

LTA Daily Player Media Notes

Rothesay Classic Birmingham – Wednesday 19 June 2024

Centre Court Match 2 Elisabetta Cocciaretto (ITA) v Sloane Stephens (USA)

Head-to-head: Stephens leads 1-0

Previous meeting: 2023 WTA 1000 Cincinnati, 1st Round (Hard). Stephens won 75 62

Sloane Stephens biography **HERE**

- The 2017 US Open champion also reached the final of the 2018 French Open.
- Her best run at Wimbledon came in 2013 when she reached the quarter-finals at the All England Club.
- A winner of eight career titles on the WTA Tour, with the most recent coming at the Open de Rouen in France in April 2024.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No.3 in July 2018.
- This is her first appearance in Birmingham since 2014, when she was beaten in the quarter-finals by China's Zhang Shuai.
- Her best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.13 Daria Kasatkina at the Australian Open in January.

Did you know:

- Spends a lot of her time off court promoting her <u>Sloane Stephens Foundation</u>.
- Started playing at age 9 when mother introduced her to the sport in Fresno, California.
- Mother is Sybil Smith, a collegiate swimmer; brother is Shawn Farrell.
- Her favourite surface is clay.

Elisabetta Cocciaretto biography HERE

- Won her first WTA singles title in 2023 at Lausanne in July after she reached her first WTA career singles final at Hobart in January of last year.
- Secured a career-high ranking of No.29 in August 2023.
- Enjoyed her best run at a Grand Slam at the 2024 French Open, as she reached the 4th round before losing against Coco Gauff.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.13 Jelena Ostapenko in the opening round of this tournament on Monday.

Did you know:

- Trains at Italian Tennis Federation at Formia.
- Born in Ancona, Italy, went to school on the opposite coast in Cecina and now resides in nearby Fermo.
- Mother is Jessica, father is Piero and younger brother is Alessandro.
- Introduced to tennis at the age of six by her parents.



Centre Court Match 3 Leylah Fernandez (CAN) v Viktorija Golubic (SUI)

Head to head: Fernandez leads 1-0

Previous meeting: 2021 Monterrey Open, Final. (Hard). Fernandez won 61 64

Leylah Fernandez biography HERE

Career highlights:

- Best performance at a Grand Slam came at the 2021 US Open, where she reached the final and lost against Great Britain's Emma Raducanu.
- Has won 3 WTA Tour titles, with the most recent coming in the Hong King Open in Ocrober 2023.
- Played a central role in Canada's Billie Jean Cup Finals win in Seville last November.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No.13 in August 2022.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.7 Qinwen Zheng in Doha in February.

Did you know:

- Born in Montreal, and resides and trains in Miami, Florida with her mother Irene, father Jorge and younger sister, Bianca Jolie, who also plays tennis.
- 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.
- Loves dessert but specifically enjoys molten lava chocolate cake.

Viktorija Golubic biography HERE

Career highlights:

- Enjoyed her best run in a Grand Slam event as she reached the quarter-finals at Wimbledon in 2021.
- Won her first WTA Tour at the 2016 Swiss Open, beating Kiki Bertens in the final.
- Won a silver medal in the 2020 Olympic Games, alongside partner Belinda Bencic.
- Achieved a career-high WTA Ranking of No.35 in February 2022.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.17 Veronika Kudermetova at the Australian Open in January.

Did you know:

- Her mother Vucica was born in Serbia and her father Ignacije was born in Croatia; both are now Swiss nationals.
- Speaks German, English, Serbian and Croatian.
- Practiced Kung Fu for a while; also enjoys Harry Potter books.

