

WTA Website: [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/wtaWTA Communications: Alex Prior ([aprior@wtatennis.com](mailto:aprior@wtatennis.com))

## ABU DHABI WTA WOMEN'S TENNIS OPEN – DAY FIVE

### [4] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #10) vs. [15] ONS JABEUR (TUN #31)

*Jabeur leads 1-0*

**Jabeur** won when they met at Roland Garros last year... **Sabalenka** on a career-best 11-match winning streak... **Jabeur** came from a set down to beat Bondarenko in last round

### DARIA KASATKINA (RUS #72) vs. [6] ELENA RYBAKINA (KAZ #19)

*Kasatkina leads 1-0*

**Kasatkina** won when they met at Ostrava in late 2020... **Rybakina** opened 2020 by making final at four of first five events... **Kasatkina** bidding to appear in just second QF since start of last season

### [9] MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #22) vs. [5] GARBIÑE MUGURUZA (ESP #15)

*First meeting*

Both players are yet to drop a set this week... **Muguruza** opened 2020 campaign by posting 11-2 record in January... **Sakkari** notched up four Top 20 wins last season

### [1] SOFIA KENIN (USA #4) vs. [13] YULIA PUTINTSEVA (KAZ #28)

*First meeting*

**Putintseva** has posted back-to-back tour-level wins in a season-opening tournament for the first time... **Kenin** is the last US player left in the draw... **Putintseva** is bidding for fifth career Top 5 win

### [17] EKATERINA ALEXANDROVA (RUS #33) vs. [2] ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #5)

*Svitolina leads 1-0*

**Svitolina** won when they met at 2020 Roland Garros... **Alexandrova** came through in three tough sets on Saturday... **Svitolina** has excellent record in Middle East, having won Dubai twice

**[4] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #10) VS. [15] ONS JABEUR (TUN #31)**

Head-to-head: JABEUR leads 1-0

2020 ROLAND GARROS CLAY O R32 ONS JABEUR 7-6(7) 2-6 6-3 121 mins

SABALENKA		JABEUR	
Career Prize Money	\$6,804,310	Career Prize Money	\$2,565,796
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	May 5, 1998 (22)	Date of Birth (Age)	Aug. 28, 1994 (26)
Singles Titles	8	Singles Titles	0
Tournament W-L (MD)	2-0	Tournament W-L (MD)	2-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	2-0 / 128-62	YTD / Career W-L	2-0 / 62-72
3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 44-23	3-Set (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 20-30
Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 28-26	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 18-24
Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 103-40	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 46-54
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 12-13	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 4-8
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 25-18	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 10-16
Coach	Anton Dubrov	Coach	Issam Jellali/Karim Kammoun

**SABALENKA:**

- In the 1r on Thursday, defeated Hercog. Now owns a 2-1 record over the Slovene, having also defeated her en route to her second career final at 2018 Lugano
- Edged No.68 Tomljanovic in a tight 2r match 7-5 6-4, trailing by a break third times in the second set
- Faces No.31 Jabeur for a spot in QF, seeking revenge for the tough loss at last year's Roland Garros, which is also her last defeat in singles—since then has posted a perfect record, riding a career-best 11-match winning streak into today's 3r clash
- Has enjoyed success in the first week of the season before, having captured the title in Shenzhen in 2019. However, failed to defend this title in 2020, falling 2r – as No.2 seed – at Shenzhen
- In her last event in the Middle East, winning the third Premier 5 title of career at Doha last year (d. Kvitova in F)
- Beginning a season inside the Top 10 for the first time, having finished 2020 at No.10 courtesy of a nine-match win streak and back-to-back titles – at Ostrava (d. Azarenka in F) and Linz (d. Mertens in F)
- After also taking home the silverware at Doha (d. Kvitova in F), was one of two players (also Halep) to lift three singles titles during disrupted 2020 season
- At Ostrava completed the sweep of titles by teaming up with Mertens to win the doubles
- Ended as World No.11 for the second straight year in 2019 after capturing three WTA singles titles at Shenzhen (d. Riske in F), Wuhan (d. Riske in F) and Zhuhai (d. Bertens in F)
- Having also won Wuhan in 2018 (d. Kontaveit in F), became first player to successfully defend Wuhan title
- Made Top 10 debut on January 28, 2019 following 3r run at 2019 Australian Open
- Ended 2019 at No.2 in WTA doubles rankings after capturing first Grand Slam doubles trophy at US Open (w/Mertens, d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Earlier in the season, the pair claimed the 'Sunshine Double' by winning back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejckikova/Siniakova in F) and Miami (d. Stosur/ Zhang in F)
- Qualified for WTA Finals Shenzhen in doubles (w/Mertens), going 1-2 in the round robin stage
- Enjoyed breakthrough season in 2018, lifting two titles, at New Haven (d. Suárez Navarro in F) and Wuhan (d. Kontaveit in F), winning 46 matches and finishing at No.11 in the rankings

- Also in 2018, was R-Up at Lugano (I. Mertens) and Eastbourne (I. Wozniacki), made SF at Cincinnati, reached five QFs and produced a career-best Grand Slam run to R16 at US Open
- Entered Top 50 on April 16, 2018 (after Lugano) and Top 20 on August 27 of same year (after New Haven)
- Broke into Top 100 at No.76 on October 16, 2017 after reaching first tour-level final at Tianjin (I. Sharapova). Also in 2017 made SF run at Tashkent (I. Babos) and lifting WTA 125k Series title at Mumbai (d. Jakupovic)
- Made Grand Slam main draw debut 2017 Wimbledon, falling in 2r (as qualifier, d. Khromacheva, I. Witthoeft)
- Fell 1r on main draw debut at 2017 Dubai (as qualifier, I. Ka.Bondarenko)
- Member of Belarus Fed Cup team that lost to USA in 2017 final – scored first Top 20 win of career with defeat of No.13 Stephens during 2017 Fed Cup final in Minsk
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2016 Rabat
- Made debut on ITF Circuit in Minsk in 2012. Lifted first three ITF Circuit titles in 2015, including a 13-match win streak towards the year's end, bringing back-to-back trophies in Antalya, Turkey

### **JABEUR:**

- Enters the Abu Dhabi WTA Women's Tennis Open on a career-high ranking of No.31
- In opening round, defeated No.38 Pavlyuchenkova saving two set points in first set
- Came back from a set down to defeat qualifier No.285 Bondarenko in 2r, firing 11 aces to avoid an upset
- First time won back-to-back main draw matches at the season's opener on tour level; previously, best result was reaching 2r at Shenzhen in 2017 and 2019
- Faces No.10 Sabalenka in 3r, having defeated the Belarusian in the same round at Roland Garros last year to become the first Arab woman to reach the second week on the *terre battue*
- Owns four Top 10 victories, over No.7 Cibulkova (2017 Roland Garros), No.1 Halep (2018 Beijing), No.8 Stephens (2018 Moscow) and No.3 Ka.Pliskova (2020 Doha)
- Made QFs in 2020 at Doha (I. Kvitova), Lexington (I. Gauff), Western & Southern Open (I. eventual champion Azarenka) and Ostrava (I. Sakkari); posted career-high ranking of No.31 on August 31, 2020
- Reached maiden Slam QF at 2020 Australian Open to become the first Arab woman to reach that stage at a major (I. eventual champion Kenin); made Top 50 debut at No.45 after breakthrough performance in Melbourne
- Season highlights in 2019 were matching best result at the Slams with 3r run at US Open (matching 2017 Roland Garros and now 2020 Australian Open) and SF appearances at Eastbourne (I. eventual R-Up Kerber) and Tianjin (I. eventual champion Peterson)
- In 2018, defeated No.3 seed Stephens, No.8 seed Kontaveit and No.5 seed Sevastova en route to her first WTA final at 2018 Moscow, where she fell in three sets to No.6 seed Kasatkina. Was first Tunisian woman to advance beyond QF at a WTA tournament (Sfar was the only other Tunisian to reach a QF at this level)
- Prior to 2018 Moscow, best tour-level results were QF runs at 2013 Baku, 2017 Taipei City and 2018 Bucharest
- Member of Tunisian Olympic Team in 2012 and 2016
- Contested first two WTA main draws in 2012, at Doha (as WC) and Olympics
- On ITF Circuit, has 11 singles and one doubles title
- Played first event of career at 2008 ITF/EI Menzah-TUN
- Became first North African woman to win a junior Slam at 2011 Roland Garros (d. Puig in F), having also reached the final in 2010 (I. Svitolina in F)

**DARIA KASATKINA (RUS #72) VS. [6] ELENA RYBAKINA (KAZ #19)**

Head-to-head: DARIA KASATKINA leads 1-0

2020 OSTRAVA HARD I R1 DARIA KASATKINA 6-2 3-6 6-3 114 mins

KASATKINA		RYBAKINA	
Career Prize Money	\$6,389,451	Career Prize Money	\$1,466,978
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	May 7, 1997 (23)	Date of Birth (Age)	Jun. 17, 1999 (21)
Singles Titles	2	Singles Titles	2
Tournament W-L (MD)	1-0	Tournament W-L (MD)	2-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	1-0 / 135-106	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	2-0 / 57-23
3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 48-36	3-Set (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 17-9
Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-0	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 16-10
Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 87-72	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 38-15
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 12-22	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 4-4
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 24-41	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 6-6
Coach	Carlos Martínez	Coach	Stefano Vukov

**KASATKINA:**

- Recovered from 2-0 down in the final set to upset No.34 Wang Qiang in 1r; held a 1-10 mark vs. Top 50 opponents last year, with sole win coming against today's opponent No.19 Rybakina at Ostrava
- Advanced to 3r when Muchova withdrew
- One of six Russian players in the main draw this week, along with Alexandrova, Kudermetova, Pavlyuchenkova, Potapova and Zvonareva
- Highlight of truncated 2020 season was SF showing at Lyon (I. Friedsam) – her first run to the last four at a WTA event since lifting title at 2018 Moscow [Kremlin Cup]
- Won consecutive matches only twice in difficult 2019 campaign, with best result a QF run at Premier Mandatory China Open (I. Wozniacki)
- Ended 2018 season by lifting her second WTA singles title at Moscow [Kremlin Cup]. Recovered from a set and 6-2 4-1 down to defeat Jabeur in final; broke into Top 10 following the tournament, on October 22, 2018
- Knocked out No.2 seed Wozniacki en route to her first Grand Slam QF, at 2018 Roland Garros
- Reached biggest final of career at 2018 Indian Wells (I. Osaka), having upset No.2 Wozniacki, No.10 Kerber and No.8 V. Williams along the way
- Made Top 20 debut on February 26, 2018, following R-Up finish at Dubai (d. No.3 Muguruza, I. Svitolina)
- Upset No.1 Wozniacki during SF run at 2018 St. Petersburg; having also beaten Kerber at 2017 Sydney, is one of six players in WTA history to have multiple wins over World No.1s before their 21st birthday, also V. Williams (9), S. Williams (8), Sharapova (4) Kenin (2) and Kuznetsova (2)
- Captured maiden WTA singles title in debut final at 2017 Charleston, defeating fellow teenager Ostapenko in F – the first all-teenage final on tour since 2009 Linz (Wickmayer d. Kvitova)
- Ended 2016 as the highest-ranked teenager on tour, at No.27, after a campaign in which she reached a second career WTA SF, at St. Petersburg and made QF stage at Indian Wells, Charleston, Montréal, Rio Olympics and Moscow
- Made Top 50 debut on February 15, 2016, following St. Petersburg run

- Upset No.7 V.Williams in opening match of 2016 season at Auckland to register the first Top 10 win of her career
- Made Billie Jean King Cup debut in World Group quarter-final defeat to Netherlands in 2016. Has also represented Russia in the competition in 2017 and 2019 and at 2016 Olympics
- Reached first WTA SF at 2015 Moscow (as qualifier, l. Pavlyuchenkova, having recorded first Top 20 win over No.14 Suárez Navarro in QF); following the tournament made Top 100 debut at No.73 (October 26, 2015)
- Reached 3r at 2015 US Open (as LL, l. Mladenovic) on Grand Slam debut (main draw and qualifying). Earlier in summer of 2015, won back-to-back matches for first time at a WTA tournament during QF run at Bad Gastein (as qualifier, l. Errani)
- Also in 2015, won maiden WTA doubles title at 2015 Moscow (w/Vesnina), lifted five singles titles on ITF Circuit and was nominated for WTA Newcomer of the Year in 2015
- Fell 1r on WTA main draw debut at 2014 Moscow (as WC, l. Riske)
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2013 Moscow

***RYBAKINA:***

- Has won 17 of 18 service games across the opening two rounds, enjoying straight set wins over No.394 Stefanini in 1r and No.123 Wang Xiyu in 2r
- Faces Kasatkina in today's 3r; in her final match of 2020, lost to the Russian at Ostrava – one of two defeats to players outside Top 50 last season (also No.93 Rogers at US Open)
- One of four Kazakhstani players in the draw this week, along with Diyas, Putintseva and Shvedova
- Opened 2020 season by reaching the championship match at four of her first five tournaments, including a title run at Hobart (d. Zhang in F)
- Made first final appearance at a Premier-level tournament with R-Up finish at St. Petersburg (l. Bertens); was rewarded with Top 20 debut at No.19 following run in Russia (February 17, 2020)
- First win over a Top-5 ranked opponent came over No.3 Ka.Pliskova during R-Up finish at 2020 Dubai
- Won back-to-back Slam matches for the first time during 3r showing at 2020 Australian Open (l. Barty)
- Won maiden WTA singles title at 2019 Bucharest (d. Tig in F), breaking into Top 100 for the first time in the following week's rankings at No.65 (July 22, 2019)
- Also in 2019, went on to make Top 50 debut on September 16, 2019, after reaching second career final at Nanchang (l. Peterson), produced SF appearances at Luxembourg and 's-Hertogenbosch, and made Grand Slam main draw debut at 2019 Roland Garros, falling 1r (as qualifier, l. Siniakova)
- Finished 2019 campaign with 57-21 win-loss record (across all levels) to end season at No.37, up from 2018's final ranking of No.191. On the ITF Circuit in 2019, lifted silverware on three occasions: back-to-back at \$25k Moscow-RUS and \$25k Kazan-RUS, and at \$60k ITF/Launceston-AUS
- Highlights of 2018 included reaching maiden WTA QF at St. Petersburg (l. Goerges) and clinching title at \$15k ITF/Kazan-RUS
- First Top 10 win came over No.7 Garcia at 2018 St. Petersburg
- Made WTA qualifying and main draw debut at 2017 Moscow (as qualifier, l. Begu in 1r)
- Professional debut came at \$10k ITF/Antalya-TUR in 2014

**[9] MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #22) VS. [5] GARBINE MUGURUZA (ESP #15)**

Head-to-head: First meeting

SAKKARI		MUGURUZA	
Career Prize Money	\$3,540,619	Career Prize Money	\$21,159,801
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	July 25, 1995 (25)	Date of Birth (Age)	Oct. 8, 1993 (27)
Singles Titles	1	Singles Titles	7
Tournament W-L (MD)	2-0	Tournament W-L (MD)	2-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	2-0 / 94-86	YTD / Career W-L	2-0 / 261-144
3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 30-36	3-Set (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 82-62
Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 29-17	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 42-50
Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 57-56	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 176-98
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 9-13	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 35-34
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 16-33	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 61-60
Coach	Tom Hill	Coach	Conchita Martinez

**SAKKARI:**

- Along with lucky losers Grammatikopoulou and Papamichail, was one of three Greek players to start the main draw of Abu Dhabi WTA Women's Tennis Open
- Competing this week at No.22, just two shy of her career high of No.20
- Has broken serve nine times across wins over teenagers Potapova in 1r and Gauff in 2r
- Faces No.15 Muguruza in 3r today; last year posted four Top 20 wins, most recently No.5 Svitolina at Ostrava in October
- Last season, began her campaign with 1r exit at Brisbane (l. Osaka)
- Secured best year-end ranking of No.22 in 2020; broke into Top 20 on February 24 for first time at No.20
- Scored third and fourth Top 5 wins of her career last season, over No.5 Svitolina at Ostrava and No.5 Bencic at St. Petersburg. Previous wins came over No.5 Ka.Pliskova (2018 Rome) and No.5 Kvitova (2019 Rome, via ret.)
- Upset No.10 seed Keys to reach the R16 for the first time at one of the four Slams, at 2020 Australian Open (l. Kvitova) – would later tie result by reaching R16 at US Open (l. S.Williams)
- Qualified for WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai in 2019 for first time in career (fell in RR stage). That season won maiden WTA title at Rabat, recovering from a set and break down to defeat Konta in final
- Highlights of 2018 were reaching her first tour-level final at San Jose (l. Buzarnescu) and scoring maiden Top 5 win over No.5 Ka.Pliskova in 2r at Rome
- Notched first Top 10 victory of career over No.6 Wozniacki en route to first WTA SF of career at 2017 Wuhan Open
- Broke into Top 50 for first time at No.49 on October 9, 2017
- At 2016 Australian Open, by reaching 2r (d. Y.Wang, l. Suárez Navarro) became the first woman from Greece to win a main draw match at a Slam since Daniilidou d. Ka.Pliskova at 2013 Australian Open
- Reached first career WTA QF at 2016 Istanbul (as qualifier, l. Kovinic)
- Fell 1r on WTA main draw debut at 2015 US Open (as qualifier, l. Q.Wang)
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2012 Palermo
- Made debut on ITF Circuit in 2010; owns seven ITF Circuit singles titles and five in doubles



***MUGURUZA:***

- Enters the Abu Dhabi WTA Women's Tennis Open as the No.4 seed
- Opened her season with straight set win over Mladenovic; also defeated the Frenchwoman en route to her seventh, and most recent, career title at 2019 Monterrey
- Broke serve seven times during 2r win over Sasnovich
- Faces No.22 Sakkari in 3r today; bidding to reach seventh QF in her past nine tournaments
- Competing in doubles this week w/Brady. The pair defeated Gauff/Pegula in 1r and Sizikova/Alexandrova in 2r; face Siegemund/Zvonareva in QF
- Last year in the Middle East, made back-to-back QFs at Dubai (l. Brady) and Doha (l. World No.1 Barty)
- Reached fourth Grand Slam singles final of career at 2020 Australian Open (l. Kenin in 3s). Was first Spaniard to reach the final at Melbourne Park since Conchita Martinez in 1998
- In 2019, successfully defended her title in Monterrey for seventh career WTA trophy (d. Azarenka in F)
- Is a two-time Grand-Slam champion winning titles at 2016 Roland Garros (d. S.Williams in F) and 2017 Wimbledon (d. V.Williams in F). Dropped only one set in Roland Garros title run
- Is only player to ever beat both Williams sisters in a Grand Slam final and one of 29 women in the Open Era to win multiple Grand Slam titles. One of just eight players all-time to defeat Serena in a Grand Slam final
- Also finished R-Up at 2015 Wimbledon (l. S.Williams) to make Top 10 debut. Is one of two players to meet both Williams sisters in the final of the same Grand Slam – also Hingis at US Open (1997, d. V.Williams; 1999, l. S.Williams)
- First Spaniard to reach Wimbledon final since Sánchez Vicario in 1996 and first to reach any Slam final since Conchita Martínez at 2000 Roland Garros
- Rose to World No.1 on September 11, 2017 to become the 24th woman in history to hold the top spot and second from Spain (after Sánchez Vicario in 1995). Also named ITF World Champion for 2017
- Reached R16 at Rio Olympics in 2016
- In 2015, became first Spanish player to compete at the WTA Finals in singles since 2001 (Sánchez Vicario) and reached doubles final (w/Suárez Navarro, l. Hingis/Mirza). Overall, has qualified three times for the season-ending championships (2015-17)
- Owns five WTA doubles titles, most recently at 2015 Tokyo [PPO] (w/Suarez Navarro), and reached SF at 2014 Roland Garros (w/Suarez Navarro); rose to No.10 in WTA doubles rankings on February 23, 2015.
- Advanced to R16 on WTA main draw debut at 2012 Miami (l. eventual champion A.Radwanska), defeating No.9 Zvonareva en route for first Top 10 win

**[1] SOFIA KENIN (USA #4) VS. [13] YULIA PUTINTSEVA (KAZ #28)**

Head-to-head: First meeting

KENIN		PUTINTSEVA	
Career Prize Money	\$7,221,702	Career Prize Money	\$4,756,428
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Nov. 14, 1998 (22)	Date of Birth (Age)	Jan. 7, 1995 (26)
Singles Titles	5	Singles Titles	1
Tournament W-L (MD)	2-0	Tournament W-L (MD)	2-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	2-0 / 95-53	YTD / Career W-L	2-0 / 135-146
3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 36-19	3-Set (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 44-44
Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 26-17	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 35-37
Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 73-37	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 83-99
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 8-14	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 8-29
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 16-25	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 20-49
Coach	Alexander Kenin	Coach	Roman Kislianskii

**KENIN:**

- Defeated qualifier Yang Zhaoxuan in her opening match at the Abu Dhabi WTA Women's Tennis Open; has now won her past nine matches on tour against qualifiers
- Trailed 5-7 5-4 in 2r when opponent Flipkens was forced to retire with a left ankle injury—dropped final 12 points to lose the topsy-turvy first set that saw each player broke serve five times
- Faces No.28 Putintseva today for a spot in QF; holds a 1-1 record against Kazakhstani players on tour level (l. Rybakina at 2020 Dubai, d. Diyas at 2019 Cincinnati)
- Making just fourth appearance in the Middle East: reached 3r at 2019 Dubai (l. Kuzmova), while lost the opening match at Dubai (l. Rybakina) and Doha (after 1r bye, l. Yastremska) in 2020
- Also played doubles this week with Tomljanovic; the pair beat Vekic/Sakkari in 1r (came back from 4-6 1-5 down) and No.7 seeds Xu/Yang in 2r, will face Rus/Zidasek in QF
- One of six US players who are direct entries in the main draw, along with Brady, Gauff, Loeb, Pegula and Pera
- Twelve months ago, opened season with 2r exits at Brisbane and Adelaide before going on to lift maiden major title, at Australian Open
- Ended 2020 campaign at career high of No.4 which she first hit on March 9, 2020 and came away with the 2020 WTA Player of the Year Award
- In last tournament of season, finished R-Up at Roland Garros (l. Swiatek) for her first final appearance on clay
- Reached R16 at US Open and was one of only two players (also Kvitova) to reach second week of all three Slams in 2020
- Lifted fifth WTA singles title at Lyon (d. Friedsam in F) becoming the first player in 2020 to win a second title
- Won maiden major at 2020 Australian Open (d. Muguruza in F) to become the youngest champion (21y, 80d) in Melbourne since Sharapova (20y, 283d) in 2008. Defeated No.1 Barty and home favorite in SF for third career win over a reigning World No.1
- Australian Open run helped her break into the Top 10 for the first time at No.7 on February 3, 2020
- Won 2019 WTA Most Improved Player of the Year award after winning three WTA titles at Hobart (d. Schmedlova in F), Mallorca (d. Bencic in F) and Guangzhou (d. Stosur in F)



- Finished 2019 at No.14 as US No.2 (behind No.9 S.Williams) and leader in hard court wins (38-tied w/Barty)
- Registered back-to-back SF runs at Toronto (l. eventual champion Andreescu) and Cincinnati (l. eventual champion Keys), subsequently leading to Top 20 debut at No.20 on August 19, 2019
- During this run, defeated No.1 Barty (Toronto) and No.1 Osaka (Cincinnati) to become first player since October 2001 to defeat World No.1s in consecutive weeks (Davenport); also became youngest American to defeat reigning No.1 in eight years (after McHale)
- Advanced to R16 at 2019 Roland Garros (d. S.Williams, l. eventual champion Barty) – became first American to defeat Serena at the majors since Stephens at 2013 Australian Open QF
- Also won maiden doubles titles in 2019 at Auckland (w/Bouchard) and Beijing (w/Mattek-Sands)
- Broke into the Top 100 on March 19, 2018 and Top 50 on October 8, 2018
- Member of US Billie Jean King Cup team from 2018-20
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2015 US Open as a wildcard (l. Duque-Mariño in 1r)
- Owns four ITF singles titles and two doubles titles
- Played first matches of career on ITF Circuit in 2013, climbing to No.2 in ITF World Junior Rankings
- Represented the USA at the 2014 Youth Olympic Games and competed at the 2016 ITF Junior Masters, both held in China

***PUTINTSEVA:***

- Enters the Abu Dhabi WTA Women's Tennis Open at No.28, just one spot shy of her career-high ranking of No.27; also the first time kicks off a new season ranked inside Top 30
- Opened 2021 campaign with a solid 6-3 6-3 win over No.85 Trevisan in 1r, saving all five break points faced in the match
- Battled past No.65 Krejčíková 6-4 7-5 in 2r, coming back from 0-3 down in the second set
- Faces No.4 Kenin for the first time in her career today; record against Top 5 players stands at 4-16, having defeated No.2 Osaka at 2019 Wimbledon, No.1 Osaka at 2019 Birmingham, No.5 Stephens at 2019 Sydney and No.5 Cibulková at 2017 St.Petersburg
- One of four Kazakhstani players in the draw this week, along with Rybakina, Diyas and Shvedova
- Bidding to reach a tour-level QF in her opening tournament of the season for the first time; previous best result in a season curtain raiser was 2r showing last year at Brisbane (as qualifier, d. No.20 Vekić, l. No.27 Collins)
- Recorded 300th career win (at all levels) with 1r triumph over Flipkens at 2020 Roland Garros
- Standout results of 2020 were QF runs at US Open (l. Brady) – first Kazakh woman to reach last eight in New York – and Rome (l. Halep)
- Owns one win over a reigning World No.1, upsetting Osaka on grass at 2019 Birmingham
- Won first career title at 2019 Nürnberg (d. Zidānek in F); afterwards rose to No.28 in rankings – one spot off career best No.27 (achieved February 6, 2017)
- Best result of 2018 was QF run at Roland Garros (l. Keys)
- Reached maiden WTA final in 2017 at St Petersburg (l. Mladenović) after notching two Top 10 wins over No.8 Kuznetsova and No.5 Cibulková – first over a Top 5 player – (l. Mladenović in F); first woman from Kazakhstan to reach a WTA final since Shvedova at 2015 Bogotá (l. Pereira)
- Rose to new career-high ranking of No.27 on February 6, 2017 following St Petersburg

**MATCH NOTES: ABU DHABI WTA WOMEN'S TENNIS OPEN**

ABU DHABI, UAE | JANUARY 6-13, 2021 | USD \$565,530 WTA 500

- In 2016 became first Kazakh to reach the quarterfinals at Roland Garros – or at any major – since Shvedova in 2012, eventually losing to S.Williams in 3s
- Defeated No.14 V.Williams en route to first Premier-level quarterfinal of career at 2016 Charleston
- First Top 10 win came over No.10 Petkovic at 2015 Nürnberg (via ret.)
- Progressed to maiden WTA SF at 2015 Bastad (l. eventual champion Larsson)
- In 2014, reached first two WTA QFs, first on clay at Bastad (as qualifier, l. Cepelova) and then on hard at Osaka (l. eventual champion Stosur). Between these two results, scored first Top 20 win – over No.14 Pennetta – during run through qualifying to 2r at Montréal
- Made it through to 2r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2013 Australian Open (d. McHale, l. Suárez Navarro)
- Advanced to 2r on WTA main draw debut at 2012 Copenhagen (as WC, d. Barbat, l. Jankovic)
- On ITF Circuit, winner of six singles titles and six doubles titles
- Kazakhstan Billie Jean King Cup Team, 2014-20

**[17] EKATERINA ALEXANDROVA (RUS #33) VS. [2] ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #5)**

Head-to-head: ELINA SVITOLINA leads 1-0

2020 ROLAND GARROS CLAY O R3 ELINA SVITOLINA 6-5 7-5 102 mins

ALEXANDROVA		SVITOLINA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$2,352,603	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$19,860,259
<b>Plays</b>	Right-Handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Nov. 15, 1994 (26)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Sep. 12, 1994 (26)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	1	<b>Singles Titles</b>	15
<b>Tournament W-L (MD)</b>	2-0	<b>Tournament W-L (MD)</b>	2-0
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	2-0 / 70-64	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	2-0 / 286-155
<b>3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 24-25	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 84-50
<b>Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-1 / 14-23	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 61-46
<b>Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-0 / 53-36	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	2-0 / 207-106
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 2-11	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 33-38
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 5-16	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 61-69
<b>Coach</b>	Evgeny Alexandrov	<b>Coach</b>	Andrew Bettles

**ALEXANDROVA:**

- Has posted impressive serving numbers across opening two rounds at Abu Dhabi WTA Women's Tennis Open, winning all 10 games on her own delivery to see off Diyas in 1r, then firing 17 aces in 2h 32m victory over Watson in 2r
- Faces No.5 Svitolina in 3r today – owns two career wins over Top 10 players, No.10 Ostapenko at 2018 Seoul and No.5 Halep at 2019 Beijing and
- One of a tournament-leading six Russians competing in the main draw (also Gasanova, Kasatkina, Kudermetova, Pavlyuchenkova, Potapova and Zvonareva)
- Opened 2020 season by lifting her maiden WTA singles title, at Shenzhen (d. Rybakina in F)
- Won both singles rubbers on Billie Jean King Cup debut in 3-2 win over Romania in February 2020
- In terms of ranking, best career win came over No.5 Halep at 2019 Beijing
- Made Top 50 debut on June 17, 2019 after QF run at 's-Hertogenbosch
- Registered 30 Tour-level match wins during 2019, in which she reached SF at Budapest, Seoul and Linz and made QF at St. Petersburg, 's-Hertogenbosch, Eastbourne and Moscow. Also advanced to 3r at a major for the first time, at Roland Garros
- Won sole WTA doubles title at 2019 Budapest (w/Zvonareva)
- Came through qualifying to make maiden WTA final appearance at 2018 Linz (l. Giorgi)
- Advanced to first WTA QF at 2018 Seoul, scoring maiden Top 10 win of her career en route, over No.10 Ostapenko
- Made Top 100 debut at No.93 on March 20, 2017 after winning title at \$60K ITF/Shenzhen-CHN
- At 2016 Wimbledon, ranked No.223, won her way through qualifying on her maiden Slam appearance, going on to reach 2r (upset No.23 seed Ivanovic in 1r)
- Won WTA 125K Series title at Limoges in 2016, 2018-19
- Reached 2r on WTA main draw debut at 2016 Katowice (as qualifier, l. eventual R-Up Giorgi)
- Contested qualifying for the first time at a WTA-level tournament at 2014 Bad Gastein
- Played first professional events of career on ITF Circuit in Europe in 2011

**SVITOLINA:**

- Enters Abu Dhabi as the No.2 seed and joins No.4 Kenin as one of two Top 5 ranked players in the field
- Has won 16 of 17 service games across straight-set wins over Pegula in 1r and Zvonareva in 2r
- Faces Alexandrova in 3r today; in their only previous meeting, broke at the end of each set to edge out the Russian in 3r at 2020 Roland Garros
- Owns excellent record in the Middle East, winning Dubai in 2017 and 2018, and making SF at Doha in 2019
- Opened last season with 1r loss at Brisbane to Collins – one of four opening match losses in 2020
- Won her 14th and 15th titles in 2020, firstly at Monterrey (d. Bouzkova in F) and then Strasbourg (d. Rybakina in F)
- Contested her 30th consecutive major at 2020 Australian Open (streak broke by skipping 2020 US Open). Is a two-time semifinalist at Grand Slam level, at 2019 Wimbledon (l. eventual champion Halep) and 2019 US Open (l. S.Williams) . Became the first woman from Ukraine to reach a major SF; on the men's, Medvedev made that stage at Roland Garros in 1993 (SF) and 1999 (R-Up)
- Highlight of 2019 was reaching the title match as defending champion at the Shiseido WTA Finals (l. Barty)
- In 2018, won 13th – and most prestigious – career title at 2018 WTA Finals (d. Stephens in F), after going 3-0 during round robin stage. Ended year ranked No.4. Also won titles at Rome (as defending champion, d. No.1 Halep in F), Dubai (as defending champion, d. Kasatkina in F) and Brisbane (d. Sasnovich in F)
- Enjoyed stand-out 2017, finishing year at No.6, winning a tour-leading five titles and posting second-most wins (53, behind Wozniacki with 60) Season culminated by qualifying for WTA Finals in Singapore, becoming first Ukrainian woman to qualify for the season-ending tournament in singles (fell at round robin stage with 1-2 record)
- In 2017, became first player to win three Premier 5 titles in a single season (Dubai, Rome, Toronto), since such tournaments were introduced in 2009
- One of five players to make Top 10 debut in 2017, after winning Dubai in February (also Ostapenko, Garcia, Mladenovic and Vandeweghe). Peaked in rankings at No.3 on September 11, 2017
- On four occasions could have reached World No.1 – at 2017 US Open, then needed to win 2017 Beijing (fell QF), then needed to triumph at 2017 WTA Finals (fell in group stage), or reach final at 2018 Australian Open (fell in QF)
- End to 2016 season also saw her reach first SF at Premier Mandatory level at Beijing (l. A.Radwanska) Qualified for 2016 WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai for the second time (l. Kvitova in F)
- Reached three finals in 2016, winning Kuala Lumpur (d. Bouchard in F) and R-Up at New Haven (l. A.Radwanska) and Zhuhai (l. Kvitova)
- Other 2016 season highlight was QF at Rio Olympics
- Owns two career doubles titles: 2014 Istanbul (w/Doi) and 2015 Istanbul (w/Gavrilova)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2012 Baku (lost in 1r but went on to win title there in both 2013 and 2014)
- Ukrainian Fed Cup Team, 2012-15, 2017, 2020
- Played first ITF Circuit events of career in 2008
- Junior highlights include winning 2010 Roland Garros girls' title at age 15 (d. Jabeur in F)

# Dhabi WTA Women's Tennis Open - Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

## Head-to-Heads

### Round of 16

#### KENIN, SOFIA vs PUTINTSEVA, YULIA

There are no head to heads

#### SAKKARI, MARIA vs MUGURUZA, GARBINĒ

There are no head to heads

#### KOSTYUK, MARTA vs ZIDANSEK, TAMARA

There are no head to heads

#### SORRIBES TORMO, SARA vs GASANOVA, ANASTASIA

There are no head to heads

#### ALEXANDROVA, EKATERINA vs SVITOLINA, ELINA

Year	Tournament Name	Surface	I-O	Round	Winner
2020	ROLAND GARROS	CLAY	O	R32	SVITOLINA, ELINA

#### SVITOLINA, ELINA 1 - 0

rank _ seed	rank _ seed	Scores
5 3	31 27	6-4 7-5

#### SABALENKA, ARYNA vs JABEUR, ONS

Year	Tournament Name	Surface	I-O	Round	Winner
2020	ROLAND GARROS	CLAY	O	R32	JABEUR, ONS

#### JABEUR, ONS 1 - 0

rank _ seed	rank _ seed	Scores
35 30	12 8	7-6(7) 2-6 6-3

#### BADOSA, PAULA vs KUDERMETOVA, VERONIKA

Year	Tournament Name	Surface	I-O	Round	Winner
2019	INDIAN WELLS	HARD	O Q	R64	KUDERMETOVA, VERONIKA

#### KUDERMETOVA, VERONIKA 1 - 0

rank _ seed	rank _ seed	Scores
100 13	129 *	6-3 6-2

#### KASATKINA, DARIA vs RYBAKINA, ELENA

Year	Tournament Name	Surface	I-O	Round	Winner
2020	Ostrava	HARD	I	R32	KASATKINA, DARIA

#### KASATKINA, DARIA 1 - 0

rank _ seed	rank _ seed	Scores
75 *	19 6	6-2 3-6 6-3