

WTA Communications: Teyva Sammet (tsammet@wtatennis.com)

[1] ONS JABEUR (TUN #27) VS. ASTRA SHARMA (AUS #165)

Head-to-head: First meeting

JABEUR		SHARMA	
Career Prize Money	\$2,840,618	Career Prize Money	\$825,157
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Aug. 28, 1994 (26)	Date of Birth (Age)	Sep. 11, 1995 (25)
Singles Titles	0	Singles Titles	0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	18-7 / 78-78	YTD / Career W-L	6-4 / 15-19
Clay Court (YTD / Career)	8-1 / 28-22	Clay Court (YTD / Career)	4-1 / 11-6
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-3 / 5-12	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-0
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-3 / 11-20	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-0
Coach	Issam Jellali	Coach	David Taylor

JABEUR:

- Contesting the 2021 MUSC Health Women's Open as the top seed and at a career-high ranking of No.27 (as of April 12, 2021)
- Has struck 13 aces en route to the final, across straight set wins over Voegele in 1r, Parks in 2r, Hibino in QF and Kovinic in SF. Has now struck a total of 116 aces so far in 2021 – the third most on Tour (behind Kudermetova on 130 and Barty on 127)
- Aces count has helped her win 27 of her 31 service games en route to final
- Sits second on Tour in 2021 for main draw match wins, on 17 (behind Muguruza – 21). Owns the joint-most clay court wins (level with Kovinic and Osorio Serrano on eight)
- Has dropped only 13 games and spent just 4h24m on court en route to the final; in contrast, she had to play for more than six hours to reach the semifinals of last week's Volvo Car Open, where she was upset by Kovinic
- After gaining revenge on Kovinic on Saturday, now owns 2-2 record in WTA SF matches, having previously beaten Sevastova at 2018 Moscow and lost to Peterson at 2019 Tianjin and Kovinic at 2021 Charleston (also reached SF at 2019 Eastbourne but was forced to withdraw prior to match against Kerber w/right ankle injury)
- Faces No.165 Sharma in today's final; the winner will be the sixth first-time title winner on Tour this season, following on from Clara Tauson (Lyon), Sara Sorribes Tormo (Guadalajara), Leylah Fernandez (Monterrey), María Camila Osorio Serrano (Bogotá) and Kudermetova (Charleston)
- Last loss to a player outside the Top 100 came at the hands of No.242 Yuan Yue in qualifying for 2019 Beijing
- In only previous WTA final, fell to Kasatkina at 2018 Moscow [Kremlin Cup], in a match she led 6-2 4-1
- Biggest title of her career came at \$100k ITF/Manchester-GBR in 2018 (d. Sorribes Tormo in F)
- Coming off SF run at Volvo Car Open (l. eventual R-Up Kovinic) – her first SF since 2019 Tianjin (l. Peterson)
- Prior to last week, best Tour-level result on clay was QF run at 2018 Bucharest (l. Hercog); owns seven ITF Circuit titles on clay and was girls' singles champion at 2011 Roland Garros (d. Puig in F)
- Made R16 showing at Miami (l. Sorribes Tormo). Upset No.4 Kenin in 3r – now owns a 3-5 record vs. Top-5 ranked players, with other wins coming over No.1 Halep (2018 Beijing via ret.) and No.3 Ka.Pliskova (2020 Doha)
- Reached 3r at Dubai (l. Teichmann); defeated No.23 Rybakina in 2r to notch her best win by ranking since ousting No.12 Sabalenka at 2020 Roland Garros
- Made 2r exit at Doha (l. Ka.Pliskova)
- Reached 3r at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Osaka)

- Opened 2021 with 3r at Abu Dhabi (l. eventual champion Sabalenka), then fell 2r at Grampians Trophy (l. Kerber)
- Started 2020 by reaching maiden Slam QF at Australian Open – became the first Arab woman to reach that stage at a major (l. eventual champion Kenin); made Top 50 debut at No.45 after performance in Melbourne
- In 2020 also made QFs at Doha (l. Kvitova), Lexington (l. Gauff), Western & Southern Open (l. eventual champion Azarenka) and Ostrava (l. Sakkari)
- During Doha run last year, beat No.3 Ka.Pliskova to record fourth Top 10 win, having previously upset No.7 Cibulkova (2017 Roland Garros), No.1 Halep (2018 Beijing) and No.8 Stephens (2018 Moscow)
- Season highlights in 2019 were matching best result at the Slams with 3r run at US Open (matching 2017 Roland Garros and now 2020 Australian Open) and SF appearances at Eastbourne (l. eventual R-Up Kerber) and Tianjin (l. eventual champion Peterson)
- In 2018, defeated No.3 seed Stephens, No.8 seed Kontaveit and No.5 seed Sevastova en route to her first WTA final at 2018 Moscow, where she fell in three sets to No.6 seed Kasatkina. Was first Tunisian woman to advance beyond QF at a WTA tournament (Sfar was the only other Tunisian to reach a QF at this level)
- Prior to 2018 Moscow, best tour-level results were QF runs at 2013 Baku, 2017 Taipei City and 2018 Bucharest
- Member of Tunisian Olympic Team in 2012 and 2016
- Contested first two WTA main draws in 2012, at Doha (as WC) and Olympics
- Played first event of career at 2008 ITF/EI Menzah-TUN
- Became first North African woman to win a junior Slam at 2011 Roland Garros (d. Puig in F), having also reached the final in 2010 (l. Svitolina in F)

SHARMA:

- Playing first edition of MUSC Health Women's Open – her fifth Tour-level event of the season
- Defeated Y.Wang in 1r, then recovered from 4-1 down in the final set to overcome No.8 seed Brengle in 2r
- Broke serve six times to end the run of 15-year-old WC Fruhvirtova in QF
- Ended the eight-match winning streak of teenager, Osorio Serrano, in SF to reach her second WTA final of her career
- In total, has spent 7h7m on court this week
- Meets No.27 Jabeur in today's final; in terms of ranking, best career win came over No.50 S.Zhang in 1r at 2019 Strasbourg
- Only Top 30 players she has previously faced were No.28 Kenin at 2019 Wimbledon (l. 6-4 6-2) and No.25 Yastremska at 2020 US Open (l. 6-3 6-7(4) 7-6(2))
- Lost to Anisimova in only previous WTA final, at 2019 Bogotá, in a match she led 6-4 2-0
- Biggest career titles have come at four \$25k events on ITF Circuit – most recently at Irapuato-MEX in March 2019
- Coming off 1r exit at Bogotá (l. Gatto-Monticone)
- Advanced to QF at Guadalajara (l. eventual champion Sorribes Tormo)
- Suffered 1r exits at Gippsland Trophy (l. eventual R-Up Kanepi) and Australian Open (l. Hibino)
- Posted second successive Top 150 season finish in 2020 (No.128)
- Reached 2r twice in 2020, including at Roland Garros (as qualifier, l. Alexandrova)
- Non-playing member of Australian team that contested final of Billie Jean King Cup against France in 2019
- Made Top 100 debut on April 29, 2019 and rose as high as No.85 the week of June 24 that year
- Reached 2r on Grand Slam singles main draw debut at 2019 Australian Open (as qualifier, d. Hon, l. Sakkari) and that season played all four Slams for the first time
- Achieved her best win-by-ranking of her career over No.50 S.Zhang during 2r showing at 2019 Strasbourg
- Advanced to career first Tour-level final in 2019 at Bogotá (l. Anisimova in F). Lifted first WTA doubles title that same week (w/Hives)
- In mixed doubles finished R-Up at 2019 Australian Open (as WC, w/Smith, l. Krejckova/Ram in F) and made SF in 2020 (w/Smith, l. Mattek-Sands/J.Murray)
- Won seventh career ITF singles title and fourth doubles title at 2019 \$25K ITF/Irapuato-MEX
- Played almost exclusively on ITF Circuit in 2018, posting 37-11 win-loss record and winning three titles
- Made WTA qualifying debut as WC at 2018 Hobart, falling at the first hurdle to Nara
- Won first professional title in 2015 at \$10k Sharm El Sheikh-EGY
- Owns seven singles and four doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Stellar collegiate career at Vanderbilt University saw her named an All-American player in multiple seasons; led women's tennis team to their first-ever Southeast Conference tournament championship and National Championship, plus the NCAA Finals, two NCAA semifinals and two additional SEC Championships
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in Australia in 2011, before wrist and ankle injuries influenced decision to move to US at age of 18 to play college tennis in Australia in 2012

A SNAPSHOT OF 2021 SO FAR

- **Top 20 Debut (1):** Jennifer Brady (at No.13 on February 22)
- **Fewest games dropped en route to a title:** Iga Swiatek (22, Adelaide)
- **Lowest-ranked player to triumph:** María Camila Osorio Serrano (No.180, Bogotá)
- **Youngest title winner:** Clara Tauson, Lyon (18y 76d)
- **Oldest title winner:** Petra Kvitova, Doha (30y 363d)
- **Aces leaders:** Veronika Kudermetova – 130, Ashleigh Barty – 127, Ons Jabeur – 115
- **Most aces in a match (17):** Ekaterina Alexandrova (d. Watson 7-5 6-7(7) 6-3 – Abu Dhabi, 2r)
- **Match win leaders:** Garbiñe Muguruza – 21, Ons Jabeur – 18, Veronika Kudermetova – 17
- **Most singles titles (2):** Daria Kasatkina (Phillip Island Trophy, St. Petersburg), Ashleigh Barty (Yarra Valley Classic, Miami)
- **Most doubles titles (3):** Shuko Aoyama / Ena Shibahara (Abu Dhabi, Yarra Valley Classic, Miami)
- **Most Top 10 wins (4):** Jessica Pegula (No.5 Svitolina at Australian Open, No.6 Ka.Pliskova at Doha, Dubai and Miami)
- **Longest Match:** 3h 33m – Irina-Camelia Begu d. Johanna Konta 4-6, 7-6(10), 7-6(4) (Gippsland Trophy 3r)