



**2021 ROLAND GARROS  
MEN'S WHEELCHAIR SINGLES FINAL NOTES**  
Monday 7 June

**NO. 1 SHINGO KUNIEDA (JPN) v ALFIE HEWETT (GBR)**



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## Head-to-head: Kunieda leads 12-9

A 22nd meeting for Kunieda and Hewett and their 8th at the Grand Slams. It is their 2nd meeting at Roland Garros, with Hewett having won 64 64 when they met in the semifinals here in 2017. Kunieda leads the overall head-to-head 12-9, but Hewett leads the pair's head-to-head at the Grand Slams 5-2.

Hewett won the pair's most-recent meeting, in the semifinal at the Australian Open this year. It was his first victory against Kunieda since the semifinals at the 2019 Wheelchair Singles Masters, ending a 4-match losing streak against Kunieda.

This is the pair's 9th meeting in a final and their 3rd meeting in a Grand Slam final. Kunieda leads the head-to-head in finals 5-3, but the pair are tied 1-1 in Grand Slam finals – with Hewett winning in the final at the US Open in 2018, but Kunieda winning in the final at the US Open last year.

Hewett is bidding to win his 3rd Roland Garros title and claim sole ownership of 2nd place on the list for most men's wheelchair singles titles here. Kunieda is at the top of the list, having won 7 titles here.

### Most Roland Garros men's wheelchair singles titles

Player	No. of titles
Shingo Kunieda	7
Gustavo Fernandez	2
Alfie Hewett	2
Stephane Houdet	2
Maikel Scheffers	1

Kunieda and Hewett met in the 1st round of the men's wheelchair doubles here this year, with Hewett and Gordon Reid defeating Kunieda and Gustavo Fernandez 26 62 [10-8] on Sunday.

Kunieda and Hewett both recovered from a set down to win their semifinal matches on Saturday, with Hewett saving 3 match points in the final-set tiebreak against Fernandez.

### Road to the final

KUNIEDA	Time		Time	HEWETT
d. Gordon Reid 76(3) 62	1:50	1st round	1:07	d. Joachim Gerard 61 64
d. Stephane Houdet 57 60 64	2:28	Semifinals	2:29	d. No. 2 Gustavo Fernandez 16 75 76(6)
total time on court	4:18	(Infosys time)	3:36	total time on court

### KUNIEDA

37  
1  
24  
110  
76-17  
26-7  
647-97  
9-2

### v

**Age**  
**Ranking**  
**Grand Slam Singles Titles**  
**Singles Titles**  
**Grand Slam Record**  
**Roland Garros Record**  
**Career Record**  
**2020 Record**

### HEWETT

23  
3  
4  
41  
24-13  
9-2  
364-129  
15-5

- **KUNIEDA** is bidding to win his 8th Roland Garros singles title. He won the title here in 2007-10, 2014-15 and 2018.
- Kunieda is bidding to win his **25th Grand Slam singles title**. He has won 10 singles titles at the Australian Open, 7 singles titles at Roland Garros and 7 singles titles at the US Open.
- Kunieda is bidding to win his 46th Grand Slam title, in singles and doubles, and extend his **record for most total Grand Slam wheelchair titles**. He claimed sole ownership of the record, ahead of Esther Vergeer, by winning in singles at the 2020 US Open (d. Hewett).

- Kunieda is through to his 29th Grand Slam singles final. In addition to his 24 Grand Slam titles, he has also finished runner-up on 5 occasions – including twice at Roland Garros, in 2012 and 2013, falling to Stephane Houdet both times.
- **Last year here**, Kunieda reached the semifinals (d. Frederic Cattaneo, l. Joachim Gerard). He also fell in the semifinals here in 2019 (d. Nicolas Peifer, l. Gordon Reid).
- **In Grand Slam play this year**, Kunieda reached the semifinals at the Australian Open (d. Ben Weekes, l. Hewett).
- Kunieda is making his **15th appearance at Roland Garros** and his 42nd appearance at a Grand Slam overall. He has competed here every year since the wheelchair event began in 2007.
- **Prior to Roland Garros** Kunieda finished runner-up at the Open des Hauts-de-France, falling to Gustavo Fernandez in the title match.
- Kunieda is bidding to win his **111th singles title** – and his 2nd title of 2021. He won his only title of the season to date at the Victorian Wheelchair Open in February (d. Hewett).
- Kunieda has **won 83 doubles titles** – including 21 Grand Slam doubles titles. He has won 8 doubles titles here – most recently alongside Fernandez in 2019.
- Kunieda reached the **world No. 1 ranking** for the first time in October 2006. He has been ranked at No. 1 continuously since January 2020.
- Kunieda is a **3-time Paralympic gold medallist**. He won gold in singles at both the Beijing 2008 Paralympic Tennis Event (d. Robin Ammerlaan) and the London 2012 Paralympic Tennis Event (d. Houdet). He also won gold in doubles alongside Satoshi Saida at Athens 2004 and a bronze in doubles alongside Saida at both Beijing 2008 and Rio 2016.
- Kunieda is coached by Tasuku Iwami.
- **HEWETT** is bidding to win his 3rd Roland Garros title and become the 2nd player to win 3 or more men's wheelchair singles titles here, after Kunieda (7 Roland Garros singles titles).
- Hewett is bidding to win his **5th Grand Slam title**. He won his first Grand Slam title here in 2017 (d. Fernandez) and won his 2nd title here last year (d. Joachim Gerard). He also won back-to-back titles at the US Open in 2018 (d. Kunieda) and 2019 (d. Stephane Houdet).
- Hewett is through to his **8th Grand Slam final**. In addition to his 4 victories, he also reached the final at the US Open in 2017 (l. Houdet) and 2020 (l. Kunieda), and at the Australian Open this year (l. Gerard).
- Hewett is making his **5th appearance at Roland Garros** and his 18th Grand Slam appearance overall.
- **Prior to Roland Garros** Hewett reached the semifinals at the Open des Hauts-de-France, falling to Gustavo Fernandez.
- Kunieda is bidding to win his **42nd singles title** – and his 2nd title of 2021. He won his only title of the season to date at Rotterdam in March (d. Gordon Reid).
- Hewett and Reid have **won the last 6 Grand Slam men's wheelchair doubles titles** – including the title here this year (d. Houdet/Nicolas Peifer). It was the pair's 2nd Roland Garros doubles title, having also defeated Fernandez/Kunieda in the final here last year. Hewett has won a total of 57 doubles titles, including 11 Grand Slam titles. All 11 of his Grand Slam doubles titles have come alongside Reid.
- Hewett reached the **world No. 1 ranking** in January 2018 and remained at No. 1 until June that year. He is the youngest player in history to hold the men's No. 1 ranking. He has been ranked inside the Top 10 since September 2016 and plays here at No. 3

- Hewett **won 2 Paralympic silver medals** at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Tennis Event. He fell to Reid in the men's singles gold medal match. He and Reid fell to Houdet/Nicolas Peifer in the men's doubles gold medal match.
- Hewett is coached by Ben Collingwood.