# MATCH NOTES

## FAGE WTA FINALS INDIAN WELLS

INDIAN WELLS, USA

November 8-15, 2026 | $10,000,000


WTA Website: www.wtatennis.com | @WTA | facebook.com/wta
Tournament Website: www.wtatennis.com/wta-finals | @WTAFinals
Communications: Catherine Sneddon (csneddon@wtatennis.com)


# DAY 1 – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 – ROUND ROBIN

*GROUP 1*

## [1st Alt] MARTA KOSTYUK (UKR #10) vs. [8] LINDA NOSKOVA (CZE #8)

### Noskova leads 2-1

[6] Noskova d. [11] Kostyuk 7-5, 5-7, 6-4 at 2026 US Open R16
[9] Noskova d. [12] Kostyuk 6-4, 6-4 at 2026 Wimbledon SF
[26] Kostyuk d. [13] Noskova 7-6(1), 6-0 at 2026 Madrid QF

***Kostyuk:***

- Kostyuk entered the competition after the withdrawal of Rybakina
- Both players are making WTA Finals debut this year – total of 4 debutants at this year's WTA Finals
- Owns 8 Top 10 wins in 2026, tied for second most this season (Rybakina 10, Svitolina 8)
- Tied for most matches vs. Top 10 opponents this season (Rybakina, also 15)
- Reached three finals in 2026 with both titles coming on clay – Rouen (WTA 250) and Madrid (first WTA 1000 title); was runner-up at Brisbane and reached the semifinals at a Slam twice (Roland Garros, Wimbledon)
- Overall won 35 matches in 2026, the most she's won in a season in her career (previous best, 34 in 2024)
- Posted a 16-1 record on clay in 2026 (19-11 on other surfaces); only Andreva (22) had more wins on clay
- Made Top 10 debut on Sep 14, 2026
- Since 2003 when WTA Finals shifted to current format, alternates to win a match: Marion Bartoli (2007, 2011), Agnieszka Radwanska (2008, 2009) and Kiki Bertens (2019)
- Kostyuk owns a 6-10 record against her group – 3-4 vs. Pegula, 2-4 vs. Gauff, 1-2 vs. Noskova
- In six appearances at Indian Wells, best result came in 2024 when she advanced to the semifinals (I. Swiatek)
- Currently No.10, could overtake Iga Swiatek at No.9 with two round robin match wins

***Noskova:***

- Qualified for the WTA Finals for the first time in her career
- Secured two titles this season, both on grass, at Berlin (d. Pegula in F), closely followed by her maiden Grand Slam victory at Wimbledon (d. Muchova in F)
- Alongside her two finals, she also made semifinal at Indian Wells (l. eventual champion Sabalenka), which marked her second career WTA 1000 semifinal appearance after achieving R-Up at 2025 Beijing
- Made her Top 10 debut in June this year and hit a peak ranking of No.6 in August
- She is second only to Rybakina (438) for number of aces hit this season (347)
- Two Czech players (Noskova and Muchova) are appearing at the WTA Finals for the first time since 2021 (Karolina Pliskova and Barbora Krejcikova)
- Competing in her first tournament since falling to Alexandrova in R16 at China Open in September
- The WTA Finals has been won by a player from Czech Republic on two occasions: Petra Kvitova in 2011 and Jana Novotna in 1997
- One of her three career titles was achieved on hard court at Monterrey in 2024 (d. Sun in F)

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- This is her first meeting with a player from Kazakhstan this season
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## [4] COCO GAUFF (USA #4) vs. [5] JESSICA PEGULA (USA #5)

### TIED 5-5

[4] Gauff d. [3] Pegula 6-2, 6-4 at Cincinnati 2026 Final
[7] Gauff d. [4] Pegula 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 at Wimbledon 2026 QF
[5] Pegula d. [3] Gauff 6-3, 6-7(4), 6-2 at WTA Finals 2025 RR
[3] Gauff d. [6] Pegula 6-4, 7-5 at Wuhan 2025 Final
[3] Gauff d. [6] Pegula 6-3, 6-2 at WTA Finals 2024 RR
[4] Pegula d. [1] Gauff 7-5, 7-6(2) at Berlin 2024 SF
[5] Pegula d. [3] Gauff 6-2, 6-1 at WTA Finals 2023 SF
[4] Pegula d. [6] Gauff 6-2, 5-7, 7-5 at Montreal 2023 QF
[5] Gauff d. [3] Pegula 6-3, 6-3 at Eastbourne 2023 QF
Pegula d. Gauff 6-4, 6-4 at Dubai 2022 R32

***Gauff:***

- This is her fifth consecutive appearance at the WTA Finals; she claimed the title in 2024 (d. Q.Zheng in F) and reached semifinal in 2023 when she was defeated by Pegula
- She has faced Pegula on ten occasions and this is their fourth meeting at the WTA Finals where Pegula has the edge 2-1; Gauff has defeated Pegula in their only two meetings this season, in the Cincinnati final and at Wimbledon
- They will be the third pair in the history of the event to face each other for 4+ consecutive years at the WTA Finals after Agnieszka Radwanska and Petra Kvitova (five in a row, 2011-2015) and Martina Navratilova and Pam Shriver (four, 1983-1986)
- Her Cincinnati title was her only this season, with two further finals at WTA 1000 events Miami (l. Sabalenka in F) and Rome (l. Svitolina in F)
- Has won a Tour leading 27 matches at WTA 1000 level this year
- Her best Slam results of the season were semifinals at Wimbledon (l. eventual champion Muchova) and US Open (l. Rybakina)

- A player from United States of America has competed in 12 of the last 14 WTA Finals
- She is the youngest player to appear at the WTA Finals for five consecutive editions since Martina Hingis (1996-2000) and the youngest American since Lindsay Davenport (1994-1998)
- She is one of two players to win 45+ matches in each of the last four seasons along with Sabalenka
- Undefeated in 2026 against players from USA with a record of 10-0, most recently defeating Jovic at US Open
- Ten of her 12 career titles have come on hard court, most recently Cincinnati 2026
- Reached her career high ranking of No.2 in June 2024
- Qualified in doubles for the WTA Finals in 2022 and 2023, both times with Pegula

***Pegula:***

- Features at the WTA Finals for a fifth consecutive time, with her best result achieved in 2023 by reaching the final (l. Swiatek in F); she also made semifinal last year (l. eventual champion Rybakina)
- Earned two titles this season at Charleston (d. Starodubtseva in F) and Dubai (d. Svitolina in F); reached a further three finals at Berlin and Washington DC, as well as Cincinnati where she was defeated by Gauff in the title match
- At the Grand Slams she reached semifinals at US Open (l. Sabalenka) and Australian Open (l. Rybakina) and quarterfinals at Wimbledon (l. Gauff)
- She has the second most Tour level wins this season with 50 (level with M.Andreeva and trailing Rybakina with 54)
- Has played one match since the US Open, falling to Ostapenko in her opening match at Wuhan
- In the 16 events she has appeared in this season, she has lost her opening match on two occasions; at Roland Garros (l. Birrell) and Wuhan (l. Ostapenko)
- Has claimed the most Tour level wins this season on American soil (24)
- Is the oldest player to appear at the WTA Finals since Venus Williams in 2017 (runner up)
- Pegula and Svitolina will be the first pair of players to both appear at the WTA Finals after having turned 32 since Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova in 1988
- Has a record of 12-2 against players from USA this season, with both losses to Gauff at Wimbledon and Cincinnati; her most recent such meeting was a win over Navarro at US Open
- Seven of her 11 singles titles were won on hard court, most recently Dubai this year
- Reached a career-high ranking of No.3 in October 2022

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*GROUP 2*

## [2] KATERINA SINIAKOVA (CZE #1) / TAYLOR TOWNSEND (USA #2)

**vs.**

## [8] SARA ERRANI (ITA #12) / JASMINE PAOLINI (ITA #25)

## SINIAKOVA/TOWNSEND LEAD 2-0

[3] Siniakova/Townsend d. [1] Errani/Paolini 6-2, 6-2 at Indian Wells 2026 SF
[2] Siniakova/Townsend d. [1] Errani/Paolini 6-4, 6-0 at Miami 2026 Final

***Siniakova/Townsend:***

- Siniakova and Townsend have defeated Errani/Paolini in both their previous meetings including in the WTA 1000 Miami final this year
- The team are making their third appearance at the WTA Finals and made the final in 2024 (l. Dabrowski/Routliffe) and SF last year (l. eventual champions Kudermetova/Mertens)
- The pair have earned a total of 8 doubles titles in their career including the US Open this year when they completed the career Grand Slam as a team
- Also this year, they earned titles together at Roland Garros, Madrid, Miami and Indian Wells
- This marks their first tournament together since capturing the US Open title this year, and Townsend's first doubles appearance since then; following the US Open, Siniakova reached back-to-back doubles finals, finishing runner-up at Beijing (w/Zhang) and Wuhan (w/Hunter)
- Each of Townsend's two previous appearances at the WTA Finals were with Siniakova, while this is Siniakova's 8th WTA Finals appearance; she previously teamed up with Barbora Krejcikova five times: 2018 (R-Up), 2019 (RR), 2021 (Won), 2022 (R-Up) and 2023 (RR)
- Among this year's doubles field, Siniakova is tied with Gabriela Dabrowski and Elise Mertens for most WTA Finals appearances
- Both Siniakova and Townsend have spent time as the doubles World No.1 in their careers; Siniakova regained her No.1 doubles ranking on May 4, 2026 and has now spent a total of 207 weeks in the top position (as of November 2, 2026) - she has spent the second most number of weeks as No.1 in doubles history, trailing only Martina Navratilova (237)
- Townsend rose to the No.1 doubles ranking for the first time last season, spending a total of 8 weeks there beginning July 28, 2025
- Siniakova has earned 39 doubles titles over her career including 12 Grand Slams (3x Australian Open, 3x Wimbledon, 4x Roland Garros, 2x US Open) and reached three additional Grand Slam doubles finals, finishing runner-up at 2025 US Open (w/Townsend), 2021 Australian Open (w/Krejcikova) and 2017 US Open (w/Hradecka)
- Siniakova is also a mixed doubles Grand Slam champion, winning 2025 Wimbledon with Sam Verbeek (d. Salisbury/Stefani in F)
- At the Olympics, Siniakova is a two-time doubles gold medallist, winning the mixed doubles trophy with Tomas Machac at Paris 2024 (d. China's Wang/Zhang in F) and the women's doubles trophy at Tokyo 2020 with Barbora Krejcikova (d. Bencic/Golubic in F)
- In 2026 Siniakova has captured seven doubles titles, the most of any player this season

- Townsend owns 17 career doubles titles, with both of her Grand Slam doubles titles coming with Siniakova – Australian Open 2025, Wimbledon 2024; she has reached three additional Grand Slam doubles finals in her career, finishing runner-up at 2025 US Open (w/Siniakova), 2023 Roland Garros (w/Fernandez) and 2022 US Open (w/McNally)
- Townsend won a total of six doubles titles in 2026 – including two Grand Slam titles at US Open and Roland Garros (both w/Siniakova), three WTA 1000 titles at Madrid, Miami, Indian Wells (all w/Siniakova) and a WTA 250 trophy at Austin (w/Hunter)

***Errani/Paolini:***

- This is the Italian duos third straight year of qualifying for the WTA Finals as a team – they went 1-2 in the group stage in both 2024 and 2025
- Looking for their first win over Siniakova/Townsend after falling in their two meetings this year at Indian Wells and Miami
- The Italians teamed up for the first time at Billie Jean King Cup in 2019 and their second appearance as a team was at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics
- Overall, they have won 10 Tour-level titles as a team, including 2025 Roland Garros and the 2024 Olympic gold medal (staged at Roland Garros)
- In 2026, they became the final team to qualify for the WTA Finals by winning their first team title of the year at Tokyo (d. Dabrowski/Stefani in F)
- Their other notable team results this year include R-Up at WTA 1000 Miami (l. Siniakova/Townsend in F), as well as SFs at WTA 1000 events in Doha, Indian Wells and Wuhan
- Errani is making her sixth appearance at the WTA Finals; before her appearances with Paolini, Errani qualified three times in a row with Roberta Vinci during single-elimination draw years (2012-14), losing their opening match each time
- Errani is a former WTA Doubles World No.1, reaching that ranking for the first time on September 10, 2012. She spent a total of 87 weeks in the doubles top spot
- Errani has won a total of 37 career Tour level doubles titles, including Tokyo this year (w/Paolini)
- Errani has won 10 Grand Slam titles: 6 in women's doubles (2013-2014 Australian Open, 2012 and 2025 Roland Garros, 2014 Wimbledon and 2012 US Open) and 4 in mixed doubles (2025-2026 Roland Garros and 2024-2025 US Open)
- Errani is one of seven women to have won the career Golden Slam in women's doubles (all four Grand Slam titles and the Olympic gold medal)
- Along with her Tokyo title this year (w/Paolini), Errani reached three other finals in 2026, at Toronto, Berlin (both w/Melichar-Martinez) and Miami (w/Paolini)
- This is Paolini's third appearance at the WTA Finals after her group-stage performances with Errani in the last two seasons
- Paolini has won 11 career Tour-level doubles titles – 10 with Errani and one with Jil Teichmann (2021 Hamburg)
- In 2025, Paolini became the first woman to sweep the Rome singles and doubles titles since Monica Seles in 1990
- Paolini owns one Grand Slam title in women's doubles (2025 Roland Garros w/Errani), and holds a career-high doubles ranking of No.3 (Oct. 27, 2025)

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*GROUP 2*

## [4] CRISTINA BUCSA (ESP #11) / NICOLE MELICHAR-MARTINEZ (USA #8)

vs.

## [6] ELLEN PEREZ (AUS #20) / DEMI SCHUURS (NED #21)

## PEREZ/SCHUURS LEAD 1-0

Perez/Schuurs d. [4] Bucsa/Melichar-Martinez 7-6(3), 1-6, 10-8 at Beijing 2026 R16

***Bucsa/Melichar-Martinez:***

- The team of Bucsa and Melichar-Martinez are making their debut at the WTA Finals this year
- Bucsa has reached her first WTA Finals, while Melichar-Martinez is appearing for a fifth time after she reached the final in 2023 (w/Perez, I. Zvonareva/Siegemund in F), made semifinal in 2024 (w/Perez) and 2021 (w/Schuurs) and fell in the opening round on her tournament debut in 2018 (w/Peschke)
- The team paired up last season at 2025 Washington DC and have since won two titles together, at Guadalajara this year (d. Kobori/Plipuech in F) and Monterrey in 2025 (d. Guo/Panova in F)
- They have made further finals at Ningbo (l. Krawczyk/Stollar in F) and Rome (l. Andreeva/Shnaider in F) this season, as well as semifinals at Indian Wells and Wuhan
- Their strongest Grand Slam result as a pair was quarterfinal at US Open this year
- Melichar-Martinez has earned 20 doubles titles over her career including two this year; Guadalajara (w/Bucsa) and Stuttgart (w/Samsonova)
- Bucsa has a total of 9 career doubles titles, also earning two this year at Guadalajara (w/Melichar-Martinez) and Merida (w/Jiang); at Merida, she swept both the singles and doubles titles to become one of two players to take both titles at the same event in 2026 along with Noskova at Berlin
- Bucsa posted her new career-high ranking of No.11 on November 2, 2026
- Melichar-Martinez has reached two Grand Slam women's doubles finals in her career, finishing runner-up at 2020 US Open with Xu Yifan (l. Siegemund/Zvonareva in F) and 2018 Wimbledon with Kveta Peschke (l. Siniakova/Krejcikova in F)
- Melichar-Martinez is also a mixed doubles Grand Slam champion, winning 2018 Wimbledon with Alexander Peya (d. Murray/Azarenka in F)
- Melichar-Martinez reached a career-high doubles ranking of No.6 in July 2023

***Perez/Schuurs:***

- After teaming up for the first time at the start of this season, Perez and Schuurs are now making their WTA Finals debut together
- The pair has 8 previous WTA Finals appearances between them
- Perez is making her third WTA Finals appearance after reaching the final in 2023 and semifinal in 2024 (both w/Melichar-Martinez)
- Schuurs is making her seventh WTA Finals appearance, reaching the semifinals in 2019 (w/Groenefeld), 2021 (w/Melichar-Martinez) and 2022 (w/Krawczyk); she has now qualified for this tournament with six different partners
- The duo is facing Bucsa/Melichar-Martinez for a second time this season after taking the win at the China Open last month

- Their top result since pairing up was on grass at Bad Homburg this year when they made the final (I. Sutjiadi/Zvonareva in F)
- Other top team results include SF showings at Adelaide and Stuttgart, as well as Grand Slam QFs at Roland Garros and Wimbledon
- They have reached quarterfinals or better in 13 of their 22 team appearances this year
- Perez has won 8 career Tour-level doubles titles (most recently 2025 Abu Dhabi w/Ostapenko) and holds a career-high doubles ranking of No.7 (Apr. 22, 2024)
- The best tournament finishes in 2026 for Perez, are R-Up showings at Bad Homburg (w/Schuurs) and Brisbane (w/Bucsa)
- Schuurs has won 21 Tour-level doubles titles in her career (most recently 2025 London w/Muhammad) and holds a career-high doubles ranking of No.7 (Oct. 22, 2018)
- Schuurs best result of the year was her final run with Perez at Bad Homburg