MATCH NOTES

MOSCOW - RUSSIA | Oct 15 - Oct 20, 2018 | $932,866 | PREMIER

[8] ANETT KONTAVEIT (EST #21) vs. [WC] ANASTASIA POTAPOVA (RUS #94)

Head to Head: First meeting

ANETT KONTAVEIT		ANASTASIA POTAPOVA
21	WTA RANKING	94
21	PORSCHE RACE TO SINGAPORE LEADERBOARD	90
24-12-1995 (22)	DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)	30-03-2001 (17)
$1,443,489	YTD PRIZE MONEY	$181,870
$2,708,449	CAREER PRIZE MONEY	$254,670
0 / 1	SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)	0 / 0
0 / 0	DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)	1 / 1
0-0	MOSCOW W-L (MD) *	0-0
30-21 / 75-70	YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *	9-4 / 9-5
13-8 / 25-25	YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *	4-2 / 4-2
9-5 / 20-23	YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *	2-0 / 2-0
16-13 / 40-45	YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *	5-3 / 5-3
3-2 / 8-8	YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *	1-0 / 1-0
1-2 / 2-6	YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD & Q) *	0-1 / 0-1
6-6 / 8-11	YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD & Q) *	0-1 / 0-1
9-8 / 12-18	YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD & Q) *	0-1 / 0-1

* Updated entering 2018 Moscow 1r

MOSCOW Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

ANETT KONTAVEIT

2012			
R1-Q	L - NADIIA KICHENOK (UKR #266)	6-2	6-2

ANASTASIA POTAPOVA

2017			
R1-Q	L - ARINA RODIONOVA (AUS #117)	6-3	6-1

Insights from SAP

KONTAVEIT:

Moscow

- Making main draw debut at Moscow, having fallen at first hurdle in qualifying in 2012
- Contesting week of Kremlin Cup at a career-high ranking of No.21 (first posted week October 1, 2018)
- Faces 17-year-old wildcard Potapova in 1r today; lost her only previous match against a teenager this season, falling to Lapko in 1r at Lugano
- Coming off great Asian swing, winning seven matches (one at Tokyo, five at Wuhan and one at Beijing). In contrast, picked up only one match win 2017 Asian swing, at Guangzhou (d. Paolini, l. qualifier Cabrera). Lost 1r at Wuhan (l. Linette) and Beijing (l. Gavrilova)

Season

- Made R16 at Beijing (l. eventual champion Wozniacki)
- Posted off R-Up finish at Wuhan (l. Sabalenka). Was fourth career tour-level final, and first of 2018. Reached three finals in 2017, lifting the trophy at 's-Hertogenbosch (d. Vikhlyantseva in F), and finishing as runner-up at Biel/Bienne (l. Vondrousova in F) and Gstaad (l. Bertens in F)
- Scored seventh Top 10 win of 2018 over No.9 Stephens at Wuhan
- Previous best result at a Premier 5 event was SF run at 2018 Rome (l. eventual champion Svitolina)
- Fell in 2r at Tokyo (d. Mladenovic, l. Strycova in 3s)
- Lost in 1r at US Open (l. Siniakova in 3s)
- Advanced to R16 in Cincinnati (l. eventual champion Bertens); result in the Midwest elevated 2018 prize money beyond USD $1 million – the first time she has passed this milestone in a single season
- Began summer hard court season with 2r showing at Montréal (l. Kvitova); 1r win over Makarova was first in North America since 2017 Miami
- Reached 3r at Wimbledon for the second time (also 2017) where she fell to Van Uytvanck
- In build up to Wimbledon, suffered 1r defeats at Mallorca (l. Maria) and 's-Hertogenbosch (as defending champion, l. Kudermetova)
- Enjoyed fruitful clay swing in 2018, including a R16 run at Roland Garros (l. eventual R-Up Stephens) and SF showing at Rome (l. eventual champion Svitolina)
- Also reached R16 at Madrid (l. eventual champion Kvitova) and made SF stage at Stuttgart (l. eventual champion Ka.Pliskova)
- At Stuttgart, 1r win over Mladenovic lasted over three hours (3:09), the eighth longest match of 2018; also spent 2:57 on court in her Stuttgart QF win over Pavlyuchenkova
- Prior to Stuttgart had lost four consecutive matches, stretching back to Dubai: after 1r byes, made 2r exits at both Indian Wells (l. Sasnovich) and Miami (l. Sakkari), and fell 1r in clay court opener at Lugano (l. Lapko)
- Achieved her 50th career main draw victory in Dubai (d. Stosur in 1r) before falling in 2r (l. Osaka)
- Made 1r exit at Doha (l. Cornet)

- At Australian Open, upset No.7 Ostapenko en route to R16 (l. Suárez Navarro)
- Opened 2018 season by reaching 2r at Brisbane (l. eventual runner-up Sasnovich) and contested qualifying at Sydney (ret. w/dizziness vs. Aoyama)

Career

- Enjoyed breakthrough season in 2017, finishing on a ranking of No.34, up from No.110 in 2016 – first year-end finish inside Top 50 and second non-consecutive year in Top 100
- 2017 season highlighted by winning first career singles title at 's-Hertogenbosch (d. Vikhlyantseva in F). Also reached finals at Biel/Benne (l. Vondrousova) and Gstaad (l. Bertens)
- Broke into Top 30 for first time at No.27 following run at Gstaad (July 24, 2017)
- Also advanced to quarterfinals at Premier-level tournaments at Stuttgart, where she beat No.6 Muguruza en route, and Rome, where she posted her first career win over a reigning No.1 with defeat of Kerber in 2r
- In 2016, played main draw at all four Grand Slams for first time, but dropped out of Top 100
- One of five teenagers in 2015 year-end Top 100
- Made Top 100 debut on September 14, 2015 at No.96, up from No.152
- Scored first Top 20 win of career over No.17 Errani at 2016 Monterrey (2r)
- Has won 11 singles titles and five doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2013 Miami as WC (l. McHale, 1r)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in 2010
- Junior highlights included winning 2011 Orange Bowl, defeating Bouchard and Putintseva along the way

Grand Slam History

- 2018 US Open marked 15th Grand Slam main draw appearance
- Earned her first Grand Slam victories at 2015 US Open where she reached R16 (as qualifier, l. V.Williams) – only seventh qualifier in Open Era to reach US Open R16
- Also made R16 at 2018 Australian Open (l. Suárez Navarro) and 2018 Roland Garros (l. Stephens)
- Best showings at Wimbledon are 3r runs in 2017 (l. Wozniacki) and 2018 (l. Van Uytvanck)
- Runner-up in 2012 US Open girls' singles (l. Crawford)

Other Information

- Coached by Nigel Sears
- Grew up in Tallinn, Estonia
- Mother, Ulle, is a tennis coach and started her in tennis (was her coach until the age of 11, then began working other Estonian coaches). Father, Andrus, is a manager at the Port of Tallinn

POTAPOVA:

Moscow

- Making main draw debut at Kremlin Cup, having fallen in qualifying last year
- One of four wildcards – best result by a wildcard in Moscow were title runs by Wozniacki in 2012 and Kuznetsova in 2016
- At 17, is the youngest player in main draw
- Faces No.21 Kontaveit today; in terms of ranking, best career win came over No.49 Maria at 2018 St. Petersburg
- Highest-ranked opponent faced in career was No.1 Wozniacki at 2018 St. Petersburg (l. 6-0 6-1)
- One of five Russians in the main draw
- This tournament marks just her fifth career main draw appearance at the WTA tour level

Season

- Season highlighted by R-Up finishes last month at Tashkent (as qualifier, l. Gasparyan) and at Moscow [River Cup] (l. Danilovic)
- During summer hard court swing, fell in final round of qualifying at US Open and made 2r at $60k ITF/Landisville-USA
- On ITF Circuit, best results were R-Up finishes at $100k Khimki (l. Lapko) and $60k Rome (l. Yastremska)
- Made Fed Cup debut during defeat to Slovakia in February (l. Kuzmova)
- Reached 2r at St. Petersburg in February (l. Wozniacki). Win over Maria in 1r was first at tour level
- Began 2018 campaign with runner-up finish at ITF $15k event at Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt (l.Hatouka)

Career

- Ended 2017 season ranked No.237 in the world
- Has spent the majority of her career navigating the ITF circuit and has most began transitioning her game to the WTA level in 2018
- Participated in first tour-level events last season: Wimbledon, Gstaad and Moscow
- On the ITF circuit, posted one QF appearance at Artvin, two SF outings at Khimki and Trnava 2 and one runner-up finish at Curitiba
- 2016 highlights included back-to-back R16 finishes at ITF $25k events Wesley Chapel and Surprise and one QF appearance at $10k Khimki
- Climbed to No.1 in the junior world rankings following 2016 Wimbledon title

Grand Slam History

- Defeated three-consecutive former Top 100 players (Maria Tig, Buyukakcay and Kulichkova) without dropping a set, to qualify for main draw debut at a Grand Slam at 2017 Wimbledon (l. Maria in 1r)
- At 16 years and three months, became youngest player to successfully navigate Slam qualifying since Ana Konjuh, who had just turned 16 when she did it at 2014 Australian Open

- Captured 2016 Wimbledon girls junior title, having to win final point three separate times after two challenge overrules – title lifted her to Junior World No.1
- Other junior slam results included a SF finish at 2016 Roland Garros and QFs at 2016 Australian Open and 2015 Wimbledon
- In junior doubles, posted two runner-up finishes at 2015 US Open and 2016 Roland Garros

Other Information

- Grandmother, and former Russian national team coach, inspired her to start playing tennis
- Trains at Alexander Ostrovsky Acadamy in Khimki
- Full-time coach is Irina Doronina and her hitting partner's wife is Lina Krasnoroutskaya, who was a former Top 25 player in 2001
- Enjoys playing basketball

MATCH NOTES

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ALIAKSANDRA SASNOVICH (BLR #31) vs. MIHAELA BUZARNESCU (ROU #25)

Head to Head: ALIAKSANDRA SASNOVICH leads 1-0

2018	BEIJING	HARD O	R1	ALIAKSANDRA SASNOVICH	6-3	6-1	67 mins

ALIAKSANDRA SASNOVICH		MIHAELA BUZARNESCU
31	WTA RANKING	25
30	PORSCHE RACE TO SINGAPORE LEADERBOARD	24
22-03-1994 (24)	DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)	04-05-1988 (30)
$982,810	YTD PRIZE MONEY	$1,066,768
$2,019,980	CAREER PRIZE MONEY	$1,443,585
0 / 0	SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)	1 / 1
0 / 0	DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)	1 / 1
2-3	MOSCOW W-L (MD) *	0-0
24-21 / 58-57	YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *	36-21 / 39-24
8-9 / 25-20	YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *	12-8 / 14-8
12-5 / 17-10	YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *	9-5 / 12-8
16-13 / 43-36	YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *	13-9 / 16-12
4-1 / 5-2	YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *	2-2 / 2-2
0-1 / 0-2	YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD & Q) *	2-2 / 2-3
1-5 / 2-7	YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD & Q) *	3-6 / 3-7
5-8 / 8-17	YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD & Q) *	5-9 / 5-10

* Updated entering 2018 Moscow 1r

MOSCOW Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

ALIAKSANDRA SASNOVICH

2017					
QF	L - DARIA KASATKINA (RUS #28)	6-4	6-3		
2016					
R1-Q	L - CAMILA GIORGI (ITA #86)	4-6	6-0	6-3	
2015					
R1	L - ANNA KAROLINA SCHMIEDLOVA (SVK #26)	6-4	6-3		
2014					
R1	L - KATERYNA KOZLOVA (UKR #162)	6-3	6-2		

Insights from SAP

SASNOVICH:

Moscow

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Kremlin Cup this week, with best result last year's QF run (l. eventual R-Up Kasatkina)
- Entered this week ranked No.31 – career high is No.30 (September 10, 2018)
- In 1r, faces Buzarnescu, whom she beat earlier this month at Wuhan

Season

- During Asian swing, made 2r at Wuhan (l. Puig) and Beijing (l. Ka.Pliskova) and fell 1r at Tokyo (l. Pavlyuchenkova)
- Reached 3r for first time at US Open (l. eventual champion Osaka)
- In US Open lead-up events, posted R16 finish as a qualifier in New Haven (l. Garcia) after a 1r exit at Cincinnati (as qualifier, l. Kuzmova)
- Made SF at Moscow [River Cup] (l. eventual champion Danilovic)
- Reached first Grand Slam R16 at Wimbledon (l. Ostapenko). In 1r, upset No.8 Kvitova to score second career Top 10 win (also No,6 Ka.Pliskova at 2016 Tokyo [PPO])
- Other results on grass were 1r exits at 's-Hertogenbosch (l. Vandeweghe) and Mallorca (l. Lottner)
- Clay season culminated with 2r showing at Roland Garros (l. Bertens)
- Reached 2r at Madrid (l. Kontaveit) and fell in qualifying at Rome (l. Barthel)
- Opened clay swing by reaching 2r at Lugano (l. Flipkens) before 1r exit at Prague (l. Kr.Pliskova)
- Went 1-1 in singles in April's Fed Cup play-offs vs. Slovakia (d. Cepelova, l. Kuzmova)
- Won back-to-back matches at Premier Mandatory level for first time to reach 3r at Indian Wells (l. Wozniacki) before reaching 2r at Miami (l. Pavlyuchenkova)
- Fell 2r at Budapest (l. Martic)
- Lost opening day singles rubber to Lottner during Belarus's Fed Cup World Group I defeat to Germany in February
- At Australian Open, advanced to 3r of a major for first time (l. Garcia). Afterwards, broke into Top 50 for first time at No.46 (week of January 29, 2018)
- Reached second career WTA final and first at a Premier tournament at Brisbane, as a qualifier – defeated No.11 Mladenovic and No.16 Sevastova en route to final (l. No.6 Svitolina)

Career

- Posted career-best season finish in 2017 at No.87 – the first Top 100 finish of her career. Highlights for the year included SF run at International-level Biel and QF appearance at Premier-level Moscow
- Also in 2017, played all three ties during Belarus' run to its first Fed Cup final – posted 5-1 record, including win over No.13 Stephens in final
- 2016 season was highlighted by QF run at Tokyo [PPO] – won three rounds of qualifying before defeating Wickmayer in 1r and No.6 Ka.Pliskova in 2r; lost to eventual finalist Osaka

- 2015 highlight was reaching first WTA final, at Seoul (as qualifier, l. Begu) – one of four qualifiers to reach a WTA final in 2015 (all finished R-Up)
- Made Top 100 debut on September 8, 2015 (after US Open; rose from No.120 to No.97)
- In 2014 season won 11th and most recent singles title on ITF Circuit. Also owns seven ITF doubles titles
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2013 Brussels; made WTA main draw debut at 2014 US Open
- Played first event of career at 2009 ITF/Minsk 2-BLR

Grand Slam History

- 2018 US Open marked 15th main draw appearance at a Grand Slam
- Best Grand Slam result is R16 run at 2018 Wimbledon (d. No.8 Kvitova in 1r, l. Ostapenko)
- Also posted 3r run at 2018 Australian Open (l. Garcia) and 2018 US Open (l. eventual champion Osaka)
- Made 2r at Roland Garros in 2017 and 2018

Other Information

- Coached by Aliaksandr Leniuchau
- Started playing at age 9; introduced to sport by father
- Practiced Taekwondo for a couple of years when she was younger

BUZARNESCU:

Moscow

- Making Kremlin Cup debut today
- Ranked No.25 entering tournament – by contrast was No.89 this time last year
- Drawn to play Sasnovich in 1r of second straight tournament, having lost to the Belarusian two weeks ago at Beijing – her first singles match since returning from right ankle injury
- No.1 seed in doubles draw w/Begu – face Bogdan/Krunic in 1r

Season

- Suffered 1r exit on return from injury at Beijing (l. Sasnovich)
- Retired w/right ankle injury during 2r at Montréal, forcing her to miss remainder of summer hard court season
- Won maiden WTA title at San Jose (d. Sakkari in F). Now owns 1-2 record in singles finals
- Scored fifth career Top 20 wins over Mertens en route to San Jose title, having previously upset No.6 Ostapenko (2018 Doha), No.4 Svitolina (2018 Roland Garros), No.5 Svitolina (2018 Birmingham) and No.20 Bertens (2018 Eastbourne)
- Posted SF showing at home tournament in Bucharest (l. eventual R-Up Martic)

SAP

- Made Wimbledon main draw debut in July, reaching 3r (l. Ka.Pliskova). Was second time reaching 3r at a Grand Slam, having progressed to R16 at Roland Garros this year. 2018 Wimbledon was just the fourth grass court event of her career at tour-level
- Reached R16 at Eastbourne (l. Ostapenko); win over No.20 Bertens in 2r marked fourth career win over a Top 20 player
- Made SF run at Birmingham (l. eventual champion Kvitova) – her first QF and SF at WTA Premier-level
- Advanced to QF at Nottingham (l. Osaka) in what was her first-ever WTA-level tournament on grass
- Reached third and fourth WTA doubles finals of the season (and career) at Nottingham (w/Watson, l. Rosolska/Spears in F) and Eastbourne (w/Begu, l. Dabrowski/Xu in F). Now has 1-3 record in doubles finals
- Enjoyed run to R16 at Roland Garros, her best result at a major (l. Keys). Produced one of biggest upsets at this year's Roland Garros by defeating World No.4 Svitolina in straight sets in 3r
- Finished with an 11-7 record on clay in 2018, highlighted by R-Up finish at Prague (l. Kvitova) and SF at Strasbourg (l. eventual R-Up Cibulkova)
- Won first career doubles title at Strasbourg (w/Olaru, d. N.Kichenok/An.Rodionova in F)
- Suffered 1r defeats at both Madrid (l. Sharapova) and Rome (l. Zhang)
- Reached second WTA singles final of career at Prague (l. Kvitova in 3s); rose to then-career-high ranking of No.32 following the tournament (May 7, 2018). Also doubles R-Up in Czech capital (w/Marozava, l. Melichar/Peschke)
- Part of Romania team that beat Switzerland 3-1 reach World Group for the second time in four years (l. dead doubles rubber w/Cirstea against Golubic/Teichmann)
- Other clay court results included 2r run in Charleston (l. Errani) and 1r exit at Lugano (l. Sabalenka)
- Fell 1r back-to-back at Indian Wells (l. Brady) and Miami (l. Flipkens) after a 2r showing at Budapest (l. eventual champion Van Uytvanck)
- Reached R16 at Doha (l. Goerges). Scored career first Top 10 win over No.6 Ostapenko in 2r
- Advanced to SF at $100k ITF/Midland, MI-USA (l. Brengle) after 1r exit at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Wozniacki)
- Reached first career WTA singles final at Hobart (l. Mertens in 3s), having not dropped a set en route to the final
- Opened 2018 season at Shenzhen, falling 1r to Sharapova

Career

- Enjoyed breakthrough year in 2017, achieving first Top 100 season of career at No.72. Previous best year-end finish was in 2011 (No.155)
- Reached first tour-level SF of career at 2017 Linz (having come through qualifying), defeating No.35 Kontaveit en route (l. eventual champion Strycova)
- Broke into Top 100 after Linz run (October 16, 2017); at 29 was the oldest Top 100 debutante since 33-year-old Obziler on February 19, 2007 at No.96

- Made Grand Slam and WTA main draw debut at 2017 US Open as a qualifier (l. Wozniacki in 1r). Prior to US Open breakthrough had made 16 unsuccessful attempts to qualify for tour-level tournaments, including eight Grand Slams, dating back to 2007 Fès
- Only other main draw appearance in 2017 resulted in 1r exit at Luxembourg
- Ascent up the rankings helped by strong showings on ITF Circuit in 2017, picking up seven titles, including $100k ITF/Poitiers-FRA and $80k ITF/Biarritz-FRA
- Posted a 9-11 win-loss record in 2016, with best result a QF run at $50k ITF/Hodmezovasarhely-HUN. Finished year ranked No.351 (down from No.260 in 2015)
- In 2015, won 48 matches, four ITF Circuit titles and rose over 600 places in the rankings, finishing at No.260
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2007 Fès
- Has won 22 singles and 34 doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Made professional debut at 2004 $10k ITF/Bucharest-ROU (l. Savu in 1r)

Grand Slam History

- 2018 Wimbledon marked fourth main draw appearance at a Grand Slam
- Has been seeded twice at a Grand Slam in her career – was No.31 seed at 2018 Roland Garros, and No.29 seed at 2018 Wimbledon
- Advanced to R16 at 2018 Roland Garros (l. Keys) for her best result at a major to date; also made 3r at 2018 Wimbledon (l. Ka.Pliskova)
- Fell 1r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2017 US Open (as qualifier, l. No.5 seed Wozniacki) and 2018 Australian Open (l. No.2 seed and eventual champion Wozniacki)
- Reached QF stage in doubles at 2018 Roland Garros (w/Bara, l. H.Chan/Z.Yang)
- Before making main draw debut, had fallen eight times in Grand Slam qualifying previously, at Australian Open (2012, 2017) Roland Garros (2012), Wimbledon (2012, 2017) and US Open (2011, 2012, 2015)

Other Information

- Coached by Fratila Septimiu and father, Mihai, a former Romanian intercollegiate tennis player; mother is Marcela (pharmacist). Introduced to tennis at age 4 by parents
- Has been part of the Romanian national tennis federation since age 12
- Dream doubles partners are childhood idol Pete Sampras and all-time favorite player Serena Williams
- Friends on tour include regular doubles partner Heather Watson, other Romanians and Caroline Wozniacki
- Favorite foods are pizza and carbonara pasta
- Gained PhD in sports science from UNEFS in Bucharest