



**PREVIEW NOTES: ABIERTO MEXICANO TELCEL PRESENTADO POR HSBC**  
 ACAPULCO, MEXICO | FEBRUARY 24 -29, 2020 | USD \$250,000 INTERNATIONAL EVENT

**WTA Website:** [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/wta  
**Tournament Website:** [www.abiertomexicanodetenis.com](http://www.abiertomexicanodetenis.com) | @abiertomexicanodetenis | facebook.com/AbiertoMexicanoDeTenis  
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## ABIERTO MEXICANO TELCEL – QUICK FACTS

**Main draw dates:** Monday, February 24 – Saturday, February 29  
**Singles Final:** Saturday, February 29, 2020, NB 6:00pm  
**Doubles Final:** Saturday, February 29, 2020, NB 5:00pm  
**Venue:** The Acapulco Princess Mundo Imperial Hotel  
**Status:** WTA International event  
**Staging:** Tournament’s 20th year  
**Draw sizes:** 32 singles / 16 doubles teams / 24 singles qualifying  
**Surface:** Hard court (SOLFLEX) / Outdoors  
**Total prize money:** USD \$275,000  
**Tennis Ball:** Wilson US OPEN Regular Duty  
**2019 Singles Winner:** Y.Wang (CHN) d. [5] S. Kenin (USA) 2-6 6-3 7-5  
**2019 Doubles Winner:** V.Azarenka/S.Zheng (BLR/CHN) d. [3] D.Krawczyk/G.Olmos (RUS/CHN) 6-1 6-2

SINGLES	USD \$	RANK POINTS
Winner	43,000	280
Runner-Up	21,400	180
Semifinalist	11,600	110
Quarterfinalist	6,275	60
Round of 16	3,600	30
Round of 32	2,300	1

DOUBLES	USD \$	RANK POINTS
Winner	6,790	280
Runner-Up	3,600	180
Semifinalist	2,000	110
Quarterfinalist	1,150	60
Round of 16	760	1

## MAIN DRAW QUICK-HITS

**Singles wildcards:** Venus Williams (USA), Katie Volynets (USA), Renata Zarazua (MEX)  
**Youngest singles player:** Leylah Fernandez, 17 years old (September 6, 2002)  
**Oldest singles player:** Venus Williams, 39 years old (June 17, 1980)  
**Singles withdrawals:** Fiona Ferro (abdominal), Madison Keys, Kateryna Kozlova (illness), Rebecca Peterson (back)  
**Main draw debutantes:** Usue Maitane Arconada (USA), Caroline Dolehide (USA), Leylah Fernandez (CAN), Nao Hibino (JPN), Kaja Juvan (SLO), Anna Kalinskaya (RUS), Anastasia Potapova (RUS), Sara Sorribes Tormo (ESP), Nina Stojanovic (SRB), CoCo Vandeweghe (USA), Katie Volynets (USA), Wang Xiyu (CHN), Katarina Zavatska (UKR), Zhu Lin (CHN), Tamara Zidansek (SLO)



## TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS

- The 20th edition of the 2020 Abierto Mexicano TELCEL presentado por HSBC is headlined by Grand Slam champions, **Sloane Stephens** and **Venus Williams**, who are both among the eight seeds
- **Stephens**, the champion here in 2016, is top seed and begins her campaign against Mexican wildcard **Renata Zarazua**
- No.2 seed and defending champion **Wang Yafan** returns to Acapulco, where just twelve months ago she came from a set and a break down to defeat Sofia Kenin and lift her maiden WTA singles title. She begins her title defense against qualifier **Wang Xiyu**
- Wildcard **Venus Williams** is **No.5 seed** makes her second appearance of the 2020 season in Acapulco where she will face qualifier **Kaja Juvan** in her opening match
- *One To Watch* – **Anastasia Potapova**. One of four teenagers in the draw, the 18-year-old Russian enters this tournament fresh from reaching the first WTA Premier quarterfinal of her career, at the St. Petersburg Ladies' Trophy. Potapova's run through qualifying on home soil pushed her ranking back into the Top 100 and she will attempt to maintain this momentum when she takes on Anna Karolina Schmiedlova in the first round on Monday

## TOP 4 SEEDS' TOURNAMENT HISTORY\*

PLAYER	TOURNAMENT HISTORY	W/L	WIN %
[1] Sloane Stephens (USA)	WON (1): 2016 (d. Cibulkova in F) QF (1): 2018 (l. Voegele) 2r (1): 2019 (l. Haddad Maia) 1r (1): 2015 (l. Larsson)	8-3	.727
[2] Wang Yafan (CHN)	WON (1): 2019 (d. Kenin in F)	5-0	1.00
[3] Marie Bouzkova (CZE)	1r (2): 2015 (l. Karatantcheva), 2019 (l. Wang)	0-2	.000
[4] Lauren Davis (USA)	1r (2): 2015 (l. Bogdan), 2018 (l. Tsurenko)	0-2	.000

\*Main draw matches only

## PREVIOUS CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

YEAR	CHAMPION	RUNNER-UP	SCORE
2014	[1] Dominika Cibulkova (SVK)	Christina McHale (USA)	7-6(3) 4-6 6-4
2015	[5] Timea Bacsinszky (SUI)	[3] Caroline Garcia (FRA)	6-3 6-0
2016	[2] Sloane Stephens (USA)	Dominika Cibulkova (SVK)	6-4 4-6 7-6(5)
2017	[7] Lesia Tsurenko (UKR)	[2] Kristina Mladenovic (FRA)	6-1 7-5
2018	[7] Lesia Tsurenko (UKR)	Stefanie Voegele (SUI)	5-7 7-6(2) 6-2
2019	Wang Yafan (CHN)	[5] Sofia Kenin (USA)	2-6 6-3 7-5

## COUNTRY AND REGION BREAKDOWN

Including qualifiers, a total of 17 countries are represented in the main draw, led by the United States with nine players:

Canada (1)	Leylah Fernandez
China (3)	Wang Yafan, Wang Xiyu, Lin Zhu
Czech Republic (1)	Marie Bouzkova
Great Britain (2)	Katie Boulter, Heather Watson
Germany (1)	Tatjana Maria
Italy (2)	Sara Errani, Jasmine Paolini
Japan (1)	Nao Hibino
México (1)	Renata Zarazua
Montenegro (1)	Danka Kovinic
Netherlands (1)	Arantxa Rus
Russia (2)	Anna Kalinskaya, Anastasia Potapova
Serbia (1)	Nina Stojanovic
Slovakia (1)	Anna Karolína Schmiedlová
Slovenia (2)	Kaja Juvan, Tamara Zidansek
Spain (1)	Sara Sorribes Tormo
Ukraine (2)	Kateryna Bondarenko, Katarina Zavatska
United States (9)	Usue Maitane Arconada, Lauren Davis, Caroline Dolehide, Christina McHale, Shelby Rogers, Sloane Stephens, CoCo Vandeweghe, Katie Volynets, Venus Williams



# MATCH NOTES

ACAPULCO - MEXICO | Feb 24 - Feb 29, 2020 | \$275,000 | INTERNATIONAL

## [6] LIN ZHU (CHN #77) vs. XIYU WANG (CHN #127)

Head to Head: LIN ZHU leads 2-0

2019	INDIAN WELLS	HARD O	QUAL	LIN ZHU	3-6 6-2 6-3
2016	ITF/CHENZHO	HARD O	R16	LIN ZHU	6-4 7-6

LIN ZHU	WTA RANKING	XIYU WANG
77		127
33	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	97
28-01-1994 (26)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	28-03-2001 (18)
\$113,944	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$47,610
\$1,182,459	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$313,023
0 / 0	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
0 / 1	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
2-0	<b>ACAPULCO W-L (MD) *</b>	2-0
4-4 / 31-46	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	5-2 / 9-13
1-2 / 11-15	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	2-1 / 2-3
3-1 / 10-10	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	1-1 / 3-2
4-4 / 31-42	<b>YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *</b>	5-2 / 9-13
0-0 / 3-1	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 1-0
0-0 / 0-4	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 0-0
0-0 / 0-5	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 0-1
0-1 / 2-11	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	1-1 / 1-3

\* Updated entering 2020 Acapulco QF

### ZHU:

- Making debut appearance at Acapulco
- Defeated Zavatska and Boulter in straight sets in the opening two rounds to reach first QF since 2019 Nanchang (l. Peng)
- Looking to reach third SF of her career, previously reached last four at 2016 Kuala Lumpur (l. Svitolina) and 2018 Nanchang (S.Zheng)
- Faces qualifier X.Wang today in an all-Chinese QF. Leads their head-to-head 2-0
- Played doubles this week with Y.Wang, losing in 1r to No.3 seeds Perez/Sanders
- Started 2020 with 1r exits in Shenzhen (l. Peng) and Hobart (l. Kuzmova) but reached 2r at the Australian Open (l. Riske) and Hua Hin (l. Kung). Recorded career-high ranking of No.69 following performance at Hua Hin
- Played primarily on the ITF Circuit in 2019, winning three titles and finishing runner-up at three further tournaments. Finished year ranked inside Top 100 (No.83) for the first time
- Ended 2018 ranked No.114 – her fifth consecutive Top 200 finish
- 2018 season highlighted by second career WTA semifinal at Nanchang (l. Zheng). At tour level, also made 2r at Hiroshima (l. Tomljanovic) and fell 1r on four occasions (including Australian Open)
- Won two ITF Circuit titles in 2018, at \$60k Luan-CHN and \$60k Jinan-CHN

- Posted career-high ranking of No.93 on February 25, 2019
- Prior to 2018, best results on tour were SF at Kuala Lumpur in 2016 (l. Svitolina) and QF runs at Taipei City, Nanchang and Tianjin in 2017
- Won doubles title at WTA 125K Series event at Zhengzhou in 2017 (w/Han)
- The 2015 season proved to be her breakthrough at tour level, reaching 2r at Pattaya City (as qualifier, l. Duan) and Kuala Lumpur (l. Wozniacki); qualified at Shenzhen before losing 1r (l. Krunic) and fell in qualifying at Hobart and Australian Open
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2014 Hong Kong – as qualifier, l. Cepelova in 2r
- Winner of 10 singles and seven doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Was selected to participate in the 2015 WTA Rising Stars Invitational in Singapore
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in China in 2009
- Coached by Tim Nicholls

## X.WANG:

- Bidding to reach her maiden WTA SF on debut appearance at Acapulco
- Defeated Hibi and Kalinina in straight sets in the two rounds of qualifying
- Reached second straight QF after defeating No.2 seed Y.Wang in the 1r and two-time champion Errani in the 2r
- Faces No.6 seed Zhu in all-Chinese QF match-up. Has lost both of their previous encounters
- Reached maiden QF at Hua Hin earlier this month (l. eventual champion Linette). Defeated No.15 Martic in 1r for first victory over a Top 20 player
- Also in 2020, reached 2r in Shenzhen (l. Mertens), failed to qualify at the Australian Open and fell in 1r at ITF/25k Nonthaburi (l. Namigata)
- Ended last season at No.143, having risen to career-high No.115 on August 12
- Best result of 2019 at Tour-level was 2r showing at Miami (as WC, l. Bertens). Also fell 1r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2019 US Open (as LL, l. Flipkens)
- Finished 2018 season ranked No.200, up from No.592 in 2017
- Season highlights in 2018 were maiden ITF Singles titles at \$25,000 Nonthaburi and \$25,000 Tsukuba
- Also won four doubles titles in 2018; at \$25k Barcelona (w/Ho), \$25k Madrid (w/Gonzalez), \$25k Nonthaburi (w/X.Wang)
- At tour-level in 2018 contested Wuhan; fell 2r to Kasatkina in what was her first match vs. Top 20 opponent
- Owns four Top 100 wins; most recently against No.71 Peterson in qualifying at 2019 Toronto
- Made professional debut at 2016 \$10k ITF/Aning, CHN
- Coached by Eduardo Nicolas



# MATCH NOTES

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## [7] HEATHER WATSON (GBR #69) vs. CHRISTINA MCHALE (USA #86)

Head to Head: CHRISTINA MCHALE leads 2-1

2016	ACAPULCO	HARD O	R1	CHRISTINA MCHALE	4-6	6-0	7-6(1)	147 mins
2013	ITF/POITIERS	HARD I	R1	HEATHER WATSON	2-6	7-5	6-4	n/a
2011	CHARLESTON	CLAY O	R1	CHRISTINA MCHALE	5-7	6-3	7-6(3)	171 mins

HEATHER WATSON	WTA RANKING	CHRISTINA MCHALE
69		86
49	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	129
19-05-1992 (27)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	11-05-1992 (27)
\$104,440	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$83,908
\$3,705,955	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$4,177,917
0 / 3	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 1
0 / 4	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 2
3-3	<b>ACAPULCO W-L (MD) *</b>	13-5
7-3 / 115-148	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	3-3 / 166-194
4-1 / 42-58	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	2-1 / 71-74
2-1 / 29-41	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 35-47
6-2 / 75-90	<b>YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *</b>	3-3 / 110-120
2-0 / 12-10	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 13-12
0-0 / 0-13	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 3-14
0-0 / 2-17	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-1 / 6-33
1-1 / 9-38	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-3 / 16-67

\* Updated entering 2020 Acapulco QF

## ROAD TO THE QUARTERFINALS

### [7] HEATHER WATSON (GBR #69)

**R16:** d. KATERYNA BONDARENKO (UKR #494) 7-6(2),6-2 (1h44)

**R32:** d. COCO VANDEWEGHE (USA #193) 4-6,6-4,6-4 (2h30)

### CHRISTINA MCHALE (USA #86)

**R16:** d. CAROLINE DOLEHIDE (USA #139) 5-7,6-4,6-3 (2h51)

**R32:** d. [4] LAUREN DAVIS (USA #60) 6-2,1-6,6-4 (2h07)

Total games: 51  
 Won/lost: 29-22  
 Sets won/lost: 4-1  
 Total time on court: 4h14  
 Average time on court: 2h07  
 Average rank of opponent: 344

Total games: 56  
 Won/lost: 30-26  
 Sets won/lost: 4-2  
 Total time on court: 4h58  
 Average time on court: 2h29  
 Average rank of opponent: 100



# MATCH NOTES

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## ACAPULCO Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

### HEATHER WATSON

2018			
R1	L - BEATRIZ HADDAD MAIA (BRA #60)	7-5	4-6 6-1
2017			
R16	L - KRISTINA MLADENOVIC (FRA #30)	7-6(4)	6-7(5) 7-5
2016			
R1	L - CHRISTINA MCHALE (USA #64)	4-6	6-0 7-6(1)
2014			
R1-Q	L - VICTORIA DUVAL (USA #157)	6-2	2-1

### CHRISTINA MCHALE

2019			
R16	L - DONNA VEKIC (CRO #28)	6-4	7-5
2018			
R1	L - IRINA-CAMELIA BEGU (ROU #36)	3-6	6-2 6-4
2017			
SF	L - KRISTINA MLADENOVIC (FRA #30)	7-5	4-6 6-2
2016			
SF	L - DOMINIKA CIBULKOVA (SVK #66)	6-3	6-3
2014			
F	L - DOMINIKA CIBULKOVA (SVK #13)	7-6(3)	4-6 6-4

## WATSON:

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Acapulco (fifth overall), where she is bidding to reach SF for the first time
- Came from a set down to defeat Vandeweghe in 1r and overcame K.Bondarenko in straight sets in 2r to advance to QF for second time this season (also SF run at Hobart)
- Faces McHale today for a place in SF. Trails their head-to-head 1-3 and lost their most recent meeting here in the 1r in 2016 – the only time they have previously played on outdoor hard courts
- Also through to the doubles QF here with Hibino. Will play No.3 seeds Perez/Sanders later today
- Defeated Sramkova but lost to Schmiedlova as Great Britain were defeated by Slovakia 3-1 in the Fed Cup qualifiers
- Elsewhere in 2020, reached SF as a qualifier at Hobart (l. eventual champion Rybakina) but fell to Mertens in 2r at the Australian Open
- Ended 2019 back in the Top 100 (No.92); finished R-Up at Tianjin and won two ITF Circuit titles
- Finished 2018 just outside the Top 100 (No.101). Best year-end finish came in 2012 (No.49)
- Highlights of 2018 were SF runs at Hobart (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Mertens) and Quebec City (l. eventual champion Parmentier). Also picked up fourth career WTA doubles title at Acapulco (w/Maria) and reached doubles final at Nottingham (w/Buzarnescu)
- Won third WTA singles title of career at 2016 Monterrey (d. Flipkens in F), adding to wins at 2012 Osaka and 2015 Hobart (3-0 record in finals)
- Hit career-high singles ranking of No.38 on January 19, 2015 after title run at Hobart
- Lifetime record against Top 10 players stands at 2-17, with wins coming against No.8 A.Radwanska (2015 Indian Wells) and No.9 Cibulkova (2017 Eastbourne)
- In doubles owns four WTA titles, most recently at 2018 Acapulco (w/Maria)



- Represented Great Britain at 2016 Rio Olympics, reaching 2r in singles (l. Svitolina), 2r in doubles (w/Konta, l. H.Chan/Y.Chan) and QF in mixed doubles (w/A.Murray, l. Bopanna/Mirza)
- Struggled throughout 2014 season with a right rib injury and missed two months in 2013 due to glandular fever (Miami to Roland Garros)
- Enjoyed a breakthrough 2012 season, winning Osaka to become first British woman to win a WTA singles title since Sara Gomer in 1988. Finished year as British No.1
- With 2012 Osaka singles title, became first British woman to win a WTA singles title since Sara Gomer in 1988
- Broke into Top 100 on June 6, 2011 and made Top 50 debut on October 15, 2012
- On ITF Circuit, winner of six singles and three doubles titles
- Made WTA main draw debut as a wildcard at 2010 Miami and recorded first main draw match win at 2010 Eastbourne
- Played first professional event on ITF Circuit at 2009 ITF/Jersey-GBR
- Member of Great Britain Fed Cup Team, 2011-18 and Great Britain Olympic Team, 2012, 2016
- Born on Channel Island of Guernsey. Mother is Michelle and father is Ian; siblings are Adam, Stephanie and Julie
- Started playing at age 7; moved to Bollettieri Academy in Florida at age 12 (still trains there)
- Endorsement portfolio includes New Balance, Dunlop, Jaguar and Always

## **MCHALE:**

- Making sixth appearance at Acapulco, where she was R-Up in 2014 (l. Cibulkova). Is one of five former finalists in the main draw this year (also V.Williams, Errani, Stephens and Y.Wang)
- Bidding to reach SF here for fourth time. As well as reaching final in 2014 (l. Cibulkova), reached SF in 2016 (l. Cibulkova) and 2017 (l. Mladenovic). Fell in 1r in 2018 (l. Begu) and exited in 2r last year (l. Vekic)
- Defeated compatriots No.4 seed Davis and qualifier Dolehide in 3 sets in the opening two rounds to reach first WTA QF since 2017 Tianjin (l. Errani) and record first back-to-back wins at WTA level since 2019 Indian Wells
- Faces No.7 seed Watson for a place in SF today. Looking to reach first WTA SF since 2017 Tokyo (l. Diyas)
- Lost doubles 1r here with Arruabarrena (l. Dolehide/Sharma)
- So far in 2020, reached 2r in Auckland (l. eventual champion S.Williams), fell in 1r at Hobart (l. Mertens) and the Australian Open (l. Martic) but recorded a QF finish at the Oracle Challenger Series \$125k (l. Voegelé)
- Ended 2019 season ranked No.85 – her eighth Top 100 season in the past nine years – with the highlights of her campaign a fourth ITF Circuit title at \$80K Cagnes-sur-Mer-FRA and a 3r run at Indian Wells
- 2018 highlight was 3r showing at Miami (d. No.24 Strycova in 2r, l. Muguruza)
- In 2017 posted SF runs at Acapulco and Tokyo [Japan Open] and QF at Tianjin
- Posted third non-consecutive Top 50 season in 2016 (first since 2012), at No.45 – her sixth successive Top 100 season. Won a career-best 26 main draw matches in 2016 and won first WTA singles title of career at Tokyo [Japan Open] (d. Siniakova in F). Now 1-1 in tour-level finals, having been runner-up at 2014 Acapulco (l. Cibulkova)
- 2016 season also brought first two career WTA doubles titles, at Hobart (w/Han) and Tianjin (w/Peng)
- Enjoyed breakout year in 2012 when she became youngest member of US Olympic tennis team (four days younger than Ryan Harrison); also reached 3r of three straight Slams (Australian Open, Roland Garros, Wimbledon)



- Achieved career-best ranking of No.24 the week of August 20, 2012, but contracted mononucleosis and dropped out of the Top 100 on August 12, 2013 (to No.115), before finishing the year at No.68
- Broke into Top 100 on March 21, 2011 and Top 50 on September 12 the same year
- Owns six wins against Top 10 players including three against the Top 5 – d. No.1 Wozniacki at 2011 Cincinnati, No.3 Kvitova at 2012 Indian Wells and No.4 Muguruza at 2016 Indian Wells
- Broke into Top 100 on March 21, 2011 and Top 50 on September 12 the same year.
- Played first WTA qualifying at 2008 New Haven and made main draw debut at 2009 Australian Open (both as WC); recorded first tour-level match win at 2009 US Open (in second tour-level main draw)
- Coached by Peter Lucassen
- Lived in Hong Kong from age three to eight after father's job was relocated
- Older sister Lauren played college tennis and is now married to ATP player Ryan Harrison and works in broadcast media



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## [WC] RENATA ZARAZUA (MEX #270) vs. TAMARA ZIDANSEK (SLO #74)

Head to Head: First meeting

RENATA ZARAZUA	WTA RANKING	TAMARA ZIDANSEK
270		74
170	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	113
30-09-1997 (22)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	26-12-1997 (22)
\$3,790	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$105,210
\$165,218	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$902,109
0 / 0	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
0 / 0	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 1
3-3	<b>ACAPULCO W-L (MD) *</b>	2-0
2-0 / 5-9	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	4-4 / 26-29
1-0 / 3-4	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 10-10
0-0 / 3-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	2-0 / 6-3
2-0 / 3-7	<b>YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *</b>	4-4 / 10-16
0-0 / 1-0	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 2-2
0-0 / 0-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 0-1
0-0 / 0-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-1 / 0-3
0-0 / 0-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-1 / 1-5

\* Updated entering 2020 Acapulco QF

### ROAD TO THE QUARTERFINALS

#### [WC] RENATA ZARAZUA (MEX #270)

R16: d. KATIE VOLYNETS (USA #384) 4-6,7-5,6-0 (2h42)

R32: d. [1] SLOANE STEPHENS (USA #35) 6-4,6-2 (1h25)

Total games: 46  
Won/lost: 29-17  
Sets won/lost: 4-1  
Total time on court: 4h07  
Average time on court: 2h04  
Average rank of opponent: 210

#### TAMARA ZIDANSEK (SLO #74)

R16: d. KAJA JUVAN (SLO #125) 6-2,6-2 (1h14)

R32: d. ANNA KALINSKAYA (RUS #111) 6-3,6-4 (1h31)

Total games: 35  
Won/lost: 24-11  
Sets won/lost: 4-0  
Total time on court: 2h45  
Average time on court: 1h23  
Average rank of opponent: 118

### ACAPULCO Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

#### RENATA ZARAZUA

2019

R1 L - SAISAI ZHENG (CHN #40) 3-6 7-5 6-4



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### 2018

R16 L - DARIA GAVRILOVA (AUS #26) 7-5 6-3

### 2017

R1 L - KIRSTEN FLIPKENS (BEL #76) 7-5 6-7(1) 6-1

### 2016

R1-Q L - VIKTORIJA GOLUBIC (SUI #139) 6-2 7-5

## ZARAZUA:

- Playing Acapulco for the fourth time (fifth overall). Only previous win came over Kr.Pliskova during 2r showing in 2018 (l. No.26 Gavrilova)
- Upset top seed and World No.35 Stephens in 1r; prior to this, best career win, and only one at tour-level, came over No.77 Kr.Pliskova here in 2018
- Recovered from 6-4 4-2 down to beat WC Volynets in 2r and become first Mexican woman to reach WTA QF since Torres Sandoval reach the same stage here in Acapulco in 2007
- Prior to this week, best result this season was SF run at \$25K ITF/Vero Beach, USA
- Ended 2019 ranked No.280 (down from No.258 in 2018 and No.248 in 2017)
- Last year, reached SF three times on ITF Circuit. Also made R16 at WTA 125K Series event at Newport Beach, fell 1r at Acapulco (l. S.Zheng), Monterrey (l. Diyas) and Strasbourg (as qualifier, l. Siegemund) and contested qualifying at Bogotá
- Won first tour-level match during 2r showing at 2018 Acapulco (d. Kr.Pliskova, l. Gavrilova). Also in 2018, fell in qualifying at Roland Garros, Wimbledon and US Open
- Posted career-high ranking of No.186 on June 18, 2018
- In 2016, rose over 200 places in the ranking (finishing No.291), posting 39-30 record (predominantly on ITF Circuit)
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2016 Acapulco, while maiden main draw was 1r exit at 2016 Florianopolis (as qualifier, l. Pella)
- Made Fed Cup debut in 2015; owns 11-10 win-loss record representing her country in the competition
- On ITF Circuit, owns two singles – at \$10K Leon-MEX and \$10K La Bisbal d'Empordà-ESP in 2016 – and 15 doubles titles
- Born in Mexico City but now resides in Tampa, Florida, USA
- Favorite surface is clay and started playing tennis aged five

## ZIDANSEK:

- Playing Acapulco for the first time, where she is through to her first QF since R-Up finish at Nürnberg in May 2019
- Has dropped just 11 games across wins over Kalinskaya in 1r and qualifier Juvan in 2r – only Fernandez (eight) games has conceded fewer
- Faces No.270 Zarazua in QF today; last loss to a player outside Top 200 came against No.375 Bhosale at \$25K ITF/Solapur-IND
- Prior to this week, best results this season were 2r showings at Auckland (l. Pegula) and Australian Open (l. S.Williams)
- Ended 2019 ranked No.64 for career-best year-end ranking, up from No.74 in 2018
- Posted career-high ranking of No.56 on July 22, 2019

- Other highlights were reaching first WTA singles final, at Nurnberg (l. Putintseva in F), as well as defending WTA 125k Series title at Bol (d. Sorribes Tormo in F) and reaching SF at Hua Hin (l. Tomljanovic)
- Posted first Top 100 finish in 2018, at No.70, becoming the ninth Slovenian player in history to crack the Top 100
- Highlights in 2018 included SF run at Moscow [River Cup] and title run at Bol WTA 125K Series event
- Broke into Top 100 (at No.95) following Bol title on June 11, 2018
- In 2018, posted seven tour-level main draw wins and 40 on ITF Circuit
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2018 Brisbane
- Made WTA main draw debut at Rabat in 2018, losing to Hsieh in 2r (as qualifier) and Grand Slam main draw debut at US Open (fell to Mladenovic in 1r)
- Spent three months off tour with left knee injury in 2018
- In terms of ranking, career-best win to date came over No.13 Kasatkina at 2018 Moscow [River Cup]
- Made Fed Cup debut in 2017
- Has 17 singles and four doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Won first ITF title of career aged 16 at \$10k Velenje in 2014
- Coach is Zoran Krajnc



# MATCH NOTES

ACAPULCO - MEXICO | Feb 24 - Feb 29, 2020 | \$275,000 | INTERNATIONAL

## ANASTASIA POTAPOVA (RUS #97) vs. LEYLAH FERNANDEZ (CAN #190)

Head to Head: 0-0

ANASTASIA POTAPOVA	WTA RANKING	LEYLAH FERNANDEZ
97		190
59	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	214
30-03-2001 (18)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	06-09-2002 (17)
\$101,668	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$63,153
\$829,560	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$119,501
0 / 0	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
0 / 2	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
2-0	<b>ACAPULCO W-L (MD) *</b>	2-0
4-2 / 26-24	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	3-2 / 4-6
1-0 / 12-10	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 0-1
1-1 / 7-3	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	1-1 / 2-2
4-2 / 15-16	<b>YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *</b>	3-2 / 4-5
0-0 / 4-3	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-1 / 0-2
0-0 / 1-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	1-0 / 1-0
0-2 / 1-3	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	1-0 / 1-0
0-2 / 2-6	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	1-0 / 1-0

\* Updated entering 2020 Acapulco QF

### ROAD TO THE QUARTERFINAL

#### ANASTASIA POTAPOVA (RUS #97)

**R16:** d. TATJANA MARIA (GER #90) 6-3,6-3 (1h24)

**R32:** d. ANNA KAROLINA SCHMIEDLOVA (SVK #200) 4-6,7-5,6-1 (2h18)

Total games: 47  
Won/lost: 29-18  
Sets won/lost: 4-1  
Total time on court: 3h42  
Average time on court: 1h51  
Average rank of opponent: 145

#### LEYLAH FERNANDEZ (CAN #190)

**R16:** d. [8] NAO HIBINO (JPN #71) 6-3,6-1 (1h4)

**R32:** d. NINA STOJANOVIC (SRB #82) 6-4,6-1 (1h10)

**R2-Q:** d. VARVARA LEPCHENKO (USA #171) 6-3,6-3 (1h20)

**R1-Q:** d. LIZETTE CABRERA (AUS #122) 6-3,6-1 (1h17)

Total games: 24  
Won/lost: 24-9  
Sets won/lost: 4-0  
Total time on court: 2h14  
Average time on court: 1h7  
Average rank of opponent: 76

### ACAPULCO Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

## POTAPOVA:

- Making tournament debut in Acapulco
- Completed comeback in 1r over Schmieidlova after dropping tight first set
- Clinched spot in QF with defeat of Maria – second QF of year after making same stage in home country of Russia at St. Petersburg (l. eventual champion Bertens)
- Faces No.190 Fernandez today for first time
- Owns 4-1 record in career QF matches with St. Petersburg as the lone loss
- Last advanced to QF at Jurmala (l. No.11 and eventual champion Sevastova in SF)
- One of five teenagers to start the main draw – also today's opponent Hernandez who is 17
- Reentered Top 100 after making QF at her first Premier-level event at St. Petersburg after coming through qualifying
- At Australian Open this year, made 1r exit to Serena Williams
- Fell in 2r qualifying at Adelaide International, following 3r qualifying loss in Brisbane the week prior to begin 2020 season
- Finished last season ranked No.93 after a season highlighted by SF at Budapest (l. Vondrousova) and Jurmala (l. Sevastova)
- Posted career-high ranking of No.64 on July 22
- Also in 2019, reached 2r on seven occasions, including at Australian Open, Roland Garros and Wimbledon. Scored first Top 10 win over No.5 Kerber at Roland Garros
- In doubles, won title at Lausanne w/Sizikova
- Ended 2018 ranked No.94 for first finish inside Top 100
- Season highlighted by R-Up finishes at Tashkent (as qualifier, l. Gasparyan) and at Moscow [River Cup] (l. Danilovic)
- Also won doubles title at Moscow [River Cup] w/Zvonareva (d. Panova/Voskoboeva in F)
- Made Fed Cup debut during defeat to Slovakia in February (l. Kuzmova)
- Reached 2r at St. Petersburg in February (l. Wozniacki). Win over Maria in 1r was first at tour level
- On ITF Circuit owns one singles and two doubles titles
- Climbed to No.1 in the junior world rankings following 2016 junior Wimbledon title
- Best Grand Slam results are 2r showings at Australian Open (l. Keys), Roland Garros (l. Vondrousova) and Wimbledon (l. Martic) in 2019
- At 16 years and three months, became youngest player to successfully navigate Slam qualifying since Ana Konjuh, who had just turned 16 when she did it at 2014 Australian Open
- Captured 2016 Wimbledon girls junior title, having to win final point three separate times after two challenge overrules – title lifted her to Junior World No.1
- In junior doubles, posted two runner-up finishes at 2015 US Open and 2016 Roland Garros
- Grandmother, and former Russian national team coach, inspired her to start playing tennis
- Trains at her agent Alexander Ostrovsky's Academy in Khimki
- Currently coached by Iain Hughes
- Enjoys playing basketball

## FERNANDEZ:

- Making tournament debut where she is into her first career WTA QF
- Defeated Cabrera and Lepchenko in qualifying to reach second main draw of the year
- Converted 5/5 break points in both her 1r win over Stojanovic and 2r win over Hibino – both wins coming just over one hour
- Earned her first back-to-back match wins on WTA level
- Faces No.97 Potapova today – owns three Top 100 wins with two coming here in first two rounds
- At 17yo, is youngest player to start main draw and one of five teenagers – also today's opponent Potapova who is 18
- In Fed Cup action for Canada, earned first Top 100 win with a shocking defeat of No.5 Bencic
- Earlier this year came through qualifying at Australian Open defeating Tig, Hibi and Lao to reach first main draw of a Grand Slam (l. Davis in 1r)
- Result helped her reach career high ranking of No.185 for first time in Top 200
- Kicked off year with qualifying loss in Auckland (l. Badosa)
- Played one WTA tournament in 2019 at Hiroshima (l. Hibino in 1r) ending year ranked No.209
- Also in 2019 on ITF circuit, won first title at ITF \$80k/Granby-CAN (d. Cabrera) and reached two further finals
- Played first WTA main draw and earned first main draw win of career at 2018 Quebec City defeating countrywoman Dabrowski in 1r (l. Watson in 2r)

- Made professional debut on ITF circuit in 2016



# MATCH NOTES

ACAPULCO - MEXICO | Feb 24 - Feb 29, 2020 | \$275,000 | INTERNATIONAL

## [7] HEATHER WATSON (GBR #69) vs. XIYU WANG (CHN #127)

Head to Head: 0-0

HEATHER WATSON	WTA RANKING	XIYU WANG
69		127
49	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	97
19-05-1992 (27)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	28-03-2001 (18)
\$104,440	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$47,610
\$3,705,955	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$313,023
0 / 3	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
0 / 4	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
4-3	<b>ACAPULCO W-L (MD) *</b>	3-0
8-3 / 116-148	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	6-2 / 10-13
5-1 / 43-58	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	2-1 / 2-3
2-1 / 29-41	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	1-1 / 3-2
7-2 / 76-90	<b>YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *</b>	6-2 / 10-13
2-0 / 12-10	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 1-0
0-0 / 0-13	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 0-0
0-0 / 2-17	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	0-0 / 0-1
1-1 / 9-38	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	1-1 / 1-3

\* Updated entering 2020 Acapulco SF

### ROAD TO THE SEMIFINAL

#### [7] HEATHER WATSON (GBR #69)

**QF:** d. CHRISTINA MCHALE (USA #86) 6-3,1-6,6-1 (1h52)

**R16:** d. KATERYNA BONDARENKO (UKR #494) 7-6(2),6-2 (1h44)

**R32:** d. COCO VANDEWEGHE (USA #193) 4-6,6-4,6-4 (2h30)

Total games: 74

Won/lost: 42-32

Sets won/lost: 6-2

Total time on court: 6h06

Average time on court: 2h02

Average rank of opponent: 258

#### XIYU WANG (CHN #127)

**QF:** d. [6] ZHU LIN (CHN #77) 6-2,6-2 (1h2)

**R16:** d. [Q] SARA ERRANI (ITA #185) 7-5,6-7(3),6-1 (2h31)

**R32:** d. [2] YAFAN WANG (CHN #56) 6-4,7-6(8) (1h51)

**R2-Q:** d. ANHELINA KALININA (UKR #140) 7-6(0),7-5 (2h2)

**R1-Q:** d. MAO HIBI (JPN #162) 6-3,6-4 (1h25)

Total games: 71

Won/lost: 44-27

Sets won/lost: 6-1

Total time on court: 5h24

Average time on court: 1h48

Average rank of opponent: 106

### ACAPULCO Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

#### HEATHER WATSON

2018

R1 L - BEATRIZ HADDAD MAIA (BRA #60) 7-5 4-6 6-1





# MATCH NOTES

ACAPULCO - MEXICO | Feb 24 - Feb 29, 2020 | \$275,000 | INTERNATIONAL

## 2017

R16 L - KRISTINA MLADENOVIC (FRA #30) 7-6(4) 6-7(5)  
7-5

## 2016

R1 L - CHRISTINA MCHALE (USA #64) 4-6 6-0 7-6(1)

## 2014

R1-Q L - VICTORIA DUVAL (USA #157) 6-2 2-1

## WATSON:

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Acapulco (fifth overall), where she has posted her best result by making it into her second SF of the year
- Best previous result came in R16 appearance in 2017 (l. Mladenovici)
- Came from a set down to defeat Vandeweghe in 1r and overcame K.Bondarenko in straight sets in 2r to advance to QF for second time this season (also SF run at Hobart)
- Ousted McHale in another three-set match, all four matches between the two have now gone the distance with head-to-head record at 2-2
- Faces No.127 Wang Xiyu today for the first time – owns 2-5 record against Chinese opposition
- Aiming to become the first Brit in tournament history to make the final here in Acapulco
- Owns 4-5 record in career SF matches – last advanced at 2019 Tianjin (l. Peterson in F)
- Earlier this month, defeated Sramkova but lost to Schmiedlova as Great Britain were defeated by Slovakia 3-1 in the Fed Cup qualifiers
- Elsewhere in 2020, reached SF as a qualifier at Hobart (l. eventual champion Rybakina) but fell to Mertens in 2r at the Australian Open
- Ended 2019 back in the Top 100 (No.92); finished R-Up at Tianjin and won two ITF Circuit titles
- Finished 2018 just outside the Top 100 (No.101). Best year-end finish came in 2012 (No.49)
- Highlights of 2018 were SF runs at Hobart (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Mertens) and Quebec City (l. eventual champion Parmentier). Also picked up fourth career WTA doubles title at Acapulco (w/Maria) and reached doubles final at Nottingham (w/Buzarnescu)
- Won third WTA singles title of career at 2016 Monterrey (d. Flipkens in F), adding to wins at 2012 Osaka and 2015 Hobart (3-0 record in finals)
- Hit career-high singles ranking of No.38 on January 19, 2015 after title run at Hobart
- Lifetime record against Top 10 players stands at 2-17, with wins coming against No.8 A.Radwanska (2015 Indian Wells) and No.9 Cibulkova (2017 Eastbourne)
- In doubles owns four WTA titles, most recently at 2018 Acapulco (w/Maria)
- Represented Great Britain at 2016 Rio Olympics, reaching 2r in singles (l. Svitolina), 2r in doubles (w/Konta, l. H.Chan/Y.Chan) and QF in mixed doubles (w/A.Murray, l. Bopanna/Mirza)
- Struggled throughout 2014 season with a right rib injury and missed two months in 2013 due to glandular fever (Miami to Roland Garros)
- Enjoyed a breakthrough 2012 season, winning Osaka to become first British woman to win a WTA singles title since Sara Gomer in 1988. Finished year as British No.1
- With 2012 Osaka singles title, became first British woman to win a WTA singles title since Sara Gomer in 1988
- Broke into Top 100 on June 6, 2011 and made Top 50 debut on October 15, 2012
- On ITF Circuit, winner of six singles and three doubles titles
- Made WTA main draw debut as a wildcard at 2010 Miami and recorded first main draw match win at 2010 Eastbourne
- Played first professional event on ITF Circuit at 2009 ITF/Jersey-GBR
- Member of Great Britain Fed Cup Team, 2011-18 and Great Britain Olympic Team, 2012, 2016
- Born on Channel Island of Guernsey. Mother is Michelle and father is Ian; siblings are Adam, Stephanie and Julie

- Started playing at age 7; moved to Bollettieri Academy in Florida at age 12 (still trains there)
- Endorsement portfolio includes New Balance, Dunlop, Jaguar and Always

## **X.WANG:**

- Has reached her maiden WTA SF on debut appearance at Acapulco
- Defeated Hibi and Kalinina in straight sets in the two rounds of qualifying
- Reached second straight QF after defeating No.2 seed Y.Wang in the 1r and two-time champion Errani in the 2r
- Defeated No.6 seed Zhu in another all-Chinese QF match-up who she had yet to win a match against in two previous encounters
- Faces another seed in No.7 Watson today – aiming to be only the second Chinese player in tournament history to make the final here after Wang Yafan won the title last year
- One of two qualifiers into the SF (also Fernandez), the first time more than one qualifier has advanced to the final four
- A qualifier has made the final only on one occasion in 2004 when Benesova beat Pennetta in the final
- Also one of two teenagers (also Fernandez) in the semifinals – a teenager has not won the championship here in the 20 year history of the tournament
- Reached maiden QF at Hua Hin earlier this month (l. eventual champion Linette). Defeated No.15 Martic in 1r for first victory over a Top 20 player
- Also in 2020, reached 2r in Shenzhen (l. Mertens), failed to qualify at the Australian Open and fell in 1r at ITF/25k Nonthaburi (l. Namigata)
- Ended last season at No.143, having risen to career-high No.115 on August 12
- Best result of 2019 at Tour-level was 2r showing at Miami (as WC, l. Bertens). Also fell 1r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2019 US Open (as LL, l. Flipkens)
- Finished 2018 season ranked No.200, up from No.592 in 2017
- Season highlights in 2018 were maiden ITF Singles titles at \$25,000 Nonthaburi and \$25,000 Tsukuba
- Also won four doubles titles in 2018; at \$25k Barcelona (w/Ho), \$25k Madrid (w/Gonzalez), \$25k Nonthaburi (w/X.Wang)
- At tour-level in 2018 contested Wuhan; fell 2r to Kasatkina in what was her first match vs. Top 20 opponent
- Owns four Top 100 wins; most recently against No.71 Peterson in qualifying at 2019 Toronto
- Made professional debut at 2016 \$10k ITF/Anning, CHN
- Coached by Eduardo Nicolas



# MATCH NOTES

ACAPULCO - MEXICO | Feb 24 - Feb 29, 2020 | \$275,000 | INTERNATIONAL

## [WC] RENATA ZARAZUA (MEX #270) vs. [Q] LEYLAH FERNANDEZ (CAN #190)

Head to Head: 0-0

RENATA ZARAZUA	WTA RANKING	LEYLAH FERNANDEZ
270		190
170	<b>PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD</b>	214
30-09-1997 (22)	<b>DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)</b>	06-09-2002 (17)
\$3,790	<b>YTD PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$63,153
\$165,218	<b>CAREER PRIZE MONEY</b>	\$119,501
0 / 0	<b>SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
0 / 0	<b>DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)</b>	0 / 0
4-3	<b>ACAPULCO W-L (MD) *</b>	3-0
3-0 / 6-9	<b>YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *</b>	4-2 / 5-6
2-0 / 4-4	<b>YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *</b>	0-0 / 0-1
0-0 / 3-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *</b>	1-1 / 2-2
3-0 / 4-7	<b>YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *</b>	4-2 / 5-5
0-0 / 1-0	<b>YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *</b>	0-1 / 0-2
0-0 / 0-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	1-0 / 1-0
0-0 / 0-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	1-0 / 1-0
0-0 / 0-1	<b>YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD &amp; Q) *</b>	1-0 / 1-0

\* Updated entering 2020 Acapulco SF

### ROAD TO THE SEMIFINAL

#### [WC] RENATA ZARAZUA (MEX #270)

**QF:** d. TAMARA ZIDANSEK (SLO #74) 6-2,3-6,6-2 (1h44)

**R16:** d. KATIE VOLYNETS (USA #384) 4-6,7-5,6-0 (2h42)

**R32:** d. [1] SLOANE STEPHENS (USA #35) 6-4,6-2 (1h25)

Total games: 71

Won/lost: 44-27

Sets won/lost: 6-2

Total time on court: 5h51

Average time on court: 1h57

Average rank of opponent: 164

#### [Q] LEYLAH FERNANDEZ (CAN #190)

**QF:** d. ANASTASIA POTAPOVA (RUS #97) 6-3,7-5 (1hr33)

**R16:** d. [8] NAO HIBINO (JPN #71) 6-3,6-1 (1h4)

**R32:** d. NINA STOJANOVIC (SRB #82) 6-4,6-1 (1h10)

**R2-Q:** d. VARVARA LEPCHENKO (USA #171) 6-3,6-3 (1h20)

**R1-Q:** d. LIZETTE CABRERA (AUS #122) 6-3,6-1 (1h17)

Total games: 54

Won/lost: 37-17

Sets won/lost: 6-0

Total time on court: 3h47

Average time on court: 1h15

Average rank of opponent: 83

### ACAPULCO Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

#### RENATA ZARAZUA

2019

R1 L - SAISAI ZHENG (CHN #40) 3-6 7-5 6-4



## MATCH NOTES

ACAPULCO - MEXICO | Feb 24 - Feb 29, 2020 | \$275,000 | INTERNATIONAL

### 2018

R16 L - DARIA GAVRILOVA (AUS #26) 7-5 6-3

### 2017

R1 L - KIRSTEN FLIPKENS (BEL #76) 7-5 6-7(1) 6-1

### 2016

R1-Q L - VIKTORIJA GOLUBIC (SUI #139) 6-2 7-5

## ZARAZUA:

- Playing Acapulco for the fourth time (fifth overall). Only previous win came over Kr.Pliskova during 2r showing in 2018 (l. No.26 Gavrilova)
- Upset top seed and World No.35 Stephens in 1r; prior to this, best career win, and only one at tour-level, came over No.77 Kr.Pliskova here in 2018
- Recovered from 6-4 4-2 down to beat WC Volynets in 2r and become first Mexican woman to reach WTA QF since Torres Sandoval reached the final eight here in Acapulco in 2007
- Ousted Zidasek in another three-set match to become the first Mexican woman to reach a tour-level SF since 1993 when Galvador reached SF in San Juan
- Faces Canadian teenager, Fernandez, today hoping to become the first Mexican player to reach a tour-level singles final
- Entered this week ranked No.270 – will reach Top 200 by reaching SF, projected to be Top 160 if she makes the final and Top 130 if she wins the title
- Prior to this week, best result this season was SF run at \$25K ITF/Vero Beach, USA
- Ended 2019 ranked No.280 (down from No.258 in 2018 and No.248 in 2017)
- Last year, reached SF three times on ITF Circuit. Also made R16 at WTA 125K Series event at Newport Beach, fell 1r at Acapulco (l. S.Zheng), Monterrey (l. Diyas) and Strasbourg (as qualifier, l. Siegemund) and contested qualifying at Bogotá
- Won first tour-level match during 2r showing at 2018 Acapulco (d. Kr.Pliskova, l. Gavrilova). Also in 2018, fell in qualifying at Roland Garros, Wimbledon and US Open
- Posted career-high ranking of No. 186 on June 18, 2018
- In 2016, rose over 200 places in the ranking (finishing No.291), posting 39-30 record (predominantly on ITF Circuit)
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2016 Acapulco, while maiden main draw was 1r exit at 2016 Florianopolis (as qualifier, l. Pella)
- Made Fed Cup debut in 2015; owns 11-10 win-loss record representing her country in the competition
- On ITF Circuit, owns two singles – at \$10K Leon-MEX and \$10K La Bisbal d'Empordà-ESP in 2016 – and 15 doubles titles
- Born in Mexico City but now resides in Tampa, Florida, USA
- Favorite surface is clay and started playing tennis aged five

## FERNANDEZ:

- Making tournament debut where she is into her first career WTA SF
- Defeated Cabrera and Lepchenko in qualifying to reach second main draw of the year
- Converted 5/5 break points in both her 1r win over Stojanovic and 2r win over Hibino – both wins coming just over one hour
- Earned her first back-to-back match wins on WTA level
- Defeated No.97 Potapova today – owns four career Top 100 wins with three coming here in first three rounds
- Faces hometown favorite Zarazua for chance to become first Canadian ever to make the final in Acapulco

- At 17y, 177d, is youngest player semifinalist in the 20 years of Acapulco tournament
- Aiming to become the eighth youngest finalist since 2007 with the youngest being Gauff at 15y, 214d when she won the title in Linz – if she won the title, would be third youngest champion in same time
- A teenager has not won the championship here in the 20-year history of the tournament
- One of two qualifiers left in the draw (also Wang), the first time more than one qualifier has advanced to the final four in tournament history
- A qualifier has made the final only on one occasion in 2004 when Benesova won the title (d. Pennetta in F)
- In Fed Cup action for Canada earlier this month, earned first Top 100 win with a shocking defeat of No.5 Bencic
- Before that came through qualifying at Australian Open defeating Tig, Hibi and Lao to reach first main draw of a Grand Slam (I. Davis in 1r)
- Result helped her reach career high ranking of No.185 for first time in Top 200
- Kicked off year with qualifying loss in Auckland (I. Badosa)
- Played one WTA tournament in 2019 at Hiroshima (I. Hibino in 1r) ending year ranked No.209
- Also in 2019 on ITF circuit, won first title at ITF \$80k/Granby-CAN (d. Cabrera) and reached two further finals
- Played first WTA main draw and earned first main draw win of career at 2018 Quebec City defeating countrywoman Dabrowski in 1r (I. Watson in 2r)
- Made professional debut on ITF circuit in 2016



# MATCH NOTES

ACAPULCO - MEXICO | Feb 24 - Feb 29, 2020 | \$275,000 | INTERNATIONAL

## [Q] LEYLAH FERNANDEZ (CAN #190) vs. [7] HEATHER WATSON (GBR #69)

Head to Head: HEATHER WATSON leads 2-0

2019	VANCOUVER	HARD O	SF	HEATHER WATSON	7-6(4) 6-2	
2018	QUEBEC CITY	HARD I	R16	HEATHER WATSON	6-4 7-5	92 mins

LEYLAH FERNANDEZ	WTA RANKING	HEATHER WATSON
190	PORSCHE RACE TO SHENZHEN LEADERBOARD	69
214	DATE OF BIRTH (AGE)	49
06-09-2002 (17)	YTD PRIZE MONEY	19-05-1992 (27)
\$63,153	CAREER PRIZE MONEY	\$104,440
\$119,501	SINGLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)	\$3,705,955
0 / 0	DOUBLES TITLES (YTD / CAREER)	0 / 3
0 / 0	ACAPULCO W-L (MD) *	0 / 4
4-0	YTD / CAREER W-L (MD) *	5-3
5-2 / 6-6	YTD / CAREER 3-SET W-L (MD) *	9-3 / 117-148
0-0 / 0-1	YTD / CAREER TIE-BREAK W-L (MD) *	5-1 / 43-58
1-1 / 2-2	YTD / CAREER HARD W-L (MD) *	3-1 / 30-41
1-2 / 2-5	YTD / CAREER Left Hander W-L (MD) *	8-2 / 77-90
0-1 / 0-2	YTD / CAREER TOP 5 W-L (MD & Q) *	2-0 / 12-10
1-0 / 1-0	YTD / CAREER TOP 10 W-L (MD & Q) *	0-0 / 0-13
1-0 / 1-0	YTD / CAREER TOP 20 W-L (MD & Q) *	0-0 / 2-17
1-0 / 1-0		1-1 / 9-38

\* Updated entering 2020 Acapulco F

### ROAD TO THE FINAL

#### LEYLAH FERNANDEZ (CAN #190)

SF: d. [WC] RENATA ZARAZUA (MEX #270) 6-3,6-3 (1h28)  
 QF: d. ANASTASIA POTAPOVA (RUS #97) 6-3,7-5 (1hr33)  
 R16: d. [8] NAO HIBINO (JPN #71) 6-3,6-1 (1h4)  
 R32: d. NINA STOJANOVIC (SRB #82) 6-4,6-1 (1h10)  
 R2-Q: d. VARVARA LEPCHENKO (USA #171) 6-3,6-3 (1h20)  
 R1-Q: d. LIZETTE CABRERA (AUS #122) 6-3,6-1 (1h17)

Total games: 72  
 Won/lost: 49-23  
 Sets won/lost: 8-0  
 Total time on court: 5h15  
 Average time on court: 1h18  
 Average rank of opponent: 114

#### [7] HEATHER WATSON (GBR #69)

SF: d. XIYU WANG (CHN #127) 6-4,7-6(6) (1h46)  
 QF: d. CHRISTINA MCHALE (USA #86) 6-3,1-6,6-1 (1h52)  
 R16: d. KATERYNA BONDARENKO (UKR #494) 7-6(2),6-2 (1h44)  
 R32: d. COCO VANDEWEGHE (USA #193) 4-6,6-4,6-4 (2h30)

Total games: 97  
 Won/lost: 55-42  
 Sets won/lost: 8-2  
 Total time on court: 7h52  
 Average time on court: 1h58  
 Average rank of opponent: 225



# MATCH NOTES

ACAPULCO - MEXICO | Feb 24 - Feb 29, 2020 | \$275,000 | INTERNATIONAL

## ACAPULCO Tournament History

"-Q" Qualifying match

### HEATHER WATSON

#### 2018

R1 L - BEATRIZ HADDAD MAIA (BRA #60) 7-5 4-6 6-1

#### 2017

R16 L - KRISTINA MLADENOVIC (FRA #30) 7-6(4) 6-7(5)  
7-5

#### 2016

R1 L - CHRISTINA MCHALE (USA #64) 4-6 6-0 7-6(1)

#### 2014

R1-Q L - VICTORIA DUVAL (USA #157) 6-2 2-1

### FERNANDEZ:

- Making tournament debut where she is into her first career WTA SF
- Defeated Cabrera and Lepchenko in qualifying to reach second main draw of the year
- Converted 5/5 break points in both her 1r win over Stojanovic and 2r win over Hibino – earned her first back-to-back match wins on WTA level
- Defeated No.97 Potapova in QF – owns four career Top 100 wins with three coming here in first three rounds
- Overcame hometown favorite Zarazua to become first Canadian ever to make the final in Acapulco
- At 17y, 177d, was youngest semifinalist in the 20 years of Acapulco tournament
- Faces No.69 Watson with a chance to become the third youngest champion since 2007 behind Gauff, 2019 Linz - 15y, 214d; and Konjuh, 2015 Nottingham - 17y, 169d
- Has not dropped a set through two rounds of qualifying and four rounds of main draw play
- Projected to move to Top 130 as runner-up; Top 110 with title
- A teenager has not won the championship here in the 20-year history of the tournament – youngest winner is Groenefeld who won the title in 2006 at 20y, 273d
- From 2008-2017, 7 times did a player 17 or younger advance to a WTA tour-level final (winning 3 titles)
- Since 2018, Acapulco is the 8th tournament in which a player 17 or younger has reached the final, winning 3 titles: Danilovic, 2018 Moscow International - 17y, 187d; Anisimova, 2019 Bogota - 17y, 226d; Gauff, 2019 Linz - 15y, 214d
- The youngest Canadian to reach a WTA singles final in 34 years (since Helen Kelesi at 1986 Tokyo [Japan Open] won at 16y, 338d)
- Second qualifier in tournament history to make the final here; Benesova won the title in 2004 as a qualifier (d. Pennetta in F)
- In Fed Cup action for Canada earlier this month, earned first Top 100 win with a shocking defeat of No.5 Bencic
- Before that came through qualifying at Australian Open defeating Tig, Hibi and Lao to reach first main draw of a Grand Slam (l. Davis in 1r)
- Result helped her reach career high ranking of No.185 for first time in Top 200
- Kicked off year with qualifying loss in Auckland (l. Badosa)
- Played one WTA tournament in 2019 at Hiroshima (l. Hibino in 1r) ending year ranked No.209
- Also in 2019 on ITF circuit, won first title at ITF \$80k/Granby-CAN (d. Cabrera) and reached two further finals
- Played first WTA main draw and earned first main draw win of career at 2018 Quebec City defeating countrywoman Dabrowski in 1r (l. Watson in 2r)
- Made professional debut on ITF circuit in 2016

## WATSON:

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Acapulco (fifth overall), where she has posted her best result by making her first final of the year
- Best previous result at Acapulco came in R16 appearance in 2017 (l. Mladenovic); also won doubles title here in 2018 w/Maria (d. Christian/Santamaria in F)
- This year, came from a set down to defeat Vandeweghe in 1r and overcame K.Bondarenko in straight sets in 2r to advance to QF for second time this season (also SF run at Hobart)
- Ousted McHale in another three-set match, all four matches between the two have now gone the distance with head-to-head record at 2-2
- Defeated No.127 Wang Xiyu to become the first Brit in tournament history to make the final here in Acapulco
- Attempting to become only the second person in WTA history to win titles at both Acapulco and Monterrey (which she won in 2016) –Bacsinszky is the only other player to complete this feat after winning both titles in 2015
- Into fifth career final – owns 3-1 record in WTA final matches last winning the title also on Mexican soil at 2016 Monterrey (d. Flipkens in F); last reached a final at 2019 Tianjin in October (l. Peterson in F)
- Projected to move to No.55 as runner-up; will break into Top 50 with title
- Earlier this month, defeated Sramkova but lost to Schiedlova as Great Britain were defeated by Slovakia 3-1 in the Fed Cup qualifiers
- Elsewhere in 2020, reached SF as a qualifier at Hobart (l. eventual champion Rybakina) but fell to Mertens in 2r at the Australian Open
- Ended 2019 back in the Top 100 (No.92); finished R-Up at Tianjin and won two ITF Circuit titles
- Finished 2018 just outside the Top 100 (No.101). Best year-end finish came in 2012 (No.49)
- Highlights of 2018 were SF runs at Hobart (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Mertens) and Quebec City (l. eventual champion Parmentier). Also picked up fourth career WTA doubles title at Acapulco (w/Maria) and reached doubles final at Nottingham (w/Buzarnescu)
- Won third WTA singles title of career at 2016 Monterrey (d. Flipkens in F), adding to wins at 2012 Osaka and 2015 Hobart (3-0 record in finals)
- Hit career-high singles ranking of No.38 on January 19, 2015 after title run at Hobart
- In doubles owns four WTA titles, most recently at 2018 Acapulco (w/Maria)
- Represented Great Britain at 2016 Rio Olympics, reaching 2r in singles (l. Svitolina), 2r in doubles (w/Konta, l. H.Chan/Y.Chan) and QF in mixed doubles (w/A.Murray, l. Bopanna/Mirza)
- Struggled throughout 2014 season with a right rib injury and missed two months in 2013 due to glandular fever (Miami to Roland Garros)
- Enjoyed a breakthrough 2012 season, winning Osaka to become first British woman to win a WTA singles title since Sara Gomer in 1988. Finished year as British No.1
- With 2012 Osaka singles title, became first British woman to win a WTA singles title since Sara Gomer in 1988
- Broke into Top 100 on June 6, 2011 and made Top 50 debut on October 15, 2012
- On ITF Circuit, winner of six singles and three doubles titles
- Made WTA main draw debut as a wildcard at 2010 Miami and recorded first main draw match win at 2010 Eastbourne
- Played first professional event on ITF Circuit at 2009 ITF/Jersey-GBR
- Member of Great Britain Fed Cup Team, 2011-18 and Great Britain Olympic Team, 2012, 2016
- Born on Channel Island of Guernsey. Mother is Michelle and father is Ian; siblings are Adam, Stephanie and Julie
- Started playing at age 7; moved to Bollettieri Academy in Florida at age 12 (still trains there)
- Endorsement portfolio includes New Balance, Dunlop, Jaguar and Always