



2026 AUSTRALIAN OPEN JUNIOR SINGLES FINAL NOTES Sunday 1 February

Girls' Singles Final

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Boys' Singles Final

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On court today...

- In the girls' singles final today, France's Ksenia Efremova is bidding to end a memorable Australian summer of tennis on a high note when she takes on Ekaterina Tupitsyna. Efremova competed in women's singles qualifying here for the first time, before finishing runner-up at J300 Traralgon, the junior warm-up event prior to this tournament. Victory on Rod Laver Arena today would see her become just the 2nd French player to win the Australian Open girls' singles title, after Virginie Razzano in 1999. Her opponent, Tupitsyna, is a surprise finalist here, with the junior world No. 92 having lost in the 1st round on both of previous appearances in the girls' singles events at the Grand Slams. But Tupitsyna has been in fine form here, dropping just one set en route to the final and recording back-to-back wins against seeded players in the quarterfinals and semifinals. Another win this afternoon would make her the first unseeded player to win the girls' singles title here since Tereza Mihalikova in 2015.
- In the boys' singles final, USA's Keaton Hance faces Slovenia's Ziga Sesko, a 2nd meeting for the pair at any level. Sesko won their only previous encounter – at the 2022 ITF World Junior Tennis Finals, the international team competition for players aged 14 and under. Another victory for Sesko today would see him become the first Slovenian player to win a Grand Slam boys' singles title and just the 3rd Slovenian player to win a Grand Slam junior title, after Mima Jausovec and Katarina Srebotnik. Hance, meanwhile, continues a recent trend of strong performances by American players in the boys' singles event here. He is the 6th American player to reach the boys' singles final here since 2018, and will hope to emulate compatriots Sebastian Korda (2018 champion) and Bruno Kuzuhara (2022 champion) with victory today. He would become the 7th American player to win the Australian Open boys' singles title overall.

NO. 3 KSENIA EFREMOVA (FRA) v EKATERINA TUPITSYNA

Head-to-head: first meeting

Road to the final

EFREMOVA	Time		Time	TUPITSYNA
d. Geng Xinle 63 60	0:48	1st round	1:13	d. (Q) Rira Kosaka 62 63
d. (Q) Polina Skliar 62 16 60	1:27	2nd round	0:00	d. No. 4 Victoria Luiza Barros w/o
d. No. 14 Nadia Lagaev 62 61	1:14	3rd round	1:42	d. Sofiia Bielinska 62 76(5)
d. No. 10 Kanon Sawashiro 63 75	1:30	Quarterfinals	2:24	d. No. 6 Sun Xinran 36 75 75
d. Rada Zolotareva 60 46 64	1:43	Semifinals	1:14	d. No. 8 Thea Frodin 63 64
total time on court	6:42	(Infosys time)	6:33	total time on court

EFREMOVA

v

TUPITSYNA

16	Age	17
7	ITF Junior Ranking	92
583	WTA Ranking	1151
14-7	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	4-2
8-2	Australian Open Record (Junior)	4-0
136-31	Career Record (Junior)	81-29
10-1	2026 Record (Junior)	6-1

- **EFREMOVA** is bidding to win her first Grand Slam girls' singles title.
- Efremova is bidding to become the **2nd French player to win the Australian Open girls' singles title** – after Virginie Razzano, who won the girls' singles title here in 1999.
- Efremova is also bidding to become the **8th French player to win an Australian Open junior singles title**. In addition to Razzano's girls' singles title here in 1999, 6 French players have won the boys' singles title here – Georges Goven (1965), Julien Jeanpierre (1998), Clement Morel (2002), Gael Monfils (2004), Alexandre Sidorenko (2006) and Harold Mayot (2020).
- Efremova is bidding to become the **first French player to win a Grand Slam girls' singles final since 2020** when Elsa Jacquemot won the girls' singles title at Roland Garros. She would become the 6th French player to win a Grand Slam girls' singles title since 2000 – after Razzano (who also won the title at 2000 Roland Garros), Marion Bartoli (2001 US Open), Alize Cornet (2007 Roland Garros), Kristina Mladenovic (2009 Roland Garros) and Jacquemot (2020 Roland Garros).
- By reaching the final here, Efremova has become the **7th French player to reach the Australian Open girls' singles final***. In addition to 1999 champion Razzano, 5 French players have finished as girls' singles runner-up here – Corinne Vanier (1981), Pascale Paradis (1982), Emmanuelle Derly (1988), Natalie Dechy (1996) and Clara Burel (2018). (*NB no records of runners-up prior to 1977).
- By reaching the final here, Efremova has recorded her **best Grand Slam result**. Her previous best result at the Grand Slams was reaching the quarterfinals as a wild card on her Grand Slam debut at the 2024 Australian Open (l. Renata Jamrichova) and as a direct acceptance at the US Open last year (l. Jeline Vandromme).
- Efremova is making her **3rd junior Australian Open appearance and is contesting her 7th junior Grand Slam event overall**. Last year here, she fell to Renee Alame in the 1st round. Elsewhere at the Grand Slams last year, she reached the 2nd round at both Roland Garros (d. Pietra Rivoli, l. Hannah Klugman) and Wimbledon (d. Sonja Zhenikhova, l. Mia Pohankova).
- Efremova's **best results at junior-level in 2025** were winning the titles at J300 Charleroi-Marcinelle (BEL) (d. Petra Konjikusic), J300 Repentigny (CAN) (d. Qu Yihan), J500 Osaka (JPN) (d. Anna Pushkareva) and J200 Hong Kong (HKG) (d. Alisa Teretyeva). She also finished runner-up at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (l. Vandromme).

- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Efremova finished runner-up at J300 Traralgon (AUS) for the 2nd consecutive year, falling to Sun Xinran in the final.
- Efremova has **won 4 professional events** – all at W15 Monastir (TUN) tournaments in 2023-25. She made her professional debut in November 2023 and has contested 21 professional events.
- Efremova reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 6 in October last year and plays here one place lower at No. 7. She reached a career-high WTA ranking of No. 575 earlier this month and is currently ranked at No. 583.
- Efremova **competed as a wild card in women's singles qualifying here**. She fell to Aliaksandra Sasnovich 63 61 in the 1st round of qualifying.
- **TUPITSYNA** is bidding to win her first Grand Slam girls' singles title.
- Tupitsyna is bidding to become the **first unseeded player to win the Australian Open girls' singles final since 2015**, when Tereza Mihalikova won the title unseeded here. By reaching the final here, she has become the first unseeded player to reach the girls' singles final at the Australian Open since 2020, when unseeded Weronika Baszak finished runner-up to No. 9 seed Victoria Jimenez Kasintseva.
- Tupitsyna is making her **3rd junior Grand Slam appearance**. Her 2 previous junior Grand Slam appearances came in 2025 – she fell in the 1st round at both Roland Garros (l. Beatrise Zeltina) and the US Open (l. Reina Goto).
- Tupitsyna's **best results at junior-level in 2025** were finishing runner-up at both J300 New Delhi (IND) (l. Maaya Rajeshwaran Revathi) and J300 Plovdiv (BUL) (l. Lilli Tagger). She also reached the quarterfinals at J300 Cairo (EGY) (l. Neus Torner Sensano) and J500 Cairo (EGY) (l. Nellie Taraba Wallberg).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Tupitsyna reached the 3rd round at J300 Traralgon (AUS). She defeated Ren Wakana and Tori Russell before falling to Alena Kovackova.
- Tupitsyna **made her professional debut in March 2025** and has contested 8 professional events. Her best results at professional events are reaching the quarterfinals at W15 Sharm El Sheikh (EGY) in September (l. Gaia Squarzialupi), W15 Tashkent (UZB) (gave a walkover against Daria Khomutsianskaya) and another W15 event at Sharm El Sheikh (EGY) in November (l. Valentini Grammatikopoulou).
- Tupitsyna reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 45 in May last year. She plays here at No. 92. She reached a career-high WTA ranking of No. 1137 in December last year and is currently ranked at No. 1151.
- Tupitsyna entered the **girls' doubles here** with Anastasia Lizunova. The pair fell to Iva Marinkovic/Hollie Smart 63 63 in the 1st round.

NO. 4 KEATON HANCE (USA) v NO. 7 ZIGA SESKO (SLO)

Head-to-head: Sesko leads 1-0

2022 ITF World Junior Tennis Finals Clay (O) RR Sesko 62 60

A 2nd meeting for Hance and Sesko. Their only previous meeting came at the 2022 ITF World Junior Tennis Finals, the international team competition for players aged 14 and under. Sesko won that meeting in straight sets, dropping just 2 games.

Road to the final

HANCE	Time		Time	SESKO
d. (WC) Ethan Domingo 60 62	0:40	1st round	1:15	d. (Q) Marat Salbiev 63 62
d. Mark Ceban 64 46 62	1:53	2nd round	1:03	d. Emilio Camacho 64 63
d. Simone Massellani 60 64	1:34	3rd round	1:14	d. No. 10 Thilo Behrmann 62 64
d. No. 11 Chen Kuan-Shou 76(7) 64	2:04	Quarterfinals	1:46	d. No. 2 Luis Guto Miguel 62 76(5)
d. No. 8 Zangar Nurlanuly 63 62	1:17	Semifinals	1:13	d. No. 3 Ryo Tabata 63 63
total time on court	7:28	(Infosys time)	6:31	total time on court

HANCE	v	SESKO
17	Age	17
8	ITF Junior Ranking	11
1216	ATP Ranking	996
8-4	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	8-2
5-0	Australian Open Record (Junior)	5-0
121-53	Career Record (Junior)	110-57
9-1	2026 Record (Junior)	7-1

- **HANCE** is bidding to win his first Grand Slam boys' singles title.
- Hance is bidding to become the **7th American player to win the Australian Open boys' singles title** – after Gerry Moss (1955), Butch Buchholz (1959), Andy Roddick (2000), Donald Young (2005), Sebastian Korda (2018) and Bruno Kuzuhara (2022).
- Hance is bidding to become the **5th American player to win a Grand Slam boys' singles title in the last 10 years** – after Korda (2018 Australian Open), Samir Banerjee (2021 Wimbledon), Kuzuhara (2022 Australian Open) and Kaylan Bigun (2024 Roland Garros).
- By reaching the final here, Hance has become the **6th American player to reach the Australian Open boys' singles final in the last 10 years**. In addition to Korda and Kuzuhara, 3 American players have finished as boys' singles runner-up here in that time – Emilio Nava (2019), Learner Tien (2023) and Benjamin Willwerth (2025).
- By reaching the final here, Hance has recorded his **best Grand Slam result**. His previous best result at the Grand Slams was reaching the 3rd round at Wimbledon last year (l. Alexander Vasilev).
- Hance is making his **5th junior Grand Slam appearance**. Elsewhere at the Grand Slams last year, he reached the 2nd round at Roland Garros (d. William Rejchtman Vinciguerra, l. Niels McDonald) but fell in the 1st round at the US Open (l. Naoto Tomizawa). He did not compete at the Australian Open.
- Hance's **best result at junior-level in 2025** was winning the title as a qualifier at J300 Barranquilla (COL) (d. Jack Secord). He also finished runner-up at J300 Lima (PER) (l. Alejandro Arcila) and J500 Merida (MEX) (l. Luis Guto Miguel) and reached the semifinals at J100 San Jose (CRC) (l. Ryan Cozad), J300 Asuncion (PAR) (l. Romeo Arcuschin), J300 Porto Alegre (BRA) (l. Ivan Ivanov) and J300 Indian Wells (USA) (l. Jack Kennedy).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Hance reached the semifinals at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (l. Miguel).

- Hance **made his professional debut in November 2023** and has contested 7 professional events. His best result at a professional event is reaching the semifinals at M15 Orlando, FL (USA) in November last year (l. Ryan Colby).
- Hance reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 7 earlier this month and plays here one place lower at No. 8. He reached a career-high ATP ranking of No. 1193 in November last year and is currently ranked No. 1216.
- Hance entered the **boys' doubles here** with Tanishk Konduri. As No. 4 seeds, the pair reached the quarterfinals but fell to Connor Doig/Dimitar Kisimov 76(5) 76(4).
- **SESKO** is bidding to win his first Grand Slam boys' singles title.
- Sesko is bidding to become the **3rd Slovenian player to win a Grand Slam junior singles title** – after Mima Jausovec (who won the girls' singles titles at 1973 Roland Garros and 1974 Wimbledon) and Katarina Srebotnik (who won the girls' singles title at 1998 Wimbledon).
- Sesko is a member of the ITF/Grand Slam Player Development Programme Touring Team. He is bidding to become the **first member of the Touring Team to win a Grand Slam junior singles title since 2007**, when Ricardas Berankis won the boys' singles title at the US Open.
- By reaching the final here, Sesko has become the **first Slovenian player to reach a Grand Slam boys' singles final**. He has also become the 3rd Slovenian player to reach a Grand Slam junior singles final – after Jausovec (who also finished runner-up in girls' singles at 1972 Roland Garros in addition to her 2 titles) and Srebotnik (who also finished runner-up in girls' singles at the 1998 US Open in addition to her title at 1998 Wimbledon).
- By reaching the final here, Sesko has recorded his **best Grand Slam result**. He has contested just 2 junior Grand Slam events prior to this tournament – he reached the quarterfinals at Wimbledon last year (l. Ivan Ivanov) but fell in the 1st round at the US Open (l. Ronit Karki).
- Sesko's **best results at junior-level in 2025** were winning the titles at J200 Florence (ITA) (d. Lorenzo Balducci) and J200 Prato (ITA) (d. Dimitar Kisimov). He also finished runner-up at J200 Salsomaggiore (ITA) (l. Nikita Bilozertsev) and reached the semifinals at J100 Loughborough (GBR) (l. Mark Ceban), J300 Bamberg (GER) (l. Jamie Mackenzie), J300 Repentigny (CAN) (l. Luis Guto Miguel) and J300 Oberpullendorf (AUT) (l. Yannick Theodor Alexandrescou).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Sesko reached the 3rd round at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (l. Tito Chavez).
- Sesko **made his professional debut** in June 2024 and has contested 9 professional events. His best result at professional level is finishing runner-up at M15 San Gregorio di Catania (ITA) (l. Gianmarco Ferrari) in November last year.
- Sesko made his **Davis Cup debut for Slovenia** in 2025, defeating Francisco Llanes in the dead 4th match of Slovenia's World Group II victory against Uruguay. He has been nominated for Slovenia's World Group I Play-off tie against Turkiye next week.
- Sesko reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 11 earlier this month and plays here at the same ranking. He reached a career-high ATP ranking of No. 978 in November last year and is currently ranked at No. 996.
- Sesko entered the **boys' doubles here** with Miguel. As No. 2 seeds, they reached the quarterfinals before giving a walkover to Mark Ceban/Kirill Filaretov.