



# MATCH NOTES

Mubadala Abu Dhabi Open  
presented by Abu Dhabi Sports Council  
ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
FEBRUARY 3 - 8, 2025 | WTA 500



**Tournament Information:** [www.mubadalaabudhabiopen.com](http://www.mubadalaabudhabiopen.com) | @MubadalaADOpen | facebook.com/MubadalaAbuDhabiOpen  
**Information:** [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com) | @WTA | facebook.com/WTA  
**WTA Media Information:** Faye Andrews (faye@theemiliagroup.com)

## SINGLES FINAL – SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2025

### [WC] Belinda Bencic (SUI #157) vs. Ashlyn Krueger (USA #51)

#### First meeting

#### ***Bencic:***

- Lifted the title here in 2023 (d. Samsonova in final) and is back in the final two years later
- This is her 19th Tour level singles final, and owns a 8-10 record in title matches
- This is her first final since 2023 Charleston (l. Jabeur) and bidding for first title since triumphing here in Abu Dhabi in 2023
- Stepped away from the court from September 2023 to November 2024 to give birth to daughter Bella, who arrived in April of last year
- Overcame No.5 Rybakina in SF which marked first Top 10 win since 2023 Montreal (over No.8 Kvitova)
- Has faced American opposition in two of her 18 previous finals, losing both, to Riske at 2014 Tianjin and Kenin at 2019 Mallorca
- Bencic is the third-lowest ranked player to reach a WTA 500 final, after No.201 Dulgheru (Won, 2009 Warsaw) and No.169 Serena Williams (Won, 2011 Stanford)

#### ***Krueger:***

- 2025 Abu Dhabi is the biggest final of the her career
- She has reached one singles final before today, winning the title at WTA 250 Osaka in 2023 (d. Zhu in F)
- Bidding to become the third USA player to win a Tour title in 2025, after Madison Keys (Adelaide, Australian Open) and McCartney Kessler (Hobart). Team USA also triumphed in the United Cup this season
- Run to the final saw her post her sixth Top 20 win of career, over No.11 Kasatkina in 2r
- Is currently ranked No.51, with career-high No.50 achieved in Jan 2025 – will break into the Top 40 following Abu Dhabi final, and peak at No.32 with the title
- Should she lift the title, will earn \$164,000 USD and in turn break the \$2m USD mark in career prize money
- Has additional final experience in doubles, winning Charleston with Sloane Stephens
- Aged 20 years and 277 days would be the third youngest American to win a WTA 500 title behind only Madison Keys (2014 Eastbourne) and Coco Gauff (2023 Washington DC) - both won titles at 19 years old



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MUBADALA ABU DHABI OPEN PRESENTED BY ABU DHABI SPORTS COUNCIL - ABU DHABI, UAE  
 2025-02-03 - 2025-02-08 | \$ 1,064,510



157

**BELINDA BENCIC [WC]**  
 SWITZERLAND

51

**ASHLYN KRUEGER**  
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1997-03-10	<b>Date of Birth</b>	2004-05-07
Wollerau, Switzerland	<b>Residence</b>	Dallas, TX, USA
Right-handed (two-handed backhand)	<b>Plays</b>	Right-Handed
5' 9" (1.75m)	<b>Height</b>	6'1" (1.85m)
4	<b>Career-High Ranking</b>	50
\$12,853,140	<b>Career Prize Money</b>	\$1,857,353
\$777,970	<b>Season Prize Money</b>	\$219,860
0 / 8	<b>Singles Titles YTD / Career</b>	0 / 1
60-34 (Semi-Finalist: 2019 US OPEN)	<b>Grand Slam W-L (best)</b>	2-8 (Round of 32: 2024 US OPEN)
4-0 / 8-0 (Champion: 2023)	<b>YTD / Career ABU DHABI W-L (best)</b>	4-0 / 5-1 (Runner-Up: 2025)
10-4 / 264-168	<b>YTD / Career W-L</b>	9-3 / 32-40
Runner-Up: ABU DHABI	<b>YTD Best Result</b>	Runner-Up: ABU DHABI



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**ASHLYN KRUEGER**

## HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

YEAR	TOURNAMENT	SURFACE	ROUND	WINNER	SCORE/ RESULT	TIME
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First career meeting

## RANKING HISTORY

TOP RANK	YEAR-END	YEAR	TOP RANK	YEAR-END
17	913	2024	51	65
9	17	2023	73	81
11	12	2022	178	178
9	23	2021	534	536
4	12	2020	-	-
7	8	2019	-	-
37	37	2018	-	-
42	165	2017	-	-
7	43	2016	-	-
12	14	2015	-	-



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BENCIC [WC]**

**ASHLYN  
KRUEGER**

## TOURNAMENT HISTORY

### CURRENT TOURNAMENT

1r: d. R. SRAMKOVA (#44) 6-2 3-6 6-1 (2h 2m)  
2r: d. V. KUDERMETOVA (#52) 6-0 6-0 (1h 4m)  
QF: d. M. VONDROUSOVA (#37) 7-5 6-3 (1h 44m)  
SF: d. E. RYBAKINA (#5) 3-6 6-3 6-4 (2h 6m)

*Total time on court: 6h 56m*

### PLAYER NOTES

- Making her 2nd appearance at ABU DHABI, where she is a former champion, lifting the title in 2023 (d. Samsonova)
- Has beaten Rebecca Sramkova, Veronika Kudermetova, Marketa Vondrousova and Elena Rybakina so far this week to reach her first final since R-UP finish at CHARLESTON 2023
- Faces No.51 Ashlyn Krueger in F today - owns 35-22 career record against players from United States of America, with record in 2025 standing at 0-1 (L. Gauff at Australian Open)
- Record in WTA F matches stands at 8-11
- Best career result on HARD Courts is Champion which she has reached 6 times: ABU DHABI, ADELAIDE #2 in 2023; OLYMPICS in 2021; MOSCOW, DUBAI in 2019; TORONTO in 2015
- This is the first time a WC has reached the Abu Dhabi final
- Is currently ranked No.157; this time last year was ranked No.22. Spent time away from the Tour on maternity leave and gave birth to daughter Bella in April 2024
- Is currently on a 4-match winning streak; longest winning streak of her career was 11 matches in 2019
- Has won 8 matches so far in 2025; she is ranked No.6 on tour for match wins, behind Clara Tauson, Ashlyn Krueger, Elise Mertens

### CURRENT TOURNAMENT

1r: d. M. KESSLER (#57) 6-3 6-7 6-3 (2h 18m)  
2r: d. D. KASATKINA (#11) 1-6 7-5 6-4 (2h 20m)  
QF: d. L. FERNANDEZ (#27) 7-5 4-6 6-2 (2h 24m)  
SF: d. L. NOSKOVA (#39) 7-6 6-4 (1h 42m)

*Total time on court: 8h 44m*

### PLAYER NOTES

- Making her 2nd appearance at ABU DHABI, where her previous result was reaching 2r in 2024 (L. Kasatkina)
- Has beaten McCartney Kessler, Daria Kasatkina, Leylah Fernandez and Linda Noskova so far this week to reach her first WTA 500 final, and second final of career after winning WTA 250 OSAKA in 2023
- Faces No.157 Belinda Bencic in F today - owns 1-1 career record against players from Switzerland
- Owns 1-5 career record against WILDCARDS, with a record in 2025 standing at 0-1 (L. Tomljanovic at Australian Open)
- This is the first time a US player has made the Abu Dhabi final
- Is currently ranked No.51; this time last year was ranked No.82
- Is currently on a 4-match winning streak; longest winning streak of her career was 6 matches in 2023
- Has won 9 matches so far in 2025; she is ranked No.3 on tour for match wins, behind Madison Keys, Aryna Sabalenka, Clara Tauson



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BENCIC [WC]**

**ASHLYN  
KRUEGER**

## RECENT TOURNAMENT HISTORY

2023	Result	Rank: 9	Seed: 2
F	W	L. SAMSONOVA (#19) 1-6 7-6(8) 6-4	
SF	W	B. HADDAD MAIA (#14) 6-2 6-3	
QF	W	S. ROGERS (#46) 7-6(5) 6-2	
2r	W	M. KOSTYUK (#57) 6-4 7-5	

2024	Result	Rank: 82	Seed: -
2r	L	D. KASATKINA (#14) 6-3 7-5	
1r	W	B. PERA (#89) 6-2 5-7 6-3	



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## SEASON 2025 HISTORY

- Reached 4r at Australian Open (l. Gauff)
- Played 2r at Adelaide (as qualifier, l. Samsonova)
- Opened 2025 representing Switzerland at United Cup with a 1-1 result in singles play (l. Paolini)

- Reached 2r at Abu Dhabi (l. Kasatkina)
- Played 1r at Australian Open (l. Tomljanovic)
- Opened 2025 with QF finish at Brisbane (l. eventual R-Up P.Kudermetova) and another QF at Adelaide (as LL, l. eventual R-Up Pegula via ret.)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
18	56	<b>Aces</b>	57	3
63.2%	54	<b>First serve %</b>	64.2%	45
66.8%	34	<b>First Serve points won %</b>	67.8%	27
46.4%	50	<b>Second serve points won %</b>	46.4%	49
59.3%	30	<b>Overall service points won %</b>	60.1%	23
69.8%	35	<b>Service games won %</b>	73.2%	22
52.1%	74	<b>Break points saved %</b>	52.9%	68
35.7%	65	<b>First serve return points won %</b>	36.5%	52
63.3%	3	<b>Second serve return points won %</b>	55.1%	53
46.4%	45	<b>Break points converted %</b>	49.5%	24
42.9%	10	<b>Return games won %</b>	35.4%	43
47.3%	8	<b>Return points won %</b>	43.3%	49



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## TITLES & GRAND SLAMS

### SINGLES FINALS

Champion (8)  
 2023 - ABU DHABI, ADELAIDE #2  
 2022 - CHARLESTON  
 2021 - OLYMPICS  
 2019 - MOSCOW, DUBAI  
 2015 - TORONTO, EASTBOURNE  
 Runner-Up (10)  
 2023 - CHARLESTON  
 2022 - BERLIN  
 2021 - BERLIN, ADELAIDE 500  
 2019 - MALLORCA  
 2018 - LUXEMBOURG  
 2016 - ST. PETERSBURG  
 2015 - TOKYO, 'S-HERTOGENBOSCH  
 2014 - TIANJIN

### DOUBLES FINALS

Champion (2)  
 2015 - WASHINGTON DC (w/Mladenovic), PRAGUE (w/Siniakova)  
 Runner-Up (1)  
 2021 - OLYMPICS (w/Golubic)

### SINGLES FINALS

Champion (1)  
 2023 - OSAKA

### DOUBLES FINALS

Champion (1)  
 2024 - CHARLESTON (w/Stephens)

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
4r				<b>2025</b>	1r			
				<b>2024</b>	1r	1r	1r	3r
4r	1r	4r	4r	<b>2023</b>				1r
2r	3r	1r	3r	<b>2022</b>				1r
3r	2r	1r	QF	<b>2021</b>				1r
3r				<b>2020</b>				
3r	3r	3r	SF	<b>2019</b>				
2r	2r	4r	1r	<b>2018</b>				
1r				<b>2017</b>				
4r		2r	3r	<b>2016</b>				
1r	2r	4r	3r	<b>2015</b>				
2r	1r	3r	QF	<b>2014</b>				



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## CAREER MILESTONES

- After giving birth to daughter Bella, returned to the courts in October 2024 to play a handful of ITF matches, as well as winning her Billie Jean King Cup Playoff match for Switzerland over Serbia's Lola Radivojevic in November
- Played last tournament of 2023 at San Diego before taking maternity leave
- In 2023, won two titles at Adelaide 2 (d. Kasatkina in F) and Abu Dhabi (d. Samsonova in F); also finished R-Up at Charleston (l. Jabeur)
- Won sixth career title in 2022, triumphing at Charleston, while finishing R-Up at Berlin (l. Jabeur) and helped Switzerland lift Billie Jean King Cup Finals in Glasgow; also reached SF at Miami (l. Osaka) and Tallinn (l. Krejckikova) Captured gold medal for Switzerland at Tokyo Olympics in 2021 (d. Vondrousova in F); also claimed silver in doubles (w/Golubic)
- Other 2021 highlights included R-Up finish at Adelaide (l. Swiatek) and Berlin (l. Samsonova), and six further QFs (including US Open)
- Across a disrupted 2020 reached three QFs, at Adelaide, St. Petersburg and Doha
- Was voted WTA Comeback Player of the Year in 2019 - lifted two titles at Dubai (d. Kvitova in F) and Moscow (d. Pavlyuchenkova in F) and posted a career-best 49 Tour-level match wins in 2019 fourth most among all players and breaking back into Top 10 on September 9
- Earned spot at WTA Finals in Shenzhen becoming first Swiss player to compete in singles at the WTA Finals since Hingis in 2006, going on to reach SF at the season-ending showpiece (l. Svitolina)
- Also in 2019, marked 20th Grand Slam main draw by reaching her maiden major SF at US Open (l. eventual champion Andreescu) and finished R-Up at Mallorca (l. Kenin)
- Led the WTA with six victories over Top 5 players in 2019, including upsets over No.1 Naomi Osaka at Indian Wells, Madrid and US Open
- Standout result in 2018 was R-Up finish at Luxembourg (as qualifier, l. Goerges)
- In first round at 2018 Australian Open, defeated No.5 Venus Williams. Having also upset then-No.1 Serena Williams in SF at 2015 Toronto is one of seven women to defeat both Williams sisters before their 21st birthday (also Hingis, Sharapova, Clijsters, Henin, Chakvetadze and Osaka)
- Underwent left wrist surgery in spring 2017, missing five months - ranking fell outside Top
- In 2024 made main draw at all four majors for the first time, posting her best career Slam result at US Open with 3r (l. Samsonova). Further notable results were reaching 3r at WTA 1000s Madrid, Toronto and Beijing and peaking at a career high of No.51 in September. Also claimed first career doubles title at WTA 500 Charleston with Sloane Stephens.
- In 2023, captured first career singles title in Osaka; did not drop a set en route to the title, defeating World No.35 and top seed Zhu Lin in the final. As a result of the title run, made Top 100 debut (week of September 18, 2023).
- Also reached tour level QF at 2023 S'Hertogenbosch (l. Hrucakova).
- Highlight of 2022 season was playing main draw Indian Wells, Miami, San Jose and US Open
- On ITF circuit in 2022, won title at W60 Evansville, IN, USA and reached final at W25 Sarasota, FL, USA
- In 2021, also received WC to Indian Wells, where she was defeated in 1r (l. Martincova)
- Fell 1r on Tour-level debut at 2021 US Open (as WC, l. Schmiedlova in 3s)
- Also made 2r as WC in doubles at 2021 US Open (w/Montgomery, l. Fernandez/Routliffe) WTA qualifying debut came at 2021 San Jose
- Earned wild cards into the singles and doubles draws at 2021 US Open after sweeping the USTA National Championships
- Best career result on ITF Circuit was coming through qualifying to reach SF on professional debut in 2019 at W15 event in Carson, CA, USA
- As a junior won 2020 Orange Bowl tournament as a wildcard. Also lifted girls' doubles title at 2021 US Open (w/Montgomery)



- 300; reached QF at Linz as WC in first WTA event back after surgery
- Run to 2016 St. Petersburg final (l. Vinci in F) saw her break into Top 10 at No.9 for the first time in her career. Also in 2016, reached SF at Sydney and 's-Hertogenbosch.
- Won first career titles in 2015 at Eastbourne (d. Radwanska in F) and Toronto (d. Halep in F); also reached final at 's-Hertogenbosch (l. Giorgi) and Tokyo (l. Radwanska)
- At Toronto, beat four Top 10 players en route to the title including World No.1 Serena Williams
- Qualified for 2015 WTA Elite Trophy in Zhuhai however withdrew due to hand injury
- Won second WTA doubles title of career in 2015 at Washington, DC (w/Mladenovic), the first coming earlier in the year at Prague(w/Siniakova)
- Voted 2014 WTA Newcomer of the Year after a campaign highlighted by R-Up finish at Tianjin (l. Riske), SF at Charleston and QF run at 2014 US Open (defeated No.7 Kerber in 3r, No.10 Jankovic in R16); at 17 years of age, was youngest player through to last eight at Flushing Meadows since 1997 when Hingis won the title and broke into Top 50 on Sept 8, 2014
- Won junior singles titles at Roland Garros and Wimbledon in 2013; was named ITF Junior World Champion for 2013
- Played first WTA qualifying event at Luxembourg in October 2011, and first WTA main draw 12 months later at same event as WC (l. V.Williams, 1r); only 15 years, 7 months at the time
- Also in 2022, played qualifying at Brussels and 's-Hertogenbosch
- Made professional debut on ITF circuit in 2011; owns five career ITF titles

## OTHER INFORMATION

- Coached by Iain Hughes
- Father, Ivan, sometimes serves as her tennis coach, and Martin Hromkovic as her fitness coach. Mother is Dana; younger brother is Brian who also plays and coaches tennis; father emigrated to Switzerland from then-Czechoslovakia in 1968
- Started playing at Melanie Molitor's (mother of Martina Hingis) tennis school at age 3 until age 19 (started daily training with her from age 6 for eight years)
- Also visit the Nick Bollettieri and Evert Tennis Academy as a Junior
- Enjoys watching movies, reading, playing with dogs, baking, painting, and seeing friends
- Currently coached by Michael Joyce
- Resides in Dallas, Texas
- Favorite players growing up were Kim Clijsters and Maria Sharapova
- Off the court, likes to draw and read poetry