

# Huntington Beach – Sunday, May 19, 2024 – Men’s Championship

## 1:00 pm – #1 Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander vs. #5 Cody Caldwell / Seain Cook

*NOTE: The notes below do not include events on the Tour Series unless specifically stated*

### Head to Head

- These two teams have met 3 times before... Crabb / Sander have won all 3 times

Date	Tour	Tournament	Round	Winning Team	Seed	Losing Team	Seed	Score	Time
5/18/24	AVP	Huntington Beach Heritage Series	Winner 3	<b>Crabb/Sander</b>	1	Caldwell/Cook	5	21-18, 21-14	0:38
9/2/23	AVP	Gold Series Chicago Open	Contender 2	<b>Crabb/Sander</b>	3	Caldwell/Cook	8	15-21, 22-20, 15-12	1:06
8/19/23	AVP	Gold Series Manhattan Beach Open	Winner 3	<b>Crabb/Sander</b>	4	Caldwell/Cook	12	21-17, 21-18	0:41

### Title Tidbits

- In the last 34 AVP tournaments (excluding Tour Series), there have been just two winners who were seeded lower than 4th, and that was in Atlanta 2022 when Miles Partain and Paul Lotman won as the 6th seeds and in Huntington Beach when Andy Benesh and Miles Partain won as the 5th seeds... both finalists today are seeded 4th or better... Caldwell / Cook will look to add to that list today
- The team winning the first set of AVP title matches has won 38 of the last 47 times
- 12 of the last 23 men’s championships overall (excluding Tour Series) have been three-set matches
- 25 of the last 34 AVP championship matches were won by the higher seeded teams (just 9 upsets in that span)
- The #1 seed has won in just 5 of the last 20 AVP events (excluding Tour Series), and in 17 of the last 58 tournaments prior to Huntington Beach
- Each of the last 9 championship matches of season openers have been won by the team with the higher seeding (no upsets in that span)
- 11 of the last 15 AVP champions (including Tour Series) have come from the winner’s bracket (meaning they were undefeated throughout the whole tournament)... Crabb / Sander have not even lost a single set this tournament
- A win today would give Crabb his 3rd Huntington Beach title (includes a Tour Series win here in 2022) in the past 4 years... Here are the most AVP wins in Huntington Beach:
  - 5, Phil Dalhausser
  - 4, Todd Rogers
  - 3, Jake Gibb
- This marks the 51st time that an AVP finals has been a rematch from earlier in the tournament (since match by match data has been known since 2002)...30 times a team has been able to win both matches, while 20 times the team that lost during bracket play came back to win in the finals
  - Last year there were rematches in Huntington Beach (Tri Bourne / Chaim Schalk won in bracket play but Andy Benesh and Miles Partain won the finals), Hermosa Beach (Theo Brunner / Trevor Crabb defeated Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander twice), Atlanta (Andy Benesh / Miles Partain defeated Chase Budinger / Miles Evans twice) and Manhattan Beach (Theo Brunner / Trevor Crabb won in bracket play but Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander won the finals)

**Taylor Crabb / Sander** are playing together for the 16th time on the AVP Tour and 26th time overall

- The duo has won 4 times on the AVP Tour (Phoenix 2022, Huntington Beach 2022, Miami 2023, Manhattan Beach 2023), finished 2nd four times and 3rd three times
- Internationally the duo has played 11 times, with the best of 9th place (done 3 times, with 2 of those in Challenge events)
- In 3 seasons as partners on the AVP entering the finals, they are 60-20 in matches, 46-5 when winning the first set, 14-14 when losing the first set... they are 0-1 in one-set matches and 19-12 in three-set matches (2-4 in the last 6)
- They began their partnership with an 11-3 match record, but then went 5-5... since that point they have gone 44-12 entering the Huntington Beach finals... of their 20 match losses, 15 have come to teams seeded 1st or 2nd
- This weekend no team has been able to score 19 points in any set against Crabb / Sander

### AVP Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	9/1-3/2023	Gold Series Chicago Open	3	5	2095	\$10,000.00
AVP	8/17-20/2023	Gold Series Manhattan Beach Open	4	1	2572	\$30,000.00
AVP	8/4-6/2023	Gold Series Atlanta Open	4	5	2095	\$10,000.00
AVP	7/7-9/2023	Pro Series Hermosa Beach Open	3	2	2095	\$8,500.00
AVP	5/18-21/2023	Pro Series Huntington Beach Open	3	3	1990	\$6,000.00
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	1	1	2205	\$14,000.00
AVP	11/11-13/2022	Huntington Beach Open	1	1	1891	\$8,000.00
AVP	9/23-24/2022	Phoenix Championships	3	1	1891	\$15,000.00
AVP	9/2-4/2022	Chicago Open	4	2	2205	\$22,000.00
AVP	8/18-21/2022	Manhattan Beach Open	5	3	2095	\$12,000.00
AVP	8/5-7/2022	Atlanta Open	4	7	1796	\$7,600.00
AVP	7/29-31/2022	Fort Lauderdale Open	4	3	1891	\$6,000.00
AVP	7/8-10/2022	Hermosa Beach Open	5	2	1990	\$8,500.00
AVP	5/27-29/2022	New Orleans Open	3	2	1990	\$8,500.00
AVP	5/6-8/2022	Austin Open	7	5	1706	\$4,200.00

**Taylor Crabb** – age 32 – 6’0” – hometown Honolulu, Hawai‘i – currently Redondo Beach, Calif. – Long Beach State

- This is Taylor Crabb’s 59th AVP event with 8 different partners
- Taylor Crabb has 13 wins (8 with Jake Gibb, 4 with Taylor Sander which includes 1 on the Tour Series, and 1 with Phil Dalhausser), 13 seconds (with 4 different partners), and 15 thirds
- Taylor Crabb led the AVP Tour in victories in 2019 with 4, and tied for the lead the past two years (with 3 wins in 2022 and 2 wins in 2023)
- He is a 5-time AVP Best Defensive Player (2016, 2017, 2019, 2022, 2023), the 2015 Newcomer of the Year, the most Valuable Player (2019) and part of the 2019 Team of the Year (with Jake Gibb)
- Taylor Crabb has now advanced to the semifinals in 42 of his 59 AVP tournaments (71% of the events)
- All time Crabb is 13-13 in AVP finals... he has won 5 of his last 6 AVP championship matches (including Huntington 2022 on the Tour Series)
- A win today would give Crabb his 3rd win in Huntington Beach, his most in any location (next most is Chicago with 2)
- This will be his 7th AVP event in Huntington Beach (finished 3rd in 2015 and 2nd in 2016 with Trevor Crabb; 3rd in 2017 and 1st in 2019 with Jake Gibb; and 1st in 2022 and 3rd in 2023 with Taylor Sander)... he has been in the semifinals of all seven AVP tournaments here, with a match record of 29-7 entering the finals (5 of the losses were to teams seeded 1st or 2nd)
- In Huntington Beach Crabb has been especially effective in first sets, as in his 4 matches entering the title match he has 33 kills and just 2 hitting errors in first sets

**Taylor Sander** – age 32 – 6’5” – hometown Corona, Calif. – currently Huntington Beach, Calif. – Brigham Young

- Sander is playing in his 17th AVP event (16 alongside Taylor Crabb and 1 with his brother Brenden Sander)
- Sander has 4 wins (all with Taylor Crabb) and has been in the semifinals in 11 of his 16 AVP events entering Huntington Beach
- Sander, a two-time indoor Olympian, is 15-12 in AVP matches with at least one Olympian (indoors or beach) on the opposing team
- In his short AVP career, Sander has lost 24 matches on the AVP tour (entering Huntington Beach), and 19 of those were to teams seeded higher than him (has been upset just 5 times)
- Sander is 4-4 in AVP championship matches all time, all with Crabb (including 1-0 on the Tour Series)
- Sander has played 8 sets in Huntington Beach entering the finals, and has at least 1 block in each of those sets

**Caldwell / Cook** are playing together for the 5th time on the AVP Tour

- The duo won in Waupaca 2023 in their debut (on the Tour Series)... they then placed 3rd in Manhattan Beach and 9th in Manhattan Beach before closing the 2023 season with another victory in Laguna Beach (also on the Tour Series)
- In 2 seasons together on the AVP (including Tour Series) entering the Huntington Beach championship match they have a 21-5 match record... they are 19-1 when winning the first set (exception was against Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander in Chicago) and 2-4 when losing the first set... they are 5-2 in three-set matches
- Both of these players tied for the lead on the AVP Tour in tournaments played in 2023... each played 9 times, and join Billy Allen, Caleb Kwekel and Lev Priima for the most among all 395 male players to compete last season

**All Results**

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	10/13-15/2023	Tour Series Laguna Beach Open	1	1	1706	\$4,500.00
AVP	9/1-3/2023	Gold Series Chicago Open	8	9	1891	\$5,200.00
AVP	8/17-20/2023	Gold Series Manhattan Beach Open	12	3	2321	\$12,000.00
AVP	7/5-7/2023	Tour Series Waupaca Open	1	1	1621	\$3,800.00

**Cody Caldwell** – age 31 – 6’6” – hometown Newport Beach, Calif. – currently Newport Beach, Calif. – Loyola-Chicago

- Caldwell is playing in his 30th career AVP tournament
- Caldwell has won 3 times, all on the Tour Series... he won in Atlantic City 2022 with David Lee, in Waupaca 2023 with Seain Cook, and in the 2023 season finale in Laguna Beach with Cook
- In addition to his 3 wins, he also has 4 other semifinals (including 3rd-place finishes)... while all 3 wins came on the Tour Series, he had 3 3rd-place finishes on the Pro Series
- He has had 14 different partners, with Seain Cook being the most frequent
- Last season his 9 AVP tournaments came with 4 different partners... he began the 2023 season with a 3rd place in both Miami and New Orleans alongside Chase Frishman
- Already in 2024 Caldwell has played 3 tournaments internationally on different tours, placing 3rd in New Zealand with Jake Urrutia in a Futures event and winning a NORCECA tournament in Cuba with Avery Drost
- This marks the 3rd time Caldwell is playing in Huntington Beach... he was 13th in 2022 (on the Tour Series) with David Lee and then 13th in 2023 with Chase Frishman

- In his career Caldwell has played AVP events in 11 different states and has also played internationally in 11 different countries
- In Huntington Beach Caldwell has been solid in second sets... in his 5 matches entering the AVP title match, he has 33 kills and just 3 hitting errors

**Seain Cook – age 32 – 6'4" – hometown Perth, Scotland – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif.**

- Cook is playing in his 19th career AVP tournament... this is his 7th different partnership
- He has 2 wins, both on the Tour Series... he won in Waupaca 2023 with Cody Caldwell, and in the 2023 season finale in Laguna Beach with Caldwell
- Cook has advanced to 3 other AVP semifinals before this weekend... 2 of those came on the Tour Series and then the last was in Manhattan Beach with Cody Caldwell
- This is the 3rd time Cook has played in Huntington Beach... in 2022 on the Tour Series he finished 3rd with Logan Webber and then in 2023 he placed 9th with Jake Dietrich
- Including Tour Series, Cook has now advanced to the semifinals in 4 of his last 5 AVP tournaments held in the state of California
- In the 3 victories by sweeps this weekend Cook has hit over .600 in all 3 matches, while in the other 2 matches has hit .424 in a 3-set win and .238 in the 2-set loss to Crabb / Sander