



DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

DAILY NEWSLETTER

the Baseline



FEBRUARY 17 - 29, 2020 DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS STADIUM

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2020

DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS WTA DRAW

قد رعت صاحب السمو الشيخ محمد بن راشد آل مكتوم نائب رئيس الدولة رئيس مجلس الوزراء حاكم دبي
Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai

بطولات سوق دبي الحرة للتنس
DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS



The WTA Draw Ceremony took place on Saturday with special guests Anett Kontaveit, Ons Jabeur and Karolína Plíšková

WHAT'S ON TODAY

Matches

- Qualifying matches start at 10:30am on courts 1,2 & 3
- Round 1 matches start at 2pm on Centre Court and courts 1,2 & 3
- Evening session of play begins at 7.00pm
- The match of the day is Kim Clijsters vs Garbine Muguruza on Centre Court at 7pm

Competitions

- Catch & Win is on Centre Court at 6.45pm. Be in your seat to win some great prizes



Activities

- Over 250 kids will take part in the J.P. Morgan Kids' Day this morning with WTA players Petra Martić and Karolína Muchová
- Stay on Centre Court after the 7pm match for a special WTA 20th Anniversary presentation



THE WTA MEDIA DAY



Kim Clijsters is ready to face the challenge of being back on the tennis court, over seven years since she last played a competitive match. And having chosen to begin her comeback here in Dubai because of the high level of competition it offers, she has been drawn to face recent Australian Open finalist and former two-time Grand Slam champion Garbine Muguruza.

Clijsters is part of a fascinating draw featuring many of the best players in the world, including fifth-ranked 2019 champion Belinda Bencic. Does Belinda feel she is under pressure to defend her title?

"No, not at all," she said. "I don't really get why all of the people think that success and then after playing it's pressure. For me, it's not. It's a privilege. I won here last year, so I can only play great again here. That's how I see it. I think it's all about the mentality."

Elina Svitolina knows what it's like to successfully defend her title in Dubai, winning in 2017 and 2018. Like Bencic, she feels no pressure here.

"I don't think so," she said. "For me it's more

confidence because I played well here. I won this tournament twice, so definitely I did something right before. I just have to try to find the way to get into the same routines and playing well. It's more confidence than pressure."

Simona Halep is the 2015 champion and seeded number one this week, and she couldn't be happier to be in one of her favourite cities.

"I feel great to be back in Dubai. I did a pre-season here. Actually I can get used to this city. It's amazing here. I'm here just to give my best every day and we will see how far I can go. Definitely I have great memories since that year when I won. Every match is tough, so I just want to win the first one."

One of the challenges that Halep could face is 2020 Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin, and the young American appreciates that things have now changed in her life, with everyone expecting more of her than they might have done before.

"I learned about myself, a lot of things. Those two weeks really changed my life," she said. "I handled

everything well, all the pressure well. Obviously different expectations now, I would say. Hopefully I can somehow take it easy and not let it get into my head. I mean, it's different obviously. It's a different pressure. You have more expectations from other people from the outside. For myself, I'm always hard on myself. Every tournament I go to, I obviously want to do well. So it's nothing really different. It's a little bit different, the other expectations. I got to somehow figure out how to manage it. We'll see."

Another strong challenger for the title will be 2015 finalist Karolina Pliskova. Unusually, she does not place winning the title as her top priority, but rather doing the things she wants to do to improve her game.

"I have some goals to do well, do specific things on the practice courts, in the matches. Not always has to be about the victories," she said. "I think I had enough victories in my career so far that I don't have to really push to win this tournament or to win the next one. Of course, it's always nice to win tournaments. I want to get better as a player. That's my goal for this year. Let's see if I can do that."

GARBINE MUGURUZA GOES SHOPPING



Garbine Muguruza treated herself ahead of her first game today with a quick shopping spree at the Dubai Duty Free shop in Terminal 3, Concourse A. Muguruza was welcomed by Dubai Duty Free staff on arrival and celebrated the 20th anniversary of the WTA week by choosing 20 items that she cannot live without!

"I can't believe it has been 20 years of Dubai here with WTA and there's no better place to celebrate the 20 year anniversary than in Dubai Duty Free."





DUBAI DUTY FREE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Dubai, UAE 17-22 February 2020



MAIN DRAW SINGLES

1	HALEP, Simona	ROU	S. HALEP (1)
3	BYE		
3	RISKE, Alison	USA	
4	WC JABEUR, Ons	TUN	
5	MERTENS, Elise	BEL	
6	WANG, Qiang	CHN	
7	SAKICAR, Maria	GRE	
7	SABALENKA, Aryna	BLR	
3	WC SVITOLINA, Elina	UKR	
10	QUALIFIER & LUCKY LOSER		
11	VONDROUSOVA, Marketa	CZE	
12	SEVASTOVA, Anastasiya	LAT	
13	QUALIFIER & LUCKY LOSER		
14	YASTREMSKA, Daryna	UKR	
15	WC CLUSTERS, Kim	BEL	
9	MUGURUZA, Garbiñe	ESP	
16	MARTIC, Petra	CRO	
18	QUALIFIER & LUCKY LOSER		
19	ANISIMOVA, Amanda	USA	
20	STRYCOVA, Barbora	CZE	
21	QUALIFIER & LUCKY LOSER		
22	KONTAVET, Anett	EST	
23	PAVLYUCHENKOVA, Anastasia	RUS	
24	4 BENCIC, Belinda	SUI	
25	5 KENIN, Sofia	USA	
26	SE RYBANKINA, Elena	KAZ	
27	MUCHOVA, Karolina	CZE	
28	QUALIFIER & LUCKY LOSER		
29	QUALIFIER & LUCKY LOSER		
30	QUALIFIER & LUCKY LOSER		
31	BYE		
2	PLISKOVA, Karolina	CZE	Ka. PLISKOVA (2)

MAIN DRAW DOUBLES

1	HABE Hui-Min	CHN	S. HALEP
2	STRYCOVA, Barbora	CZE	S. STRYCOVA (1)
3	BYE		
4	HAN, Xinyu	CHN	
5	PENG, Liang	CHN	
6	USTRI, Coralia	ROU	
7	VORACHOVA, Renata	CZE	
8	KENIN, Sofia	USA	
9	MARTIC-GANDI, Daria	USA	
10	ADAMCZAK, Marcin	POL	
11	WC GOROVA, Vera	RUS	
12	FURZAN, Jordan	BEL	
13	WAT YUWANCH, Alison	BEL	
14	PESCHKE, K. Kate	GER	
15	SCHWAB, David	CAN	
16	DAB RICHARD, Garbiñe	CZE	S. DAB RICHARD
17	23ANNA, Shuai	CHN	S. 23ANNA (2)
18	BYE		
19	MUCHOVA, Karolina	CZE	
20	VONDROUSOVA, Marketa	CZE	
21	BRADY, Jessica	USA	
22	SEVASTOVA, Anastasiya	LAT	
23	JURAK, Daria	CRO	
24	SHVEDOVA, Yekaterina	KAZ	
25	KOCHENKO, Lyubov	UKR	
26	KOCHENKO, Lyubov	UKR	
27	GOULBERG, Vlada	ISR	
28	TOCHMAN, J.	ISR	
29	DUAN, Yinying	CHN	
30	KUDERMETOVA, Veronika	RUS	
31	KRUKOVSKA, Barbora	CZE	
32	23ANNA, Shuai	CHN	
33	OLIVIERO, Alice	ITA	
34	ROGOLSKA, Alicja	POL	
35	WC GOROVA, Renata	ROU	
36	MRTA, Sofia	ITA	
37	KRUKOVSKA, Barbora	CZE	
38	GOULBERG, Vlada	ISR	
39	HAN, Xinyu	CHN	
40	YANG, Xinyu	CHN	
41	GOULBERG, Vlada	ISR	
42	HALEP, Simona	ROU	
43	BYE		
44	MELICHAMP, Nicole	USA	N. MELICHAMP
45	23ANNA, Shuai	CHN	Y. 23ANNA (2)
46	ADAMCZAK, Marcin	POL	
47	SEVASTOVA, Anastasiya	CZE	
48	PLISKOVA, Karolina	CZE	
49	PLISKOVA, Karolina	CZE	
50	CHEN, Hui	CHN	
51	STERN, Lili	ISR	
52	HRADKOVA, Lucie	CZE	
53	PLISKOVA, Karolina	CZE	
54	PLISKOVA, Karolina	CZE	
55	CHEN, Hui	CHN	
56	KALASHNIKOVA, Ekaterina	RUS	
57	BYE		
58	CHEN, Hui	CHN	
59	CHEN, Hui	CHN	
60	CHEN, Hui	CHN	

ORDER OF PLAY

CENTRE COURT	COURT 1	COURT 2	COURT 3
Starting at: 2:00 pm	Starting at: 10:30 am	Starting at: 10:30 am	Starting at: 10:30 am
	Kristina MLADENOVIC (FRA) vs Polona HERCOG (SLO)	Ana BOGDAN (ROU) vs Aleksandra SASNOVICH (BLR)	Veronika KUDERMETOVA (RUS) vs Bethanie MATTEK-SANDS (USA)
	followed by	followed by	followed by
	Katerina SINIAKOVA (CZE) vs Allison VAN UYTVANCK (BEL)	Su-Wei HSIEH (TPE) vs Jennifer BRADY (USA)	Sorana CIRSTEA (ROU) vs Carla SUAREZ NAVARRO (ESP)
Starting at: 2:00 pm	Not Before 2:00 pm	Not Before 2:00 pm	Not Before 2:00 pm
Amanda ANISIMOVA (USA) vs Barbora STRYCOVA (CZE)	Elise MERTENS (BEL) vs Qiang WANG (CHN)	Darija JURAK (CRO) vs Yaroslava SHVEDOVA (KAZ) vs Lyudmyla KICHENOK (UKR) vs Nadiia KICHENOK (UKR)	Viktorija GOLUBIC (SUI) vs Jil TEICHMANN (SUI) vs Yingying DUAN (CHN) vs Veronika KUDERMETOVA (RUS) [7]
followed by	followed by		followed by
Alison RISKE (USA) vs [WC] Ons JABEUR (TUN)	Makoto NINOMIYA (JPN) vs Zhaoxuan YANG (CHN) vs Julia GOERGES (GER) vs Simona HALEP (ROU)		Sofia KENIN (USA) vs Bethanie MATTEK-SANDS (USA) vs [WC] Monique ADAMCZAK (AUS) vs Yana SIZIKOVA (RUS)
Not Before 7:00 pm	followed by		
[WC] Kim CLIJSTERS (BEL) vs Garbiñe MUGURUZA (ESP) [9]	Kirsten FLIPKENS (BEL) vs Allison VAN UYTVANCK (BEL) vs Kveta PESCHKE (CZE) vs Demi SCHUURS (NED) [6]		
followed by			
20th Anniversary Presentation (5 minutes)			
followed by			
Marketa VONDROUSOVA (CZE) vs Anastasja SEVASTOVA (LAT)			

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