



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DUBAI, UAE



February 15-21, 2026 | WTA 1000 | \$4,088,211

WTA Information: www.wtatennis.com | @WTA | facebook.com/WTA
Tournament Information: www.dubaidutyfreetennischampionships.com | @DDFTennis | facebook.com/ddftennis
WTA Media Information: wtastats@wtatennis.com

DAY 1 – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

[10] Linda Noskova (CZE #12) vs. Ann Li (USA #41)

First meeting

Noskova:

- Making 2nd appearance at Dubai, where her previous result was reaching quarterfinals in 2025 (l. eventual runner-up Tauson)
- Owns 35 Tour-level wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.30 Maya Joint at Doha last week
- Since the start of the 2025 season, holds a 7-4 record in opening matches at WTA 1000 events
- Sole career WTA singles title came on hard court at Monterrey in 2024 (d. Lulu Sun in final)
- Contesting her 23rd career WTA 1000 main draw; her best WTA 1000 result is runner-up at 2025 Beijing (l. Anisimova in final)

Li:

- Making her first main draw appearance at Dubai (lost in qualifying in 2022 and 2025)
- Owns 4 wins in career over Top 20 players, most recently No.19 Belinda Bencic at US Open 2025
- Could claim a Top 20 win at a WTA 1000 event for the second time; she previously defeated No.7 Anett Kontaveit at WTA 1000 Miami in 2022
- Both of her two career WTA singles titles came on hard court, at Guangzhou in 2025 and Tenerife in 2021
- Last week, posted her career-best WTA 1000 finish by making Round of 16 at Doha (l. Cocciaretto)

[LL] Peyton Stearns (USA #55) vs. Zheng Qinwen (CHN #26)

Stearns leads 1-0

Stearns:

- Making 3rd appearance at Dubai, where her previous and best result was reaching the Round of 16 in 2025 (l. eventual champion M. Andreeva)
- Defeated today's opponent Zheng in the 2nd round here last year, which was her first career Top 10 win
- Owns 19 Tour-level wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.30 Sofia Kenin at Australian Open 2026
- Career-best Tour-level results on hard court are quarterfinals at 2024 Cleveland, 2024 Toronto and 2023 Austin
- Contesting her 24th career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 result is semifinals at 2025 Rome (l. eventual champion Paolini)

Zheng:

- Making 4th appearance at Dubai, where her best result was reaching quarterfinals in 2024 (l. Swiatek)
- Contesting her 29th career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 result is runner-up at 2024 Wuhan (l. Sabalenka in final)
- Reached Round of 16 last week at Doha in return from injury (l. Rybakina) – that was her first tournament since WTA 1000 Beijing in September 2025
- Only player from China in this week's main draw
- Winner of this match will face Sofia Kenin or last year's runner-up, No.12 seed Clara Tauson



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[13] Liudmila Samsonova (#17) vs. Leylah Fernandez (CAN #27)

Samsonova leads 2-1

Samsonova:

- Making 4th main draw appearance at Dubai; her best tournament results are Round of 16 in 2023 (l. eventual runner-up Swiatek) and 2024 (l. Vondrousova)
- Contesting her 40th career WTA 1000 main draw; she is a 2-time WTA 1000 runner-up at 2023 Montreal (l. Pegula in final) and 2023 Beijing (l. Swiatek in final) – both of her WTA 1000 finals were on hard court
- 3 of her 5 WTA singles titles have come on hard court, all in 2022, at Washington DC, Cleveland and Tokyo
- Her best results so far this year are QF finishes at Brisbane (l. Pegula) and Abu Dhabi (l. Baptiste)
- Her most recent meeting vs. a Canadian is a win over Andreescu in the 2024 's-Hertogenbosch final

Fernandez:

- Making 4th appearance at Dubai; her best tournament results are 2nd round in 2023 (l. eventual runner-up Swiatek) and 2024 (l. eventual champion Paolini)
- Contesting her 41st career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 results are 3 quarterfinals (2023 Guadalajara, 2024 Doha and 2024 Cincinnati)
- Owns 19 Tour-level wins in career over Top 20 players, most recently No.4 Jessica Pegula and No.12 Elena Rybakina en route to 2025 Washington DC title
- All of her 5 WTA singles titles have come on hard court, including 2 last year at Washington DC and Osaka
- Seeking her 2nd match-win of 2026; her one win so far this year came over lucky loser Paquet in Abu Dhabi 1r

[LL] Hailey Baptiste (USA #39) vs. Alexandra Eala (PHI #40)

Eala leads 1-0

Baptiste:

- Making her first appearance at this tournament, having entered this year's main draw as a lucky loser
- Contesting her 19th career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 showings are Round of 16 at 2023 Guadalajara and 2024 Wuhan
- Owns 12 Tour-level wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.17 Emma Navarro and No.18 Liudmila Samsonova during her semifinal run at 2026 Abu Dhabi
- Her semifinal showing at Abu Dhabi earlier this month was her first career WTA Tour semifinal (l. eventual runner-up Alexandrova)
- Best result by a lucky loser at this tournament is the quarterfinal run by Jil Teichmann in 2022 (l. eventual runner-up V. Kudrmetova)

Eala:

- Making her first appearance at this tournament
- Contesting her 11th career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 result is semifinals at 2025 Miami as a wild card ranked No.140 (l. eventual runner-up Pegula)
- Owns 7 career wins over Top 50 players; seeking her first Top 50 win of this year (0-2 vs. Top 50 players in 2026)
- Is currently ranked a career-high No.40 (first player from Philippines to reach Top 100 of WTA Rankings); this time last year was ranked No.139
- At 2025 Eastbourne, Eala defeated today's opponent Baptiste in qualifying en route to her first career WTA Tour singles final (l. Joint in final)



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[WC] Zeynep Sonmez (TUR #85) vs. [WC] Sara Bejlek (CZE #38)

Sonmez leads 1-0

Sonmez:

- Making her first main draw appearance at Dubai; previously fell in qualifying in 2024 (l. Cocciaretto)
- Contesting her 6th career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 result is 3rd round at 2025 Beijing (l. Potapova)
- Career-best result on hard court is her one WTA singles title at 2024 Merida (d. Li in final)
- Owns 6 Tour-level wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.11 Ekaterina Alexandrova at 2026 Australian Open
- Made 3rd round run as a qualifier at 2026 Australian Open; that is the second time she has reached a Grand Slam 3rd round in her career (she is the first Turkish woman in the Open Era to go that far in a Grand Slam)

Bejlek:

- Making her first tournament appearance
- Contesting only her 2nd career WTA 1000 main draw; in her previous WTA 1000 main draw appearance, she made Round of 16 as a qualifier ranked No.136 at 2024 Madrid (l. Rybakina)
- Earlier this month, won her first career WTA Tour title at Abu Dhabi as a qualifier (d. Alexandrova in final)
- Her ranking jumped from No.101 to a career-high No.38 after 2026 Abu Dhabi; this time last year she was ranked No.143
- Holds a 3-1 record this year in Tour-level matches vs. players ranked outside the Top 50



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12

**LINDA
NOSKOVA (10)**
CZECH REPUBLIC

**ANN
LI 41**

UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

2004-11-17	Date of Birth	2000-06-26
Prerov, Czech Republic	Residence	Atlanta, Georgia, USA
Right-handed (two-handed backhand)	Plays	Right-Handed
5' 10" (1.79m)	Height	5' 7" (1.70m)
12	Career-High Ranking	33
\$4,812,258	Career Prize Money	\$3,252,513
\$251,639	Season Prize Money	\$176,117
0 / 1	Singles Titles YTD / Career	0 / 2
15-14 (Quarter-Finalist: 2024 AUSTRALIAN OPEN)	Grand Slam W-L (best)	13-16 (Round of 16: 2025 US OPEN)
0-0 / 3-1 (Quarter-Finalist: 2025)	YTD / Career DUBAI W-L (best)	0-0 / 0-0
4-3 / 94-65	YTD / Career W-L	4-4 / 76-67



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LINDA
NOSKOVA

ANN
LI

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
12	-	2026	37	-
13	13	2025	33	38
25	26	2024	93	99
40	41	2023	129	174
87	91	2022	44	140
315	317	2021	47	47
1019	1027	2020	97	97
-	-	2019	146	148
-	-	2018	290	310
-	-	2017	583	583



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TOURNAMENT HISTORY

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making second appearance at Dubai, where her previous result was reaching QF in 2025 (l. eventual finalist Tauson)
- Contesting her 23rd career WTA 1000 main draw; her best WTA 1000 result is R-Up at 2025 Beijing (l. Anisimova in F)
- Faces No.41 Ann Li in 1r today; owns 35 wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.30 Maya Joint at 2026 Doha
- Since the start of 2025 season, holds 7-4 record in opening matches at WTA 1000 events
- Owns 14-8 career Tour-level record against players from United States of America, with record in 2026 standing at 0-0
- Sole career WTA singles title came on hard court at Monterrey in 2024 (d. Sun in F)
- One of 6 players from Czech Republic in starting field
- Best result by Czech Republic at Dubai was Champion run by Barbora Krejckova in 2023 & Petra Kvitova in 2013
- Is currently ranked at a career high of No.12 (reached January 2026); this time last year was ranked No.35
- Top WTA Tour result so far this season is R16 at Brisbane (l. M.Andreeva)
- Winner of this match to face Sorana Cirstea or qualifier Aliaksandra Sasnovich in 2r

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making first main draw appearance at Dubai
- Contesting her 19th career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 result is R16 last week at Doha (l. Cocciaretto)
- Faces No.12 Linda Noskova in 1r today; owns 4 wins in career over Top 20 players, most recently No.19 Belinda Bencic at US Open 2025
- Could claim her second career WTA Top 20 win at a WTA 1000 event, having defeated No.7 Anett Kontaveit at 2022 Miami
- Owns 0-5 career Tour-level record against players from Czech Republic, with record in 2026 standing at 0-0
- Owns 13-29 career record against seeds, with a record in 2026 standing at 0-0
- Both of her 2 career WTA singles titles came on hard court at Guangzhou in 2025 & Tenerife in 2021
- One of 9 players from United States of America in main draw
- Best result by United States of America at Dubai was Champion run by Venus Williams in 2014, 2010, 2009 & Lindsay Davenport in 2005
- Is currently ranked No.41; this time last year was ranked No.64. Reached career high ranking of No.33 in October 2025
- Top WTA Tour results so far this season are R16 at Hobart (l. Cocciaretto) and Doha (l. Cocciaretto)
- Winner of this match to face Sorana Cirstea or qualifier Aliaksandra Sasnovich in 2r



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RECENT TOURNAMENT HISTORY

2025	Result	Rank: 35	Seed: -
QF	L	C. TAUSON (#38)	7-6(4) 6-4
3r	W	J. PEGULA (#5)	6-3 7-6(8)
2r	W	D. SHNAIDER (#13)	7-6(8) 4-6 6-3
1r	W	Y. PUTINTSEVA (#23)	6-2 7-6(5)

- Making her tournament debut in Main Draw Singles



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SEASON 2026 HISTORY

- Made 2r at Doha (L. Gracheva)
- Reached 3r at Australian Open (L. X.Wang)
- Opened season at Brisbane reaching 2r (L. M.Andreeva)

- Made 3r at Doha (L. Cocciaretto)
- Played 2r at Australian Open (L. Linette)
- Made 2r at Hobart (L. eventual champion Cocciaretto)
- Played 1r at Brisbane (L. Gadecki)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
53	6	Aces	31	25
56.6%	113	First serve %	57.8%	103
71.8%	12	First Serve points won %	69.1%	21
48.6%	30	Second serve points won %	44.1%	63
61.7%	20	Overall service points won %	58.6%	40
77.9%	9	Service games won %	69.9%	37
64.2%	10	Break points saved %	50.8%	81
33.4%	88	First serve return points won %	36.0%	59
55.7%	56	Second serve return points won %	54.7%	64
50.0%	36	Break points converted %	44.9%	68
33.3%	64	Return games won %	34.3%	61
41.9%	77	Return points won %	42.6%	68



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TITLES & GRAND SLAMS

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (1)

2024 - MONTERREY

Runner-Up (5)

2025 - TOKYO, BEIJING, PRAGUE

2023 - PRAGUE, ADELAIDE #1

DOUBLES FINALS

Runner-Up (2)

2025 - ROUEN (w/Khromacheva)

2024 - ABU DHABI (w/Watson)

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (2)

2025 - GUANGZHOU

2021 - TENERIFE

Runner-Up (4)

2025 - CLEVELAND, SINGAPORE

2024 - MÉRIDA

2021 - MELBOURNE 500 GRAMPIANS TROPHY

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
3r				2026	2r			
1r	1r	4r	3r	2025	1r	2r	2r	4r
QF	2r	2r	1r	2024				1r
	2r	1r	2r	2023				
	1r		1r	2022	1r	1r	2r	1r
				2021	3r	2r	1r	1r
				2020	2r			3r



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NOSKOVA

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CAREER MILESTONES

- Reached three Tour finals in 2025, including her first career WTA 1000 final at Beijing (l. Anisimova), as well as runner-up showings at Prague and Tokyo; made her Top 20 debut and finished at a career-high No.13 in the year-end rankings
 - In 2024, achieved first Grand Slam singles quarterfinal at the Australian Open (l. Yastremska), where she also defeated then-World No.1 Iga Swiatek in the 3r; won her first singles title at Monterrey (d. Sun in F); reached SF at Prague (l. eventual champion Linette) and Brisbane (l. eventual champion Rybakina); earned a new career-high ranking of No.25 on August 26, 2024
 - Breakthrough year in 2023, achieving runner-up twice; Adelaide 1 (as qualifier, l. Sabalenka) and Prague (l. Hibino). Also reached quarterfinals at Lyon (l. Osorio) and 3r at Indian Wells (l. Gauff) and Cincinnati (as qualifier, l. Gauff). Broke into Top 40 on October 9, 2023.
 - Made Top 100 debut on August 1, 2022, following SF run at Prague (l. eventual champion Bouzkova); overtook Gauff at the youngest player in Top 100
 - Also reached 2r at Tallinn (as qualifier, l. Haddad Maia) and fell 1r at both Roland Garros (as qualifier, l. Raducanu) and US Open (as qualifier, l. Bouzkova). On ITF Circuit, lifted fifth and sixth titles at this level, winning W60 tournament in Croissy-Beaubourg, France and W100 event in Versmold, Germany
 - Finished 2021 campaign with 38-9 win-loss record, winning four ITF Circuit titles, including at W60 event in Prerov, Czech Republic
 - Made WTA qualifying debut at 2020 Prague
 - On ITF Circuit, owns six titles in singles and one in doubles
 - As a junior, won 2021 girls' singles at Roland Garros
 - Won second career title in 2025 at Guangzhou (after Tenerife 2021) and reached further finals at Singapore (l. Mertens in F) and Cleveland (l. Cirstea in F). Made 4r at a Grand Slam for the first time at US Open (l. Pegula) and reached a peak ranking of No.33 in October before finishing the 2025 season ranked inside the Top 40 for the first time (No.38)
 - Ended 2024 with her strongest result of the year at Merida with R-Up run taking her ranking back into the Top 100 for the first time since 2022. Through the season also made QF at Palermo and at WTA 125s, lifted the title at Valencia and reached the final at Bastad
 - Reached four Tour-level main draws in 2023; 1r at Austin (as qualifier, l. Blinkova), 1r at Indian Wells (l. Blinkova), Cincinnati (as qualifier, l. Sabalenka) and Guadalajara (as qualifier, l. Stephens). Also reached QF at WTA 125 Valencia on clay (l. Sheriff) and R-Up at ITF \$100K Bonita Springs
- Her second semifinal appearance of 2022 came at Midland WTA 125 (l. Friedsam)
- Advanced to second round at Doha WTA 500 (l. Sakkari) and reached WTA 1000 Miami 3r (l. Riske-Amritraj)
 - In 2022 reached Melbourne 2 (WTA 250) semifinal (l. Sasnovich)
 - Ended 2021 season in fine form, winning first WTA title at Tenerife (d. Osorio in F) and making QF at Courmayeur (l. Tauson)
 - Opened 2021 campaign by reaching maiden WTA final, at Grampains Trophy (final vs. Kontaveit was not played)
 - Ended 2020 season with career-high ranking of No.97 (November 9, 2020) and first-ever Top 100 finish
 - Best result in 2020 was 3r run at US Open (d. No.20 Riske in 2r, l. Kerber)
 - Advanced to 2r on Grand Slam debut at 2020 Australian Open (as qualifier, l. eventual champion Kenin)
 - Fell in 1r on WTA main draw debut at 2020 Auckland (as qualifier, l. McHale)
 - Also captured third career ITF singles title at 80K ITF/Tyler-TX, USA (d. Kostyuk in F)
 - Owns three ITF singles titles
 - Made professional debut on ITF Circuit in US in 2016
 - Was R-Up in girls' singles at 2017 Wimbledon (l. Liu)

OTHER INFORMATION

- Currently coached by Tomas Krupa
- Mother's name is Ivana Noskova; Father's name is Drahos Nosek
- Like listening to Maneskin, Lil Nas X, Lizzo
- Enjoys watching Wrestling and streaming Netflix
- Also likes to swim, run, and spend time with pets
- Favorite player is Serena Williams

- Previously coached by Henner Nehles. Lives and trains in Atlanta; formerly trained at USTA in Orlando
- Idolizes Roger Federer. Favorite surface to compete on is grass
- Hobbies include listening to music, watching movies, and reading



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1
WIN

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1
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PLAYED



55

**PEYTON
STEARNS [LL]**
UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

**QINWEN
ZHENG**
CHINA

26

2001-10-08	Date of Birth	2002-10-08
	Residence	Barcelona, Spain
Right-Handed	Plays	Right-handed (two-handed backhand)
5' 8" (1.73m)	Height	5' 10" (1.78m)
28	Career-High Ranking	4
\$3,513,474	Career Prize Money	\$9,924,752
\$249,323	Season Prize Money	\$0
0 / 1	Singles Titles YTD / Career	0 / 5
12-13 (Round of 16: 2023 US OPEN)	Grand Slam W-L (best)	31-15 (Runner-Up: 2024 AUSTRALIAN OPEN)
0-0 / 3-2 (Round of 16: 2025)	YTD / Career DUBAI W-L (best)	0-0 / 3-2 (Quarter-Finalist: 2024)
3-4 / 57-62	YTD / Career W-L	2-1 / 130-70



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**PEYTON
STEARNS [LL]**

**QINWEN
ZHENG**

HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

YEAR	TOURNAMENT	SURFACE	ROUND	WINNER	SCORE/ RESULT	TIME
2025	DUBAI	HARD	2r	Peyton Stearns	3-6 6-4 6-4	2h 35m

RANKING HISTORY

TOP RANK	YEAR-END	YEAR	TOP RANK	YEAR-END
50	-	2026	24	-
28	63	2025	4	24
46	48	2024	5	5
43	53	2023	15	15
209	209	2022	25	25
347	392	2021	143	143
473	478	2020	324	324
520	520	2019	633	649
885	887	2018	933	933



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**PEYTON
STEARNS [LL]**

**QINWEN
ZHENG**

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

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PLAYER NOTES

- Making third appearance at Dubai, where her previous and best result was reaching 3r in 2025 (l. eventual champion M.Andreeva)
- Contesting her 24th career WTA 1000 main draw; career-best WTA 1000 result is SF at 2025 Rome (l. eventual champion Paolini)
- Faces No.26 Qinwen Zheng in 1r today; owns 19 wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.30 Sofia Kenin at Australian Open 2026
- Owns 4-1 career record against players from China, with record in 2026 standing at 0-0
- Best career Tour-level result on hard court is Quarter-Finalist which she has reached 3 times: Cleveland, Toronto in 2024; Austin in 2023
- One of 9 players from United States of America in main draw
- Best result by United States of America at Dubai was Champion run by Venus Williams in 2014, 2010, 2009 & Lindsay Davenport in 2005
- Best result by a lucky loser at this tournament is QF run by Jil Teichmann in 2022 (l. eventual R-Up V.Kudermetova)
- Is currently ranked No.55; this time last year was ranked No.46. Reached career high ranking of No.28 in May 2025
- Top WTA result so far this season is reaching 3r at Australian Open (l. Anisimova) and R16 at Hobart (l. Danilovic)

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making 4th appearance at Dubai, where her best result was reaching QF in 2024 (l. Swiatek)
- Contesting her 29th career WTA 1000 main draw; career-best WTA 1000 result is R-Up at 2024 Wuhan (l. Sabalenka in F)
- Faces No.55 Peyton Stearns in 1r today; Zheng lost their only prior meeting in last year's 2r at Dubai
- Owns 18-9 career record against players from United States of America, with record in 2026 standing at 2-0 (d. Parks and Kenin at Doha)
- Best career result on hard court is Champion at Tokyo in 2024 & Zhenzghou in 2023
- Only player from China in main draw
- Best result by China at Dubai was Quarter-Finalist run by Qinwen Zheng in 2024, Qiang Wang in 2017, Na Li in 2010
- Is currently ranked No.26; this time last year was ranked No.8. Reached career-high ranking of No.4 in June 2025
- Top WTA result so far this season is R16 run at Doha (l. Rybakina) in first tournament back following six month break due to injury
- Winner of today's match will face Sofia Kenin or No.12 seed Clara Tauson



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**PEYTON
STEARNS [LL]**

**QINWEN
ZHENG**

RECENT TOURNAMENT HISTORY

2025	Result	Rank: 46	Seed: -
3r	L	M. ANDREEVA (#14)	6-1 6-1
2r	W	Q. ZHENG (#8)	3-6 6-4 6-4
1r	W	O. JABEUR (#32)	7-6(6) 6-4

2024	Result	Rank: 65	Seed: -
2r	L	M. VONDROUSOVA (#8)	6-1 5-7 6-2
1r	W	M. ANDREEVA (#38)	6-2 2-6 6-1

2025	Result	Rank: 8	Seed: 7
2r	L	P. STEARNS (#46)	3-6 6-4 6-4

2024	Result	Rank: 7	Seed: 6
QF	L	I. SWIATEK (#1)	6-3 6-2
3r	W	A. POTAPOVA (#35)	6-3 6-2
2r	W	N. HIBINO (#90)	5-7 6-2 6-2

2023	Result	Rank: 24	Seed: -
1r	W	S. ZHANG (#22)	6-3 6-1



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**PEYTON
STEARNS [LL]**

**QINWEN
ZHENG**

SEASON 2026 HISTORY

- Played 1r at Doha (as WC, l. Zvonareva)
- Reached 3r at Australian Open (l. Anisimova)
- Made 2r at Hobart (l. Danilovic)
- Played 1r at Auckland (l. Quevedo)

- Made 3r at Doha (l. Rybakina)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
44	12	Aces	34	18
57.8%	104	First serve %	60.3%	83
70.6%	17	First Serve points won %	73.0%	9
39.3%	97	Second serve points won %	49.6%	24
57.4%	50	Overall service points won %	63.7%	6
64.9%	59	Service games won %	81.4%	5
49.0%	90	Break points saved %	74.2%	1
28.8%	111	First serve return points won %	30.7%	106
56.5%	45	Second serve return points won %	52.9%	75
43.5%	75	Break points converted %	52.9%	21
27.4%	90	Return games won %	22.0%	105
39.3%	96	Return points won %	38.8%	100



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
DUBAI, UAE

2026-02-15 - 2026-02-21 | \$ 4,088,211

**PEYTON
STEARNS [LL]**

**QINWEN
ZHENG**

TITLES & GRAND SLAMS

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (1)
2024 - RABAT
Runner-Up (1)
2023 - BOGOTA

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (5)
2024 - TOKYO, OLYMPICS, PALERMO
2023 - ZHENGZHOU, PALERMO

Runner-Up (5)
2024 - WTA FINALS, WUHAN, AUSTRALIAN OPEN
2023 - ZHUHAI
2022 - TOKYO

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
3r				2026				
1r	1r	1r	2r	2025	2r	QF	1r	
1r	3r	1r	3r	2024	RUP	3r	1r	QF
	3r	1r	4r	2023	2r	2r	1r	QF
			1r	2022	2r	4r	3r	3r



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
DUBAI, UAE

2026-02-15 - 2026-02-21 | \$ 4,088,211

**PEYTON
STEARNS [LL]**

**QINWEN
ZHENG**

CAREER MILESTONES

- In 2025, made first WTA 1000 SF of career at Rome and hit career-high ranking of No.28 on May 19; earned first Top 10 wins of career over No.8 Zheng Qinwen at Dubai and No.6 Keys at Rome
- Posted first Top 50 season finish in 2024 (No.48), having won maiden title at Rabat (d. Sherif in F). Advanced to QF at Toronto (l. eventual champion Pegula) and Cleveland (l. Siniakova); reached 3r at Roland Garros (l. M.Andreeva) and US Open (l. Vekic)
- In 2023, advanced to first career WTA singles final at Bogota (l. Maria). Reached R16 at her home Slam, US Open (l. Vondrousova). Also reached 3r at Roland Garros (d. former champion Ostapenko in 2r, l. Kasatkina). Broke into Top 50 for first time in September following the US Open
- Finished 2022 season with 33-15 win-loss record (across all levels), reaching three ITF Circuit finals, including W25 titles at Austin and Florence
- Fell 1r on Grand Slam main-draw debut at 2022 US Open (as wild card, l. Alexandrova in 3s)
- Made WTA main draw debut at 2022 Cleveland as wild card (l. Begu in 1r)
- In 2021, contested qualifying at Cincinnati, US Open and Indian Wells
- Played college tennis at the University of Texas at Austin, where she became the first Longhorn to win the NCAA Division I Women's Singles National Championship

- Best results in an injury-affected 2025 season include semifinals at Rome and London and a run to the Roland Garros QF; underwent elbow surgery in July and played only one event after Wimbledon (ret. in Beijing 3r)
- Enjoyed best season of career in 2024, reaching her first Grand Slam final at the Australian Open, winning titles at Tokyo and Palermo, contesting the title match at her home tournament in Wuhan and closing out the season at her first WTA Finals, losing to Gauff in the final

An outstanding 2024 also saw her make her Top 10 and Top 5 debuts in the PIF WTA Rankings and the gold medal placed around her neck at the 2024 Paris Olympics

- Won first two WTA titles in 2023 at Palermo (d. Paolini in F) and Zhengzhou (d. Krejciikova in F); also reached final at WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai (l. Haddad Maia), SF at Abu Dhabi and first career Grand Slam QF at US Open (l. Sabalenka)
- Earned 2023 WTA Most Improved Player of Year, ending the season at No.15 and inside the Top 20 for the first time; she made her Top 20 debut on May 22, 2023
- In 2022, won WTA Newcomer of the Year, reached first WTA final at Tokyo (l. Samsonova) and also made SF at Melbourne Summer Set 1 (as qualifier), QF at Toronto and R16 at Roland Garros. Broke into Top 100 on January 31, and cracked Top 50 after her Roland Garros run
- Scored first Top 20 win over No.19 Simona Halep at 2022 Roland Garros, then earned two Top 10 wins over No.5 Ons Jabeur at Toronto and No.4 Paula Badosa at Tokyo. Also won title at WTA 125 event in Valencia in June 2022
- Reached 2r on WTA main draw debut in 2021 at Palermo (as qualifier, l. Cristian)
- Made WTA qualifying debut in 2019, appearing in qualifying at Miami, Tianjin and Wuhan
- Made ITF debut in 2018; has gone on to amass eight ITF singles titles with 8-0 record in finals

OTHER INFORMATION

- Previously worked with Tom Hill and Eric Hechtman

- Coached by Pere Riba
- Trains in Barcelona

- Started playing tennis aged eight
- Majored in Applied Movement Science at the University of Texas
- Three-time All-American while playing for the University of Texas, helping the Longhorns capture back-to-back NCAA team titles; she became the first player in the program's history to win an NCAA Singles crown
- Favorite surface is hard

- Parents encouraged her to play multiple sports in her childhood, including table tennis
- Tennis idol is Roger Federer



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
DUBAI, UAE

2026-02-15 - 2026-02-21 | \$ 4,088,211



2
WIN

3
MATCHES
PLAYED

1
WIN



17 **LIUDMILA SAMSONOVA (13)**

27 **LEYLAH FERNANDEZ**
CANADA

1998-11-11	Date of Birth	2002-09-06
	Residence	Boynton Beach, Florida, USA
Right-Handed	Plays	Left-Handed (two-handed backhand)
5' 11" (1.82m)	Height	5' 6" (1.68m)
12	Career-High Ranking	13
\$8,155,375	Career Prize Money	\$7,522,950
\$205,391	Season Prize Money	\$164,811
0 / 5	Singles Titles YTD / Career	0 / 5
29-23 (Quarter-Finalist: 2025 WIMBLEDON)	Grand Slam W-L (best)	27-23 (Runner-Up: 2021 US OPEN)
0-0 / 3-3 (Round of 16: 2024, 2023)	YTD / Career DUBAI W-L (best)	0-0 / 2-3 (Round of 32: 2024, 2023)
4-5 / 151-120	YTD / Career W-L	1-5 / 138-110



MATCH NOTES

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DUBAI, UAE

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**LIUDMILA
SAMSONOVA**

**LEYLAH
FERNANDEZ**

HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

YEAR	TOURNAMENT	SURFACE	ROUND	WINNER	SCORE/ RESULT	TIME
2024	STRASBOURG	CLAY	2r	Liudmila Samsonova	4-6 6-4 6-2	2h 26m
2024	DOHA	HARD	1r	Leylah Fernandez	7-5 7-6(4)	2h 10m
2022	US OPEN	HARD	2r	Liudmila Samsonova	6-3 7-6(3)	1h 45m

RANKING HISTORY

TOP RANK	YEAR-END	YEAR	TOP RANK	YEAR-END
17	-	2026	22	-
16	17	2025	22	22
13	27	2024	23	31
12	16	2023	32	35
19	20	2022	13	40
39	39	2021	24	24
114	127	2020	88	88
123	139	2019	209	209
177	180	2018	451	487
520	552	2017	727	728



MATCH NOTES

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**LIUDMILA
SAMSONOVA**

**LEYLAH
FERNANDEZ**

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making 4th main draw appearance at Dubai; her best tournament results are R16 in 2023 (l. eventual R-Up Swiatek) and 2024 (l. Vondrousova)
- Contesting her 40th career WTA 1000 main draw; she is a 2-time WTA 1000 R-Up at 2023 Montreal (l. Pegula in F) and 2023 Beijing (l. Swiatek in F)
- Faces No.27 Leylah Fernandez in 1r today; owns 72 wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.47 Janice Tjen at 2026 Abu Dhabi
- Owns 3-3 career Tour-level record against players from Canada; her most recent meeting vs. Canadian is win over Andreescu in 2024 's-Hertogenbosch final
- 3 of her 5 career WTA singles titles have come on hard court, all in 2022, at Washington DC, Cleveland and Tokyo
- Both of her WTA 1000 R-Up finishes have also come on hard court (Montreal and Beijing in 2023)
- Is currently ranked No.17; this time last year was ranked No.25. Reached career-high ranking of No.12 in February 2023
- Best results so far this year are QF finishes at Brisbane (l. Pegula) and Abu Dhabi (l. Baptiste)

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making 4th appearance at Dubai; her best tournament results are 2r in 2023 (l. eventual R-Up Swiatek) and 2024 (l. eventual champion Paolini)
- Contesting her 41st career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 results are 3 QFs (2023 Guadalajara, 2024 Doha and 2024 Cincinnati)
- Faces No.17 Liudmila Samsonova in 1r today; owns 19 Tour-level wins in career over Top 20 players, most recently No.4 Jessica Pegula and No.12 Elena Rybakina en route to 2025 Washington DC title
- All of her 5 career WTA singles titles have come on hard court, including 2 last year at Washington DC and Osaka
- Her 1 Grand Slam final also came on hard court at 2021 US Open (l. Raducanu in F)
- One of 2 players from Canada in this week's main draw (also No.11 seed Mboko, who was R-Up at Doha last week)
- Best results by Canada at this tournament were R32 finishes by Fernandez in 2023 and 2024, Eugenie Bouchard in 2019 and Aleksandra Wozniak in 2012
- The last time 2 players from Canada featured in the same edition of the Dubai main draw was 2023 (Fernandez and Andreescu)
- Is currently ranked No.27; this time last year was ranked No.30. Reached career-high ranking of No.13 in August 2022
- Seeking her 2nd match-win of 2026; her one win so far this year came over lucky loser Paquet in Abu Dhabi 1r



MATCH NOTES

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SAMSONOVA**

**LEYLAH
FERNANDEZ**

RECENT TOURNAMENT HISTORY

2025	Result	Rank: 25	Seed: -
2r	L	J. PEGULA (#5)	6-0 6-4
1r	W	A. PAVLYUCHENKOVA (#36)	6-2 6-2
2024	Result	Rank: 15	Seed: 12
3r	L	M. VONDROUSOVA (#8)	6-2 6-2
1r	W	V. TOMOVA (#68)	7-6(2) 6-3
2023	Result	Rank: 13	Seed: 14
3r	L	I. SWIATEK (#1)	6-1 6-0
1r	W	P. BADOSA (#19)	6-7(3) 7-6(5) 6-4

2025	Result	Rank: 30	Seed: -
1r	L	E. MERTENS (#31)	6-2 6-2
2024	Result	Rank: 33	Seed: -
2r	L	J. PAOLINI (#26)	6-3 6-4
1r	W	B. PERA (#83)	6-3 6-2
2023	Result	Rank: 37	Seed: -
2r	L	I. SWIATEK (#1)	6-1 6-1
1r	W	J. GRABHER (#94)	6-4 6-2



MATCH NOTES

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**LIUDMILA
SAMSONOVA**

**LEYLAH
FERNANDEZ**

SEASON 2026 HISTORY

- Played 1r at Doha (l. Frech)
- Reached QF at Abu Dhabi (l. Baptiste)
- Played 1r at Australian Open (l. Siegemund)
- Fell in 1r at Adelaide (l. Vondrousova)
- Began 2026 season with QF at Brisbane (l. Pegula)

- Fell in 1r at Doha (l. Li)
- Made 2r at Abu Dhabi (l. Kessler)
- Played 1r at Australian Open (l. Tjen)
- Fell in 1r at Adelaide (l. Shnaider)
- Made 2r at Brisbane (l. Yastremska)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
24	35	Aces	10	78
58.5%	97	First serve %	57.9%	101
63.3%	61	First Serve points won %	63.6%	55
50.2%	16	Second serve points won %	50.0%	18
57.8%	44	Overall service points won %	57.9%	43
66.3%	54	Service games won %	66.7%	52
53.4%	63	Break points saved %	56.1%	43
38.7%	32	First serve return points won %	22.7%	118
54.2%	66	Second serve return points won %	49.7%	101
52.6%	24	Break points converted %	26.9%	114
40.6%	29	Return games won %	13.2%	116
44.4%	42	Return points won %	34.1%	116



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
DUBAI, UAE

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**LIUDMILA
SAMSONOVA**

**LEYLAH
FERNANDEZ**

TITLES & GRAND SLAMS

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (5)
2024 - 'S-HERTOGENBOSCH
2022 - TOKYO, CLEVELAND, WASHINGTON DC
2021 - BERLIN
Runner-Up (4)
2025 - STRASBOURG
2023 - BEIJING, MONTREAL, ABU DHABI

DOUBLES FINALS

Champion (3)
2025 - NINGBO (w/Melichar-martinez)
2024 - SEOUL (w/Melichar-martinez)
2023 - DUBAI (w/Kudermetova)

Runner-Up (1)
2025 - 'S-HERTOGENBOSCH (w/Melichar-martinez)

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (5)
2025 - OSAKA, WASHINGTON DC
2023 - HONG KONG
2022 - MONTERREY
2021 - MONTERREY

Runner-Up (3)
2024 - EASTBOURNE
2021 - US OPEN
2020 - ACAPULCO

DOUBLES FINALS

Runner-Up (4)
2024 - CINCINNATI (w/Putintseva)
2023 - ROLAND GARROS (w/Townsend), MIAMI
(w/Townsend), AUCKLAND (w/Mattek-sands)

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
1r				2026	1r			
2r	4r	QF	2r	2025	3r	1r	2r	3r
1r	3r	3r	4r	2024	2r	3r	2r	1r
2r	2r	1r	3r	2023	2r	2r	2r	1r
2r	1r		4r	2022	1r	QF		2r
2r		4r	2r	2021	1r	2r	1r	RUP
1r	1r		1r	2020	1r	3r		2r
	1r			2019				



MATCH NOTES

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**LIUDMILA
SAMSONOVA**

**LEYLAH
FERNANDEZ**

CAREER MILESTONES

- Reached ninth career final in 2025 with runner-up finish at Strasbourg, as well as SF at Adelaide and Berlin and reached QF at a Grand Slam for the first time at Wimbledon (l. eventual champion Swiatek). Ended the year ranked inside the Top 20 for a third consecutive year (No.17)
- Won third career WTA doubles title in 2025 at Ningbo (w/Melichar-Martinez) and reached a further doubles finals at 's-Hertogenbosch (w/Melichar-Martinez)
- In 2024, won one title at 's-Hertogenbosch (d. Andreescu in final); also reached SF at Abu Dhabi (l. eventual champion Rybakina); notably reached the QF at Cincinnati (l. eventual champion Sabalenka) and 4r at US Open (l. Swiatek)
- Won one doubles title in 2024 at Seoul (w/Melichar-Martinez)
- Ended 2023 ranked No.16; reached three finals at Abu Dhabi (l. Bencic in F), Montreal (l. Pegula in F) and Beijing (l. Swiatek)
- Also in 2023, reached SF at Washington DC and qualified for WTA Elite Trophy Zhuhai going 1-1 in group play
- In doubles in 2023, won title at Dubai (w/Veronika Kudermetova)
- Lifted three titles in 2022, at Washington DC (d. Kanepi in F), Cleveland (d. Sasnovich in F) and Tokyo (d. Q.Zheng in F) ending year at No.20, her first Top 20 year-end ranking
- Also made SF at 2022 Stuttgart, QF at Adelaide 250, R16 at US Open and made Top 20 debut on October 24; earned first Top 10 win of career over No.7 Karolina Pliskova at Stuttgart
- Highlight of 2021 was coming through qualifying to lift maiden WTA title at Berlin (d. Bencic in F) and breaking into Top 50 on September 13 finishing the year at No.39, her first year-end Top 100 ranking
- Reached two further SFs in 2021, at Luxembourg and Courmayeur and reached R16 at Wimbledon
- Earned first Top 20 win of career over No.11 Kiki Bertens at 2021 Miami
- In 2020 reached 2r at Brisbane (as qualifier, d.No.24 Stephens, l. No.7 Kvitova) and Palermo (as qualifier, l. Martic), and fell 1r four times (including Australian Open, US Open and Roland Garros)
- Appeared in the first WTA main draws of her career in 2019, highlighted by SF run at Palermo (as LL, l. eventual champion Teichmann), 2r showing at Lausanne (l. Han) and falling 1r on
- In 2025, won multiple Tour titles in a calendar year for the first time, finishing as champion at WTA 250 Osaka and WTA 500 Washington DC (her first title above WTA 250 level); also partnered Venus Williams to make US Open doubles QF as a wild card team
- 2024 season highlights were reaching first final on grass finishing R-Up at Eastbourne (l. Kasatkina) and as part of title defense made SF at Hong Kong. Also reached final of Cincinnati in doubles w/Putintseva
- In 2023, earned third career title at Hong Kong (d. Siniakova); prevented from a consecutive title run by Siniakova who defeated her in Nanchang SF. Also defeated Paolini at Billie Jean King Cup Finals to lift title with Canada
- Broke into the Top 20 in doubles in 2023, after reaching final at Roland Garros, Miami (both w/Townsend) and Auckland (w/Mattek-Sands) as well as QF at US Open (w/Townsend)
- In 2022 won her second title at Monterrey (d. Osorio in F; saved 5MP), and reached the QF at Roland Garros (l. Trevisan); missed grass-court season due to grade three stress fracture in her right foot suffered during match vs. Trevisan in Paris
- Enjoyed a memorable 2021 campaign, lifting first career title in Monterrey and advancing to maiden Grand Slam final, at US Open (l. Raducanu)
- En route to the final at Flushing Meadows in 2011, upset defending champion and No. 3 Osaka in 3r, 2016 winner Kerber in R16, No.5 Svitolina in QF and No. 2 Sabalenka in SF, becoming the youngest woman to beat multiple Top-5 opponents at the same major since S. Williams at 1999 US Open
- Breakout year in 2020 saw her crack Top 100 for the first time on September 14 and finish campaign by reaching 3r at Roland Garros. Earned first career Grand Slam win at 2020 US Open (d. Zvonareva, l. Kenin in 2r) and made Grand Slam debut at 2020 Australian Open as qualifier (l. Davis in 1r)
- Reached first career WTA final and notched first tour-level back-to-back wins at 2020 Acapulco as qualifier (l. Watson in F); at 17y, 177d, she was the youngest Canadian to reach a WTA singles final in 34 years (since Helen Kelesi at 1986 Tokyo [Japan Open] won at 16y, 338d)
- Owns one singles title and two doubles titles on ITF Circuit

- Grand Slam main draw debut at Roland Garros (as qualifier, L. Vekic)
- Contested qualifying at a WTA event for the first time at 2019 Australian Open
- Made professional debut on ITF circuit in 2013; owns four singles titles on the ITF Circuit

- Won 2019 Roland Garros junior singles title (d. Navarro) becoming first Canadian to win a junior Grand Slam since Bouchard in 2012
- Played first WTA main draw and earned first main draw win of career at 2018 Quebec City defeating countrywoman Dabrowski in 1r (L. Watson in 2r)
- Made professional debut on ITF Circuit in USA in 2016

OTHER INFORMATION

- Previously trained in Rome with Alessandro Dumitrache and worked with Alessandro Piccari
- Parents are Dmitry Samsonov and Svetlana Samsonova
- Hobbies include listening to and playing music, attending concerts and watching films
- Idolizes Maria Sharapova
- Favorite shot is her forehand and favorite surface to play on is hard court

- Coached by Jorge Fernandez
Born in Montréal, and resides and trains in Miami, FL with mother, Irene, father, Jorge and younger sister, Bianca Jolie who also plays tennis. Older sister, Jodeci and husband Jacques live in Ohio
- Current sponsors are: lululemon, Easy Post, Morgan Stanley, Google Canada, Gatorade Canada, Babolat and Youth Athletes United
- Trilingual: French, Spanish and English
- Hobbies include: taking dancing lessons, currently learning Salsa with her younger sister; loves to solve puzzles and Rubiks Cubes during match rain delays or in her free time at the hotel
- Loves dessert but specifically enjoys molten lava chocolate cake



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
DUBAI, UAE

2026-02-15 - 2026-02-21 | \$ 4,088,211



0
WIN

1
MATCHES
PLAYED

1
WIN



39

**HAILEY
BAPTISTE (LL)**
UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA

**ALEXANDRA
EALA**
PHILIPPINES

40

2001-11-03	Date of Birth	2005-05-23
	Residence	
Right-Handed	Plays	Left-handed (two-handed backhand)
5' 5" (1.69m)	Height	5' 9" (1.75m)
39	Career-High Ranking	40
\$2,845,012	Career Prize Money	\$1,538,877
\$322,961	Season Prize Money	\$187,523
0 / 0	Singles Titles YTD / Career	0 / 0
11-11 (Round of 16: 2025 ROLAND GARROS)	Grand Slam W-L (best)	1-4 (Round of 64: 2025 US OPEN)
0-0 / 0-0	YTD / Career DUBAI W-L (best)	0-0 / 0-0
5-4 / 43-54	YTD / Career W-L	5-4 / 20-31



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
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**HAILEY
BAPTISTE (LL)**

**ALEXANDRA
EALA**

HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

YEAR	TOURNAMENT	SURFACE	ROUND	WINNER	SCORE/ RESULT	TIME
2025	EASTBOURNE	GRASS	Q	Alexandra Eala	6-7(1) 7-6(4) 6-1	2h 47m

RANKING HISTORY

TOP RANK	YEAR-END	YEAR	TOP RANK	YEAR-END
39	-	2026	40	-
47	61	2025	50	50
80	93	2024	143	158
131	131	2023	189	205
119	181	2022	214	219
160	160	2021	505	529
229	231	2020	-	-
244	285	2019	-	-
452	457	2018	-	-



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
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**HAILEY
BAPTISTE (LL)**

**ALEXANDRA
EALA**

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making 1st appearance at this tournament, having entered main draw as lucky loser (l. Sramkova in final round of qualifying)
- Contesting her 19th career WTA 1000 main draw; career-best WTA 1000 showings are R16 at 2023 Guadalajara and 2024 Wuhan
- Faces No.40 Alexandra Eala in 1r today; owns 12 Tour-level wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.17 Emma Navarro and No.18 Liudmila Samsonova during SF run at 2026 Abu Dhabi
- First Tour-level meeting vs. player from Philippines, although she lost a qualifying match to Eala at 2025 Eastbourne (Eala went on to make the final)
- Career-best Tour-level result on hard court was her SF run earlier this month at Abu Dhabi, which was her 1st career WTA Tour SF (l. eventual R-Up Alexandrova)
- One of 9 players from United States of America in this week's main draw
- Best results by United States of America at this event are title runs by Lindsay Davenport in 2005, and Venus Williams in 2009, 2010 and 2014
- Last time 9 or more players from United States of America contested a single Dubai main draw was 2023 (10 that year)
- Best result by a lucky loser at this tournament is QF run by Jil Teichmann in 2022 (l. eventual R-Up V.Kudermetova)
- Is currently ranked at a career-high No.39; this time last year was ranked No.92

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making 1st appearance at this tournament
- Contesting her 11th career WTA 1000 main draw; career-best WTA 1000 result is SF at 2025 Miami as wild card ranked No.140 (l. eventual R-Up Pegula)
- Faces No.39 Hailey Baptiste in 1r today; owns 7 wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.14 Clara Tauson at 2025 US Open
- Seeking 1st Top 50 win of the year (l. No.11 Alexandrova at Abu Dhabi; l. No.48 Valentova at Doha)
- At 2025 Eastbourne, Eala defeated today's opponent Baptiste in qualifying en route to her 1st career WTA Tour singles final (l. Joint in F)
- Owns 2-5 career Tour-level record against players from United States of America (0-1 in 2026, l. Parks at Australian Open)
- Career-best Tour-level results on hard court are 2 SFs at 2025 Miami (l. eventual R-Up Pegula) and 2026 Auckland (l. eventual R-Up Wang Xinyu)
- First player from Philippines to contest the main draw at this tournament
- Is currently ranked a career-high No.40 (first player from Philippines to reach Top 100 of WTA Rankings); this time last year was ranked No.139
- Best result so far this season is SF run at Auckland (l. eventual R-Up Wang Xinyu)



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
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**HAILEY
BAPTISTE (LL)**

**ALEXANDRA
EALA**

RECENT TOURNAMENT HISTORY

- Making her tournament debut in Main Draw Singles

- Making her tournament debut in Main Draw Singles



MATCH NOTES

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS -
DUBAI, UAE

2026-02-15 - 2026-02-21 | \$ 4,088,211

**HAILEY
BAPTISTE (LL)**

**ALEXANDRA
EALA**

SEASON 2026 HISTORY

- Reached SF at Abu Dhabi (as WC, l. eventual R-Up Alexandrova)
- Made 3r at Australian Open (l. Gauff)
- Fell in 1r at Hobart (l. Zarazua)
- Played 1r at Brisbane (l. Putintseva)

- Played 1r at Doha (l. Valentova)
- Made QF at Abu Dhabi (l. eventual R-Up Alexandrova)
- Fell in 1r at Australian Open (l. Parks)
- Reached SF at Auckland (l. eventual R-Up, X.Wang)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
34	22	Aces	7	101
61.3%	72	First serve %	65.7%	35
65.0%	46	First Serve points won %	60.7%	84
50.2%	17	Second serve points won %	44.0%	65
59.3%	34	Overall service points won %	55.0%	77
71.8%	32	Service games won %	62.7%	73
54.8%	52	Break points saved %	52.5%	70
34.3%	77	First serve return points won %	38.9%	29
52.3%	83	Second serve return points won %	60.9%	7
38.1%	104	Break points converted %	38.2%	103
28.1%	89	Return games won %	41.2%	28
40.0%	92	Return points won %	46.8%	17



MATCH NOTES

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TITLES & GRAND SLAMS

DOUBLES FINALS

Champion (1)

2021 - CHARLESTON 250 (w/Mcnally)

SINGLES FINALS

Runner-Up (1)

2025 - EASTBOURNE

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
3r				2026	1r			
1r	4r	3r	2r	2025		1r	1r	2r
	2r			2024				
				2023				
2r	1r			2022				
	2r		1r	2021				
			1r	2020				



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CAREER MILESTONES

- In 2025, reached first WTA Tour QF of career at Auckland (l. Osaka) and first Grand Slam R16 of career at Roland Garros (l. Keys); made Top 50 debut, peaking at a career-high ranking of No.47 on August 25
- During 2024, made Tour-level R16 at Bogota, Seoul and Wuhan as well as reaching 2r at Roland Garros. Also made semifinal at WTA 125 Puerto Vallarta and broke into the Top 100 for the first time, achieving a career high ranking of No.80 in October
- Won back-to-back Tour main draw matches for the first time at 2023 Guadalajara 1000 reaching R16 (l. Garcia)
- During 2022 season, reached 2r at Australian Open (as qualifier, l. Inglis), Guadalajara 250 (as qualifier, l. Osorio) and Charleston (l. Cornet)
- In 2021, made 2r at Roland Garros as qualifier (l. Kenin), and also reached 2r at Chicago 500 (as WC, l. Azarenka) and Charleston (as WC, l. Jabeur); won first WTA Tour doubles title at Charleston 250 w/McNally (d. Perez/Sanders in F)
- In 2020, made Grand Slam main draw debut as wild card at US Open (l. Mladenovic in 1r); also contested qualifying at Australian Open and Lexington
- Highlight of 2019 was 2r showing on WTA main draw debut at Washington DC (as wild card, d. No.17 Keys, l. Mladenovic); also contested qualifying at US Open, and on ITF Circuit won \$25K titles at Tucson, Sumter and Plantation
- As a junior reached career-high ranking of No.38 in 2018
- Made debut on ITF Circuit in Florida in 2017
- Breakout 2025 season saw her break into the Top 100 after SF run at WTA 1000 Miami; as a wild card she registered back-to-back Top 10 wins over No.5 Keys and No.2 Swiatek. Went on to reach maiden Tour final at Eastbourne and then won her first WTA 125 title Guadalajara. Her year-end ranking was a career high No.50
- Following her Miami 2025 result, she made history by becoming the first player from the Philippines to reach a WTA 1000 semifinal and the first to enter the WTA World Top 100 ranking
- In 2024 made 2r at WTA 1000 Madrid (l. Cirstea) as well as playing main draw at Abu Dhabi, Guadalajara, Wuhan, Guangzhou and Jiujiang. Earned fourth ITF career title at W100 Vitoria-Gasteiz and reached a career high ranking of No.143 in July
- Entered first Grand Slam in 2023 at Australian Open qualifying (l. Doi in Q1). As a qualifier reached main draw at Hua Hin (l. Maria), Osaka (l. Sakatsume), Guangzhou (l. Maria) and Monastir (l. Mertens) taking her ranking into Top 200 for first time
- Claimed first ITF title in 2022 at Chiang Rai \$25K and also played WTA Miami opening main draw match (l. Brengle) and qualifying at Madrid (l. Bondar).
- In 2021 played first Tour level match at Miami qualifying (l. Kuzmova) and reached 2r at Cluj Napoca on clay (l. Sherif).
- Best result of 2021 was reaching QF at Grenoble \$25K
- Began on the ITF circuit in 2020 at the age of 14

OTHER INFORMATION

- Assistant coach is Will Woodall
- Formerly coached by Peter Lucassen at the USTA National Campus in Orlando
- Met Williams sisters as a kid when they were playing World Team Tennis and managed to hit with both
- Pet dog, a half-Shar Pei, half-Pug named Tsonga
- Coached by Joan Bosch
- Started playing tennis aged four
- Competed in the WTA Future Stars event in 2016 and 2017 in Singapore (first time at age 11 and won the Li Na Inspiration Award)
- Made WTA Tour debut at 2021 Miami in qualifying
- Trains at the Rafael Nadal Academy in Mallorca
- Preferred surface is hard

- Parents are Mike and Rizza (who was a professional swimmer who competed at the 1985 Southeast Asian Games); brother is also a budding tennis player
- Enjoys upbeat Spanish music and watching comedy and horror movies
- Loves ice cream, rice and milk tea



MATCH NOTES

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1
WIN

1
MATCHES
PLAYED

0
WIN



85

**ZEYNEP
SONMEZ (WC)**
TURKEY

**SARA
(WC) BEJLEK**
CZECH REPUBLIC

38

2002-04-30	Date of Birth	2006-01-31
	Residence	
Right-Handed	Plays	Left-handed (two-handed backhand)
5' 7" (1.70m)	Height	5' 3" (1.59 m)
69	Career-High Ranking	38
\$1,529,309	Career Prize Money	\$1,305,617
\$235,152	Season Prize Money	\$305,426
0 / 1	Singles Titles YTD / Career	1 / 1
5-6 (Round of 32: 2026 AUSTRALIAN OPEN; 2025 WIMBLEDON)	Grand Slam W-L (best)	1-7 (Round of 64: 2025 ROLAND GARROS)
0-0 / 0-0	YTD / Career DUBAI W-L (best)	0-0 / 0-0
2-3 / 21-25	YTD / Career W-L	6-2 / 12-13



MATCH NOTES

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**ZEYNEP
SONMEZ (WC)**

**SARA
(WC) BEJLEK**

HEAD TO HEAD RECORD

YEAR	TOURNAMENT	SURFACE	ROUND	WINNER	SCORE/ RESULT	TIME
2021	FRYDEK MISTEK	CLAY	1r	Zeynep Sonmez	6-0 6-3	0m

RANKING HISTORY

TOP RANK	YEAR-END	YEAR	TOP RANK	YEAR-END
79	-	2026	38	-
69	113	2025	75	76
91	91	2024	114	142
146	159	2023	155	190
335	345	2022	181	189
530	531	2021	375	380
607	628	2020	-	-
652	663	2019	-	-
1211	-	2018	-	-
1208	1208	2017	-	-



MATCH NOTES

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SONMEZ (WC)**

**SARA
(WC) BEJLEK**

TOURNAMENT HISTORY

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making 1st main draw appearance at Dubai; previously fell in qualifying in 2024 (l. Cocciaretto)
- Contesting her 6th career WTA 1000 main draw; her career-best WTA 1000 result is 3r at 2025 Beijing (l. Potapova)
- Faces No.38 Sara Bejlek in 1r today; owns 6 Tour-level wins in career over Top 50 players, most recently No.11 Ekaterina Alexandrova at 2026 Australian Open
- Owns 0-2 career Tour-level record against players from Czech Republic (l. Salkova at 2024 Prague; l. Bouzkova at 2025 Monterrey)
- Sonmez previously defeated Bejlek at an ITF event in 2021
- Career-best result on hard court is her 1 WTA singles title at 2024 Merida (d. Li in F)
- Only player from Turkey in this week's main draw; 1st Turkish player to contest Dubai main draw since Ipek Oz in 2023
- Best result by Turkey at Dubai was R32 run by Cagla Buyukakcay in 2015
- Best result by a wild card at this event was title run by Venus Williams in 2014
- Is currently ranked No.85; this time last year was ranked No.90. Reached career-high ranking of No.69 in October 2025
- Made 3r run as qualifier at 2026 Australian Open; that is the 2nd time she has reached Grand Slam 3r in career (first Turkish woman in Open Era to go that far in a Slam)

CURRENT TOURNAMENT

Total time on court: 0m

PLAYER NOTES

- Making her first tournament appearance
- Contesting only her 2nd career WTA 1000 main draw; in her previous WTA 1000 main draw appearance, she made R16 as a qualifier ranked No.136 at 2024 Madrid (l. Rybakina)
- Earlier this month, won her 1st career WTA Tour title at Abu Dhabi as a qualifier (d. Alexandrova in F); ranking jumped from No.101 to career-high No.38 after that event
- Faces No.85 Zeynep Sonmez in 1r today; Bejlek is 3-1 this year in Tour-level matches vs. players ranked outside Top 50
- First Tour-level meeting vs. a player from Turkey (Sonmez defeated Bejlek at an ITF event in 2021)
- Career-best result on hard court is her 2026 Abu Dhabi title
- One of 6 players from Czech Republic in this week's main draw
- Best results by Czech Republic at this tournament are title runs by Petra Kvitova in 2013 and Barbora Krejckova in 2023
- Best result by a wild card at this event was title run by Venus Williams in 2014
- Is currently ranked a career-high No.38; this time last year was ranked No.143
- Is currently on a 5-match Tour-level winning streak, which is the longest Tour-level winning streak of her career



MATCH NOTES

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(WC) BEJLEK**

RECENT TOURNAMENT HISTORY

- Making her tournament debut in Main Draw Singles

- Making her tournament debut in Main Draw Singles



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(WC) BEJLEK**

SEASON 2026 HISTORY

- Played 1r at Doha (as WC, l. Sakkari)
- Fell in 1r at Abu Dhabi (as WC, l. Eala)
- Began 2026 season with 3r at Australian Open (as qualifier, l. Putintseva)

- Champion run at Abu Dhabi (as qualifier, d. R-Up Alexandrova in F)
- Fell in 1r at Australian Open (l. Krueger)
- Opened the 2026 season with a 2r finish at Auckland (l. Jovic)

VALUE	WTA RANK	MATCH STATS	VALUE	WTA RANK
6	104	Aces	8	91
58.8%	94	First serve %	64.7%	47
56.7%	109	First Serve points won %	64.8%	48
44.6%	59	Second serve points won %	50.3%	15
51.7%	101	Overall service points won %	59.7%	31
55.4%	97	Service games won %	72.8%	27
51.0%	79	Break points saved %	56.9%	38
33.5%	87	First serve return points won %	42.8%	4
61.2%	5	Second serve return points won %	59.3%	17
43.8%	72	Break points converted %	44.9%	67
35.6%	53	Return games won %	44.9%	10
43.3%	53	Return points won %	48.5%	5



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**SARA
(WC) BEJLEK**

TITLES & GRAND SLAMS

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (1)
2024 - MÉRIDA

SINGLES FINALS

Champion (1)
2026 - ABU DHABI

AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN		AUSTRALIAN OPEN	ROLAND GARROS	WIMBLEDON	US OPEN
3r				2026	1r			
1r	1r	3r	2r	2025	1r	2r		
	1r			2024	1r			
				2023	1r	1r		
				2022				1r



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**SARA
(WC) BEJLEK**

CAREER MILESTONES

- In 2025, made history for her country at Wimbledon, becoming first Turkish player to reach a Grand Slam 3r in Open Era; also made Merida QF, and notched first WTA 1000 main draw wins of career in Beijing 3r run; reached career-high No.69 on October 20
- During 2024, won first WTA Tour title at Merida, becoming first Turkish player to win WTA Tour singles title since Buyukakcay at 2016 Istanbul. Also made QF at Monastir and entered the Top 100 for the first time, ending the year at a career-high of No.89
- Made her WTA Tour main draw debut in 2023 at 's-Hertogenbosch with a 1r (l. Andreescu) and followed up with a 1r at Hamburg (l. Pera). Contested Grand Slam qualifying for the first time in 2023 at Wimbledon and US Open
- In 2023, reached her first WTA 125 final at Ljubljana (l. Bassols Ribera) and further reached a WTA 125 SF at Kozerki (l. Yastremska)
- In 2022, lifted two ITF titles at 15K Monastir and 25K Sozopol
- In 2020, lifted one ITF title at 15K Antalya
- In 2025 reached QF at Tour level for the first time at Prague (l. Wang Xinyu) and registered her first Grand Slam main draw match win by reaching 2r at Roland Garros as a qualifier (defeated No.25 Marta Kostyuk in 1r)
- Also in 2025 won three WTA 125 titles at Makarska, Rende and Queretaro, and broke into the Top 100 for the first time reaching a career-high of No.75 in November
- 2024 breakthrough performance saw her reach R16 at WTA 1000 Madrid as a qualifier. Also reached main draw as a qualifying at Australian Open and made two WTA 125 SFs at Colina and Buenos Aires and achieve a career high ranking of No.114 in May
- In 2023, played main draw at Australian Open (l. Krejckikova) and Roland Garros (l. Rakhimova) both as a qualifier; also played qualifying at Austin, Rome, Wimbledon and US Open
- Also in 2023, won title at WTA 125K event at Colina, Chile and two titles on ITF circuit at W25 Santa Margherita di Pula, ITA and W25 Parnu, EST
- Made Tour-level qualifying debut at 2022 Wimbledon and made WTA main draw debut at 2022 US Open coming through qualifying where she fell to No.35 Liudmila Samsonova in 1r
- Also in 2022, won three ITF titles at W60 Olomouc, CZE; W60 Ceska Lipa, CZE; and W25 Santa Margherita di Pula, ITA
- Standout junior results came at 2022 Roland Garros (l. Havlickova), when she reached SF in singles and won girls' doubles title w/Havlickova
- Made professional debut in 2021 on ITF circuit winning first title at W60 Olomouc, CZE

OTHER INFORMATION

- Coached by Issam Jellali
- Fitness and mental coach is Mehmet Bayraktar
- Coached by Jakub Kahoun