DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS
DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  |  MARCH 7-13, 2021  |  USD $1,835,490 WTA 1000

Tournament Information:  www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com  |  @DDFTennis  |  facebook.com/ddftennis/
WTA Information:  www.wtatennis.com  |  @WTA  |  facebook.com/WTA
WTA Communications:  Teyva Sammet (tsammet@wtatennis.com)

First meeting
Muguruza is through to her third WTA singles final of 2021 and looks to claim her first title of the season... Krejcikova is through to her second career WTA final and maiden WTA 1000 final... Muguruza is the first Spanish woman to reach the Dubai singles final... While at World No.63, Krejcikova is the lowest-ranked player to advance to the final here in Dubai

A LOOK AT THE FINALISTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAYER</th>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>NAT</th>
<th>DUBAI (MD) W/L*</th>
<th>SEASON (MD) W/L*</th>
<th>CAREER (MD) W/L*</th>
<th>CAREER PRIZE $^</th>
<th>CAREER TITLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbora Krejcikova</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>CZE</td>
<td>5-0</td>
<td>9-3</td>
<td>28-23</td>
<td>3,274,522</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes current tournament / ^ Does not include current tournament

FINAL RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAYER</th>
<th>LAST FINAL REACHED (final result)</th>
<th>CAREER F W/L</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[9] Garbiñe Muguruza</td>
<td>2021 Doha (R-UP)</td>
<td>7-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbora Krejcikova</td>
<td>2017 Nürnberg (R-UP)</td>
<td>0-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**not including walkovers

FINALIST STATS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAYER</th>
<th>ACES</th>
<th>SERVICE POINTS WON</th>
<th>SERVICE GAMES WON</th>
<th>RETURN POINTS WON</th>
<th>RETURN GAMES WON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[9] Garbiñe Muguruza</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>217/347 (63%)</td>
<td>40/52 (77%)</td>
<td>164/343 (48%)</td>
<td>24/51 (47%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbora Krejcikova</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>194/306 (63%)</td>
<td>38/44 (86%)</td>
<td>143/278 (51%)</td>
<td>23/43 (53%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ROAD TO THE FINAL

**Total time on court: 8h 22m**

MUGURUZA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
<th>ROUND</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[Q] Irina-Camelia Begu (ROU #73)</td>
<td>6-3 7-5</td>
<td>First Round</td>
<td>6-2 7-6(4)</td>
<td>[16] Maria Sakkari (GRE #25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda Anisimova (USA #32)</td>
<td>6-4 6-2</td>
<td>Second Round</td>
<td>6-3 6-1</td>
<td>Jelena Ostapenko (LAT #51)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[8] Iga Swiatek (POL #15)</td>
<td>6-0 6-4</td>
<td>Third Round</td>
<td>6-3 6-2</td>
<td>Svetlana Kuznetsova (RUS #41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[3] Aryna Sabalenka (BLR #8)</td>
<td>3-6 6-3 6-2</td>
<td>Quarterfinals</td>
<td>6-0 6-2</td>
<td>Anastasia Potapova (RUS #88)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[10] Elise Mertens (BEL #18)</td>
<td>6-4 7-6(5)</td>
<td>Semifinals</td>
<td>5-7 6-2</td>
<td>Jil Teichmann (SUI #54)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KREJCIKOVA

**Total time on court: 7h 8m**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
<th>ROUND</th>
<th>RESULT</th>
<th>OPPONENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #63) VS. [9] GARBIÑE MUGURUZA (ESP #16)

Head-to-head: First Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KREJCIKOVA</th>
<th>MUGURUZA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Career Prize Money</td>
<td>$3,274,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plays</td>
<td>Right-handed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date of Birth (Age)</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 1995 (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singles Titles</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubai W-L (MD)</td>
<td>4-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-Set (YTD / Career)</td>
<td>3-0 / 12-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</td>
<td>1-2 / 4-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</td>
<td>8-3 / 15-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</td>
<td>0-0 / 0-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</td>
<td>1-0 / 1-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left-Hand W-L (YTD / Career)</td>
<td>1-0 / 1-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coach</td>
<td>Dominik Posednik</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KREJCIKOVA:

- Has reached the title match here at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships in what is her singles main draw debut at the tournament
- Her only previous singles appearance here was in qualifying in 2010
- Is the lowest-ranked finalist here, beating No.58 Razzano in 2009
- This is her second WTA singles final after 2017 Nürnberg (L. Bertens in F)
- This is the fifth occasion in the last nine years a Czech woman has made the final here, after Kvitova (2013 d. Errani), Ka. Pliskova (2015, l. Halep), Strycova (2016, l. Errani), Kvitova (2019 l. Bencic) and now Krejcikova in 2021
- Is the 12th unseeded finalist in the tournament’s history – the past three finals have all featured one unseeded player (Rybakina in 2020, Bencic in 2019 and Kasatkina in 2018)
- The biggest singles title of her career so far came on the ITF Circuit in 2019, at a $80k event in Palm Harbor in Florida
- Prior to this week, best result at WTA 500 level or above came with QF appearance at 2021 Grampians Trophy and R16 at 2020 Roland Garros
- Will post a new career-high ranking by virtue of reaching the final – hitting No.36 with the final appearance and can peak at No.30 with the title. Current high is No.59 (Feb 8, 2021)
- In doubles, finished R-Up here in 2020 (w/Zheng, I. Hsieh/Strycova); was seeded No.2 in doubles this week w/Siniakova (I. Babos/Kudermetova in QF)
- Edged an 81-minute second set to close out straight-sets win over Sakkari in 1r on Sunday, then scored comfortable wins over former Grand Slam champions Ostapenko in 2r and Kuznetsova in 3r
- Including wins over No.25 Sakkari and No.41 Kuznetsova here, owns 4-3 record against Top 50 opponents in 2021
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- In QF, won six of seven return games to beat lowest-ranked player left in the draw, No.88 Potapova in 64 minutes
- Defeated Teichmann in the semifinals in straight sets - is yet to drop a set and has conceded 26 games en route to title match
- The last player to life the title without dropping a set was V.Williams in 2014
- Faces No.16 Muguruza in today’s final, and bidding for second Top 20 win of career – lost her first eight matches again Top 20 players before scoring maiden win over No.19 Rybakina at 2021 Grampians Trophy
- Win against No.16 Muguruza would be best win rankings-wise of career
- Coming off qualifying exit at Doha
- Has enjoyed a successful season in doubles, lifting title at Gippsland Trophy and finishing R-Up at Australian Open (both w/Siniakova). Also defended mixed doubles title at Melbourne Park (w/Ram)
- Rose to career-high No.59 in singles on February 8, 2021, having only made her Top 100 debut on October 12, 2020
- Opened season with 2r showing at Abu Dhabi (l. Putintseva), before advancing to QF at Grampians Trophy (l. Brady) and then 2r at Australian Open (l. Alexandrova)
- Enjoyed breakout year in singles in 2020, posting then career-high ranking of No.65 (November 16) and making R16 at Roland Garros and reaching second WTA SF at Linz
- Also reached two doubles finals last year, finishing R-Up at Dubai (w/Zheng) and winning Shenzhen (w/Siniakova)
- In Mixed Doubles, defended Australian Open title (w/Pavic), having triumphed in Melbourne a year earlier with w/Ram
- In 2019, advanced to QF at Bucharest in addition to winning four ITF Circuit singles titles on clay in North America and Europe, winning 20 of her 21 matches during this stretch
- Also in 2019, posted second Top 20 doubles season highlighted by titles at Toronto and Linz, and R-Up finish at Indian Wells (all w/Siniakova). Won Australian Open mixed doubles title w/Ram
- In 2018, won first two Grand Slam trophies at Roland Garros (d. Hozumi/ Ninomiya in F) and Wimbledon (d. Melichar/Peschke in F) both w/Siniakova, the first pairing to complete the Roland Garros-Wimbledon double since Kim Clijsters and Ai Sugiyama in 2003; also became the first team ever to win the girls’ (2013) and ladies’ doubles title at SW19
- Rose to WTA doubles World No.1 on October 22, 2018
- Highlight of 2017 was R-Up finish in first WTA singles final at Nürnberg (l. Bertens in F). Also made QF as qualifier at Bastad (l. Garcia). Only other tour-level appearances were 1r exits at Bucharest and Québec City
- Contested five WTA main draws in 2016, progressing to 2r at two events: Kuala Lumpur and Prague
- Lifted maiden WTA doubles title at 2015 Québec City (w/Mestach)
- Advanced to first WTA doubles final at 2014 Luxembourg (w/Hradecka, l. Bacsinszky/Barrois)
- Reached 2r on WTA debut as qualifier at 2014 Québec City (l. Hradecka)
- On ITF Circuit, owns 14 singles and 19 doubles titles
- Made professional debut at $10K ITF/Piestany-SVK in 2010

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MUGURUZA:

- Making seventh successive main draw appearance at Dubai, and is through to the final for the first time
- Previous best result here were reaching the SF stage twice, on her debut in 2015 (l. Pliskova) and also 2018 (l. Kasatkina)
- Advanced to QF in 2020 (l. Brady), reached 3r in 2019 (l. Svitolina) and fell 2r 2016 (l. Svitolina) and 2017 (l. Bondarenko via ret. w/left Achilles injury)
- Was R-Up in doubles here w/Suárez Navarro in 2015 (l. Babos/Mladenovic)
- She is the first Spanish woman to reach the Dubai singles final
- Outside of Slam finals, this is her most prestigious WTA final since 2015 Beijing
- Having reached the final at Doha last week, is the first player to reach back-to-back finals at the Qatar Total Open and then here in Dubai since Wozniacki in 2017 (who lost the Doha final to Ka.Pliskova and the Dubai final to Svitolina)
- Will rise three places in the rankings having reached the final to No.13 (regardless of title); will also hit No.2 in the Porsche Race to Shenzhen
- This is her third final of 2021 from just five events contested (also Yarra Valley Classic and Doha). Last reached three finals in a season in 2015 (Wimbledon, Wuhan and Beijing)
- Has lost her last three consecutive finals, falling to Kvitvoa (2021 Doha), Barty (2021 Yarra Valley Classic) and Kenin (2020 Australian Open. Lost three consecutive early on in career, at 2014 Florianopolis (l. Koukalova), 2015 Wimbledon (l. S.Williams) and 2015 Wuha (l. V.Williams via. ret.)
- Last title came at 2019 Monterrey (d. Azarenka in F)
- Five of her seven titles have come on hard courts; 10 of 13 finals have come on hard courts
- During last year’s Middle East swing, made back-to-back QFs at Dubai (l. Brady) and Doha (l. Barty)
- Opened 2021 campaign with straight sets win over No.73 Begu, improving her record in 1r matches at Dubai to 7-0
- Ousted No.32 Anisimova in 2r on Tuesday before striking 13 winners to beat No.15 Swiatek in 3r – didn’t drop a set over these first three rounds
- In QF, upset No.8 Sabalenka for the second tournament in a row, having ended the Belarusian’s title reign last week in Doha. Dropped first set of tournament however rallied to win 3-6 6-3 6-2
- Result took her to 3-3 vs Top 10 ranked players in 2021 (38-38 in career), having also defeated No.4 Kenin (Yarra Valley Classic) and No.8 Sabalenka (Doha). Lost to No.1 Barty (Yarra Valley Classic), No.3 Osaka (Australian Open) and No.10 Kvitova (Doha)
- Has posted a Tour-leading 17 wins in 2021 (17-4 record overall). The average rank of her opponents across these 20 matches this season is 42
- Coming off second R-Up appearance of the season at the Qatar Total Open (l. Kvitova)
- Made R16 showing at Australian Open, falling to the eventual champion Osaka after holding two match points at 5-3 in the final set
- Produced R-Up finish at the Yarra Valley Classic (l. Barty) and opened the season with a 3r 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
• Last year also made SFs at Shenzhen and Rome and three further QFs
• 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
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[8] ALEXA GUARACHI (CHI #24) / DARIJA JURAK (CRO #40) VS.
XU YIFAN (CHN #9) / YANG ZHAOXUAN (CHN #57)

GUARACHI / JURAK

- This is the team’s second tournament together in 2021 after falling 1r last week in Doha (l. Melichar/Schuurs)
- The pair avenged the team they’d fallen to in Doha, also the only seeded team they defeated en route to this week’s final, No.3 seeds Melichar/Schuurs in QF
- Jurak is a previous champion at the Dubai Duty Free Championships, lifting the crown in 2016 w/Chuang (d. Garcia/Mladenovic)
- Jurak also advanced to QFs in Dubai on two occasions, during her debut in 2013 w/Marosi (l. Llagostera Vives/J.Zheng) and in 2019 w/Olaru (l. H.Chan/L.Chan)
- In her only prior run at Dubai last year, Guarachi fell during the opening round with partner Rosolska (l. Krejcikova/Chuang)
- Guarachi owns three doubles titles (3-6 record in doubles finals), finding recent success in Australia where she and Krawczyk lifted silverware at 2021 Adelaide (d. Carter/Stefani in F)
- Jurak holds 6 doubles titles in total (6-10 record in doubles finals), with most recent win coming at 2019 Bronx w/Martinez Sanchez (d. Gasparyan/Niculescu in F)
- Jurak also enjoyed a strong showing in Australia this year, reaching SF at Australian Open w/Stojanovic (l. Krejciokva/Siniakova) to record her career-best showing at a Grand Slam to date
- Guarachi’s best Grand Slam result was a R-Up finish at 2020 Roland Garros w/Krawczyk (l. Babos/Mladenovic in F)
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**XU / YANG**

- This is the team’s fifth tournament together in 2021, and their first final of the season.
- Team currently sit at No.13 on the Porsche Race to Shenzhen. Will improve to No.6 now having made the final.
- This week in Dubai they have defeated two seeds en route to the final – No.4 seeds Shibahara/Aoyama in R16 and No.5 seeds Kudermetova/Babos in SF.
- Yang is a previous champion here in Dubai, lifting the title when it was a WTA 500 level event in 2018 w/ H. Chan (d. Hsieh/Peng).
- Xu’s best results here prior to this week came with three QF appearances, in 2016 (w/Zheng, l. Errani/Suarez Navarro), 2019 (w/ Dabrowski, l. Hradecka/Makarova) and 2020 (w/Melichar, l. Krejcikova/Zheng).
- They have steadily progressed over the opening months of the year – they made their tour level debut together at 2021 Abu Dhabi, where they reached 2r (l. Kenin/Tomljanovic).
- They followed this up by making R16 at the Yarra Valley Classic (l. Kostyuk/Sasnovich), 2r at the Australian Open (l. Kalinskaya/Kuzmova) and the SFs at the Adelaide International (l. Carter/Stefani).
- Previously, teamed up to claim the women’s doubles gold medal at 2018 Asian Games (d. Chan/Chan in F).
- Xu holds nine doubles titles (9-9 record in doubles finals), with the biggest one coming at WTA 1000 level Miami in 2017 (w/Dabrowski). She has enjoyed success in Australia as well, winning 2020 Adelaide (w/Melichar) and 2018 Sydney (w/Dabrowski).
- Yang owns four doubles titles in total (4-5 record), lifting her biggest trophy at WTA 500 level Dubai in 2018 (w/ H. Chan).
- Xu has reached two Grand Slam doubles finals, finishing R-Up at 2019 Wimbledon (w/Dabrowski) and 2020 US Open (w/Melichar); other standout results at the majors are two SF appearances at 2016 Australian Open (w/S. Zheng) and 2018 Wimbledon (w/Dabrowski), and seven QF runs.
- Team of Xu/Dabrowski qualified for the WTA Finals for the third time in 2019, going 1-2 in round robin play at Shenzhen; alongside Dabrowski also qualified for WTA Finals in Singapore in 2017 and 2018 – fell in QF on both occasions.