



# OWN THE MOMENT



## TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC TENNIS EVENT

### WOMEN'S SINGLES MATCH NOTES Saturday 31 July 2021

#### Gold Medal Match

**No. 9 Belinda Bencic (SUI) v Marketa Vondrousova (CZE)**

#### Bronze Medal Match

**No. 4 Elina Svitolina (UKR) v No. 15 Elena Rybakina (KAZ)**

#### On court today...

- In the first of 2 gold medal match-ups between Switzerland and Czech Republic at the Olympic Tennis Event, Belinda Bencic will battle Marketa Vondrousova for women's singles gold today. Bencic will become the first Swiss woman to win a gold medal in tennis should she triumph today – and she will hope to make it a double success when she and Viktorija Golubic face Czech No. 1 seeds Barbora Krejckova/Katerina Siniakova in the women's doubles gold medal match on Sunday. Should she win both matches, she will become the 4th woman in history to win singles and doubles at the same Olympic Tennis Event. For Vondrousova, victory today would see her win Czech Republic's first gold medal at the Olympic Tennis Event since the Czechs have competed as an independent nation (from Atlanta 1996 onwards).
- Elina Svitolina and Elena Rybakina must put the disappointment of semifinal defeats behind them as both will bid for a piece of Olympic history for their nations in the bronze medal match today. Neither Ukraine nor Kazakhstan have ever won a medal at the Olympic Tennis Event before – meaning that the winner of today's clash will see her nation become the 28th country to win an Olympic medal in tennis since 1988 (or 29th if New Zealand win a bronze medal in men's doubles on Friday). Svitolina is the higher-ranked of the pair – but they have split their 2 previous meetings, with Rybakina winning their most-recent match-up, on grass at Eastbourne last month.

**Olympic Tennis Event medal table (since Seoul 1988)**

Rank	Nation	Gold medals	Silver medals	Bronze medals	Total medals
1.	USA	14	3	7	24
2.	Russia	3	3	2	8
3.	Spain	2	7	3	12
4.	Germany	2	4	2	8
5=	Great Britain	2	2	0	4
	Switzerland*	2	2	0	4
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
15.	Czech Republic*	0	2	4	6

\*Nations with players competing in the women's singles medal matches  
NB written prior to the men's doubles medal matches on Friday

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## GOLD MEDAL MATCH

### No. 9 Belinda Bencic (SUI) v Marketa Vondrousova (CZE)

#### Head-to-head: Vondrousova leads 1-0

2021 Miami-1000 Hard (O) R32 Vondrousova 46 64 64

A 2nd meeting for the 2 players. Vondrousova won when the pair met in the 3rd round at Miami-1000 earlier this year, recovering from a set down to win in 3 sets.

Bencic has won 4 of her last 5 matches against lefthanded players – with Vondrousova the only lefthander to have defeated her in that time. She has a 21-12 win-loss record against lefthanded players at Tour-level overall.

Vondrousova is bidding to defeat a Top 20 player for the 3rd time this week, having defeated No. 2 Naomi Osaka in the 3rd round and No. 6 Elina Svitolina in the semifinals. She has a 13-15 win-loss record against Top 20 players at Tour-level overall.

Bencic will also contest the women's doubles gold medal match on Sunday – she and Viktorija Golubic face Czech No. 1 seeds Barbora Krejckova/Katerina Siniakova. It is the first time in history that the same 2 nations will contest both the women's singles and doubles gold medal matches at the Olympic Tennis Event.

#### Route to the gold medal match

BENCIC		Time	Time	VONDROUSOVA	
d. Jessica Pegula (USA) 63 63	1:19	1st round	1:56	d. No. 16 Kiki Bertens (NED) 64 36 64	
d. Misaki Doi (JPN) 62 64	1:24	2nd round	1:07	d. Mihaela Buzarnescu (ROU) 61 62	
d. No. 8 Barbora Krejckova (CZE) 16 62 63	1:53	3rd round	1:08	d. No. 2 Naomi Osaka (JPN) 61 64	
d. No. 13 Anastasia Pavluchenkova (ROC) 60 36 63	2:13	Quarterfinals	0:45	d. Paula Badosa (ESP) 63 0-0 ret.	
d. No. 15 Elena Rybakina (KAZ) 76(2) 46 63	2:44	Semifinals	1:04	d. No. 4 Elina Svitolina (UKR) 63 61	
total time on court	9:33	(Omega time)	6:00	total time on court	

BENCIC	
Age	24
Height	1.75m/5'9"
Ranking	12
Singles Titles	4
Best Olympic Result	GMM Tokyo 2020
Career Olympic Record	5-0
Career Record	183-131
Career Record – Hard	120-86
2021 Record	22-14
2021 Record – Hard	12-6
Career Tiebreak Record	46-27
2021 Tiebreak Record	6-1

VONDROUSOVA	
Age	22
Height	1.72m/5'8"
Ranking	42
Singles Titles	1
Best Olympic Result	GMM Tokyo 2020
Career Olympic Record	5-0
Career Record	84-55
Career Record – Hard	50-27
2021 Record	19-12
2021 Record – Hard	14-5
Career Tiebreak Record	23-15
2021 Tiebreak Record	4-5

- **BENCIC** is bidding to become the first Swiss woman to win a gold medal at the Olympic Tennis Event. She is making her Olympic debut at Tokyo 2020.
- Bencic is bidding to win **Switzerland's 3rd gold medal at the Olympic Tennis Event**. Switzerland's 2 Olympic tennis gold medals were won by Marc Rosset in men's singles at Barcelona 1992 and by Roger Federer/Stano Pavlic in men's doubles at Beijing 2008.
- By reaching the final here, Bencic will become the **3rd Swiss woman to win a medal at the Olympic Tennis Event** – after Tímea Babos/Martina Hingis, who won the women's doubles silver medal at Rio 2016.
- Bencic will also contest the **women's doubles gold medal match here** – she and Viktorija Golubic face No. 1 seeds Barbora Krejckova/Katerina Siniakova in the women's doubles final on Sunday.
- By reaching the final of both the singles and doubles events here, Bencic will become the **2nd Swiss tennis player to win multiple Olympic medals** – after Federer, who won gold in men's doubles at Beijing 2008 and silver in men's singles at London 2012.

- Bencic is bidding to become the **4th woman in history to win singles and doubles gold medals at the same Olympic Tennis Event** – after Helen Wills (Paris 1924), Venus Williams (Sydney 2000) and Serena Williams (London 2012). She would also become the 12th player, man or woman, to achieve the feat and the 4th player to do so since tennis returned to the Olympics at Seoul 1988.

#### Players winning singles and doubles at the same Olympic Tennis Event

Player	Venue & year
John Boland	Athens 1896
Laurence Doherty	Paris 1900
Beals Wright	St Louis 1904
Arthur Gore	London 1908 (Indoor)
Andre Gobert	Stockholm 1912 (Indoor)
Charles Winslow	Stockholm 1912 (Outdoor)
Vincent Richards	Paris 1924
Helen Wills	Paris 1924
Venus Williams	Sydney 2000
Nicolas Massu	Athens 2004
Serena Williams	London 2012
<b>Belinda Bencic??</b>	<b>Tokyo 2020??</b>

- Bencic is bidding to win **Switzerland's 2nd gold medal of Tokyo 2020** – after Jolanda Neff, who won a gold medal in mountain biking on Tuesday. (NB information correct as of 12pm JST on Friday 30 July)
- **At the Grand Slams this year**, Bencic reached the 3rd round at the Australian Open, where she defeated Lauren Davis and Svetlana Kuznetsova before falling to Elise Mertens, and the 2nd round at Roland Garros (d. Nadia Podoroska, l. Daria Kasatkina), but fell in the 1st round at Wimbledon (l. Kaja Juvan).
- Bencic's **best Grand Slam performance** is reaching the semifinals at the 2019 US Open, where she fell to eventual champion Bianca Andreescu.
- Bencic's **best results in 2021** are runner-up finishes at Adelaide (l. Iga Swiatek) and Berlin (l. Liudmila Samsonova).
- Bencic has won **4 Tour-level singles titles** – most-recently at 2019 Moscow (d. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova). Of her 4 Tour-level titles, 3 have come on hard courts.
- Bencic reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 4 in February 2020. She plays here at No. 12.
- Bencic is a **former junior world No. 1**. She reached the No. 1 ranking in June 2013 and won the girls' singles titles at both Roland Garros (d. Antonia Lottner) and Wimbledon (d. Taylor Townsend) the same year.
- Bencic has **represented Switzerland in Billie Jean King Cup** since 2012 and has a 14-7 overall win-loss record in the competition. Switzerland will compete in Group D alongside Czech Republic and Germany at the 2021 Billie Jean King Cup Finals.
- Bencic is coached by Sebastian Sachs and her father, Ivan Bencic.
- **VONDROUSOVA** is bidding to win Czech Republic's first gold medal at the Olympic Tennis Event. She is making her Olympic debut at Tokyo 2020.
- By reaching the final here, Vondrousova will become the **first Czech player to win a gold or silver medal in singles at the Olympic Tennis Event**. The only other Czech players to win medals in singles at the Olympic Tennis Event are Jana Novotna and Petra Kvitova, who won bronze medals at Atlanta 1996 and Rio 2016, respectively.
- With Vondrousova through to the final here and Barbora Krejckikova/Katerina Siniakova through to the women's doubles final on Sunday, **Czech Republic have will won medals at the Olympic Tennis Event for the 3rd consecutive Olympic Games**. The Czech tennis team won one silver medal at London 2012 and 3 bronze medals at Rio 2016. (see table overleaf)

**Czech players to win medals at the Olympic Tennis Event (since 1988)**

<b>Player</b>	<b>No. of medals</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Medal</b>	<b>Venue &amp; year</b>
Jana Novotna	3	Women's Doubles	Silver	Seoul 1988*
		Women's Doubles	Silver	Atlanta 1996
		Women's Singles	Bronze	Atlanta 1996
Helena Sukova	2	Women's Doubles	Silver	Seoul 1988*
		Women's Doubles	Silver	Atlanta 1996
Lucie Hradecka	2	Women's Doubles	Silver	London 2012
		Mixed Doubles	Bronze	Rio 2016
Milan Srejber	1	Men's Doubles	Bronze	Seoul 1988*
Andrea Hlavackova	1	Women's Doubles	Silver	London 2012
Petra Kvitova	1	Women's Singles	Bronze	Rio 2016
Lucie Safarova	1	Women's Doubles	Bronze	Rio 2016
Barbora Strycova	1	Women's Doubles	Bronze	Rio 2016
Radek Stepanek	1	Mixed Doubles	Bronze	Rio 2016
<b>Marketa Vondrousova</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Women's Singles</b>	<b>??</b>	<b>Tokyo 2020</b>
<b>Barbora Krejckikova</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Women's Doubles</b>	<b>??</b>	<b>Tokyo 2020</b>
<b>Katerina Siniakova</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Women's Doubles</b>	<b>??</b>	<b>Tokyo 2020</b>

\*won while representing Czechoslovakia

- If Vondrousova and Krejckikova/Siniakova win gold medals in singles and doubles here, **Czech Republic will become the 2nd nation to win women's singles and doubles gold medals at an Olympic Tennis Event** since tennis returned to the Games at Seoul 1988 – after USA, which swept both women's singles and doubles gold in 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2012.
- Vondrousova is bidding to win **Czech Republic's 2nd gold medal of Tokyo 2020** – after Jiri Liptak, who won a gold medal in shooting on Thursday. (NB information correct as of 12pm JST on Friday 30 July)
- Vondrousova competed in **women's doubles here** alongside Karolina Pliskova. The pair defeated China, P.R.'s Duan Ying-Ying/Zheng Saisai 62 61 in the 1st round before falling to Brazil's Laura Pigossi/Luisa Stefani 26 64 [13-11] in the 2nd round.
- **At the Grand Slams this year**, Vondrousova reached the round of 16 at both the Australian Open (l. Hsieh Su-Wei) and Roland Garros (l. Paula Badosa), but fell to Emma Raducanu in the 2nd round at Wimbledon.
- Vondrousova reached her **first Grand Slam final** at 2019 Roland Garros, finishing runner-up to Ashleigh Barty. Aged 19 years 345 days, she became the youngest woman to reach the Roland Garros final since Ana Ivanovic (19 years 215 days) in 2007 and the youngest woman to reach a Grand Slam final since Caroline Wozniacki (19 years 64 days) at the 2009 US Open.
- Vondrousova's **best result in 2021** is reaching the semifinals at the Yarra Valley Classic in Melbourne (l. Garbine Muguruza). She also reached the round of 16 at Miami-1000 (l. Aryna Sabalenka).
- Vondrousova has won **one Tour-level title** – as a qualifier making her 2nd Tour-level appearance, on clay at 2017 Biel, where she defeated Barbora Strycova in the final.
- Vondrousova reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 14 in July 2019, 3 weeks after her runner-up finish at Roland Garros. She plays here at No. 42 but entered using a special ranking of No. 16.
- Vondrousova is a **former junior world No. 1**. She reached the No. 1 ranking in May 2015 after winning the girls' singles title at the Trofeo Bonfiglio (d. Charlotte Robillard-Milette). She also reached the semifinals of the girls' singles at Roland Garros in both 2014 (l. Daria Kasatkina) and 2015 (l. Paula Badosa) and at 2014 Wimbledon (l. Jelena Ostapenko), and was part of the Czech team which won the Junior Billie Jean King Cup title in 2015, defeating USA in the final.
- Vondrousova **competed at the Youth Olympic Games** at Nanjing 2014. As No. 6 seed, she reached the 2nd round of the girls' singles (d. Lesedi Sheya Jacobs, l. Xu Shilin).
- Vondrousova has **represented Czech Republic in Billie Jean King Cup** since 2017 and has a 3-1 overall win-loss record in the competition. Switzerland will compete in Group D alongside Germany and Switzerland at the 2021 Billie Jean King Cup Finals.
- Vondrousova is coached by Libor Salaba.

## BRONZE MEDAL MATCH

### No. 4 Elina Svitolina (UKR) v No. 15 Elena Rybakina (UKR)

#### Head-to-head: tied 1-1

2020	Strasbourg	Clay (O)	FR	Svitolina	64 16 62
2021	Eastbourne	Grass (O)	R16	Rybakina	64 76(3)

A 3rd meeting for Svitolina and Rybakina – but their first on a hard court. Svitolina won when the pair met in the final at Strasbourg last year, but Rybakina won their most-recent meeting, a straight-sets victory in the 2nd round at Eastbourne last month.

Rybakina has won 3 of the last 4 matches she has contested against Top 10 players, with her only defeat to a Top 10 opponent in that time coming against No. 4 Aryna Sabalenka in the round of 16 at Wimbledon earlier in June. She has a 7-7 win-loss record against Top 10 players at Tour-level overall.

The winner of today's match will win the first medal for her nation at the Olympic Tennis Event. Ukraine or Kazakhstan will become the 28th nation to win a medal at the Olympic Tennis Event since tennis returned to the Games at Seoul 1988 (or 29th if New Zealand win a bronze medal in men's doubles on Friday).

#### Route to the bronze medal match

SVITOLINA		Time		Time	RYBAKINA	
d. Laura Siegemund (GER) 63 57 64	3:06	1st round	1:10	d. Samantha Stosur (AUS) 64 62		
d. Ajla Tomljanovic (AUS) 46 63 64	2:21	2nd round	1:13	d. Rebecca Peterson (SWE) 62 63		
d. No. 14 Maria Sakkari (GRE) 57 63 64	2:38	3rd round	1:41	d. Donna Vekic (CRO) 76(3) 64		
d. Camila Giorgi (ITA) 64 64	1:31	Quarterfinals	1:33	d. No. 7 Garbine Muguruza (ESP) 75 61		
l. Marketa Vondrousova (CZE) 36 16	1:04	Semifinals	2:44	l. No. 9 Belinda Bencic (SUI) 67(2) 64 36		
total time on court	10:40	(Omega time)	8:21	total time on court		

SVITOLINA	
Age	26
Height	1.74m/5'9"
Ranking	6
Singles Titles	15
Best Olympic Result	BMM Tokyo 2020
Career Olympic Record	7-2
Career Record	320-172
Career Record – Hard	231-115
2021 Record	27-14
2021 Record – Hard	17-7
Career Tiebreak Record	66-54
2021 Tiebreak Record	5-8

RYBAKINA	
Age	22
Height	1.84m/6'0"
Ranking	20
Singles Titles	2
Best Olympic Result	BMM Tokyo 2020
Career Olympic Record	4-1
Career Record	83-38
Career Record – Hard	50-22
2021 Record	23-14
2021 Record – Hard	10-7
Career Tiebreak Record	21-17
2021 Tiebreak Record	5-7

- **SVITOLINA** is bidding to win Ukraine's first medal at the Olympic Tennis Event.
- Svitolina is bidding to win **Ukraine's 5th medal of Tokyo 2020**. Ukraine have won 4 bronze medals (in fencing, judo, shooting and swimming) at the Games so far. (NB information correct as of 12pm JST on Friday 30 July)
- By reaching the bronze medal match here, Svitolina has recorded her **best Olympic performance**. On her only previous Olympic appearance, at Rio 2016, she defeated Andrea Petkovic, Heather Watson and Serena Williams to reach the quarterfinals of the women's singles before falling to Petra Kvitova.
- Svitolina competed in **women's doubles here** alongside Dayana Yastremska. The pair fell to France's Alize Cornet/Fiona Ferro 62 64 in the 1st round.
- **At the Grand Slams this year**, Svitolina reached the round of 16 at the Australian Open (l. Jessica Pegula), the 3rd round at Roland Garros (l. Barbora Krejickova) and the 2nd round at Wimbledon (l. Magda Linette).
- Svitolina's **best Grand Slam performances** are reaching consecutive semifinals in 2019 – at Wimbledon (l. Simona Halep) and the US Open (l. Serena Williams).

- Svitolina's **best results in 2021** are reaching the semifinals at Miami-1000 and Stuttgart, falling to Ashleigh Barty on both occasions. She has also reached the quarterfinals at 4 further Tour-level events this year.
- Svitolina has won **15 Tour-level singles titles** – most recently on clay at 2020 Strasbourg (d. Elena Rybakina). Of her 15 titles, 10 have come on hard courts.
- Svitolina reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 3 in September 2017. She plays here 3 places lower at No. 6.
- Svitolina is a **former junior world No. 1**. She reached the No. 1 ranking after winning the girls' singles title at 2010 Roland Garros (d. Ons Jabeur) and also reached the girls' singles final at Wimbledon 2 years later (l. Eugenie Bouchard).
- Svitolina **competed at the inaugural Youth Olympic Games** at Singapore 2010. As No. 1 seed, she reached the 2nd round of the girls' singles (d. Anna-Lena Friedsam, l. Daria Gavrilova).
- Svitolina has **represented Ukraine in Billie Jean King Cup** since 2012 and has a 14-10 overall win-loss record in the competition. She won both matches she contested as Ukraine defeated Japan at the Play-offs in April, securing Ukraine's place in the 2022 Billie Jean King Cup Qualifiers.
- Svitolina is coached by Andrew Bettles.
- **RYBAKINA** is bidding to win Kazakhstan's first medal at the Olympic Tennis Event. She is making her Olympic debut at Tokyo 2020.
- Rybakina is bidding to win **Kazakhstan's 4th medal of Tokyo 2020**. Kazakhstan have won 3 bronze medals (2 in weightlifting, one in judo) at the Games so far. (NB information correct as of 12pm JST on Friday 30 July)
- Rybakina reached her **first Grand Slam quarterfinal** at Roland Garros this year, where she defeated Elsa Jacquemot, Nao Hibino, Elena Vesnina and Serena Williams before falling to Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova in the last 8. Elsewhere at the Grand Slams this year, she reached the round of 16 at Wimbledon (l. Aryna Sabalenka) but fell in the 2nd round at the Australian Open (l. Fiona Ferro).
- Rybakina's **other highlights in 2021** are reaching the semifinals at Eastbourne (l. Jelena Ostapenko) and the quarterfinals at Abu Dhabi (l. Sabalenka).
- Rybakina has **won 2 Tour-level singles titles** – she won her first title on clay at 2019 Bucharest (d. Patricia Maria Tig) before winning her first hard-court title at 2020 Hobart (d. Zhang Shuai).
- Rybakina reached a **career-high ranking** of No. 17 in February 2020. She plays here 3 places lower at No. 20.
- Rybakina had a **successful junior career**. She reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 3 in December 2017, having reached the semifinals of the girls' singles at both the Australian Open (l. Marta Kostyuk) and Roland Garros (l. Whitney Osuigwe) and won the title at the Grade A Trofeo Bonfiglio (d. Iga Swiatek) that year.
- Rybakina made her **Billie Jean King Cup debut for Kazakhstan** in April 2021. She was part of the team which defeated Argentina at the Play-offs in April, winning one of the 2 singles matches she contested. Kazakhstan will compete in the 2022 Billie Jean King Cup Qualifiers – the first-time that the team has reached the highest-level of the competition.
- Rybakina is coached by Stefano Vukov.