

DAVIS CUP FINALS 2025

21 NOVEMBER – SEMIFINAL PREVIEW NOTES

Bologna Fiere, Bologna, Italy

1600 CET/1500 GMT

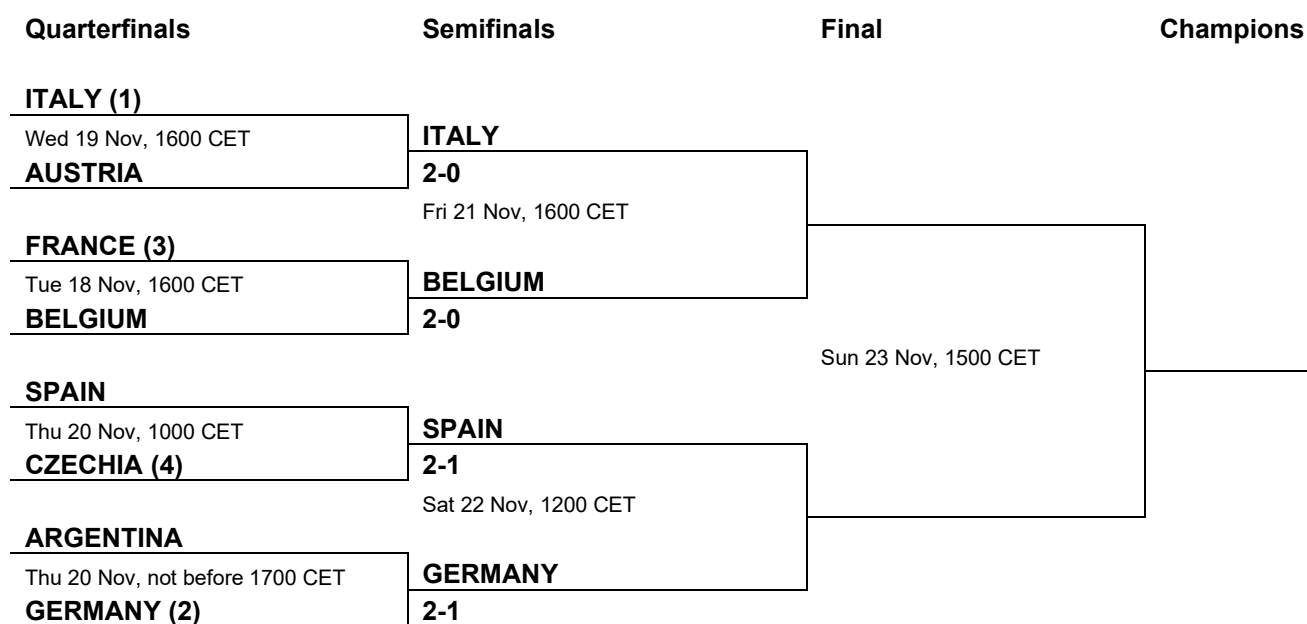
Italy v Belgium

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On court today:

- Italy are making their 4th consecutive appearance in the semifinals and are bidding to reach a 3rd consecutive Davis Cup final. If they win today they would become the first nation to achieve the feat since Australia reached 3 consecutive finals in 1999-2001, winning the title in 1999 before runner-up finishes in 2000 and 2001. Italy defeated Austria 2-0 in the quarterfinals on Wednesday, with Matteo Berrettini defeating Jurij Rodionov in straight sets before Flavio Cobolli beat Filip Misolic, also in 2 sets. By defeating Austria, Italy claimed a 12th consecutive tie victory in the competition, having not lost a tie since falling 0-3 to Canada in the 2023 Finals Group Stage.
- Belgium have reached the semifinals for the first time since they finished as runners-up in 2017 and are bidding to reach the Davis Cup final for the 4th time after runner-up finishes in 1904, 2015 and 2017. They defeated historic rivals and 10-time Davis Cup champions France in the quarterfinals on Tuesday with an impressive 2-0 victory. Raphael Collignon recovered from a set down to defeat Corentin Moutet before Zizou Bergs beat Arthur Rinderknech in straight sets. Belgium are the only team to reach the semifinals this year that have not won the title before.

Final 8



ITALY v BELGIUM

BOLOGNA – 1600 CET/1500 GMT

Head-to-head: [Italy lead 6-4](#)

1950	Europe quarterfinals	Unknown	Brussels (BEL)	Italy d. Belgium 3-2
1952	Europe final	Clay (O)	Milan (ITA)	Italy d. Belgium 3-1
1953	Europe quarterfinals	Unknown	Brussels (BEL)	Belgium d. Italy 3-2
1957	Europe final	Unknown	Brussels (BEL)	Belgium d. Italy 3-2
1959	Europe second round	Unknown	Brussels (BEL)	Italy d. Belgium 4-1
1961	Europe second round	Clay (O)	Brussels (BEL)	Italy d. Belgium 3-2
1969	Europe Zone B first round	Clay (O)	Genoa (ITA)	Italy d. Belgium 4-1
2000	World Group qualifying round	Clay (O)	Venice (ITA)	Belgium d. Italy 4-1
2017	World Group quarterfinal	Hard (I)	Charleroi (BEL)	Belgium d. Italy 3-2
2024	Finals Group A	Hard (I)	Bologna (ITA)	Italy d. Belgium 2-1

An 11th Davis Cup meeting for Italy and Belgium. The two nations first met 75 years ago in 1950 and faced each other 7 times in 20 years between 1950 and 1969, with Italy leading the head-to-head 5-2 in that time. They only met again 31 years later in the 2000 World Group qualifying round, with Belgium winning 4-1 in Venice. Belgium also won when they met in the quarterfinals en route to Belgium's most recent of 3 runner-up finishes. Their most recent meeting also came in Bologna, at the Finals Group Stage last year, with Italy winning 2-1 on that occasion.

Italy lead the head-to-head 6-4 and this is a 2nd meeting between the two nations in a best-of-three match tie after last year. This is also their 3rd consecutive meeting on indoor hard courts after the 2017 quarterfinals and last year.

ITALY	v	BELGIUM
1	Davis Cup Nations Ranking	11
Champions 3 times (1976, 2023, 2024)	Best Davis Cup Result	Runners-up 1904, 2015,
1922	First Year Played	2017
94	Seasons Played	1904
276	Ties Played	102
184-92	Ties Win-Loss	209
		107-102

Route to the semifinals

ITALY	Round	BELGIUM
As hosts, Italy qualified automatically for the 2025 Finals.	Qualifiers 1st Round	Belgium defeated Chile 3-1 Zizou Bergs (BEL) d. Tomas Barrios Vera (CHI) 6-4 6-3 Cristian Garin (CHI) d. Alexander Blockx (BEL) 7-6(6) 6-1 Sander Gille/Joran Vliegen (BEL) d. Tomas Barrios Vera/Nicolas Jarry (CHI) 6-3 3-6 6-3 Zizou Bergs (BEL) d. Cristian Garin (CHI) 6-3 4-6 7-5 <i>Alexander Blockx (BEL) v Tomas Barrios Vera (CHI) – not played</i>
	Qualifiers 2nd Round	Belgium defeated Australia 3-2 Raphael Collignon (BEL) d. Alex de Minaur (AUS) 7-5 3-6 6-3 Zizou Bergs (BEL) d. Jordan Thompson (AUS) 7-6(4) 6-4 Rinky Hijikata/Jordan Thompson (AUS) d. Sander Gille/Joran Vliegen (BEL) 6-7(7) 6-3 6-4 Alex de Minaur (AUS) d. Zizou Bergs (BEL) 6-2 7-5 Raphael Collignon (BEL) d. Aleksandar Vukic (AUS) 7-6(5) 2-6 6-3
Italy defeated Austria 2-0 Matteo Berrettini (ITA) d. Jurij Rodionov (AUT) 6-3 7-6(4) Flavio Cobolli (ITA) d. Filip Misolic (AUT) 6-1 6-3 <i>Simone Bolelli/Andrea Vavassori (ITA) v Alexander Erler/Lucas Miedler (AUT) – not played</i>	Quarterfinals	Belgium defeated France 2-0 Raphael Collignon (BEL) d. Corentin Moutet (FRA) 2-6 7-5 7-5 Zizou Bergs (BEL) d. Arthur Rinderknech (FRA) 6-3 7-6(4) <i>Benjamin Bonzi/Pierre-Hugues Herbert (FRA) v Sander Gille/Joran Vliegen (BEL) – not played</i>

Possible final head-to-heads

	SPAIN	GERMANY
ITALY	7-6	2-6
BELGIUM	1-3	1-9

Italy – Team Information

- **ITALY** are bidding to reach the final for the 3rd consecutive year. They are making their 6th appearance at the Davis Cup Finals and their 4th consecutive appearance in the semifinals.
- Italy are bidding to become the **first nation to reach 3 consecutive Davis Cup finals since Australia in 2001**. Australia won the title in 1999 (d. France) before runner-up finishes in 2000 (l. Spain) and 2001 (l. France). They would also become just the 4th nation to achieve the feat since the Challenge Round was abolished following the 1971 event, after Sweden (7 consecutive finals from 1983-9 and 3 consecutive finals from 1996-8), USA (3 consecutive finals from 1990-2) and Australia (1999-2001).
- Italy are bidding to win a **3rd consecutive Davis Cup title** and become the first nation to win 3 consecutive Davis Cup titles since the Challenge Round was abolished following the 1971 event. By winning the title last year they became the first nation to successfully defend a Davis Cup title since Czechia in 2012-13 and the 7th nation to do so since the Challenge Round was abolished, after USA (1978-9 and 1981-2), Sweden (1984-5 and 1997-8), Germany (1988-9 as Germany, F.R.), Spain (2008-9) and Czechia (2012-13).
- Italy are bidding to extend a **12-tie winning streak**. They have not lost a tie since falling to Canada 0-3 in the Finals Group Stage in 2023.
- **Last season**, Italy won their 3rd Davis Cup title. As 2023 champions they qualified automatically for the Finals group stage, where they defeated Brazil 2-1, Belgium 2-1 and Netherlands 2-1 to finish first in Group A, then defeated Argentina 2-1 in the quarterfinals, Australia 2-0 in the semifinals and Netherlands 2-0 in the final. As hosts, Italy automatically qualified for the Finals this year.
- Italy have won **3 Davis Cup titles**, in 1976, defeating Chile in the final, in 2023, defeating Australia in the final and last year. They have finished as runners-up on 6 further occasions – most recently in 1998, when they fell to Sweden.
- Italy's Nicola Pietrangeli is the **leading all-time Davis Cup player**. He holds the record for playing the most matches (164), as well as the records for the most wins in singles (78-32) and is in 3rd place for the most wins in doubles (42-12). He also forms half of the most successful doubles partnership with Orlando Sirola (34-8).
- Italy are currently ranked No. 1 on the **Davis Cup Nations Ranking**, reaching the top ranking after winning the competition in November 2023. They are the 10th nation (alongside Argentina, Australia, Croatia, Czechia, France, Great Britain, Russia, Spain and Canada) to have been ranked No. 1 since the Davis Cup Nations Ranking was introduced.
- **Captain Filippo Volandri** has led the Italian team since 2021 and has a 19-3 tie win-loss record as captain, including leading Italy to the title in 2023 and 2024. He is bidding to become the 6th captain since the abolition of the Challenge Round in 1972 to win the Davis Cup title on 3 or more occasions, after Neale Fraser and Niki Pilic (both 4) and Yannick Noah, Hans Olsson and Shamil Tarpishev (all 3). He is one of 11 captains to have won the Davis Cup title on multiple occasions since 1972, after Fraser, Pilic, Noah, Olsson, Tarpishev and Arthur Ashe, Albert Costa, Tom Gorman, Carl-Axel Hageskog and Tony Trabert (all 2). As a player, he represented Italy in Davis Cup between 2001 and 2010 and had a 10-7 overall match win-loss record.

Italy – Historical Information

Most Davis Cup match-wins by an Italian player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Nicola Pietrangeli	120-44
2.	Adriano Panatta	64-36
3.	Orlando Sirola	57-33
4.	Uberto de Morpurgo	55-24
5.	Giorgio de Stefani	44-22

Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by an Italian player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Nicola Pietrangeli	78-32
2.	Giorgio de Stefani	41-21
3=	Corrado Barazzutti	39-21
	Uberto de Morpurgo	39-14
5.	Adriano Panatta	37-26

Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by an Italian player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Nicola Pietrangeli	42-12
2.	Orlando Sirola	35-8
3.	Adriano Panatta	27-10
4.	Paolo Bertolucci	22-8
5.	Giovanni Cucelli	21-6

Most Davis Cup ties played by an Italian player

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Nicola Pietrangeli	66
2.	Orlando Sirola	46
3.	Adriano Panatta	38
4=	Simone Bolelli	34
	Giorgio de Stefani	34

Italy – Player Information

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Flavio Cobolli	2024	2	3	2-1	0-0
Lorenzo Sonego	2021	3	11	6-3	3-0
Matteo Berrettini	2019	4	14	10-2	2-2
Andrea Vavassori	2024	1	3	0-0	1-2
Simone Bolelli	2007	17	34	7-9	17-13

• [FLAVIO COBOLLI](#)

- **Age:** 23 (born 6 May 2002 in Florence, Italy)
- **Rankings (17 Nov):** 22 (singles), 297 (doubles)
- **2025 singles highlights:** Won Bucharest, Hamburg; QF Halle, Wimbledon, Almaty; R16 Toronto-1000
- **Davis Cup:** Cobolli defeated Filip Misolic to seal Italy's 2-0 victory against Austria in the quarterfinals on Wednesday. It was his first appearance in the competition since his debut at the 2024 Finals Group Stage, where he won one of the 2 matches he contested, falling to Belgium's Zizou Bergs but defeating Netherlands' Tallon Griekspoor. He was not part of the team that competed in the 2024 Final 8 and won Italy's 3rd title.

• [LORENZO SONEGO](#)

- **Age:** 30 (born 11 May 1995 in Turin, Italy)
- **Rankings (17 Nov):** 39 (singles), 94 (doubles)
- **2025 singles highlights:** SF Metz; QF Australian Open, Marseille, Stockholm; R16 Wimbledon
- **2025 doubles highlights:** RU Cincinnati-1000; QF Indian Wells-1000

- **Davis Cup:** Sonego could return to Davis Cup action for the first time since winning the title with Italy in 2023 this week. He won 5 of the 6 matches he contested in the competition in 2023, including partnering Jannik Sinner to defeat Novak Djokovic/Miomir Kecmanovic in the deciding doubles match of Italy's 2-1 victory against Serbia in the semifinals. He is bidding to extend a 5-match winning streak in the competition, having won the last 5 matches he has contested in the competition since falling to Canada's Alexis Galarneau at the 2023 Finals group stage. He has a 9-3 overall win-loss record in the competition across singles and doubles.
- **MATTEO BERRETTINI**
 - **Age:** 29 (born 12 April 1996 in Rome, Italy)
 - **Rankings (17 Nov):** 56 (singles), 344 (doubles)
 - **2025 singles highlights:** QF Doha, Dubai, Miami-1000, Vienna, Metz
 - **2025 doubles highlights:** QF Indian Wells-1000
 - **Davis Cup:** Berrettini defeated Jurij Rodionov to put Italy 1-0 up against Austria in the quarterfinals on Wednesday, extending his Davis Cup winning streak to 7 matches. He won all 6 matches he contested in the competition in 2024 as he helped Italy win their 3rd Davis Cup title. He defeated Brazil's Joao Fonseca, Belgium's Alexander Blockx and Netherlands' Botic van de Zandschulp at the Finals Group Stage in September before partnering Jannik Sinner to defeat Argentina's Maximo Gonzalez/Andres Molteni in the quarterfinals, defeating Australia's Thanasi Kokkinakis in the semifinals and defeating Netherlands' Van De Zandschulp in the first match of the final. He has a 12-4 win-loss record in the competition across singles and doubles since making his debut in 2019.
- **ANDREA VAVASSORI**
 - **Age:** 30 (born 5 May 1995 in Turin, Italy)
 - **Rankings (17 Nov):** 339 (singles), 14 (doubles)
 - **2025 doubles highlights:** Won Adelaide, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Washington; RU Australian Open, Halle; SF Stockholm, ATP Finals; QF Cincinnati-1000
 - **Davis Cup:** Vavassori made his Davis Cup debut at the 2024 Finals Group Stage, winning one of the 3 matches he contested, partnering Simone Bolelli in all 3 matches, defeating Belgium's Sander Gille/Joran Vliegen but falling to Brazil's Rafael Matos/Marcelo Melo and Netherlands' Wesley Koolhof/Botic van de Zandschulp. He was part of the team that competed in the 2024 Final 8 and won Italy's 3rd title but did not contest a match in the knockout stage.
- **SIMONE BOLELLI**
 - **Age:** 40 (born 8 October 1985 in Bologna, Italy)
 - **Rankings (17 Nov):** unranked (singles), 13 (doubles)
 - **2025 doubles highlights:** Won Adelaide, Rotterdam, Hamburg, Washington; RU Australian Open, Halle; SF Stockholm, ATP Finals; QF Cincinnati-1000
 - **Davis Cup:** Bolelli has contested only doubles matches in the competition since 2016, winning 8 of the 18 Davis Cup doubles matches he has played in that time, including one of the 3 matches he contested in 2024, all partnering Vavassori at the Finals Group Stage as the pair defeated Belgium's Gille/Vliegen but fell to Brazil's Matos/Melo and Netherlands' Koolhof/Van de Zandschulp. He will claim sole ownership of 4th place on the list for most Davis Cup ties played by an Italian player if he contests a match this week. He was part of the team that competed in the Final 8 in 2023 and 2024 and won Italy's 2nd and 3rd titles but did not contest a match in the knockout stage on either occasion.

Belgium – Team Information

- **BELGIUM** are bidding to reach the final for the first time since they finished runner-up in 2017. They are making their 4th appearance at the Davis Cup Finals, and their first appearance in the semifinals since 2017.
- **In the Qualifiers 2nd Round**, Belgium defeated Australia 3-2 in Sydney to advance to the Final 8 in Bologna. Raphael Collignon and Zizou Bergs defeated Alex de Minaur and Jordan Thompson respectively to put Belgium 2-0 up after day one before Rinky Hijikata and Thompson defeated Sander Gille and Joran Vliegen and De Minaur defeated Bergs to level the tie at 2-2. Collignon defeated Aleksandar Vukic in the deciding 5th match to send Belgium to the Final 8.
- **Last season**, Belgium defeated Croatia 3-1 in the Qualifiers to advance to the Finals Group Stage. They won one of the 3 ties they contested in Finals Group A in Bologna – defeating Netherlands 2-1 but falling to Italy 1-2 and Brazil 1-2 – and did not advance to the Final 8 Knockout Stage.
- **In the Qualifiers 1st Round**, Belgium defeated Chile 3-1 in Hasselt to advance to the Qualifiers 2nd Round.
- Having finished runner-up in 1904 (l. British Isles), 2015 (l. Great Britain) and 2017 (l. France), Belgium jointly hold the record for **most appearances in the Davis Cup final without ever having won the title**, alongside India and Romania.
- Belgium are currently ranked at No. 11 in the **Davis Cup Nations Rankings**. Their highest ranking is No. 3, which they reached for the first time in November 2017.
- **Captain Steve Darcis** has led the Belgian team since their 2023 World Group I tie against Uzbekistan and has a 6-2 win-loss record as captain. As a player, he represented Belgium in Davis Cup between 2005 and 2019, had a 24-19 overall match win-loss record and was part of the Belgian teams that finished runner-up in 2015 and 2017, playing at least one match at every stage of the World Group draw in both seasons. He is in 4th place on the list for most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a Belgian player and is in joint-4th place on the list for most ties played by a Belgian player.

Belgium – Historical Information

Most Davis Cup match-wins by a Belgian player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Jacques Brichant	71-49
2.	Philippe Washer	66-36
3.	Andre Lacroix	35-25
4.	David Goffin	29-10
5.	Patrick Hombergen	26-31

Most Davis Cup singles match-wins by a Belgian player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Jacques Brichant	52-27
2.	Philippe Washer	46-18
3.	David Goffin	29-6
4.	Steve Darcis	23-12
5.	Andre Lacroix	21-19

Most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a Belgian player

Rank	Player	Win-loss
1.	Philippe Washer	20-18
2.	Jacques Brichant	19-22
3=	Leopold de Borman	14-5
	Andre Lacroix	14-6
5.	Patrick Hombergen	11-7

Most Davis Cup ties played by a Belgian player

Rank	Player	Ties played
1.	Jacques Brichant	42
2.	Philippe Washer	39

3.	Olivier Rochus	30
4=	Steve Darcis Andre Lacroix	25 25

Belgium – Player Information

Player	DC debut year	DC seasons played	DC ties played	DC singles win-loss	DC doubles win-loss
Zizou Bergs	2021	5	12	10-7	0-0
Raphael Collignon	2024	2	4	3-2	0-0
Alexander Blockx	2024	2	2	0-2	0-0
Sander Gille	2018	7	18	0-0	9-9
Joran Vliegen	2018	7	17	0-0	9-8

• ZIZOU BERGS

- **Age:** 26 (born 3 June 1999 in Lommel, Belgium)
- **Rankings (17 Nov):** 43 (singles), 889= (doubles)
- **2025 singles highlights:** RU Auckland, 's-Hertogenbosch; SF Marseille; QF Munich, Shanghai-1000
- **Davis Cup:** After winning just one of the first 5 matches he contested in Davis Cup, Bergs has won 9 of the last 12 Davis Cup matches he has contested in the competition, including 4 of the 5 matches he has contested in 2025. He defeated Arthur Rinderknech to seal Belgium's 2-0 victory against France in the quarterfinals on Tuesday. Earlier this year he defeated Tomas Barrios Vera and Cristian Garin in Belgium's 3-1 victory against Chile in the Qualifiers 1st Round and defeated Jordan Thompson before falling to Alex de Minaur in Belgium's 3-2 victory against Australia in the Qualifiers 2nd Round. He has a 10-7 win-loss record since making his competition debut in 2021, only ever competing in singles.

• RAPHAEL COLLIGNON

- **Age:** 23 (born 13 January 2022 in Rochester, MN, USA)
- **Rankings (17 Nov):** 85 (singles), 532 (doubles)
- **2025 singles highlights:** SF Brussels
- **Davis Cup:** After losing the first 2 matches on his Davis Cup debut at the Finals Group Stage last year, Collignon has since won all 3 matches he has contested in the competition, all this year. He won both matches he contested in Belgium's 3-2 victory against Australia in the Qualifiers 2nd Round, defeating Alex de Minaur in the first match and Aleksandar Vukic in the 5th match to seal victory in the tie. In the quarterfinals on Tuesday he defeated Corentin Moutet to put Belgium 1-0 up against France. He was nominated for the Qualifiers 1st Round tie against Chile in February but did not contest a match.

• ALEXANDER BLOCKX

- **Age:** 20 (born 8 April 2005 in Antwerp, Belgium)
- **Rankings (17 Nov):** 116 (singles), 465 (doubles)
- **Davis Cup:** Blockx has lost both matches he has contested in the competition since making his debut at the Finals Group Stage last year, falling to Matteo Berrettini at the 2024 Finals Group Stage and falling to Garin in Belgium's 3-1 victory against Chile in the Qualifiers 1st Round in February. He was initially nominated in the Belgian team to face Australia in the Qualifiers 2nd Round before withdrawing due to injury and being replaced by Kimmer Coppejans.

• SANDER GILLE

- **Age:** 34 (born 15 January 1991 in Hasselt, Belgium)
- **Rankings (17 Nov):** unranked (singles), 49 (doubles)
- **2025 doubles highlights:** RU Rotterdam, Marseille; SF Munich, Athens; QF Madrid-1000
- **Davis Cup:** Gille will equal Patrick Hombergen in 5th place on the list for most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a Belgian player if he wins 2 doubles matches this week. He has won 9 of the 18 Davis Cup matches he has contested, 17 of which have come alongside Vliegen. The pair have won 4 of the 6 matches they have contested since the start of 2024, including winning one of the 2 matches they have contested in 2025. They defeated Barrios Vera/Nicolas Jarry in Belgium's 3-1 victory against Chile in the Qualifiers 1st Round before falling to Rinky Hijikata/Thompson in Belgium's 3-2 victory against Australia in the Qualifiers 2nd Round. He has played only one Davis

Cup match with a different partner – when he and David Goffin fell to Harri Heliövaara/Emil Ruusuvuori in doubles during Belgium’s victory over Finland in the 2022 Qualifiers.

- **JORAN VLIEGEN**

- **Age:** 32 (born 7 July 1993 in Maaseik, Belgium)
- **Rankings (17 Nov):** unranked (singles), 66 (doubles)
- **2025 doubles highlights:** RU Geneva, Eastbourne; SF Hong Kong, ‘s-Hertogenbosch; QF Adelaide, Monte Carlo-1000
- **Davis Cup:** Vliegen will equal Patrick Homberg in 5th place on the list for most Davis Cup doubles match-wins by a Belgian player if he wins 2 doubles matches this week. He has won 9 of the 17 Davis Cup matches he has contested, all of which have come alongside Gille. The pair have won 4 of the 6 matches they have contested since the start of 2024, including winning one of the 2 matches they have contested in 2025. They defeated Barrios Vera/Jarry in Belgium’s 3-1 victory against Chile in the Qualifiers 1st Round before falling to Hijikata/Thompson in Belgium’s 3-2 victory against Australia in the Qualifiers 2nd Round.