



2024 ROLAND GARROS JUNIOR SINGLES SEMIFINAL NOTES Friday 7 June

Boys' Singles Semifinals

No. 2 Joel Schwaerzler (AUT) v No. 5 Kaylan Bigun (USA) Page 2
Lorenzo Carboni (ITA) v Tomasz Berkieta (POL) Page 4

Girls' Singles Semifinals

No. 3 Laura Samson (CZE) v Kristina Penickova (USA) Page 6
No. 4 Tyra Caterina Grant (USA) v No. 12 Tereza Valentova (CZE) Page 8

On court today...

- Two lefthanders do battle as Austria's Joel Schwaerzler takes on American Kaylan Bigun on Court 14 today. No. 2 seed Schwaerzler is contesting his first junior event of 2024, targeting his favourite surface as he fights to win just a 2nd ever junior Grand Slam singles title for his nation, after his coach Jurgen Melzer won the first in the boys' singles at 1999 Wimbledon. Schwaerzler came into the tournament off the back of his first professional title, winning the Skopje Challenger in North Macedonia just two weeks ago. But he will not underestimate No. 5 seed Bigun, who like him has dropped just one set en route to the last four here in Paris. Bigun may not have an ATP Challenger title to his name, but the same week Schwaerzler captured that title Bigun won the final clay J500 event prior to Roland Garros at J500 Milan in Italy, so clearly feels at home on the red dirt.
- Lorenzo Carboni is another player opting to return to junior level here having played exclusively pro events in 2024 and contested 30 events since his professional debut in March last year. He is bidding to become the first Italian player to reach a Roland Garros boys' singles final for 30 years, since Giorgio Galimberti finished runner-up in 1994. Tomasz Berkieta meanwhile is bidding to become just the 2nd Polish player to reach a Roland Garros junior singles final, after Jerzy Janowicz finished runner-up here in 2008.
- 16-year-old Laura Samson takes on 14-year-old Kristina Penickova on Court 6 today. Having recorded her best Grand Slam result by reached the girls' singles semifinals at the 2023 US Open, Samson will be looking to surpass that here. Penickova came into Roland Garros having lost the only Grand Slam match she had previously played, at the 2023 US Open, and was one of only two 14-year-olds in the girls' singles draw. Despite her inexperience at this level of juniors, she has come through her first 4 matches without dropping a set.
- On Court 14, Tyra Caterina Grant faces Tereza Valentova, meaning there is a chance of either an all-American or all-Czech final. While Grant and Penickova could contest the 4th Roland Garros girls' singles final between two Americans, an all-Czech final between Samson and Valentova would be a first at any junior Grand Slam singles final in history. While Grant has twice recovered from a set down to reach the semifinals here, Valentova has made light work of her opponents, not dropping a set and only being pushed as far as 6-4 in any given set. Valentova has been this deep and further at a Slam before, finishing runner-up at the 2023 US Open, and has already cut her teeth as a professional on the ITF World Tennis Tour with 4 titles in 2024.

NO. 2 JOEL SCHWAERZLER (AUT) v NO. 5 KAYLAN BIGUN (USA)

Head-to-head: Bigun leads 1-0

2022 J2 Hannover (GER) Clay (O) R16 Bigun 76(4) 63

A 2nd meeting for Schwaerzler and Bigun, and their 2nd on clay. Bigun won their only previous match, a 2nd round match at J2 Hannover (GER).

Road to the semifinals

SCHWAERZLER	Time		Time	BIGUN
d. Jack Kennedy 46 63 62	1:44	1st round	0:58	d. Viktor Frydrych 61 63
d. (Q) Keegan Rice 64 62	1:05	2nd round	1:03	d. (WC) Timeo Trufelli 61 62
d. Rafael Jodar 75 63	1:18	3rd round	1:00	d. No. 12 Miguel Tobon 64 61
d. No. 10 Petr Brunclik 62 76(6)	1:36	Quarterfinals	1:48	d. (Q) Henry Bernet 62 57 64
total time on court	5:43	(Infosys time)	4:49	total time on court

Possible final head-to-heads

	Carboni	Berkiet
Schwaerzler	0-0	1-1
Bigun	0-0	0-0

SCHWAERZLER	v	BIGUN
18	Age	18
2	ITF Junior Ranking	6
387	ATP Ranking	972
7-4	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	10-5
7-1	Roland Garros Record (Junior)	4-1
105-45	Career Record (Junior)	109-65
4-0	2024 Record (Junior)	16-3

- Lefthander **SCHWAERZLER** is bidding to become the 3rd Austrian player to reach a Roland Garros junior singles final – after 1995 Roland Garros men’s singles champion Thomas Muster and 2-time Roland Garros men’s singles runner-up Dominic Thiem. Muster finished runner-up in the boys’ singles here in 1985, and Thiem finished runner-up here in the boys’ singles in 2011.
- Schwaerzler is also bidding to become the **9th Austrian player to reach a Grand Slam junior singles final** – after Doris Schuster (1959 Wimbledon girls’ singles runner-up), Ernst Blanke (1961 Wimbledon boys’ singles runner-up), Muster (1985 Roland Garros boys’ singles runner-up), Barbara Schett (1994 Australian Open girls’ singles runner-up), Markus Hipfl (1996 US Open boys’ singles runner-up), Jurgen Melzer (1999 Wimbledon boys’ singles champion), Tamira Paszek (2005 Wimbledon and 2006 US Open girls’ singles runner-up), and Thiem (2011 Roland Garros boys’ singles runner-up).
- By reaching the semifinals here, Schwaerzler has recorded his **best Grand Slam performance**. His previous best performance was reaching the boys’ singles quarterfinals here in 2023 (l. Juan Carlos Prado Angelo).
- Schwaerzler is making his **5th junior Grand Slam appearance** – and his first of 2024. In addition to his quarterfinal finish here last year, he lost in the 1st round at the 2023 Australian Open (l. Pavle Marinkov), 2023 Wimbledon (l. Roy Horovitz), and the 2023 US Open (l. Marinkov).
- Schwaerzler is contesting his **first junior event of 2024**. He has not competed at junior level since October 2023, when he won the title at the 2023 ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals in Chengdu (CHN) (d. Rodrigo Pacheco Mendez).
- In addition to winning the Finals in Chengdu, Schwaerzler’s **best results at junior-level** are winning the titles at 2023 J500 Osaka (JPN) (d. Nicolai Budkov Kjaer) and 2023 J300 Repentigny (CAN) (d. Charlie Camus).

- Schwaerzler has **won one title as a professional** on the ATP Challenger Tour – at the 2023 Skopje Challenger (MKD) last month (d. Kamil Majchrzak).
- Schwaerzler is yet to make **his Tour-level debut**.
- Schwaerzler has also **reached the quarterfinals at 2 other Challenger-level events in 2024** – at Tallahassee (USA) (l. Mitchel Krueger) and Mauthausen (AUT) (l. Dimitar Kuzmanov).
- Schwaerzler reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 1 in January this year but is now ranked at No. 2. He is currently at a career-high ATP ranking of No. 387.
- Schwaerzler entered the **boys' doubles here** alongside Nicolai Budkov Kjaer as No. 1 seeds. The pair face Timofei Derepasko/Amir Omarkhanov in the semifinals later on Friday.
- Schwaerzler is coached by former singles world No. 6 and 2-time Grand Slam men's doubles champion Jurgen Melzer. Melzer is the only Austrian player to have won a junior Grand Slam singles title, winning the boys' singles at 1999 Wimbledon.
- Lefthander **BIGUN** is bidding to become the 14th American player to reach the Roland Garros boys' singles final – and the first since Toby Kodat, who finished runner-up in the boys' singles here in 2019.
- By reaching the semifinals here, Bigun has recorded his **best Grand Slam performance**. His previous best performance was reaching the boys' singles quarterfinals at 2023 Wimbledon (l. Darwin Blanch) and the 2024 Australian Open (l. Nicolai Budkov Kjaer).
- Bigun is making his **6th junior Grand Slam appearance** – and his first of 2024. In addition to his quarterfinal finishes at 2023 Wimbledon and the 2024 Australian Open, he lost in the 1st round at the 2023 Australian Open (l. Adriano Dzhenev), 2023 Roland Garros (l. Juan Carlos Prado Angelo), and the 2023 US Open (l. Arthur Gea).
- Bigun's **best result at junior-level in 2024** is winning the title at J500 Milan (ITA) (d. Kim Jangjun) at the end of May. He also reached the semifinals at J300 Indian Wells (USA) (l. Rudy Quan).
- Blanch has **contested 7 events as a professional**. His best result as a professional on the ATP Challenger Tour is reaching the 2nd round at the 2024 Sarasota Challenger (USA) as a qualifier (l. Zizou Bergs). He has also reached the 2nd round at 3 ITF World Tennis Tour events – M15 Palm Coast, FL (USA) (l. Roberto Cid Subervi), M15 Vero Beach, FL (USA) (l. Dian Nedev) and M25 Reggio Emilia (ITA) (l. Enrico Dalla Valle).
- Bigun reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 6 in May this year. He plays here at the same ranking. He is currently at a career-high ATP ranking of No. 972.
- Bigun entered the **boys' doubles here** alongside Jagger Leach as No. 4 seeds. The pair face No. 2 seeds Federico Cina/Rei Sakamoto in the semifinals/fell to Alexander Razeghi/Max Schoenhaus in the quarterfinals.
- Bigun is coached by Mario Rincon.

LORENZO CARBONI (ITA) v TOMASZ BERKIETA (POL)

Head-to-head: first meeting

Road to the semifinals

CARBONI	Time		Time	BERKIETA
d. (WC) Pierre Antoine Faut 06 64 64	1:56	1st round	1:06	d. Izan Almazan Valiente 63 62
d. No. 8 Maxim Mrva 62 63	1:10	2nd round	1:12	d. No. 6 Hayden Jones 64 64
d. (WC) Mae Malige 63 62	1:21	3rd round	1:49	d. (Q) Charlie Robertson 63 36 64
d. No. 1 Rei Sakamoto 46 61 64	2:21	Quarterfinals	1:06	d. (WC) Moise Kouame 63 62
total time on court	6:48	(Infosys time)	5:13	total time on court

Possible final head-to-heads

	Schwaerzler	Bigun
Carboni	0-0	0-0
Berkieta	1-1	0-0

CARBONI	v	BERKIETA
18	Age	17
-	ITF Junior Ranking	34
705	ATP Ranking	1191
4-1	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	13-5
4-0	Roland Garros Record (Junior)	4-1
65-22	Career Record (Junior)	84-41
4-0	2024 Record (Junior)	6-2

- **CARBONI** is bidding to become the first Italian player to reach the Roland Garros boys' singles final for 30 years, since Giorgio Galimberti, who finished runner-up in the boys' singles here in 1994.
- Carboni is also bidding to become the **8th Italian player to reach a Grand Slam boys' singles final** – after Corrado Barazzutti (1971 Roland Garros runner-up), Diego Nargiso (1987 Wimbledon champion), Andrea Guadenzi (1990 Roland Garros and US Open champion), Mose Navarra (1992 Roland Garros runner-up), Galimberti (1994 Roland Garros runner-up), Gianluigi Quinzi (2013 Wimbledon champion), and Lorenzo Musetti (2018 US Open runner-up and 2019 Australian Open champion).
- Carboni is making his **2nd junior Grand Slam appearance**. His only previous appearances at junior Grand Slam events came at the 2023 Australian Open, where he reached the main draw as a qualifier before losing in the 1st round (l. Mihai Alexandru Coman).
- Carboni is contesting his **first junior event of 2024**. He has not competed at junior level since April 2023, when he reached the final round of qualifying at J300 Beaulieu-sur-Mer (FRA) (retired against Gabriele Vulpitta).
- Carboni made his **professional debut in March 2023** and has contested 30 events as a professional. He reached his first professional final in July 2023 at M25 Biella (ITA) (l. Stefano Napolitano). His best professional result in 2024 is reaching the quarterfinals at two M15 events in Monastir (TUN) in February (l. Robin Bertrand and l. Jakub Nicod).
- Carboni reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 103 in January 2023 and plays here without a junior ranking. He reached a career-high ATP ranking of No. 682 in November 2023 and is currently ranked at No. 705. He entered the junior event here based on his professional ranking.
- Carboni entered the **boys' doubles here** alongside Andrea de Marchi. The lost to No. 3 seeds Viktor Frydrych/Mees Rottgering in the 1st round.
- **BERKIETA** is bidding to become the 2nd Polish player to reach the Roland Garros boys' singles final – after Jerzy Janowicz, who finished runner-up in the boys' singles here in 2008.

- Berkieta is also bidding to become the **7th Polish player to reach a Grand Slam junior singles final** – after Aleksandra Olsza (1995 Wimbledon girls' singles champion), Agnieszka Radwanska (2005 Wimbledon girls' singles champion), Marcin Gawron (2006 Wimbledon boys' singles runner-up), Urszula Radwanska (2007 Wimbledon girls' singles champion and 2007 US Open girls' singles runner-up), Janowicz (2007 US Open boys' singles runner-up and 2008 Roland Garros boys' singles runner-up) and Iga Swiatek (2018 Wimbledon girls' singles champion).
- By reaching the semifinals here, Berkieta has equalled his **best Grand Slam performance**. He also reached the boys' singles semifinals at the 2023 Australian Open (l. Learner Tien).
- Berkieta is making his **6th junior Grand Slam appearance**. In addition to his semifinal finish at the 2023 Australian Open, he reached the quarterfinals at 2023 Wimbledon (l. Yaroslav Demin) and the 3rd round at the 2024 Australian Open (l. Hayden Jones). She has lost in the 1st round on his 2 other junior Grand Slam appearances - at 2023 Roland Garros (l. Andrea M'chich) and the 2023 US Open (l. Nicolai Budkov Kjaer).
- Berkieta is contesting his **3rd junior event of 2024**. In addition to his 3rd round finish at the Australian Open, he lost in the 1st round at J300 Traralgon (AUS) in January (l. William Rejchtman Vinciguerra).
- Berkieta's **best result at junior-level** is winning the title at 2023 J200 Vigo (ESP) (d. Jakub Filip).
- Berkieta made his **professional debut in May 2022** and has contested 17 events as a professional. His best professional result is reaching the semifinals at M15 Sharm El Sheikh (EGY) in February this year (l. Philip Henning).
- Berkieta is yet to make **his Tour-level debut**.
- Berkieta reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 7 in January this year but plays here at No. 34. He achieved a career-high ATP ranking of No. 1083 in March and is currently ranked at No. 1191.
- Berkieta entered the **boys' doubles here** alongside Charlie Robertson. The pair gave a walkover to No. 3 seeds Thomas Faurel/Luca Preda in the 2nd round.
- Berkieta made his **Davis Cup debut for Poland in September 2023**, in their World Group II tie against Barbados. He defeated Xavier Lawrence in the only match he contested.

NO. 3 LAURA SAMSON v KRISTINA PENICKOVA (USA)

Head-to-head: first meeting

Road to the semifinals

SAMSON	Time		Time	PENICKOVA
d. (WC) Nauhany Vitoria Leme Da Silva 61 61	0:54	1st round	1:46	d. Emily Sartz-Lunde 76(4) 64
d. Elizara Yaneva 64 75	1:14	2nd round	1:12	d. No. 11 Iva Ivanova 64 63
d. No. 14 Kaitlin Quevedo 76(4) 57 62	2:33	3rd round	1:07	d. (Q) Mia Pohankova 62 62
d. No. 10 Iva Jovic 67(4) 64 75	2:48	Quarterfinals	1:11	d. Rose Marie Nijkamp 64 61
total time on court	7:29	(Infosys time)	5:16	total time on court

Possible final head-to-heads

	Valentova	Grant
Samson	0-1	0-0
Penickova	0-0	0-0

SAMSON	v	PENICKOVA
16	Age	14
3	ITF Junior Ranking	25
719	WTA Ranking	1358
9-3	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	4-1
4-1	Roland Garros Record (Junior)	4-0
101-34	Career Record (Junior)	56-19
9-1	2024 Record (Junior)	26-5

- **SAMSON** is bidding to become the 10th Czech player to reach the Roland Garros girls' singles final. (NB Tereza Valentova is also competing in the semifinals later on Friday)
- If Samson and Valentova both win today to reach the final, it will be the **first time in history that 2 Czech players have contested a junior Grand Slam final**.
- Samson and Valentova are bidding to become the **2nd and 3rd Czech players to reach a junior Grand Slam singles final in 2024** – after Jan Kumstat, who finished runner-up in the boys' singles at the Australian Open.
- By reaching the semifinals here, Samson has equalled her **best Grand Slam performance**. She also reached the semifinals at the 2023 US Open (l. Katherine Hui).
- Samson is making her **4th junior Grand Slam appearance**. In addition to her semifinal finish at the US Open last year, she reached the 2nd round at 2023 Wimbledon (l. Sayaka Ishii). She fell in the 1st round at 2023 Roland Garros (l. Ena Koike).
- Samson is contesting her **2nd junior event of 2024**. She finished runner-up at J500 Cairo (EGY) in February (l. Rositsa Dencheva) in the only other junior event she has contested this year.
- Samson **made her professional debut in August 2023** and has contested 9 events as a professional. She has won 3 titles on the ITF World Tennis Tour in 2024, at W15 Monastir (TUN) (d. Selina Dal), at W15 Kranjska Gora (SLO) (d. Oana Gavrilă), and at W15 Bol (CRO) (d. Sara Svetac). She also reached the final at W15 Sharm El Sheikh (EGY) (l. Sandra Samir).
- Samson reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 2 in March this year, but plays here one place lower at No. 3. She is also currently ranked at a career-high WTA ranking of No. 719.
- **PENICKOVA** is bidding to become the 19th American player to reach the Roland Garros girls' singles final. (NB Tyra Caterina Grant is also competing in the semifinals later on Friday)

- If Penickova and Grant both win today to reach the final, it will be the **4th time that 2 American players have contested a Roland Garros girls' singles final** – after 1980 (Kathy Horvath defeated Kelly Henry), 2017 (Whitney Osuigwe defeated Claire Liu) and 2018 (Coco Gauff defeated Caty McNally).
- Penickova is making her **2nd junior Grand Slam appearance here**. Her only previous Grand Slam appearance came as a wild card at the 2023 US Open, where she lost in the 1st round (l. Hannah Klugman).
- Penickova has **won 2 junior titles in 2024** – at J300 Kuching (MAS) (d. Kanon Sawashiro) and J200 Kuala Lumpur (MAS) (d. Li Yuyao). She also reached the final at J300 San Jose (CRC) (l. Shannon Lam) and J300 San Jose (USA) (American Regional Championships) (l. Iva Jovic), and the 3rd round at J300 Barranquilla (COL) (l. Monika Ekstrand)
- Penickova **made her professional debut in October 2023** and has contested 3 events as a professional. She has won one main draw match on the ITF World Tennis Tour – reaching the 2nd round at W15 Norman, OK (USA) as a qualifier (d. Wang Win Tong, l. Lucia Peyre).
- Penickova reached a career-high junior ranking of No. 24 last month, and plays here one place lower at No.25. She has a career-high WTA ranking of No. 1358, and is currently ranked at No. 1369.
- Penickova entered the **girls' doubles here** with Vendula Valdmannova. The pair lost in the 1st round to No. 3 seeds Renata Jamrichova/Tereza Valentova.

NO. 4 TYRA CATERINA GRANT (USA) v NO. 12 TEREZA VALENTOVA (CZE)

Head-to-head: Grant leads 1-0

2023 J300 Santa Croce Sull'Arno (ITA) Clay (O) SF Grant 61 36 63

A 2nd meeting for Grant and Valentova, and their 2nd on clay. Grant won their only previous match, a semifinal at J300 Santa Croce Sull'Arno, where she went on to win the title.

If Valentova wins today and fellow Czech Samson also reaches the girls' singles final here, it will be the first all-Czech junior Grand Slam final in history.

Road to the semifinals

GRANT	Time		Time	VALENTOVA
d. Julia Stusek 26 64 60	1:33	1st round	1:16	d. Noemi Basiletti 64 62
d. Rositsa Dencheva 62 62	0:58	2nd round	0:52	d. Laima Vladson 61 62
d. (Q) Ren Yufei 63 64	1:23	3rd round	1:13	d. No. 6 Wakana Sonobe 64 61
d. Jeline Vandromme 46 64 61	1:59	Quarterfinals	1:20	d. No. 1 Renata Jamrichova 63 62
total time on court	5:53	(Infosys time)	4:41	total time on court

Possible final head-to-heads

	Samson	Penickova
Grant	0-0	0-0
Valentova	1-0	0-0

GRANT	v	VALENTOVA
16	Age	17
5	ITF Junior Ranking	15
676	WTA Ranking	337
7-3	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	15-5
4-1	Roland Garros Record (Junior)	4-1
89-31	Career Record (Junior)	108-26
19-3	2024 Record (Junior)	4-1

- **GRANT** is bidding to become the 19th American player to reach the Roland Garros girls' singles final. (NB Kristina Penickova is also competing in the semifinals earlier on Friday)
- If Grant and Penickova both win today to reach the final, it will be the **4th time that 2 American players have contested a Roland Garros girls' singles final** – after 1980 (Kathy Horvath defeated Kelly Henry), 2017 (Whitney Osuigwe defeated Clair Liu) and 2018 (Coco Gauff defeated Caty McNally).
- By reaching the semifinals here, Grant has recorded her **best Grand Slam performance**.
- Grant is making her **5th junior Grand Slam appearance**. She reached the 3rd round at the 2024 Australian Open (l. Emerson Jones) and the 2nd round at 2023 Wimbledon (gave a walkover to Greta Greco Lucchina). She lost in the 1st round at 2023 Roland Garros (l. Renata Jamrichova) and the 2023 US Open (l. Ena Koike).
- Grant **made her professional debut in January 2023** and has contested 8 events as a professional. She has won one title on the ITF World Tennis Tour at 2024 W15 Antalya (TUR) (d. Anja Stankovic). She also reached the semifinals at 2023 W25 Redding, CA (USA) (l. Fiona Crawley) as a qualifier and at 2023 W25 Florence, SC (USA) as a wild card.
- Grant achieved a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 5 in May, and plays here at the same ranking. She also currently sits at a career-high WTA ranking of No. 676.
- Grant entered the **girls' doubles here** with Iva Jovic. As No. 4 seeds, the pair face No. 1 seeds Alena Kovackova/Laura Samson in the semifinals later on Friday.

- **VALENTOVA** is bidding to reach her 2nd junior Grand Slam singles final. She finished runner-up at the 2023 US Open (l. Katherine Hui)
- Valentova is also bidding to become the **10th Czech player to reach the Roland Garros girls' singles final**. (NB Laura Samson is also competing in the semifinals earlier on Friday)
- If Valentova and Samson both win today to reach the final, it will be the **first time in history that 2 Czech players have contested a junior Grand Slam final**.
- Valentova and Samson are bidding to become the **2nd and 3rd Czech players to reach a junior Grand Slam singles final in 2024** – after Jan Kumstat, who finished runner-up in the boys' singles at the Australian Open.
- Valentova is making her **5th junior Grand Slam appearance**. In addition to her runner-up finish at the US Open last year, she reached the 3rd round at 2023 Roland Garros (l. Mayu Crossley) and the 2nd round at 2023 Wimbledon (l. Taylah Preston). She fell in the 1st round at the 2024 Australian Open (l. Ksenia Efremova).
- Valentova is contesting her **2nd junior event of 2024**, after the Australian Open.
- Valentova **made her professional debut in May 2021** and has contested 15 events as a professional. She has won 4 titles on the ITF World Tennis Tour at W75 Ricany (CZE) (d. Daria Snigur) as a wild card, at W35 Sharm El Sheikh (EGY) (d. Linda Klimovicova), and 2 W15 Monastir events (d. Ren Yufei and Audrey Albie)
- Valentova reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 15 in October last year, but plays here 10 places lower at No. 15. She achieved a career-high WTA ranking of No. 334 last month and is currently ranked at at No. 337.