

## SEMIFINAL MATCH-UPS

**1** **BARBORA KREJCIKOVA**  
**KATERINA SINIAKOVA** **0-0** **NICOLE MELICHAR-MARTINEZ**  
**DEMI SCHUURS** **4**  
HEAD-TO-HEAD RECORD

*Krejcikova and Siniakova face Melichar-Martinez and Schuurs for the first time in their careers... The Czech team is the only pairing to finish the group stage with a perfect 3-0 record... The American-Dutch team have reached SF or better on seven occasions this season*

**2** **SHUKO AOYAMA**  
**ENA SHIBAHARA** **0-2** **HSIEH SU-WEI**  
**ELISE MERTENS** **3**  
HEAD-TO-HEAD RECORD

*Aoyama and Shibahara meet Hsieh and Mertens for the third time this season... Aoyama and Shibahara will be co-ranked at No.5 following Guadalajara... Hsieh and Mertens defeated the all-Japanese duo in the Wimbledon final and Indian Wells semifinals this year*

## ROUND ROBIN STANDINGS

PLAYER	MATCH W-L	PCT	SETS W-L	PCT	GAMES W-L	PCT
AOYAMA SHIBAHARA	2-1	.667	5-2	.714	34-25	.576
MELICHAR-MARTINEZ SCHUURS	2-1	.667	4-3	.571	32-27	.542
STOSUR ZHANG	1-2	.333	3-5	.375	33-35	.485
JURAK KLEPAC	1-2	.333	3-5	.375	28-35	.444

PLAYER	MATCH W-L	PCT	SETS W-L	PCT	GAMES W-L	PCT
KREJCIKOVA SINIAKOVA	3-0	1.00	6-1	.857	37-22	.627
HSIEH MERTENS	2-1	.667	4-2	.667	30-30	.500
GUARACHI KRAWCZYK	1-2	.333	3-5	.375	35-30	.538
FICHMAN OLMOS	0-3	.000	1-6	.143	24-32	.429

## A LOOK AT THE SEMIFINALISTS

PLAYER	RANK	TOURN W/L	YTD W/L	CAREER W/L	YTD PRIZE \$	CAREER PRIZE \$	YTD TITLES	TITLES
[1] Barbora Krejcikova (CZE)	3	6-3	38-10	286-118	3,356,883	6,327,132	4	10
[1] Katerina Siniakova (CZE)	2	6-3	42-10	245-121	1,064,914	7,291,246	5	13
[2] Shuko Aoyama (JPN)	6	2-1	39-17	423-249	338,567	1,651,475	5	17
[2] Ena Shibahara (JPN)	6	2-1	39-17	126-63	360,919	671,859	5	8
[3] Hsieh Su-Wei (TPE)	1	9-3	26-15	522-566	1,325,910	10,001,652	2	30
[3] Elise Mertens (BEL)	16	3-4	32-13	267-118	2,013,133	9,093,336	4	14
[4] Nicole Melichar-Martinez (USA)	13	2-2	32-20	302-262	241,659	1,726,809	2	10
[4] Demi Schuurs (NED)	12	6-4	36-19	311-162	261,001	1,718,329	2	14



# MATCH NOTES



AKRON WTA FINALS GUADALAJARA  
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO  
NOVEMBER 10-17, 2021 | \$5,000,000

## KREJCIKOVA/SINIAKOVA

RR3: d. Krawczyk/Guarachi (USA/CHI) 5-7 7-6(3) 10-7 (2h4)  
RR2: d. Hsieh/Mertens (TPE/BEL) 6-3 6-1 (1h5)  
RR1: d. Fichman/Olmos (CAN/MEX) 6-4 6-1 (1h13)

*Total time on court: 4h 22m*

- Seeded No.1 this week, having also been seeded as the No.1 team at the WTA Finals in 2018 at Singapore
- Qualified for the WTA Finals in 2018 (l. Babos/Mladenovic in F) and 2019 (went 1-2 in round robin stage)
- Three-time Grand Slam champions, lifting the trophies at Roland Garros in 2018 (d. Hozumi/Ninomiya in F) and 2021 (d. Mattek-Sands/Swiatak in F), and Wimbledon in 2018 (d. Melichar/Peschke in F)
- Also won the girls' doubles title at Roland-Garros, Wimbledon and US Open all in 2013
- Made their Tour-level debut together at 2014 Bad Gastein (l. Ormaechea/Pfizenmaier in 1r)
- Advanced to their first SF as a pair at 2016 Roland-Garros (l. d. Hingis/Mirza and Sestini Hlavackova/Hradecka before falling to the eventual runners-up Makarova/Vesnina)
- Captured their first titles as a team at the Grand Slam level, winning back-to-back majors at 2018 Roland Garros and Wimbledon. Became the first pairing to complete the Roland Garros-Wimbledon double since Kim Clijsters and Ai Sugiyama won both titles in 2003
- Also reached the SFs at US Open in 2018 (l. Barty/Vandeweghe). In 2017, Siniakova reached the doubles final at Flushing Meadows (w/Hradecka, l. L.Chan/Hingis)
- Advanced to one final in 2020, lifting the trophy at Shenzhen (d. Y.Duan/S.Zheng in F), where they reached their first doubles final as a team in 2018 (l. Begu/Halep)
- Voted as the WTA Doubles Team of the Year for 2018
- Krejcikova's career record in doubles finals sits at 10-9, while Siniakova holds a 13-13 record
- In singles, Krejcikova is enjoying her best season to date in 2021, finishing R-Up at Dubai, lifting her maiden title at Strasbourg, capturing the Roland-Garros singles title and a third title of the season at Prague

## MELICHAR-MARTINEZ/SCHUURS

RR3: Klepac/Jurak (SLO/CRO) 6-4 3-6 10-2 (1h20)  
RR2: l. Aoyama/Shibahara (JPN/JPN) 4-6 6-7(5) (1h41)  
RR1: d. Zhang/Stosur (CHN/AUS) 6-2 6-2 (1h3)

*Total time on court: 4h 4m*

- 2021 marks their debut at the WTA Finals as a team
- Schuurs has appeared here twice before, in 2018 (w/ Mertens, l. opening match to Barty/Vandeweghe) and in 2019 (w/Groenefeld, reached SF, l. Hsieh/Strycova)
- Dutchwomen to reach the finals at the WTA Finals: Kiki Bertens (R-Up, 2017), Manon Bollegraf (R-Up, 2000) and Betty Stove (R-Up in 1974, 1973; Won in 1979).
- Melichar-Martinez qualified in 2018 w/Pesche and lost opening match (l. Krejcikova/Siniakova. The last American to reach the doubles final at the WTA Finals was Bethanie Mattek-Sands in 2016 (R-Up). The last American to win the WTA Finals doubles title was Liezel Huber and Lisa Raymond (2011)
- The team first paired up in 2020 – they played two events and won one of them, at Strasbourg
- Re-established their partnership in 2021 and have reached four finals this year, winning Charleston and Doha and finishing R-Up at Berlin and Eastbourne in back-to-back weeks
- Schuurs owns 14 doubles titles overall (14-14 record in finals); Melichar-Martinez owns 10 titles (10-12 record)
- Melichar has gone deep in Grand Slams before winning the 2018 Wimbledon mixed doubles title w/Peya and finishing R-Up at 2018 Wimbledon w/Peschke (l. Krejcikova/Sinikova) and 2020 US Open w/Xu (l. Siegemund/Zvonareva)
- Schuurs's best Grand Slam result has been runs to the SF, at 2021 Australian Open, and QF at
- 2019 Wimbledon w/Groenefeld and 2020 US Open w/ Peschke



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## AOYAMA/SHIBAHARA

- l. [5] Stosur/Zhang (AUS/CHN) 6-4 3-6 7-10 (1h33)
- d. [4] Melichar/Schuurs (USA/NED) 6-4 7-6(5) (1h41)
- d. [7] Jurak/Klepac (CRO/SLO) 6-0 6-4 (1h07)

*Total time on court: 4h 21min*

- Aoyama and Shibahara have played 21 tournaments together this year, winning five titles – Abu Dhabi, Yarra Valley Classic, Miami, Eastbourne and Cleveland – posting a 5-0 record in championship matches
- First teamed up at 2019 San Jose, a tournament they finished as runner-up (l. to Melichar/Peschke)
- Since teaming up in 2019, won have won eight titles, also capturing two titles in 2019 (Tianjin, Moscow) and one in 2020 (St. Petersburg)
- Aoyama made her Tour debut in 2010 at Osaka, an International level tournament at the time, in which she finished as runner-up (w/Fujiwara). A two-time Wimbledon semifinalist – 2013 (w/Scheepers) and 2021, Aoyama has won 17 career doubles titles and enters the WTA Finals with a career-best doubles ranking at No.6. Prior to teaming up with Shibahara, career-high doubles ranking was No.27 (achieved on January 15, 2018). Climbed as high as No.182 in singles, first achieved on February 9, 2015
- Shibahara made her Tour-level debut at the 2016 US Open, playing with Jada Hart, the same year the duo won the 2016 US Open girls doubles tournament. All 8 doubles titles came with Aoyama, and she also won a WTA 125 title at Newport Beach (w/Hayley Carter). Shibahara attended and played tennis at UCLA where she twice won PAC-12 Player of the Year honors. Career-high singles ranking is No.416

## HSIEH/MERTENS

- d. Fichman/Olmos (CAN/MEX) 6-4 7-6(3) (1h36)
- l. [1] Krejčíková/Siniaková (CZE/CZE) 6-1 6-1 (1h05)
- d. [6] Guarachi/Krawczyk (CHI/USA) 7-6(3) 6-2 (1h23)

*Total time on court: 4h 04min*

- Hsieh/Mertens teamed up for the first time earlier this year, contesting Madrid (after 1r bye, l. Ostapenko/Pavlyuchenkova)
- 2021 WTA Finals will be their 10th event together – they have won two titles this season to secure qualification, at Wimbledon (d. Kudrmetova/Vesnina in F – saved 2MP) and Indian Wells (d. Kudrmetova/Rybakina)
- Other key results this year have been making SF at Birmingham (l. Jabeur/Perez – held 5MP) and reaching the QFs at US Open (l. Gauff/McNally) and Chicago (l. Melichar-Martinez/Schuurs)
- This is their debut at the WTA Finals as a team however both have qualified with different partners
- Hsieh has reached the title match every time she has qualified for the WTA Finals, winning the event in 2013 (w/Peng Shuai) and finishing as R-Up in 2014 (w/Peng Shuai, l. Black/Mirza) and 2019 (w/Strycova, l. Babos/Mladenovic)
- Mertens qualified in 2018 (w/Schurrs) and 2019 (w/Sabalenka) and fell in group stage on both occasions
- Hsieh Su-Wei is the current World No.1 in doubles – this is week is her 47th week in the top spot. She first achieved the doubles No.1 on May 12, 2014
- Mertens has also been ranked No.1 in doubles – she has spent 13 weeks in the elite position, first achieving this on May 16, 2021
- Hsieh, after winning Wimbledon title two years ago, reclaimed the doubles World No.1 position for the first time in over five years, overtaking the position from then-partner Strycova
- Mertens rose to prominence on the doubles court alongside Sabalenka in 2019, winning 10 straight matches to capture the Indian Wells-Miami ‘Sunshine Double’ – the fifth team in history to achieve the feat
- Hsieh owns 30 doubles titles in total – this is the fifth most among active players, trailing Latisha Chan in fourth on 33