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
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Communications: Catherine Sneddon (csneddon@wtatennis.com)

DAY 2 – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9 – ROUND ROBIN

GROUP 2

[2] ARYNA SABALENKA (#2) vs. [7] KAROLINA MUCHOVA (CZE #7)

MUCHOVA LEADS 3-2

[1] Sabalenka d. Muchova 6-3, 6-4 at Brisbane 2026 SF
Muchova d. [1] Sabalenka 7-6(5), 2-6, 6-4 at Beijing 2024 QF
Muchova d. [1] Sabalenka 6-7(4), 6-3, 6-2 at Cincinnati 2023 SF
Muchova d. [2] Sabalenka 7-6(5), 6-7(5), 7-5 at Roland Garros 2023 SF
[4] Sabalenka d. [11] Muchova 7-5, 7-6(4) at WTA Elite Trophy (Zhuhai) SF

Sabalenka:

- This is her sixth consecutive appearance at the WTA Finals (2021-2026) and has reached the final twice; in 2025 (l. Rybakina) and in 2022 (l. Garcia)
- She also reached semifinals at the WTA Finals in 2024 (l. Gauff) and 2023 (l. Swiatek)
- Muchova is the only player in this year's WTA Finals line-up that she has a negative match record to
- She holds the best win ratio among the eight WTA finalists this season against the other finalists (63.6%, 42-24)
- Owns the most wins in straight sets of any player this season (42)
- Since the event's inception in 1972, Martina Navratilova has both appeared in (73) and won the most matches (60) of any player at the WTA Finals, while Sabalenka has appeared in (21) and won (12) the most of players featuring this year
- She is the first player to appear at the WTA Finals for six consecutive editions (2021-2026) since Agnieszka Radwanska (2011-2016) and the first to make their first six appearances at the event consecutively since Elena Dementieva (2000-2005)
- Only Serena Williams (9) has made more WTA Finals appearances than Sabalenka (6) among currently active players
- This year, became the fifth player to complete the Sunshine Double (Indian Wells and Miami) since 1989 after Steffi Graf (1994 and 1996), Kim Clijsters (2005), Victoria Azarenka (2016) and Iga Swiatek (2022)
- She claimed three titles this season (Indian Wells, Miami, Brisbane) and reached a further two finals at US Open and Australian Open to earn the most Grand Slam of any player this year (19)
- Holds a 7-3 record against Top 10 players this season falling to Rybakina in the finals at US Open and Australian Open and to Pegula at Berlin
- Has a 5-2 record against players from Czech Republic, most recently falling to Bartunkova at Beijing last month
- Currently ranked No.2 after Rybakina took over the No.1 position on September 14, 2026; Sabalenka had been ranked No.1 for 99 consecutive weeks and 107 weeks in total
- Qualified for the WTA Finals in doubles with Elise Mertens in 2019

Muchova:

- Making her WTA Finals after qualifying in 2023 but withdrew due to injury
- She has reached four finals across all three surfaces this season, winning titles at Bad Homburg (d. Osaka via ret.) and Doha (d. Mboko in F) and runner-up at Wimbledon (l. Noskova in F) and Stuttgart (l. Rybakina in F)
- Is one of the four players to have reached Grand Slam (Wimbledon), WTA 1000 (Doha) and WTA 500 (Stuttgart and Bad Homburg) finals in 2026, along with the current Top 3 of the WTA Rankings (Rybakina, Sabalenka and M.Andreeva)
- Two Czech players (Muchova and Noskova) are appearing at the WTA Finals for the first time since 2021 in Guadalajara (Karolina Pliskova and Barbora Krejcikova)
- Has topped 40 Tour match wins (41) in a single season for the first time in her career (previous best was 36 wins in 2023)
- 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)
- Her record against Top 10 players this season is 6-5, most recently defeating No.7 Gauff in the semifinal of Wimbledon

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GROUP 2

[3] MIRRA ANDREEVA (#3) vs. [6] ELINA SVITOLINA (UKR #6)

TIED 1-1

[12] Svitolina d. [8] Andreeva 6-2, 6-4 at Australian Open 2026 R16
[9] Andreeva d. [23] Svitolina 7-5, 6-3 at Indian Wells 2025 QF

Andreeva:

- Making her tournament debut in singles (was a singles alternate last year but did not play). Qualified in doubles last year w/Shnaider; they fell in group stage
- Four players (Kostyuk, Andreeva, Noskova and Muchova) are making their debut at the WTA Finals in the same edition of the event for the first time since 2022 (Pegula, Jabeur, Gauff and Kasatkina)
- Andreeva has faced Svitolina twice before (both times on hard court); triumphing on their first encounter during her title run at 2025 Indian Wells. Svitolina won their only contest this season at Australian Open
- She is the first teenager to appear at the WTA Finals since Coco Gauff at 2023 Cancun
- Since the round robin format was reintroduced in 2003, six teenagers have won a singles match at the WTA Finals: Maria Sharapova, Svetlana Kuznetsova, Ana Ivanovic, Agnieszka Radwanska, Caroline Wozniacki and Coco Gauff
- Won three titles in 2026, including her first Grand Slam title at Roland Garros (d. qualifier Chwalinska in F), becoming the youngest Roland Garros champion since Monica Seles in 1992
- Her other titles came at WTA 500 events at Adelaide (d. Mboko in F) and Linz (d. Potapova in F) and she finished runner-up at WTA 1000 events in Madrid (l. Kostyuk) and Beijing (l. Q.Zheng)
- Enters this event having won 50 Tour-level matches this year - she is the youngest player to claim 50+ Tour-level wins in a year since Wozniacki won 68 in 2009
- She leads all players in clay court Tour-level match wins this year (22), which includes two title runs at Roland Garros and Linz, and R-Up at Madrid
- Has won 18 of her 19 opening matches this season, only losing to Ekaterina Alexandrova on grass at Bad Homburg
- Alongside her Roland Garros title, her other Grand Slam results this season include a R16 appearance at Australian Open (l. Svitolina), R64 at Wimbledon (l. Krejcikova) and a career-first US Open QF (l. Gauff)
- Three of her six career titles have come on hard court, winning 2026 Adelaide (d. Mboko in F), 2025 Indian Wells (d. Sabalenka in F) and 2025 Dubai (d. Tauson in F)
- She is 1-5 this season vs. Top 10 opponents, with sole win coming over No.4 Swiatek at Stuttgart
- Currently ranked at a new career-high of No.3 (reached October 12, 2026), she is the youngest player to enter the Top 3 since Maria Sharapova in 2005
- Also picked up her third career WTA doubles title this year, triumphing at WTA 1000 Rome alongside Shnaider (all of her 3 Tour-level doubles titles and 2 Tour-level doubles R-Ups have been with Shnaider)

Svitolina:

- Making her fourth career appearance at the WTA Finals and her first since 2019, she reached back-to-back finals in 2018 and 2019, capturing the title in 2018 (d. Stephens in F) before finishing R-Up in 2019 (l. Barty)
- On her debut appearance in 2017, she became the first Ukrainian player since the inception of the event in 1972 to appear at the WTA Finals
- She is one of two players in this year's eight-player field to have previously won the WTA Finals, alongside Coco Gauff, who lifted the trophy in 2024
- Pegula and Svitolina are the first pair of players to both appear at the WTA Finals after having turned 32 since Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova in 1988
- The match-up between Svitolina and Andreeva will mark the largest age gap between two players facing each other at the WTA Finals since Venus Williams and Caroline Garcia met in the 2017 semifinals at Singapore
- Having previously won the title indoors, Svitolina (Singapore 2018) and Gauff (Riyadh 2024) are bidding to become the third player since 1972 to win the title both indoors and outdoors, joining Serena Williams and Kim Clijsters
- Opened the 2026 season by capturing her 19th career Tour-level title at Auckland (d. Wang Xinyu in F); went on to claim her second title of the season and 20th career title at Rome during the clay court swing (d. Gauff in F), securing her fifth career WTA 1000 crown
- Finished runner-up at Dubai (l. Pegula) and reached four further semifinals at the Australian Open, Indian Wells, Stuttgart and Toronto
- Her run to the Australian Open semifinals marked her first at the tournament, having fallen in the quarterfinals on three previous occasions, and her fourth career Grand Slam semifinal overall
- This year she returned to the Top 10 of the PIF WTA Rankings for the first time since October 2021
- Made quarterfinals or better at 13 of the 19 tournaments she played this season, including two Grand Slam quarterfinal appearances and six WTA 1000 quarterfinals
- Has won 18 of her 19 opening matches this season, only losing to Anna Bondar on clay at Madrid
- Has won eight matches against Top 10 opponents this season, most recently defeating No.10 Anisimova at Toronto
- 12 of her 20 career WTA titles have come on hard court; most recently Auckland this year

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GROUP 1

[1] GABRIELA DABROWSKI (CAN #3) / LUISA STEFANI (BRA #3)

vs.

[7] ELISE MERTENS (BEL #10) / ZHANG SHUAI (CHN #5)

FIRST MEETING

Dabrowski/Stefani:

- The team are making their first appearance as a pair at the WTA Finals
- This is Dabrowski's 8th appearance at the WTA Finals; she qualified three times with Xu Yifan (2017-19) and once more with Giuliana Olmos (2022), but her first trip to the semis and beyond came with Erin Routliffe in 2023
- Dabrowski won the WTA Finals trophy in 2024 with Routliffe, defeating Siniakova/Townsend in the final; also made SF in 2023 with Routliffe (l. Melichar-Martinez/Perez)
- Among this year's doubles field, Dabrowski is tied with Siniakova and Mertens for most WTA Finals appearances
- Stefani qualified for the WTA Finals for the first time in her career last year and went on to reach the final with Timea Babos (l. Mertens/Kudermetova in F)
- The pair have earned a total of 8 doubles titles in their career (six on hard court, one on clay, one on grass), including four WTA 1000 trophies (Wuhan, Beijing, Dubai in 2026 & Montreal in 2021)
- They have reached five additional Tour-level finals together in their careers, including one Grand Slam final at 2026 Wimbledon (l. Mladenovic/Guo in F)
- This season, they have won six titles together across all three surfaces including three WTA 1000 titles at Wuhan, Beijing, Dubai, one WTA 500 title at Strasbourg, and two WTA 250 trophies at Eastbourne and Sao Paulo
- Other top team results for 2026 included reaching the finals at Tokyo and Wimbledon and semifinals at Australian Open, Doha, Miami, Roland Garros and US Open
- This marks their first tournament together since reaching the final at Tokyo (l. Errani/Paolini)
- Dabrowski has earned 26 women's doubles titles over her career including 2 Grand Slam women's doubles titles at 2025 US Open and 2023 US Open (both w/Routliffe); she has reached three additional Grand Slam women's doubles finals in her career, all at Wimbledon in 2026 (w/Stefani), 2024 (w/Routliffe) and 2019 (w/Xu)
- In mixed doubles, Dabrowski is a two-time Grand Slam champion, winning titles at 2018 Australian Open with Mate Pavic (d. Babos/Bopanna in F) and 2017 Roland Garros with Rohan Bopanna (d. Gronefeld/Farah in F); she has also finished runner up three times in the Roland Garros mixed doubles event – in 2026 with Evan King (l. Errani/Vavassori in F), and 2018/2019 with Mate Pavic (l. Chan/Dodig in both finals)
- At the Olympics, Dabrowski won bronze in the mixed doubles at the 2024 Paris Olympics with Felix Auger-Aliassime (d. Dutch pair Schuurs/Koolhof in the bronze medal match)
- Dabrowski is currently ranked No.3 in doubles; she reached a career-high ranking of No.2 in February earlier this season
- Stefani owns 19 career doubles titles, including 4 WTA 1000 trophies (all w/Dabrowski); she has reached one Grand Slam women's doubles final in her career, at 2026 Wimbledon (w/Dabrowski, l. Mladenovic/Guo in F)

- Stefani is a Grand Slam mixed doubles champion, winning 2023 Australian with Rafael Matos (d. Mirza/Bopanna in F); she also reached the mixed doubles final at 2025 Wimbledon with Joe Salisbury (l. Siniakova/Verbeek in F)
- Stefani is currently ranked at a new career-high in doubles at No.3 (first achieved in September this year)

Mertens/Zhang:

- The team are making their first appearance as a pair at the WTA Finals
- Mertens is making her eighth WTA Finals appearance; she has qualified for this event with six different partners
- Mertens has won this title twice, both times partnering Veronika Kudermetova, in 2022 (d. Krejcikova/Siniakova in F) and last year (d. Babos/Stefani in F); she also finished runner-up here in 2021 (w/Hsieh; l. Krejcikova/Siniakova) and made SF in 2023 (w/Hunter)
- This is Zhang's third appearance at the WTA Finals; she made SF on her WTA Finals debut in 2019 (w/Stosur) and fell in the group stage in 2021 (also w/Stosur)
- Mertens and Zhang teamed up for the first time at 2019 Mallorca, reaching QF (l. Bencic/Kuzmova)
- They did not pair up again until 2022 and in their second and third team events, they made back-to-back finals on grass at 2022 Birmingham (l. Kichenok/Ostapenko via w/o) and 2022 Wimbledon (l. Krejcikova/Siniakova)
- Their third team final and first team title came this year when they claimed a Grand Slam trophy at the 2026 Australian Open (d. Danilina/Krunic in F); other top results in 2026 were SF at WTA 1000 Miami and QF at Berlin
- This is their first event as a pairing since 2r finish at 2026 Wimbledon
- Mertens has won 24 career Tour-level doubles titles, including 6 Grand Slam titles in women's doubles (2019 US Open; 2021 and 2025 Wimbledon; 2021, 2024 and 2026 Australian Open); her one title (and final) of this year was the Australian Open with Zhang
- Mertens is a former WTA Doubles World No.1; she reached that ranking for the first time on May 10, 2021 and held the top spot for a total of 52 weeks (as recently as May 3 of this year)
- Zhang has won 19 career Tour-level doubles titles and has reached a career-high doubles ranking of No.2 (July 11, 2022)
- Three of Zhang's doubles titles are Grand Slams: 2019 Australian Open, 2021 US Open (both w/Stosur) and 2026 Australian Open (w/Mertens)
- Zhang has won 4 doubles titles this year with 3 different partners: Australian Open w/Mertens, Linz w/Cirstea, and WTA 1000 Toronto and Adelaide w/Siniakova

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GROUP 1

[3] GUO HANYU (CHN #14) / KRISTINA MLADENOVIC (FRA #9)

vs.

[5] HSIEH SU-WEI (TPE #13) / JELENA OSTAPENKO (LAT #15)

HSIEH/OSTAPENKO LEAD 1-0

[5] Hsieh/Ostapenko d. [3] Guo/Mladenovic 6-3, 6-4 at Cincinnati 2026 QF

Guo/Mladenovic:

- The team of Guo and Mladenovic are making their debut at the WTA Finals this year
- Guo is making her WTA Finals debut whilst Mladenovic makes her fifth appearance
- Mladenovic won back-to-back WTA Finals titles, both with Timea Babos, in 2018 (d. Siniakova/Krejcikova in F), and 2019 (d. Hsieh/Strycova in F); she also reached semifinal in 2016 (w/Garcia, l. Mattek-Sands/Safarova), and fell in the round robin stage on her debut in 2015 (w/Babos)
- The team has won two titles together, both coming this season at Auckland (d. Xu/Yang in F) and Wimbledon (d. Dabrowski/Stefani in F)
- Other highlights as a pair this season include SFs at London and Ningbo, as well as QFs at Indian Wells, Roland Garros, Cincinnati and Wuhan
- This season, they have reached the QF or beyond in eight of the 12 events they have contested together
- There most recent result was reaching SF at Ningbo last month
- Guo has earned seven doubles titles over her career including one Grand Slam title at 2026 Wimbledon with Mladenovic (d. Dabrowski/Stefani in F)
- Guo captured two titles this year (both w/Mladenovic) – she only played with Mladenovic this season
- Currently ranked No.14 in doubles, Guo reached a career-high doubles ranking of No.9 after lifting the Wimbledon trophy in July of this year
- Mladenovic owns 31 career doubles titles, including seven Grand Slam titles (two Australian Open titles, four Roland Garros trophies and one Wimbledon crown)
- Mladenovic has reached an additional five Grand Slam women's doubles finals, finishing runner-up at 2024 US Open (w/Zhang), 2019 Australian Open (w/Babos), 2018 US Open (w/Babos), 2016 US Open (w/Garcia) and 2014 Wimbledon (w/Babos)
- Mladenovic captured two titles this year (both w/Guo) and has made three additional Tour-level semifinals, at Madrid (w/Krunic) and London and Ningbo (both w/Guo)
- Mladenovic is a three-time Grand Slam mixed doubles champion, winning 2022 Australian with Ivan Dodig (d. Fourlis/Kubler in F), 2014 Australian Open with Daniel Nestor (d. Mirza/Tecau in F), and 2013 Wimbledon with Daniel Nestor (d. Raymond/Soares in F)
- In singles, Mladenovic owns one career Tour-level title, winning 2017 St. Petersburg (d. Putintseva in F); she broke into the Top 10 singles rankings in October 2017

Hsieh/Ostapenko:

- The team are making their second appearance as a pair at the WTA Finals, after reaching the semifinals last year (l. Babos/Stefani)
- Hsieh is making her seventh WTA Finals appearance and has reached the final four times, including winning the title in 2013 (w/Peng); she finished runner-up in 2021 (w/Mertens), 2019 (w/Strycova) and 2014 (w/Peng), and also made semifinals last year (w/Ostapenko)
- Ostapenko is making her fourth WTA Finals appearance and has twice been a semifinalist, in 2022 (w/L. Kichenok) and 2025 (w/Hsieh); she lost in the group stage in 2024 (w/L.Kichenok)
- The duo is facing Guo/Mladenovic for a second time this season after taking the win at Cincinnati in August
- The pair teamed up at the start of the 2025 season and reached the final at the Australian Open (l. Siniakova/Townsend in F) in their second tournament together; they also made the Wimbledon final last year
- This season, they opened the year with a title run at Brisbane (d. Bucsa/Perez in F) and also reached the final at WTA 1000 Doha (l. Danilina/Krunic in F)
- Other top team results in 2026 include SFs at WTA 1000 events in Toronto and Cincinnati, as well as Grand Slam QFs at Australian Open and US Open
- Overall, they have won one team title (2026 Brisbane) and have reached four additional team finals, including two Grand Slam R-Ups at 2025 Australian Open and 2025 Wimbledon (l. V.Kudermetova/Mertens in F)
- They have played 9 events together in 2026 and have reached QF or better at all of them
- Hsieh has won a total of 36 career Tour-level doubles titles (one this year, her Brisbane title with Ostapenko)
- Hsieh spent a total of 54 weeks in her career as WTA Doubles World No.1 – she first reached the World No.1 ranking on May 12, 2014
- Hsieh is a 9-time doubles Grand Slam champion, winning seven women's doubles titles (Wimbledon 2013, 2019, 2021, 2023; Roland Garros 2014, 2023; Australian Open 2024) and 2 mixed doubles titles (Australian Open and Wimbledon 2024)
- Ostapenko has won 12 Tour-level doubles titles in her career (including Brisbane this season with Hsieh) and holds a career-high doubles ranking of No.3 (July 14, 2025)
- Ostapenko also made one other doubles final this season, finishing as Stuttgart R-Up (w/Zhang Shuai)
- Ostapenko has won one Grand Slam title in each discipline: singles (2017 Roland Garros), women's doubles (2024 US Open w/L. Kichenok) and mixed doubles (2026 Wimbledon w/Arevalo)