

# 2024 ROLAND GARROS WHEELCHAIR SINGLES FINAL NOTES Saturday 27 January

<b>Women's Wheelchair Singles Final</b> No. 1 Diede de Groot (NED) v Zhu Zhenzhen (CHN)	Page 2
<b>Quad Wheelchair Singles Final</b> No. 2 Sam Schroder (NED) v No. 4 Guy Sasson (ISR)	Page 5
<b>Men's Wheelchair Singles Final</b> No. 2 Tokito Oda (JPN) v No. 3 Gustavo Fernandez (ARG)	Page 7

#### On court today...

- In the women's wheelchair singles final, 21-time Grand Slam singles winner Diede de Groot meets first time Grand Slam singles finalist Zhu Zhenzhen. De Groot aims to overtake Esther Vergeer as the player with the most Grand Slam wheelchair women's singles titles, while Zhu aims to become the 2nd Chinese player to win a singles Grand Slam title in any category outside of juniors, after two-time Grand Slam singles champion Li Na. Should De Groot claim victory today, she will win her 14th consecutive Grand Slam title and extend her record for longest streak of Grand Slam wheelchair singles titles. Zhu has defeated de Groot on 4 out of the 12 occasions she has faced her, including the only time they faced at a Grand Slam in quarterfinals at the 2020 Australian Open. However, that is Zhu's only victory against de Groot in their last 9 meetings.
- Guy Sasson would become just the 3rd Israeli man to win a Grand Slam title in any category, after Jonathan Erlich and Andy Ram, if he can defeat Sam Schroder today in a rematch of their Australian Open final from earlier in the year. But overcoming Schroder will be a formidable challenge – the Dutchman is already a 6-time Grand Slam singles champion and will claim sole ownership of 2nd place on the list for most Grand Slam quad wheelchair singles titles if he wins today, only behind Dylan Alcott.
- The men's wheelchair singles final sees defending champion Tokito Oda take on two-time champion Gustavo Fernandez, returning to a Grand Slam singles final for the first time since 2022 Roland Garros. Fernandez is bidding to win his 6th Grand Slam singles title, and first since 2019 Wimbledon. A win would see him become the 3rd player to win 3 or more Roland Garros wheelchair men's singles titles, after Shingo Kunieda, who won 8, and Alfie Hewett, who has won 3. Oda has won 5 of the pair's 7 previous meetings, but Fernandez defeated Oda in their most recent match, a 61 26 75 victory in the semifinals at the 2023 Wheelchair Singles Masters in Barcelona, on clay. Oda has won all 3 finals that the pair have contested at the Swiss Open in 2022 and 2023, and at the 2023 Cajun Classic.

# NO. 1 DIEDE DE GROOT (NED) v ZHU ZHENZHEN (CHN)

#### Head-to-head: De Groot leads 8-4

A 13th meeting between De Groot and Zhu and their 2nd at a Grand Slam. Zhu won their only previous meeting at the Grand Slams, a 67(3) 63 75 victory in the first round at the 2020 Australian Open. That victory is Zhu's only win against De Groot in the pair's last 9 meetings – Zhu won their first 3 meetings, in 2016-17, with De Groot winning 8 of their 9 subsequent matches.

This is the pair's 5th meeting on clay. De Groot has won all 4 of the pair's meetings on clay courts – including their only previous meeting in 2024, recording a 62 61 victory at Rome last month.

This is the pair's 3rd meeting in a final. De Groot has won both their previous meetings in finals – a 63 62 victory in the final at the 2018 Cajun Classic and a 61 60 victory in the final at the 2023 British Open.

De Groot and Zhu also faced each other in the women's wheelchair doubles event here – De Groot and Aniek Van Koot, the No. 2 seeds, defeated Zhu and Li Xiaohui 76(1) 64 in the semifinals on Friday.

De Groot is facing a Chinese player in the singles event here for the 3rd time this year, having defeated Li and Wang Ziying in the opening 2 rounds. Similarly, Zhu is facing a Dutch player in the singles event here for the 3rd time this year, having defeated Jiske Griffioen and Lizzy de Greef in the opening 2 rounds.

#### Road to the final DE GROOT Time Time ZHU 1st round d. No. 3 Jiske Griffioen 63 76(5) d. Li Xiaohui 63 64 1:15 2:03 Quarterfinals d. Wang Ziying 60 63 0:53 1:32 d. Lizzy de Greef 63 63 d. No. 4 Aniek van Koot 61 64 Semifinals 2:51 d. Momoko Ohtani 64 36 76(3) 1:19 3:27 (Infosys time) 6:26 total time on court total time on court **DE GROOT** ZHU ν 27 34 Age Ranking 6 1 **Grand Slam Singles Titles** 21 0 Singles Titles 28 87 76-7 **Grand Slam Record** 4-9 19-3 **Roland Garros Record** 3-2 448-68 Career Record 248-93 21-1 2024 Record 22-14

- **DE GROOT** is bidding to win her 5th Roland Garros title and become the 3rd player to win 5 or more wheelchair singles titles here after Shingo Kunieda (8 titles) and Esther Vergeer (6). She won the title here in 2019, 2021, 2022 and 2023, defeating Yui Kamiji in the final on all 4 occasions.
- De Groot is bidding to win her 22nd Grand Slam singles title and claim sole ownership of the record for most Grand Slam women's wheelchair singles titles, ahead of Vergeer. In addition to her 4 titles here, she has also won 6 titles at both the Australian Open and US Open, and 5 titles at Wimbledon.
- De Groot is bidding to win a **14th consecutive Grand Slam title**. Her current streak of Grand Slam title victories is the longest Grand Slam wheelchair singles title winning streak in history.

Longest Grand Slam wheelchail singles title-winning streaks				
Player	Length of streak	Years		
Diede de Groot	14??	2021-24		
Shingo Kunieda	12	2007-11		
Esther Vergeer	11	2005-10		
Esther Vergeer	7	2010-12		
Shingo Kunieda	6	2014-15		

## Longest Grand Slam wheelchair singles title-winning streaks

- De Groot is contesting her 25th Grand Slam final. In addition to her 21 Grand Slam titles, she also finished runner-up at the 2017 US Open (I. Kamiji), 2018 Roland Garros (I. Kamiji) and 2019 Wimbledon (I. Aniek van Koot).
- De Groot is bidding to extend a **47-match Grand Slam winning streak**. She has not lost a Grand Slam match since falling in the semifinals at 2020 Roland Garros (d. Whiley, I. Momoko Ohtani). She is making her 8th appearance at Roland Garros and is contesting her 29th Grand Slam overall.
- De Groot's **145-match Tour-level winning streak ended at the World Team Cup last month**, when she fell to Li Xiaohui during the final. She had previously not lost a match since falling to Kamiji in the final at the 2021 Melbourne Wheelchair Open.
- De Groot **won the Golden Slam in 2021 and the Grand Slam in 2022 and 2023**. In addition to winning the singles title at all 4 Grand Slam tournaments for the last 3 years, she also won Paralympic singles gold, defeating Kamiji in the final at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Tennis Event in 2021. She and Van Koot also won the gold medal together in the women's doubles event, defeating Lucy Shuker/Jordanne Whiley in the final.
- De Groot is bidding to win her **6th title of 2023**. In addition to her title at the Australian Open, where she defeated Kamiji in the final, she has also won the titles at the Melbourne Wheelchair Open (d. Kamiji), Rotterdam (d. Jiske Griffioen), the Cajun Classic (d. Kamiji) and Rome (d. Angelica Bernal). She has won a total of 87 singles titles.
- De Groot has also **won 71 doubles titles** including 18 at the Grand Slams. She has won 5 Roland Garros doubles titles and will bid to win her 6th later today when she and Van Koot face Kamiji/Kgothatso Montjane in the final.
- De Groot is a **3-time Paralympic medallist**. In addition to her 2 gold medals at Tokyo 2020, she also won the silver medal in women's doubles at Rio 2016, alongside Marjolein Buis, falling to Jiske Griffioen/Van Koot in the gold medal match. She also lost to Griffioen in the semifinals of the singles at Rio 2016 and fell to Kamiji in the bronze medal match.
- De Groot first reached the **world No. 1 ranking** in March 2018. She has been ranked at No. 1 continuously since June 2018.
- De Groot is coached by Amanda Hopmans.
- **ZHU** is bidding to become the first Chinese player to win a Grand Slam wheelchair singles title.
- Zhu is bidding to become the **2nd Chinese player to win a Grand Slam singles title** (excluding junior events) after Li Na, who won the women's singles title at 2011 Roland Garros and the 2014 Australian Open. By reaching the final here, she has become the 3rd Chinese player to reach a Grand Slam singles final after Li (4 Grand Slam final appearances) and Zheng Qinwen (who finished runner-up in the women's singles at the Australian Open this year).
- By reaching the final here, Zhu has recorded her **best Grand Slam performance**. Her previous best result at the Grand Slams was reaching the semifinals on her Grand Slam debut at the 2020 Australian Open (I. Aniek van Koot).
- Zhu is contesting Roland Garros for the 3rd time and making her 10th Grand Slam appearance overall. She lost in the 1st round on both of her previous appearances here – in 2022 (I. Momoko Ohtani) and 2023 (I. Yui Kamiji).
- Zhu's **best results in 2024** are finishing runner-up at Bolton Indoor 3 (I. Dana Mathewson) and reaching the semifinals at Bolton Indoor 2 (I. Angelica Bernal), Busan (I. Manami Tanaka) and Royan (I. Wang Ziying).
- Zhu has won 28 singles titles most recently at the 2023 Open de Vendee (d. Lucy Shuker).
- Zhu has also **won 41 doubles titles**. Her best Grand Slam doubles result is a runner-up finish alongside Kamiji at the 2023 Australian Open (I. De Groot/Van Koot).

- Zhu has **competed at the Paralympics on 2 previous occasions**, reaching the women's singles quarterfinals at both Rio 2016 (I. Van Koot) and Tokyo 2020 (I. Kamiji). She and Wang also contested the women's doubles bronze medal match at Tokyo 2020, falling to Kamiji/Ohtani.
- Zhu reached a career-high ranking of No. 4 in August 2022. She plays here at No. 6.

# NO. 2 SAM SCHRODER (NED) v GUY SASSON (ISR)

### Head-to-head: Schroder leads 4-1

A 6th meeting for Schroder and Sasson. Sasson won the pair's first meeting at the 2023 French Riviera Open, but Schroder has won their 4 subsequent meetings – including their 2 Grand Slam meetings, in the quarterfinals at the 2023 US Open and in the final at the Australian Open this year.

This is the pair's 3rd meeting in a final, with Schroder having recorded a 63 63 victory in the final at the Australian Open in January and having won 61 62 in the final at the Japan Open in April.

Schroder and Sasson will also contest the quad wheelchair doubles final here this year. Schroder and Niels Vink will face Sasson and Andy Lapthorne later today.

Road to the final				
SCHRODER	Time		Time	SASSON
d. Andy Lapthorne 61 63	1:06	1st round	0:55	d. Heath Davidson 60 62
d. Donald Ramphadi 61 61	1:02	Semifinals	1:46	d. No. 1 Niels Vink 62 63
total time on court	2:08	(Infosys time)	2:41	total time on court
SCHRODER		v		SASSON
24	Age			44
2	Ranking			3
6	Grand Slam Singles Titles		es Titles	<b>s</b> 0
33	Singles Titles		es	11
33-10	Grand Slam Record		cord	6-2
8-4	Roland Garros Record		lecord	2-0
266-84	Career Record		rd	190-101
18-0	2024 Record		d	22-4

- Lefthander **SCHRODER** is bidding to win his first Roland Garros title on his 4th appearance in the final here. He finished runner-up here in 2021 (I. Dylan Alcott), 2022 (I. Niels Vink) and 2023 (I. Vink).
- Schroder is bidding to win his **7th Grand Slam title**. He won the titles at the US Open in 2020 (d. Alcott) and 2023 (d. Vink), at the Australian Open in 2022 (d. Alcott), 2023 (d. Vink) and this year (d. Sasson), and at 2022 Wimbledon (d. Vink).
- Schroder is bidding to become just the **4th wheelchair tennis player to win the Grand Slam in singles** – after Alcott, Diede De Groot and Shingo Kunieda. (see table overleaf)

Players to have won the Grand Slam in wheelchair singles				
Player	Australian Open titles	Roland Garros titles	Wimbledon titles	US Open titles
Dylan Alcott	7	3	2	3
Diede de Groot	5	3	4	5
Shingo Kunieda	11	8	1	8
Sam Schroder??	2	1??	1	1

## Players to have won the Grand Slam in wheelchair singles

Note: 2017 was the first season when all four Grand Slam tournaments held men's and women's wheelchair singles events. The quad wheelchair singles events have been held at all four Grand Slam tournaments since 2019.

- Schroder is contesting his **13th Grand Slam final** and his 4th at Roland Garros. He has also reached 4 finals at the Australian Open, reached 3 finals at the US Open and reached 2 finals at Wimbledon.
- Schroder is making his **5th Roland Garros appearance** and his 16th Grand Slam appearance overall. In addition to his runner-up finishes here in 2021, 2022 and 2023, he fell to Alcott in the 1st round on his debut here in 2020.

- Schroder is bidding to win his **5th singles title of 2024**. In addition to his title at the Australian Open, he also won the titles at the Melbourne Wheelchair Open (d. Vink), the Cajun Classic (d. Vink) and the Japan Open (d. Sasson). He has won a total of 33 singles titles.
- Schroder is bidding to extend an **18-match singles winning streak**. His last defeat in a singles match came in the final at the 2023 Wheelchair Singles Masters, when he fell to Vink. He has won the title at all 4 tournaments he has contested this year.
- Schroder has also **won 42 doubles titles** including 8 Grand Slam doubles titles. He has won 3 doubles titles at the US Open, 2 at both Roland Garros and Wimbledon and one at the Australian Open. He won the doubles title here alongside Alcott in 2020 and alongside Vink in 2022. He and Vink face Andy Lapthorne/Sasson in the doubles final later today.
- Schroder won the silver medal in quad singles at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Tennis Event marking the best result for a Dutch quad singles player in Paralympic history. He fell to Alcott in straight sets in the final. He and Vink won the gold medal in the quad doubles event, defeating Alcott/Heath Davidson in the final.
- Schroder reached the **world No. 1 ranking** in February 2022 and has held the No. 1 ranking for 5 weeks since then, most recently in March 2023. He has been ranked at No. 2, behind Vink, since then.
- Schroder is coached by Joop Broens.
- **SASSON** is bidding to win his first Grand Slam title on his Roland Garros debut.
- Sasson is bidding to become the **first Israeli player to win a Grand Slam wheelchair singles title**. He would become the 2nd Israeli player, across senior, junior and wheelchair categories, to win a Grand Slam singles title after Shahar Pe'er, who won the 2004 Australian Open girls' singles titles.
- Sasson is bidding to become the **3rd Israeli man to win a Grand Slam title in any discipline** after Jonathan Erlich and Andy Ram, who won the 2008 Australian Open men's doubles title. Ram also won the mixed doubles titles at 2006 Wimbledon and 2007 Roland Garros.
- Sasson is contesting his **2nd Grand Slam final**. He reached his first Grand Slam final at the Australian Open this year (I. Schroder).
- Sasson is contesting his 3rd Grand Slam singles event. He made his Grand Slam debut at the 2023 US Open last year, reaching the quarterfinals (d. Tomas Masaryk, I. Schroder), before finishing runner-up at the Australian Open this year.
- Sasson's **best results in 2024** are winning the titles at the Victorian Wheelchair Open (d. Heath Davidson), the Georgia Open (d. Andy Lapthorne) and the Korea Open (d. Davidson). He also reached the final the Australian Open and the Japan Open, losing to Schroder at both events. He has won 11 singles titles in total.
- Sasson is also bidding to win his **first Grand Slam doubles title today**, when he and Lapthorne play Schroder and Vink in the quad wheelchair doubles final. He has won a total of 24 doubles titles on tour, including 2 in 2024.
- Sasson reached a new **career-high ranking** of No. 3 after finishing runner-up at the Australian Open in January and has remained at No. 3 since then.
- Sasson is coached by Ofri Lankri.

## NO. 2 TOKITO ODA (JPN) v NO. 3 GUSTAVO FERNANDEZ (ARG)

#### Head-to-head: Oda leads 5-2

An 8th meeting for Oda and Fernandez – and their 2nd at a Grand Slam. The pair's only previous meeting at the Grand Slams came in the semifinals at the 2023 Australian Open, with Oda winning 62 46 75 to advance to his first Grand Slam final.

Fernandez won the pair's first meeting – in the semifinals at the 2022 Annecy International Open – before losing 5 consecutive matches to Oda. Fernandez defeated Oda for the 2nd time in the pair's most-recent meeting, a 61 26 75 victory in the semifinals at the 2023 Wheelchair Singles Masters in Barcelona.

Today's match is the pair's 4th meeting in a final. Oda has won all 3 finals that the pair have contested – at the Swiss Open in 2022 and 2023, and at the 2023 Cajun Classic.

Oda is also contesting the wheelchair men's doubles final on Saturday, partnering compatriot Takuya Miki as they take on defending champions Alfie Hewett and Gordon Reid.

Oda and Fernandez are both in the Top 5 on the list for most Grand Slam men's wheelchair singles titles. Fernandez is in 3rd place on the list and is bidding to win his 6th Grand Slam singles title today. Oda is bidding to win his 4th Grand Slam singles title and equal Stephane Houdet in 4th place on the list.

most orang orang method method and singles thes				
Player	Grand Slam singles titles			
Shingo Kunieda	28			
Alfie Hewett	8			
Gustavo Fernandez	5			
Stephane Houdet	4			
Tokito Oda	3			
Robin Ammerlaan	3			
David Hall	3			

#### Most Grand Slam men's wheelchair singles titles

Oda and Fernandez are both former Roland Garros champions. Oda is the defending champion here, having won his first Grand Slam title by defeating Alfie Hewett in the final last year, and is bidding to become the 5th player to win the men's wheelchair singles title here on multiple occasions. Fernandez won the singles title here in 2016 and 2019 and is bidding to become the 3rd player to win the men's wheelchair singles title here on 3 or more occasions.

Player	Grand Slam singles titles
Shingo Kunieda	8
Alfie Hewett	3
Gustavo Fernandez	2
Stephane Houdet	2
Tokito Oda	1
Maikel Scheffers	1

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

Road to the final				
ODA	Time		Time	FERNANDEZ
d. Ruben Spaargaren 76(7) 62	1:34	1st round	1:00	d. Takashi Sanada 61 63
d. Tom Egberink 61 64	1:05	Quarterfinals	1:08	d. Casey Ratzlaff 60 75
d. Takuya Miki 61 61	1:13	Semifinals	2:39	d. No. 1 Alfie Hewett 75 67(1) 62
total time on court	3:52	(Infosys time)	4:47	total time on court
ODA		v		FERNANDEZ
18		Age		30
2		Ranking		3
3	Gra	and Slam Single	es Titles	<b>s</b> 5
26	Singles Titles		es	65
20-5	Grand Slam Record		cord	48-34
9-1	Roland Garros Record		Record	20-9
192-36	Career Record		rd	577-194
24-2		2024 Recor	d	17-5

- **ODA** is bidding to win his 2nd consecutive Roland Garros men's wheelchair singles title and become the 4th player to successfully defend the men's wheelchair singles title here after Shingo Kunieda (who won 4 consecutive titles here in 2007-10 and back-to-back titles in 2014-15), Stephane Houdet (2012-13) and Alfie Hewett (2020-21).
- Oda is bidding to win his **2nd Roland Garros title** and become the 5th player to win the men's wheelchair singles title here on multiple occasions after Kunieda (8 titles), Hewett (3) and Fernandez and Houdet (both 2).
- Oda is also bidding to become the **3rd Japanese player to win 4 or more Grand Slam wheelchair singles titles** – after Kunieda (28 Grand Slam singles titles) and Yui Kamiji (8). Mie Yaosa is the only other Japanese player to win a Grand Slam wheelchair singles title, winning the 2005 Australian Open women's wheelchair singles title.
- Oda has **won 3 of the last 4 Grand Slam men's wheelchair singles titles** he won his first Grand Slam title at Roland Garros last year, before winning the titles at both 2023 Wimbledon and the 2024 Australian Open, defeating Hewett in the final at all 3 events. His only defeat at the Grand Slams in that time came at the 2023 US Open, when he fell to Stephane Houdet in the 1st round.
- Last year here, aged 17 years 33 days, Oda became the **youngest player to win a Grand Slam singles title (in any discipline excluding juniors) since the 1997 US Open**, when Martina Hingis won the women's singles title aged 16 years 342 days. He also become the youngest man in history to win a Grand Slam singles title in any discipline.
- Oda is contesting his **5th Grand Slam final**. In addition to his 3 Grand Slam titles, he finished runner-up at the 2023 Australian Open (I. Hewett).
- Oda has **won 9 of the 10 singles matches he has contested at Roland Garros**. His only singles defeat here came on his debut in 2022, when he fell to Kunieda in the semifinals. He is making his 3rd appearance here and his 9th Grand Slam appearance overall.
- Oda has won **3 singles titles in 2024**. In addition to his title at the Australian Open, he also won the titles at the Melbourne Wheelchair Open and the Japan Open, defeating Hewett in the final at all 3 events. He has won 26 singles titles in total.
- Also in 2024, Oda finished runner-up at both the Georgia Open and the Cajun Classic, falling to Hewett in the final both events.
- Oda has also won 8 doubles titles. He will bid to win his first Grand Slam doubles title when he contests his 4th consecutive Grand Slam doubles final later today – he and Takuya Miki take on defending champions Alfie Hewett/Gordon Reid. He has finished runner-up in doubles at Wimbledon and the US Open last year and at the Australian Open this year.

- Oda **became world No. 1 for the first time** after winning the title at Roland Garros last year. Aged 17 years 35 days, he became the youngest man in history to hold the No. 1 ranking in any senior tennis discipline. He has been ranked either No. 1 or No. 2 since reaching his first Grand Slam final at the 2023 Australian Open and plays here at No. 2.
- Oda is coached by Hiroya Kumada.
- **FERNANDEZ** is bidding to win his 3rd Roland Garros title and become the 3rd player to win 3 men's wheelchair singles titles here after Shingo Kunieda (8 titles) and Alfie Hewett (3). He won the title here in 2016 and 2019, defeating Gordon Reid in the final on both occasions.
- Fernandez is also bidding to win his **6th Grand Slam singles title** and close the gap on Kunieda (28 titles) and Hewett (8) at the top of the list for most Grand Slam men's wheelchair singles titles. In addition to his 2 titles here, he has won the Australian Open title on 2 occasions in 2017 (d. Nicolas Peifer) and 2019 (d. Stefan Olsson) and the title at Wimbledon in 2019 (d. Kunieda).
- Fernandez is contesting his **13th Grand Slam singles final** but just his 2nd since he won the title at 2019 Wimbledon. His only appearance in a Grand Slam final since then came here in 2022, when he finished runner-up to Kunieda.
- Fernandez is contesting his **6th Roland Garros singles final** in addition to his titles here in 2016 and 2019, he also finished runner-up in 2017 (I. Hewett), 2018 (I. Kunieda) and 2022.
- Fernandez is making his **12th appearance at Roland Garros** and his 39th appearance at a Grand Slam overall. He has competed here every year since 2013.
- Last year here, Fernandez reached the semifinals (I. Hewett).
- Fernandez **missed the Australian Open this year on health grounds**. It was the first time he had missed a Grand Slam tournament since making his Grand Slam debut at the 2013 Australian Open.
- Fernandez's **best result this year** is winning the title on clay at the Barcelona Open (d. Martin de la Puente). He also finished runner-up at both Rome (I. Hewett) and Royan (I. De La Puente). He has won 65 singles titles in total.
- Fernandez has also won 29 doubles titles including 3 Grand Slam doubles titles, alongside Peifer at 2016 Wimbledon (d. Michael Jeremiasz/Reid) and alongside Kunieda at both 2019 Roland Garros (d. Stephane Houdet/Peifer) and 2022 Wimbledon (d. Hewett/Reid). He contested the doubles here alongside Houdet, falling to No. 1 seeds Hewett/Reid in the semifinals.
- Fernandez first reached the **world No. 1 ranking** in July 2017. Except for one week in June last year, when he dropped to No. 4, he has been ranked at No. 3 since November 2021.
- Fernandez has competed at the **Paralympic Tennis Event** on 3 occasions, at London 2012, Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020. He has reached the quarterfinals of the singles on all 3 occasions, falling to Houdet at London 2012 and to Reid at both Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020.
- Fernandez is coached by Fernando San Martin.