



## LTA Daily Player Media Notes

### Lexus Birmingham Open – Thursday, 4 June, 2026

#### Ann Jones Centre Court - Match 1

**[WC] Mika Stojsavlejcic (WR288 – GBR) v Elvina Kalieva (WR135 – USA)**

**Head to Head: First meeting**

##### **MIKA STOJSAVLEJVIC**

- Defeated World No. 136 Emerson Jones [36 61 75](#) in R1 – her 1st every victory at WTA 125 level.
- Bids to reach her 1st QF on grass.
- Aims to become the 8th British woman to reach the QF at Birmingham, after Katie Boulter, Harriet Dart, Jo Durie, Anne Hobbs, Melanie South, Heather Watson, and, most recently, Mingge Xu, who was also 17 at the time, last year.
- Looks to become the youngest woman to reach the QF at Birmingham since Donna Vekic, who was 16 when she reached the final in 2013. Xu was slightly older than her last year.
- Bids to become the 3rd British woman to reach a WTA 125 QF in 2026, after Francesca Jones (Istanbul) and Heather Watson (Jiujiang).
- Won the girls' singles at the 2024 US Open, becoming the first British woman to win the event since Watson in 2009.
- Won two ITF singles titles, both in Great Britain, at Nottingham in 2024 and at Birmingham last year (both on hard).
- Defeated World No. 56 Talia Gibson on her Billie Jean King Cup debut in April. She was 219 places below the Australian in the rankings. Great Britain won the tie 3-1 in Melbourne to qualify for the finals in Shenzhen in September.
- Awarded a wild card at Wimbledon last year, falling to Ashlyn Krueger in R1.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 274 in February.
- Won 3 matches against players ranked as high as No. 135 Kalieva, with her best result by ranking coming against No. 56 Gibson in the Billie Jean King Cup match mentioned above.
- WTA Tour biography [HERE](#)

##### **ELVINA KALIEVA**

- Defeated No. 4 seed Talia Gibson [75 26 64](#) in R1.
- American women to win this event include Martina Navratilova, Billie Jean King, Madison Keys and Pam Shriver.
- Bids to reach 1st QF on grass.
- Best results on the WTA 125 Tour in 2026 are two QF's, at Midland, USA (hard) in February and at Madrid (clay) in April. Has never got past a QF at this level.
- Won one WTA Tour main draw match in her entire career, against Dalma Galfi at Miami this year. Qualified for the main draw at Charleston and at Madrid this year, but lost in R1 on both occasions.
- Before this week had won one main draw match on grass at this level or above, at Newport in a WTA 125 last year.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 134 in April.
- WTA Tour biography [HERE](#)

#### Ann Jones Centre Court - Match 2

## [1] Alexandra Eala (WR37 – PHI) v Alina Charaeva (WR130)

### Head to Head: Tied 1-1

|      |                               |      |     |                |
|------|-------------------------------|------|-----|----------------|
| 2020 | Melilla, Spain (ITF)          | Hard | R32 | Charaeva 63 63 |
| 2026 | Manila, Philippines (WTA 125) | Hard | R32 | Eala 61 62     |

### ALEXANDRA EALA

- Defeated Priscilla Hon [60 62](#) in R1.
- Bids to reach 4th QF on grass, and 3rd in England, after Ilkley and Eastbourne last year.
- Top seed won 13 of the previous 43 Birmingham Open women's singles titles, but hasn't won any of the last 10 editions, since Ana Ivanovic in 2014.
- Aims to become just 2nd top seed to reach QF in last 10 editions of Birmingham Open.
- Top seed failed to win any of last 32 WTA 125 events. The last do so was Sara Bejlek at Queretaro in October 2025.
- Made debut at Birmingham last year, where as the No. 3 seed fell to Linda Fruhvirtova in R1.
- At Eastbourne last year she reached the final, where she fell to Maya Joint despite having four match points. It was just her second WTA Tour main draw appearance on grass, and she came into that week with a 0-1 WTA Tour main draw win-loss record on the surface. It remains her only WTA Tour final to date, and she became the first ever Filipino to appear in a WTA Tour final.
- Won one WTA 125 title, at Guadalajara last year.
- Second appearance in a WTA 125 this year – reached QF in her home country, at Manila.
- Came to prominence at Miami last year, when as a wild card ranked at No. 140 she defeated World No. 2 Iga Swiatek and World No. 5 Madison Keys to make the SF. She defeated three Grand Slam champions in all (also Jelena Ostapenko).
- Best performance on WTA Tour this year is a SF at Auckland.
- Girls' singles champion at the 2022 US Open.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 29 in March – highest ranked Filipino woman in history.
- WTA Tour biography [HERE](#)

### ALINA CHARAEVA

- Defeated defending champion Greet Minnen [63 61](#) in R1 – just her 2nd ever win on grass, after a victory in Wimbledon qualifying last year.
- Bids to reach 1st QF on grass.
- Aims to reach 6th WTA 125 QF of 2026 – no one would have reached more QF's at this level this year than her (currently level on 5 with Polina Kudermetova).
- Won maiden WTA 125 title this year, at Midland, USA.
- Yet to win a WTA Tour main draw match.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 122 in May.
- Has a 2-5 win-loss record against Top 50 players. Won her last two, against No. 31 Wang Xinyu and No. 37 Sara Bejlek, both in WTA 125 events, at Paris and at Vic this year.
- WTA Tour biography [HERE](#)

## Ann Jones Centre Court - Match 3

## Alex Bolt (WR152 – AUS) v Arthur Fery (WR154 – GBR)

### Head to Head: Fery leads 1-0

|      |                                    |      |     |               |
|------|------------------------------------|------|-----|---------------|
| 2025 | Bloomfield Hills, USA (Challenger) | Hard | R32 | Fery 64 46 62 |
|------|------------------------------------|------|-----|---------------|

Just 2 places between them in the rankings.

### ALEX BOLT

- Defeated No. 1 seed Mattia Bellucci [63 60](#) in R1.
- Bids to reach 4th QF on grass at ATP Challenger Tour level.
- Reached QF at Birmingham last year as a qualifier, falling to Rinky Hijikata. Also played at Ilkley last year and qualified for the main draws at Queen's (fell to Jacob Fearnley in R1) and at Wimbledon (fell to Ben Shelton in R1).
- Won 4 ATP Challenger Tour titles, including one on grass, at Nottingham 2 in 2021.
- Best results on the ATP Tour are 3 QF's, at Adelaide in 2020, at Los Cabos in 2021 and at Newport on grass in 2024.
- Played in 8 ATP Challenger Tour events in 2026, with his best performance reaching the final at at Brisbane 2 in February, falling to Zhizhen Zhang. Also reached two SF's.
- Played 2 main draw matches on the ATP Tour in 2026, reaching R2 at Houston on clay.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 125 in March 2019.
- Won 7 of his last 8 matches against British players on grass, but lost his last one, against Fearnley at Queen's last year. However, has won his last 3 such matches on grass at this level.
- ATP Tour biography [HERE](#)

### ARTHUR FERY

- Defeated Tristan Schoolkate [64 36 63](#) in R1.
- Bids to reach 1st QF on grass at ATP Challenger Tour level or above.
- Won a tournament on grass before – at an ITF event in Nottingham in 2022.
- Won one ATP Challenger Tour title, at Barranquilla, Colombia on hard last year.
- Reached R16 at the Nottingham 2 Challenger as a qualifier last July – his best performance on grass at this level.
- Won his first Grand Slam main draw match at Wimbledon last year, where as a wild card and ranked at No. 461 he defeated World No. 20 Alexei Popyrin before falling to Luciano Darderi.
- Backed that up by reaching R2 at the Australian Open this year, where as a qualifier he defeated World No. 22 Flavio Cobolli before falling to Tomas Martin Etcheverry.
- Played 3 ATP Tour main draw matches this year (2 at the Australian Open). He also qualified at Miami in March to make his ATP 1000 main draw debut, falling to Stefanos Tsitsipas in R1.
- Played in 5 ATP Challenger Tour events in 2026, with his best result reaching the SF at Zagreb on clay in May, falling to compatriot Jan Choinski.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 152 in February. Currently Great Britain's No. 7.
- ATP Tour biography [HERE](#)

## Ann Jones Centre Court - Match 4

**[WC] Harry Wendelken (WR227 – GBR) v Mark Lajal (WR157 – EST)**

**Head to Head: First meeting**

### HARRY WENDELKEN

- Defeated qualifier James Watt [64 67\(5\) 76\(3\)](#) in R1.
- Bids to reach the 8th ATP Challenger Tour QF of his career, 5th this year, and 1st on grass.
- Aims to become the 1st British man to reach the QF at Birmingham.

- Looks to equal his best result on grass – also reached last eight at the ITF event in Nottingham on grass in 2022.
- Won one ATP Challenger Tour title, at Hersinossos 6, Crete last year – he was a lucky loser.
- Reached 3 ATP Challenger Tour finals in 2026, at Hersinossos 1 (fell to compatriot Toby Samuel), at Miyazaki, Japan (fell to compatriot Liam Broady) and at Wuning 1, China.
- Yet to play a main draw match on the ATP Tour.
- Reached the SF of the boys' doubles at Wimbledon in 2018 alongside fellow Brit James Story.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 223 in April.
- This is just his 2nd match against a player ranked as high as No. 157 Lajal – he fell to No. 153 Francesco Maestrelli in the Challenger at Brest last year. The highest ranked player he has defeated is No. 179 Clement Chidekh in the Wuning Challenger earlier this year – his only victory against a Top 200 player.
- ATP Tour biography [HERE](#)

## **MARK LAJAL**

- Defeated No. 8 seed Leandro Riedi [62 76\(1\)](#) in R1.
- Bids to reach 25th ATP Challenger Tour QF, 3rd this year, but 1st on grass.
- Won two ATP Challenger Tour titles, at Little Rock, USA in 2023 and at Bloomfields Hill, USA last year (both on hard).
- Fell to Coleman Wong in the second round of qualifying at Birmingham last year. This is the first time he's made the main draw of an ATP Challenger Tour event on grass.
- Best result on the ATP Tour has come on grass, reaching the QF as a qualifier at s'Hertogenbosch last year, falling to Zizou Bergs.
- Played once in the main draw at Wimbledon, where as a qualifier in 2024 he fell to eventual champion Carlos Alcaraz in R1.
- Best results on the ATP Challenger Tour in 2026 are reaching the SF at Wuxi, China in May and the QF at Jiujiang, China in April.
- Not played a main draw match on the ATP Tour in 2026.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 145 in September 2025. Estonia's highest ever ranked male.
- Has a 4-1 win-loss record against British players on grass, most recently beating Jan Choinski in Wimbledon qualifying last year. He also defeated Henry Searle in the first round of qualifying at Birmingham last year.
- ATP Tour biography [HERE](#)