



Western & Southern  
Financial Group  
MASTERS

## MEDIA INFORMATION

250 East Fifth Street • Suite 1310 • Cincinnati, Ohio • 45202 • V: 513-651-0303 • F: 513-651-3088 • [www.cincytennis.com](http://www.cincytennis.com)

# World's Top Players In Hunt For AMS Cincinnati Title

MASON – July 9, 2007 – Every singles winner of the last 19 Grand Slam events and the last 37 ATP Masters Series events, the two most dominant players in men's tennis, and an American defending champion are the highlights of the field for the 109th year of Cincinnati's world-class tennis tradition: The Western & Southern Financial Group Masters.

Two of the men expected to compete are the winningest players in the men's game as of late – 2005 champion and world No. 1 **Roger Federer**, and nine-time AMS title winner and world No. 2 **Rafael Nadal**. They will be the top competitors for **Andy Roddick** in his quest to become the first player since Andre Agassi to win three singles titles in Cincinnati. The field will include such rising stars as **Andy Murray**, 2007 AMS Miami winner and French Open and Wimbledon semifinalist **Novak Djokovic**, and 2007 Wimbledon semifinalist **Richard Gasquet**. Also on hand will be American **James Blake**, 2006 Australian Open finalist **Marcos Baghdatis**, and every other star in the men's game.

These and other players will be competing for a piece of the \$2.45 million total purse in a 56-man draw with the top eight seeds receiving a first-round bye. Cincinnati's tournament is the oldest in the nation played in its original city, and it is now one of the most prestigious in the world. Here's how the 56-man main draw field is determined:

Direct Acceptance	44	Announced today.
Wild Cards	4	These are four spots in the main draw filled at the tournament's discretion. The four players will be determined between now and the draw ceremony on Friday, August 10.
Qualifiers	7	Seven players who win two matches in the 28-man qualifier on August 11 & 12 are placed into the main draw.
Special Exempt	1	A spot left open for a player who would have had to go through qualifying, but who's in the semis in AMS Canada, which are played at the same time as qualifying here. (If this doesn't happen, the spot is used by the next player in line for direct acceptance.)
Total	56	

Forty-four players get directly into the tournament, and the final player on the list of direct acceptances is ranked 42<sup>nd</sup>. **Nicolas Kiefer** and **Radek Stepanek** used injury-protection to enter, which prevented the 43<sup>rd</sup> and 44<sup>th</sup>-ranked players, **Stanislas Wawrinka** and **Benjamin Becker** respectively, from obtaining direct acceptance. (Wawrinka and Becker are first on the list to replace any late withdrawals.)

Some of the prominent players who won't get into the Main Draw without Main Draw withdrawals due to injury, a wild card or through qualifying include 2005 semifinalist **Robby Ginepri**, 2000 finalist **Tim Henman**, **Max Mirnyi**, **Sebastian Grosjean**, **Fabrice Santoro**, **Gael Monfils**, **Thomas Johansson**, **Ivo Karlovic** and **Sam Querrey**. A preliminary qualifying field will be announced at the end of July.

The 2007 Western & Southern Financial MASTERS will be held August 11-19 in Mason, Ohio. The Western & Southern Financial Group WOMEN'S OPEN will be held July 14-22. For tickets or information visit [www.cincytennis.com](http://www.cincytennis.com) or call the tournament 513-651-0303. Tickets also are available via TicketMaster at 513-562-4949, or [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

-30-



**Men's Tournament:** August 10-19, 2007  
Tournaments played at the Lindner Family Tennis Center, Mason, Ohio, and operated by Tennis for Charity, Inc.  
Men's tournament played for the benefit of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center.



AN ATP MASTERS SERIES EVENT

INDIAN WELLS MIAMI MONTE-CARLO ROMA HAMBURG MONTRÉAL CINCINNATI MADRID PARIS SHANGHAI 2007