

Overview - Swiss Open

Good strength in depth for this event. All the seeds were past tournament winners and there were plenty more proven players throughout the draw.

Philipp Kohlschreiber (No.2), Feliciano Lopez (No.7) and Paul-Henri Mathieu (No.8) all found this to their cost as each lost in R1. Kohlschreiber was blown away by the Romanian, Victor Crivoi, 6-4 6-0 and whilst Lopez and Mathieu each put up a better fight against Guillermo Garcia-Lopez and Marcos Daniel respectively, neither got the better of their unseeded opponents.

Another major shock followed when Stanislas Wawrinka (No.1) was knocked out by Thomaz Bellucci. The young Brazilian wrapping up his straight sets win in just 75 minutes. He was joined in the QF's by a fellow-countryman as Marcos Daniel added to his R1 win over Mathieu by taking the scalp of another Frenchman, Julien Benneteau.

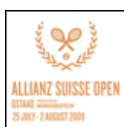
Better news for two other French players as Jeremy Chardy (No.5) battled past Mikhail Youzhny in three tough sets whilst Florent Serra had a much easier passage into the last eight as Victor Hanesco (No.4) retired from their match with a stomach upset.

The QF's were completed when Igor Andreev (No.3) beat Jan Hernych, Victor Crivoi kept up his good run by defeating Teimuraz Gabashvili and two Germans, Andreas Beck and Nicolas Kiefer (No.6), recorded hard-fought wins. Kiefer saw off Navarro in 2'23" whilst Beck took 2'48" to get past the Spaniard, Garcia-Lopez.

All four QF matches were over in straight sets. The wins of Igor Andreev over Chardy and Andreas Beck over Crivoi caused little surprise but Florent Serra was fully expected to defeat Marcos Daniel. Daniel was then joined in the SF's by his compatriot, Thomaz Bellucci, who progressed after Nicolas Kiefer retired from their match with an ankle injury when leading 6-3 0-1.

Bellucci then made full use of his good fortune in ousting Andreev. His win coming via the odd break of serve in each set. In the final he would face Andreas Beck, the German making his first ATP final by virtue of another close win, defeating Marcos Daniel 7-6 6-3.

Both players were looking for their first tour win and it was Bellucci who got it. His 1'40" win fully deserved after a great effort all through the week - *'for sure it was the best week of my career'* said the new champion afterwards. Having previously lost in Costa Do Sauipe this win took him to 1:1 in finals whilst Beck, a winner in the future, was left 0:1 after his maiden decider.



Swiss Open

July 27-02, 2009

Outdoor, Clay - ATP World Tour 250

R32	Stanislas Wawrinka [1]	6 7	R16	Stanislas Wawrinka	4 4
R32	q-Federico Del Bonis	4 5	R16	Thomaz Bellucci	6 6
R32	LL-Michael Lammer	7 6 4	R16	Ivan Navarro	3 7 2
R32	q-Thomaz Bellucci	6 7 6	R16	Nicolas Kiefer	6 6 6
R32	q-Farrukh Dustov	6 6 2	R16	Igor Andreev	6 6
R32	Ivan Navarro	7 4 6	R16	Jan Hernych	4 1
R32	Jose Acasuso	6 2	R16	Mikhail Youzhny	3 7 3
R32	Nicolas Kiefer [6]	7 6	R16	Jeremy Chardy	6 5 6
R32	Igor Andreev [3]	7 6	R16	Marcos Daniel	6 7
R32	Diego Junqueira	5 4	R16	Julien Benneteau	3 6
R32	Flavio Cipolla	1 0	R16	Florent Serra	6
R32	Jan Hernych	6 6	R16	Victor Hanescu	retd. 4
R32	Mikhail Youzhny	6 5 6	R16	Guillermo Garcia-Lopez	6 6 6
R32	wc-Gaston Gaudio	3 7 4	R16	Andreas Beck	7 1 7
R32	q-Thierry Ascione	3 3	R16	Teimuraz Gabashvili	4 4
R32	Jeremy Chardy [5]	6 6	R16	Victor Crivoi	6 6
R32	Paul-Henri Mathieu [8]	6 6	QF	Thomaz Bellucci	3 1
R32	Marcos Daniel	7 7	QF	Nicolas Kiefer	retd. 6 0
R32	Julien Benneteau	7 7	QF	Igor Andreev	6 6
R32	wc-Stephane Bohli	6 5	QF	Jeremy Chardy	3 3
R32	Martin Vassallo Arguello	3 2	QF	Marcos Daniel	6 7
R32	Florent Serra	6 6	QF	Florent Serra	4 6
R32	Ivo Minar	2 2	QF	Andreas Beck	6 7
R32	Victor Hanescu [4]	6 6	QF	Victor Crivoi	4 6
R32	Feliciano Lopez [7]	4 7 3			
R32	Guillermo Garcia-Lopez	6 6 6	SF	Thomaz Bellucci	6 7
R32	wc-Marco Chiudinelli	6 6 4	SF	Igor Andreev	4 5
R32	Andreas Beck	4 7 6	SF	Marcos Daniel	6 3
R32	Teimuraz Gabashvili	1 7 6	SF	Andreas Beck	7 6
R32	Paul Capdeville	6 6 3			
R32	Victor Crivoi	6 6	RU	Andreas Beck	4 6
R32	Philipp Kohlschreiber [2]	4 0	W	Thomaz Bellucci	6 7

	No. Matches	2 sets-3 sets	Ave. Sets/Match	Ave. Games/Match
R32	16 matches	10-6	2.37	24.25
R16	8 matches	5-3	2.37	22.75
QF	4 matches	4-0	2.00	18.50
SF	2 matches	2-0	2.00	22.00
F	1 match	1-0	2.00	23.00

Swiss Open - Facts & Figures

Market Leaders	Odds
Stanislas Wawrinka [1]	4/1
Philipp Kohlschreiber [2]	5/1
Victor Hanescu [4]	15/2
Jeremy Chardy [5]	12/1
Paul-Henri Mathieu [8]	12/1
Igor Andreev [3]	16/1
Mikhail Youzhny	25/1
Guillermo Garcia-Lopez	28/1
Nicolas Kiefer [6]	33/1
Andreas Beck	33/1
Julien Benneteau	33/1
Jose Acasuso	33/1
Feliciano Lopez [7]	40/1
Thomaz Bellucci	50/1
Kristof Vliegen	50/1

Performance Of The Seeded Players

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

Recent Winners/Leading Performers

	Winner	Runner-Up	Losing SF's
2009	Thomaz Bellucci (50/1)	Andreas Beck (33/1)	Andreev-Daniel
2008	Victor Hanescu (66/1)	Igor Andreev (8/1)	Wawrinka-Garcia-Lopez
2007	Paul-Henri Mathieu (14/1)	Andreas Seppi (50/1)	Stepanek-Andreev
2006	Richard Gasquet (8/1)	Feliciano Lopez (40/1)	Kohlschreiber-Cilic
2005	Gaston Gaudio (10/3)	Stanislas Wawrinka (66/1)	Massu-Sabau
2004	Roger Federer (6/4)	Igor Andreev (40/1)	Starace-Schuetzler

Betting - Swiss Open

Pre-Tournament Briefing :-

Wawrinka (4/1) was both an obvious and bad choice as favourite. He might be the highest ranked player in the field, and be playing at home, but one career title in 7 years is hardly impressive.

Chardy (12/1) was probably the best alternative - given his recent win in Stuttgart - as both other top half seeds Andreev (16/1) and Kiefer (33/1) were as unappealing as Wawrinka. Andreev is another serial under-achiever and Kiefer hadn't won since 2000.

However, each of Youzhny, Acasuso and ... Bellucci (50/1) were perfectly capable of mounting a challenge.

Kohlschreiber (5/1) looked a fair call in the bottom half as his main danger Lopez (40/1) is firmly in the Wawrinka/Kiefer category. Hanescu (15/2) and Mathieu (12/1) were also real threats but, being in the same quarter, only one could progress to the SF's and any possible meeting would be a 50:50 call.

Post-Tournament Review :-

Bellucci showed here what many observers had already noted - he's a decent clay court prospect. Saved match points in R1, defeating the No.1 seed in R2, good wins in the SF and final - this guy will win more on clay.

Beck, likewise, is a developing talent. He might not be top 20 class but has the potential to win for sure.

The flipside is that each of Wawrinka, Lopez, Andreev and Kiefer displayed the failings that so undermine their careers. All failed to deliver the goods, as did Kohlschreiber, Chardy and Mathieu. The last three have profiles which mean they can be forgiven this temporary indiscretion but the others seem to be more permanently flawed.

Pointers for 2010 :-

Unseeded winners in the last two years, just one No.1 seed winning in the last six (Federer 2004). All suggests a tricky event to call but usually it's a decent player who wins here. Igor Andreev might be worth one more chance here, likewise Wawrinka, Philipp Kohlschreiber is also a regular visitor. Not an event which has featured a very strong Spanish or South American presence in recent years so the countries to concentrate on look to be the likes of Germany, Switzerland and Russia (as above) with France also having a good tradition here, possibly in the figure of Richard Gasquet.