

Beat: Sports

## Jack Sock : An American in Paris then London

### When a dream comes true

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**USPA NEWS** - The last main tennis master of the season has just ended this last Sunday with a surprising winner. The American Jack Sock only 25 years old has been winning the tournament defeating a surprising outsider Filip Krajinovic coming from qualifying in three sets 5/7 6/4 6/1. Like a cherry on the cake, the US player is ending this week with a place in the final London Masters where he will face other seven top players of the year. The trophée Fanti's tree will now get his name on it among historical players as Becker, Agassi, Edberg, and co.

Among the top masters series of the year, the Paris' edition is ending the season before the final masters in London. The named has changed as it is now the Rolex Paris Masters instead the BNP Paribas Masters. A new partner for the President Guy Forget that was welcoming it with great enthusiasm. It also comes after the change of the Arena two years ago with a new standing becoming one of the greatest in the world with such as the O2 Arena in London or the new one at Nanterre (France) Who has just been getting inaugurated with three amazing shows from the Rolling Stones (Report to Music Entertainment soon). The fans of tennis do even more enjoy to come as they have more closer seats from players. However they could be deceived by the starting list on the program for succès édition with the decision of Roger Federer to stay home for preparing London's Masters. A few days later they would have to make without the number one rank Nadal getting injured for quarters. More opportunities for some challengers as Cilic, Goffin, Del Potro or even French players challenging a place for the Davis Cup final. But many results were becoming surprising and a unique chance to reach the title.

While the first edition of the Paris's Open an unknown player as Casal was qualifying for a place in the final before being defeated by the German Boris Becker. Since that time only six other players as the Polish Janowicz have realised such performance. And in Paris the public loves such beautiful history encouraging the outsiders after the French. And to reach the final both finalists had to live such situations. The Serbian Krajinovic had to beat Nicolas Mahut 6/2 3/6 6/1 before a run after tie-break facing the American John Isner. The giant with a brilliant serve had made all its possible to reach a new final here. He loves this tournament and could have offered a one hundred per cent American final against his patriot Jack Sock. Both men have already met at Paris and Jack Sock had finally taken the best on him without certain the final Victor y. But the revanche had not been taking place as the Serbian has fought with courage to end this new American story 6/4 6/7 7/6 and seven points to five.

Later on this Friday afternoon Jack Sock had to defeat the courageous French Julien Benneteau who has made a great week to end his career there or not.... At 35 years old the French player had beaten David Goffin the Belgian just a few weeks before the Davis Cup's final taking place at Lille at the end of November (6/3 6/3). The French captain Yannick Noah could observe that with attention even if Benneteau should not be selected. But then he also sent back to home Marin Cilic 7/6 7/5. So Jack Sock could fear his semi final even if he had the experience of facing a French in front of his public defeating Lucas Pouille 7/6 6/3 at third round. Anyway too exhausted and run after run on the court Julien Benneteau could not stop the American to keep on dreaming about a presence at Masters in London and getting the trophée (7/5 6/2). And so did it winning this last match on this Sunday afternoon in front of a public a little made KO by such a final.

With this victory Jack Sock is getting so an access to Masters in London. And as Nadal has not made it to the end André Agassi is still the only player winning the same year both tournament of Roland Garros Grand Slam and Paris Masters (1999).3h00 While this edition the French public could have d'archers again great matches with long strength fights till l'Acge in the night. They have enjoyed the animations with lasers, music, appearing of players, some games to get a chance to play on court and with the love of tennis play. However they still do not appreciate too much both sessions when they have to get out and return to seats : a modern and commercial way of earning money for Directions of many tournaments nowadays. They also regret that VIP seats are staying so long time empty in front of players while first days instead of allowing the paying public to access the area. But for sure the adventure of Rolex Masters Paris is growing. With the Olympic Games in 2024 the Hotel Accor Arena should also get a second court built offering a better exposition to so many players on sad courts number one and two where even top players are spending their time.

Live from Paris Christophe ANDREEFF

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