodra just got the better of Youzhny and Tsonga had to be patient in beating Lopez - the Frenchman never faced a break point in the match but still had to go all the way to a deciding set to prevail.

Both SF's provided upsets of a sort. Tsonga and Llodra were both underdogs with the bookmakers but Tsonga was 3:1 over Djokovic on past meetings and Llodra was 2:0 over Simon. Both won in straight sets, Llodra quite easily, to set up an all-French final.

Tsonga out-served Llodra to take the title in the 1'44" match. With it he moved his record to 4:1 in tour finals whilst Llodra's loss levelled his career tally to 3:3 in championship matches.

*'It was a great week for me. I played perhaps my best tennis since the start of the year and I'm really happy about that,'* said the champion afterwards as he won his second title in the space of three weeks (also won SA Open).



## Open 13

February 16-22, 2009

Indoor, Hard - ATP Tour World 250

<b>R32 Novak Djokovic [1]</b>	76	<b>R16 Novak Djokovic</b>	76
<b>R32 Jeremy Chardy</b>	64	<b>R16 Jan Hernych</b>	54
<b>R32 Jan Hernych</b>	636	<b>R16 Mischa Zverev</b>	656
<b>R32 Kristof Vliegen</b>	364	<b>R16 Arnaud Clement</b>	472
<b>R32 Mischa Zverev</b>	666	<b>R16 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga</b>	66
<b>R32 q-Illya Marchenko</b>	734	<b>R16 Simone Bolelli</b>	32
<b>R32 Arnaud Clement</b>	466	<b>R16 Dmitry Tursunov</b>	66
<b>R32 wc-Marat Safin [7]</b>	632	<b>R16 Feliciano Lopez</b>	77
<b>R32 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga [4]</b>	76	<b>R16 Mikhail Youzhny</b>	76
<b>R32 Andrey Golubev</b>	62	<b>R16 Andreas Seppi</b>	63
<b>R32 Simone Bolelli</b>	77	<b>R16 Michael Llodra</b>	67
<b>R32 q-Richard Bloomfield</b>	66	<b>R16 Paul-Henri Mathieu</b>	36
<b>R32 Teimuraz Gabashvili</b>	622	<b>R16 George Bastl</b>	161
<b>R32 Dmitry Tursunov</b>	366	<b>R16 Julien Benneteau</b>	626
<b>R32 Ivan Ljubicic</b>	645	<b>R16 Rainer Schuettler</b>	462
<b>R32 Feliciano Lopez [8]</b>	367	<b>R16 Gilles Simon</b>	646
<b>R32 Tomas Berdych [5]</b>	471	<b>QF Novak Djokovic</b>	66
<b>R32 Mikhail Youzhny</b>	666	<b>QF Mischa Zverev</b>	33
<b>R32 q-Jerzy Janowicz</b>	666	<b>QF Jo-Wilfried Tsonga</b>	666
<b>R32 Andreas Seppi</b>	737	<b>QF Feliciano Lopez</b>	274
<b>R32 LL-Rik De Voest</b>	61	<b>QF Mikhail Youzhny</b>	66
<b>R32 Michael Llodra</b>	76	<b>QF Michael Llodra</b>	77
<b>R32 Paul-Henri Mathieu</b>	467	<b>QF Julien Benneteau</b>	24
<b>R32 Gael Monfils [3]</b>	645	<b>QF Gilles Simon</b>	66
<b>R32 LL-George Bastl</b>	66		
<b>R32 Marc Gicquel</b>	43	<b>SF Novak Djokovic</b>	46
<b>R32 Fabrice Santoro</b>	642	<b>SF Jo-Wilfried Tsonga</b>	67
<b>R32 Julien Benneteau</b>	466	<b>SF Michael Llodra</b>	76
<b>R32 q-Laurent Recouderc</b>	14	<b>SF Gilles Simon</b>	62
<b>R32 Rainer Schuettler</b>	66		
<b>R32 wc-Grigor Dimitrov</b>	635	<b>RU Michael Llodra</b>	56
<b>R32 Gilles Simon [2]</b>	467	<b>W Jo-Wilfried Tsonga</b>	77

	No. Matches	2 sets-3 sets	Ave. Sets/Match	Ave. Games/Match
<b>R32</b>	16 matches	6-10	2.62	26.56
<b>R16</b>	8 matches	5-3	2.37	23.62
<b>QF</b>	4 matches	3-1	2.25	23.25
<b>SF</b>	2 matches	1-0	2.00	22.00
<b>F</b>	1 match	1-0	2.00	25.00

## Open 13 - Facts & Figures

Market Leaders	Odds
Novak Djokovic <b>[1]</b>	15/8
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga <b>[4]</b>	9/2
Gilles Simon <b>[2]</b>	6/1
Gael Monfils <b>[3]</b>	10/1
Richard Gasquet <b>[6]</b>	10/1
Tomas Berdych <b>[5]</b>	20/1
Marat Safin <b>[7]</b>	33/1
Mikhail Youzhny	40/1
Dmitry Tursunov	50/1
Paul-Henri Mathieu	50/1
Feliciano Lopez <b>[8]</b>	66/1
Andreas Seppi	66/1
Michael Llodra	66/1
Simone Bolelli	66/1
Jumilen Beneteau	66/1

## Performance Of The Seeded Players

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

## Recent Winners/Leading Performers

	Winner	Runner-Up	Losing SF's
<b>2009</b>	Jo-Wilfried Tsonga(9/2)	Michael Llodra (66/1)	Djokovic-Simon
<b>2008</b>	Andy Murray (7/2)	Mario Ancic (28/1)	Mathieu-Baghdatis
<b>2007</b>	Gilles Simon (150/1)	Marcos Baghdatis (8/1)	Soderling-Nieminen
<b>2006</b>	Arnaud Clement (80/1)	Mario Ancic (28/1)	Nadal-Grosjean
<b>2005</b>	Joachim Johansson (9/2)	Ivan Ljubicic (16/1)	Lopez-Ancic
<b>2004</b>	Dominik Hrbaty (28/1)	Robin Soderling (50/1)	Bjorkman-Clement

## Betting - Open 13

### Pre-Tournament Briefing :-

With both Safin (33/1) and Lopez (66/1) highly unreliable performers, even more so these days, and Tursunov (50/1) facing a tough draw, the top half looked very much at the mercy of Djokovic (15/8) and Tsonga (9/2).

These two were destined to meet in the SF's and the winner was bound to be favourite for the final. Why, therefore, Tsonga was more than double the price was hard to fathom given he had won his last three meetings with the Serb and had also won a tournament just a couple of weeks earlier.

The bottom half was a tough call. Until Gasquet pulled out the fourth quarter was a tricky looking section but once he had withdrawn on account of his right shoulder then Simon (6/1) was a clear pick. However, the third quarter had several possibilities - Mathieu (50/1), Youzhny (40/1), Berdych (20/1) and Monfils (10/1) all had claims ... not to mention Llodra (66/1)

As Berdych and Youzhny had little recent form, and with French players often do well on home soil, the trio of Monfils, Mathieu and Llodra made more appeal with Monfils' early season form possibly giving him the nod.

### Post-Tournament Review :-

The top half went entirely according to plan. Djokovic played Tsonga in the SF's, Tsonga won, became the favourite for the final and duly won that. It was a textbook victory and being a Frenchman in France only made the win that much more obvious. Llodra, also a native, showed that he's a solid tour player, good indoors and still capable of winning tournaments.

Djokovic, in this respect, played up to form and just met a guy with the '*indian sign*' over him. Safin was, well, typical Safin and his demise was in keeping with the decline of other players like Ljubicic and Berdych.

Lopez did better than usual (but is still an under-achiever), Dimitrov again impressed, Youzhny showed a little of his old form and Monfils maybe just had a bad day at the office - his play in '09 up to here had been pretty good.

### Pointers for 2010 :-

With such a strong set of home players, and a good record in this event, you have to start with the French. Tsonga, obviously, plus Gilles Simon and Richard Gasquet would head the list. But being indoors other Europeans must be considered - Ancic, Tursunov and Youzhny - and don't be afraid to go for big prices as only one No.1 seed has won here since '95 (Federer '03).