



## PREVIEW NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

### Tournament Information:

#### WTA Website:

#### WTA Communications:

dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com | @ddftennis | facebook.com/ddftennis

[www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/wta

Teyva Sammet ([tsammet@wtatennis.com](mailto:tsammet@wtatennis.com)), Jessica Culbreath ([jculbreath@wtatennis.com](mailto:jculbreath@wtatennis.com))

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – QUICK FACTS

<b>Main draw dates:</b>	March 7-13, 2021
<b>Singles Final:</b>	Saturday, March 13, NB 7:00pm
<b>Doubles Final:</b>	Saturday, March 13, 5:00pm (TBC)
<b>Venue:</b>	Dubai Duty Free Tennis Stadium
<b>Status:</b>	WTA 1000
<b>Staging:</b>	Tournament's 21st year
<b>Draw sizes:</b>	56 singles / 28 doubles
<b>Surface:</b>	Hardcourt (Deco Turf II) / Outdoors
<b>Total prize money:</b>	USD \$1,835,490
<b>Tennis Ball:</b>	Wilson US Open Regular Duty

SINGLES	USD \$	RANK POINTS
Winner	221,500	900
Runner-Up	164,000	585
Semifinalist	87,000	350
Quarterfinalist	41,500	190
Round of 16	21,000	105
Round of 32	13,300	60
Round of 56	10,750	1

DOUBLES	USD \$	RANK POINTS
Winner	67,000	900
Runner-Up	43,990	585
Semifinalist	27,500	350
Quarterfinalist	13,800	190
Round of 16	8,700	105
Round of 28	6,500	1

## MAIN DRAW QUICK-HITS

**Top 8 Seeds:** Elina Svitolina, Karolina Pliskova, Aryna Sabalenka, Petra Kvitova, Kiki Bertens, Belinda Bencic, Victoria Azarenka, Iga Swiatek

**Wildcards:** Timea Babos (HUN), Coco Gauff (USA), Anastasia Potapova (RUS)

**Most career WTA singles titles:** Petra Kvitova (28)

**Prize money leader:** Petra Kvitova (\$31,243,535)

**Youngest singles player:** Coco Gauff, 16-years-old (March 13, 2004)

**Oldest singles player:** Svetlana Kuznetsova, 35-years-old (June 27, 1985)

## TOURNAMENT TALKING POINTS

- This year marks the 21st anniversary of the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships and the first WTA 1000 of 2021
- Twelve of the WTA Top 20 players in the world are in this year's draw, including two-time champion **Elina Svitolina** (2017-18) who is the top seed this week
- 2013 champion and 2019 runner-up **Petra Kvitova** is coming off her 28th career title at Doha (d. Muguruza in F)
- No.6 seed **Belinda Bencic** is the only other former Dubai champion in the field, having lifted the trophy in 2019. In the first round, she will face either **Veronika Kudermetova**, to whom she has lost in three out of five previous meetings, or **Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova**, who ended her title defense here last year in a remarkable three-set battle
- **Aryna Sabalenka** and **Elise Mertens** lead the doubles field this week as the World No.1 and No.2 doubles players, respectively, while 2013 doubles champion **Sania Mirza** (w/Mattek-Sands) continues her comeback this week partnering with **Andreja Klepac**
- *One to Watch* – **Elena Rybakina**. The Kazakh reached the biggest final of her career here at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships last year, defeating three Top 20 players along the way (Kenin, Ka.Pliskova and Martic) before pushing Halep to a third-set tiebreak. She opens her 2021 campaign against China's Zheng Saisai as the No.14 seed and ranked at World No.23

## RECENT CHAMPIONS & RUNNERS-UP

YEAR	CHAMPION	RUNNER-UP	SCORE
2015	[1] Simona Halep (ROU)	[17] Karolina Pliskova (CZE)	6-4 7-6(4)
2016	Sara Errani (ITA)	Barbora Strycova (CZE)	6-0 6-2
2017	[7] Elina Svitolina (UKR)	[10] Caroline Wozniacki (DEN)	6-4 6-2
2018	[1] Elina Svitolina (UKR)	Daria Kasatkina (RUS)	6-4 6-0
2019	Belinda Bencic (SUI)	[2] Petra Kvitova (CZE)	6-3 1-6 6-2
2020	[1] Simona Halep (ROU)	Elena Rybakina (KAZ)	3-6 6-3 7-6(5)

\*If highlighted denotes competing in 2021 Dubai main draw

## COUNTRY AND REGION BREAKDOWN

Excluding qualifiers, a total of 22 countries and regions are represented in the main draw, led by the Czech Republic, Russia and the United States with six players each:

<b>Belarus (2)</b>	Victoria Azarenka, Aryna Sabalenka
<b>Belgium (1)</b>	Elise Mertens
<b>China (2)</b>	Wang Qiang, Zheng Saisai
<b>Croatia (1)</b>	Petra Martić
<b>Czech Republic (6)</b>	Barbora Krejčíková, Petra Kvitová, Karolina Plisková, Kristýna Plisková, Katerina Siniaková, Marketa Vondroušová
<b>Estonia (1)</b>	Anett Kontaveit
<b>France (4)</b>	Alizé Cornet, Fiona Ferro, Caroline Garcia, Kristina Mladenovic
<b>Germany (2)</b>	Angelique Kerber, Laura Siegemund
<b>Greece (1)</b>	Maria Sakkari
<b>Hungary (1)</b>	Tímea Babos
<b>Kazakhstan (2)</b>	Elena Rybakina, Yaroslava Shvedova
<b>Latvia (2)</b>	Jelena Ostapenko, Anastasija Sevastova
<b>Netherlands (1)</b>	Kiki Bertens
<b>Poland (1)</b>	Iga Świątek
<b>Romania (2)</b>	Sorana Cîrstea, Patricia Maria Tig
<b>Russia (6)</b>	Ekaterina Alexandrova, Daria Kasatkina, Veronika Kudermetova, Svetlana Kuznetsova, Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Anastasia Potapova
<b>Slovenia (1)</b>	Polona Hercog
<b>Spain (2)</b>	Paula Badosa, Garbiñe Muguruza
<b>Switzerland (2)</b>	Belinda Bencic, Jil Teichmann
<b>Tunisia (1)</b>	Ons Jabeur
<b>Ukraine (1)</b>	Elina Svitolina
<b>United States (6)</b>	Amanda Anisimova, Coco Gauff, Madison Keys, Jessica Pegula, Bernarda Pera, Shelby Rogers

## 2021 WTA TOUR FINALS

Week of	Level	Tournament	Singles Final	Doubles Final
<b>Jan 6</b>	WTA 500	Abu Dhabi, UAE	[4] Sabalenka d. Kudermetova 62 62	[5] Aoyama/Shibahara d. [8] Carter/Stefani 76(5) 64
<b>Jan 31</b>	WTA 500	Yarra Valley Classic	[1] Barty d. [6] Muguruza 76(3) 64	[3] Aoyama/Shibahara d. Kalinskaya/Kuzmova 63 64
<b>Jan 31</b>	WTA 500	Gippsland Trophy	[7] Mertens d. Kanepi 64 61	[1] Krejčíková/Siniaková d. [2] Chan/Chan 63 76(4)
<b>Feb 3</b>	WTA 500	Grampians Trophy	Li & [6] Kontaveit (FINAL NOT PLAYED)	
<b>Feb 8</b>	Grand Slam	Australian Open	[3] Osaka d. [22] Brady 64 63	[2] Sabalenka/Mertens d. [3] Krejčíková/Siniaková 62 63
<b>Feb 13</b>	WTA 250	Phillip Island Trophy	Kasatkina d. [13] Bouzkova 46 62 62	Raina/Rakhimova d. Blinkova/Potapova 26 64 10-7
<b>Feb 22</b>	WTA 500	Adelaide International	[5] Świątek d. [2] Bencic 62 62	[3] Guarachi/Krawczyk d. Carter/Stefani 67(4) 64 10-3
<b>March 1</b>	WTA 500	Qatar Total Open	[4] P. Kvitová d. G. Muguruza 62 61	[2] Melichar/Schuurs d. Niculescu/Ostapenko 62 26 10-8
<b>March 1</b>	WTA 250	Open 6ème Sens Métropole de Lyon	[Q] C. Tauson vs. [Q] V. Golubic (ongoing)	[1] Rus/Kuzmova vs. Bouchard/Danilovic (ongoing)

## 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:** Daria Kasatkina (No.71, Phillip Island Trophy)
- **Youngest title winner:** Iga Swiatek, Adelaide (19y 272d)
- **Oldest title winner:** Petra Kvitova, Qatar Total Open (30y 363d)
- **Aces leaders:** Ekaterina Alexandrova – 73, Naomi Osaka – 68, Ashleigh Barty – 63 (as of March 1, 2021)
- **Most aces in a match (17):** Ekaterina Alexandrova (d. Watson 7-5 6-7(7) 6-3 – Abu Dhabi, R32)
- **Match win leaders:** Garbine Muguruza – 12, Naomi Osaka – 10, Daria Kasatkina – 10
- **Best result by a qualifier (finalists):** Golubic and Tauson (Lyon, ongoing)
- **Most doubles titles (2):** Shuko Aoyama / Ena Shibahara (Abu Dhabi, Yarra Valley Classic)
- **Most Top 10 wins (2):** **Danielle Collins** (No.6 Ka.Pliskova at Yarra Valley Classic, No.1 Barty at Adelaide); **Karolina Muchova** (No.6 Ka.Pliskova and No.1 Barty, both at Australian Open); **Garbiñe Muguruza** (No.4 Kenin at Yarra Valley Classic and No.8 Sabalenka at Doha); **Kaia Kanepi** (No.7 Sabalenka at Gippsland Trophy and No.4 Kenin at Australian Open); **Jessica Pegula** (No.5 Svitolina at Australian Open and No.6 Ka.Pliskova at Doha); **Serena Williams** (No.7 Sabalenka and No.2 Halep, both at Australian Open)

# ALPHABETIC PLAYER LIST

## MAIN DRAW SINGLES

### 2021 Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships 2021 - Dubai, L

PLAYER NAME	RANK SEED			CAREER @ TRN			YEAR-TO-DATE			CAREER		CAREER HGH		TITLES	
	3/1/2021	NAT	AGE	PRIZE	W / L		PRIZE	W / L		PRIZE	W / L	RANK	DATE	YTD	CAR
ALEXANDROVA, EKATERINA	33	RUS	26		0 / 0		184,095	7 / 3		1,857,315	306 / 179	25	2/17/2020	0	1
ANISIMOVA, AMANDA	32	USA	19	17,055	0 / 1		408	1 / 0		1,560,558	87 / 47	21	10/21/2019	0	1
AZARENKA, VICTORIA	14	7 BLR	31	211,550	5 / 2		77,322	1 / 1		30,432,827	525 / 205	1	1/30/2012	0	21
W BABOS, TIMEA	105	HUN	27	95,258	0 / 2		108,478	5 / 3		7,352,233	338 / 260	25	9/19/2016	0	3
BADOSA, PAULA	73	ESP	23		0 / 0		90,457	2 / 2		570,201	233 / 135	67	1/25/2021	0	0
BENCIC, BELINDA	12	6 SUI	23	564,308	7 / 3		215,180	5 / 3		8,061,388	279 / 155	4	2/17/2020	0	4
BERTENS, KIKI	11	5 NED	29	46,731	0 / 3			0 / 0		11,425,132	441 / 257	4	5/13/2019		10
CIRSTEA, SORANA	67	ROU	30	84,298	3 / 5		156,157	4 / 2		5,609,124	457 / 342	21	8/12/2013	0	1
CORNET, ALIZÉ	59	FRA	31	312,888	9 / 4		116,753	3 / 4		7,308,026	458 / 368	11	2/16/2009	0	6
FERRO, FIONA	46	FRA	23		0 / 0		162,005	2 / 2		1,056,531	213 / 172	42	10/12/2020	0	2
GARCIA, CAROLINE	47	FRA	27	275,185	8 / 5		117,388	3 / 4		10,317,849	342 / 272	4	9/10/2018	0	7
W GAUFF, CORI	38	USA	16		0 / 0		186,197	8 / 4		738,209	58 / 31	38	3/1/2021	0	1
HERCOG, POLONA	57	SLO	30	22,040	0 / 2		75,302	1 / 3		3,653,068	421 / 286	35	9/12/2011	0	3
JABEUR, ONS	31	TUN	26	69,337	3 / 3		176,127	5 / 3		1,807,939	302 / 182	30	1/25/2021	0	0
KASATKINA, DARIA	58	RUS	23	380,503	5 / 3		154,926	10 / 3		6,235,378	236 / 131	10	10/22/2018	1	3
KERBER, ANGELIQUE	26	GER	33	405,086	8 / 7		77,322	2 / 2		29,371,979	632 / 338	1	9/12/2016	0	12
KEYS, MADISON	19	11 USA	26		0 / 0			0 / 0		12,603,740	286 / 157	7	10/10/2016		5
KONTAVEIT, ANETT	24	15 EST	25	82,933	3 / 3		195,025	5 / 2		4,193,786	314 / 165	14	4/1/2019	0	1
KREJCIKOVA, BARBORA	63	CZE	25	29,600	0 / 0		296,251	4 / 3		2,672,215	274 / 158	59	2/8/2021	0	0
KUDERMETOVA, VERONIKA	34	RUS	23	38,585	1 / 1		226,280	8 / 4		1,421,585	246 / 164	34	2/22/2021	0	0
KUZNETSOVA, SVETLANA	39	RUS	35	650,780	19 / 13		105,828	1 / 2		25,241,185	664 / 341	2	9/10/2007	0	18
KVITOVA, PETRA	10	4 CZE	30	783,409	10 / 6		108,328	2 / 2		31,174,965	549 / 241	2	10/31/2011	0	27
MARTIC, PETRA	21	13 CRO	30	219,530	3 / 3		88,252	4 / 4		4,914,638	358 / 248	14	1/13/2020	0	1
MERTENS, ELISE	18	10 BEL	25	67,005	2 / 4		476,359	7 / 1		6,435,504	331 / 173	12	11/26/2018	1	6
MLADENOVIC, KRISTINA	53	FRA	27	222,535	6 / 5		159,537	2 / 4		11,148,040	341 / 299	10	10/23/2017	0	1
MUGURUZA, GARBIÑE	16	9 ESP	27	446,310	10 / 6		261,522	9 / 3		19,479,251	404 / 203	1	9/11/2017	0	7
OSTAPENKO, JELENA	51	LAT	23	65,121	0 / 3		99,485	2 / 2		8,757,780	244 / 151	5	3/19/2018	0	3
PAVLYUCHENKOVA, ANASTASIA	41	RUS	29	172,859	5 / 10		89,535	3 / 4		9,882,354	433 / 297	13	7/4/2011	0	12
PEGULA, JESSICA	44	USA	27		0 / 0		380,202	6 / 3		1,288,890	261 / 177	43	2/22/2021	0	1
PERA, BERNARDA	65	USA	26	11,619	0 / 1		137,033	3 / 4		1,313,792	296 / 173	59	3/2/2020	0	0
PLISKOVA, KAROLINA	6	2 CZE	28	428,845	9 / 7		156,987	4 / 3		19,669,504	545 / 300	1	7/17/2017	0	16
PLISKOVA, KRISTYNA	75	CZE	28	31,842	1 / 1		87,987	0 / 2		2,801,961	396 / 331	35	7/31/2017	0	1
W POTAPOVA, ANASTASIA	88	RUS	19		0 / 0		160,697	3 / 4		888,588	107 / 69	64	7/22/2019	0	0
ROGERS, SHELBY	49	USA	28		0 / 0		254,930	8 / 3		2,539,016	248 / 198	48	1/30/2017	0	0
RYBAKINA, ELENA	23	14 KAZ	21	372,200	4 / 1		135,449	4 / 3		580,193	174 / 77	17	2/24/2020	0	2
SABALENKA, ARYNA	8	3 BLR	22	94,253	3 / 3		497,844	9 / 2		6,062,470	244 / 123	7	1/25/2021	1	9
SAKKARI, MARIA	25	16 GRE	25	24,178	0 / 1		115,927	6 / 3		2,872,011	333 / 223	20	2/24/2020	0	1
SEVASTOVA, ANASTASIJA	55	LAT	30	195,641	6 / 6		103,235	3 / 5		7,382,610	421 / 247	11	10/15/2018	0	4
SHVEDOVA, YAROSLAVA	1029	KAZ	33	63,507	1 / 4		88,498	0 / 3		6,525,902	350 / 268	25	10/29/2012	0	1
SINIAKOVA, KATERINA	68	CZE	24	78,178	2 / 4		198,536	0 / 2		5,848,459	256 / 182	31	10/22/2018	0	2
SVITOLINA, ELINA	5	1 UKR	26	1,437,353	16 / 4		240,812	8 / 3		19,475,772	395 / 203	3	9/11/2017	0	15
SWIATEK, IGA	15	8 POL	19		0 / 0		297,550	9 / 2		972,739	119 / 33	15	3/1/2021	1	2
TEICHMANN, JIL	54	SUI	23	4,481	0 / 0		120,820	6 / 4		724,730	215 / 146	52	8/31/2020	0	2

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	3/1/2021	NAT	AGE	PRIZE	W	L	PRIZE	W	L	PRIZE	W / L	RANK	DATE	YTD	CAR
TIG, PATRICIA MARIA	61	ROU	26	4,080	0	0	87,190	2	3	780,008	280 / 168	56	10/26/2020	0	1
VONDROUSOVA, MARKETA	20	CZE	21	31,149	1	1	258,572	6	3	3,314,152	171 / 69	14	7/1/2019	0	1
WANG, QIANG	35	CHN	29	114,459	5	4	87,212	2	5	4,437,321	399 / 260	12	9/9/2019	0	2
ZHENG, SAISAI	48	CHN	27	79,622	2	3	96,810	0	4	3,658,184	316 / 221	34	3/2/2020	0	1

# DUBAI

## PREVIOUS CHAMPIONS

TOURNAMENT RND	WINNER OPPONENT	SCORE	RANK	SEED	
2020 DUBAI 22 FEB 2020	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 32	PRIZE (USD) 2,643,670
Singles F	HALEP, SIMONA ROU def RYBAKINA, ELENA KAZ	3-6 6-3 7-6(5)	2 19	1	
Doubles F	HSIEH S. TPE / STRYCOVA B. CZE def KREJCIKOVA B. CZE / ZHENG S. CHN	7-5 3-6 10-5	3 34	1 5	
2019 DUBAI 23 FEB 2019	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	64 32	PRIZE (USD) 2,527,250
Singles F	BENCIC, BELINDA SUI def KVITOVA, PETRA CZE	6-3 1-6 6-2	45 4	2	
Doubles F	HSIEH S. TPE / STRYCOVA B. CZE def HRADECKA L. CZE / MAKAROVA E. RUS	6-4 6-4	27 38	3 7	
2018 DUBAI 24 FEB 2018	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 2,358,385
Singles F	SVITOLINA, ELINA UKR def KASATKINA, DARIA RUS	6-4 6-0	4 24	1	
Doubles F	CHAN H. TPE / YANG Z. CHN def HSIEH S. TPE / PENG S. CHN	4-6 6-2 10-6	49 41	4	
2017 DUBAI 25 FEB 2017	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	64 32	PRIZE (USD) 2,365,250
Singles F	SVITOLINA, ELINA UKR def WOZNIACKI, CAROLINE DEN	6-4 6-2	13 15	7 10	
Doubles F	MAKAROVA E. RUS / VESNINA E. RUS def HLA VACKOVA A. CZE / PENG S. CHN	6-2 4-6 10-7	11 25	2 6	
2016 DUBAI 20 FEB 2016	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 1,734,900
Singles F	ERRANI, SARA ITA def STRYCOVA, BARBORA CZE	6-0 6-2	22 47		
Doubles F	CHUANG C. TPE / JURAK D. CRO def GARCIA C. FRA / MLADENOVIC K. FRA	6-4 6-4	95 20	2	
2015 DUBAI 21 FEB 2015	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	64 32	PRIZE (USD) 2,212,250
Singles F	HALEP, SIMONA ROU def PLISKOVA, KAROLINA CZE	6-4 7-6(4)	4 18	1 17	
Doubles F	BABOS T. HUN / MLADENOVIC K. FRA def MUGURUZA G. ESP / SUÁREZ NAVARRO C.	6-3 6-2	44 27	8 6	
2014 DUBAI 22 FEB 2014	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 1,734,900
Singles F	WILLIAMS, VENUS USA def CORNET, ALIZE FRA	6-3 6-0	44 26		
Doubles F	KUDRYAVTSEVA A. RUS / RODIONOVA A. def KOPS-JONES R. USA / SPEARS A. USA	6-2 5-7 10-8	47 38		
2013 DUBAI 23 FEB 2013	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 2,000,000
Singles F	KVITOVA, PETRA CZE def ERRANI, SARA ITA	6-2 1-6 6-1	8 7	6 5	
Doubles F	MATTEK-SANDS B. USA / MIRZA S. IND def PETROVA N. RUS / SREBOTNIK K. SLO	6-4 2-6 10-7	46 15	2	

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TOURNAMENT RND	WINNER OPPONENT	SCORE		RANK	SEED
2012 DUBAI 25 FEB 2012	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 2,000,000
Singles	RADWANSKA, AGNIESZKA POL			6	5
F	def GOERGES, JULIA GER		7-5 6-4	19	
Doubles	HUBER L. USA / RAYMOND L. USA			3	1
F	def MIRZA S. IND / VESNINA E. RUS		6-2 6-1	15	2
2011 DUBAI 20 FEB 2011	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	64 32	PRIZE (USD) 2,050,000
Singles	WOZNIACKI, CAROLINE DEN			2	1
F	def KUZNETSOVA, SVETLANA RUS		6-1 6-3	23	16
Doubles	HUBER L. USA / MARTINEZ SANCHEZ M.			19	2
F	def PESCHKE K. CZE / SREBOTNIK K. SLO		7-6(5) 6-3	6	1
2010 DUBAI 20 FEB 2010	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	64 32	PRIZE (USD) 2,000,000
Singles	WILLIAMS, VENUS USA			5	3
F	def AZARENKA, VICTORIA BLR		6-3 7-5	6	4
Doubles	LLAGOSTERA VIVES N. ESP / MARTINEZ S			13	2
F	def PESCHKE K. CZE / SREBOTNIK K. SLO		7-6(5) 6-4	134	
2009 DUBAI 21 FEB 2009	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	64 32	PRIZE (USD) 2,000,000
Singles	WILLIAMS, VENUS USA			6	6
F	def RAZZANO, VIRGINIE FRA		6-4 6-2	58	
Doubles	BLACK C. ZIM / HUBER L. USA			2	1
F	def KIRILENKO M. RUS / RADWANSKA A. PO		6-3 6-3	83	
2008 DUBAI 01 MAR 2008	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 1,500,000
Singles	DEMENTIEVA, ELENA RUS			11	8
F	def KUZNETSOVA, SVETLANA RUS		4-6 6-3 6-2	3	2
Doubles	BLACK C. ZIM / HUBER L. USA			2	1
F	def YAN Z. CHN / ZHENG J. CHN		7-5 6-2	35	
2007 DUBAI 24 FEB 2007	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 1,500,000
Singles	HENIN, JUSTINE BEL			2	1
F	def MAURESMO, AMELIE FRA		6-4 7-5	3	2
Doubles	BLACK C. ZIM / HUBER, L. RSA			9	1
F	def KUZNETSOVA S. RUS / MOLIK, A. AUS		7-6(6) 6-4	188	
2006 DUBAI 25 FEB 2006	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 1,000,000
Singles	HENIN-HARDENNE, JUSTINE BEL			5	4
F	def SHARAPOVA, MARIA RUS		7-5 6-2	4	3
Doubles	PESCHKE K. CZE / SCHIAVONE, F. ITA			50	
F	def KUZNETSOVA S. / PETROVA, N.		3-6 7-6(1) 6-3	50	
2005 DUBAI 05 MAR 2005	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl Draw Dbl	32 16	PRIZE (USD) 1,000,000
Singles	DAVENPORT, LINDSAY USA			1	1
F	def JANKOVIC, JELENA SCG		6-4 3-6 6-4	28	
Doubles	RUANO PASCUAL V. / SUAREZ, P.			3	1
F	def KUZNETSOVA S. RUS / MOLIK, A. AUS		6-7(7) 6-2 6-1	13	2

# DUBAI

## PREVIOUS CHAMPIONS

TOURNAMENT RND	WINNER OPPONENT	SCORE		RANK	SEED
2004 DUBAI 28 FEB 2004	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl 32 Draw Dbl 16	PRIZE (USD) 585,000	
Singles	HENIN-HARDENNE, JUSTINE BEL			1	1
F	def KUZNETSOVA, SVETLANA RUS		7-6(3) 6-3	29	
Doubles	HUSAROVA J. SVK / MARTINEZ, C. ESP			38	4
F	def KUZNETSOVA S. / LIKHOVTSEVA, E.		6-0 1-6 6-3	14	2
2003 DUBAI 22 FEB 2003	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl 32 Draw Dbl 16	PRIZE (USD) 585,000	
Singles	HENIN-HARDENNE, JUSTINE BEL			4	1
F	def SELES, MONICA USA		4-6 7-6(4) 7-5	11	4
Doubles	KUZNETSOVA S. / NAVRATILOVA, M.			66	4
F	def BLACK C. ZIM / LIKHOVTSEVA, E. RUS		6-3 7-6(7)	17	1
2002 DUBAI 23 FEB 2002	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl 32 Draw Dbl 16	PRIZE (USD) 585,000	
Singles	MAURESMO, AMELIE FRA			10	3
F	def TESTUD, SANDRINE FRA		6-4 7-6(3)	11	4
Doubles	RITTNER B. / VENTO-KABCHI, M.			142	
F	def TESTUD S. FRA / VINCI, R. ITA		6-3 6-2	37	1
2001 DUBAI 25 FEB 2001	WTB UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	HARD OUTDOOR	Draw Sngl 32 Draw Dbl 16	PRIZE (USD) 565,000	
Singles	HINGIS, MARTINA SUI			1	1
F	def TAUZIAT, NATHALIE FRA		6-4 6-4	13	3
Doubles	BASUKI, Y. INA / VIS, C. NED			182	
F	def CARLSSON A. / HABSUDOVA, K.		6-0 4-6 6-2	85	4



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

**Tournament Information:** [www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com](http://www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com) | @DDFTennis | facebook.com/ddftennis/

**WTA Information:** [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/WTA

**WTA Communications:** Teyva Sammet ([tsammet@wtatennis.com](mailto:tsammet@wtatennis.com)), Jessica Culbreath ([jculbreath@wtatennis.com](mailto:jculbreath@wtatennis.com))

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – DAY ONE

### WANG QIANG (CHN #35) vs. SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA (RUS #39)

*Kuznetsova leads 3-1*

**Wang** beat Kuznetsova en route to 2018 **Guangzhou** title... **Kuznetsova** making 13th appearance at Dubai... Winner faces top seed Svitolina in second round

### ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA (RUS #41) vs. VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA (RUS #34)

*Pavlyuchenkova leads 2-1*

**Pavlyuchenkova** won their two most recent meetings, at the end of 2019 season... **Kudermetova** bidding to snap three-match losing streak... Winner will meet Bencic in second round

### ONS JABEUR (TUN #31) vs. KATERINA SINIAKOVA (CZE #68)

*Siniakova leads 5-1*

**Jabeur** triumphed when they met in Doha last year... **Siniakova** bidding for first Tour-level win since last September... **Jabeur** coming off tight three-set defeat to Pliskova in Doha

### [WC] COCO GAUFF (USA #38) vs. EKATERINA ALEXANDROVA (RUS #33)

*First meeting*

**Alexandrova** was upset by teenager Tauson in first round at Lyon six days ago... **Gauff** coming off SF run at Adelaide... Both players making their debut at the tournament

### BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #63) vs. [16] MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #25)

*Krejcikova leads 1-0*

**Krejcikova** won when they played as teenagers on ITF Circuit in 2014... **Sakkari** fresh from QF run at Doha... **Krejcikova** was runner-up in doubles here last year

## WANG QIANG (CHN #35) VS. SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA (RUS #39)

Head-to-head: SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA leads 3-1

2018	GUANGZHOU	HARD O	R2	WANG QIANG	6-2 6-2
2018	ISTANBUL	CLAY O	R1	SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA	6-3 6-3
2017	MADRID	CLAY O	R3	SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA	6-4 7-5
2016	OLYMPICS	HARD O	R1	SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA	6-1 4-6 6-0

WANG		KUZNETSOVA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$4,695,415	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$25,589,428
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Jan. 14, 1992 (29)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Jun. 27, 1985 (35)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	2	<b>Singles Titles</b>	18
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	5-4	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	19-13
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	2-6 / 105-102	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	1-3 / 603-321
<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	0-5 / 25-30	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	0-1 / 192-124
<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 18-12	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 129-104
<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	2-6 / 85-76	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	1-3 / 377-204
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 12-22	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 62-102
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 25-43	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 135-176
<b>Coach</b>	Pat Cash	<b>Coach</b>	Artem Derepasko

### Q.WANG:

- Making fifth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (sixth overall)
- Made best result here by reaching QF in 2017 (l. Sevastova). Reached 2r on debut in 2015 (as qualifier, l. Pennetta) and 2018 (as LL, l. eventual champion Svitolina)
- Faces No.39 Kuznetsova today in their fifth career meeting. Trails 1-3 in their overall head-to-head however, defeated the Russian en route to 2018 Guangzhou title
- Looking for her first Top 100 win today since defeating No.9 S.Williams at 2020 Australian Open
- During last year's Middle East swing, fell to Mertens in 1r at both Dubai and Doha
- Coming off 1r exit at Qatar Total Open last week (l. Pegula) – has yet to win a main draw match at Doha
- Made 2r at Adelaide (l. Teichmann) following a 3r showing at Phillip Island Trophy (after 1r bye, d. Inglis, l. Begu in 3s) – her first wins of the 2021 season
- Fell 1r at Australian Open (l. Errani in 3s) after falling 2r at Gippsland Trophy (after 1r bye, l. Paolini)
- Opened 2021 season with 1r exit at Abu Dhabi (l. Kasatkina)
- Due to various concerns with the pandemic and waist injury (lumbar disc herniation), did not play again following 1r exit at 2020 Doha
- Last Autumn, split with coach Thomas Drouet; now working with Pat Cash on a trial basis
- Ended 2020 ranked at No.34, the third consecutive season finish as Chinese No.1
- Year highlighted by upsetting 23-time Grand Slam champion S.Williams en route to reach R16 for the first time at Australian Open (l. Jabeur)
- Enjoyed a string of career-best results across 2019 season, which included reaching first career Grand Slam QF at US Open with best win-by-ranking by defeating No.2 Barty in R16



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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- Her US Open run made her just the fifth Chinese woman to reach a Grand Slam QF (after Li Na, Zheng Jie, Peng Shuai and Zhang Shuai)
- Her new career-high ranking of No.12 following New York result made her the second highest ranked Chinese singles player in history (after No.2 Li Na)
- Additionally, posted career-best 3r run at Wimbledon and also reached second Premier Mandatory QF at Miami
- Enjoyed breakout 2018 campaign with career-best year-end finish at No.20 and 37 main draw match wins (including four Top 10 victories), her first season of 30 or more wins in career
- Posted an impressive 23-6 win-loss record on home soil in 2018: Nanchang (WON), Guangzhou (WON), Wuhan (SF), Beijing (SF), Hong Kong (R-UP) and Zhuhai (R-UP)
- Dropped just 18 games en route to second career title at Guangzhou – the fewest games lost in winning a WTA singles title in 2018 – becoming the fourth Chinese woman to win the title in the tournament's 15-year history, joining Li (2004), Yan (2005) and Zhang (2013 and 2017)
- Lifted first tour-level title in July at Nanchang (d. Zheng Saisai in F following ret. w/fatigue)
- Achieved first Top 50 year-end finish in 2017, finishing as China's No.3. Ascended 25 spots from No.70 in 2016 to No.45 in 2017, marking third Top 100 season in four years
- Advanced to first WTA SF at 2017 Hong Kong (l. Pavlyuchenkova) and captured WTA 125K title at Zhengzhou
- Registered first Top 10 win of career over No.10 Wozniacki in 1r at 2013 Kuala Lumpur
- First broke into Top 100 on November 3, 2014 and Top 50 on May 22, 2017
- On ITF Circuit, owns 13 singles and one doubles title
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2007 Beijing and main draw debut at 2012 Baku
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in China
- Gold medalist at 2018 Asian Games
- Represented China at Rio Olympics and member of Chinese Billie Jean King Cup Team, 2012-2016, 2020

### **KUZNETSOVA:**

- Making 13th appearance at Dubai, where she is a three-time R-Up, and first appearance since 2016 (l. Goerges in 1r)
- Made the final in 2004 (l. No.1 Henin in F), 2008 (l. Dementieva in F) and 2011 (l. Wozniacki in F)
- Also made SF in 2006 (l. Henin) and 2007 (l. Henin)
- One of seven major champions in the draw (also Azarenka, Kerber, Kvitova, Muguruza, Ostapenko and Swiatek)
- Faces No.35 Q.Wang today in their fifth career meeting; has not fallen to a Chinese player since losing to today's opponent Q.Wang at 2018 Guangzhou
- Has secured 14 hard court titles throughout her career – the sixth most among active players
- Coming off 1r exit at Doha (l. Azarenka)
- Opened 2021 season with 1r exit at Grampians Trophy (l. Brady) before 2r showing at Australian Open (l. Bencic)
- Best result in 2020 was SF showing at Doha (d. No.9 Bencic, l. Sabalenka)



**MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
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- Season highlight in 2019 was reaching final at Cincinnati (l. Keys) as a WC ranked No.153 –defeated four Top 20 seeds en route to the final (No.11 Sevastova, No.10 Stephens, No.3 Ka.Pliskova and No.1 Barty). Returned to Top 100 after tournament
- Missed first few months of 2019 season due to knee injury – returned at Lugano, where she reached QF
- At 2018 Washington, DC won first title since October 2016 (d. Vekic in F after saving 4mp)
- After falling 2r at 2018 Wimbledon (l. Strycova), dropped out of the Top 100 for the first time since August 12, 2002 (ending a run of 831 consecutive weeks)
- Missed opening two months of 2018 (w/wrist injury)
- Secured 600th match win (all levels) at 2017 Brisbane – is one of five active players to reach the milestone, along with V.Williams, S.Williams, Kerber and Stosur
- In 2016, won 45 matches, two titles (Sydney and Moscow) and qualified for WTA Finals for sixth time in career (reached SF)
- Is a two-time Grand Slam singles champion, winning 2004 US Open (d. Dementieva in F) and 2009 Roland Garros (d. Safina in F). Also a two-time finalist, reaching the championship match at Roland Garros in 2006 (l. Henin) and 2007 US Open (l. Henin)
- One of three Russian women to lift a major singles title (also Myskina, Sharapova), and one of five Russians to rank in Top 2; had a chance to become No.1 by winning 2008 Roland Garros (fell two matches short with SF loss to Safina)
- At 2011 Australian Open, played her part in setting the record for the longest women's match at a Slam, eventually succumbing to Schiavone in 4h 44min
- Ranked continuously in Top 20 from March 1, 2004 to July 11, 2010 (including over four years ranked continuously in Top 10 – April 2006 to June 2010)
- Owns seven wins over reigning world No.1s, most recently defeating S.Williams at 2016 Miami. Also Mauresmo, Safina and Henin twice each when they were No.1; one of only two players (also S.Williams) to beat Henin twice when she was No.1
- Haul of 16 tour level doubles titles includes two Australian Open crowns, won in 2005 (w/Molik) and 2012 (w/Zvonareva). Rose as high as No.3 in doubles (week of June 7, 2004)
- Member of victorious Russia Fed Cup sides in 2004 and 2007-08 and Russian Olympic Team in 2004, 2008, 2016
- Won a career-best 60 main draw matches in 2006 campaign, which saw her lift two titles and finish R-Up a further three times (including Roland Garros)
- Breakthrough 2004 season, saw her make debut in Top 20 (March 1) and Top 10 (June 1) before lifting maiden Slam title at US Open (d. Dementieva in F)
- Made Top 50 debut at No.45 on September 30, 2002, after winning title at Bali (d. Martínez in F)
- In 2002, reached first WTA QF at Warsaw, SF at Casablanca and then lifted maiden title at Helsinki (as qualifier, d Chladkova in F)
- Started 2002 season by reaching 2r on Grand Slam main draw debut at Australian Open (d. Cho, l. Tulyaganova)
- Reached 2r on WTA debut (main draw and qualifying) at Madrid in 2001 (d. Ruano Pascual, l. Raymond)
- Advanced to QF on professional debut at \$10K ITF/Mallorca-ESP in 2000

## ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA (RUS #41) VS. VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA (RUS #34)

Head-to-head: ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA leads 2-1

2019	MOSCOW	HARD I	QF	ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA	7-6(5) 7-5
2019	BEIJING	HARD O	R1	ANASTASIA PAVLYUCHENKOVA	6-0 3-6 7-6(4)
2019	SHENZHEN	HARD O	R2	VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA	6-2 1-6 6-2

PAVLYUCHENKOVA		KUDERMETOVA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$10,440,068	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$1,903,111
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Jul. 3, 1991 (29)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Apr. 24, 1997 (23)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	12	<b>Singles Titles</b>	0
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	5-10	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	1-1
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	4-5 / 353-267	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	8-5 / 53-45
<b>3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 117-93	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	3-0 / 23-13
<b>Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 87-74	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	3-2 / 21-11
<b>Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	4-5 / 263-179	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	8-5 / 34-30
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 34-68	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-2 / 5-5
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-3 / 65-118	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-3 / 6-11
<b>Coach</b>	Giovani Samaha	<b>Coach</b>	Sergey Demkhine

### PAVLYUCHENKOVA:

- Making 11th appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships
- Reached QF in 2010 (l. V.Williams) and 2r in 2009 (l. V.Williams) and 2020 (l. Kontaveit)
- Defeated the defending champion and then-World No.4 Bencic in 1r last year – marked her first win at Dubai since QF run in 2010 having suffered 1r exits from 2011-13, 2015, 2017-19
- One of six Russians in the draw (also Alexandrova, Kasatkina, Kudermetova, Kuznetsova and Potapova)
- Faces compatriot No.34 Kudermetova today in their fourth career meeting – each meeting has gone the distance
- Has won four of her last five meetings against her compatriots – d. Kudermetova (2019 Beijing), Gracheva and Kudermetova (en route to 2019 Moscow final) and Kuznetsova (2020 Roland Garros). Most recently fell to Kasatkina at Phillip Island Trophy
- Aiming for her first Top 50 win of the season, and first since defeating No.33 Kuznetsova at 2020 Roland Garros
- Winner of today's match will face 2019 Dubai champion Bencic in 2r
- Coming off 2r exit at Doha (l. eventual champion Kvitova)
- Down under, posted 3r showings at the Yarra Valley Classic (l. Muguruza) and Phillip Island Trophy (l. eventual champion Kasatkina) and suffered 1r exit at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Osaka)
- Began 2021 season falling to Jabeur in 1r of Abu Dhabi
- Finished 2020 ranked No.38 for 13th straight year inside the Top 50
- At 2020 Roland Garros, made 50th main draw appearance at a major – one of 10 active players to reach this milestone
- Upset No.2 Ka.Pliskova and former champion Kerber en route to QF at 2020 Australian Open



**MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
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- Advanced to two finals in 2019 – both at Premier-level – at Osaka (l. Osaka in F) and Moscow (l. Bencic in F). Also made QF in Melbourne in 2019 to match best Grand Slam result (l. Collins), upsetting No.9 Bertens and No.5 Stephens en route
- Notched only win over a reigning World No.1 against Kerber during run to fourth Monterrey title in 2017
- Represented Russia at 2016 Rio Olympics, losing to eventual gold medalist Puig in 2r
- In doubles, owns 12 titles and has reached QF of all four majors – most recently at 2018 US Open w/Sevastova. Career-high doubles ranking is No.21 (September 16, 2013)
- In 2011, won 39 main draw matches, one title and reached first two Grand Slam QFs to end the year inside Top 20 for the first time
- Made Top 20 debut at No.20 on September 13, 2010, after R16 showing at US Open
- Won the first title of her career at Monterrey in 2010 (d. Hantuchova in F); has gone on to lift this title three more times (2011, 2013 and 2017)
- Advanced to maiden WTA SF at 2009 Indian Wells, scoring first Top 10 wins of her career en route, over No.3 Jankovic and No.10 A.Radwanska
- Broke into Top 100 in singles on July 7, 2008 – following run through qualifying to 3r at Wimbledon – and entered Top 50 on November 3 of the same year
- Reached first two WTA QFs in 2008, first on clay at Palermo and then on hard at Tokyo [Japan Open]
- Made Grand Slam debut at 2007 Wimbledon as a WC, losing 6-0 6-1 to No.10 seed Hantuchova
- Played first WTA main draw as a wildcard at 2006 Moscow
- Named 2006 ITF Junior World Champion, having won girls' singles titles at Australian Open (2006-07) and US Open (2006)

**KUDERMETOVA:**

- Making her second main draw appearance at Dubai (third overall appearance)
- Reached 2r in 2020 (as qualifier, d. Yastremska, l. Muguruza) and fell in qualifying in 2018 (l. Diyas)
- Opens her 2021 Dubai campaign against No.41 Pavlyuchenkova in their fourth career meeting. Has defeated two players ranked higher than today's opponent in 2021 – d. No.23 Kontaveit and No.5 Svitolina en route to Abu Dhabi final (l. Sabalenka)
- During last year's Middle East swing, made back-to-back 2r showings at Dubai (as qualifier, l. Muguruza) and Doha (l. Bencic)
- Coming off back-to-back 1r exits at Doha (l. eventual R-Up Muguruza) and Adelaide (l. Rogers)
- Made career-best 3r run at Australian Open (l. Halep)
- Also this season, made 2r at Grampians Trophy (l. Li) after opening her campaign by reaching her maiden WTA final, at Abu Dhabi (l. Sabalenka)
- Closed out 2020 season with back-to-back QFs at Ostrava (as qualifier, l. Brady) and Linz (l. Mertens)
- Scored first win over a Top-3 ranked opponent by upsetting No.3 Ka.Pliskova at 2020 Western & Southern Open
- Began last season with qualifying exit at Brisbane and then SF run at Hobart



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Won 27 main-draw matches during 2019 – had previously won six across entire career – to rise over sixty places in the WTA rankings, making Top 100 debut on February 4 and Top 50 debut on September 9
- Singles highlights in 2019 included reaching maiden WTA SF at 's-Hertogenbosch (l. eventual champion Riske), 3r at Roland Garros (d. No.13 Wozniacki in 1r – her maiden Grand Slam main draw win and also first over a Top 20 opponent – l. Kanepi) and winning WTA 125K Series title at Guadalajara (d. Bouzkova in F)
- Posted first two Top 10 wins of career in final weeks of 2019, over No.10 Bencic at Wuhan and No.4 Svitolina at Moscow
- Fell 1r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2019 Australian Open (as qualifier, l. Kenin)
- Won career first WTA doubles title at 2019 Wuhan with Duan (d. Mertens/Sabalenka in F); also in 2019 was R-Up at Charleston (w/Khromacheva) and Lugano (w/Voskoboeva)
- Posted maiden career WTA QF runs in 2018, first at 's-Hertogenbosch (l. eventual champion Krunić) and then Gstaad (l. Bouchard)
- Reached 2r on WTA main draw debut at 2018 Stuttgart (d. No.25 Suárez Navarro, l. eventual champion Ka.Pliskova)
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2014 Moscow
- Made Billie Jean King Cup debut in 2014 vs. Australia (l. Stosur – her first Tour-level match)
- On ITF Circuit, owns four singles – most recently at 2018 \$25K Keito-JPN – and 16 doubles titles
- Made professional debut at \$50K ITF/Kazan-RUS in 2014

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

### ONS JABEUR (TUN #31) VS. KATERINA SINIAKOVA (CZE #68)

Head-to-head: KATERINA SINIAKOVA leads 5-1

2020	DOHA	HARD	O	R1	ONS JABEUR	6-3 6-2
2018	WIMBLEDON	GRASS	O	R2	KATERINA SINIAKOVA	5-7 6-4 9-7
2018	SHENZHEN	HARD	O	R1	KATERINA SINIAKOVA	6-1 6-1
2014	ITF/NANTES	HARD	I	F	KATERINA SINIAKOVA	7-5 6-2
2014	ISTANBUL	HARD	O	QUAL.	KATERINA SINIAKOVA	6-2 6-3
2014	ITF/CROISSY-BEAUBOURG	HARD	O	QF	KATERINA SINIAKOVA	6-4 7-6(3)

JABEUR		SINIAKOVA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$1,638,292	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$6,424,868
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Aug. 28, 1994 (26)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	May 10, 1996 (24)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	0	<b>Singles Titles</b>	2
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	3-3	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	2-4
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	6-4 / 66-75	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	0-2 / 112-136
<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	2-1 / 21-31	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 47-53
<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 18-23	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 31-25
<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	6-4 / 50-58	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 61-87
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 4-11	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 5-20
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 10-19	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 13-37
<b>Coach</b>	Issam Jellali	<b>Coach</b>	Evgeniia Maniukova/Dmitri Siniakov

#### JABEUR:

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (seventh overall)
- Has made 2r three times, in 2017 (as qualifier, l. Q.Wang), 2019 (l. Svitolina) and 2020 (as WC, l. eventual champion Halep)
- Faces Siniakova in 1r today; most recent opening round defeat came against Gauff at 2020 Rome
- Owns 9-13 career record in main draw matches in the Middle East – QF run at 2020 Doha is her best result
- Coming off 2r exit at Doha (l. Ka.Pliskova)
- Reached 3r at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Osaka)
- Opened 2021 by reaching 3r at Abu Dhabi (l. eventual champion Sabalenka), then fell 2r at the Grampians Trophy (l. Kerber)
- Started 2020 by advancing to 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 breakthrough 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)



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- 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)

### **SINIAKOVA:**

- Playing Dubai main draw for fifth time (sixth overall)
- Best results are 2r showings in 2019 (l. Kvitova) and 2020 (as qualifier, l. Rybakina)
- Faces Jabeur in 1r today – bidding for first Tour-level win since 3r run at 2020 Roland Garros
- One of six Czech direct entries into draw
- Seeded No.2 in doubles this week w/Krejčíková (after 1r bye, face Pavlyuchenkova/Ar.Rodionova or N.Kichenok/Olaru)
- Ended last season by finishing R-Up at \$100k ITF/Dubai (l. Cirstea)
- Coming off qualifying exit at Doha
- Fell 1r at Grampians Trophy (l. Kerber) and Australian Open (l. Ferro). Bounced back to reach doubles final at Melbourne Park w/Krejčíková (l. Mertens/Sabalenka)
- Reached two doubles finals in 2020, winning her first event of the season (Shenzhen w/Krejčíková) and finishing R-Up in the last (Linz w/Hradecká); also reached SF at Australian Open and Roland Garros (both w/Krejčíková)
- In singles last year, best results were QF at Strasbourg (l Sabalenka) and 3r run at Roland Garros (l. Bertens)
- Produced career-best Slam singles result with R16 run at 2019 Roland Garros (d. No.1 Osaka in 3r, l. Keys)
- Finished 2018 ranked No.1 in doubles after winning first two Grand Slam trophies at Roland Garros (d. Hozumi/ Ninomiya in F) and Wimbledon (d. Melichar/Peschke in F) both w/Krejčíková, the first pairing to complete the Roland Garros-Wimbledon double since Kim Clijsters and Ai Sugiyama in 2003; also became the first team ever to win the girls' (2013) and ladies' doubles title at SW19
- Also R-Up w/Krejčíková at 2018 WTA Finals Singapore (l. Babos/ Mladenovic)
- Has three Top 5 career wins in singles – against No.4 Halep at 2017 Shenzhen, No.4 Garcia at Wuhan, and No.1 Osaka at 2019 Roland Garros
- Won both singles rubbers during Czech Republic's 3-0 victory over USA in final of 2018 Billie Jean King Cup



## **DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES**

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Won two career singles titles in 2017, first at Shenzhen (d. No.4 Halep in 2r, No.10 Konta in SF – the first Top 10 wins of her career – and Riske in F) and then Bastad (d. No.17 Sevastova in QF, No.20 Garcia in SF and No.6 Wozniacki in F)
- Reached doubles final at 2017 US Open (w/Hradecka, l. Chan/Hingis)
- Made Top 50 debut on October 24, 2016
- In 2016, advanced to first two WTA finals of career, at Bastad (as qualifier, l. Siegemund) and Tokyo [Japan Open] (l. McHale)
- Won back-to-back Grand Slam matches for the first time during 3r showing at 2016 Wimbledon (l. A.Radwanska)
- Notched the first Top 20 win of her career by upsetting No.14 Petkovic during QF run at 2015 Birmingham
- Broke into Top 100 for the first time on October 20, 2014 following breakthrough SF run at Moscow (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Pavlyuchenkova)
- Fell 1r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2014 Australian Open (as qualifier, l. Diyas)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2013 Miami (l. Muguruza)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in 2012
- Ranked world No.2 in ITF junior rankings in December 2012; won the girls' doubles titles at Roland Garros, Wimbledon and US Open in 2013

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

### [WC] COCO GAUFF (USA #38) VS. EKATERINA ALEXANDROVA (RUS #33)

Head-to-head: First meeting

GAUFF		ALEXANDROVA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$1,248,071	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$2,536,698
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Mar. 13, 2004 (16)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Nov. 15, 1994 (26)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	1	<b>Singles Titles</b>	1
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	Tournament debut	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	Tournament debut
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	6-4 / 27-17	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	7-4 / 75-68
<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	4-2 / 13-8	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	2-1 / 22-25
<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	2-3 / 8-5	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	2-3 / 13-22
<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	6-4 / 22-14	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	7-4 / 58-40
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-1 / 2-3	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-1 / 3-13
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 4-7	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-1 / 7-18
<b>Coach</b>	Corey Gauff	<b>Coach</b>	Evgeny Alexandrov

#### GAUFF:

- Making tournament debut at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships as one of the draw's three wildcards (also Babos and Potapova)
- Faces Alexandrova in 1r today; owns 1-2 record against Russians at Tour level, beating Potapova (2019 US Open) and losing to Kasatkina (2019 Miami) and Blinkova (2019 Luxembourg)
- Since the Tour restarted last summer 13 of her 26 matches (including qualifying) have gone to three sets
- One of four teenagers in the main draw (also Anisimova, Potapova and Swiatek)
- Seeded No.6 in doubles here w/Dabrowski (face US Open champions Siegemund/Zvonareva in 1r)
- Coming off reaching her first WTA 500 SF at Adelaide (l. Bencic) – first time she had won back-to-back main draw matches since SF run at 2020 Lexington
- Suffered back-to-back 2r exits at Gippsland Trophy (l. Boulter) and Australian Open (l. Svitolina). Reached the doubles QFs at Australian Open (w/McNally, l. No.4 seed Melichar/Schuurs)
- Opened her 2021 season at Abu Dhabi, falling in 2r to Sakkari
- Ended 2020 at No.48, just one shy of her career high which she reached on October 26, 2020
- First cracked the Top 50 earlier in the season on Feb. 24, 2020 at No.49 following a R16 appearance at Australian Open to tie her career best Grand Slam result – during performance, defeated V.Williams in 1r and her first Top 5 opponent in No.4 Osaka in 3r (l. eventual champion Kenin in 3s)
- Enjoyed breakout season in 2019, highlighted by maiden WTA singles title at Linz (as lucky loser, d. Ostapenko in F) - earned her first Top 10 win en route to title over No.8 Bertens in QF
- At 15y214d, her title run in Linz made her youngest to win a WTA tour-level title since Vaidisova (15y177d) won Tashkent in 2004
- Also claimed maiden WTA doubles titles at Washington, DC (w/McNally, d. Sanchez/Stollar in F) and Luxembourg (w/McNally, d. Christian/Guarachi in F)
- By winning the doubles title at Washington DC at 15 yrs, 144 days, became the youngest player to win a doubles title since May 1995 (Martina Hingis won Hamburg at 14 yrs, 219 days)



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

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- Reached R16 at 2019 Wimbledon on Grand Slam main draw debut defeating V.Williams in 1r (l. eventual champion Halep) - followed with 3r showing at US Open (as WC, l. Osaka)
- Made WTA main draw debut as a wildcard at 2019 Miami where she earned her first WTA main draw win over good friend McNally (l. Kasatkina in 2r)
- Made professional debut in May 2018 as a qualifier into the \$25K ITF/Osprey, FL-USA
- Member of US Billie Jean King Cup team in 2020
- Former Junior World No.1 (July 2018). Won 2018 Roland Garros girls' title (d. McNally in F) and 2018 US Open doubles title (w/McNally), while finished R-Up at 2017 US Open girls' event (l. Anisimova) becoming the youngest girls' singles finalist in US Open history at 13-years-old

### ALEXANDROVA:

- Making tournament debut at Dubai
- Faces Gauff in 1r today; last match on Tour was an opening round defeat to teenager Tauson at Lyon six days ago
- One of six Russians gaining direct entry into Dubai main draw
- Has struck a WTA-leading 75 aces so far this season
- Made QF in season opener, at Abu Dhabi (l. Svitolina – led 5-3 in the final set and held 2mp) before advancing to SF at Gippsland Trophy (l. Kanepi) and then 3r at Australian Open (l. Barty)
- Opened 2020 season by lifting her maiden WTA singles title, at Shenzhen (d. Rybakina in F). Other highlights of last year included SFs at St. Petersburg and Linz
- Won both singles rubbers on Billie Jean King Cup debut in 3-2 win over Romania in February 2020
- Made Top 50 debut on June 17, 2019 after QF run at 's-Hertogenbosch
- Registered 30 Tour-level match wins during 2019, in which she reached SF at Budapest, Seoul and Linz and made QF at St. Petersburg, 's-Hertogenbosch, Eastbourne and Moscow. Also advanced to 3r at a major for the first time, at Roland Garros
- Won sole WTA doubles title at 2019 Budapest (w/Zvonareva)
- Came through qualifying to make maiden WTA final appearance at 2018 Linz (l. Giorgi)
- Advanced to first WTA QF at 2018 Seoul, scoring maiden Top 10 win of her career en route, over No.10 Ostapenko
- Made Top 100 debut at No.93 on March 20, 2017 after winning title at \$60K ITF/Shenzhen-CHN
- At 2016 Wimbledon, ranked No.223, won her way through qualifying on her maiden Slam appearance, going on to reach 2r (upset No.23 seed Ivanovic in 1r)
- Won WTA 125K Series title at Limoges in 2016, 2018-19
- Reached 2r on WTA main draw debut at 2016 Katowice (as qualifier, l. eventual R-Up Giorgi)
- Contested qualifying for the first time at a WTA-level tournament at 2014 Bad Gastein
- Played first professional events of career on ITF Circuit in Europe in 2011

**BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #63) VS. [16] MARIA SAKKARI (GRE #25)**

Head-to-head: BARBORA KREJCIKOVA leads 1-0

2014 ITF/TORUN

CLAY O F

BARBORA KREJCIKOVA

6-4 6-1

KREJCIKOVA		SAKKARI	
Career Prize Money	\$3,267,172	Career Prize Money	\$2,783,839
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Dec. 18, 1995 (25)	Date of Birth (Age)	Jul. 25, 1995 (25)
Singles Titles	0	Singles Titles	1
Dubai W-L (MD)	Tournament debut	Dubai W-L (MD)	0-1
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	4-3 / 24-23	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	8-4 / 100-90
3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-0 / 12-12	3-Set (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 30-37
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-2 / 3-3	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 30-17
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	4-3 / 11-9	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	8-4 / 63-60
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-4	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 11-14
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 1-8	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-2 / 19-36
Coach	Dominik Posednik	Coach	Tom Hill

**KREJCIKOVA:**

- Making main draw debut at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships; fell in qualifying here in 2020
- In doubles, finished R-Up in 2020 (w/Zheng, I. Hsieh/Strycova); seeded No.2 in doubles this week w/Siniakova (after 1r bye, face Pavlyuchenkova/Ar.Rodionova or N.Kichenok/Olaru)
- Faces Sakkari in 1r today; owns 2-3 record against Top 50 opponents in 2021, including maiden Top 20 win of her career over No.19 Rybakina (Grampians Trophy)
- Beat Sakkari to lift seventh ITF Circuit title of her career at \$25k Torun-POL in 2014, when both players were teenagers ranked outside Top 250
- One of six Czech direct entries into main draw in Dubai
- Coming off qualifying exit at Doha
- Has enjoyed a successful season in doubles, lifting title at Gippsland Trophy and finishing R-Up at Australian Open (both w/Siniakova). Also defended mixed doubles title at Melbourne Park (w/Ram)
- Rose to career-high No.59 on February 8, 2021
- Opened season with 2r showing at Abu Dhabi (I. Putintseva), before advancing to QF at Grampians Trophy (I. Brady) and then 2r at Australian Open (I. Alexandrova)
- Enjoyed breakout year in singles in 2020, posting then career-high ranking of No.65 (November 16) and making R16 at Roland Garros and reaching second WTA SF at Linz
- Also reached two doubles finals last year, finishing R-Up at Dubai (w/Zheng) and winning Shenzhen (w/Siniakova)
- In Mixed Doubles, defended Australian Open title (w/Pavic), having triumphed in Melbourne a year earlier with w/Ram
- In 2019, advanced to QF at Bucharest in addition to winning four ITF Circuit singles titles on clay in North America and Europe, winning 20 of her 21 matches during this stretch



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Also in 2019, posted second Top 20 doubles season highlighted by titles at Toronto and Linz, and R-Up finish at Indian Wells (all w/Siniakova). Won Australian Open mixed doubles title w/Ram
- In 2018, won first two Grand Slam trophies at Roland Garros (d. Hozumi/ Ninomiya in F) and Wimbledon (d. Melichar/Peschke in F) both w/Siniakova, the first pairing to complete the Roland Garros-Wimbledon double since Kim Clijsters and Ai Sugiyama in 2003; also became the first team ever to win the girls' (2013) and ladies' doubles title at SW19
- Rose to WTA doubles World No.1 on October 22, 2018
- Highlight of 2017 was R-Up finish in first WTA singles final at Nürnberg (I. Bertens in F). Also made QF as qualifier at Bastad (I. Garcia). Only other tour-level appearances were 1r exits at Bucharest and Québec City
- Contested five WTA main draws in 2016, progressing to 2r at two events: Kuala Lumpur and Prague
- Lifted maiden WTA doubles title at 2015 Québec City (w/Mestach)
- Advanced to first WTA doubles final at 2014 Luxembourg (w/Hradecka, I. Bacsinzky/Barrois)
- Reached 2r on WTA debut as qualifier at 2014 Québec City (I. Hradecka)<br>
- On ITF Circuit, owns 14 singles and 19 doubles titles
- Made professional debut at \$10K ITF/Piestany-SVK in 2010

### SAKKARI:

- Making second main draw appearance at Dubai, having fallen 1r last year (I. Sabalenka)
- Also contested qualifying in 2018
- Faces No.63 Krejčíková in 1r this year; since Tour's restart last August, has lost three times to players ranked outside Top 50, No.69 Kr.Plišková (Palermo), No.159 Trevisan (Roland Garros) and No.52 Mladenovic (Australian Open)
- Sole Greek player in Top 250 and in Dubai draw
- Coming off QF run at Doha (I. Muguruza)
- Upset in 1r at Australian Open (I. Mladenovic)
- Opened season with back-to-back SFs at Abu Dhabi (I. eventual champion Sabalenka) and at Grampians Trophy (I. Kontaveit)
- Since falling in 1r at Palermo last August – the first tournament following the WTA's resumption – has reached three SFs (Ostrava, Abu Dhabi and Grampians Trophy) and two QF (Western & Southern Open and Doha)
- Secured best year-end ranking of No.22 in 2020; broke into Top 20 on February 24 for first time at No.20
- Scored third and fourth Top 5 wins of her career last season, over No.5 Svitolina at Ostrava and No.5 Bencic at St. Petersburg. Previous wins came over No.5 Ka.Plišková (2018 Rome) and No.5 Kvitová (2019 Rome, via ret.)
- Upset No.10 seed Keys to reach the R16 for the first time at one of the four Slams, at 2020 Australian Open (I. Kvitová) – would later tie result by reaching R16 at US Open (I. S.Williams)



## **DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES**

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- Qualified for WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai in 2019 for first time in career (fell in RR stage). That season won maiden WTA title at Rabat, recovering from a set and break down to defeat Konta in final
- Highlights of 2018 were reaching her first tour-level final at San Jose (l. Buzarnescu) and scoring maiden Top 5 win over No.5 Ka.Pliskova in 2r at Rome
- Notched first Top 10 victory of career over No.6 Wozniacki en route to first WTA SF of career at 2017 Wuhan Open
- Broke into Top 50 for first time at No.49 on October 9, 2017
- At 2016 Australian Open, by reaching 2r (d. Y.Wang, l. Suárez Navarro) became the first woman from Greece to win a main draw match at a Slam since Daniilidou d. Ka.Pliskova at 2013 Australian Open
- Reached first career WTA QF at 2016 Istanbul (as qualifier, l. Kovinic)
- Fell 1r on WTA main draw debut at 2015 US Open (as qualifier, l. Q.Wang)
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2012 Palermo
- Made debut on ITF Circuit in 2010; owns seven ITF Circuit singles titles and five in doubles



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

**Tournament Information:** [www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com](http://www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com) | @DDFTennis | facebook.com/ddftennis/

**WTA Information:** [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/WTA

**WTA Communications:** Teyva Sammet ([tsammet@wtatennis.com](mailto:tsammet@wtatennis.com)), Jessica Culbreath ([jculbreath@wtatennis.com](mailto:jculbreath@wtatennis.com))

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – DAY TWO

### ZHENG SAISAI (CHN #48) vs. [14] ELENA RYBAKINA (KAZ #23)

*Rybakina leads 1-0*

**Rybakina** won in three sets when they met at 2020 Shenzhen... **Zheng** is one of two Chinese players in the draw... **Rybakina** lost last year's final to Halep on a third-set tie-break

### [15] ANETT KONTAVEIT (EST #24) vs. [WC] TIMEA BABOS (HUN #106)

*First meeting*

**Kontaveit** made QF here in 2020... **Babos'** last win over a Top 50 player came at the end of 2018... **Kontaveit** lost to eventual champion in Doha last week

### ANGELIQUE KERBER (GER #26) vs. CAROLINE GARCIA (FRA #47)

*Kerber leads 6-2*

**Kerber** has won their last three meetings in straight sets... **Garcia** coming off second-round exit last week in Lyon... Victor's reward is a second-round meeting with lucky loser Trevisan

### [Q] IRINA-CAMELIA BEGU (ROU #73) vs. [9] GARBIÑE MUGURUZA (ESP #16)

*Muguruza leads 3-1*

**Muguruza** came from a set down to win their most recent encounter at 2016 Beijing... **Begu** has scored one Top 20 win so far this year... **Muguruza** fresh from runner-up finish at Doha

### FIONA FERRO (FRA #39) vs. [10] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #18)

*Mertens leads 1-0*

**Mertens** dropped two games when they met at 2019 Wimbledon... **Ferro** sitting at career-high ranking after last week's SF run at Lyon... **Mertens** playing first match since lifting Australian Open doubles title

**ZHENG SAISAI (CHN #48) VS. [14] ELENA RYBAKINA (KAZ #23)**

Head-to-head: ELENA RYBAKINA leads 1-0

2020 SHENZHEN

HARD O

R1

ELENA RYBAKINA

6-2 1-6 6-2

ZHENG		RYBAKINA	
Career Prize Money	\$3,658,184	Career Prize Money	\$580,193
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Feb. 5, 1994 (27)	Date of Birth (Age)	Jun. 17, 1999 (21)
Singles Titles	1	Singles Titles	2
Dubai W-L (MD)	2-3	Dubai W-L (MD)	4-1
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	0-5 / 76-115	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	4-3 / 59-26
3-Set (YTD / Career)	0-3 / 39-43	3-Set (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 18-11
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 22-13	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-3 / 16-13
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	0-5 / 67-87	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	4-3 / 40-18
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 6-12	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 4-5
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 11-26	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 6-7
Coach	Goran Tomic	Coach	Stefano Vukov

**ZHENG:**

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships
- Reached 2r in 2017 (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Svitolina) and 2019 (l. Muguruza)
- Faces No.23 Rybakina in 1r today – aiming for her first win of 2021 and her first main draw win overall since her QF run at 2020 Doha
- Winner will face Jabeur in 2r
- Fell 1r in doubles here (w/Rogers, l. Klepac/Mirza on Sunday)
- Coming off 1r exits at Doha (l. Doi), Adelaide (l. Collins) and Phillip Island Trophy (l. Jones)
- Opened season by falling 1r at Gippsland Trophy (l. Begu) and then Australian Open (l. Krejickova)
- Posted third successive Top 50 finish in 2020, ending the year ranked No.41, having set a new career-high ranking of No.34 on March 2
- Best result of last season was QF run at Doha, where she upset No.6 Bertens in 3r (l. eventual champion Sabalenka); did not play after Doha due to safety concerns over COVID-19
- Also finished R-Up in doubles at 2020 Shenzhen (w/Duan) and Dubai (w/Krejickova)
- Entering 2021 season, has reached 2r on six occasions at Grand Slams
- In 2019, lifted maiden career title at San Jose (d. Sabalenka in F); upset of Anisimova in SF was her 300th career win (all levels)
- Qualified for WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai in 2019 – went 1-1 in round robin play (d. Keys, l. Martic) to advance to SF (l. Bertens)
- Reached first Grand Slam doubles final of career at 2019 Roland Garros, w/Duan (l. Babos/Mladenovic). Previously reached SF at Australian Open in 2013 (w/Lepchenko) and 2016 (w/Xu)
- Won fourth WTA doubles title of career at 2019 Acapulco (w/Azarenka)

- Has won three titles on the WTA 125K Series – 2015 Dalian, 2018 Zhengzhou and 2019 Anning – with each of those events being staged in China
- Highlights of 2018 season included maiden WTA singles final at Nanchang (ret. vs. Q.Wang w/abdominal pain) followed by SF run at Washington DC (l. Vekic)
- Registered five tour-level wins in 2017, as injury ended her season prematurely; right knee injury forced her to miss all tournaments after 2017 US Open
- Beating Kerber en route to reach first Premier-level QF at 2016 Doha; is one of five Chinese women to defeat a Top 2-ranked player, together with Li Na (six wins), Zheng Jie (three wins), Zhang Shuai (two wins) and Wang Qiang (one win)
- Owns six Top 10 wins, over No.6 Kvitova (via. ret at 2016 Shenzhen), No.2 Kerber (2016 Doha), No.5 A.Radwanska (2016 Olympics), No.10 Svitolina (2017 Madrid), No.10 Sabalenka (2019 San Jose) and No.6 Bertens (2020 Doha)
- First broke into Top 100 on October 13, 2014 and Top 50 on October 22, 2018
- Reached first WTA singles QF at Hong Kong in September 2014, and first WTA SF at Tianjin in October 2014
- Made WTA debut in both singles and doubles at 2011 Guangzhou, capturing her first doubles title there (w/ Hsieh)
- Selected by fans to participate in the 2014 WTA Rising Stars Invitational as part of the WTA Finals
- At Rio Olympics, reached 2r in singles (l. Kasatkina) and 2r in doubles (w/Xu, l. Errani/Vinci)
- Member of Chinese Fed Cup Team, 2015-16, 2019-20
- Made professional debut on ITF Circuit in 2008; winner of 11 singles titles and nine doubles titles on ITF Circuit

### **RYBAKINA:**

- Making second appearance at Dubai, having finished as R-Up in 2020 (l. Halep in F; led 3-1 in the final set and was two points from victory at 5-4 in the decisive tie-break)
- En route to final last year, upset No.7 Kenin and No.3 Ka.Pliskova – her first career win over a Top-5 ranked opponent
- Faces Zheng in 1r today; beat her Chinese opponent at same stage during run to the final at 2020 Shenzhen
- One of two Kazakhstani players to begin draw this week, along with Shvedova
- Coming off 1r exit at Doha (l. Siegemund)
- Made QF in opening tournament of 2021, at Abu Dhabi (l. eventual champion Sabalenka), before falling 1r at Grampians Trophy (l. Krejickova) and 2r at Australian Open (l. Ferro)
- Opened 2020 campaign by reaching the championship match at four of her first five tournaments, including a title run at Hobart (d. Zhang in F)
- Made first final appearance at a Premier-level tournament with R-Up finish at St. Petersburg (l. Bertens); was rewarded with Top 20 debut at No.19 following run in Russia (February 17, 2020)
- First win over a Top-5 ranked opponent came over No.3 Ka.Pliskova during R-Up finish at 2020 Dubai
- Won back-to-back Slam matches for the first time during 3r showing at 2020 Australian Open (l. Barty)



## **DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES**

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- Won maiden WTA singles title at 2019 Bucharest (d. Tig in F), breaking into Top 100 for the first time in the following week's rankings at No.65 (July 22, 2019)
- Also in 2019, went on to make Top 50 debut on September 16, 2019, after reaching second career final at Nanchang (I. Peterson), produced SF appearances at Luxembourg and 's-Hertogenbosch, and made Grand Slam main draw debut at 2019 Roland Garros, falling 1r (as qualifier, I. Siniakova)
- Finished 2019 campaign with 57-21 win-loss record (across all levels) to end season at No.37, up from 2018's final ranking of No.191. On the ITF Circuit in 2019, lifted silverware on three occasions: back-to-back at \$25k Moscow-RUS and \$25k Kazan-RUS, and at \$60k ITF/Launceston-AUS
- Highlights of 2018 included reaching maiden WTA QF at St. Petersburg (I. Goerges) and clinching title at \$15k ITF/Kazan-RUS
- First Top 10 win came over No.7 Garcia at 2018 St. Petersburg
- Made WTA qualifying and main draw debut at 2017 Moscow (as qualifier, I. Begu in 1r)
- Professional debut came at \$10k ITF/Antalya-TUR in 2014

**[15] ANETT KONTAVEIT (EST #24) VS. [WC] TIMEA BABOS (HUN #106)**

Head-to-head: First meeting

KONTAVEIT		BABOS	
Career Prize Money	\$4,193,786	Career Prize Money	\$7,352,233
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Dec. 24, 1995 (25)	Date of Birth (Age)	May 10, 1993
Singles Titles	1	Singles Titles	1
Dubai W-L (MD)	3-3	Dubai W-L (MD)	0-2
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	7-3 / 131-102	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	3-4 / 123-168
3-Set (YTD / Career)	2-1 / 45-35	3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 41-68
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 33-32	Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 40-49
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	7-3 / 85-67	Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	3-4 / 85-108
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 11-21	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 1-21
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 19-34	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 8-43
Coach	Nigel Sears	Coach	Thomas Drouet

**KONTAVEIT:**

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai where she made QF last year (l. Martić)
- Also made 2r in 2018 (l. Osaka) and fell 1r in 2019 (l. Zhang)
- Faces Babos in 1r today; last loss to a player ranked outside Top 100 was at hands of No.356 Friedsam at 2019 Eastbourne
- Coming off QF run at Doha (l. eventual champion Kvitová in 3s)
- Posted 3r showing at Australian Open (l. Rogers) after reaching the Grampians Trophy final (the final was not played)
- Opened 2021 season with 1r exit at Abu Dhabi (l. Kudrmetova)
- During an interrupted 2020, reached sixth final of career at Palermo (l. Ferro) and posted 21 match wins across the season (joint-fifth most, level with Jabeur)
- Made Grand Slam breakthrough by reaching maiden major QF at Australian Open (l. Halep), becoming the first Estonian to make the last eight at Australian Open, also the first Estonian to reach a Grand Slam QF since Kanepi at 2017 US Open
- Finished 2019 ranked No.26 despite missing final two months of the season w/viral illness
- Reached her fifth career final in 2019 at Stuttgart (l. Kvitová). Also in 2019, advanced to her first Premier Mandatory SF at Miami (l. eventual champion Barty), which propelled her to a career high ranking of No.14 (April 1, 2019)
- In 2018, season highlighted by fourth WTA singles final at Wuhan (l. Sabalenka); posted 33 main draw wins – the first time she had registered 30 or more wins in a season
- Breakthrough season came in 2017, winning first career singles title at 2017 's-Hertogenbosch (d. Vihlyantseva in F). Also reached finals at Biel/Benne (l. Vondroušová) and Gstaad (l. Bertens)
- Broke into Top 30 for first time at No.27 following run at Gstaad (July 24, 2017)
- Posted her first career win over a reigning No.1 with defeat of Kerber at 2017 Rome
- In 2016, played main draw at all four Grand Slams for first time, but dropped out of Top 100

- Made Top 100 debut on September 14, 2015 at No.96, up from No.152. One of five teenagers in 2015 year-end Top 100
- Scored first Top 20 win of career over No.17 Errani at 2016 Monterrey (2r)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2013 Miami as WC (l. McHale, 1r)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in 2010; owns 11 singles titles and five doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Junior highlights included winning 2011 Orange Bowl, defeating Bouchard and Putintseva en route

### **BABOS:**

- Playing Dubai for a third time, having fallen 1r in 2015 (as qualifier, l. Jankovic) and 2019 (l. Cornet)
- Won doubles title here in 2015 (w/Mladenovic); this year is seeded No.5 w/Kudermetova (play Krunic/Panova in 1r)
- Faces No.24 Kontaveit in 1r today; most recent Top 50 win came over No.37 Vekic at 2018 Linz
- Coming off 2r showing at Lyon last week (l. eventual champion Tauson)
- Reached 2r at Gippsland Trophy (l. Garcia) and Australian Open (as qualifier, l. Potapova). Also fell 1r at Phillip Island Trophy (l. Minnen)
- Alongside partner Mladenovic, won third and fourth Grand Slam doubles titles in 2020, at Australian Open (d. Hsieh/Strycova in F) and Roland Garros (d. Guarachi/Krawczyk)
- Lifted second major doubles title at 2019 Roland Garros (w/Mladenovic, d. Duan/Zheng in F)
- Other doubles highlights in 2019 included finishing R-Up in doubles at Australian Open (w/Mladenovic, l. Stosur/Zheng), reaching SF at Wimbledon and title run at Istanbul (both w/Mladenovic)
- Singles highlights in 2018 were reaching seventh and eighth career finals, at Taipei City (d. Kozlova in F) and Monterrey (l. Muguruza in F in 3s)
- Enjoyed success in doubles in 2018, winning debut Slam at Australian Open, WTA Finals, Birmingham and reached QF at Wimbledon (all w/Mladenovic); crowned new WTA World No.1 in doubles after Wimbledon run (July 16, 2018)
- Highest-ranked opponent beaten in career to date is No.9 Vandeweghe at 2018 Australian Open 1r
- Reached a career-high three singles finals in 2017, capturing the second WTA singles title of her career on home soil in Budapest (d. Safarova in F) and posting back-to-back R-Up finishes at Québec City and Tashkent
- Produced an impressive season on the doubles court in 2017, claiming a career-high six titles, including hoisting the trophy at the WTA Finals in Singapore (w/Hlavackova)
- In 2016, reached 3r at a major for the first time, at US Open (l. Halep); shortly after New York run rose to her career-high ranking of No.25 (September 19, 2016)
- Reached third singles final of career at 2016 Florianopolis (l. Begu in F), made SF appearances at Shenzhen and Rabat, and QF runs at St Petersburg, Katowice, Cincinnati and Moscow; qualified for the WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai where she fell in round robin stage (0-2 record)
- Qualified for the 2016 WTA Finals in doubles w/Shvedova – fell in 1r (l. Mattek-Sands/Safarova); also qualified for 2015 WTA Finals w/Mladenovic – pair exited at RR stage



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- Highlights in 2015 were R-Up finish at Marrakech (l. Svitolina in F), winning the WTA 125K Series event in Taipei (d. Doi in F), and three doubles titles, at Dubai, Marrakech and Rome (all w/Mladenovic)
- Scored first Top 20 win by upsetting No.17 Ivanovic en route to 2013 Monterrey QF
- Reached first WTA singles SF at 2012 Bogotá, lifting maiden title the following week at Monterrey (d. Cadantu in F)
- Fell 1r on WTA main draw debut at 2010 Budapest (as WC, l. Bacsinszky)
- Hungarian Fed Cup Team, 2011-15 and 2017; Hungarian Olympic Team, 2012, 2016
- Began senior career on ITF Circuit in Great Britain in 2009, reaching the final of her first three tournaments. Overall, owns 13 singles and 10 doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- In juniors, was three-time doubles Grand Slam champion (2010 Roland Garros, Wimbledon and US Open – all w/Stephens) and two-time runner-up (2009 Roland Garros w/Watson, 2010 Australian Open w/Dabrowski)

**ANGELIQUE KERBER (GER #26) VS. CAROLINE GARCIA (FRA #47)**

Head-to-head: ANGELIQUE KERBER leads 6-2

2019	MALLORCA	GRASS	O	QF	ANGELIQUE KERBER	6-3 7-6(5)
2018	ROLAND GARROS	CLAY	O	R16	ANGELIQUE KERBER	6-2 6-3
2018	INDIAN WELLS	HARD	O	R16	ANGELIQUE KERBER	6-1 6-1
2017	WUHAN	HARD	O	R1	CAROLINE GARCIA	3-6 6-3 6-1
2015	HONG KONG	HARD	O	QF	ANGELIQUE KERBER	7-5 6-3
2015	BRISBANE	HARD	O	R1	ANGELIQUE KERBER	6-4 6-3
2014	MONTREAL	HARD	O	R2	ANGELIQUE KERBER	6-4 6-1
2014	MADRID	CLAY	O	R1	CAROLINE GARCIA	6-3 2-0 ret.

KERBER		GARCIA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$29,371,979	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$10,317,849
<b>Plays</b>	Left-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Jan. 18, 1988 (33)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Oct. 16, 1993 (27)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	12	<b>Singles Titles</b>	7
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	8-7	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	8-5
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	3-3 / 432-252	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	4-5 / 228-184
<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 121-97	<b>3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 80-62
<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 88-61	<b>Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-1 / 61-57
<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	3-3 / 290-166	<b>Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	4-5 / 138-121
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 39-62	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-1 / 17-42
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 90-116	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 34-70
<b>Coach</b>	Torben Beltz	<b>Coach</b>	Louis Paul Garcia

**KERBER:**

- Making her eighth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (ninth overall)
- Best results were SF runs in 2017 and 2018 (l. eventual champion Svitolina on both occasions)
- Faces Garcia in 1r today; has posted just two Top 50 wins since start of 2020, over No.28 Q.Wang (2020 Adelaide) and No.30 Jabeur (2021 Grampians Trophy)
- Winner will meet lucky loser Trevisan in 2r
- At 33-years-old, is one of 12 thirtysomethings in the draw
- Coming off 2r showing at Doha (l. Kontaveit)
- Opened season with QF showing at Grampians Trophy (l. Sakkari) before falling 1r at Australian Open (l. Pera)
- Finished 2020 ranked No.25. Highlights of the season were reaching R16 at Australian Open (l. Pavlyuchenkova) and US Open (l. Brady)
- Advanced to two finals across 2019, including a R-Up finish at Indian Wells (l. Andreescu), in what was the first Premier Mandatory final of her career. As a result, passed the \$28 million prize money mark – currently eighth on the all-time list
- Victory over Kontaveit in 2r at 2019 Doha marked 600th career win across all levels
- Defeated Haddad Maia in 2r at 2019 Australian Open for 100th Grand Slam match-win (one of seven active players to achieve the feat)

- Won two titles in 2018, at Sydney (d. Barty in F) and third Grand Slam crown of career at Wimbledon (d. S.Williams in F), finishing the season ranked No.2
- Also in 2018, advanced to SF at Australian Open (l. Halep in 3s, having held two match points), Dubai (l. eventual champion Svitolina) and Eastbourne (l. eventual champion Wozniacki)
- Best results of 2017 season were R-Up finish at Monterrey and SF runs at Tokyo [PPO] and Dubai
- Enjoyed an outstanding 2016 season, winning first Grand Slam titles of career at Australian Open (d. S.Williams in F) and US Open (d. Ka.Pliskova in F), finishing R-Up at Wimbledon (l. S.Williams in F) and rising to World No.1 in the WTA rankings. At 28, became oldest player to make her debut at World No.1
- At 2016 Australian Open, became first Grand Slam champion to save match point en route to the title since Li Na at 2014 Australian Open (Kerber saved a match point in 1r win over Doi)
- Finished 2016 year-end World No.1 ranking – became 12th WTA player to achieve the feat and second German woman to do so after Graf (eight times)
- Was voted WTA Player of the Year in 2016 by international media; also, ITF World Champion and Olympics silver medalist that year. Ended the season with a tour-leading 63-18 win-loss record
- Part of the Germany team that reached the final of 2014 Billie Jean King Cup. Also played the competition in 2007-08, 2012-13, 2015-18
- Made Grand Slam breakthrough with run to SF at 2011 US Open (ranked No.92, upset No.13 A.Radwanska, l. eventual champion Stosur)
- Broke into Top 100 on May 14, 2007 and reached first WTA QF one month later at 's-Hertogenbosch (l. Chakvetadze)
- Lost to Dementieva in 1r at 2007 Roland Garros on her Grand Slam main draw debut
- Reached 2r on WTA main draw debut, at 2006 Hasselt (d. Oprandi, l. Ivanovic)
- Professional debut came in qualifying at 2003 Berlin

### **GARCIA:**

- Making sixth main draw appearance at Dubai (seventh overall)
- Advanced to SF here in 2016 (l. Strycova) and QF in 2018 (l. Muguruza)
- Was R-Up in doubles here in 2016 (w/Mladenovic)
- Faces Kerber in 1r today; last win over the German came in 1r of her 2017 Wuhan title run
- One of four French women in the draw (also Cornet, Ferro and Mladenovic)
- Last week, fell 2r on home soil at Lyon (l. Golubic)
- Suffered 1r exits at Phillip Island Trophy (l. Doi) and Adelaide (l. Sevastova)
- Made 2r at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Osaka) and posted 3r showing at Gippsland (l. eventual champion Mertens)
- Best results in 2020 came at Slams, reaching R16 at Roland Garros (l. Svitolina) and 3r at US Open (l. Brady)
- Defeated No.3 Ka.Pliskova in 2r at Flushing Meadows to record her first Top 10 win since 2018 Tianjin title (d. No.6 Ka.Pliskova in F)



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- Highlights of 2019 campaign include capturing her seventh career WTA singles title at Nottingham and reaching the finals at Strasbourg
- Member of French Fed Cup team that won the 2019 competition final vs. Australia, teaming up with Mladenovic to win the decisive doubles runner against Barty/Stosur. Also took part in the team that advanced to 2016 Fed Cup final vs. Czech Republic
- Fell out of the Top 20 on March 18, 2019 after holding her position there since August 14, 2017
- In 2018, won sixth career title at Tianjin; also made semifinals at Stuttgart and Madrid
- Broke into the Top 5 on August 13, 2018 and reached a career-high of No.4 on September 10, 2018
- Became first player to win Wuhan and Beijing back-to-back in 2017. As a result, qualified for WTA Finals. Was ranked No.30 on the Race to Singapore leaderboard in May 2017
- Best win of her career came over No.2 Halep in 2017 Beijing final
- In 2017, lifted first Premier-5 level title at Wuhan and first Premier-Mandatory crown at Beijing; subsequently made Top 10 debut
- Won a career-best 48 main draw matches in 2017 (48-22 record, two titles), Advanced to QF at 2017 Roland Garros (l. Ka.Pliskova) for best Grand Slam singles result to date
- Advanced to QF at 2017 Roland Garros (l. Ka.Pliskova) for best Grand Slam singles result to date
- Qualifying for WTA Finals in 2017, became the first Frenchwoman to compete at WTA Finals in singles since Mauresmo in 2006 (l. Henin in F)
- At 2016 Roland Garros w/Mladenovic, won first major doubles title. They were the first French pair to win in Paris since 1971, when Gail Chanfreau and Francoise Durr triumphed
- Represented France at 2016 Rio Olympics in singles (2r) and doubles (1r, w/Mladenovic)
- Member of French Fed Cup team that advanced to 2016 competition final vs. Czech Republic
- Played 2015 WTA Finals Rising Stars Invitational in Singapore (l. Osaka in F)
- Made professional debut at 13 on ITF Circuit in France in 2007
- In juniors, singles runner-up at 2011 US Open (l. Min) and was a semifinalist at the other three Slams

**IRINA-CAMELIA BEGU (ROU #73) VS. [9] GARBIÑE MUGURUZA (ESP #16)**

Head-to-head: GARBIÑE MUGURUZA leads 2-1

2016	BEIJING	HARD	O	R1	GARBIÑE MUGURUZA	2-6 6-2 6-3
2016	MADRID	CLAY	O	R2	IRINA-CAMELIA BEGU	5-7 7-6(4) 6-3
2015	BILLIE JEAN KING CUP	HARD	I	-	GARBIÑE MUGURUZA	6-3 6-2

BEGU		MUGURUZA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$5,248,821	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$19,479,251
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Aug. 26, 1990 (30)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Oct. 8, 1993 (27)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	4	<b>Singles Titles</b>	7
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	0-1	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	10-6
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	6-3 / 180-181	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	12-4 / 271-148
<b>3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	4-1 / 69-55	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	1-1 / 83-63
<b>Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-2 / 42-44	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	1-2 / 43-52
<b>Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	6-3 / 85-102	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	12-4 / 186-102
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 6-32	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-3 / 37-38
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-2 / 14-49	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-3 / 65-64
<b>Coach</b>	Teodor Bolanu	<b>Coach</b>	Concepcion Martinez Bernat

**BEGU:**

- Making second main draw appearance at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships
- Fell 1r on debut in 2017 (I. Sevastova)
- One of four Romanian players to start the draw, along with Bogdan, Cirstea and Tig
- In today's opening round, faces No.16 Muguruza. Looks to register second Top 20 win of the season, having shocked No.14 Konta at the Gippsland Trophy
- Coming off second WTA hard court QF of the year at the Phillip Island Trophy (I. Andreescu), also made final eight at the Gippsland Trophy (I. No.3 Osaka). Prior to 2021, last made this stage at 2019 Hobart and Budapest; last SF on hard was at 2018 Shenzhen
- En route to the Gippsland Trophy QFs, saved 2MP in second set tie-break with Konta during 3r – at 3h35m this was longer than any match on Tour in 2020
- Began last season ranked outside Top 100; contested qualifying at Hobart and fell 1r at Shenzhen and Australian Open
- Shortly after Tour's resumption in August 2020, made first WTA SF in over two years at Prague (I. eventual champion Halep); win over No.43 Sevastova in 1r was first over a Top 50 player since 2018 Roland Garros; also reached 2r at Roland Garros in September (I. Halep)
- Prior to tour's hiatus was in good form, winning the title at WTA 125K Series event at Indian Wells and another title at \$100K ITF/Cairo-EGY
- Best results of 2019 were 3r run at Roland Garros (I. Anisimova) and three QF runs at Hobart (I. Schmiedlova), Budapest (I. Vondrousova) and Bucharest (I. Siegemund)
- Reached two singles SFs - Shenzhen and Istanbul - and one QF in 2018. Also defeated No.5 Ostapenko at 2018 Madrid for second Top 5 win of career having also beaten No.4 Muguruza at 2016 Madrid

- Won two doubles titles in 2018 – Shenzhen and Bucharest – finishing the year at a career-best No.23 in the WTA Doubles Rankings. Reached SF stage of 2018 Australian Open doubles event w/Niculescu
- Highlight of 2017 was lifting fourth singles title of her career at Bucharest without dropping a set (d. Goerges in F); also took home the doubles trophy without dropping a set w/Olaru
- Also in 2017 reached two SFs: Istanbul (l. Mertens) and Moscow (l. Kasatkina), and one QF at Charleston (l. eventual champion Kasatkina)
- Represented Romania at 2016 Rio Olympics, making 1r exits in singles (l. Hibino) and doubles (w/Niculescu, l. Chan/Chan)
- Posted career-best singles ranking at No.22 (August 22, 2016)
- Other notable results in 2016 included SF at Rome (l. S.Williams), QF at Charleston (l. Kerber) and QF at Madrid (l. Halep)
- In run to QF at 2016 Madrid was one of four Romanians for reach QF – which was first time this had occurred at a Premier Mandatory event (also Halep, Cirstea and Tig). Secured two milestones during Madrid: career-best win vs. No.4 Muguruza, and 300th match win of career (all levels) with 3r defeat of McHale
- Struggled with right shoulder injury in 2013 – first felt pain at 2013 Australian Open and missed three months of action
- Lifted maiden WTA title at 2012 Tashkent (d. Vekic in F)
- Reached 2r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2011 Roland Garros (d. Rezaï, l. Kuznetsova)
- Appeared in first two WTA finals in 2011, at Mallorca (l. Azarenka) and then Budapest (l. Vinci). Voted WTA Newcomer of the Year in 2011 (media vote)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2009 Budapest (fell in 1r to Peer)
- Holds 12 singles titles and 19 doubles titles on ITF Circuit

### **MUGURUZA:**

- Making seventh successive main draw appearance at Dubai as the No.9 seed
- Has reached two SFs here, on her debut in 2015 (l. Pliskova) and in 2018 (l. Kasatkina)
- Also a quarterfinalist here in 2020 (l. Brady). Reached 3r in 2019 (l. Svitolina) and fell 2r 2016 (l. Svitolina) and 2017 (l. Bondarenko via ret.)
- Opens 2021 Dubai campaign against No.73 Begu – hasn't lost to a player outside the Top 70 since falling to an unranked Pironkova during the 2020 US Open
- Owns 6-0 record in 1r matches in Dubai
- Coming off second R-Up appearance of the season at the Qatar Total Open (l. Kvitova)
- Has now won 12 matches this year – the most main draw victories of any player on Tour
- During last year's Middle East swing, made back-to-back QFs at Dubai (l. Brady) and Doha (l. Barty)
- Made R16 showing at Australian Open, falling to the eventual champion Osaka after holding two match points at 5-3 in the final set
- Produced R-Up finish at the Yarra Valley Classic (l. Barty) and opened the season with a 3r showing at Abu Dhabi (d. Mladenovic and Sasnovich, l. Sakkari)



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- Reached fourth Grand Slam singles final of career at 2020 Australian Open (l. Kenin in 3s). Was first Spaniard to reach the final at Melbourne Park since Conchita Martínez in 1998
- Last year also made SFs at Shenzhen and Rome and three further QFs
- In 2019, successfully defended her title in Monterrey for seventh career WTA trophy (d. Azarenka in F)
- Is a two-time Grand-Slam champion winning titles at 2016 Roland Garros (d. S.Williams in F) and 2017 Wimbledon (d. V.Williams in F). Dropped only one set in Roland Garros title run
- Is only player to ever beat both Williams sisters in a Grand Slam final and one of 29 women in the Open Era to win multiple Grand Slam titles. One of just eight players all-time to defeat Serena in a Grand Slam final
- Also finished R-Up at 2015 Wimbledon (l. S.Williams) to make Top 10 debut. Is one of two players to meet both Williams sisters in the final of the same Grand Slam – also Hingis at US Open (1997, d. V.Williams; 1999, l. S.Williams)
- First Spaniard to reach Wimbledon final since Sánchez Vicario in 1996 and first to reach any Slam final since Conchita Martínez at 2000 Roland Garros
- Rose to World No.1 on September 11, 2017 to become the 24th woman in history to hold the top spot and second from Spain (after Sánchez Vicario in 1995). Also named ITF World Champion for 2017
- Reached R16 at Rio Olympics in 2016
- In 2015, became first Spanish player to compete at the WTA Finals in singles since 2001 (Sánchez Vicario) and reached doubles final (w/Suárez Navarro, l. Hingis/Mirza). Overall, has qualified three times for the season-ending championships (2015-17)
- Owns five WTA doubles titles, most recently at 2015 Tokyo [PPO] (w/Suarez Navarro), and reached SF at 2014 Roland Garros (w/Suarez Navarro); rose to No.10 in WTA doubles rankings on February 23, 2015.
- Advanced to R16 on WTA main draw debut at 2012 Miami (l. eventual champion A.Radwanska), defeating No.9 Zvonareva en route for first Top 10 win

**FIONA FERRO (FRA #39) VS. [10] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #18)**

Head-to-head: ELISE MERTENS leads 1-0

2019 WIMBLEDON GRASS O R1 ELISE MERTENS 6-2 6-0

FERRO		MERTENS	
Career Prize Money	\$1,056,531	Career Prize Money	\$6,435,504
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	March 12, 1997 (23)	Date of Birth (Age)	Nov. 17, 1995 (25)
Singles Titles	2	Singles Titles	6
Dubai W-L (MD)	Tournament debut	Dubai W-L (MD)	2-4
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	5-3 / 37-38	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	7-1 / 157-86
3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	3-1 / 14-11	3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 40-31
Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	0-2 / 8-8	Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	3-1 / 29-32
Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	5-3 / 26-17	Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	7-1 / 10-54
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-3	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 8-19
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 3-7	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 16-41
Coach	Emmanuel Planque	Coach	Robbie Ceysens

**FERRO:**

- Making her tournament debut at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships
- One of four French women to start the main draw: also Cornet, Garcia and Mladenovic
- Faces No.18 Mertens in hopes of recording first Top 20 win of the season; in sole match vs. Top 20 opposition this year, fell to No.17 Swiatek at US Open
- Coming off SF run at Lyon (I. Golubic) – her first SF since lifting the title in Palermo (d. Kontaveit in F)
- Made 3r run at Australian Open (I. Swiatek). Upset No.21 Rybakina in 2r – her best by-ranking win since upsetting the same opponent (then-ranked No.18) at 2020 Roland Garros
- Played first event of season at Yarra Valley Classic, falling in 1r as the No.12 seed (I. Rogers)
- Grand Slam breakthrough came with R16 showing at 2020 Roland Garros (I. Kenin)
- Finished 2020 season at No.42 for highest year-end ranking and first inside Top 50. Broke into Top 50 at No.44 after winning second career title at 2020 Palermo (d. Kontaveit in F)
- Enjoyed impressive season in 2019, lifting maiden WTA title in her career first tour-level final at Lausanne (d. Cornet in F); posted first Top 100 year-end finish (No.63)
- Reached one more SF in 2019 at Lugano and the QF on two other occasions at Strasbourg and Palermo
- Contested the main draw at all four Grand Slams for the first time in 2019, achieving her best result at the majors by reaching the 3r at the US Open (I. No.18 seed Q.Wang)
- Member of the French Billie Jean King Cup squad that were crowned 2019 Billie Jean King Cup champions, beating Australia away from home in November
- Finished 2018 ranked No.102; made maiden WTA QF at Guangzhou (I. eventual champion Q.Wang). Also made 2r at Roland Garros, Tashkent and Luxembourg and won first four titles on ITF Circuit
- Prior to 2018 Roland Garros had lost 1r on eight previous tour-level main draw appearances
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2014 Strasbourg
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in 2012

## **MERTENS:**

- Making fifth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships
- Reached 2r on tournament debut in 2017 (as qualifier, I. Radwanska) and 2020 (I. Sabalenka)
- Opens her 2021 Dubai campaign against No.39 Ferro – needed just 49 minutes to oust the Frenchwoman in their only Tour-level meeting at 2019 Wimbledon
- Also playing doubles this week with partner Sabalenka as the No.1 seeds – following a 1r bye, will face either Mattek-Sands/Pegula or Ninomiya/Voracova
- Coming off R16 showing at Australian Open (I. Muchova). Also lifted doubles title at Melbourne Park w/Sabalenka
- Enjoyed championship run at Gippsland Trophy winning her sixth career title (d. Kanepi in F)
- Planned to start season at Abu Dhabi earlier in January before late withdrawal w/right shoulder injury
- Owns two Top 20 wins this season, against No.12 Bencic at Australian Open and No.5 Svitolina en route to Gippsland Trophy title
- Led the Tour in match wins in 2020, going 34-13 across the season
- Reached two finals last year, finishing as R-Up at both Prague (I. Halep) and Linz (I. Sabalenka)
- Earned her milestone 200th career main draw win with victory over Kalinina in 1r at Linz
- Won 10th career doubles title at Ostrava (w/Sabalenka)
- Loss to Watson at 2020 Hobart, at 3h 33m, was the longest match of the year
- Singles highlights in 2019 were winning biggest title of career at Doha (d. No.3 Halep in final) and advancing to QF at US Open for the first time (I. eventual champion Andreescu in 3s)
- Enjoyed standout season in doubles in 2019 – won maiden major doubles title at US Open w/Sabalenka (d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Also Completed ‘Sunshine Double’ in doubles (w/Sabalenka), lifting the back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejckova/Siniakova) and Miami (d. Stosur/Zhang), and qualified for Shiseido WTA Finals Shenzhen (went 1-2 in RR)
- Won three singles titles in 2018 (Hobart, Rabat and Lugano), one of six players on tour with three or more titles to their name that year - also Kvitova (5), Svitolina (4), Bertens (3), Halep (3) and Wozniacki (3)
- Also in 2018, advanced to first Slam SF of career at 2018 Australian Open (I. eventual champion Wozniacki)
- Finished 2018 with 46 main draw match wins across the campaign – only Ka.Pliskova (49) and Kvitova (47) registered more. By contrast, prior to 2018 season owned only 36 wins at this level across entire career
- In doubles in 2018, won four titles and reached QF at WTA Finals (w/Schuurs)
- Finished 2017 season at No.35, up from No.120 in 2016 – first Top 50 and Top 100 year-end finish. Season highlighted by first career singles title at Hobart (as a qualifier, d. Niculescu in F)
- Registered first Top 10 win of career over No.10 Cibulkova in 1r at 2017 Beijing
- Made WTA singles main draw debut at 2016 ‘s-Hertogenbosch – made QF (as qualifier, I. Mladenovic)
- Won first WTA title of any kind in doubles at 2016 Auckland (w/Mestach)
- Played first tour-level event of career at 2015 Antwerp (fell in qualifying)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in Belgium in 2010; owns 11 singles and 14 doubles titles on ITF Circuit



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

**Tournament Information:** [www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com](http://www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com) | @DDFTennis | facebook.com/ddftennis/

**WTA Information:** [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/WTA

**WTA Communications:** Teyva Sammet ([tsammet@wtatennis.com](mailto:tsammet@wtatennis.com)), Jessica Culbreath ([jculbreath@wtatennis.com](mailto:jculbreath@wtatennis.com))

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – DAY THREE

### ANASTASIJA SEVASTOVA (LAT #55) vs. [2] KAROLINA PLISKOVA (CZE #6)

Sevastova leads 2-1

**Sevastova** holds 10 career wins over Top 10 ranked players, including one over today's opponent in 2017... **Pliskova** is a former finalist at Dubai, reaching the championship match in 2015 (l. Halep)

### ALIZÉ CORNET (FRA #59) vs. [3] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #8)

Cornet leads 1-0

**Cornet** defeated then-No.1 S.Williams en route to 2014 Dubai final before falling to V.Williams... **Sabalenka** made her best Dubai run in 2020 by reaching the QF before lifting the Doha crown

### [1] ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #5) vs. SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA (RUS #41)

Svitolina leads 4-1

**Svitolina** is a two-time champion in Dubai, lifting the trophy in 2017 and 2018... **Kuznetsova** owns the most wins at Dubai amongst active players with 20, ahead of V.Williams (19) and Svitolina (16)

### [4] PETRA KVITOVA (CZE #10) vs. JIL TEICHMANN (SUI #54)

First meeting

**Kvitova** is coming off her 28th career title at Doha last week, the fourth most amongst active players... **Teichmann** is making her debut at Dubai and is aiming for her second career Top 10 victory

### ONS JABEUR (TUN #31) vs. [14] ELENA RYBAKINA (KAZ #23)

Rybakina leads 1-0

**Jabeur** is looking to surpass the 2r at Dubai for the first time, having reached this stage in 2017, 2019 and 2020... **Rybakina** reached the biggest final of her career here last year (l. Halep in F)



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

### ANASTASIJA SEVASTOVA (LAT #55) VS. [2] KAROLINA PLISKOVA (CZE #6)

Head-to-head: SEVASTOVA leads 2-1

2017	MADRID	CLAY O	R32	ANASTASIJA SEVASTOVA	6-3 6-3
2016	NOTTINGHAM	GRASS O	R32	KAROLINA PLISKOVA	6-7(5) 6-0 6-2
2015	MOSCOW	HARD I	R16	ANASTASIJA SEVASTOVA	6-3 7-6(10)

SEVASTOVA		PLISKOVA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$7,638,349	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$20,573,921
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	April 13, 1990 (30)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	March 21, 1992 (28)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	4	<b>Singles Titles</b>	16
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	7-6	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	9-7
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	4-5 / 182-151	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	5-4 / 328-171
<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	0-3 / 57-52	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 103-57
<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 41-39	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	1-2 / 65-73
<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	4-5 / 98-94	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	5-4 / 233-116
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 10-24	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 32-40
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-1 / 19-47	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 64-73
<b>Coach</b>	Ronald Schmidt	<b>Coach</b>	Sascha Bajin

#### SEVASTOVA:

- Making seventh main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (eighth overall)
- Advanced to SF stage here in 2017 (I. Wozniacki). Also reached 2r in 2010 (as qualifier, I. A.Radwanska) and 2011 (I. A.Radwanska). Fell 1r from 2018-20 and in 2016 qualifying
- One of two Latvian women in this week's starting field – also Ostapenko (also through to 2r)
- Dropped three games in 1r victory over Pera on Sunday
- Faces No.6 Ka.Pliskova today in their fourth career meeting and second on hard courts
- Owns 10 career wins vs. Top 10 ranked opponents, including one over today's opponent at 2017 Madrid when the Czech was ranked No.3. Last such win came over No.9 S.Williams at Billie Jean King Cup last February
- Aiming for her fifth win of 2021 today. By contrast, notched just two wins across all of 2020 (d. S.Williams at Billie Jean Cup and Gauff at US Open 1r)
- During last year's Middle East swing, fell 1r at Dubai (I. Vondrousova) and Doha (I. Kontaveit)
- Coming off QF showing at Adelaide (I. Teichmann) following back-to-back 1r exits at Australian Open (I. Kanepi) and Phillip Island Trophy (I. Bogdan)
- QF run at Adelaide marked first time winning back-to-back matches since 2019 US Open (d. Bouchard and Swiatek, I. Martic)
- Reached 2r at Yarra Valley Classic (I. Pavlyuchenkova) and opened season with 1r exit at Abu Dhabi (I. Badosa)
- Suffered a difficult year in 2020, finishing at No.54 after four consecutive Top 50 seasons; however, the only two wins of the season were over S.Williams at Fed Cup qualifiers (handing the American her first ever singles loss in the competition) and Gauff at US Open



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

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- The 2019 season was highlighted by lifting fourth WTA singles title at Jurmala (d. Kawa in F) and posting two R16 showings on the Grand Slam stage—at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Osaka) and for the first time at Roland Garros (l. Vondrousova)
- Season highlights in 2018 include claiming her third title in Bucharest (d. Martic in F) and finishing R-Up at Mallorca (l. Maria). Also made first Premier Mandatory final at Beijing (l. Wozniacki in F), defeating No. 6 Osaka in SF for her fourth Top 10 win of the season
- Had 6-9 record against Top 20 players in 2018. Two of those victories (No.18 Keys and No.6 Osaka) came on the way to R-Up finish at 2018 Beijing Open
- Became the first Latvian woman to reach SF at 2018 US Open, upsetting No.7 Svitolina and No.3 Stephens en route. Defeat of No.3 Stephens was joint-best win rankings-wise (also d. No.3 Muguruza at 2016 US Open and No.3 Ka. Pliskova at 2017 Madrid). Across all majors, the only other Latvian woman to reach this stage is Ostapenko (2017 Roland Garros – WON; 2018 Wimbledon – SF)
- Posted 43 tour-level wins in 2018, her highest previous number of wins in a single season was 37 in 2017 Was the second of two singles alternates for 2018 WTA Finals in Singapore
- Captured second career singles title and first in seven years at 2017 Mallorca (d. Goerges in F)
- In 2016, played first full season since 2012, reaching two singles finals at Mallorca (l. Garcia) and Bucharest (l. Halep), as well as first Grand Slam QF of career at US Open
- Made Top 100 debut on July 13, 2009, Top 50 debut on October 11, 2010 and Top 20 debut on May 15, 2017
- Retired from professional tennis in May 2013 due to various injuries – mostly muscular and back-related – but returned to competition at ITF level in January 2015 after body had fully healed
- Prior to break from tennis, won first singles title at 2010 Oeiras – becoming first Latvian to win a WTA title in 17 years (since Savchenko at Schenectady in 1993)
- On ITF Circuit, has won 13 singles and four doubles titles
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2007 Istanbul, reaching 2r (as qualifier)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in 2006
- Latvian Billie Jean King Cup Team, 2005-06, 2008-10, 2018-20

### **KA.PLISKOVA:**

- Making eighth main draw appearance at Dubai (ninth overall) as a former finalist in 2015 (l. Halep in F)
- Then-ranked No.18, defeated No.6 Ivanovic and No.15 Safarova en route to 2015 final
- Also reached QF in 2018 (l. Kerber), 2019 (l. Hsieh) and 2020 (l. Rybakina)
- After 1r bye, faces No.55 Sevastova today in their fourth career meeting. Owns one win over the Latvian, on grass at 2016 Nottingham
- Has won both of her matches following 1r byes in 2021 – Yarra Valley Classic (d. Cocciaretto in 2r) and Doha (d. Jabeur in 2r). Posted 4-2 record following 1r byes in 2020
- Has fallen to a player ranked lower than today's opponent once in 2021 (l. No.292 Gasanova at Abu Dhabi)



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Coming off QF showing at Doha (l. Pegula) after a 3r run at Australian Open, falling to fellow Czech, Muchova, who would go on to reach maiden Grand Slam SF
- Reached 3r at the Yarra Valley Classic in Melbourne (l. Collins)
- Opened 2021 season falling in 2r at Abu Dhabi to qualifier No.292 Gasanova
- Has won at least one title every year stretching back to 2013, most recently lifting trophy at 2020 Brisbane (d. Keys in F)
- Reached one more final in 2020 at Rome (l. Halep via ret.) and made QF at Dubai
- Lifted a WTA-leading four titles across the 2019 season (tied with Barty) – triumphed at Brisbane, Rome, Eastbourne and Zhengzhou. Dropped 19 games across five matches during Eastbourne title win (d. Kerber in F) – most economic title run in 2019
- Also reached first Premier Mandatory final at Miami, losing to Barty in straight sets, and produced best Australian Open performance of career, reaching SF (l. eventual champion Osaka in 3s); saved four match points to beat S.Williams in QF
- Lost to twin sister Kr.Pliskova in 2r at Birmingham, in what was their first career main draw encounter
- Made fourth straight appearance at the WTA Finals in 2019, reaching SF for the third year in a row
- Won two titles in 2018 from three finals contested, triumphing at Stuttgart (d. Vandeweghe in F) and Tokyo [PPO] (d. Osaka in F). Posted R-Up finish in Tianjin (l. Garcia in F)
- Won Billie Jean King Cup for Czech Republic in 2015-16 and 2018
- Claimed No.1 ranking on July 17, 2017 despite making 2r exit at Wimbledon (l. Rybarikova). Was the first Czech woman to achieve the No.1 ranking since the computer rankings were introduced in 1975 (Martina Navratilova became No.1 on July 10, 1978 while representing USA)
- Won three titles in 2017, at Brisbane (d. Cornet in F), Doha (d. Wozniacki in F) and Eastbourne (d. Wozniacki in F)
- Is a Grand Slam finalist, reaching the title match at 2016 US Open (l. Kerber)
- Captured fifth WTA doubles title of career at 2016 Birmingham (w/Strycova). At 2013 Linz, with sister Kristyna, became first set of twins to ever win a tour-level doubles title
- Made Top 10 debut after 2015 Stanford R-Up finish; was first time in WTA history that three Czech women ranked inside Top 10 at the same time (also Kvitova and Safarova)
- Scored first Top 20 win of her career over No.16 Petrova in 1r at 2013 Wimbledon
- Won first career WTA title at 2013 Kuala Lumpur (d. Mattek-Sands) and followed it up with two more in 2014 Seoul (d. Lepchenko) and 2014 Linz (d. Giorgi)
- Reached first WTA QF as WC at 2008 Prague (l. Azarenka)
- Made professional debut on ITF Circuit in 2006



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

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### ALIZÉ CORNET (FRA #59) VS. [3] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #8)

Head-to-head: CORNET leads 1-0

2019 ROME CLAY O R64 ALIZÉ CORNET 6-1 6-4

CORNET		SABALENKA	
Career Prize Money	\$7,810,598	Career Prize Money	\$7,314,494
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Jan. 22, 1990 (31)	Date of Birth (Age)	May 5, 1998 (22)
Singles Titles	6	Singles Titles	9
Dubai W-L (MD)	10-4	Dubai W-L (MD)	3-3
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	4-5 / 317-304	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	9-3 / 135-65
3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-1 / 106-96	3-Set (YTD / Career)	1-3 / 46-25
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 67-63	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	3-0 / 30-26
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	4-5 / 193-185	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	9-3 / 110-43
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 20-49	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 12-13
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 43-105	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 26-20
Coach	Sandra Zaniewska	Coach	Anton Dubrov

#### CORNET:

- Making fifth appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships as a former finalist, in 2014 (l. V. Williams in F)
- Ousted then-World No.1 S. Williams in SF in 2014, having also defeated the American that same year at Wimbledon 3r and Wuhan 2r via ret. The wins over S. Williams in 2014 made her the first player to defeat the American in three straight meetings since Henin in 2007
- Also reached 3r at Dubai in 2009 (l. V. Williams) and 2015 (l. Wozniacki). Fell 2r in 2019 (l. Riske)
- One of four Frenchwomen in this year's starting field – also Ferro, Garcia and Mladenovic
- Defeated No.58 Kasatkina on Sunday, improving her record in 1r matches at Dubai to 5-0. The win marked her best-by-ranking since ousting No.47 Herczeg at 2020 Strasbourg last September
- Faces No.8 Sabalenka today in their second career meeting, having defeated the Belarusian at 2019 Rome
- Owns 20 career wins over Top 10 ranked opponents, most recently falling to No.3 Osaka at Gippsland Trophy. Her most recent victory vs. such players came against No.4 Kenin at 2020 Western & Southern Open
- Coming off back-to-back 1r exits at Phillip Island Trophy (l. Birrell) and Lyon (l. Burel)
- Made 2r at Australian Open (l. Li) and Gippsland Trophy (l. Osaka)
- In opening week of the season made 2r at Abu Dhabi (l. Badosa)
- Began last season with QF at Auckland (l. Pegula) before reaching 2r at Hobart (l. eventual champion Rybakina) and Australian Open (l. Vekic)
- Other than aforementioned run in Auckland, highlight of 2020 was R16 showing at US Open (d. No.14 Keys, l. Pironkova)
- Also in 2020, made 3r at Western & Southern Open (l. eventual champion Azarenka). Defeated No.4 Kenin in 2r – first Top 5 win since No.4 Kerber at 2018 Montréal



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

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- Highlight of 2019 was reaching Lausanne final (l. Ferro as the defending champion) – has reached at least one WTA final in six of last seven seasons
- Part of victorious Fed Cup squad for France who defeated Australia in Perth 3-2 to be crowned 2019 champions (did not play)
- In 2018, won sixth career title at Gstaad (d. Minella in F), and reached two further QFs at Brisbane and Charleston
- Former World No.11 (achieved in February 16, 2009) who broke back into Top 20 at end of 2014 for first time since May 2009; dropped out of Top 20 again after 2015 Dubai
- Owns five wins over Top 3 ranked opponents: No.1 S. Williams (2014 Dubai, 2014 Wimbledon and 2014 Wuhan via ret.), No.3 A.Radwanska (2014 Katowice) and No.2 Halep (2015 Madrid); wins over S.Williams made her the first player to defeat the American in three straight meetings since Henin in 2007
- Qualified for 2013 and 2014 Tournament of Champions in Sofia, Bulgaria
- Grand Slam breakthrough came with R16 run at Australian Open in 2009 (l. Safina)
- Excelled on clay in 2008, winning her maiden WTA title at Budapest (d. Klepac in F), reaching maiden final at Acapulco (l. Pennetta) and finishing R-Up at Rome (d. No.5 Kuznetsova and No.8 Chakvetadze, l. Jankovic)
- In 2007, rose over 120 places in the rankings, reaching first two WTA QFs, at first Acapulco and then Fes, as well as reaching 3r at US Open (d. Stosur and Wozniacki, l. No.3 Jankovic)
- Made Grand Slam debut at Roland Garros as 15-year-old wildcard in 2005, reaching 2r (d. Jidkova, l. Mauresmo)
- Member of French Fed Cup Team, 2008-17, 2019; French Olympic Team, 2008, 2012, 2016
- Won 2007 Roland Garros junior title (d. Duque-Mariño in F)

### **SABALENKA:**

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (fifth overall)
- Made best run here in 2020 by reaching QF (l. eventual champion Halep). Also reached 3r in 2019 (l. eventual champion Bencic). Fell 1r on debut in 2017 (as qualifier, l. Bondarenko) and in 2018 qualifying (l. Errani)
- Following 1r bye, faces No.59 Cornet today in their second career meeting. A win today would mark her best-by-ranking since her title run at Abu Dhabi in January (d. No.46 Kudermetova in F)
- During last year's Middle East swing, reached QF at Dubai (l. Halep) and lifted the Doha trophy (d. Kvitova in F)
- Coming off 2r exit at Doha last week as the defending champion (following 1r bye, l. eventual R-Up Muguruza)
- Made R16 run at Australian Open (l. S.Williams in 3s) – matching her best result at the majors (also 2018 US Open); bounced back to lift doubles title w/Mertens (d. Krejčíková/Siniakova in F)
- As a result of winning second doubles Slam rose to No.1 in WTA doubles rankings
- Lifted ninth career singles title at Abu Dhabi in opening week of the season to extend winning streak to 15 matches. Run was ended in 2r at Gippsland Trophy (after 1r bye, l. No.94 Kanepi)



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Ended 2020 inside the Top 10 for the first time, having finished at No.10 courtesy of a nine-match win streak and back-to-back titles – at Ostrava (d. Azarenka in F) and Linz (d. Mertens in F)
- After also taking home the silverware at Doha (d. Kvitova in F), was one of two players (also Halep) to lift three singles titles during disrupted 2020 season
- At Ostrava completed the sweep of titles by teaming up with Mertens to win the doubles
- Ended as World No.11 for the second straight year in 2019 after capturing three WTA singles titles at Shenzhen (d. Riske in F), Wuhan (d. Riske in F) and Zhuhai (d. Bertens in F)
- Having also won Wuhan in 2018 (d. Kontaveit in F), became first player to successfully defend Wuhan title
- Made Top 10 debut on January 28, 2019 following 3<sup>rd</sup> run at 2019 Australian Open
- Ended 2019 at No.2 in WTA doubles rankings after capturing first Grand Slam doubles trophy at US Open (w/Mertens, d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Earlier in the season, the pair claimed the 'Sunshine Double' by winning back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejčíková/Siniakova in F) and Miami (d. Stosur/ Zhang in F)
- Qualified for WTA Finals Shenzhen in doubles (w/Mertens), going 1-2 in the round robin stage
- Enjoyed breakthrough season in 2018, lifting two titles, at New Haven (d. Suárez Navarro in F) and Wuhan (d. Kontaveit in F), winning 46 matches and finishing at No.11 in the rankings
- Also in 2018, was R-Up at Lugano (l. Mertens) and Eastbourne (l. Wozniacki), made SF at Cincinnati, reached five QFs and produced a career-best Grand Slam run to R16 at US Open
- Entered Top 50 on April 16, 2018 (after Lugano) and Top 20 on August 27 of same year (after New Haven)
- Broke into Top 100 at No.76 on October 16, 2017 after reaching first tour-level final at Tianjin (l. Sharapova). Also in 2017 made SF run at Tashkent (l. Babos) and lifting WTA 125k Series title at Mumbai (d. Jakupovic)
- Made Grand Slam main draw debut 2017 Wimbledon, falling in 2<sup>nd</sup> r (as qualifier, d. Khromacheva, l. Witthoeft)
- Fell 1<sup>st</sup> r on main draw debut at 2017 Dubai (as qualifier, l. Ka.Bondarenko)
- Member of Belarus Fed Cup team that lost to USA in 2017 final – scored first Top 20 win of career with defeat of No.13 Stephens during 2017 Fed Cup final in Minsk
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2016 Rabat
- Made debut on ITF Circuit in Minsk in 2012. Lifted first three ITF Circuit titles in 2015, including a 13-match win streak towards the year's end, bringing back-to-back trophies in Antalya, Turkey



## MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

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### [1] ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #5) VS. SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA (RUS #41)

Head-to-head: ELINA SVITOLINA leads 4-1

2020	ROME	CLAY	O	R3	ELINA SVITOLINA	7-6(6) 6-4
2019	WUHAN	HARD	O	R3	ELINA SVITOLINA	6-4 6-2
2018	CINCINNATI	HARD	O	R2	ELINA SVITOLINA	7-6(1) 4-6 6-4
2016	MOSCOW	HARD	I	SF	SVETLANA KUZNETSOVA	6-1 6-7(2) 6-4
2014	AUSTRALIAN OPEN	HARD	O	R1	ELINA SVITOLINA	6-3 6-3

SVITOLINA		KUZNETSOVA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$20,129,954	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$25,596,078
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Sep. 12, 1994 (26)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Jun. 27, 1985 (35)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	15	<b>Singles Titles</b>	18
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	16-4	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	20-13
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	9-4 / 290-158	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	2-3 / 604-321
<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	2-3 / 86-52	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	1-1 / 193-124
<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	2-4 / 62-48	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 129-104
<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	9-4 / 211-108	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	2-3 / 378-204
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 33-38	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 62-102
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 61-71	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 135-176
<b>Coach</b>	Andrew Bettles	<b>Coach</b>	Artem Derepasko

#### SVITOLINA:

- Making seventh appearance Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships, where she is a two-time champion in 2017 (d. Wozniacki in F) and 2018 (d. Kasatkina in F)
- Only third player in history to win the title in Dubai two consecutive years – Henin (2003-04; 2006-07) and V.Williams (2008-09)
- Also reached SF on two occasions: 2016 (l. Errani) and 2019 (l. Bencic)
- Fell in 2r on debut in 2015 (l. Kvitova) and in 1r last year (l. Brady)
- Owns impressive 16-4 record in Dubai – third most wins at this tournament amongst active players (behind V.Williams on 19 and Kuznetsova on 20)
- One of three former champions in the draw – also Bencic (2019) and Kvitova (2013)
- Top seed this year. This is the 16th tournament of her career as No.1 seed – has won the title when sitting in the top spot of the draw four times: 2017 Taipei City, 2017 Istanbul, 2018 Dubai and 2020 Monterrey
- After 1r bye, faces Kuznetsova in 2r today; since the Tour's restart last August, has lost four times to opponents outside Top 20, against No.131 Podoroska (Roland Garros), No.23 Sakkari (Ostrava), No.46 Kudermetova (Abu Dhabi) and No.61 Pegula (Australian Open)
- Highest ranked of three Ukrainians in the draw, also qualifiers Tsurenko and Zavatska
- Coming off third QF of the season, at Doha (as No.1 seed, l. Azarenka); also advanced to the last eight at Abu Dhabi (l. Kudermetova) and Gippsland Trophy (l. eventual champion Mertens)
- Reached R16 at Australian Open (l. Pegula)



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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- Won her 14th and 15th titles in 2020, firstly at Monterrey (d. Bouzkova in F) and then Strasbourg (d. Rybakina in F); was one of just four players in 2020 to win more than one title – also Halep (3), Sabalenka (3) and Kenin (2)
- Contested her 30th consecutive major at 2020 Australian Open (streak broke by skipping 2020 US Open). Is a two-time semifinalist at Grand Slam level, at 2019 Wimbledon (l. eventual champion Halep) and 2019 US Open (l. S.Williams). Became the first woman from Ukraine to reach a major SF; on the men's, Medvedev made that stage at Roland Garros in 1993 (SF) and 1999 (R-Up)
- Highlight of 2019 was reaching the title match as defending champion at the Shiseido WTA Finals (l. Barty)
- In 2018, won 13th – and most prestigious – career title at 2018 WTA Finals (d. Stephens in F), after going 3-0 during round robin stage. Ended year ranked No.4. Also won titles at Rome (as defending champion, d. No.1 Halep in F), Dubai (as defending champion, d. Kasatkina in F) and Brisbane (d. Sasnovich in F)
- Enjoyed standout 2017, finishing year at No.6, winning a tour-leading five titles and posting second-most wins (53, behind Wozniacki with 60). Season culminated by qualifying for WTA Finals in Singapore, becoming first Ukrainian woman to qualify for the season-ending tournament in singles (fell at round robin stage with 1-2 record)
- In 2017, became first player to win three Premier 5 titles in a single season (Dubai, Rome, Toronto), since such tournaments were introduced in 2009
- One of five players to make Top 10 debut in 2017, after winning Dubai in February (also Ostapenko, Garcia, Mladenovic and Vandeweghe). Peaked in rankings at No.3 on September 11, 2017
- On four occasions could have reached World No.1 – at 2017 US Open, then needed to win 2017 Beijing (fell QF), then needed to triumph at 2017 WTA Finals (fell in group stage), or reach final at 2018 Australian Open (fell in QF)
- End to 2016 season also saw her reach first SF at Premier Mandatory level at Beijing (l. A.Radwanska) Qualified for 2016 WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai for the second time (l. Kvitova in F)
- Reached three finals in 2016, winning Kuala Lumpur (d. Bouchard in F) and R-Up at New Haven (l. A.Radwanska) and Zhuhai (l. Kvitova)
- Other 2016 season highlight was QF at Rio Olympics
- Owns two career doubles titles: 2014 Istanbul (w/Doi) and 2015 Istanbul (w/Gavrilova)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2012 Baku (lost in 1r but went on to win title there in both 2013 and 2014)
- Ukrainian Fed Cup Team, 2012-15, 2017, 2020
- Played first ITF Circuit events of career in 2008
- Junior highlights include winning 2010 Roland Garros girls' title at age 15 (d. Jabeur in F)

### **KUZNETSOVA:**

- Making 13th appearance at Dubai, where she is a three-time R-Up, and first appearance since 2016 (l. Goerges in 1r)
- Made the final in 2004 (l. No.1 Henin in F), 2008 (l. Dementieva in F) and 2011 (l. Wozniacki in F)
- Also made SF in 2006 (l. Henin) and 2007 (l. Henin)
- One of six Grand Slam champions in the draw (also Kerber, Kvitova, Muguruza, Ostapenko and Swiatek)
- In 1r this year, was three points from defeat with Q.Wang serving at 5-4 in the deciding set, before winning the next three games to close out victory



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- Now owns 20-13 win-loss record at Dubai; Wozniacki (22-6) and Jankovic (21-12) are the only players to win more matches here in the tournament's history
- Faces No.5 Svitolina in 2r today; most recent Top 10 victory came over No.9 Bencic during SF run at 2020 Doha
- Last Top 5 wins came over No.2 Barty and No.3 Ka.Pliskova en route to 2019 Cincinnati final
- Has lifted 14 hard court titles throughout her career – the sixth most among active players
- Coming off 1r exit at Doha (I. Azarenka)
- Opened 2021 season with 1r exit at Grampians Trophy (I. Brady) before 2r showing at Australian Open (d. Strycova, I. Bencic)
- Best result in 2020 was SF showing at Doha (d. No.9 Bencic, I. Sabalenka)
- Season highlight in 2019 was reaching final at Cincinnati (I. Keys) as a WC ranked No.153 –defeated four Top 20 seeds en route to the final (No.11 Sevastova, No.10 Stephens, No.3 Ka.Pliskova and No.1 Barty). Returned to Top 100 after tournament
- Missed first few months of 2019 season due to knee injury – returned at Lugano, where she reached QF
- At 2018 Washington, DC won first title since October 2016 (d. Vekic in F after saving 4mp)
- After falling 2r at 2018 Wimbledon (I. Strycova), dropped out of the Top 100 for the first time since August 12, 2002 (ending a run of 831 consecutive weeks)
- Missed opening two months of 2018 (w/wrist injury)
- Secured 600th match win (all levels) at 2017 Brisbane – is one of five active players to reach the milestone, along with V.Williams, S.Williams, Kerber and Stosur
- In 2016, won 45 matches, two titles (Sydney and Moscow) and qualified for WTA Finals for sixth time in career (reached SF)
- Is a two-time Grand Slam singles champion, winning 2004 US Open (d. Dementieva in F) and 2009 Roland Garros (d. Safina in F). Also a two-time finalist, reaching the championship match at Roland Garros in 2006 (I. Henin) and 2007 US Open (I. Henin)
- One of three Russian women to lift a Grand Slam singles title (also Myskina, Sharapova), and one of five Russians to rank in Top 2; had a chance to become No.1 by winning 2008 Roland Garros (fell two matches short with SF loss to Safina)
- At 2011 Australian Open, played her part in setting the record for the longest women's match at a Slam, eventually succumbing to Schiavone in 4h 44min
- Ranked continuously in Top 20 from March 1, 2004 to July 11, 2010 (including over four years ranked continuously in Top 10 – April 2006 to June 2010)
- Owns seven wins over reigning world No.1s, most recently defeating S.Williams at 2016 Miami. Also Mauresmo, Safina and Henin twice each when they were No.1; one of only two players (also S.Williams) to beat Henin twice when she was No.1
- Haul of 16 tour level doubles titles includes two Australian Open crowns, won in 2005 (w/Molik) and 2012 (w/Zvonareva). Rose as high as No.3 in doubles (week of June 7, 2004)

**MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Member of victorious Russia Billie Jean King Cup sides in 2004 and 2007-08 and Russian Olympic Team in 2004, 2008, 2016
- Won a career-best 60 main draw matches in 2006 campaign, which saw her lift two titles and finish R-Up a further three times (including Roland Garros)
- Breakthrough 2004 season, saw her make debut in Top 20 (March 1) and Top 10 (June 1) before lifting maiden Slam title at US Open (d. Dementieva in F)
- Made Top 50 debut at No.45 on September 30, 2002, after winning title at Bali (d. Martínez in F)
- In 2002, reached first WTA QF at Warsaw, SF at Casablanca and then lifted maiden title at Helsinki (as qualifier, d Chladkova in F)
- Started 2002 season by reaching 2r on Grand Slam main draw debut at Australian Open (d. Cho, I. Tulyaganova)
- Reached 2r on WTA debut (main draw and qualifying) at Madrid in 2001 (d. Ruano Pascual, I. Raymond)
- Advanced to QF on professional debut at \$10K ITF/Mallorca-ESP in 2000

## [4] PETRA KVITOVA (CZE #10) VS. JIL TEICHMANN (SUI #54)

Head-to-head: First meeting

KVITOVA		TEICHMANN	
Career Prize Money	\$32,749,502	Career Prize Money	\$1,020,606
Plays	Left-handed	Plays	Left-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	March 8, 1990 (31)	Date of Birth (Age)	July 15, 1997 (23)
Singles Titles	28	Singles Titles	2
Dubai W-L (MD)	10-6	Dubai W-L (MD)	1-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	6-2 / 456-212	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	6-4 / 34-35
3-Set (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 125-89	3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-2 / 8-13
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 92-68	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	2-3 / 7-12
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	6-2 / 310-151	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	6-4 / 19-24
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 109-97	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 1-2
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 57-58	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 1-4
Left-Hand W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 22-8	Left-Hand W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 2-0
Coach	Jiri Vanek	Coach	Alberto Martin

### KVITOVA:

- Making eighth appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships as one of three former champions in the starting field (also Bencic and Svitolina)
- Won title in 2013 (d. Hantuchova, Ivanovic, A.Radwanska, Wozniacki en route and Errani in F) and was R-Up on most recent visit in 2019 (l. Bencic)
- Owns excellent recent record in Middle East. In addition to runs here in 2013 and 2019, in Doha won the title in 2018 and 2021 and was R-Up in 2020
- Is one of six Grand Slam champions in the draw (also Kerber, Kuznetsova, Muguruza, Ostapenko and Swiatek)
- After 1r bye, faces Teichmann in 2r; has lost twice to players ranked outside Top 50 since Tour's restart last August, No.93 Rogers (US Open) and No.68 Cirstea (Australian Open)
- One of seven Czech players to start the main draw here
- Coming off winning Doha title (d. Muguruza in F), the 28th title of her career – fourth most among active players, behind S.Williams (73), V.Williams (49) and Clijsters (41)
- Owns 19 titles on hard courts – the fifth-most among active players (behind S.Williams, V.Williams, Clijsters and Azarenka)
- Opened season with 3r run at Yarra Valley Classic (after 1r bye, d. V.Williams, l. Podoroska on third-set tie-break) before falling in 2r at Australian Open (l. Cirstea)
- Reached final at Doha in 2020 (l. Sabalenka)
- Other standout results last season were SFs at Roland Garros (l. Kenin) and Brisbane (l. Keys), and a QF run at Australian Open (l. Barty)
- Captured 26th and 27th career titles in 2019 at Sydney (d. Barty) and Stuttgart (d. Kontaveit). With 27 titles, is currently tied with Mandlikova and Sabatini in 20th place (Open Era)



**MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
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- Reached title match at 2019 Australian Open for third career Grand Slam final appearance – result moved her to World No.2, matching her career high ranking. Had she beaten Osaka in the final, would have claimed World No.1 ranking
- Also in 2019, qualified for WTA Finals in Shenzhen for seventh time (went 0-3 in group play)
- Won a WTA-leading five titles in 2018, at St Petersburg (d. Mladenovic in F), Doha (d. Muguruza in F), Prague (d. Buzarnescu in F), Madrid (d. Bertens in F) and Birmingham (d. Rybarikova in F)
- Titles in 2018 came on all three surfaces – first player to win a title on three different surfaces in a season since S.Williams in 2015
- Began 2017 season in May at Roland Garros (2r, l. Mattek-Sands) after a knife attack in her home in Czech Republic on December 20, 2016; required extensive surgery to left hand. Won title at 2017 Birmingham only a month later
- Won two singles titles in 2016, at Wuhan and the WTA Elite Trophy in Zhuhai
- Contested Rio Olympics in August 2016, winning the singles bronze medal (l. Puig in SF, d. Keys in bronze medal play-off)
- Runner-up at 2015 WTA Finals in Singapore (l. A.Radwanska in 3s). Former champion at the season finale, which she won on her event debut in 2011 (d. Azarenka in F)
- Was first player born in 1990s to win a Grand Slam title at 2011 Wimbledon (since joined by Muguruza, Ostapenko, Stephens, Wozniacki, Halep, Osaka, Barty and Kenin)
- At 2012 Sydney was two wins from becoming No.1 (had won Wimbledon and WTA Finals in previous six months)
- Owns six wins over current World No.1s: Safina (2009 US Open), Wozniacki (2011 WTA Finals), S.Williams (2015 Madrid), Kerber (2016 Wuhan), Wozniacki (2018 Doha) and Barty (2020 Doha)
- Among active players, owns the most wins in indoor hardcourt events (77)
- Member of Czech Republic's Fed Cup winning team in 2011-12, 2014-16 and 2018
- Made pro debut on ITF Circuit in Czech Republic in 2006
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2009 Ponte Vedra Beach and WTA main draw debut at 2012 Indian Wells

**TEICHMANN:**

- Making tournament debut at Dubai
- In 1r, won all eight service games to see off qualifier Zavatska in 66 minutes
- Faces No.10 Kvitova in 2r today; sole Top 10 win of her career came over No.5 Bertens at 2019 Palermo
- One of two women from Switzerland in draw (also Bencic)
- Ended Australian swing with QF at Phillip Island Trophy (l. Bouzkova) and then first WTA 500 SF at Adelaide (l. eventual champion Swiatek)
- Made back-to-back 1r exits at the Gippsland Trophy and Australian Open (l. Gauff at both tournaments – could potentially meet the American in final here)
- Achieved career-best year-end ranking of No.57 in 2020, helped by runner-up showing at Lexington (l. Brady) and QF at Strasbourg (l. Svitolina)



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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- Won first and second titles of her career during 2019 season, coming through qualifying to triumph at Prague (d. Muchova in F) and then at Palermo (d. No.5 Bertens in F)
- Made Top 100 debut after Prague success, jumping from No.146 to No.87 (May 6). Rose to career-high No.54 following Palermo title run (July 29, 2019)
- Also made QF on home soil at Lausanne and fell 1r at nine other tour-level events (including Wimbledon and US Open). Won ITF Circuit title at Santa Margherita Di Pula-ITA
- Qualified for first Grand Slam main draw at 2018 US Open, going on to reach 2r (l. Kanepi). Also, reached 2r at tour level events at Acapulco and Linz and lifted WTA 125K Series title at Newport Beach (w/Doi)
- Spent majority of 2016 on ITF Circuit, winning 44 matches and three titles to rise over 200 places in the rankings. Also reached 2r on WTA main draw debut at Strasbourg and fell in qualifying at US Open
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2015 Luxembourg
- Owns six singles and five doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Played first professional events of career on ITF Circuit in Switzerland and Germany in 2013
- As a junior won 2014 US Open girls' doubles (w/Soylu) and a gold medal in mixed doubles (w/Zielinski) at 2014 Youth Olympics in Nanjing

## ONS JABEUR (TUN #31) VS. [14] ELENA RYBAKINA (KAZ #23)

Head-to-head: ELENA RYBAKINA leads 1-0

2019 WUHAN

HARD O

R2

ELENA RYBAKINA

6-1 6-7(3) 6-2

JABEUR		RYBAKINA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$2,750,123	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$1,609,199
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Aug. 28, 1994 (26)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Jun. 17, 1999 (21)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	0	<b>Singles Titles</b>	2
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	4-3	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	5-1
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	7-4 / 67-75	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	5-3 / 60-26
<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	2-1 / 21-31	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	1-2 / 18-11
<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 18-23	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	0-3 / 16-13
<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	7-4 / 51-58	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	5-3 / 41-18
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 4-11	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 0-1 / 4-5
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 10-19	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 0-1 / 6-7
<b>Coach</b>	Issam Jellali	<b>Coach</b>	Stefano Vukov

### JABEUR:

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (seventh overall)
- Has made 2r three times, in 2017 (as qualifier, l. Q.Wang), 2019 (l. Svitolina) and 2020 (l. eventual champion Halep)
- Won eight of nine service games during 1r win over Siniakova on Sunday
- Now owns 10-13 career record in main draw matches in the Middle East – QF run at 2020 Doha is her best result
- Faces Rybakina in 2r today; only Top 50 win this season came over No.38 Pavlyuchenkova in her opening match of the campaign, at Abu Dhabi
- Coming off 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 advancing to 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 breakthrough 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



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- 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)

### **RYBAKINA:**

- Making second appearance at Dubai, having finished as R-Up in 2020 (l. Halep in F; led 3-1 in the final set and was two points from victory at 5-4 up in the decisive tie-break)
- En route to last year's final, upset No.7 Kenin and No.3 Ka.Pliskova – first career win over a Top-5 ranked opponent
- Won opening seven games of the match during 1r win over Zheng on Monday
- Faces Jabeur in 2r today; beat the Tunisian en route to QF at 2019 Wuhan
- One of two Kazakhstani players to begin draw this week, along with Shvedova (l. Pegula in 1r)
- Coming off 1r exit at Doha (l. Siegemund)
- Made QF in opening tournament of 2021, at Abu Dhabi (l. eventual champion Sabalenka), before falling 1r at Grampians Trophy (l. Krejckikova) and 2r at Australian Open (l. Ferro)
- Opened 2020 campaign by reaching the championship match at four of her first five tournaments, including a title run at Hobart (d. Zhang in F)
- Made first final appearance at a Premier-level tournament with R-Up finish at St. Petersburg (l. Bertens); was rewarded with Top 20 debut at No.19 following run in Russia (February 17, 2020)
- First win over a Top-5 ranked opponent came over No.3 Ka.Pliskova during R-Up finish at 2020 Dubai
- Won back-to-back Slam matches for the first time during 3r showing at 2020 Australian Open (l. Barty)
- Won maiden WTA singles title at 2019 Bucharest (d. Tig in F), breaking into Top 100 for the first time in the following week's rankings at No.65 (July 22, 2019)
- Also in 2019, went on to make Top 50 debut on September 16, 2019, after reaching second career final at Nanchang (l. Peterson), produced SF appearances at Luxembourg and 's-Hertogenbosch, and made Grand Slam main draw debut at 2019 Roland Garros, falling 1r (as qualifier, l. Siniakova)
- Finished 2019 campaign with 57-21 win-loss record (across all levels) to end season at No.37, up from 2018's final ranking of No.191. On the ITF Circuit in 2019, lifted silverware on three occasions: back-to-back at \$25k Moscow-RUS and \$25k Kazan-RUS, and at \$60k ITF/Launceston-AUS
- Highlights of 2018 included reaching maiden WTA QF at St. Petersburg (l. Goerges) and clinching title at \$15k ITF/Kazan-RUS
- First Top 10 win came over No.7 Garcia at 2018 St. Petersburg
- Made WTA qualifying and main draw debut at 2017 Moscow (as qualifier, l. Begu in 1r)
- Professional debut came at \$10k ITF/Antalya-TUR in 2014



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

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## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – DAY FOUR

### JESSICA PEGULA (USA #36) vs. [2] KAROLINA PLISKOVA (CZE #6)

*Pegula leads 1-0*

**Pegula** holds two wins over Top 10 ranked players this season, including one over today's opponent last week in Doha... **Pliskova** is a former finalist at Dubai, reaching the championship match in 2015

### [15] ANETT KONTAVEIT (EST #24) vs. [3] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #8)

*Sabalenka leads 2-0*

**Kontaveit** looks to reach back-to-back QFs after reaching the final eight in Doha... **Sabalenka** made her best Dubai run in 2020 by reaching the QF before lifting the Doha crown

### CAROLINE GARCIA (FRA #47) vs. [10] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #18)

*Garcia leads 3-1*

**Garcia** bidding to reach her first QF of the 2021 season... **Mertens** won most recent encounter against the Frenchwoman en route to her sixth career WTA singles title at Gippsland Trophy

### [8] IGA SWIATEK (POL #15) vs. [9] GARBINE MUGURUZA (ESP #16)

*First meeting*

**Swiatek** coming off second career WTA title run at Adelaide... During last year's Middle East swing, **Muguruza** made back-to-back QFs at Dubai and Doha

### ONS JABEUR (TUN #31) vs. JIL TEICHMANN (SUI #54)

*First Meeting*

**Jabeur** has advanced to 3r for the first time in four attempts here in Dubai... **Teichmann** looks to avenge 3-set loss to the Tunisian that took place on the ITF Circuit back in 2016



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

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### JESSICA PEGULA (USA #36) VS. [2] KAROLINA PLISKOVA (CZE #6)

Head-to-head: JESSICA PEGULA leads 1-0

2021 DOHA HARD O QF JESSICA PEGULA 6-3 6-1

PEGULA		PLISKOVA	
Career Prize Money	\$1,779,571	Career Prize Money	\$20,573,921
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Feb 24, 1994 (26)	Date of Birth (Age)	March 21, 1992 (28)
Singles Titles	1	Singles Titles	16
Dubai W-L (MD)	2-0	Dubai W-L (MD)	10-7
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	11-4 / 43-38	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	6-4 / 329-171
3-Set (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 14-11	3-Set (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 104-57
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 12-9	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-3 / 65-74
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	11-4 / 33-23	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	6-4 / 234-116
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-3 / 2-7	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 32-40
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	3-3 / 6-11	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 64-73
Coach	David Witt	Coach	Sascha Bajin

#### PEGULA:

- Making debut appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships – one of 15 main draw debutantes this year
- Has dropped just six games across wins over Shvedova in 1r and Mladenovic in 2r. Including results this week, owns 22-8 record since the Tour's restart last August
- Faces No.6 Ka.Pliskova in 3r today; beat the Czech six days ago in QF at Doha
- Record against Top 10 players this season is 2-3, having defeated No.5 Svitolina at Australian Open and No.6 Ka.Pliskova at Doha, and losing to No.4 Kenin at the Yarra Valley Classic, No.5 Svitolina at Abu Dhabi and No.10 Kvitova at Doha
- Also competing in doubles this week with Mattek-Sands (face No.1 seeds Mertens/Sabalenka in 2r)
- Coming off reaching her first WTA 500 SF, at Doha (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Kvitova) – was the first qualifier to reach last four in the tournament's history
- Advanced to maiden Grand Slam QF at Australian Open, where she notched her fourth career Top 20 win over No.13 Azarenka and career first Top 10 win over No.5 Svitolina before falling to eventual R-Up Brady in three sets
- Made 3r run at Yarra Valley Classic (d. Mladenovic and Barthel, l. Kenin in 3s)
- Opened season at Abu Dhabi, falling 1r (l. Svitolina)
- Began 2020 campaign with R-Up finish at Auckland (l. S.Williams)
- Other standout results last season were a QF at Western & Southern Open (as qualifier, l. Mertens) and a 3r showing at US Open (l. Kvitova)
- On the doubles court in 2020, reached QFs of Roland Garros (w/Muhammad) and Cincinnati (w/Rogers)
- Won her first WTA title at 2019 Washington DC (d. Giorgi in F) to reach a career high ranking of No.55 (August 5, 2019)
- Also in 2019, fell 1r on main draw debut at Roland Garros (l. eventual champion Barty) and Wimbledon (l. Buzarnescu) and Miami (as a qualifier, l. Konta)



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Broke into Top 100 for the first time on February 4, 2019 following back-to-back R-Up finishes at WTA 125K Series event at Newport Beach and \$100K ITF/Midland-MI, USA
- Highlights of 2018 included finishing runner-up as a qualifier at Quebec City (l. Parmentier in F), recording SF finish at Houston WTA 125K (l. S.Peng) and reaching QF or better at 10 ITF events
- Won doubles title w/Manasse at 2018 Houston 125K (d. Krawczyk/Olmos in F)
- Did not play between January and August 2017 after undergoing hip surgery. Primarily played at ITF events for the rest of the year, winning two doubles titles with Townsend
- Played a mixture of WTA and ITF Circuit events in 2016 with highlight coming at Washington DC, where she defeated No.14 Stosur for first Top 20 win of career on her way to a SF finish (l. Davis)
- Reached 2r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2015 US Open (as qualifier, d. Van Uytvanck, l. Cibulkova)
- Sideline from tennis for a year and a half between 2013 and 2015 due to a right knee injury
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2009 Ponte Vedra Beach and WTA main draw debut at 2012 Indian Wells

### **KA.PLISKOVA:**

- Making eighth main draw appearance at Dubai (ninth overall) as a former finalist in 2015 (l. Halep)
- Then-ranked No.18, defeated No.6 Ivanovic and No.15 Safarova en route to 2015 final
- Also reached QF in 2018 (l. Kerber), 2019 (l. Hsieh) and 2020 (l. Rybakina)
- After 1r bye, struck eight aces to see off Sevastova in 2r
- Faces No.36 Pegula in 3r today; last six defeats have come against players ranked outside Top 20 – No.44 Pegula (Doha), No.27 Muchova (Australian Open), No.46 Collins (Yarra Valley Classic), No.292 Gasanova (Abu Dhabi), No.47 Kudermetova (2021 Ostrava) and No.43 Ostapenko (2021 Roland Garros)
- One of seven Czechs in the main draw
- Coming off QF showing at Doha (l. Pegula) after a 3r run at Australian Open (l. Muchova)
- Reached 3r at the Yarra Valley Classic in Melbourne (l. Collins)
- Opened 2021 season falling in 2r at Abu Dhabi to qualifier No.292 Gasanova
- Has won at least one title every year stretching back to 2013, most recently lifting trophy at 2020 Brisbane (d. Keys in F)
- Reached one more final in 2020 at Rome (l. Halep via ret.) and made QF at Dubai
- Lifted a WTA-leading four titles across the 2019 season (tied with Barty) – triumphed at Brisbane, Rome, Eastbourne and Zhengzhou. Dropped 19 games across five matches during Eastbourne title win (d. Kerber in F) – most economic title run in 2019
- Also reached first Premier Mandatory final at Miami, losing to Barty in straight sets, and produced best Australian Open performance of career, reaching SF (l. eventual champion Osaka in 3s); saved four match points to beat S.Williams in QF
- Lost to twin sister Kr.Pliskova in 2r at Birmingham, in what was their first career main draw encounter
- Made fourth straight appearance at the WTA Finals in 2019, reaching SF for the third year in a row



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

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- Won two titles in 2018 from three finals contested, triumphing at Stuttgart (d. Vandeweghe in F) and Tokyo [PPO] (d. Osaka in F). Posted R-Up finish in Tianjin (l. Garcia in F)
- Won Billie Jean King Cup for Czech Republic in 2015-16 and 2018
- Claimed No.1 ranking on July 17, 2017 despite making 2r exit at Wimbledon (l. Rybarikova). Was the first Czech woman to achieve the No.1 ranking since the computer rankings were introduced in 1975 (Martina Navratilova became No.1 on July 10, 1978 while representing USA)
- Won three titles in 2017, at Brisbane (d. Cornet in F), Doha (d. Wozniacki in F) and Eastbourne (d. Wozniacki in F)
- Is a Grand Slam finalist, reaching the title match at 2016 US Open (l. Kerber)
- Captured fifth WTA doubles title of career at 2016 Birmingham (w/Strycova). At 2013 Linz, with sister Kristyna, became first set of twins to ever win a tour-level doubles title
- Made Top 10 debut after 2015 Stanford R-Up finish; was first time in WTA history that three Czech women ranked inside Top 10 at the same time (also Kvitova and Safarova)
- Scored first Top 20 win of her career over No.16 Petrova in 1r at 2013 Wimbledon
- Won first career WTA title at 2013 Kuala Lumpur (d. Mattek-Sands) and followed it up with two more in 2014 Seoul (d. Lepchenko) and 2014 Linz (d. Giorgi)
- Reached first WTA QF as WC at 2008 Prague (l. Azarenka)
- Made professional debut on ITF Circuit in 2006

# DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA

## [15] ANETT KONTAVEIT (EST #24) VS. [3] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #8)

Head-to-head: ARYNA SABALENKA leads 2-0

2020	DOHA	HARD	O	R2	ARYNA SABALENKA	7-5 2-6 7-5
2018	WUHAN	HARD	O	F	ARYNA SABALENKA	6-3 6-3

KONTAVEIT		SABALENKA	
Career Prize Money	\$5,087,238	Career Prize Money	\$7,314,494
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Dec. 24, 1995 (25)	Date of Birth (Age)	May 5, 1998 (22)
Singles Titles	1	Singles Titles	9
Dubai W-L (MD)	5-3	Dubai W-L (MD)	4-3
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	9-3 / 133-102	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	10-3 / 136-65
3-Set (YTD / Career)	2-1 / 45-35	3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	1-3 / 46-25
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 33-32	Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	3-0 / 30-26
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	9-3 / 87-67	Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	10-3 / 111-43
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 11-21	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 12-13
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-1 / 20-34	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 26-20
Coach	Nigel Sears	Coach	Anton Dubrov

### KONTAVEIT:

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai where she reached QF last year (l. Martic)
- Also made 2r in 2018 (l. Osaka) and fell 1r in 2019 (l. Zhang)
- Needed just 58 minutes to see off wildcard Babos in 1r, then broke in final game of the match to close out hard-fought 2r win over Cirstea
- Faces No.8 Sabalenka in 3r today; most recent Top 10 win came over No.4 Svitolina in last year's Billie Jean King Cup
- Coming off QF run at Doha (l. eventual champion Kvitova in 3s)
- Posted 3r showing at Australian Open (l. Rogers) after reaching the Grampians Trophy final (the final was not played)
- Opened 2021 season with 1r exit at Abu Dhabi (l. Kudermetova)
- During an interrupted 2020, reached sixth final of career at Palermo (l. Ferro) and posted 21 match wins across the season (joint-fifth most, level with Jabeur)
- Made Grand Slam breakthrough by reaching maiden major QF at Australian Open (l. Halep), becoming the first Estonian to make the last eight at Australian Open, also the first Estonian to reach a Grand Slam QF since Kanepi at 2017 US Open
- Finished 2019 ranked No.26 despite missing final two months of the season w/viral illness
- Reached her fifth career final in 2019 at Stuttgart (l. Kvitova). Also in 2019, advanced to her first Premier Mandatory SF at Miami (l. eventual champion Barty), which propelled her to a career high ranking of No.14 (April 1, 2019)
- In 2018, season highlighted by fourth WTA singles final at Wuhan (l. Sabalenka); posted 33 main draw wins – the first time she had registered 30 or more wins in a season
- Breakthrough season came in 2017, winning first career singles title at 2017 's-Hertogenbosch (d. Vikhlyantseva in F). Also reached finals at Biel/Benne (l. Vondrousova) and Gstaad (l. Bertens)

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- Broke into Top 30 for first time at No.27 following run at Gstaad (July 24, 2017)
- Posted her first career win over a reigning No.1 with defeat of Kerber at 2017 Rome
- In 2016, played main draw at all four Grand Slams for first time, but dropped out of Top 100
- Made Top 100 debut on September 14, 2015 at No.96, up from No.152. One of five teenagers in 2015 year-end Top 100
- Scored first Top 20 win of career over No.17 Errani at 2016 Monterrey (2r)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2013 Miami as WC (l. McHale, 1r)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in 2010; owns 11 singles titles and five doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Junior highlights included winning 2011 Orange Bowl, defeating Bouchard and Putintseva en route

## **SABALENKA:**

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (fifth overall)
- Made best run here in 2020 by reaching QF (l. eventual champion Halep). Also reached 3r in 2019 (l. eventual champion Bencic). Fell 1r on debut in 2017 (as qualifier, l. Bondarenko) and in 2018 qualifying (l. Errani)
- Following 1r bye, made a flying start to her campaign, winning first five games in 2r victory over Cornet
- Faces Kontaveit in 3r today; beat the Estonian in 2018 Wuhan final to lift second career title and also en route to the trophy at Doha last year
- During last year's Middle East swing, reached QF at Dubai (l. Halep) and lifted the Doha title (d. Kvitova in F)
- Coming off 2r exit at Doha last week as the defending champion (following 1r bye, l. Muguruza)
- Made R16 run at Australian Open (l. S.Williams in 3s) – matching her best result at the majors (also 2018 US Open); bounced back to lift doubles title w/Mertens (d. Krejčíková/Siniakova in F)
- As a result of winning second doubles Slam rose to No.1 in WTA doubles rankings
- Lifted ninth career singles title at Abu Dhabi in opening week of the season to extend winning streak to 15 matches. Run was ended in 2r at Gippsland Trophy (after 1r bye, l. No.94 Kanepi)
- Ended 2020 inside the Top 10 for the first time, having finished at No.10 courtesy of a nine-match win streak and back-to-back titles – at Ostrava (d. Azarenka in F) and Linz (d. Mertens in F)
- After also taking home the silverware at Doha (d. Kvitova in F), was one of two players (also Halep) to lift three singles titles during disrupted 2020 season
- At Ostrava completed the sweep of titles by teaming up with Mertens to win the doubles
- Ended as World No.11 for the second straight year in 2019 after capturing three WTA singles titles at Shenzhen (d. Riske in F), Wuhan (d. Riske in F) and Zhuhai (d. Bertens in F)
- Having also won Wuhan in 2018 (d. Kontaveit in F), became first player to successfully defend Wuhan title
- Made Top 10 debut on January 28, 2019 following 3r run at 2019 Australian Open
- Ended 2019 at No.2 in WTA doubles rankings after capturing first Grand Slam doubles trophy at US Open (w/Mertens, d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Earlier in the season, the pair claimed the 'Sunshine Double' by



## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – MATCH NOTES

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winning back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejčíková/Siniakova in F) and Miami (d. Stosur/ Zhang in F)

- Qualified for WTA Finals Shenzhen in doubles (w/Mertens), going 1-2 in the round robin stage
- Enjoyed breakthrough season in 2018, lifting two titles, at New Haven (d. Suárez Navarro in F) and Wuhan (d. Kontaveit in F), winning 46 matches and finishing at No.11 in the rankings
- Also in 2018, was R-Up at Lugano (l. Mertens) and Eastbourne (l. Wozniacki), made SF at Cincinnati, reached five QFs and produced a career-best Grand Slam run to R16 at US Open
- Entered Top 50 on April 16, 2018 (after Lugano) and Top 20 on August 27 of same year (after New Haven)
- Broke into Top 100 at No.76 on October 16, 2017 after reaching first tour-level final at Tianjin (l. Sharapova). Also in 2017 made SF run at Tashkent (l. Babos) and lifting WTA 125k Series title at Mumbai (d. Jakupovic)
- Made Grand Slam main draw debut 2017 Wimbledon, falling in 2r (as qualifier, d. Khromacheva, l. Witthoeft)
- Fell 1r on main draw debut at 2017 Dubai (as qualifier, l. Ka.Bondarenko)
- Member of Belarus Fed Cup team that lost to USA in 2017 final – scored first Top 20 win of career with defeat of No.13 Stephens during 2017 Fed Cup final in Minsk
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2016 Rabat
- Made debut on ITF Circuit in Minsk in 2012. Lifted first three ITF Circuit titles in 2015, including a 13-match win streak towards the year's end, bringing back-to-back trophies in Antalya, Turkey

## CAROLINE GARCIA (FRA #47) VS. [10] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #18)

Head-to-head: GARCIA leads 3-1

2021	GIPPSLAND TROPHY	HARD O	R16	ELISE MERTENS	7-6(1) 6-3
2020	ROLAND GARROS	CLAY O	R32	CAROLINE GARCIA	1-6 6-4 7-5
2019	FED CUP WEEK I	HARD	R1	CAROLINE GARCIA	6-2 6-3
2017	BEIJING	HARD O	R32	CAROLINE GARCIA	7-6(4) 6-4

GARCIA		MERTENS	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$10,853,732	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$7,560,949
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Oct. 16, 1993 (27)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Nov. 17, 1995 (25)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	7	<b>Singles Titles</b>	6
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	10-5	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	4-4
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	6-5 / 230-184	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	9-1 / 159-86
<b>3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-0 / 81-62	<b>3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	3-0 / 41-31
<b>Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-1 / 61-57	<b>Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	3-1 / 29-32
<b>Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	6-5 / 140-121	<b>Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	9-1 / 102-54
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-1 / 17-42	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-0 / 8-19
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-2 / 34-70	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-0 / 16-41
<b>Coach</b>	Louis Paul Garcia	<b>Coach</b>	Robbie Ceyskens

### GARCIA:

- Making sixth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (seventh overall)
- Advanced to SF here in 2016 (l. Strycova) and QF in 2018 (l. Muguruza)
- Was R-Up in doubles here in 2016 (w/Mladenovic)
- One of three French women in the starting field (also Cornet and Mladenovic)
- Defeated No.26 Kerber in 1r on Monday in 3s, marking her best wins-by-ranking since defeating No.21 Kontaveit and No.20 Mertens en route to 2020 Roland Garros R16 (l. Svitolina)
- Ousted No.90 Trevisan in 2r to notch back-to-back wins for the second time this season, having also done so on her season debut at Gippsland Trophy (d. Rodionova and Babos, l. today's opponent Mertens)
- Faces No.18 Mertens today in their fifth career meeting. Owns 3-1 career record against the Belgian however, fell in their most recent encounter in January at Gippsland Trophy in 3r
- Is 0-2 vs. Top 20 ranked opponents in 2021 (l. No.20 Mertens at Gippsland Trophy and No.3 Osaka at Australian Open). Last win vs. such players was against today's opponent, then-ranked No.20 at 2020 Roland Garros
- Last week, fell 2r on home soil at Lyon (l. Golubic)
- Suffered 1r exits at Phillip Island Trophy (l. Doi) and Adelaide (l. Sevastova)
- Made 2r at Australian Open (l. eventual champion Osaka) and posted 3r showing at Gippsland (l. eventual champion Mertens)
- Best results in 2020 came at Slams, reaching R16 at Roland Garros (l. Svitolina) and 3r at US Open (l. Brady)
- Defeated No.3 Ka.Pliskova in 2r at Flushing Meadows to record her first Top 10 win since 2018 Tianjin title (d. No.6 Ka.Pliskova in F)

- Highlights of 2019 campaign include capturing her seventh career WTA singles title at Nottingham and reaching the finals at Strasbourg
- Member of French Fed Cup team that won the 2019 competition final vs. Australia, teaming up with Mladenovic to win the decisive doubles runner against Barty/Stosur. Also took part in the team that advanced to 2016 Fed Cup final vs. Czech Republic
- Fell out of the Top 20 on March 18, 2019 after holding her position there since August 14, 2017
- In 2018, won sixth career title at Tianjin; also made semifinals at Stuttgart and Madrid
- Broke into the Top 5 on August 13, 2018 and reached a career-high of No.4 on September 10, 2018
- Became first player to win Wuhan and Beijing back-to-back in 2017. As a result, qualified for WTA Finals. Was ranked No.30 on the Race to Singapore leaderboard in May 2017
- Best win of her career came over No.2 Halep in 2017 Beijing final
- In 2017, lifted first Premier-5 level title at Wuhan and first Premier-Mandatory crown at Beijing; subsequently made Top 10 debut
- Won a career-best 48 main draw matches in 2017 (48-22 record, two titles), Advanced to QF at 2017 Roland Garros (l. Ka.Pliskova) for best Grand Slam singles result to date
- Advanced to QF at 2017 Roland Garros (l. Ka.Pliskova) for best Grand Slam singles result to date
- Qualifying for WTA Finals in 2017, became the first Frenchwoman to compete at WTA Finals in singles since Mauresmo in 2006 (l. Henin in F)
- At 2016 Roland Garros w/Mladenovic, won first major doubles title. They were the first French pair to win in Paris since 1971, when Gail Chanfreau and Francoise Durr triumphed
- Represented France at 2016 Rio Olympics in singles (2r) and doubles (1r, w/Mladenovic)
- Member of French Fed Cup team that advanced to 2016 competition final vs. Czech Republic
- Played 2015 WTA Finals Rising Stars Invitational in Singapore (l. Osaka in F)
- Made professional debut at 13 on ITF Circuit in France in 2007
- In juniors, singles runner-up at 2011 US Open (l. Min) and was a semifinalist at the other three Slams

### **MERTENS:**

- Making fifth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships
- Reached 2r on tournament debut in 2017 (as qualifier, l. Radwanska) and 2020 (l. Sabalenka)
- Sole Belgian in this week's main draw
- Opened her 2021 Dubai campaign against LL Tomova, overcoming the Bulgarian after dropping the opening set. Was scheduled to play Ferro in 1r however, the Frenchwoman withdrew prior to the match due to fatigue
- Ousted No.49 Rogers in 2r on Tuesday in what was her fifth meeting against a Top 50 opponent in 2021; 4-1 vs. such players this season, having defeated No.44 Garcia and No.5 Svitolina en route to Gippsland Trophy title, No.12 Bencic at Australian Open and No.49 Rogers this week. Fell to No.27 Muchova at Australian Open R16



## MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

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- Has now won back-to-back matches in 10 consecutive tournaments contested – 2020 Prague (R-Up), 2020 Western & Southern Open (SF), 2020 US Open (QF), 2020 Rome (QF), 2020 Roland Garros (3r), 2020 Ostrava (QF), 2020 Linz (R-Up), 2021 Gippsland Trophy (WON) and 2021 Australian Open (R16)
- Faces No.47 Garcia today in their fifth career meeting, having ousted the Frenchwoman earlier this season en route to her sixth career WTA singles title at Gippsland Trophy (d. Kanepi in F)
- Also playing doubles this week with partner Sabalenka as the No.1 seeds – following a 1r bye, will face Mattek-Sands/Pegula today
- Coming off R16 showing at Australian Open (l. Muchova). Captured second career Grand Slam doubles trophy at Melbourne Park (w/Sabalenka, d. Krejckikova/Siniakova in F)
- Enjoyed championship run at Gippsland Trophy winning her sixth career title (d. Kanepi in F)
- Originally planned to start season at Abu Dhabi earlier in January before late withdrawal w/right shoulder injury
- Owns two Top 20 wins this season, against No.12 Bencic at Australian Open and No.5 Svitolina en route to Gippsland Trophy title
- Led the Tour in match wins in 2020, going 34-13 across the season
- Reached two finals last year, finishing as R-Up at both Prague (l. Halep) and Linz (l. Sabalenka)
- Earned her milestone 200th career main draw win with victory over Kalinina in 1r at Linz
- Won 10th career doubles title at Ostrava (w/Sabalenka)
- Loss to Watson at 2020 Hobart, at 3h 33m, was the longest match of the year
- Singles highlights in 2019 were winning biggest title of career at Doha (d. No.3 Halep in final) and advancing to QF at US Open for the first time (l. eventual champion Andreescu in 3s)
- Enjoyed standout season in doubles in 2019 – won maiden major doubles title at US Open w/Sabalenka (d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Also Completed ‘Sunshine Double’ in doubles (w/Sabalenka), lifting the back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejckikova/Siniakova) and Miami (d. Stosur/Zhang), and qualified for Shiseido WTA Finals Shenzhen (went 1-2 in RR)
- Won three singles titles in 2018 (Hobart, Rabat and Lugano), one of six players on tour with three or more titles to their name that year - also Kvitova (5), Svitolina (4), Bertens (3), Halep (3) and Wozniacki (3)
- Also in 2018, advanced to first Grand Slam SF of career at 2018 Australian Open (l. eventual champion Wozniacki)
- Finished 2018 with 46 main draw match wins across the campaign – only Ka.Pliskova (49) and Kvitova (47) registered more. By contrast, prior to 2018 season owned only 36 wins at this level across entire career
- In doubles in 2018, won four titles and reached QF at WTA Finals (w/Schuurs)
- Finished 2017 season at No.35, up from No.120 in 2016 – first Top 50 and Top 100 year-end finish. Season highlighted by first career singles title at Hobart (as a qualifier, d. Niculescu in F)
- Registered first Top 10 win of career over No.10 Cibulkova in 1r at 2017 Beijing
- Made WTA singles main draw debut at 2016 ‘s-Hertogenbosch – made QF (as qualifier, l. Mladenovic)
- Won first WTA title of any kind in doubles at 2016 Auckland (w/Mestach)
- Played first tour-level event of career at 2015 Antwerp (fell in qualifying)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in Belgium in 2010; owns 11 singles and 14 doubles titles on ITF Circuit

## [8] IGA SWIATEK (POL #15) VS. [9] GARBIÑE MUGURUZA (ESP #16)

Head-to-head: First meeting

SWIATEK		MUGURUZA	
<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$3,233,952	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$21,472,323
<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed	<b>Plays</b>	Right-handed
<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	March 31, 2001 (19)	<b>Date of Birth (Age)</b>	Oct. 8, 1993 (27)
<b>Singles Titles</b>	2	<b>Singles Titles</b>	7
<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	1-0	<b>Dubai W-L (MD)</b>	12-6
<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	10-2 / 38-19	<b>YTD / Career W-L (MD)</b>	14-4 / 273-148
<b>3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-1 / 8-6	<b>3-Set (YTD / Career)</b>	1-1 / 83-63
<b>Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-0 / 2-6	<b>Tie-Break (YTD / Career)</b>	1-2 / 43-52
<b>Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	10-2 / 24-13	<b>Hard Court (YTD / Career)</b>	14-4 / 188-102
<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	0-1 / 2-3	<b>Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-3 / 37-38
<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	1-1 / 7-5	<b>Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)</b>	2-3 / 65-64
<b>Coach</b>	Piotr Sierzputowski	<b>Coach</b>	Concepcion Martinez Bernat

### SWIATEK:

- Making tournament debut at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships this week as No.8 seed and ranked at a career high of World No.15 (achieved March 1, 2021)
- Following 1r bye, scored straight sets wins over No.77 Doi in 1r on Tuesday to notch her 10th win of 2021
- Since the Tour's resumption last August, 17 of her 19 wins have come in straight sets (19-5 overall record)
- Faces No.16 Muguruza today in their career first meeting; seven career Top 20 wins have come over No.16 Q.Wang (2019 Roland Garros), No.18 Wozniacki (2019 Toronto), No.20 Vekic (2020 Australian Open), No.19 Vondrousova, No.2 Halep and No.6 Kenin (all at 2020 Roland Garros) and No.12 Bencic (2021 Adelaide)
- One of four teenagers in the main draw (also Anisimova, Gauff and Potapova)
- Coming off second career WTA title at Adelaide without dropping a set (d. Bencic in F). Did not drop a set en route to first Tour-level title at 2020 Roland Garros (d. Kenin in F)
- Prior to Adelaide, best result on hard courts were R16 runs at the Australian Open in 2020 and 2021
- Made run to R16 at Australian Open falling to World No.2 Halep in three-sets, ending her 10-match Grand Slam win streak; won final major of the year at 2020 Roland Garros in which she beat Halep in QF
- Opened 2021 season reaching 3r at the Gippsland Trophy as No.6 seed (l. Alexandrova)
- Posted career-high ranking of No.17 on October 12, 2020 for her first Top 20 season finish
- Won her maiden Tour-level title at 2020 Roland Garros without dropping a set, becoming the first player from Poland – man or woman – to win a Grand Slam singles title and first from her country to reach a major final since Agnieszka Radwanska at 2012 Wimbledon
- Ranked No.54, she became the lowest-ranked woman to win the Roland Garros title in the Open Era and the lowest-ranked finalist since 1977 (No.56 Mihai). At 19y 132d, is the youngest champion in Paris since Monica Seles (18y 187d) in 1992
- Also became the first player to win her debut Tour-level title at a Grand Slam since Jelena Ostapenko at 2017 Roland Garros

- Won WTA Most Improved Player of the Year for 2020, as voted on by members of the media. Her coach, Piotr Sierzputowski, was voted by members of the WTA Coach Program as the WTA Coach of the Year for 2020
- Also won the 2020 WTA Fan Favorite Award, as voted on by fans
- Owns seven career wins over Top 20 ranked players, having defeated No.16 Q.Wang (2019 Roland Garros), No.18 Wozniacki (2019 Toronto), No.20 Vekic (2020 Australian Open), No.19 Vondrousova (2020 Roland Garros), No.2 Halep (2020 Roland Garros), No.6 Kenin (2020 Roland Garros) and No.12 Bencic (2021 Adelaide)
- Ended 2019 season ranked No.61 after a campaign highlighted by R-Up finish at Lugano (l. Hercog) and R16 run at Roland Garros (l. Halep)
- Also in 2019, reached 3r at Toronto (l. Osaka) and made 2r five times (incl. Australian and US Open)
- Broke into Top 100 at No.88 after R-Up finish at 2019 Lugano
- Ended 2018 season ranked No.175 (up from No.690 in 2017), after posting 42-6 record in ITF Circuit
- Highlights of 2018 campaign were four titles on the ITF Circuit, including at the \$60k clay court events in Budapest-HUN and Montreux-SUI
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2019 Auckland
- Member of Poland's Fed Cup team, 2018-20
- On professional debut, came through qualifying to win title at \$10k ITF/Stockholm-SWE in 2016; owns seven singles titles at this level
- Enjoyed a stellar junior career, including winning girls' singles at 2018 Wimbledon (d. Küng in F), 2018 Roland Garros doubles (w/McNally), and leading Poland to the Junior Fed Cup crown in 2016

### **MUGURUZA:**

- Making seventh successive main draw appearance at Dubai as the No.9 seed
- Has reached two SFs here, on her debut in 2015 (l. Pliskova) and in 2018 (l. Kasatkina)
- Also a quarterfinalist here in 2020 (l. Brady). Reached 3r in 2019 (l. Svitolina) and fell 2r 2016 (l. Svitolina) and 2017 (l. Bondarenko via ret.)
- Opened 2021 Dubai campaign against No.73 Begu, improving her record in 1r matches at Dubai to 7-0
- Ousted No.32 Anisimova in 2r on Tuesday for her Tour-leading 14th win of 2021 (14-4 record overall)
- Has now won back-to-back matches in her last seven tournaments contested – 2020 Rome (SF), 2020 Roland Garros (3r), 2021 Abu Dhabi (3r), 2021 Yarra Valley Classic (R-Up), 2021 Australian Open (R16) and 2021 Doha (R-Up)
- Faces No.15 Swiatek today in their career first meeting. Is 2-3 vs Top 20 ranked players in 2021 (65-64 in career), having defeated No.4 Kenin (Yarra Valley Classic) and No.8 Sabalenka (Doha). Fell to No.1 Barty (Yarra Valley Classic), No.3 Osaka (Australian Open) and No.10 Kvitova (Doha)
- During last year's Middle East swing, made back-to-back QFs at Dubai (l. Brady) and Doha (l. Barty)
- Coming off second R-Up appearance of the season at the Qatar Total Open (l. Kvitova)
- Made R16 showing at Australian Open, falling to the eventual champion Osaka after holding two match points at 5-3 in the final set



## MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 | WTA 1000

- Produced R-Up finish at the Yarra Valley Classic (l. Barty) and opened the season with a 3r showing at Abu Dhabi (d. Mladenovic and Sasnovich, l. Sakkari)
- Reached fourth Grand Slam singles final of career at 2020 Australian Open (l. Kenin in 3s). Was first Spaniard to reach the final at Melbourne Park since Conchita Martinez in 1998
- Last year also made SFs at Shenzhen and Rome and three further QFs
- In 2019, successfully defended her title in Monterrey for seventh career WTA trophy (d. Azarenka in F)
- Is a two-time Grand-Slam champion winning titles at 2016 Roland Garros (d. S.Williams in F) and 2017 Wimbledon (d. V.Williams in F). Dropped only one set in Roland Garros title run
- Is only player to ever beat both Williams sisters in a Grand Slam final and one of 29 women in the Open Era to win multiple Grand Slam titles. One of just eight players all-time to defeat Serena in a Grand Slam final
- Also finished R-Up at 2015 Wimbledon (l. S.Williams) to make Top 10 debut. Is one of two players to meet both Williams sisters in the final of the same Grand Slam – also Hingis at US Open (1997, d. V.Williams; 1999, l. S.Williams)
- First Spaniard to reach Wimbledon final since Sánchez Vicario in 1996 and first to reach any Slam final since Conchita Martínez at 2000 Roland Garros
- Rose to World No.1 on September 11, 2017 to become the 24th woman in history to hold the top spot and second from Spain (after Sánchez Vicario in 1995). Also named ITF World Champion for 2017
- Reached R16 at Rio Olympics in 2016
- In 2015, became first Spanish player to compete at the WTA Finals in singles since 2001 (Sánchez Vicario) and reached doubles final (w/Suárez Navarro, l. Hingis/Mirza). Overall, has qualified three times for the season-ending championships (2015-17)
- Owns five WTA doubles titles, most recently at 2015 Tokyo [PPO] (w/Suarez Navarro), and reached SF at 2014 Roland Garros (w/Suarez Navarro); rose to No.10 in WTA doubles rankings on February 23, 2015.
- Advanced to R16 on WTA main draw debut at 2012 Miami (l. eventual champion A.Radwanska), defeating No.9 Zvonareva en route for first Top 10 win

## JIL TEICHMANN (SUI #54) VS. ONS JABEUR (TUN #31)

Head-to-head: First meeting on the WTA Tour

TEICHMANN		JABEUR	
Career Prize Money	\$1,020,606	Career Prize Money	\$2,750,123
Plays	Left-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	July 15, 1997 (23)	Date of Birth (Age)	Aug. 28, 1994 (26)
Singles Titles	2	Singles Titles	0
Dubai W-L (MD)	2-0	Dubai W-L (MD)	5-3
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	7-4 / 35-35	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	8-4 / 68-75
3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-2 / 8-13	3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-1 / 22-31
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	2-3 / 7-12	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 19-23
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	7-4 / 20-24	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	8-4 / 52-58
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 2-2	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-2 / 4-11
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 2-4	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-2 / 10-19
Coach	Alberto Martin	Coach	Issam Jellali

### TEICHMANN:

- Making tournament debut at Dubai
- In 1r, won all eight service games to see off qualifier Zavatska in 66 minutes
- Recorded second Top 10 win of her career after No.10 Kvitova retired in 2r due to injury. Maiden Top 10 win of her career came over No.5 Bertens at 2019 Palermo
- Takes on No.31 Jabeur today for their first meeting on the WTA Tour – only previous match-up occurred on the ITF Circuit in 2016 where she fell to the Tunisian in 3s
- One of two women from Switzerland in draw (also Bencic)
- Ended Australian swing with QF at Phillip Island Trophy (I. Bouzkova) and then first WTA 500 SF at Adelaide (I. eventual champion Swiatek)
- Made back-to-back 1r exits at the Gippsland Trophy and Australian Open (I. Gauff at both tournaments – could potentially meet the American in final here)
- Achieved career-best year-end ranking of No.57 in 2020, helped by runner-up showing at Lexington (I. Brady) and QF at Strasbourg (I. Svitolina)
- Won first and second titles of her career during 2019 season, coming through qualifying to triumph at Prague (d. Muchova in F) and then at Palermo (d. No.5 Bertens in F)
- Made Top 100 debut after Prague success, jumping from No.146 to No.87 (May 6). Rose to career-high No.54 following Palermo title run (July 29, 2019)
- Also made QF on home soil at Lausanne and fell 1r at nine other tour-level events (including Wimbledon and US Open). Won ITF Circuit title at Santa Margherita Di Pula-ITA
- Qualified for first Grand Slam main draw at 2018 US Open, going on to reach 2r (I. Kanepi). Also, reached 2r at tour level events at Acapulco and Linz and lifted WTA 125K Series title at Newport Beach (w/Doi)



## MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Spent majority of 2016 on ITF Circuit, winning 44 matches and three titles to rise over 200 places in the rankings. Also reached 2r on WTA main draw debut at Strasbourg and fell in qualifying at US Open
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2015 Luxembourg
- Owns six singles and five doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Played first professional events of career on ITF Circuit in Switzerland and Germany in 2013
- As a junior won 2014 US Open girls' doubles (w/Soylu) and a gold medal in mixed doubles (w/Zielinski) at 2014 Youth Olympics in Nanjing

### **JABEUR:**

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (seventh overall)
- Has made 2r three times, in 2017 (as qualifier, l. Q.Wang), 2019 (l. Svitolina) and 2020 (l. eventual champion Halep)
- Won eight of nine service games during 1r win over Siniakova on Sunday
- Defeated No.23 Rybakina in 2r to notch her best win by ranking since ousting No.12 Sabalenka at 2020 Roland Garros and advance to 3r for the first time in Dubai
- Now owns 11-13 career record in main draw matches in the Middle East – QF run at 2020 Doha is her best result
- Squares up against Teichmann in today's match where she hopes to advance to her first QF since 2020 Ostrava
- Coming off 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 advancing to 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 breakthrough 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)



## MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

**Tournament Information:**

[www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com](http://www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com) | @DDFTennis | facebook.com/ddftennis/

**WTA Information:**

[www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/WTA

**WTA Communications:**

Teyva Sammet ([tsammet@wtatennis.com](mailto:tsammet@wtatennis.com)), Jessica Culbreath ([jculbreath@wtatennis.com](mailto:jculbreath@wtatennis.com))

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – QUARTERFINALS

### BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #63) vs. [WC] ANASTASIA POTAPOVA (RUS #88)

#### First meeting

**Krejčíková** contested her 50th main draw match of her career to reach the QF this week (27-23)...

**Potapova** has doubled her Top 20 victory count this week by ousting No.19 Keys and No.12 Bencic

### [10] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #18) vs. JESSICA PEGULA (USA #36)

#### Mertens leads 1-0

**Mertens** looks to level her record in WTA QF matches to 15-15 with a win today...

**Pegula** is aiming for her fifth Top 20 win of the season and eighth of her career (7-11 overall)

### [9] GARBINE MUGURUZA (ESP #16) vs. [3] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #8)

#### Series tied 1-1

**Muguruza** bidding for her third SF at Dubai, having reached this stage in 2015 and 2018...

**Sabalenka** eyeing her best win-by-ranking of 2021 today as the highest ranked player left in the draw

### JIL TEICHMANN (SUI #54) vs. [WC] COCO GAUFF (USA #40)

#### Gauff leads 2-0

**Teichmann** is into her third QF of 2021 after recording her third Top 50 win of the season against

Jabeur on Wednesday... **Gauff** is 7-1 vs. players ranked outside the Top 50 this season

## A LOOK AT THE QUARTERFINALISTS

PLAYER	RANK	AGE	NAT	DUBAI (MD) W/L*	SEASON (MD) W/L*	CAREER (MD) W/L*	CAREER PRIZE \$^	CAREER TITLES
[3] Aryna Sabalenka	8	22	BLR	5-3	11-3	137-65	7,314,494	9
[9] Garbiñe Muguruza	16	27	ESP	13-6	15-4	274-148	21,472,323	7
[10] Elise Mertens	18	25	BEL	5-4	10-1	160-86	7,560,949	6
Jessica Pegula	36	26	USA	3-0	12-4	44-38	1,779,571	1
[WC] Coco Gauff	40	16	USA	3-0	9-4	30-17	1,248,071	1
Jil Teichmann	54	23	SUI	3-0	8-4	36-35	1,020,606	2
Barbora Krejčíková	63	25	CZE	3-0	7-3	27-23	3,274,522	0
[WC] Anastasia Potapova	88	19	RUS	3-0	6-4	35-30	1,005,917	0

\*Includes current tournament / ^ Does not include current tournament

## BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #63) VS. [WC] ANASTASIA POTAPOVA (RUS #88)

Head-to-head: First meeting

KREJCIKOVA		POTAPOVA	
Career Prize Money	\$3,274,522	Career Prize Money	\$1,005,917
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Dec. 18, 1995 (25)	Date of Birth (Age)	Mar. 30, 2001 (19)
Singles Titles	0	Singles Titles	0
Dubai W-L (MD)	3-0	Dubai W-L (MD)	3-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	7-3 / 27-23	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	6-4 / 35-30
3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-0 / 12-12	3-Set (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 15-11
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 4-3	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 9-5
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	7-3 / 14-9	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	6-4 / 23-22
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-4	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 1-4
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 1-8	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-2 / 4-9
Coach	Dominik Posednik	Coach	Iain Hughes

### KREJCIKOVA:

- Making main draw debut at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships; fell in qualifying here in 2020
- In doubles, finished R-Up in 2020 (w/Zheng, I. Hsieh/Strycova); seeded No.2 in doubles this week w/Siniakova (face Babos/Kudermetova in QF)
- Edged an 81-minute second set to close out straight-sets win over Sakkari in 1r on Sunday, then scored comfortable wins over former Grand Slam champions Ostapenko in 2r and Kuznetsova in 3r
- Including wins over No.25 Sakkari and No.41 Kuznetsova here, owns 4-3 record against Top 50 opponents in 2021, including maiden Top 20 win of her career over No.19 Rybakina (Grampians Trophy)
- Faces the lowest-ranked player left in the draw, No.88 Potapova in today's QF
- Career record in WTA QF matches stands at 2-3 (1-1 on hard courts)
- Is the last remaining of seven Czech players in Dubai main draw
- Coming off qualifying exit at Doha
- Has enjoyed a successful season in doubles, lifting title at Gippsland Trophy and finishing R-Up at Australian Open (both w/Siniakova). Also defended mixed doubles title at Melbourne Park (w/Ram)
- Rose to career-high No.59 in singles on February 8, 2021
- Opened season with 2r showing at Abu Dhabi (I. Putintseva), before advancing to QF at Grampians Trophy (I. Brady) and then 2r at Australian Open (I. Alexandrova)
- Enjoyed breakout year in singles in 2020, posting then career-high ranking of No.65 (November 16) and making R16 at Roland Garros and reaching second WTA SF at Linz
- Also reached two doubles finals last year, finishing R-Up at Dubai (w/Zheng) and winning Shenzhen (w/Siniakova)

- In Mixed Doubles, defended Australian Open title (w/Pavic), having triumphed in Melbourne a year earlier with w/Ram
- In 2019, advanced to QF at Bucharest in addition to winning four ITF Circuit singles titles on clay in North America and Europe, winning 20 of her 21 matches during this stretch
- Also in 2019, posted second Top 20 doubles season highlighted by titles at Toronto and Linz, and R-Up finish at Indian Wells (all w/Siniakova). Won Australian Open mixed doubles title w/Ram
- In 2018, won first two Grand Slam trophies at Roland Garros (d. Hozumi/ Ninomiya in F) and Wimbledon (d. Melichar/Peschke in F) both w/Siniakova, the first pairing to complete the Roland Garros-Wimbledon double since Kim Clijsters and Ai Sugiyama in 2003; also became the first team ever to win the girls' (2013) and ladies' doubles title at SW19
- Rose to WTA doubles World No.1 on October 22, 2018
- Highlight of 2017 was R-Up finish in first WTA singles final at Nürnberg (l. Bertens in F). Also made QF as qualifier at Bastad (l. Garcia). Only other tour-level appearances were 1r exits at Bucharest and Québec City
- Contested five WTA main draws in 2016, progressing to 2r at two events: Kuala Lumpur and Prague
- Lifted maiden WTA doubles title at 2015 Québec City (w/Mestach)
- Advanced to first WTA doubles final at 2014 Luxembourg (w/Hradecka, l. Bacsinszky/Barrois)
- Reached 2r on WTA debut as qualifier at 2014 Québec City (l. Hradecka)
- On ITF Circuit, owns 14 singles and 19 doubles titles
- Made professional debut at \$10K ITF/Piestany-SVK in 2010

### **POTAPOVA:**

- Making debut appearance in Dubai as a wildcard. One of two wildcards still in the draw (also Gauff)
- In 1r, won eight of nine service games to beat Siegemund, then upset No.19 Keys in 2r and No.12 Bencic in 3r – only previous Top 20 wins had come over No.13 Sevastova at 2019 Prague and No.5 Kerber at 2019 Roland Garros
- Faces No.63 Krejčíková in today's QF, a match-up which guarantees the tournament at least one unseeded semifinalist for the 10th year in a row
- Record in WTA QF matches stands at 4-3 (2-3 on hard courts)
- Last remaining of six Russians in starting field
- Coming off qualifying exit at Doha, where she lost to eventual semifinalist Pegula, in a match she led 5-3 in the final set
- Highlight of stay in Melbourne this year was reaching 3r at a major for the first time, at Australian Open (l. S.Williams). Also made 2r at Gippsland Trophy (l. Halep) and fell 1r at Phillip Island Trophy (l. Peterson)
- Opened 2021 with 1r exit Abu Dhabi (l. Sakkari)
- Posted three straight QFs in 2020, at Acapulco, St. Petersburg and Monterrey; did not play after the tour's resumption in August
- Finished 2019 season ranked No.93 after a season highlighted by SF at Budapest (l. Vondroušová) and Jurmala (l. Sevastova). Posted career-high ranking of No.64 on July 22, 2019



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Scored first Top 10 win over No.5 Kerber in 1r at 2019 Roland Garros
- In doubles, won titles at 2018 Moscow [River Cup] (w/Zvonareva) and 2019 Lausanne (w/Sizikova)
- Highlights of 2018 season were R-Up finishes at Tashkent (as qualifier, I. Gasparyan) and at Moscow [River Cup] (I. Danilovic)
- Made Billie Jean King Cup debut during 2018's defeat to Slovakia in February (I. Kuzmova)
- Reached 2r at St. Petersburg in February 2018 (I. Wozniacki). Win over Maria in 1r was first at tour level
- On ITF Circuit owns one singles and two doubles titles
- Fell 1r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2017 Wimbledon (as qualifier, I. Maria); 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



## MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

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### [10] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #18) VS. JESSICA PEGULA (USA #36)

Head-to-head: ELISE MERTENS leads 1-0

2020 WESTERN & SOUTHERN OPEN

HARD O

QF

ELISE MERTENS

6-1 6-3

MERTENS		PEGULA	
Career Prize Money	\$7,560,949	Career Prize Money	\$1,779,571
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Nov. 17, 1995 (25)	Date of Birth (Age)	Feb 24, 1994 (26)
Singles Titles	6	Singles Titles	1
Dubai W-L (MD)	5-4	Dubai W-L (MD)	3-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	10-1 / 160-86	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	12-4 / 44-38
3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-0 / 41-31	3-Set (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 14-11
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	3-1 / 29-32	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 12-9
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	10-1 / 103-54	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	12-4 / 34-23
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 8-19	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	3-3 / 3-7
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 16-41	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	4-3 / 7-11
Coach	Robbie Ceyssens	Coach	David Witt

#### MERTENS:

- Making fifth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships, where she is through to QF for the first time
- Reached 2r on tournament debut in 2017 (as qualifier, I. Radwanska) and 2020 (I. Sabalenka)
- Sole Belgian in this week's main draw
- Opened her 2021 Dubai campaign against LL Tomova, overcoming the Bulgarian after dropping the opening set. Was scheduled to play Ferro in 1r however, the Frenchwoman withdrew prior to the match due to fatigue
- Ousted No.49 Rogers in 2r on Tuesday in what was her fifth meeting against a Top 50 opponent in 2021; 4-1 vs. such players this season, having defeated No.44 Garcia and No.5 Svitolina en route to Gippsland Trophy title, No.12 Bencic at Australian Open and No.49 Rogers this week. Fell to No.27 Muchova at Australian Open R16
- Has now won back-to-back matches in 10 consecutive tournaments contested – 2020 Prague (R-Up), 2020 Western & Southern Open (SF), 2020 US Open (QF), 2020 Rome (QF), 2020 Roland Garros (3r), 2020 Ostrava (QF), 2020 Linz (R-Up), 2021 Gippsland Trophy (WON) and 2021 Australian Open (R16)
- Hit seven aces to see off Garcia in 3r – her second win over the Frenchwoman in 2021, having also triumphed in 3r en route to her sixth career WTA singles title at the Gippsland Trophy (d. Kanepi in F)
- Faces No.36 Pegula in today's QF; last loss to a player ranked outside Top 30 came at hands of No.45 Garcia at 2020 Roland Garros
- Including victory over Rogers this week, has won her past seven matches with American opposition, last tasting defeat against Kenin at 2019 Wuhan
- Career record in WTA QF matches stands at 14-15 (9-11 on hard courts)
- Also played doubles this week with partner Sabalenka as the No.1 seeds – following a 1r bye, fell to Mattek-Sands/Pegula on Wednesday



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- Coming off R16 showing at Australian Open (I. Muchova). Captured second career Grand Slam doubles trophy at Melbourne Park (w/Sabalenka, d. Krejckova/Siniakova in F)
- Enjoyed championship run at Gippsland Trophy winning her sixth career title (d. Kanepi in F)
- Originally planned to start season at Abu Dhabi earlier in January before late withdrawal w/right shoulder injury
- Owns two Top 20 wins this season, against No.12 Bencic at Australian Open and No.5 Svitolina en route to Gippsland Trophy title
- Led the Tour in match wins in 2020, going 34-13 across the season
- Reached two finals last year, finishing as R-Up at both Prague (I. Halep) and Linz (I. Sabalenka)
- Earned her milestone 200th career main draw win with victory over Kalinina in 1r at Linz
- Won 10th career doubles title at Ostrava (w/Sabalenka)
- Loss to Watson at 2020 Hobart, at 3h 33m, was the longest match of the year
- Singles highlights in 2019 were winning biggest title of career at Doha (d. No.3 Halep in final) and advancing to QF at US Open for the first time (I. eventual champion Andreescu in 3s)
- Enjoyed standout season in doubles in 2019 – won maiden major doubles title at US Open w/Sabalenka (d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Also Completed ‘Sunshine Double’ in doubles (w/Sabalenka), lifting the back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejckova/Siniakova) and Miami (d. Stosur/Zhang), and qualified for Shiseido WTA Finals Shenzhen (went 1-2 in RR)
- Won three singles titles in 2018 (Hobart, Rabat and Lugano), one of six players on tour with three or more titles to their name that year - also Kvitova (5), Svitolina (4), Bertens (3), Halep (3) and Wozniacki (3)
- Also in 2018, advanced to first Grand Slam SF of career at 2018 Australian Open (I. eventual champion Wozniacki)
- Finished 2018 with 46 main draw match wins across the campaign – only Ka.Pliskova (49) and Kvitova (47) registered more. By contrast, prior to 2018 season owned only 36 wins at this level across entire career
- In doubles in 2018, won four titles and reached QF at WTA Finals (w/Schuurs)
- Finished 2017 season at No.35, up from No.120 in 2016 – first Top 50 and Top 100 year-end finish. Season highlighted by first career singles title at Hobart (as a qualifier, d. Niculescu in F)
- Registered first Top 10 win of career over No.10 Cibulkova in 1r at 2017 Beijing
- Made WTA singles main draw debut at 2016 ‘s-Hertogenbosch – made QF (as qualifier, I. Mladenovic)
- Won first WTA title of any kind in doubles at 2016 Auckland (w/Mestach)
- Played first tour-level event of career at 2015 Antwerp (fell in qualifying)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in Belgium in 2010; owns 11 singles and 14 doubles titles on ITF Circuit

### **PEGULA:**

- Making debut appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships – one of 15 main draw debutantes this year
- Has dropped just eight games across wins over Shvedova in 1r, Mladenovic in 2r and Ka.Pliskova in 3r. Including results this week, owns 23-8 record since the Tour’s restart last August



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- After upset of No.6 Ka.Pliskova, whom she also beat in last week's Doha QF, record against Top 10 players this season improves to 3-3, having also defeated No.5 Svitolina at Australian Open. Losses came to No.4 Kenin at the Yarra Valley Classic, No.5 Svitolina at Abu Dhabi and No.10 Kvitova at Doha
- Faces Mertens in today's QF; career record in WTA QF matches stands at 4-3 (4-2 on hard courts)
- Also competing in doubles this week with Mattek-Sands (face No.7 seeds Carter/Stefani in QF)
- Coming off reaching her first WTA 500 SF, at Doha (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Kvitova) – was the first qualifier to reach last four in the tournament's history
- Advanced to maiden Grand Slam QF at Australian Open, where she notched her fourth career Top 20 win over No.13 Azarenka and career first Top 10 win over No.5 Svitolina before falling to eventual R-Up Brady in three sets
- Made 3r run at Yarra Valley Classic (d. Mladenovic and Barthel, l. Kenin in 3s)
- Opened season at Abu Dhabi, falling 1r (l. Svitolina)
- Began 2020 campaign with R-Up finish at Auckland (l. S.Williams)
- Other standout results last season were a QF at Western & Southern Open (as qualifier, l. Mertens) and a 3r showing at US Open (l. Kvitova)
- On the doubles court in 2020, reached QFs of Roland Garros (w/Muhammad) and Cincinnati (w/Rogers)
- Won her first WTA title at 2019 Washington DC (d. Giorgi in F) to reach a career high ranking of No.55 (August 5, 2019)
- Also in 2019, fell 1r on main draw debut at Roland Garros (l. eventual champion Barty) and Wimbledon (l. Buzarnescu) and Miami (as a qualifier, l. Konta)
- Broke into Top 100 for the first time on February 4, 2019 following back-to-back R-Up finishes at WTA 125K Series event at Newport Beach and \$100K ITF/Midland-MI, USA
- Highlights of 2018 included finishing runner-up as a qualifier at Quebec City (l. Parmentier in F), recording SF finish at Houston WTA 125K (l. S.Peng) and reaching QF or better at 10 ITF events
- Won doubles title w/Manasse at 2018 Houston 125K (d. Krawczyk/Olmos in F)
- Did not play between January and August 2017 after undergoing hip surgery. Primarily played at ITF events for the rest of the year, winning two doubles titles with Townsend
- Played a mixture of WTA and ITF Circuit events in 2016 with highlight coming at Washington DC, where she defeated No.14 Stosur for first Top 20 win of career on her way to a SF finish (l. Davis)
- Reached 2r on Grand Slam main draw debut at 2015 US Open (as qualifier, d. Van Uytvanck, l. Cibulkova)
- Sideline from tennis for a year and a half between 2013 and 2015 due to a right knee injury
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2009 Ponte Vedra Beach and WTA main draw debut at 2012 Indian Wells

# MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

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## [9] GARBINE MUGURUZA (ESP #16) VS. [3] ARYNA SABALENKA (BLR #8)

Head-to-head: Series tied 1-1

2021	DOHA	HARD	O	R16	GARBINE MUGURUZA	6-2 6-7(5) 6-3
2018	BEIJING	HARD	O	R32	ARYNA SABALENKA	7-5 6-4

MUGURUZA		SABALENKA	
Career Prize Money	\$21,472,323	Career Prize Money	\$7,314,494
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Oct. 8, 1993 (27)	Date of Birth (Age)	May 5, 1998 (22)
Singles Titles	7	Singles Titles	9
Dubai W-L (MD)	13-6	Dubai W-L (MD)	5-3
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	15-4 / 274-148	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	11-3 / 137-65
3-Set (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 83-63	3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	1-3 / 46-25
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 43-52	Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	3-0 / 30-26
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	15-4 / 189-102	Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	11-3 / 112-43
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-3 / 37-38	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 12-13
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	3-3 / 66-64	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 26-20
Coach	Concepcion Martinez Bernat	Coach	Anton Dubrov

### MUGURUZA:

- Making seventh successive main draw appearance at Dubai as the No.9 seed
- Has reached two SFs here, on her debut in 2015 (l. Pliskova) and in 2018 (l. Kasatkina)
- Now a back-to-back quarterfinalist, reaching final eight this year and in 2020 (l. Brady). Reached 3r in 2019 (l. Svitolina) and fell 2r 2016 (l. Svitolina) and 2017 (l. Bondarenko via ret.)
- Opened 2021 Dubai campaign against No.73 Begu, improving her record in 1r matches at Dubai to 7-0
- Ousted No.32 Anisimova in 2r on Tuesday - has now won back-to-back matches in her last seven tournaments contested – 2020 Rome (SF), 2020 Roland Garros (3r), 2021 Abu Dhabi (3r), 2021 Yarra Valley Classic (R-Up), 2021 Australian Open (R16) and 2021 Doha (R-Up)
- Eased past No.15 Swiatek for her Tour-leading 15th win of 2021 (15-4 record overall).
- Today, faces No.8 Sabalenka in their third career meeting. Triumphed in their most recent match at last week's Qatar Total Open, where she advanced to the final (l. Kvitova)
- Is 2-3 vs Top 10 ranked players in 2021 (37-38 in career), having defeated No.4 Kenin (Yarra Valley Classic) and No.8 Sabalenka (Doha). Fell to No.1 Barty (Yarra Valley Classic), No.3 Osaka (Australian Open) and No.10 Kvitova (Doha)
- During last year's Middle East swing, made back-to-back QFs at Dubai (l. Brady) and Doha (l. Barty)
- Coming off second R-Up appearance of the season at the Qatar Total Open (l. Kvitova)
- Made R16 showing at Australian Open, falling to the eventual champion Osaka after holding two match points at 5-3 in the final set
- Produced R-Up finish at the Yarra Valley Classic (l. Barty) and opened the season with a 3r showing at Abu Dhabi (d. Mladenovic and Sasnovich, l. Sakkari)
- Reached fourth Grand Slam singles final of career at 2020 Australian Open (l. Kenin in 3s). Was first Spaniard to reach the final at Melbourne Park since Conchita Martinez in 1998



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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- Last year also made SFs at Shenzhen and Rome and three further QFs
- In 2019, successfully defended her title in Monterrey for seventh career WTA trophy (d. Azarenka in F)
- Is a two-time Grand-Slam champion winning titles at 2016 Roland Garros (d. S.Williams in F) and 2017 Wimbledon (d. V.Williams in F). Dropped only one set in Roland Garros title run
- Is only player to ever beat both Williams sisters in a Grand Slam final and one of 29 women in the Open Era to win multiple Grand Slam titles. One of just eight players all-time to defeat Serena in a Grand Slam final
- Also finished R-Up at 2015 Wimbledon (l. S.Williams) to make Top 10 debut. Is one of two players to meet both Williams sisters in the final of the same Grand Slam – also Hingis at US Open (1997, d. V.Williams; 1999, l. S.Williams)
- First Spaniard to reach Wimbledon final since Sánchez Vicario in 1996 and first to reach any Slam final since Conchita Martínez at 2000 Roland Garros
- Rose to World No.1 on September 11, 2017 to become the 24th woman in history to hold the top spot and second from Spain (after Sánchez Vicario in 1995). Also named ITF World Champion for 2017
- Reached R16 at Rio Olympics in 2016
- In 2015, became first Spanish player to compete at the WTA Finals in singles since 2001 (Sánchez Vicario) and reached doubles final (w/Suárez Navarro, l. Hingis/Mirza). Overall, has qualified three times for the season-ending championships (2015-17)
- Owns five WTA doubles titles, most recently at 2015 Tokyo [PPO] (w/Suarez Navarro), and reached SF at 2014 Roland Garros (w/Suarez Navarro); rose to No.10 in WTA doubles rankings on February 23, 2015.
- Advanced to R16 on WTA main draw debut at 2012 Miami (l. eventual champion A.Radwanska), defeating No.9 Zvonareva en route for first Top 10 win

### **SABALENKA:**

- Making fourth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships (fifth overall)
- Has tied best run here by reaching QFs, also made it this far in 2020 (l. eventual champion Halep). Reached 3r in 2019 (l. eventual champion Bencic) and fell 1r on debut in 2017 (as qualifier, l. Bondarenko) and in 2018 qualifying (l. Errani)
- Following 1r bye, made a flying start to her campaign, winning first five games in 2r victory over Cornet
- Overpowered Kontaveit in just 61 minutes in 3r, improving her record against the Estonian to 3-0
- Takes on No.16 Muguruza in today's QF. Owns 1-2 record vs. Top 20 opponents this season, defeating No.19 Rybakina en route to the Abu Dhabi title while falling to No.11 S.Williams at Australian Open and today's opponent No.16 Muguruza at Doha
- During last year's Middle East swing, reached QF at Dubai (l. Halep) and lifted the Doha title (d. Kvitova in F)
- Coming off 2r exit at Doha last week as the defending champion (following 1r bye, l. Muguruza)
- Made R16 run at Australian Open (l. S.Williams in 3s) – matching her best result at the majors (also 2018 US Open); bounced back to lift doubles title w/Mertens (d. Krejčíková/Siniakova in F)
- As a result of winning second doubles Slam rose to No.1 in WTA doubles rankings

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- Lifted ninth career singles title at Abu Dhabi in opening week of the season to extend winning streak to 15 matches. Run was ended in 2r at Gippsland Trophy (after 1r bye, I. No.94 Kanepi)
- Ended 2020 inside the Top 10 for the first time, having finished at No.10 courtesy of a nine-match win streak and back-to-back titles – at Ostrava (d. Azarenka in F) and Linz (d. Mertens in F)
- After also taking home the silverware at Doha (d. Kvitova in F), was one of two players (also Halep) to lift three singles titles during disrupted 2020 season
- At Ostrava completed the sweep of titles by teaming up with Mertens to win the doubles
- Ended as World No.11 for the second straight year in 2019 after capturing three WTA singles titles at Shenzhen (d. Riske in F), Wuhan (d. Riske in F) and Zhuhai (d. Bertens in F)
- Having also won Wuhan in 2018 (d. Kontaveit in F), became first player to successfully defend Wuhan title
- Made Top 10 debut on January 28, 2019 following 3r run at 2019 Australian Open
- Ended 2019 at No.2 in WTA doubles rankings after capturing first Grand Slam doubles trophy at US Open (w/Mertens, d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Earlier in the season, the pair claimed the 'Sunshine Double' by winning back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejckova/Siniakova in F) and Miami (d. Stosur/ Zhang in F)
- Qualified for WTA Finals Shenzhen in doubles (w/Mertens), going 1-2 in the round robin stage
- Enjoyed breakthrough season in 2018, lifting two titles, at New Haven (d. Suárez Navarro in F) and Wuhan (d. Kontaveit in F), winning 46 matches and finishing at No.11 in the rankings
- Also in 2018, was R-Up at Lugano (I. Mertens) and Eastbourne (I. Wozniacki), made SF at Cincinnati, reached five QFs and produced a career-best Grand Slam run to R16 at US Open
- Entered Top 50 on April 16, 2018 (after Lugano) and Top 20 on August 27 of same year (after New Haven)
- Broke into Top 100 at No.76 on October 16, 2017 after reaching first tour-level final at Tianjin (I. Sharapova). Also in 2017 made SF run at Tashkent (I. Babos) and lifting WTA 125k Series title at Mumbai (d. Jakupovic)
- Made Grand Slam main draw debut 2017 Wimbledon, falling in 2r (as qualifier, d. Khromacheva, I. Witthoeft)
- Fell 1r on main draw debut at 2017 Dubai (as qualifier, I. Ka.Bondarenko)
- Member of Belarus Fed Cup team that lost to USA in 2017 final – scored first Top 20 win of career with defeat of No.13 Stephens during 2017 Fed Cup final in Minsk
- WTA qualifying debut came at 2016 Rabat
- Made debut on ITF Circuit in Minsk in 2012. Lifted first three ITF Circuit titles in 2015, including a 13-match win streak towards the year's end, bringing back-to-back trophies in Antalya, Turkey

**MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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**JIL TEICHMANN (SUI #54) VS. [WC] COCO GAUFF (USA #40)**

Head-to-head: GAUFF leads 2-0

2021	AUSTRALIAN OPEN	HARD	O	R128	COCO GAUFF	6-3 6-2
2021	GIPPSLAND TROPHY	HARD	O	R64	COCO GAUFF	6-3 6-7(6) 7-6(5)

TEICHMANN		GAUFF	
Career Prize Money	\$1,020,606	Career Prize Money	\$1,248,071
Plays	Left-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	July 15, 1997 (23)	Date of Birth (Age)	Mar. 13, 2004 (16)
Singles Titles	2	Singles Titles	1
Dubai W-L (MD)	3-0	Dubai W-L (MD)	3-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	8-4 / 36-35	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	9-4 / 30-17
3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-2 / 8-13	3-Set (YTD / Career)	6-2 / 15-8
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	2-3 / 7-12	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	4-3 / 10-5
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	8-4 / 21-24	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	9-4 / 25-14
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 2-2	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-1 / 2-3
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 2-4	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 5-7
Coach	Alberto Martin	Coach	Corey Gauff

**TEICHMANN:**

- Making tournament debut at Dubai
- In 1r, won all eight service games to see off qualifier Zavatska in 66 minutes
- Recorded second Top 10 win of her career after No.10 Kvitova retired in 2r due to injury. Maiden Top 10 win of her career came over No.5 Bertens at 2019 Palermo
- Defeated No.31 Jabeur in 3r to reach her third QF of 2021 – also Phillip Island Trophy (l. Bouzkova in QF) and Adelaide (l. eventual champion Swiatek in SF)
- Faces No.40 Gauff today in their third career meeting, having fallen to the American twice this season at Gippsland Trophy and Australian Open
- Owns 3-3 record vs. Top 50 ranked players this season, with wins coming over No.35 Q.Wang (Adelaide) and two wins this week over No.10 Kvitova (via ret.) and No.31 Jabeur. Losses came against today's opponent, then-No.48 Gauff at Gippsland Trophy and Australian Open, and No.18 Swiatek (Adelaide)
- One of two women from Switzerland in the starting field (also Bencic)
- Ended Australian swing with QF at Phillip Island Trophy (l. Bouzkova) and then first WTA 500 SF at Adelaide (l. eventual champion Swiatek)
- Made back-to-back 1r exits at the Gippsland Trophy and Australian Open (l. Gauff at both tournaments – could potentially meet the American in final here)
- Achieved career-best year-end ranking of No.57 in 2020, helped by runner-up showing at Lexington (l. Brady) and QF at Strasbourg (l. Svitolina)
- Won first and second titles of her career during 2019 season, coming through qualifying to triumph at Prague (d. Muchova in F) and then at Palermo (d. No.5 Bertens in F)



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- Made Top 100 debut after Prague success, jumping from No.146 to No.87 (May 6). Rose to career-high No.54 following Palermo title run (July 29, 2019)
- Also made QF on home soil at Lausanne and fell 1r at nine other tour-level events (including Wimbledon and US Open). Won ITF Circuit title at Santa Margherita Di Pula-ITA
- Qualified for first Grand Slam main draw at 2018 US Open, going on to reach 2r (l. Kanepi). Also, reached 2r at tour level events at Acapulco and Linz and lifted WTA 125K Series title at Newport Beach (w/Doi)
- Spent majority of 2016 on ITF Circuit, winning 44 matches and three titles to rise over 200 places in the rankings. Also reached 2r on WTA main draw debut at Strasbourg and fell in qualifying at US Open
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2015 Luxembourg
- Owns six singles and five doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Played first professional events of career on ITF Circuit in Switzerland and Germany in 2013
- As a junior won 2014 US Open girls' doubles (w/Soylu) and a gold medal in mixed doubles (w/Zielinski) at 2014 Youth Olympics in Nanjing

### **GAUFF:**

- Making tournament debut at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships as one of the draw's three wildcards (also Babos and Potapova)
- Saved two match points to defeat Alexandrova in 1r on Sunday. Now owns 2-2 record against Russians at Tour level, beating Potapova (2019 US Open) and losing to Kasatkina (2019 Miami) and Blinkova (2019 Luxembourg)
- Recorded first Top 20 win of 2021 in her third attempt against No.20 Vondrousova in 2r (5-7 career record). Losses this year came against No.5 Svitolina (Australian Open) and No.12 Bencic (Adelaide)
- Since the Tour restarted last summer 15 of her 29 matches (including qualifying) have gone to three sets
- Defeated Martincova in straight sets on Wednesday to reach her fourth career Tour-level QF – also 2019 Linz (WON), 2020 Lexington (SF) and 2021 Adelaide (SF)
- The win over Martincova marked her first straight sets victory at Tour-level since defeating today's opponent Teichmann at 2021 Australian Open 1r
- Faces No.54 Teichmann today. Defeated the Swiss twice already in 2021, at Gippsland Trophy and Australian Open. Her last loss came at the hands of another Swiss opponent, falling to Bencic last week at Adelaide
- Is 7-1 vs. players ranked outside the Top 50 in 2021, with sole loss coming against No.371 Boulter at Gippsland Trophy
- One of four teenagers in the main draw (also Anisimova, Potapova and Swiatek)
- Seeded No.6 in doubles here w/Dabrowski (fell to 2020 US Open champions Siegemund/Zvonareva in 1r)
- Coming off reaching her first WTA 500 SF at Adelaide (l. Bencic) – first time she had won back-to-back main draw matches since SF run at 2020 Lexington
- Suffered back-to-back 2r exits at Gippsland Trophy (l. Boulter) and Australian Open (l. Svitolina). Reached the doubles QFs at Australian Open (w/McNally, l. No.4 seed Melichar/Schuurs)
- Opened her 2021 season at Abu Dhabi, falling in 2r to Sakkari



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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- Ended 2020 at No.48, just one shy of her career high which she reached on October 26, 2020
- First cracked the Top 50 earlier in the season on Feb. 24, 2020 at No.49 following a R16 appearance at Australian Open to tie her career best Grand Slam result – during performance, defeated V.Williams in 1r and her first Top 5 opponent in No.4 Osaka in 3r (l. eventual champion Kenin in 3s)
- Enjoyed breakout season in 2019, highlighted by maiden WTA singles title at Linz (as lucky loser, d. Ostapenko in F) - earned her first Top 10 win en route to title over No.8 Bertens in QF
- At 15y214d, her title run in Linz made her youngest to win a WTA tour-level title since Vaidisova (15y177d) won Tashkent in 2004
- Also claimed maiden WTA doubles titles at Washington, DC (w/McNally, d. Sanchez/Stollar in F) and Luxembourg (w/McNally, d. Christian/Guarachi in F)
- By winning the doubles title at Washington DC at 15 yrs, 144 days, became the youngest player to win a doubles title since May 1995 (Martina Hingis won Hamburg at 14 yrs, 219 days)
- Reached R16 at 2019 Wimbledon on Grand Slam main draw debut defeating V.Williams in 1r (l. eventual champion Halep) - followed with 3r showing at US Open (as WC, l. Osaka)
- Made WTA main draw debut as a wildcard at 2019 Miami where she earned her first WTA main draw win over good friend McNally (l. Kasatkina in 2r)
- Made professional debut in May 2018 as a qualifier into the \$25K ITF/Osprey, FL-USA
- Member of US Billie Jean King Cup team in 2020
- Former Junior World No.1 (July 2018). Won 2018 Roland Garros girls' title (d. McNally in F) and 2018 US Open doubles title (w/McNally), while finished R-Up at 2017 US Open girls' event (l. Anisimova) becoming the youngest girls' singles finalist in US Open history at 13-years-old



## MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

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

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – SEMIFINALS

### BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #63) vs. JIL TEICHMANN (SUI #54)

*Krejčíková leads 1-0*

**Krejčíková** won when they met in qualifying at 2020 Ostrava... **Teichmann** has dropped serve only once in four matches this week... Winner will be the 12th unseeded finalist here

### [9] GARBIÑE MUGURUZA (ESP #16) vs. [10] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #18)

*Muguruza leads 1-0*

**Muguruza** recovered from a set down to triumph in their first-round encounter at 2016 US Open... **Mertens** saved three match points to beat Pegula in QF... **Muguruza** contesting third Dubai SF

## A LOOK AT THE SEMIFINALISTS

PLAYER	RANK	AGE	NAT	DUBAI (MD) W/L*	SEASON (MD) W/L*	CAREER (MD) W/L*	CAREER PRIZE \$^	CAREER TITLES
[9] Garbiñe Muguruza	16	27	ESP	14-6	16-4	275-148	21,472,323	7
[10] Elise Mertens	18	25	BEL	6-4	11-1	161-86	7,560,949	6
Jil Teichmann	54	23	SUI	4-0	9-4	36-35	1,020,606	2
Barbora Krejčíková	63	25	CZE	4-0	8-3	27-23	3,274,522	0

\*Includes current tournament / ^ Does not include current tournament

## SEMIFINAL RECORDS

PLAYER	LAST FINAL REACHED (final result)	CAREER SF W/L	CAREER F W/L
[9] Garbiñe Muguruza	2021 Doha (R-UP)	12-18**	7-7
[10] Elise Mertens	2021 Gippsland Trophy (WON)	8-7**	6-3
Jil Teichmann	2020 Lexington (R-UP)	3-1	2-1
Barbora Krejčíková	2017 Nürnberg (R-UP)	1-1	0-1

\*\*not including walkovers

## POTENTIAL FINAL HEAD-TO-HEADS

	MUGURUZA	MERTENS
KREJCIKOVA	First meeting	First meeting
TEICHMANN	First meeting	Mertens leads 1-0

## BARBORA KREJCIKOVA (CZE #63) VS. JIL TEICHMANN (SUI #54)

Head-to-head: BARBORA KREJCIKOVA leads 1-0

2020 OSTRAVA HARD I QUAL. BARBORA KREJCIKOVA 6-3 6-2

KREJCIKOVA		TEICHMANN	
Career Prize Money	\$3,274,522	Career Prize Money	\$1,020,606
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Left-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Dec. 18, 1995 (25)	Date of Birth (Age)	July 15, 1997 (23)
Singles Titles	0	Singles Titles	2
Dubai W-L (MD)	3-0	Dubai W-L (MD)	3-0
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	7-3 / 27-23	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	8-4 / 36-35
3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-0 / 12-12	3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-2 / 8-13
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 4-3	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	2-3 / 7-12
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	7-3 / 14-9	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	8-4 / 21-24
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-4	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 2-2
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 1-8	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-1 / 2-4
Left-Hand W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-0	Left-Hand W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 3-0
Coach	Dominik Posednik	Coach	Alberto Martin

### KREJCIKOVA:

- Making main draw debut at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships; fell in qualifying here in 2020
- In doubles, finished R-Up in 2020 (w/Zheng, I. Hsieh/Strycova); seeded No.2 in doubles this week w/Siniakova (I. Babos/Kudermetova in QF)
- Edged an 81-minute second set to close out straight-sets win over Sakkari in 1r on Sunday, then scored comfortable wins over former Grand Slam champions Ostapenko in 2r and Kuznetsova in 3r
- Including wins over No.25 Sakkari and No.41 Kuznetsova here, owns 4-3 record against Top 50 opponents in 2021, including maiden Top 20 win of her career over No.19 Rybakina (Grampians Trophy)
- In QF, won six of seven return games to beat lowest-ranked player left in the draw, No.88 Potapova in 64 minutes
- Faces another unseeded player, Teichmann, in today's SF. Winner will be 12th unseeded finalist in the tournament's history – the past three finals have all featured one unseeded player (Rybakina in 2020, Bencic in 2019 and Kasatkina in 2018)
- Bidding to become the lowest-ranked finalist here (currently No.58 Razzano in 2009)
- Is yet to drop a set and has conceded 19 games en route to SF. Teichmann is also yet to surrender a set, giving up 21 games in her four matches
- Ranks first this week for return points won (53%, up on season average of 43%) and is second for points won on serve (63.8%, up on season average of 61.3%), behind only Teichmann (67.7%)
- Career record in WTA SF matches stands at 1-1, beating Cirstea at 2017 Nürnberg and losing to Sabalenka at 2020 Linz



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Is the last remaining of seven Czech players in Dubai main draw. Bidding to be the fourth Czech woman to reach Dubai final, following in the footsteps of Kvitova (2013 – WON, 2019 – R-Up), Ka.Pliskova (2015 – R-Up) and Strycova (2016 -R-Up)
- Coming off qualifying exit at Doha
- Has enjoyed a successful season in doubles, lifting title at Gippsland Trophy and finishing R-Up at Australian Open (both w/Siniakova). Also defended mixed doubles title at Melbourne Park (w/Ram)
- Rose to career-high No.59 in singles on February 8, 2021, having only made her Top 100 debut on October 12, 2020
- Opened season with 2r showing at Abu Dhabi (I. Putintseva), before advancing to QF at Grampians Trophy (I. Brady) and then 2r at Australian Open (I. Alexandrova)
- Enjoyed breakout year in singles in 2020, posting then career-high ranking of No.65 (November 16) and making R16 at Roland Garros and reaching second WTA SF at Linz
- Also reached two doubles finals last year, finishing R-Up at Dubai (w/Zheng) and winning Shenzhen (w/Siniakova)
- In Mixed Doubles, defended Australian Open title (w/Pavic), having triumphed in Melbourne a year earlier with w/Ram
- In 2019, advanced to QF at Bucharest in addition to winning four ITF Circuit singles titles on clay in North America and Europe, winning 20 of her 21 matches during this stretch
- Also in 2019, posted second Top 20 doubles season highlighted by titles at Toronto and Linz, and R-Up finish at Indian Wells (all w/Siniakova). Won Australian Open mixed doubles title w/Ram
- In 2018, won first two Grand Slam trophies at Roland Garros (d. Hozumi/ Ninomiya in F) and Wimbledon (d. Melichar/Peschke in F) both w/Siniakova, the first pairing to complete the Roland Garros-Wimbledon double since Kim Clijsters and Ai Sugiyama in 2003; also became the first team ever to win the girls' (2013) and ladies' doubles title at SW19
- Rose to WTA doubles World No.1 on October 22, 2018
- Highlight of 2017 was R-Up finish in first WTA singles final at Nürnberg (I. Bertens in F). Also made QF as qualifier at Bastad (I. Garcia). Only other tour-level appearances were 1r exits at Bucharest and Québec City
- Contested five WTA main draws in 2016, progressing to 2r at two events: Kuala Lumpur and Prague
- Lifted maiden WTA doubles title at 2015 Québec City (w/Mestach)
- Advanced to first WTA doubles final at 2014 Luxembourg (w/Hradecka, I. Bacsinszky/Barrois)
- Reached 2r on WTA debut as qualifier at 2014 Québec City (I. Hradecka)
- On ITF Circuit, owns 14 singles and 19 doubles titles
- Made professional debut at \$10K ITF/Piestany-SVK in 2010

### TEICHMANN:

- Making tournament debut at Dubai
- In 1r, won all eight service games to see off qualifier Zavatska in 66 minutes
- Recorded second Top 10 win of her career after No.10 Kvitova retired in 2r w/right adductor injury.  
Previous Top 10 win came over No.5 Bertens at 2019 Palermo
- Won all nine service games to beat No.31 Jabeur in 3r and reach her third QF of 2021 – also Phillip Island Trophy (l. Bouzkova in QF) and Adelaide (l. eventual champion Swiatek in SF)
- Got the better of Gauff in QF, exacting revenge for defeats in their previous two meetings this year, at Gippsland Trophy and Australian Open
- Against Gauff, once more won all nine service games – has held 19 consecutive times, a run stretching back to midway through unfinished second set against Kvitova in 2r, which is the only time she has been broken this week
- Leads the tournament for service points won (67.7%) and break points saved (92.3%)
- Faces No.63 Krejckova in today's SF; career record in SF matches stands at 3-1, beating Strycova at 2019 Prague, Samsonova at 2019 Palermo and Rogers at 2020 Lexington, while losing to Swiatek at 2021 Adelaide
- One of two women from Switzerland in the starting field (also Bencic). Bidding to be the third Swiss woman to reach Dubai final, following on from Hingis (2001 – WON) and Bencic (2019 – WON)
- Ended Australian swing with QF at Phillip Island Trophy (l. Bouzkova) and then first WTA 500 SF at Adelaide (l. eventual champion Swiatek)
- Made back-to-back 1r exits at the Gippsland Trophy and Australian Open (l. Gauff at both tournaments – could potentially meet the American in final here)
- Achieved career-best year-end ranking of No.57 in 2020, helped by runner-up showing at Lexington (l. Brady) and QF at Strasbourg (l. Svitolina)
- Won first and second titles of her career during 2019 season, coming through qualifying to triumph at Prague (d. Muchova in F) and then at Palermo (d. No.5 Bertens in F)
- Made Top 100 debut after Prague success, jumping from No.146 to No.87 (May 6). Rose to career-high No.54 following Palermo title run (July 29, 2019)
- Also made QF on home soil at Lausanne and fell 1r at nine other tour-level events (including Wimbledon and US Open). Won ITF Circuit title at Santa Margherita Di Pula-ITA
- Qualified for first Grand Slam main draw at 2018 US Open, going on to reach 2r (l. Kanepi). Also, reached 2r at tour level events at Acapulco and Linz and lifted WTA 125K Series title at Newport Beach (w/Doi)
- Spent majority of 2016 on ITF Circuit, winning 44 matches and three titles to rise over 200 places in the rankings. Also reached 2r on WTA main draw debut at Strasbourg and fell in qualifying at US Open
- Made WTA qualifying debut at 2015 Luxembourg
- Owns six singles and five doubles titles on ITF Circuit
- Played first professional events of career on ITF Circuit in Switzerland and Germany in 2013
- As a junior won 2014 US Open girls' doubles (w/Soylu) and a gold medal in mixed doubles (w/Zielinski) at 2014 Youth Olympics in Nanjing

# MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

## [9] GARBINE MUGURUZA (ESP #16) VS. [10] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #18)

Head-to-head: GARBINE MUGURUZA leads 1-0

2016 US OPEN HARD O R1 GARBINE MUGURUZA 2-6 6-0 6-3

MUGURUZA		MERTENS	
Career Prize Money	\$21,472,323	Career Prize Money	\$7,560,949
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Oct. 8, 1993 (27)	Date of Birth (Age)	Nov. 17, 1995 (25)
Singles Titles	7	Singles Titles	6
Dubai W-L (MD)	14-6	Dubai W-L (MD)	6-4
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	16-4 / 275-148	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	11-1 / 161-86
3-Set (YTD / Career)	2-1 / 84-63	3-Set W-L (YTD / Career)	4-0 / 42-31
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 43-52	Tie-Break W-L (YTD / Career)	3-1 / 29-32
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	16-4 / 190-102	Hard Court W-L (YTD / Career)	11-1 / 104-54
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	3-3 / 38-38	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 8-19
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	4-3 / 67-64	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	2-0 / 16-41
Coach	Concepcion Martinez Bernat	Coach	Robbie Ceyskens

### MUGURUZA:

- Making seventh successive main draw appearance at Dubai, where she is through to SF for a third time
- Also made SF here on her debut in 2015 (I. Pliskova) and in 2018 (I. Kasatkina)
- Advanced to QF in 2020 (I. Brady), reached 3r in 2019 (I. Svitolina) and fell 2r 2016 (I. Svitolina) and 2017 (I. Bondarenko via ret. w/left Achilles injury)
- Was R-Up in doubles here w/Suárez Navarro in 2015 (I. Babos/Mladenovic)
- Opened 2021 campaign with straight sets win over No.73 Begu, improving her record in 1r matches at Dubai to 7-0
- Ousted No.32 Anisimova in 2r on Tuesday. Has now won back-to-back matches in her last seven tournaments contested: 2020 Rome (SF), 2020 Roland Garros (3r), 2021 Abu Dhabi (3r), 2021 Yarra Valley Classic (R-Up), 2021 Australian Open (R16) and 2021 Doha (R-Up)
- Struck 13 winners and just 10 unforced errors to beat No.15 Swiatek in 3r
- In QF, upset No.8 Sabalenka for the second tournament in a row, having ended the Belarusian's title reign last week in Doha
- Is now 3-3 vs Top 10 ranked players in 2021 (38-38 in career), having also defeated No.4 Kenin (Yarra Valley Classic) and No.8 Sabalenka (Doha). Lost to No.1 Barty (Yarra Valley Classic), No.3 Osaka (Australian Open) and No.10 Kvitova (Doha)
- Has posted a Tour-leading 16 wins in 2021 (16-4 record overall). The average rank of her opponents across these 20 matches this season is 42
- Faces No.18 Mertens in today's SF; career record in WTA SF matches stands at 12-18 (10-11 on hard)
- Bidding to become the first Spanish woman to reach the singles final here
- During last year's Middle East swing, made back-to-back QFs at Dubai (I. Brady) and Doha (I. Barty)
- Coming off second R-Up appearance of the season at the Qatar Total Open (I. Kvitova)



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

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- Made R16 showing at Australian Open, falling to the eventual champion Osaka after holding two match points at 5-3 in the final set
- Produced R-Up finish at the Yarra Valley Classic (l. Barty) and opened the season with a 3r showing at Abu Dhabi (d. Mladenovic and Sasnovich, l. Sakkari)
- Reached fourth Grand Slam singles final of career at 2020 Australian Open (l. Kenin in 3s). Was first Spaniard to reach the final at Melbourne Park since Conchita Martinez in 1998
- Last year also made SFs at Shenzhen and Rome and three further QFs
- In 2019, successfully defended her title in Monterrey for seventh career WTA trophy (d. Azarenka in F)
- Is a two-time Grand-Slam champion winning titles at 2016 Roland Garros (d. S.Williams in F) and 2017 Wimbledon (d. V.Williams in F). Dropped only one set in Roland Garros title run
- Is only player to ever beat both Williams sisters in a Grand Slam final and one of 29 women in the Open Era to win multiple Grand Slam titles. One of just eight players all-time to defeat Serena in a Grand Slam final
- Also finished R-Up at 2015 Wimbledon (l. S.Williams) to make Top 10 debut. Is one of two players to meet both Williams sisters in the final of the same Grand Slam – also Hingis at US Open (1997, d. V.Williams; 1999, l. S.Williams)
- First Spaniard to reach Wimbledon final since Sánchez Vicario in 1996 and first to reach any Slam final since Conchita Martínez at 2000 Roland Garros
- Rose to World No.1 on September 11, 2017 to become the 24th woman in history to hold the top spot and second from Spain (after Sánchez Vicario in 1995). Also named ITF World Champion for 2017
- Reached R16 at Rio Olympics in 2016
- In 2015, became first Spanish player to compete at the WTA Finals in singles since 2001 (Sánchez Vicario) and reached doubles final (w/Suárez Navarro, l. Hingis/Mirza). Overall, has qualified three times for the season-ending championships (2015-17)
- Owns five WTA doubles titles, most recently at 2015 Tokyo [PPO] (w/Suarez Navarro), and reached SF at 2014 Roland Garros (w/Suarez Navarro); rose to No.10 in WTA doubles rankings on February 23, 2015.
- Advanced to R16 on WTA main draw debut at 2012 Miami (l. eventual champion A.Radwanska), defeating No.9 Zvonareva en route for first Top 10 win

## MERTENS:

- Making fifth main draw appearance at Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships, where she is through to SF for the first time
- Reached 2r on tournament debut in 2017 (as qualifier, I. Radwanska) and 2020 (I. Sabalenka)
- Sole Belgian in this week's main draw
- Opened her 2021 Dubai campaign against LL Tomova, overcoming the Bulgarian after dropping the opening set. Was scheduled to play Ferro in 1r however, the Frenchwoman withdrew prior to the match due to fatigue
- Broke serve five times to beat Rogers in 2r on Tuesday. Has now won back-to-back matches in 10 consecutive tournaments: 2020 Prague (R-Up), 2020 Western & Southern Open (SF), 2020 US Open (QF), 2020 Rome (QF), 2020 Roland Garros (3r), 2020 Ostrava (QF), 2020 Linz (R-Up), 2021 Gippsland Trophy (WON) and 2021 Australian Open (R16)
- Hit seven aces to see off Garcia in 3r – her second win over the Frenchwoman in 2021, having also triumphed in 3r en route to her sixth career WTA singles title at the Gippsland Trophy (d. Kanepi in F)
- Rallied from 7-5 5-2 down to beat Pegula in QF; saved 3MP when serving to stay in the match at 5-4 in the second set
- At 2h 47m, match with Pegula was longest of this year's tournament (ahead of Gauff d. Alexandrova in 2h 42m)
- Including victories over Rogers and Pegula this week, has won her past eight matches with American opposition, last tasting defeat against Kenin at 2019 Wuhan
- Faces No.16 Muguruza in today's SF; owns 2-0 record against Top 20 opposition in 2021, beating No.5 Svitolina at Gippsland Trophy and No.12 Bencic at Australian Open
- Career record in WTA SF matches stands at 8-7 (4-6 on hard courts)
- Ranks third for aces struck this week, with 16 (behind Kudermetova, 18, and Bencic, 17). Muguruza has 13
- Also is third for return points won, with 51.6% (season average is 50.3%), behind Krejckova (53%) and Cornet (52.9%)
- Also played doubles this week with partner Sabalenka as the No.1 seeds – following a 1r bye, fell to Mattek-Sands/Pegula on Wednesday
- Coming off R16 showing at Australian Open (I. Muchova). Captured second career Grand Slam doubles trophy at Melbourne Park (w/Sabalenka, d. Krejckova/Siniakova in F)
- Enjoyed championship run at Gippsland Trophy winning her sixth career title (d. Kanepi in F)
- Originally planned to start season at Abu Dhabi earlier in January before late withdrawal w/right shoulder injury
- Owns two Top 20 wins this season, against No.12 Bencic at Australian Open and No.5 Svitolina en route to Gippsland Trophy title
- Led the Tour in match wins in 2020, going 34-13 across the season
- Reached two finals last year, finishing as R-Up at both Prague (I. Halep) and Linz (I. Sabalenka)
- Earned her milestone 200th career main draw win with victory over Kalinina in 1r at Linz
- Won 10th career doubles title at Ostrava (w/Sabalenka)



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Loss to Watson at 2020 Hobart, at 3h 33m, was the longest match of the year
- Singles highlights in 2019 were winning biggest title of career at Doha (d. No.3 Halep in final) and advancing to QF at US Open for the first time (l. eventual champion Andreescu in 3s)
- Enjoyed standout season in doubles in 2019 – won maiden major doubles title at US Open w/Sabalenka (d. Azarenka/Barty in F). Also Completed ‘Sunshine Double’ in doubles (w/Sabalenka), lifting the back-to-back titles at Indian Wells (d. Krejčíková/Siniaková) and Miami (d. Stosur/Zhang), and qualified for Shiseido WTA Finals Shenzhen (went 1-2 in RR)
- Won three singles titles in 2018 (Hobart, Rabat and Lugano), one of six players on tour with three or more titles to their name that year - also Kvitová (5), Svitolina (4), Bertens (3), Halep (3) and Wozniacki (3)
- Also in 2018, advanced to first Grand Slam SF of career at 2018 Australian Open (l. eventual champion Wozniacki)
- Finished 2018 with 46 main draw match wins across the campaign – only Ka.Plisková (49) and Kvitová (47) registered more. By contrast, prior to 2018 season owned only 36 wins at this level across entire career
- In doubles in 2018, won four titles and reached QF at WTA Finals (w/Schuurs)
- Finished 2017 season at No.35, up from No.120 in 2016 – first Top 50 and Top 100 year-end finish. Season highlighted by first career singles title at Hobart (as a qualifier, d. Niculescu in F)
- Registered first Top 10 win of career over No.10 Cibulková in 1r at 2017 Beijing
- Made WTA singles main draw debut at 2016 ‘s-Hertogenbosch – made QF (as qualifier, l. Mladenovic)
- Won first WTA title of any kind in doubles at 2016 Auckland (w/Mestach)
- Played first tour-level event of career at 2015 Antwerp (fell in qualifying)
- Played first events of career on ITF Circuit in Belgium in 2010; owns 11 singles and 14 doubles titles on ITF Circuit



## MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

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**WTA Communications:** Teyva Sammet ([tsammet@wtatennis.com](mailto:tsammet@wtatennis.com))

## DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS – FINALS

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

#### First meeting

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

### A LOOK AT THE FINALISTS

PLAYER	RANK	AGE	NAT	DUBAI (MD) W/L*	SEASON (MD) W/L*	CAREER (MD) W/L*	CAREER PRIZE \$^	CAREER TITLES
[9] Garbiñe Muguruza	16	27	ESP	15-6	17-4	276-149	21,472,323	7
Barbora Krejčíková	63	25	CZE	5-0	9-3	28-23	3,274,522	0

\*Includes current tournament / ^ Does not include current tournament

### FINAL RECORDS

PLAYER	LAST FINAL REACHED (final result)	CAREER F W/L
[9] Garbiñe Muguruza	2021 Doha (R-UP)	7-7
Barbora Krejčíková	2017 Nürnberg (R-UP)	0-1

\*\*not including walkovers

### FINALIST STATS

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

### ROAD TO THE FINAL

#### MUGURUZA

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

Total time on court: 8h 22m

Total time on court: 7h 8m

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

Head-to-head: First Meeting

KREJCIKOVA		MUGURUZA	
Career Prize Money	\$3,274,522	Career Prize Money	\$21,472,323
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Dec. 18, 1995 (25)	Date of Birth (Age)	Oct. 8, 1993 (27)
Singles Titles	0	Singles Titles	7
Dubai W-L (MD)	4-0	Dubai W-L (MD)	15-6
YTD / Career W-L (MD)	8-3 / 28-23	YTD / Career W-L (MD)	17-4 / 276-148
3-Set (YTD / Career)	3-0 / 12-12	3-Set (YTD / Career)	2-1 / 84-63
Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 4-3	Tie-Break (YTD / Career)	1-2 / 43-52
Hard Court (YTD / Career)	8-3 / 15-9	Hard Court (YTD / Career)	17-4 / 191-102
Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	0-0 / 0-4	Top 10 W-L (YTD / Career)	3-3 / 38-38
Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 1-8	Top 20 W-L (YTD / Career)	5-3 / 68-64
Left-Hand W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 1-0	Left-Hand W-L (YTD / Career)	1-0 / 1-0
Coach	Dominik Posednik	Coach	Conchita Martinez

### KREJCIKOVA:

- Has reached the title match here at the Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships in what is her singles main draw debut at the tournament
- Her only previous singles appearance here was in qualifying in 2010
- Is the lowest-ranked finalist here, beating No.58 Razzano in 2009
- This is her second WTA singles final after 2017 Nürnberg (l. Bertens in F)
- This is the fifth occasion in the last nine years a Czech woman has made the final here, after Kvitova (2013 d. Errani), Ka. Pliskova (2015, l. Halep), Strycova (2016, l. Errani), Kvitova (2019 l. Bencic) and now Krejckikova in 2021
- Is the 12th unseeded finalist in the tournament's history – the past three finals have all featured one unseeded player (Rybakina in 2020, Bencic in 2019 and Kasatkina in 2018)
- The biggest singles title of her career so far came on the ITF Circuit in 2019, at a \$80k event in Palm Harbor in Florida
- Prior to this week, best result at WTA 500 level or above came with QF appearance at 2021 Grampians Trophy and R16 at 2020 Roland Garros
- Will post a new career-high ranking by virtue of reaching the final – hitting No.36 with the final appearance and can peak at No.30 with the title. Current high is No.59 (Feb 8, 2021)
- In doubles, finished R-Up here in 2020 (w/Zheng, l. Hsieh/Strycova); was seeded No.2 in doubles this week w/Siniakova (l. Babos/Kudermetova in QF)
- Edged an 81-minute second set to close out straight-sets win over Sakkari in 1r on Sunday, then scored comfortable wins over former Grand Slam champions Ostapenko in 2r and Kuznetsova in 3r
- Including wins over No.25 Sakkari and No.41 Kuznetsova here, owns 4-3 record against Top 50 opponents in 2021

- In QF, won six of seven return games to beat lowest-ranked player left in the draw, No.88 Potapova in 64 minutes
- Defeated Teichmann in the semifinals in straight sets - is yet to drop a set and has conceded 26 games en route to title match
- The last player to life the title without dropping a set was V.Williams in 2014
- Faces No.16 Muguruza in today's final, and bidding for second Top 20 win of career – lost her first eight matches again Top 20 players before scoring maiden win over No.19 Rybakina at 2021 Grampians Trophy
- Win against No.16 Muguruza would be best win rankings-wise of career
- Coming off qualifying exit at Doha
- Has enjoyed a successful season in doubles, lifting title at Gippsland Trophy and finishing R-Up at Australian Open (both w/Siniakova). Also defended mixed doubles title at Melbourne Park (w/Ram)
- Rose to career-high No.59 in singles on February 8, 2021, having only made her Top 100 debut on October 12, 2020
- Opened season with 2r showing at Abu Dhabi (I. Putintseva), before advancing to QF at Grampians Trophy (I. Brady) and then 2r at Australian Open (I. Alexandrova)
- Enjoyed breakout year in singles in 2020, posting then career-high ranking of No.65 (November 16) and making R16 at Roland Garros and reaching second WTA SF at Linz
- Also reached two doubles finals last year, finishing R-Up at Dubai (w/Zheng) and winning Shenzhen (w/Siniakova)
- In Mixed Doubles, defended Australian Open title (w/Pavic), having triumphed in Melbourne a year earlier with w/Ram
- In 2019, advanced to QF at Bucharest in addition to winning four ITF Circuit singles titles on clay in North America and Europe, winning 20 of her 21 matches during this stretch
- Also in 2019, posted second Top 20 doubles season highlighted by titles at Toronto and Linz, and R-Up finish at Indian Wells (all w/Siniakova). Won Australian Open mixed doubles title w/Ram
- In 2018, won first two Grand Slam trophies at Roland Garros (d. Hozumi/ Ninomiya in F) and Wimbledon (d. Melichar/Peschke in F) both w/Siniakova, the first pairing to complete the Roland Garros-Wimbledon double since Kim Clijsters and Ai Sugiyama in 2003; also became the first team ever to win the girls' (2013) and ladies' doubles title at SW19
- Rose to WTA doubles World No.1 on October 22, 2018
- Highlight of 2017 was R-Up finish in first WTA singles final at Nürnberg (I. Bertens in F). Also made QF as qualifier at Bastad (I. Garcia). Only other tour-level appearances were 1r exits at Bucharest and Québec City
- Contested five WTA main draws in 2016, progressing to 2r at two events: Kuala Lumpur and Prague
- Lifted maiden WTA doubles title at 2015 Québec City (w/Mestach)
- Advanced to first WTA doubles final at 2014 Luxembourg (w/Hradecka, I. Bacsinszky/Barrois)
- Reached 2r on WTA debut as qualifier at 2014 Québec City (I. Hradecka)
- On ITF Circuit, owns 14 singles and 19 doubles titles
- Made professional debut at \$10K ITF/Piestany-SVK in 2010

## **MUGURUZA:**

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



## **MATCH NOTES: DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | MARCH 7-13, 2021 | USD \$1,835,490 WTA 1000

- Reached fourth Grand Slam singles final of career at 2020 Australian Open (l. Kenin in 3s). Was first Spaniard to reach the final at Melbourne Park since Conchita Martínez in 1998
- Last year also made SFs at Shenzhen and Rome and three further QFs
- In 2019, successfully defended her title in Monterrey for seventh career WTA trophy (d. Azarenka in F)
- Is a two-time Grand-Slam champion winning titles at 2016 Roland Garros (d. S.Williams in F) and 2017 Wimbledon (d. V.Williams in F). Dropped only one set in Roland Garros title run
- Is only player to ever beat both Williams sisters in a Grand Slam final and one of 29 women in the Open Era to win multiple Grand Slam titles. One of just eight players all-time to defeat Serena in a Grand Slam final
- Also finished R-Up at 2015 Wimbledon (l. S.Williams) to make Top 10 debut. Is one of two players to meet both Williams sisters in the final of the same Grand Slam – also Hingis at US Open (1997, d. V.Williams; 1999, l. S.Williams)
- First Spaniard to reach Wimbledon final since Sánchez Vicario in 1996 and first to reach any Slam final since Conchita Martínez at 2000 Roland Garros
- Rose to World No.1 on September 11, 2017 to become the 24th woman in history to hold the top spot and second from Spain (after Sánchez Vicario in 1995). Also named ITF World Champion for 2017
- Reached R16 at Rio Olympics in 2016
- In 2015, became first Spanish player to compete at the WTA Finals in singles since 2001 (Sánchez Vicario) and reached doubles final (w/Suárez Navarro, l. Hingis/Mirza). Overall, has qualified three times for the season-ending championships (2015-17)
- Owns five WTA doubles titles, most recently at 2015 Tokyo [PPO] (w/Suarez Navarro), and reached SF at 2014 Roland Garros (w/Suarez Navarro); rose to No.10 in WTA doubles rankings on February 23, 2015.
- Advanced to R16 on WTA main draw debut at 2012 Miami (l. eventual champion A.Radwanska), defeating No.9 Zvonareva en route for first Top 10 win

**[8] ALEXA GUARACHI (CHI #24) / DARIJA JURAK (CRO #40) VS.  
XU YIFAN (CHN #9) / YANG ZHAOXUAN (CHN #57)**

GUARACHI		JURAK	
Plays	Right-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Nov. 17, 1990 (30)	Date of Birth (Age)	April 5, 1984 (36)
Doubles Titles	3	Doubles Titles	6
Career Prize Money	\$397,781	Career Prize Money	\$1,374,504
Career-High Rank	No.24 (March 1, 2021)	Career-High Rank	No.27 (Feb. 6, 2017)
Tournament W-L	4-1	Tournament W-L	4-0
Career W-L	206-124	Career W-L	508-410
Best Dubai Result	1r (2020)	Best Dubai Result	WON (2016 w/Chuang)
Coach	Craig Veal	Coach	Benjamin Hiltl

XU		YANG	
Plays	Left-handed	Plays	Right-handed
Date of Birth (Age)	Aug. 8, 1988 (32)	Date of Birth (Age)	Feb. 11, 1995 (25)
Doubles Titles	10	Doubles Titles	4
Career Prize Money	\$2,535,074	Career Prize Money	\$1,007,060
Career-High Rank	No.7 (Jan. 13, 2020)	Career-High Rank	No.20 (Aug. 13, 2018)
Tournament W-L	7-5	Tournament W-L	9-3
Career W-L	394-233	Career W-L	245-172
Best Dubai Result	QF (2016, 2019, 2020)	Best Dubai Result	WON (2018 w/ H.Chan)
Coach	Alice Han Carlsson	Coach	He Feng

**GUARACHI / JURAK**

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

## **XU / YANG**

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