

Manhattan Beach – Sunday, August 18, 2024 – MEN'S Semifinal Notes

#1 Theo Brunner / Trevor Crabb

- Since winning in their last AVP outing in Chicago 2023, the duo has played 14 international tournaments
- Entering Sunday the duo has won 9 consecutive AVP matches, all by sweeps... their last loss came here in Manhattan Beach 2023 in the title match (lost to Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander 25-27, 16-21)
- Brunner is trying to reach the MBO title match for the 4th time in his career (finished second with Todd Rogers in 2014, with Chaim Schalk in 2022 and with Trevor Crabb in 2023)
- Crabb has played in the finals in Manhattan Beach in 4 straight events here (won with Reid Priddy in 2019, won with Tri Bourne in both 2021 and 2022, and was 2nd with Theo Brunner in 2023)
- Brunner has had at least 1 block in all 8 sets he has played here
- Crabb's .511 hitting percentage is 8th best in the field

#2 Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander

- The duo has been seeded first in all 4 AVP events (including the Contender Series) that they have played this season
- Crabb has reached the semifinals in Manhattan Beach for the 6th time in his career... he is looking for his 15th career AVP win (including one Tour Series victory)
- Including Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series, Sander is competing in his 8th AVP event in the state of California, and has reached the semifinals in all 8 and played in the finals 5 times
- Crabb's 5.30 dig per set average ranks 3rd in Manhattan Beach
- Sander is 4th here in hitting percentage (.553) and has hit .500 or better in 4 of his 5 matches thus far

#3 Andy Benesh / Miles Partain

- This marks the duo's 4th AVP event as partners and have reached the title match in each of the first tournaments
- On the AVP Tour they have an 18-2 match record, including 16-1 when winning the first set and 3-1 in three-set matches
- Benesh has advanced to the Manhattan Beach semifinals for the third straight time with a third different partner
- Partain has now reached the semifinals for the 11th time in his last 13 AVP events
- Benesh leads the field in hitting percentage (.589) and hasn't had more than 2 hitting errors in any of his 4 matches here so far
- Partain leads the field in digs (6.25 per set) and has had 10+ in all 4 matches

#5 Chase Budinger / Miles Evans

- Since last playing on the AVP Tour in Chicago 2023, the duo has played 19 international events
- The pair had to play 4 matches on Saturday, winning all in sweeps
- Budinger is playing in Manhattan Beach for the 6th time in his career with 4 different partners... his only time playing here with a player who has not competed in the Olympics was in 2022 with Troy Field
- Evans made his pro beach debut in Manhattan Beach in 2011, finishing 49th
- Budinger and Evans rank 5th and 6th in hitting percentage in Manhattan Beach
- Budinger has the most total blocks (27) and aces (12) of any player here
- Evans had just 3 hitting errors in his 4 matches on Saturday