

LTA Daily Player Media Notes

Lexus Birmingham Open – Saturday, 6 June, 2026

2 women qualifiers in the SF – 1st time that's happened at a WTA 125 since Gaiba, Italy on grass in June 2024 (Alycia Parks and Susan Bandecchi) and 5th time it's happened in WTA 125 history (also Angers in 2021, Indian Wells 2018, Newport Beach 2018). There have never been 2 qualifiers in a WTA 125 final.

Ann Jones Centre Court – Match 1

[1] Alexandra Eala (WR37 – PHI) v [Q] Rebeka Masarova (WR132 – SUI)

Head to Head: Eala leads 1-0

2025 Trnava, Slovakia (ITF)

Hard

R32

Eala 64 63

ALEXANDRA EALA

- Defeated Priscilla Hon [60 62](#) in R1, Alina Charaeva [62 75](#) in R2 and Mananchaya Sawangkaev [63 62](#) in QF.
- Bids to become 7th top seed to reach a WTA 125 final in 2026. All previous 6 lost in the final.
- Top seed failed to win any of the last 32 WTA 125 events since Sara Bejlek, Queretaro, October 2025.
- 4th WTA 125 SF, 1st of 2026. Reached one WTA 125 final, at Guadalajara last year (won title).
- Made debut at Birmingham last year, where as No. 3 seed fell to Linda Fruhvirtova in R1.
- At Eastbourne last year reached the final, where she fell to Maya Joint despite having four match points. It remains her only WTA Tour final to date.
- Second appearance in a WTA 125 this year – reached QF in her home country, at Manila.
- 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 Filipina woman in history.
- WTA Tour biography [HERE](#)

REBEKA MASAROVA

- Defeated qualifier Tereza Martincova [67\(8\) 61 61](#) in R1, No. 3 seed Tatjana Maria [64 63](#) in R2 and Mary Stoiana [64 36 60](#) in QF.
- 7th WTA 125 SF, and 1st since Birmingham last year, where she fell to eventual champion Greet Minnen.
- Bids to reach 4th WTA 125 final, her 1st since May 2025, and her 1st ever final on grass.
- Just 2nd Swiss player to reach a WTA 125 SF in 2026, after Viktorija Golubic, Oeiras-2 (finalist).
- She and Ashlyn Krueger are the 5th and 6th qualifiers to reach the SF on the WTA 125 Tour in 2026 and the duo are bidding to become the 3rd qualifier to reach the final on the WTA 125 Tour in 2026, after Lanlana Tararudee at Austin and Polina Kudermetova at Oeiras-4.
- Herself and Krueger bid to become the 18th qualifier to reach the final in WTA 125 Tour history, and 2nd on grass, after Alycia Parks won Gaiba in 2024.
- Best result on the WTA Tour is reaching the final at Auckland in 2023, falling to Coco Gauff.
- Won the girls' singles at Roland Garros in 2016.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 62 in December 2023. Currently Switzerland's No. 5.
- Has a 13-22 win-loss record against top 50 players, with her last victory coming against No. 23 Leylah Fernandez at Rome this year. Highest ranked player she has defeated is No. 8 Maria Sakkari at the US Open in 2023.
- WTA Tour biography [HERE](#)

Ann Jones Centre Court – Match 2

Arthur Fery (WR154 – GBR) v Bu Yunchaokete (WR166 – CHN)

Head to Head: Tied 1-1

2024 Gwangju, China (Challenger) Hard R16 Yunchaokete 63 67(8) 44 ret.

2026 Miami ATP 1000 Hard Q2 Fery 63 36 75

Fery was 1-4 down in the 3rd set at Miami, and with win made his Masters 1000 main draw debut.

ARTHUR FERY

- Defeated Tristan Schoolkate [64 36 63](#) in R1, Alex Bolt [64 67\(5\) 63](#) in R2 and No. 5 seed Rinky Hijikata [76\(7\) 63](#) in QF.
- 6th ATP Challenger Tour SF, and 2nd this year (Zagreb on clay in May, where she lost to compatriot Jan Choinski).
- Bids to reach 2nd ATP Challenger Tour final (Barranquilla, Colombia on hard last year, where won title).
- 26th occasion a British player reached an ATP Challenger Tour SF in 2026 – they have a 13-12 win-loss record.
- If he wins, will be 14th occasion a British player to reach an ATP Challenger Tour final in 2026.
- Bids to become the 11th different British player to reach an ATP Challenger Tour final in 2026, after Liam Broady (1), Jan Choinski (1), Oliver Crawford (1), Felix Gill (1), Gilles Hussey (1), Johannes Monday (1), Jack Pinnington Jones (1), Toby Samuel (2), Hamish Stewart (1) and Harry Wendelken (3).
- Won a tournament on grass before, at an ITF event in Nottingham in 2022.
- 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](#)

BU YUNCHAOKETE

- Defeated Lloyd Harris [76\(5\) 16 61](#) in R1, Brit Billy Harris [62 64](#) in R2 and Mark Lajal [75 64](#) in QF.
- 15th ATP Challenger Tour SF and 3rd of 2026. Won both SF's this year, at Busan, South Korea and at Wuxi, China.
- Bids to reach 9th ATP Challenger Tour final, and 3rd of 2026. No Chinese has appeared in more ATP Challenger finals than him in 2026 (2).
- 1st ever SF on grass.
- Won 3 ATP Challenger Tour titles, most recently at Granby, Canada in 2024.
- Best performances on the ATP Tour are reaching 2 SF's, on home soil at Hangzhou (fell to compatriot Zhizhen Zhang) and the ATP 500 on home soil at Beijing in 2024 (just the second Chinese to reach a SF at that level, after Zhang). He was a wild card in both.
- Last year played in the main draw at Wimbledon for the first time, falling to Brandon Nakashima in R1.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 64 in April 2025. Currently China's No. 2, after Wu Yibing.
- ATP Tour biography [HERE](#)

Court One – Match 1

[5] Nikola Bartunkova (WR69 – CZE) v [Q] Ashlyn Krueger (WR120 – USA)

Head to Head: Bartunkova leads 1-0

2026 Rome (WTA 1000)

Clay

Q1

Bartunkova 62 62

NIKOLA BARTUNKOVA

- Defeated Brit Harriet Dart [36 63 75](#) in R1, loser Gabriela Knuston [64 76\(4\)](#) in R2 and Brit Mika Stojsavljevic [64 67\(8\) 76\(4\)](#) in QF on her 4th match point in a match that lasted almost 3 hours.
- 1st ever tournament on grass.
- Bids to emulate compatriot Petra Kvitova – the only Czech woman to win the Birmingham title (2017, 2018).
- 7th Czech woman to reach Birmingham SF. Linda Fruhvirtova reached the final here last year.
- Reached her 2nd WTA 125 SF (Samsun, Turkey last year on hard, where she reached the final, falling to Kaja Juvan).
- Bids to become 5th Czech woman to reach a WTA 125 final in 2026, after Krejčíková, Valentová, Salková and Vidmanová.
- Reached her maiden WTA Tour SF at the WTA 500 at Guadalajara last year as a wild card and ranked at No. 228.
- Reached R3 at this year's Australian Open as a qualifier, defeating World No. 43 Daria Kasatkina and World No. 10 Belina Bencic.
- As a lucky loser reached R16 at the WTA 1000 in Rome in May, defeating World No. 19 Madison Keys.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 65 in May. This time last year was ranked outside the top 200.
- WTA Tour biography [HERE](#)

ASHLYN KRUEGER

- Defeated Himeno Sakatsume [64 63](#) in R1, No. 2 seed Janice Tjen [61 63](#) in R2 and Taylah Preston [26 63 64](#) in QF.
- 2nd WTA 125 SF, after Gaiba, Italy, on grass in 2023, where she went on to win the title.
- Bids to become just 2nd American to reach a WTA 125 final in 2026, after Madison Keys (Paris, finalist).
- Herself and Masarova are the 5th and 6th qualifiers to reach the SF on the WTA 125 Tour in 2026.
- Herself and Masarova bid to become the 3rd qualifier to reach the final on the WTA 125 Tour in 2026, after Lanlana Tararudee at Austin and Polina Kudermetova at Oeiras-4.
- Herself and Masarova bid to become the 18th qualifier to reach the final in WTA 125 Tour history, and 2nd on grass, after Alycia Parks won Gaiba in 2024.
- Won her maiden WTA Tour title at Osaka in 2023, defeating Zhu Lin in the final.
- Also reached the final at the WTA 500 at Abu Dhabi last year, falling to Belinda Bencic.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 29 in July 2025. Was ranked at No. 33 this time last year.
- WTA Tour biography [HERE](#)

Court One – Match 2

Otto Virtanen (WR134 – FIN) v [2] Kamil Majchrzak (WR78 – POL)

Head to Head: First meeting

OTTO VIRTANEN

- Defeated qualifier Zhizhen Zhang [76\(8\) 61](#) in R1, awarded a walkover against Aleksandar Vukic in R2, and beat qualifier Filippo Romano [64 64](#) in QF.
- 16th ATP Challenger Tour SF, 3rd of 2026, and 3rd on grass (at Surbiton in 2022 – fell to Jordan Thompson and at Birmingham last year – defeated Brandon Holt).
- Appeared in 3 ATP Challenger Tour events this year, with 3 SF's in all of them, at Manama, at Thionville, France and here. So, lost both previous SF's in 2026.
- Bids to reach 10th ATP Challenger Tour final, his 1st of 2026, and his 2nd on grass.
- Won the title here last year, defeating Aleksandar Vukic, Marc-Andrea Husler, Brandon Holt and Colton Smith. It was his 7th ATP Tour Challenger title at the time. He became just the second Finnish man to win a grass-court title, and the first in 25 years, since Tuomas Ketola, who won a pair of titles on Indian soil at 1999 Lucknow and 2000 Calcutta.
- Won 8 ATP Challenger Tour titles in all (also won in Roanne, France, in October last year).
- Won just two matches on the ATP Tour this year – both in the Davis Cup against Hong Kong as Finland won the tie 3-1 in the World Group 1 play-offs.
- Best result on grass on the ATP Tour is reaching the R16 at s'Hertogenbosch last year.
- Won the 2018 Wimbledon boys' doubles title with partner Yanki Erel. Was a good junior – won the 2018 Orange Bowl.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 91 in November 2024. Currently Finland's No. 1.
- Has a 27-34 win-loss record against top 100 players, and a 5-4 record on grass.
- Won 8 matches in his career against players ranked as high as No. 78 Majchrzak, most recently on grass at s'Hertogenbosch last year, against No. 62 Tomas Martin Etcheverry.
- ATP Tour biography [HERE](#)

KAMIL MAJCHRZAK

- Defeated qualifier James McCabe [76\(3\) 63](#) in R1, British wild card Felix Gill [63 63](#) in R2 and Sho Shimabukuro [76\(6\) 63](#) in QF.
- 34th ATP Challenger Tour SF and his 4th ATP Challenger Tour SF on grass (Ilkey in 2019, Nottingham-1 in 2021 and Nottingham-2 in 2021) and his first for 5 years.
- Bids to reach 16th ATP Challenger Tour final, and his 1st in almost a year (August 2025).
- Bids to become 2nd Pole to reach an ATP Challenger Tour final in 2026, after Hubert Hurkacz (Cagliari).
- Bids to reach 2nd ATP Challenger Tour final on grass – reached the final at Nottingham-2 in 2021, where he fell to Alex Bolt.
- Just 2nd ATP Challenger Tour event of 2026, after Phoenix in March.
- Won 9 ATP Challenger Tour titles.
- Best results on the ATP Tour after two SF's, at Pune in 2022 and at Marrakech last year.
- Reached R4 at Wimbledon last year, falling to Karen Khachanov – his best performance in the Grand Slams. Became the 5th Polish man in the Open Era to reach the last 16 at Wimbledon. Also reached R3 at last year's US Open.
- Achieved a career-high ranking of No. 53 in March. Currently Poland's No. 1, ahead of Hurkacz.
- ATP Tour biography [HERE](#)