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## FEDERER HONOURED BY PEERS AND FANS

***Swiss earns three awards for successful 2009 campaign, as ATP announces annual awards recipients; Bryans, Chiudinelli, Isner, Zeballos among other winners***

MONTE CARLO, MONACO - Roger Federer was formally recognised for his triumphant return to the top spot in men's tennis on Wednesday, as the 2009 ATP World Tour Awards were announced.

The 28-year-old superstar collected Player of the Year, Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship Award and ATPWorldTour.com Fans' Favourite presented by RICOH honours. Federer was Player of the Year for the fifth time after finishing as the 2009 ATP World Tour Champion and his fellow players selected him for the sportsmanship award for a record sixth consecutive year, surpassing Edberg, who was a five-time recipient over eight years. In a poll of fans, Federer was voted ATPWorldTour.com Fans' Favourite for the seventh straight season.

"I am very proud of these recognitions," said Federer. "It was a great achievement to once again finish the season at No. 1, especially in a year that was so special for me off the court with my marriage and birth of my daughters. It is also very humbling to be awarded the sportsmanship award again by my fellow ATP players, many of whom I have known for a long time. Additionally, I would like to thank my fans for voting me as the Fans' Favourite. I always try to exhibit fair play and be a good sport, and it is the fans that inspire me to play this wonderful game."

ATP World Tour Doubles Team of the Year Bob and Mike Bryan were also announced as the ATPWorldTour.com Fans' Favourite for the fifth straight year.

Former ATP World Tour pro MaliVai Washington, a winner of four career ATP World Tour titles and a finalist at Wimbledon, won the Arthur Ashe Humanitarian of the Year award for his charitable efforts.

### 2009 ATP WORLD TOUR AWARDS

#### ***Player of the Year (based on year-end South African Airways 2009 ATP Rankings)***

**Roger Federer:** The Swiss native finished as ATP World Tour Champion for the fifth time in six years, highlighted by Grand Slam titles at Roland Garros and Wimbledon. He became the sixth man in the history of the sport to win all four Grand Slam titles during his career and the all-time leader with the most Grand Slam singles titles by winning his 15th Slam crown at Wimbledon, surpassing Pete Sampras. He became the second player in the history of the South African Airways ATP Rankings (since 1973) to finish No. 1 after losing it for a season. Ivan Lendl accomplished the feat in 1989.

#### ***Doubles Team of the Year (based on year-end 2009 ATP Doubles Team Rankings)***

**Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan:** The American twins finished as ATP World Tour Champions for the fifth time in seven years (2003, '05-07, '09), capturing seven titles, including at the Australian Open and the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals in London. They have won at least five titles in eight straight seasons. The Bryans compiled a 68-18 match record and lifetime they are 57-38 together in finals.



They are four titles away from tying the record of Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde, 61 team titles.

***Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship Award (voted by ATP players)***

**Roger Federer:** Fellow players voted the five-time ATP World Tour Champion as the winner of the Stefan Edberg Sportsmanship Award for a record sixth consecutive year. Edberg is the only other player to earn the award five times (over an eight-year span).

***Most Improved Player of the Year (voted by ATP players)***

**John Isner:** The 24-year-old American climbed from No. 145 in 2008 to a year-end best No. 34 last season, highlighted by a personal-high 27 match wins. He improved his match wins total by 16 from the previous year. He advanced to the semi-finals at Indianapolis and Washington and the quarter-finals in Auckland, Houston, Los Angeles and Bangkok. In Grand Slam play, he advanced to the fourth round at the US Open, highlighted by a five-set win over No. 5 Andy Roddick in the third round. In that match, he fired 38 aces. He also went 3-3 vs. Top 10 opponents.

***Newcomer of the Year (voted by ATP players)***

**Horacio Zeballos:** The 24-year-old Argentine finished as his country's No. 3 player (behind No. 5 del Potro, No. 30 Monaco) and made one of the biggest ranking jumps into the Top 50, from No. 209 in 2008 to No. 45 last year. He compiled an outstanding 48-14 Challenger record before later in the year reaching his first ATP World Tour final in St. Petersburg (l. to Stakhovsky). Prior to 2009 he never played in an ATP World Tour main draw.

***Comeback Player of the Year (voted by ATP players)***

**Marco Chiudinelli:** The 28-year-old Swiss native made a ranking jump of 723 positions from 2008, climbing from No. 779 to a year-end best No. 56 last season. He won 10 ATP World Tour level matches, highlighted by his first ATP World Tour semi-final in Basel. He also reached the quarter-finals in Bangkok and won his first ATP World Tour doubles title in Gstaad (w/Lammer). In his third career Grand Slam tournament, he reached the third round at the US Open. He was sidelined for eight months in 2008 after undergoing left knee surgery on Nov. 14, 2007.

***ATPWorldTour.com Fans' Favourite presented by RICOH (Singles)***

**Roger Federer:** The Swiss, who is admired for his work on and off the court, continues to be a fan favourite by millions of fans around the world, who have voted him as ATPWorldTour.com Fans' Favourite for a record seventh consecutive year. Federer received 52% percent of all votes, followed by Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic.

***ATPWorldTour.com Fans' Favourite (Doubles)***

**Bob & Mike Bryan:** Twin brothers Bob and Mike Bryan were voted the most popular doubles team on the ATP World Tour for the fifth straight year. The Bryans received 50% percent of votes to finish ahead of Daniel Nestor & Nenad Zimonjic and Lukas Dlouhy & Leander Paes.

***ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Tournament of Year (voted by ATP players)***

**Shanghai ATP Masters 1000 presented by Rolex (Shanghai):** The newest ATP World Tour Masters 1000 tournament on the calendar, held at the Qi Zhong Tennis Center, was a popular event with players in its inaugural 2009 edition.

***ATP World Tour 500 Tournament of Year (voted by ATP players)***

**Barclays Dubai Tennis Championships (Dubai):** The tournament was recognised for the sixth time in seven years as the players' favourite ATP World Tour 500 event.



***ATP World Tour 250 Tournament of Year (voted by ATP players)***

**SkiStar Swedish Open (Bastad):** The popular clay court tournament in July was voted the top ATP World Tour 250 event for the eighth straight year.

***Arthur Ashe Humanitarian of the Year***

**MaliVai Washington:** The 1996 Wimbledon finalist has devoted himself to helping thousands of underprivileged children in the Jacksonville, Florida area since 1994, when he established the MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation to promote academic achievement and positive life skills. The foundation's flagship Tennis-n-Tutoring program is an after-school youth development program that offers free homework assistance, tennis lessons and life skills classes. MWKF recently opened the MaliVai Washington Youth Center at Emmett Reed Park, a \$3 million facility complete with eight tennis courts, three mini courts, a basketball court, library, classrooms, multi-media centre, fitness room, kitchen and administrative offices.

***Ron Bookman Media Excellence Award***

**Vincenzo Martucci, La Gazzetta dello Sport (Italy):** Martucci, who has reported on tennis since 1978, has been the tennis correspondent of La Gazzetta dello Sport in Milan since 1985. He also covers golf and Olympic sports for his paper and weekly magazine Sport Week.

**Visit the official 2009 ATP World Tour Awards page:**

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/Fans/Fan-Favorite/Fan-Favourite.aspx>

**Media contacts:**

Nicola Arzani, [narzani@atpworldtour.com](mailto:narzani@atpworldtour.com)

Greg Sharko, [gsharko@atpworldtour.com](mailto:gsharko@atpworldtour.com)

**About the ATP**

The ATP is the governing body of the men's professional tennis circuits - the ATP World Tour, the ATP Challenger Tour and the ATP Champions Tour. With 62 tournaments in 32 countries, the ATP World Tour showcases the finest male athletes competing in the world's most exciting venues. From Australia and Europe to Africa; from North and South America to Asia, the stars of the ATP World Tour battle for prestigious titles at Grand Slams (non ATP members), ATP World Tour Masters 1000, ATP World Tour 500 and ATP World Tour 250 events. At the end of the season the world's top 8 ranked singles players and top 8 doubles teams, based on their performance throughout the year, will qualify to compete in the season's climax - the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals. Held at The O2 in London, the event officially crowns the 2010 ATP World Tour Champion and determines the final South African Airways 2010 ATP Rankings. For more information, please visit [ATPWorldTour.com](http://ATPWorldTour.com).