2021
Women’s Tennis Association
Media Guide

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WWW.WTATENNIS.COM
1970 Women’s professional tennis is revolutionized on September 23 when nine players sign $1 contracts with World Tennis publisher Gladys Heldman to compete at the $7,500 Virginia Slims Invitational in Houston. The Original 9, as they would come to be known, include Billie Jean King, Rosie Casals, Nancy Richey, Judy Dalton, Kerry Melville Reid, Julie Heldman, Peaches Bartkowicz, Kristy Pigeon and Valerie Ziegenfuss. The groundbreaking event shakes up the tennis establishment and is such a success it leads to the formation of the first full-scale independent circuit for women the following year.

1971 The Virginia Slims Series debuts with 19 tournaments, with a total purse of $309,100 on offer in the United States. Billie Jean King becomes the first female athlete to cross the six-figure mark in season earnings.

1973 Billie Jean King founds the Women’s Tennis Association, uniting all of women’s professional tennis in one tour. The WTA was born out of a meeting of more than 60 players in a room at the Gloucester Hotel in London the week before Wimbledon. The US Open, for the first time, offered equal prize money to men and women. Weeks later, King stuns Bobby Riggs in The Battle of the Sexes at the Houston Astrodome.

1974 The WTA signs the first television broadcast contract in the history of the organization, with US network CBS.

1975 The computerized ranking era begins with Chris Evert installed as the WTA’s first official world No.1 on November 3, 1975.

1976 Colgate assumes sponsorship of tour events from April to November for four years, while Evert becomes the first female athlete to pass $1 million in career earnings.

1977 New York’s Madison Square Garden hosts the Virginia Slims Championships for the first time.

1979 Avon, replacing Virginia Slims as winter circuit sponsor, offers a record $100,000 to the winner of the Avon Circuit Championship.

1980 By now more than 250 women are playing professionally in a global tour consisting of 47 events, offering a total $7.2 million in prize money.

1982 Martina Navratilova becomes the first woman to earn over $1 million in a season.

1983 Virginia Slims returns, replacing Avon and Toyota, who replaced Colgate in 1981, to sponsor the first unified Circuit of more than $10 million. King brings an end to her illustrious singles career, but occasionally plays doubles until 1990.

1984 Navratilova receives a $1 million bonus from the ITF for winning Roland Garros and thus holding all four Grand Slam singles crowns at the same time; she also crosses the $2 million mark in season earnings, more than men’s No.1 John McEnroe. The Australian Open joined the US Open in offering the women’s event equal prize money (temporarily did not between 1996-2000).

1986 Navratilova passes $10 million in career earnings.

1988 Steffi Graf becomes the second woman in the Open Era, after Margaret Court, to complete a calendar year Grand Slam – and makes it a ‘Golden Grand Slam’ by winning the Olympic title in Seoul.

1990 The tour’s prize purse increases to $23 million with new sponsor Kraft General Foods, and concludes the season at Madison Square Garden, in New York, with the first-ever $1 million tournament in women’s sports. Navratilova wins a record ninth Wimbledon singles title.

1992 For the second year in a row, the dominating Monica Seles earns more than the top men’s prize money leader, Stefan Edberg.

1995 The WTA Players Association merges with the Women’s Tennis Council to form the WTA Tour, and following Monica Seles’ inspiring return to the sport in the summer, the season concludes with a new title sponsor – software company Corel.

1997 On March 30, Martina Hingis becomes the fastest player ever to win $1 million in a season and a day later became the youngest-ever world No.1, ending Graf’s record reign (for men and women) of 377 total weeks.

1999 After 17 years, Graf retires from the tour with 22 Grand Slam singles titles and a record $21,895,277 in career earnings.

2000 Sanex bodycare products comes on board as the Tour’s title sponsor for three years. After 22 consecutive years, Madison Square Garden hosts its last season-ending WTA Championships.

2001 The Australian Open restores equal prize money, while overall Tour prize money increases to $50 million in 63 events, including the first-ever Middle Eastern Tour events in Doha, Qatar and Dubai, UAE. Munich hosts the season-ending Championships.

2002 The Williams sisters, Venus and Serena, fulfill their father’s prophecy by becoming the No.1 players in the world – first Venus in February, then Serena in July. Serena wins three majors, defeating her older sister in each final. Los Angeles hosts the season-ending Championships for the first time since 1976.

2003 Serena Williams wins the Australian Open to complete the ‘Serena Slam’ while Kim Clijsters becomes the first female athlete to earn $4 million in season earnings.

2004 Dubai Duty Free becomes Presenting Sponsor of the Middle East/Asia-Pacific region, while Anastasia Myakina, Maria Sharapova and Svetlana Kuznetsova lift Russia’s first Grand Slam singles titles.

2005 Sony Ericsson becomes the Tour’s worldwide title sponsor in a landmark $88 million, six-year deal, the largest and most comprehensive sponsorship in the history of tennis and of women’s professional sport. As winner of the US Open Series, Kim Clijsters earns double prize money for winning the US Open; her $2.2 million prize cheque was the single biggest payday in women’s sports and in any official tennis event, men’s or women’s.
2006 Game-changing innovations designed to make the sport more fan-friendly and interactive include electronic line-calling and on-court coaching. Navratilova ends her 32-year career in which she amassed more titles than any other female or male player.

2007 The historic achievement of equal prize money at Roland Garros and Wimbledon means that following a 30-year campaign, all four majors offer parity for the first time. After two successful years in Madrid, the tour announces the season-ending Sony Ericsson Championships will move to Doha, Qatar for 2008-2010.

2008 Celebrating its 35th anniversary, the WTA opens its first Asia-Pacific headquarters in Beijing, China, complementing existing offices in St. Petersburg, Florida and London, England. Justine Henin becomes the first player to retire while ranked No.1 in the world, while a record five different women hold the No.1 ranking during the season (Henin, Sharapova, Ivanovic, Jankovic, S.Williams). Doha, Qatar makes a successful debut as host of the season-ending Sony Ericsson Championships.

2009 The sweeping Roadmap circuit reforms come into effect, heralding a shorter season, more fan-friendly structure and a 40 per cent increase in prize money. Clijsters storms out of retirement to win the US Open in only her third tournament back, while Serena Williams becomes the first woman to earn more than $6 million in a single season.

2010 40 years on from the revolutionary Virginia Slims event at Houston in September 1970, prize money has increased to $85 million.

2011 China’s Li Na becomes the first player from Asia to win a Grand Slam singles title, at Roland Garros. For the first time in WTA history, 10 different nations are represented in the world’s Top 10 rankings. The TEB BNP Paribas WTA Championships make a successful debut in Istanbul, Turkey.

2012 Sharapova captures her first Roland Garros title to become the sixth woman in the Open Era to complete a career Grand Slam. Serena Williams defeats Sharapova to seal her career Golden Slam with gold at the London Olympics. For the first time since the 1980s, all nine members of the trailblazing Original 9 are reunited during the Family Circle Cup in Charleston.

2013 The WTA celebrates four decades of growth and achievement since the organization’s founding with a season-long campaign named 40 LOVE, showcasing the pioneers and the current stars of the game. With players competing for a record-setting $116 million in prize money, 25 players finish the year with at least $1 million in prize money.

2014 Singapore becomes the first city in Asia-Pacific (ninth city overall) to host the season finale – the BNP Paribas WTA Finals Singapore presented by SC Global. For the first time, the competition’s format includes representatives from the past (Legends Classic), the present and the future (Rising Stars Invitational and Future Stars). Serena Williams lifts the Billie Jean King Trophy for the third consecutive year, while Cara Black and Sania Mirza hoist the new Martina Navratilova Doubles Trophy.

2015 Serena Williams pockets her 21st major title (and second ‘Serena Slam’) at Wimbledon, but Roberta Vinci thwarts a calendar year Grand Slam at the US Open before falling to Flavia Pennetta in the first all-Italian Slam final. Meanwhile, Venus Williams returns to the Top 10 for the first time in almost five years by winning the new WTA Elite Trophy in Zhuhai, China and Hingis burns her doubles comeback with titles at Wimbledon, the US Open and WTA Finals partnering Mirza – the first Indian woman to hold a WTA No.1 ranking.

2016 The WTA heralds a new World No.1 after Angelique Kerber captures her first Grand Slam titles at the Australian Open and US Open. The German’s ascent ends Serena’s three year reign in the top spot, but the American continues to rewrite the history books: by winning her 22nd Grand Slam title at Wimbledon she joins Graf for most majors won in the Open Era. Elsewhere, surprise champions rule with Puerto Rico’s Monica Puig winning her country’s first gold medal at the Rio Olympics, and Slovakia’s Dominika Cibulkova storming to victory at the WTA Finals in Singapore.

2017 Serena Williams won her record-setting 23rd career Grand Slam title at the Australian Open, setting the Open Era record for most Grand Slam singles titles. By the season’s end, a total of 43 different players won titles in 2017, including nine different players across the nine biggest events of 2017 - the Grand Slams, Premier Mandatory events and WTA Finals. As a result, five different players held the WTA World No.1 Ranking during the season including first time No.1s Karolina Pliskova, Garbine Muguruza and eventual year-end No.1 Simona Halep.

2018 Four different players captured the Grand Slam singles titles, including three first-time winners – Caroline Wozniacki (Australian Open), Simona Halep (Roland Garros) and Naomi Osaka (US Open). A record six players took home more than $5 million in prize earnings as the overall prize money reached $139 million. The 2018 season marked the final chapter for Singapore as the host of the year-end WTA Finals as Elina Svitolina took home the Billie Jean King Trophy.

2019 The WTA Finals began its 10-year residency in new host city Shenzhen, China with Japanese cosmetics giant Shiseido on board as title sponsor. The event offered record-setting prize money of $14 million overall – singles champion Ashleigh Barty taking home $4.42 million, the largest prize money earnings in professional tennis history. Also triumphant at Roland Garros, Barty is one of the season’s two maiden Grand Slam champions, along with Canadian teenager Bianca Andreescu, who captured the US Open title.

2020 Despite a five-month stoppage due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 season saw the continued emergence of the tour’s young stars. Sofia Kenin won the Australian Open to become the youngest American Slam champion since Serena Williams, while 19-year-old Iga Swiatek became Poland’s first major champion after winning Roland Garros. Not to be outdone, Naomi Osaka won her third major in as many years, capturing her second US Open. In a year that saw 24 tournaments played, Simona Halep and Aryna Sabalenka led the tour with three titles apiece and Ashleigh Barty retained her No.1 ranking from wire-to-wire. In December, the WTA introduced a new corporate identity, redefining the organization’s strength as a collective unit of inspiring athletes and tournaments. The Tour also revealed a new WTA For The Game’ campaign, the WTA’s first logo redesign in 10 years, along with the announcement of a simplified numerical naming system for WTA tournaments - WTA 1000, WTA 500 and WTA 250.
WTA ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Simon
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

DIRECTORS

Adam Barrett
Tournament Class Director
Americas

Peter-Michael Reichel
Tournament Class Director
Europe

Alastair Garland
Tournament Class Director
Asia

Iva Majoli
Player Class Director

Michael Segal
Player Class Director

Vanessa Webb
Player Class Director

David Haggerty
Federation Class Director

ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

Gavin Ziv
Tournament Class Director

Brandon Burke
Player Class Director

Kris Dent
Federation Class Director

PLAYERS’ COUNCIL

1-20 RANKING CATEGORY
Madison Keys
Johanna Konta
Sloane Stephens
Donna Vekic

21-50 RANKING CATEGORY
Kristina Mladenovic

51-100 RANKING CATEGORY
Alexandra Krunic

21+ RANKING CATEGORY
Gabriela Dabrowski

101+ RANKING CATEGORY
Christina McHale

TOURNAMENT COUNCIL

ASIA-PACIFIC
Charles Hsiung
Cameron Pearson
Laura Ceccarelli

EUROPE
Gerard Tsobanian
Markus Guenthardt
Stephen Farrow

AMERICAS
Gavin Ziv
Bob Moran
Eugene Lapierre
Steve Simon marked his tenure as WTA CEO as an instigator of change, spearheading ambitious plans to deliver long-term community and commercial growth for women’s tennis.

Simon is a leader in the industry advocating for progressive dialogue between players, tournaments, governing bodies and Boards that will further unite the sport on issues such as rules, innovations, female leadership and technology. Simon continues to oversee significant investment in content production, including a strong digital eco-system and initiatives to reach fans in new and different ways. He has also created WTA Charities, the WTA’s global philanthropic organization dedicated to making a positive impact across the globe. In 2019, the WTA was able to achieve record-breaking prize money for the sport, expanded globalization into the Asia-Pacific region and fostered new corporate investment for the WTA’s season-ending Finals.

Simon was a collegiate tennis player at Long Beach State University and after graduating, began his career in the sports industry teaching and coaching tennis. He then joined adidas as national tennis specialist contributing in the development and management of all national junior, collegiate and teaching professional programs, in addition to management of the regional sales office and sponsorship and promotional programs. Simon joined the BNP Paribas Open team in 1989 and was named Tournament Director of the BNP Paribas Open at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in 2004. During his tenure there, he also served as Chief Operating Officer of Desert Champions LLC and Garden of Champions. Outside of the Grand Slams, under Simon’s leadership, the Indian Wells tournament became the largest two-week combined tournament and is the most attended WTA and ATP Tour tennis tournament in the world. Simon served as the BNP Paribas Open representative on the ATP Media Board, and as a member of the WTA Board from 2004-15, equally serving as Chair of the WTA Tournament Council.

On October 4, 2015, by unanimous decision of the Board, Steve Simon was appointed CEO and Chairman of the WTA.
EXECUTIVE TEAM

Steve Simon
CEO & Chairman

Micky Lawler
President

Matthew Cenedella
Chief Operating Officer

WTA TOUR

Amy Binder
Vice President, Global Communications

Bob Campbell
Director, Security

Kathryn Chappetto Reagan
Vice President, Partnerships

Ashley Keber
Vice President, Member Relations

Peachy Kellmeyer
Executive Consultant

Courtney McBride
Sr. Vice President, Governance & Special Affairs Counsel

Jean Nachand
Sr. Vice President, Competition & On-site Operations

Giulia Orlandi
Vice President, Officiating & Supervisor

David Palanzo
Sr. Vice President, Legal & Business Affairs

Joan Pennello
Sr. Vice President, Operations

Melissa Pine
Vice President, Global Program Development

Kathleen Stroia
Sr. Vice President, Performance Health & Advantage

Tammy Zeph
Vice President, Finance

WTA ASIA-PACIFIC

Fabrice Chouquet
Managing Director

Wendy Jiang
Commercial Vice President
MEDIA INFORMATION

WTA FOR THE GAME: The WTA (Women’s Tennis Association) introduced a new corporate identity in December 2020, redefining the organization’s strength as a collective unit of inspiring athletes and tournaments. The Tour also revealed a new ‘WTA For The Game’ campaign that highlights the driving forces of the sport, aimed at creating deeper fan connections. The rebranding, which includes the WTA’s first logo redesign in 10 years, coincides with the announcement of a simplified numerical naming system for WTA tournaments - WTA 1000, WTA 500 and WTA 250.

NEW LOGO: The WTA’s new brand image incorporates a dynamic reworking of the familiar letters W, T and A – with a tennis ball functioning as the crossbar of the A – and marks a return to a silhouette of a female tennis player. The serve action pictured in the logo was given prominence for its literal and figurative significance to the WTA. The serve is the only shot in tennis where the player has absolute control and where the point begins. It also accentuates the fearless initiative taken by the WTA’s early founders who took control of their destiny and blazed a trail for the women of tennis today. The symbol makes subtle references to the sport’s global nature, framing the athlete within a circle that evokes the universal spirit of the WTA’s platform.

WTA RANKINGS: The WTA Rankings are updated every Monday, with the exception of two-week events. The updated rankings are posted immediately to wtatennis.com.

PRESS CENTER: The Press Center on wtatennis.com is the home of media information, including match notes, tournament statistics and WTA historical information.

CREDENTIALS: Media accreditation for WTA events and Grand Slams is handled by each respective tournament. Please contact the respective tournament’s media director with the proper application. Credential information for the WTA Finals in Shenzhen and WTA Elite Trophy in Zhuhai will be made available in Fall.

INTERVIEW REQUESTS: A representative of the WTA Communications team will liaise with media for all interview requests. Interviews can be conducted as a post-match press conference or feature interview. For 1-on-1 interview requests, please contact the WTA Communications department before the tournament begins. In addition, video conferences will be hosted from tournaments when applicable. Media should contact the WTA Communications Department for more information.

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The WTA's team of health care professionals takes a progressive approach to prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation in sport sciences and medicine, specializing in tennis health, travel health, and women's health. The comprehensive athlete care services offered include current, evidence-based sports medicine, massage therapy, mental health and wellbeing, and other high-performance services that encompass the full spectrum of sports sciences disciplines.

Every member of the SS&M and MH&W teams is an integral part of the Performance Health Branch and work collaboratively to maximize the health and safety of all athletes.
MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS (MH&W)

Becky Ahlgren Bedics
Vice President, Mental Health & Wellness

Kathy Martin
Senior Director, Mental Health & Wellness

Caroline Zadina
Coordinator, Mental Health & Wellness

CORE MASSAGE THERAPISTS

Claire Cresswell
Lee Stang

MEDICAL ADVISORS AND CONSULTANTS

Jennifer Maynard, MD
Family and Sports Medicine

Marc Safran, MD
Orthopedic Surgery

Eugene Depasquale, MD
Cardiology

Brian Adams, MD
Sports Dermatology

Ben Kibler, MD, FACSM
Orthopedics, Tennis Medicine

David Shamoff, DPM, PC
Podiatry

Michael Bergeron, PhD, FACSM
Hydration, Heat Stress, and Analytics

Jessica LaRoche, MS, RDN, CSSD
Sports Dietitian

Susie Parker-Simmons, MSci, Med
Sports Dietitian

Page Love, MS, RD, CSSD, LD
Sports Dietitian

Rick Jensen, PhD
Player Development Consultant / Sports Psychology Advisor

Walter Taylor, MD
Medical Advisor, Emeritus
WTA COACH PROGRAM

The newly created WTA Coach Program is designed to professionalize, standardize, and recognize the important role of coaching on the WTA, signifying that coaches are a key element of the WTA business. WTA coaches who meet the minimum criteria and enroll are recognized as a WTA Registered Coach under the WTA Coach Program.

This program officially launched during the 2017 season and has since grown to include more than 110 coaches who all enjoy certain benefits at WTA events and online. WTA Registered Coaches have become an active partner in promoting the WTA, players, tournaments and women’s professional tennis around the world. The program gives fans the ability to get closer to the game and the on-court action through coaches.

ON-COURT COACHING

On-court coaching was officially added to the WTA Rulebook in 2009 after extensive testing of the concept and strong support from various constituents including broadcasters and tournaments. On-court coaching allows a player (or team) to request her coach to come on court once per set either on a change of ends or at the end of a set. A player or team may also request their coach to come on court if their opponent takes either a toilet break or a medical timeout.

A player must designate her on-court coach prior to the start of her match. For doubles, both players may designate an on-court coach, however only one coach is permitted on court at a time. All coaches called on court during televised matches will be required to wear a microphone to capture the coaching conversation for viewers to hear.

SAP TENNIS ANALYTICS FOR COACHES

In August 2015, the WTA launched the SAP Tennis Analytics for coaches powered by SAP HANA. The application allows for real-time statistics and data during matches. For the first time ever in professional tennis, players and coaches can access real-time performance data during live match play. SAP Tennis Analytics for coaches is available exclusively for the WTA and available on WTA-authorized tablets. It provides insight to help players and coaches analyze performance and optimize strategy. Examples of statistics include: 1) side-by-side comparisons of the full list of match stats for both players updated every 15 seconds; 2) scoring data that analyzes player’s service performance, success rate in closing out a game while serving and number of break points saved and 3) tracking data which shows player’s serve direction and placement on the court, contact point for returning a serve and placement of rally shots, along with much more.

SAP TENNIS ANALYTICS FOR MEDIA

Following the successful launch and application of the SAP Tennis Analytics for coaches, the new online portal for media named SAP Tennis Analytics for media unveiled for the 2018 season. This is the latest technology stemming from an ongoing partnership between SAP and the WTA. The software uses innovative technologies and analytics to enhance the sport for tennis for players, coaches, tournament organizers, media and fans. In 2019 SAP and the WTA launched a new feature called “Patterns of Play” which addresses a key need for coaches that are looking for data-based insights into how a rally unfolds. The new feature includes rally analysis, ball-toss analysis, and bounce-to-hit point analysis.

SAP Tennis Analytics for media has been specifically developed as a resource for media covering WTA tournaments. The software helps enhance stories before, during and after matches and serves as a comprehensive database housing key and informative WTA stats gathered over the course of 20 years. Additionally, the solution provides real-time statistics with context for the first time, placing data and insights in the one place. Examples include alerts to outliers of benchmarked data, a tournament performance center and post-match insights. SAP Tennis Analytics for media delivers a tailored experience that can be customized based on individual needs. The technology is available across devices, including mobile phones and tablets, so the media can access the portal no matter where they are located as well as when they are on the go. To inquire about log-in details, please email sapanalyticsmedia@wtatennis.com.
WTA PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Player Development is the WTA’s education and resource center, outreaching to WTA players and their support teams. Player Development programs promote and enhance players’ career fulfillment, safety and well-being. “How”, you might ask? Players access WTA services and gain concrete skills to maximize their performance and mitigate the known environmental stressors.

Player Development programs are scientifically proven to keep female tennis players in and at the top of their Game.

MENTOR PROGRAM– PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS

The first mentor program in professional sports, Partners For Success brings together young players with veteran and retired players who share their dynamic experience to help these protégés make a smooth transition into their careers. Billie Jean King, the program’s historian, exemplifies the role of a mentor.

PLAYER ORIENTATION– ROOKIE HOURS

Players learn the on-site realities and responsibilities of being a participant on the WTA. The orientation helps the players understand the building blocks of the business and her responsibilities and opportunities.

MEDIA TRAINING

Players learn how to be prepared, professional and self-expressive in public speaking opportunities.

PLANNINGZONE & SCHEDULEZONE

ScheduleZone is an interactive, online tool that players and their support teams use to optimize performance and career longevity, and minimize the risks of injury. Players plan their upcoming tournament season taking critical factors into account as they receive feedback specific to their age, ranking, and individualized scheduling decisions. ScheduleZone is supported with other tennis-specific lessons on preparation, performance and recovery.

PLAYER SUPPORT TEAM

Parents, coaches, agents, and fitness trainers are an integral part of each player’s career. The WTA is committed to providing information to these support team members, ranging from what players will encounter in the professional arena to the rules and expectations that govern all parties in the environment, including adherence to the Code of Conduct and, for credentialed coaches, possession of a qualified coaching certification.

AGE ELIGIBILITY RULE (AER)

The Age Eligibility Rule progressively allows players to play more and at a higher level by phasing them into professional tennis in accordance with their age, their ranking and the skills gained from participation in Player Development. This serves as a brief view of the Age Eligibility Rule. The complete version of the Age Eligibility Rule is outlined in the WTA Rulebook.

- A 14-year-old may play up to 8 professional events (WTA & ITF Women’s Circuit), no more than 3 of which can have prize money at $60K or greater; plus Fed Cup.
- A 15-year-old may play up to 10 professional events (WTA & ITF Women’s Circuit), WTA Finals (if she qualifies), plus Fed Cup and Olympics.
- A 16-year-old may play up to 12 professional events (WTA & ITF Women’s Circuit), WTA Finals (if she qualifies), plus Fed Cup and Olympics.
- A 17-year-old may play up to 16 professional events (WTA & ITF Women’s Circuit), WTA Finals (if she qualifies), plus Fed Cup and Olympics.

Merited Increases: A player aged 15-17 is allowed up to four merited increases per birth year (i.e. birthday to birthday).

TRANSITIONS

Transitions is the culmination of the player journey and provides sophisticated education, training and career guidance to maximize opportunities, in business and in life, during the tennis career and after. Current and alumnae players have access to a range of programs, including: financial planning and investing; gaining coaching certifications; networking and alumnae reunions; online graduate and undergraduate university degree programs; and broadcasting and /business presentations.
ON-SITE OPERATIONS

Mariana Alves  Supervisor
Tony Cho  Supervisor, VP On-Site Data Technology
Kerrilyn Cramer  Supervisor
Donna Kelso  Supervisor, Director of WTA University
Martina Lutkova  Supervisor
Giulia Orlandi  Vice President, Officiating & Supervisor
Cristina Romero  Supervisor
Chen Shu  Supervisor & Vice President Event Relations, Asia-Pacific
Melanie Tabb  Supervisor & Senior Manager, Tournament Administration
Pam Whytcross  Supervisor
Yannick Yoshizawa  Supervisor

CHAIR UMPIRES

Pierre Bacchi  France
Marjia Cicak  Croatia
Julie Kjendlie  Norway
Kader Nouni  France
Paula Vieira  Brazil
Juan Zhang  China
<table>
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>4 JAN</td>
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TOURNAMENT LEVEL COLORS

- **WTA1000**
- **WTA500**
- **WTA250**
- **WTA FINALS SHENZHEN**
- **WTA ELITE TROPHY ZHUHAI**
- **GRAND SLAM / BILLIE JEAN KING CUP**

Calendar as of January 25, 2021
**WTA 1000 TOURNAMENTS**

**Indian Wells, CA, USA • Indian Wells Tennis Garden**

**BNP PARIBAS OPEN**

Hard/Outdoors • 96M/48Q/32D  
1989 (32nd consecutive)  
www.bnpparibasopen.com  

Tournament Director:  
Tommy Haas (thaas@iwtg.net)  
Media Director:  
Matt Van Tuinen (matt@mvtpr.com)

**Miami, FL, USA • Hard Rock Stadium**

**MIAMI OPEN**

Hard/Outdoors • 96M/48Q/32D  
1985 (36th consecutive)  
www.miamiopen.com  

Tournament Director:  
James Blake (james.blake@img.com)  
Josh Ripple (josh.ripple@img.com)  
Media Director:  
Sam Henderson (sam.henderson@img.com)

**Madrid, Spain • La Caja Magica**

**MUTUA MADRID OPEN**

Hard/Outdoors • 96M/48Q/32D  
2009 (13th consecutive)  
www.madrid-open.com  

Tournament Director:  
Feliciano López (flopezmadridopen.com)  
Media Director:  
Antonio Arenas (comunicacion@madrid-open.com)

**Beijing, China • National Tennis Centre**

**CHINA OPEN**

Hard/Outdoors • 60M/32Q/28D  
2004 (17th consecutive)  
www.chinaopen.com.cn  

Tournament Director:  
Alfred Zhang Jun Hui  
Media Director:  
YaNan Wu (yanan.wu@chinaopen.com.cn)

---

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<th>SINGLES (64/60 Draw)</th>
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**RANKING & RACE POINTS**

**SINGLES**

Champions: 1000  
Runner-Up: 650  
Semifinalists: 390  
Quarterfinalists: 215  
R16: 120  
R32: 65  
R64: 35  
R128: 10

**DOUBLES**

Champions: 1000  
Runner-Up: 650  
Semifinalists: 390  
Quarterfinalists: 215  
R16: 120  
R32: 65  
R64: 10  
R128: --
WTA 1000 TOURNAMENTS

Dubai, UAE • Dubai Tennis Stadium
DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hard/Outdoors • 56M/32Q/28D
2001 (22nd consecutive)
www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com

Tournament Director:
Salah Tahlak (salah.tahlak@ddf.ae)

RANKING & RACE POINTS
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Rome, Italy • Foro Italico
INTERNATIONALI BNL D’ITALIA

Clay/Outdoors • 56M/32Q/28D
1973 (49th consecutive)
www.internazionalibnlditalia.com

Tournament Director:
Sergio Palmieri (s.palmieri@federtennis.it)
Media Director:
Massimo Caputi (m.caputi@federtennis.it)

Montreal, Canada • IGA Stadium
ROGERS CUP

Hard/Outdoors • 54M/48Q/28D
1892 (120th non-consecutive); 1970 (52nd consecutive)
www.rogerscup.com

Tournament Director:
Eugène Lapierre (elapierre@tenniscanada.com)
Media Director:
Victoria Jaklin (vjaklin@tenniscanada.com)

Cincinnati, OH, USA • Lindner Family Tennis Center
WESTERN & SOUTHERN OPEN

Hard/Outdoors • 54M/48Q/28D
2004 (17th consecutive)
www.cincytennis.com

Tournament Director:
J.Wayne Richmond (jrichmond@cincytennis.com)
Media Director:
Pete Holtermann (media@cincytennis.com)

Wuhan, China • Wuhan Optical Valley Tennis Center
DONGFENG MOTOR WUHAN OPEN

Hard/Outdoors • 56M/32Q/28D
2014 (7th consecutive)
www.wuhanopen.org

Tournament Director:
Mr Zhu Jianbin (tina.cheng@wuhanopen.org),
Fabrice Chouquet (fabrice.chouquet@wuhanopen.org)
Media Director:
Eleanor Preston (epreston@theemiliagroup.com)
## RANKING & RACE POINTS

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## WTA 500 TOURNAMENTS

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<tr>
<td><strong>ADELAIDE</strong></td>
<td>Alistair MacDonald</td>
<td>Tournament Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:AMacDonald@Tennis.com.au">AMacDonald@Tennis.com.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BERLIN</strong></td>
<td>Barbara Rittner</td>
<td>Tournament Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:barbararittner@googlemail.com">barbararittner@googlemail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BRISBANE</strong></td>
<td>Mark Handley</td>
<td>Tournament Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mhandley@tennis.com.au">mhandley@tennis.com.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CHARLESTON</strong></td>
<td>Bob Moran</td>
<td>Tournament Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Bob.Moran@Charlestontennisllc.com">Bob.Moran@Charlestontennisllc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eleanor Adams</td>
<td>Tournament Manager</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Eleanor.Adams@charlestontennisllc.com">Eleanor.Adams@charlestontennisllc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DOHA</strong></td>
<td>Saad Saleh Al Mohannadi</td>
<td>Tournament Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:saad@qatartennis.org">saad@qatartennis.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EASTBOURNE</strong></td>
<td>Gavin Fletcher</td>
<td>Tournament Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gavin.fletcher@lta.org.uk">gavin.fletcher@lta.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stephen Farrow*</td>
<td>LTA, Head of Major Events &amp; Competition</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gavin.fletcher@lta.org.uk">gavin.fletcher@lta.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MOSCOW</strong></td>
<td>Aleksei Selivanenko</td>
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<td><strong>OSTRAVA</strong></td>
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<td>Vickie Gunnarson</td>
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<td>BAD HOMBURG</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:markyjeno@t.online.hu">markyjeno@t.online.hu</a></td>
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<td>JURMALA</td>
<td>Alexander Ostrovsky</td>
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<td>LAUSANNE</td>
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<td>LYON</td>
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<td>Olivier Palma</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAHRA</td>
<td>David Trunda</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:d.trunda@tkspartapraha.cz">d.trunda@tkspartapraha.cz</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>RABAT</td>
<td>Khalid Outaleb</td>
<td>Tournament Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:khalid.outaleb@gmail.com">khalid.outaleb@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEOUL</td>
<td>Mr. Jin Soo Lee</td>
<td>Tournament Director</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jslhs1211@hanmail.net">jslhs1211@hanmail.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SHENZHEN</td>
<td>Luiz Carvalho</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:luiz.carvalho@immbr.com">luiz.carvalho@immbr.com</a></td>
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<td>Denis Naegelen</td>
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<td>naegelen@is tennis.fr</td>
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**RANKING & RACE POINTS**

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WTA ELITE TROPHY ZHUHAI

Zhuai, China

Host City: Zhuhai, China (5 years, 2015-19)
Venue: Hengqin International Tennis Center, Zhuhai
Prize Money: $2,349,363
Surface: Hard Outdoor Covered Court
Draw Size: 12 singles / 6 doubles teams
Championship Match: Sunday, Sunday 27, 2018
Website: www.wtaelitetrophy.com
Tournament Director: Jose Miguel Garcia (josemiguel.garcia@apgworld.com)

WTA ELITE TROPHY ZHUHAI QUICK HITS
• The WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai features 12 singles players (11 direct entries, 1 wildcard) competing in a round-robin format. The direct entries will be the 11 highest ranked players not competing in the WTA Finals.
• The singles field will be divided into four groups, with each player playing two matches in the round-robin stage. The top player from each group will advance to the semifinals.
• After the completion of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Transmarine Bridge, Zhuhai will become the only city in China which is connected to Hong Kong and Macao by bridge and land.
• Hengqin International Tennis Center, with an area of about 148,000 square meters, is located at the heart of Hengqin New Area, which is the third national new area approved by China's State Council.

SHISEIDO WTA FINALS SHENZHEN

Shenzhen, China

Host City: Shenzhen (10 years, 2019-2028)
Prize Money: $14,000,000
Surface: Hard / Indoor
Draw Size: 8 singles / 8 doubles teams
Championship Match: Sunday, November 3, 2019
Website: www.wtafinals.com

WTA FINALS QUICK HITS
• 2021 will be the 50th staging of the WTA Finals (began in 1972) and second year in Shenzhen.
• In 2003, the current round robin-format feeding into a four-woman single elimination draw returned to WTA Finals for the first time since 1982.
• The Top 8 ranked singles players in the WTA Rankings the week of October 26, 2020 will qualify for the WTA Finals.
• The Porsche Race to Shenzhen Leaderboard on wtatennis.com serves as a ranking projection for the week of October 26, 2020, the Monday prior to the WTA Finals. The leaderboard includes points earned during the 2020 season.
• Players are awarded +125 ranking points for each round robin match played and an additional +125 points for each round robin win; +360 points a win in the semifinals and +450 points for winning the final match; a player can earn up to 1500 ranking points by winning all five matches at WTA Finals.
• The doubles competition features the Top 8 teams competing in a round-robin format.
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AUSTRALIAN OPEN
Melbourne, Australia

Surface: Hard/Outdoors
Draw Sizes: 128M/128Q/64D
Venue: Melbourne Park
First Held: 1922 (first women’s singles event)
Website: www.australianopen.com
Tel: +61-3-9914-4400
Tournament Director: Craig Tiley
Media Director: Darren Pearce (dpearce@tennis.com.au)

ROLAND GARROS
Paris, France

Surface: Red Clay/Outdoors
Draw Sizes: 128M/96Q/64D
Venue: Stade Roland Garros
First Held: 1925 (first women’s singles event)
Website: www.rolandgarros.com
Tel: +33-26-65-00-00
Tournament Director: Guy Forget
Media Director (TV): Sandra Gorline (sgorline@fft.fr)
Media Director (Print): Guillaume Lebastard (glebastard@fft.fr)

WIMBLEDON
London, England

Surface: Grass/Outdoors
Draw Sizes: 128M/128Q/64D
Venue: All England Lawn Tennis Club
First Held: 1884 (first ladies’ singles event)
Website: www.wimbledon.com
Tel: +44-20-8944-1066
Chief Executive: Richard Lewis
Head of Communications, Content and Digital: Alexandra Willis (awillis@aeltc.com)
Communications Lead: Eloise Tyson (etys@aeltc.com)

US OPEN
Flushing Meadows, NY, USA

Surface: Hard/Outdoors
Draw Sizes: 128M/128Q/64D
Venue: USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center
First Held: 1887 (first women’s singles event)
Website: www.usopen.org
Tel: +1-914-696-7000
Tournament Director: Stacey Allaster
Media Director: Chris Widmaier (widmaier@usta.com)
As the world governing body of tennis, the International Tennis Federation (ITF) is responsible for every level of the sport including the regulation of rules and the future development of the game. Based in London, the ITF currently has 210 member nations and six regional associations, which administer the game in their respective areas, in close consultation with the ITF.

The ITF is committed to promoting tennis around the world and encouraging as many people as possible to play the game. 87 million people enjoy playing tennis in more than 200 countries worldwide, making tennis one of the few truly global sports. The breadth of appeal is appropriately reflected in the ITF’s active involvement in a range of circuits including the new ITF World Tennis Tour (incorporating the former Men’s and Women’s Circuits, and Junior Circuit), plus seniors tennis, wheelchair tennis and beach tennis. Dedicated websites for each of these circuits can be found at www.itftennis.com.

The women’s ITF World Tennis Tour serves as the pathway between junior tennis and the women’s tour. The results of ITF tournaments are incorporated into the WTA Ranking, which enables professionals to progress through to the elite levels of women’s professional tennis.

All players who compete in women’s ITF World Tennis Tour tournaments must register for annual IPIN Membership (an IPIN fee is payable), giving them access to the IPIN Online Service, which allows them to manage their playing schedule on the Circuit. Details of all entry requirements and other related Circuit information can be found www.itftennis.com.

The ITF actively promotes the importance of representing one’s country whether at the Olympics or within the team competition format. The men’s Davis Cup, the World Cup of Tennis and women’s Fed Cup by BNP Paribas are the largest annual international team competitions in sport and most prized in the ITF’s event portfolio. Both have a rich history and have consistently attracted the best players from each passing generation. Further information is available at www.daviscup.com and www.fedcup.com.

The Olympic and Paralympic Tennis Events are also an important part of the ITF’s responsibilities, with the 2020 events being held in Tokyo. For further information visit www.itftennis.com/olympics.

The development of tennis sits at the heart of the ITF’s vision. The core objectives are increasing participation in tennis worldwide for all ages, playing standards and physical abilities; and the development of talented players, particularly those from nations that are both under-resourced and under-represented. The ITF aims to create a progressive global event structure from introductory to senior professional levels; educate a sufficient number of qualified coaches; support the development of new and existing facilities worldwide; and facilitate the learning and playing of tennis, and retention of players.

Development programme activities are funded jointly by the ITF and the Grand Slam Development Fund. Since 1985 over $100 million has been invested in tennis development worldwide. For further information visit www.itftennis.com/development.

The ITF’s purpose is to ensure the long-term growth and sustainability of tennis. This is achieved through governance of the rules of tennis, conducting research into the technical aspects of tennis and by keeping ahead of all new trends and issues. Regulation of the sport also includes keeping tennis free from drugs, and the ITF is responsible for the management, administration and enforcement of the Tennis Anti-Doping Programme at all WTA events.
In May 2012, the WTA introduced WTA 125K Series events, a new stream of tournaments that provides emerging markets a chance to showcase women’s professional tennis, offering up-and-coming players an opportunity to play additional tournament matches and earn ranking points. With total prize money of $125,000 and 160 ranking points for the champion, WTA 125K Series events are one level above top-tier ITF Women’s Circuit, which offer $115,000 in total prize money and 150 ranking points for the champion.

### 2019 – CHAMPIONS

**SINGLES**

- Newport Beach, CA, USA: Bianca Andreescu
- Indian Wells 125K, CA, USA: Viktoria Golubic
- Guadalajara, MEX: Veronika Kudermetova
- Anning, CHN: Zheng Saisai
- Bol, CRO: Tamara Zidansek
- Bastad, SWE: Misaki Doi
- Karlsruhe, GER: Patricia Maria Tig
- New Haven 125K, CT, USA: Anna Blinkova
- Houston, TX, USA: Kirsten Flipkens
- Taipei, TPE: Vitalia Diatchenko

**DOUBLES**

- Newport Beach, CA, USA: H.Carter/E.Shibahara
- Indian Wells, CA, USA: Kr.Pliskova/E.Rodina
- Guadalajara, MEX: M.Sanchez/F.Stollar
- Anning, CHN: T.Bacsinszky/M.Minella
- Bol, CRO: M.Doi/N.Vikhlyantseva
- Bastad, SWE: L.Arruabarrena/R.Voracova
- Karlsruhe, GER: A.Blinkova/O.Kalashnikova
- New Haven 125K, CT, USA: E.Perez/L.Stefani
- Houston, TX, USA: F.Wu/Y.Lee

### 2018 – CHAMPIONS

**SINGLES**

- Newport Beach, CA, USA: Danielle Collins
- Indian Wells, CA, USA: Sara Errani
- Zhengzhou, China: Zheng Saisai
- Anning, China: Irina Khromacheva
- Bol, Croatia: Tamara Zidansek
- Chicago, IL, USA: Petra Martic
- Mumbai, India: Luksika Kumkhum
- Limoges, France: Ekaterina Alexandrova
- Houston, TX, USA: Peng Shuai
- Taipei, Chinese Taipei: Luksika Kumkhum

**DOUBLES**

- Newport Beach, CA, USA: M.Doi/J.Teichmann
- Indian Wells, CA, USA: T.Townsend/Y.Wickmayer
- Zhengzhou, China: Y.Duan/Y.Wang
- Anning, China: D.Jakupovic/I.Khromacheva
- Bol, Croatia: M.Duque-Marino/Y.Wang
- Chicago, IL, USA: M.Barthel/Kr.Pliskova
- Mumbai, India: N.Dzalamidze/V.Kudermetova
- Limoges, France: V.Kudermetova/G.Voskoboeva
- Houston, TX, USA: M.Manasse/J.Pegula
- Taipei, Chinese Taipei: A.Raina/K.Thand

### 2017 – CHAMPIONS

**SINGLES**

- Zhengzhou, China: Wang Qiang
- Bol, Croatia: Aleksandra Krunic
- Dalian, China: Kateryna Kozlova
- Limoges, France: Monica Niculescu
- Hua Hin, Thailand: Belinda Bencic
- Taipei, Chinese Taipei: Belinda Bencic
- Honolulu, HI, USA: Aryna Sabalenka

**DOUBLES**

- Zhengzhou, China: X.Han/L.Zhu
- Bol, Croatia: Cj.Chuang/Voracova
- Dalian, China: J.Lu/X.You
- Limoges, France: V.Savinykh/M.Zanevska
- Hua Hin, Thailand: Y.Duan/Y.Wang
- Taipei, Chinese Taipei: V.Kudermetova/A.Sabalenka
- Honolulu, HI, USA: S.W.Hsieh/S.Y.Hsieh
- Limoges, France: B.Schoofs/V.Rodriguez

### 2016 – CHAMPIONS

**SINGLES**

- San Antonio, TX, USA: Misaki Doi
- Bol, Croatia: Mandy Minella
- Dalian, China: Kristyna Pliskova
- Taipei, Chinese Taipei: Evgeniya Rodina
- Limoges, France: Ekaterina Alexandrova
- Honolulu, HI, USA: Catherine Bellis

**DOUBLES**

- San Antonio, TX, USA: Groenefeld/Melchar
- Bol, Croatia: Knoll/Martic
- Dalian, China: Y.H.Lee/Takahata
- Taipeh, Chinese Taipei: Dzalamidze/Kudermetova
- Limoges, France: Mertens/Minella
- Honolulu, HI, USA: Hozumi/Kato

### 2015 – CHAMPIONS

**SINGLES**

- Nanchang, China: Jelena Jankovic
- Dalian, China: Zhong Saisai
- Hua Hin, Thailand: Yaroslava Shvedova
- Limoges, France: Caroline Garcia
- Taipeh, Chinese Taipei: Timea Babos
- Carlsbad, CA, USA: Yanina Wickmayer

**DOUBLES**

- Nanchang, China: K.C. Chang/S.Zheng
- Dalian, China: K.L. Zhang/Y.Zheng
- Hua Hin, Thailand: C.Liang/Y.Wang
- Limoges, France: Minella/Krejcikova
- Taipeh, Chinese Taipei: Hisami/Takahata
- Carlsbad, CA, USA: Royg/Ce

### 2014 – CHAMPIONS

**SINGLES**

- Nanchang, China: Peng Shuai
- Suzhou, China: Anna-Lena Friedsam
- Ningbo, China: Magda Linette
- Taipeh, Chinese Taipei: Vitalia Diatchenko
- Limoges, France: Tereza Smitkova

**DOUBLES**

- Nanchang, China: Chuang/Namigata
- Suzhou, China: C.Chan/Chuang
- Ningbo, China: Ar.Rodionova/R.Shavchuk
- Taipeh, Chinese Taipei: H.Chan/Y.Chan
- Limoges, France: Siniakova/Voracova

### 2013 – CHAMPIONS

**SINGLES**

- Cali, Colombia: Lara Arruabarrena
- Suzhou, China: Shahar Peer
- Ningbo, China: Bojana Jovanovska
- Taipeh, Chinese Taipei: Zhang Shuai
- Annning, CHN: Alison Van Uytvanck

**DOUBLES**

- Cali, Colombia: Castano/Duque-Mariño
- Suzhou, China: Babos/Krajicek
- Ningbo, China: Zhang/Y.Chan
- Taipeh, Chinese Taipei: Doi/Y.Xu
- Annning, CHN: Garcia/Shvedova

### 2012 – CHAMPIONS

**SINGLES**

- Taipei, Chinese Taipei: Kristina Mladenovic
- Pune, India: Elina Svitolina

**DOUBLES**

- Taipei, Chinese Taipei: H.Chan/Mladenovic
- Pune, India: Bratchikova/Kalashnikova