



Press Conference

25 July 2019

with **ALEXANDER ZVEREV**

Zverev – Delbonis 6-4, 7-6(2)

QUESTION: Congratulations for winning. Serving for a first set or for a game, since the last game was a little difficult for you, is it the worst part of the game for you?

ZVEREV: No. Last match I served it out pretty well. I lost two points in that game. Today, as I said on the court as well, I don't think I played a bad game. I think he played an amazing game, the best game he played of the match. So, mostly it was fine. The most important thing is that I won the tiebreak afterwards quite easily. So, you know, you will always have games where you lose and games where you get broken and it's how you come back from that and I did well today.

QUESTION: Congratulations. Every match is different. But would you say that this match was an improvement to your first-round match?

ZVEREV: Yes, as you said, every match is different. Today, we had rhythm, we had long rallies, it was still aggressive tennis but aggressive clay court tennis. In the first round, it was just aggressive, without any big ideas. That was different, no long rallies. It was just about, okay when the ball was in, it was in, when it wasn't, it wasn't. And today, it was a bit different. We played more tactically, more high balls, then flat, top spin, slice, a bit of everything.

QUESTION: In Wimbledon, you said that you didn't have and confidence. As you said it can happen that you lose a serve but when you win the tiebreak so clearly is that a sign that you are starting to feel more comfortable again?

ZVEREV: Yes, slowly it's coming back. Of course, it takes time and you need matches. Matches like this, however, do help. I think it was high-quality tennis from both players. He really is somebody, who always plays well on clay and especially in Hamburg. Therefore, I'm quite glad with the way the match went.

QUESTION: Congratulations on your win. Looking ahead, you're playing Filip Krajinovic next. How do you rate our chances and what are his strengths or weaknesses?

ZVEREV: In general, he is a player, who always plays well. He had a bit of problems with injuries in the past couple of years. When he didn't have injuries and was able to play for a while he was always Top 40, Top 30. Therefore, that was more of his problem and not the tennis. And he also showed that today that he has a top game and is able to come back in any situation. It's going to be interesting. He is a player, who is always dangerous.

QUESTION: In the press conference, Boris said that he assumes the number 1 seed and the number 2 seed will make it to the final. Although he thinks the seeding is not always right he assumes you will be in the final against Dominic Thiem. Would you disagree or is that somewhat your hope and goal?

ZVEREV: I'm not sure whether that is what I wish for because to play Dominic in the final ... we have done that a couple of times in our career. Once in Madrid where I won, the Masters in Madrid. Therefore, I would be glad. I believe that would also be the final which the spectators and of course the tournament would sort of wish for. Yes, let's see what will happen.

QUESTION: Congratulation again. Boris is the key word. He extensively commented on the cooperation with Ivan Lendl and said that something had happened during this cooperation at the beginning of the year and that he could not tell us what had happened. Could you specify that?

ZVEREV: What? I also would be interested in what he referred to. I have no idea. Where is Boris? Let's ask him (laughs). We can speak about that openly because probably he knows more than I do (laughs). That's nice. Nothing happened between Ivan and me. If something had happened like it did with Juan Carlos we wouldn't be together any more, I mean workwise. Therefore, nothing has happened. We didn't win a lot this year but okay, that happens. But nothing happened. I also would be interested in what Boris was referring to. But maybe he'll tell me (laughs).

QUESTION: Boris also said that such a cooperation would be better if the coach would travel with you. What do you think? Is it a loss that he isn't here in the stadium with you?

ZVEREV: I don't need him every week. It's not like ... I do have my coach. My father is my coach. And it is not as if I needed Ivan in every week of my life, otherwise we would also go berserk. We are also our own persons. We work very very well together and it is always fun to work with him on the court and as I already said I enjoy working with him but this doesn't mean that we have to be together every week of my career. Hopefully I will see him soon when I'm in the states. Let's see how things will continue.