

French Open: Stefanos Tsitsipas and Alexander Zverev book semi-final places



Stefanos Tsitsipas and Alexander Zverev set to meet each other for the eighth time in their careers, after progressing through to the semi-finals of the French Open.

Zverev was the first to secure a place in the last four of the clay-court Grand Slam, as a result of his 4-6, 6-1, 6-1 victory over Alexander Davidovich Folina.

Former runner with Daniil Medvedev had had the right reason on Court Philippe-Chatrier when Rafael Nadal overcame Diego Schwartzman and Novak Djokovic in a match that will not be shown to the stadium.

Tsitsipas walked quickly inside the empty arena in Paris, with spectators still not able to attend

the late match due to the COVID-19 curfew and he took the evening set in just 31 minutes.

The Greek continued his momentum early in the second set. He enjoyed a 3-1 lead before Medvedev recovered his composure and levelled proceedings at 3-3. However, the Russian then failed to take point chances in the 10th game.

After that it went to a tie-break and Tsitsipas took control. He claimed a mini-break on the first point, before a double hold moved him 1-0 ahead and from there he changed the lead.

Having lost the tie-break, Medvedev left court for a change of clothes and his new attire appeared to reinvigorate him. The second match took energy as he broke back and lead 2-1.

The Russian then had a timeout

exchange with the chair umpire before holding at 5-5.

Tsitsipas was able to calmly push the aggression at the other end of the court to one side. He earned an opponent's forearm hitting back from from 40-0 down, and then swung away to keep the momentum up and reclaimed a mini-break on the second match. Tsitsipas said:

"I felt that I was playing really well and not giving him a lot of space. I think that performance was close to being one of my best this week. I would say I'm really happy with that.

"Being here on clay in Paris brings back good memories. I'm happy to keep on competing and trying to go further day by

Daniel Dubois will challenge for a world heavyweight title before seeking revenge in a rematch with Joe Joyce

Daniel Dubois admits he wants 'revenge' in a rematch with Joe Joyce but will first continue his lucrative worldwide by challenging for a world heavyweight title.

The 33-year-old dethroned British champion Tyson Fury on Saturday night, as his first fight since a 12-month suspension for a no-contest.

Dubois is now mandatory challenger to WBA super-flyweight belt held by Terence Davis, with promoter Frank Warren hoping to stage the world title fight in London before the end of the year.

"I'm very confident in myself," Dubois said.

"I believe now with a bit of help from [my trainer] Shane McGuigan, the team that he has, and what I've already got and what I've got a great chance of winning a world heavyweight title.

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ECB to take 'appropriate action' after historical tweets from a number of England players 'questioned publicly'

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has confirmed it is currently investigating "a number of historical social media posts by other individuals" in the England set-up.

Former bowler Chris Robinson was ruled out of England's second Test against New Zealand starting at Edgbaston on Thursday after historical tweets and social media posts were seen on his mobile phone.

England players have accepted Robinson's apology for the racial and sexist comments he posted on social media as a teenager, but bowler James Anderson and captain Joe Root have not.

Anderson said Robinson had apologized "universally" in the closing years for the 2011-12 Test series, after previously admitting his use of "abuse" and "harassment".

"The language and things said about an obviously not acceptable," said Anderson.

"The second up in front of the group and apologise, and you could see how serious he was and how good he was.

"As a group, we appreciate his apology in our sport, and we are committed to taking relevant and appropriate action where required.

"Given the concerns which have been raised are clearly more broader than England, the ECB Board will discuss how we deal with issues over historical social media material in a timely and appropriate manner.

"Each case will be considered on its merits."



Stephen Kenny: Republic of Ireland boss brands Hungary fans who booed his players taking a knee as 'incomprehensible'

Stephen Kenny has condemned the "incomprehensible" behaviour of a section of Hungary fans after his Republic of Ireland players were booed before the match played over a protest drive in Budapest.

The boss was clearly audible at the Group Nations Stadium in the Hungarian capital just before kick-off on Tuesday night after the visiting Ireland players took the knee.

Massable, Hungary's players



stood and pointed to their screens which were showing UEFA's anti-racism campaign logo.

The Republic of Ireland's players were booed and some were hit with bottles and other objects thrown at them from the stands.

England was a host city for Euro 2020, with Hungary hoping their campaign at home in Budapest at Group F next Tuesday.

"I think it was the right decision. I appreciate the Football Association of Ireland's internal social operations manager, Harry O'Connell and staff who, essentially, we wanted to do, take the knee, and I think it's a very important message."

Ireland and Norwich forward Adam Hession said: "Obviously, it's disappointing to see the fans and the whole stadium booing us taking the knee.

"It's for a good cause, so you're not supposed to be booing it. It's a sign to kick racism out of our game and it was very disappointing to be booed. We weren't expecting that."

The latest incident comes just days after England players were booed by a section of their own fans in Middlesbrough over their decision to take a knee before the game against Serbia and Romania.

Danny Willett: Former Masters champion reveals he had surgery for appendicitis

Danny Willett has revealed he underwent two medical procedures in one operation after being diagnosed with appendicitis.

Willett needed surgery after being diagnosed with appendicitis, and the operation served a dual purpose - to remove the inflamed appendix and to repair a hernia.



The 2016 Masters champion admitted he barely slept on Saturday night as he battled stomach pain, although he did manage to complete The Memorial Tournament at Merfield Village, a "disaster" following his hernia repair.

But a tweet from his hospital bed on Tuesday revealed the extent of the ailment during an earlier year for the Englishman, who contracted Covid-19 in March while also having surgery to remove a wisdom tooth a few weeks later.

"It was the pain that kept me awake most of Saturday night turned out to be appendicitis," wrote the 33-year-old, who has slipped to fifth in the world rankings having posted only one top-10 finish in his career.

A spokesman said that Willett removed a hernia, and is to have a Covid-19 health check next week in April, all in all, been a great year.

Willett will now hope to recover in time to travel to California for next week's US Open at Torrey Pines.