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ATP ANNOUNCES NEW PLAYER COUNCIL

LONDON — The new ATP Player Council, selected by ATP player members, was announced at the pre-Wimbledon player meeting this evening. The new ATP Player Council includes returning players Roger Federer, Jarkko Nieminen, Eric Butorac and Andre Sa (served 2002-2004), as well as a number of new faces, elected for a two-year term to represent the ATP player membership.

Members elected by their peers to serve on the ATP Player Council through June 2014 are:

1-50 Singles: Kevin Anderson, Roger Federer, Jarkko Nieminen, Gilles Simon
51-100 Singles: Robin Haase, Sergiy Stakhovsky
1-100 Doubles: Mahesh Bhupathi, Eric Butorac
At-Large: James Cerretani, Andre Sa
Alumni: Brian Gottfried
Coach: Claudio Pistolesi (also served 2010-12)

ATP Executive Chairman and President Brad Drewett said, "I'd like to congratulate the newly-elected ATP Player Council and thank those players who have concluded their terms. The ATP Player Council plays an incredibly important role in the governance of the ATP, with a seat at the table all year round, helping to make decisions that affect the operation of the ATP World Tour. The players who serve give a significant amount of their personal time, more than people may realise. The men's game is driving the unprecedented popularity and commercial success of the sport today, and I believe the opportunities ahead of us are very exciting."

The new ATP Player Council will have its first meeting in New York prior to the US Open, where the President and Vice President will be elected.

Federer, who begins his third term on the council, said, "It has been four years of good work with the Player Council in which we have made progress in some areas. There is more to do and I am happy to be back with the council group. It's great to see some new players step up and I look forward to working with them to continue to grow our sport."

First-time council member Simon said, "I have been on the Tour for a long time, and have learned a lot about tournaments and players. I have some ideas to share with the other players, and feel it is important for us to work together and make good decisions. Tennis is at the top and we want to continue to improve."

Doubles representative Bhupathi said, "The boys have put some faith in me to represent them in the Player Council and I will do my best. It is an interesting time with the top three players at the helm of the sport. There are many issues that are being addressed and I'm happy to be able to contribute with some input."

The ATP Player Council meets several times a year and makes recommendations to ATP Management and the ATP Board of Directors through the three Player Board representatives, whom the Council elects.



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On Friday, Giorgio di Palermo was re-elected by the outgoing Player Council as Player Board representative from the European region. Di Palermo will serve another three-year term starting January 1, 2013. The ATP Board of Directors comprises three Player Representatives, three Tournament Representatives, and ATP Executive Chairman and President Brad Drewett.

Drewett said, "I also extend my congratulations to Giorgio di Palermo for his re-election as a Player Board representative. Giorgio has contributed much in his first three years and it's great that he is returning."

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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 31 countries, the ATP World Tour showcases the finest male athletes competing in the world's most exciting venues. From Australia to Europe and the Americas to Asia, the stars of the ATP World Tour battle for prestigious titles and South African Airways ATP Rankings points at ATP World Tour Masters 1000, 500 and 250 events, as well as Grand Slams (non ATP events). At the end of the season only the world's top 8 ranked men's singles players and top 8 doubles teams, based on their performance throughout the year, will qualify to compete for the last title of the season at the Barclays ATP World Tour Finals. Held at The O2 in London, the event will officially crown the 2012 ATP World Tour No.1 in singles and doubles. For more information, please visit www.ATPWorldTour.com.



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