







Andalvona







David Haggerty

ITF President



I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the 2023 Billie Jean King Cup by Gainbridge Finals. With a World Championship title on the line, we are sure to see some scintillating tennis from the top tennis players and nations at the Estadio La Cartuja this week. There is nothing quite like team tennis to bring out the best in a player and you are sure to witness the levels of skill, passion and excitement that our great competition is synonymous with.

I hope you enjoy your time in Seville this week.



Dan Towriss
Gainbridge CEO

Welcome to the Billie Jean King Cup by Gainbridge!

This is a special event for us at Gainbridge, a Group 1001 company, because we've made it a mission to support tennis legend Billie Jean King in her efforts to grow women's sports and attack pay inequality. We're proud that we've helped ensure that the Billie Jean Cup Finals prize money is equivalent to the men's Davis Cup competition.

This week, we've created Parity Week by Gainbridge to celebrate sporting legends Billie Jean King, Annika Sorenstam and Lyn St. James as part of our commitment to women's sports – a category where we put 40 percent of Gainbridge's sports sponsorship dollars.

We salute Billie Jean King and all the athletes competing this week and look forward to watching as the top 12 nations in women's tennis compete to be crowned the best in the world.



Arturo Bernal
Consejero de Turismo,
Cultura y Deporte
de la Junta de Andalucía

We are delighted to welcome you to Seville for what is set to be an incredible six days of tennis at the Billie Jean King Cup Finals. We are so thrilled to bring top class sport to this historic city and to welcome the world's best players to Andalusia, one of the most beautiful regions on the planet.

For locals who have made the short journey here this week, we are grateful for your support and for embracing these opportunities to witness tennis of the highest level in your home city.

For those who have travelled from further afield, Seville prides itself on being a welcoming city and we have no doubt you will experience that warm hospitality during your stay. As well as enjoying the kind spirit of the locals and watching the world's most talented players battling it out for glory, we hope you will have time to experience the fantastic food and drink on offer and explore the sights.

Wherever you are from, you are set for an unforgettable few days at the Estadio La Cartuja. We hope you have a wonderful time and enjoy the tennis•



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for women's unique retirement needs.

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Teams



Seven of the world's top 20 players will represent their nations at the 2023 Billie Jean King Cup by Gainbridge Finals at the Estadio La Caruja in Seville this week including Wimbledon champions Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan) and Marketa Vondrousova (Czechia).

The field also features Olympic gold medallist Belinda Bencic, who was part of the victorious Swiss team last year, and Grand Slam champions Barbora Krejcikova (Czechia), Sofia Kenin (USA) and Sloane Stephens (USA).

The 12 teams will go head-to-head across four round-robin groups of three with the four teams who top the groups qualifying for the semi-finals. The two semi-final winners will then battle it out to lift the trophy in the final.



Kimberly Birrell Storm Hunter Daria Saville Ajla Tomljanovic **Ellen Perez** Captain: Alicia Molik





Canada

Leylah Fernandez Rebecca Marino **Eugenie Bouchard Marina Stakusic** Gabriela Dabrowski Captain: Heidi El Tabakh





Czechia

Marketa Vondrousova Barbora Krejcikova Marie Bouzkova Linda Noskova Katerina Siniakova Captain: Petr Pala





France

Caroline Garcia Varvara Gracheva **Clara Burel Alize Cornet** Kristina Mladenovic Captain: Julien Benneteau





Germany

Tatjana Maria Anna-Lena Friedsam Laura Siegemund Eva Lys Jule Niemeier Captain: Rainer Schüttler



Teams



Jasmine Paolini Elisabetta Cocciaretto **Martina Trevisan** Lucia Bronzetti Lucrezia Stefanini Captain: Tathiana Garbin





Elena Rybakina **Yulia Putintseva Zhibek Kulambayeva** Aruzhan Sagandikova **Anna Danilina** Captain: Yaroslava Shvedova





Magda Linette Magdalena Frech Katarzyna Kawa Weronika Falkowska **Captain: Dawid Celt**





Slovenia

Tamara Zidansek Kaja Juvan Veronika Erjavec Nina Potocnik Ela Nala Milic







Spain

Paula Badosa Sara Sorribes Tormo Rebeka Masarova **Cristina Bucsa** Marina Bassols Ribera Captain: Anabel Medina **Garrigues**





Switzerland

Belinda Bencic Viktorija Golubic **Celine Naef** Jil Teichmann Simona Waltert **Captain: Heinz Guenthardt**





Sofia Kenin **Danielle Collins Sloane Stephens Peyton Stearns Taylor Townsend** Captain: Kathy Rinaldi









THE OFFICIAL OUTFITTER OF THE BILLIE JEAN KING CUP



GROUPS A-B

Let's take an in depth look at possible match ups and storylines from the group stages at this year's Billie Jean King Cup by Gainbridge Finals.

Within seconds of the draw being made for the Finals in Seville, Group A was declared the obligatory 'Group of Death' – and with very good reason.

Reigning champions Switzerland are joined by two serial winners of the women's World Cup of Tennis – USA, who have topped the podium a record 18 times, and 11-time winners Czechia.

Heinz Guenthardt's Switzerland are a well-oiled machine and three of their four team members – Olympic gold medallist Belinda Bencic, Viktorija Golubic and Jil Teichmann – propelled their nation to victory in 2022. Their number is swelled by debutants Celine Naef and Simona Waltert.

Czechia are a formidable outfit with an incredibly versatile roster. Marketa Vondrousova, who triumphed at Wimbledon in July, will spearhead their title charge alongside, former world No. 2 Barbora Krejcikova, world No.50 Marie Bouzkova, rising star Linda Noskova and seven-time Grand Slam doubles champion Katerina Siniakova.

USA captain Kathy Rinaldi is to step down as her nation's captain at the conclusion of the Finals and will therefore be eyeing a final flourish. Grand Slam champions Sofia Kenin and Sloane Stephens, Danielle Collins, Peyton Stearns and Taylor Townsend are her imposing quintet.

At first glance, Kazakhstan would appear the favourites to emerge from Group B as they have world No. 5 and 2022 Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina within their ranks, plus Yulia Putintseva as a more than capable sidekick.

However, sport is sport and expected outcomes are rarely achieved without curveballs or bumps in the road, and Australia and Slovenia are not the sort of nations to go quietly.

It is worth remembering that Alicia Molik's Australia went the distance at the 2022 Finals in Glasgow before losing to Switzerland with silverware tantalisingly within reach.

Storm Hunter and Ajla Tomljanovic were on court during that final and are named within the Australia team again this time around, and there could be a first appearance since 2019 for Kimberly Birrell.

Slovenia, meanwhile, showed their own resilience and a desire to fight for their national flag when they recovered from 2-0 down to win 3-2 in their Qualifier against Romania – a victory which secured their place at the Finals.

Tamara Zidansek and Kaja Juvan were instrumental in Slovenia's fightback, each winning a singles match before joining forces to great effect in doubles, and both will be representing their nation in Seville.





GROUPS C-D

All three of the Group C nations will fancy their chances of reaching the semi-finals in Seville.

Spain have serious Billie Jean King Cup pedigree having triumphed five times in the 1990s with Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and tournament director Conchita Martinez front and centre.

The quintet of Paula Badosa, Sara Sorribes Tormo, Rebeka Masarova, Cristina Bucsa and Marina Bassols Ribera will carry Spain's hopes in front of a home crowd.

Former world No. 2 Badosa is the standout name within the Spanish ranks and represents a major boost to her nation's hopes of reprising past glories in the competition but she has been battling with injury in recent months.

Like Spain, Canada have named a five-person team which includes former world No.5 Eugenie Bouchard, Marina Stakusic and Gabriela Dabrowski as well as US Open runner-up Leylah Fernandez, who has won 11 of the 14 matches she has played across singles and doubles since making her debut in April 2019, and Rebecca Marino.

At world No.23 Poland's Magda Linette is the highest-ranked singles player on show in Group C. She has been named alongside Magdalena Frech, Katarzyna Kawa and Weronika Falkowska.

It was confirmed by Alize Cornet after they sealed their place at the Finals in April, that France are very much on a mission this year. The immediate hurdle they have to clear in Seville is an all-European Group D also featuring Italy and Germany.

Within the France ranks are world No. 10 Caroline Garcia and six-time Grand Slam doubles champion Kristina Mladenovic, both of whom played leading roles as France claimed their third title in 2019.

Garcia, who captured the biggest title of her career when she won the WTA Finals last November, is the highest-ranked singles player within the group.

There are no guarantees, with this based purely on ranking, but Garcia may well come up against Germany's Tatjana Maria and Jasmine Paolini of Italy, who are the highest-ranked singles players for their nations.

While Varvara Gracheva, Anna-Lena Friedsam and Elisabetta Cocciaretto are France, Germany and Italy's second-highest ranked singles players, it will boil down a tactical decision from captain as to who plays the first singles of their ties.

All three nations have five-person squads so selection is not a foregone conclusion. Group D really does promise to be a humdinger of a battle with no quarter given between any of these team, all of whom will believe they have the potential to go deep at this year's women's World Cup of Tennis finale.







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