YARRA VALLEY CLASSIC – FINAL

[1] ASHLEIGH BARTY (AUS #1) vs. [6] GARBIÑE MUGURUZA (ESP #15)

**Barty leads 2-1**

Muguruza looking for fifth career win over a reigning World No.1... Barty looking to win second title on home-soil... Muguruza has dropped only 10 games through four matches this week... Barty won their most recent meeting at 2020 Doha... All three meetings between the two have gone to a deciding third set

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### FINAL RECORDS

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Head-to-head: BARTY leads 2-1

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**BARTY:**

- Playing in her first tournament since 2020 Doha where she reached SF (l. eventual R-Up Kvitova)
- Sole Australian remaining out of six who started the main draw (Gavrilova lost to S.Williams in 2r yesterday while Stosur, Inglis, Cabrera, Birrell all fell in 1r action)
- Following a 1r bye, fired 22 winners to dispatch No.93 Bogdan 6-3, 6-3 before going on to defeat No.52 Bouzkova after being pushed to a deciding set in 3r 6-0, 4-6, 6-3
- Defeated No.60 Rogers in QF action again going the distance and being forced into a third set match tie break: 7-5, 2-6, 10-4
- Booked spot in final after S.Williams pulled out of their scheduled semifinal match
- Faces No.15 Muguruza today in first Top 20 match of the year
- Has amassed impressive 23-10 record against players in that eschelon in the past two years including a 4-2 record in shortened season last year: defeated No.16 Vondrousova at Adelaide, No.16 Muguruza at Doha and No.19 Riske and No. 8 Kvitova at Australian Open
- Owns 8-5 record in career WTA finals most recently winning at 2020 Adelaide (d. Yastremska in F) – has not lost a final match since 2019 Beijing (l. Osaka)
- Contesting 13th career tournament as the No.1 seed: as the top seed has come away as the champion three times (2018 Nottingham, 2019 WTA Finals, 2020 Adelaide)
- Also this week was seeded eighth in doubles with Brady who is playing SF match of Grampians Trophy today – saw first competition of any kind in 11 months when the pair won their first round match over Fichman/Olmos. Fell to No.2 seeds Melichar/Schuurs in 3r
- Finished year-end No.1 for second year in a row in 2020, despite missing all tournaments held after the resumption of play in the summer
• Went 12-3 to start 2020 season, results highlighted by first title on home soil, and eighth overall at Adelaide (d. Yastremska in F). Followed up with SF runs at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Kenin) and Doha (l. Kvitova)

• Stellar season in 2019 brought four singles titles – including maiden major at Roland Garros (d. Vondrousova in F) and WTA Finals in Shenzhen (d. Svitolina in F); registered Tour-leading 57 match wins, with 11-6 record against Top 10 opponents

• Broke into Top 10 after defeating Ka.Pliskova in F at 2019 Miami (week of April 1) and became first Australian woman in 43 years to secure No.1 singles ranking after title run at Birmingham, where she defeated Goerges in F (June 24, 2019)

• Other highlights in 2019 included R-Up finishes at Sydney (scored first win over a reigning No.1, Halep, en route; l. Kvitova) and Beijing (l. Osaka) and reached SF at Cincinnati and Wuhan. In doubles, won Rome titles and was R-Up at US Open (both w/Azarenka)

• In 2019, spearheaded Australia to its first Billie Jean King Cup final since 1993, against France in Perth; went 1-1 in singles (d. Garcia, l. Mladenovic) and dropped decisive doubles (w/Stosur) as the French prevailed 3-2

• In 2018, won two singles titles and four doubles titles, finishing the season ranked No.15 in singles and No.7 in doubles; was one of only two players to finish the year in the Top 20 in both disciplines (along with Mertens)

• Captured first Grand Slam doubles trophy at 2018 US Open (w/Vandeweghe, d. No.1 seeds Krejcikova/Siniakova in SF and No.2 seeds Mladenovic/Babos in F)

• Clinched career first WTA singles title at 2017 Kuala Lumpur (as qualifier, d. Hibino in F). Made Top 20 debut and became Australia’s No.1 on October 23, 2017

• Qualified for WTA Finals in doubles in 2017 (w/Dellacqua) and 2018 (w/Vandeweghe)

• After 2014 US Open, took a break from tennis that lasted almost two years. Returned to professional tennis in 2016, having enjoyed a successful stint as an allrounder for the Brisbane Heat cricket team in the 2015-16 Women’s Big Bash League

• During doubles partnership alongside compatriot Dellacqua, reached three Grand Slam doubles finals in 2013 (Australian Open, Wimbledon, US Open) and was also R-Up at Roland Garros in 2017

• Made WTA main draw debut as WC at 2012 Hobart

• Won 2011 Wimbledon girls’ singles title; finished season as world No.2 ranked junior behind Khromacheva

• Played first ITF Circuit event in hometown of Ipswich, Queensland in April 2010

MUGURUZA:

• Enters the Yarra Valley Classic this week as the No.6 seed

• Following a 1r bye, has lost only a total of nine games through three matches

• Defeated No.65 Van Uytvanck in 2r without facing a break point and converting five of her seven break point opportunities in a 6-2,6-0 match that lasted under an hour

• Ousted No.11 seed Pavlyuchenkova to book QF in another match lasting just under an hour; gave up only eight points in the first set of the 6-1,6-2 encounter and ten points on her serve for the whole match
MATCH NOTES: YARRA VALLEY CLASSIC
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- Earned revenge over No.4 Kenin yesterday in a rematch of the 2020 Australian Open final which saw Muguruza fall to the American; hit 10 aces in another decisive victory at 6-2, 6-2 – is the only semifinalist yet to drop a set this week
- Earned spot in final two by defeating No.21 Vondrousova yesterday in another match that lasted under an hour where she faced zero break points – by winning 6-1, 6-0 has now dropped only 10 games through four matches
- Faces World No.1 and home-favorite Barty today in her first final appearance since finishing R-Up here in Melbourne last year
- Owns 7-5 record in career WTA final matches – looking for first WTA title since 2019 Monterrey (d. Azarenka in F through ret.) and first WTA 500 (or better) level title since 2017 when she won Wimbledon (d. V. Williams in F) and Cincinnati (d. Halep in F)
- Has faced Barty three times with a 1-2 record and all three meetings going the distance
- Last defeated the Australian at 2017 Toronto (R16) and fell to her at 2020 Doha (QF) and 2017 Birmingham (SF)
- Owns 4-4 career record against reigning World No.1s: has earned wins over No.1 S.Williams twice at 2014 Roland Garros (2r) and 2016 Roland Garros (F), No.1 Kerber at 2017 Wimbledon (R16) and No.1 Ka.Pliskova at 2017 Cincinnati (SF)
- Win yesterday marked the Spaniard’s 265th career WTA main draw victory and 180th on hardcourts
- Won first career WTA title on Australian soil at 2014 Hobart as a qualifier (d. Koukalova in F)
- Opened 2021 season with a R16 showing at Abu Dhabi (d. Mladenovic and Sasnovich, l. Sakkari)
- 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/Suárez Navarro), and reached SF at 2014 Roland Garros (w/Suarez Navarro); rose to No.10 in WTA doubles rankings on February 23, 2015.

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• 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