

# 2024 ITF WORLD TENNIS TOUR JUNIOR FINALS PREVIEW NOTES

## EVENT SUMMARY

The 2024 ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals will take place at the Sichuan International Tennis Center, Chengdu, China for the 7th time. This is the 7th edition of the ITF’s year-end competition for the top junior players aged 18 and under, which was launched in 2015 as the ITF Junior Masters. The event was rebranded as the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals in 2019.

In 2024, the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals are taking place from Wednesday 16 to Sunday 20 October 2024.

## FORMAT

Eight top-ranked players from each of the ITF boys’ and girls’ singles rankings will compete at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals. Qualification for the event is based on the rankings from Monday 9 September 2024, immediately following the US Open, which includes ranking points for the previous 12 months since the 2023 US Open.

### 2024 ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals groups

#### Boys

| Group A                | Group B           |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Rafael Jodar           | Luca Preda        |
| Mees Rottgering        | Maxim Mrva        |
| Jan Kumstat            | Charlie Robertson |
| Hayden Jones           | Kim Jangjun*      |
| Alternate: Jiang Fumin |                   |

\*As alternate, replaces Theo Papamalamis

#### Girls

| Group A                       | Group B             |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Emerson Jones                 | Tyra Caterina Grant |
| Wakana Sonobe                 | Laura Samson        |
| Jelinne Vandromme             | Mika Stojisavljevic |
| Antonia Vergara Rivera**      | Kristina Penickova  |
| Alternate: Sonja Zhiyenbayeva |                     |

\*\*Antonia Vergara Rivera has replaced Teodora Kostovic

In both the boys’ and girls’ event, the 8 players will be divided into 2 groups of 4 players and will compete a round-robin format from Wednesday 16 to Friday 18 October. The play-offs then take place from Saturday 19 to Sunday 20 October, with the top 2 finishers in each group competing in a 1st to 4th place play-off bracket, while the bottom 2 finishers from each group compete in a 5th to 8th place play-off bracket. All 16 competitors are guaranteed 5 matches – 3 round-robin matches followed by 2 play-off matches to determine standings.

## NATIONAL FIRSTS

Netherlands’ Mees Rottgering in the boys’ event and Belgium’s Jeline Vandromme in the girls’ event are the first players from their nations to compete in the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals, in either the boys’ or girls’ event. Siblings Hayden Jones and Emerson Jones are, respectively, the first Australian boy and first Australian girl to compete in Chengdu, and the first siblings to compete at the event.

Junior world No. 5 Luca Preda is the first Romanian player to contest the boys’ event, and the 2nd overall after Elena-Gabriela Ruse competed in the girls’ event at the inaugural edition in 2015, while world No. 11 Charlie Robertson is the first British player to contest the boys’ event, after Katie Swan contested the girls’ event in 2016 (and Stojisavljevic competes in the girls’ event this year).

Antonia Vergara Rivera is the first Chilean player to contest the girls’ event, and the 2nd overall after Tomas Barrios Vera competed in the boys’ event in 2016.

## BILLIE JEAN KING CUP JUNIORS AND DAVIS CUP JUNIORS CHAMPIONS

Three players across the girls’ and boys’ events in Chengdu have won the Billie Jean King Cup Junior or Davis Cup Juniors title for their nations.

Tyra Caterina Grant led USA to their 5th title in 6 years at the 2023 Billie Jean King Cup Juniors Finals, and Jan Kumstat and Maxim Mrva both spearheaded Czechia’s run to their 4th Davis Cup Juniors title in 2023. Laura Samson was also part of the Czech girls’ team that finished as runners-up to USA last season.

## NOTABLE FORMER COMPETITORS

Five current Top 10 players (Taylor Fritz, Andrey Rublev, Casper Ruud, Elena Rybakina and Zheng Qinwen) have competed at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals, while other notable former competitors include Leylah Fernandez, Sofia Kenin, Lorenzo Musetti, Jelena Ostapenko, Holger Rune and Marketa Vondrousova.

Kenin, Ostapenko, Rybakina and Vondrousova have all gone on to win Grand Slam singles titles, while Fernandez, Fritz, Ruud and Zheng have all reached Grand Slam finals.

Three former competitors at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals have become Olympic medallists in men’s or women’s singles – Musetti (Paris 2024 men’s singles bronze), Vondrousova (Tokyo 2020 women’s singles silver) and Zheng (Paris 2024 women’s singles gold).

**ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals champions**

| Year        | Boys’ Champion                         | Girls’ Champion |
|-------------|--|-----------------|
| 2015        | Andrey Rublev                          | Xu Shilin       |
| 2016        | Hong Seongchan                         | Anna Blinkova   |
| 2017        | Emil Ruusuvuori                        | Marta Kostyuk   |
| 2018        | Brandon Nakashima                      | Clara Burel     |
| 2019        | Holger Rune                            | Diane Parry     |
| 2020        | cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions |                 |
| 2021        |  |                 |
| 2022        |  |                 |
| 2023        | Joel Schwaerzler                       | Alina Korneevea |
| <b>2024</b> | <b>??</b>                              | <b>??</b>       |

The full list of [ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals](#) champions and runners-up can be found on the ITF website.

## GRAND SLAM CREDENTIALS

Seven of the 13 players to reach junior Grand Slam singles finals this year are competing in Chengdu, including US Open boys’ singles champion Rafael Jodar and US Open girls’ singles champion Mika Stojsavljevic.

In the boys’ event, Jodar is joined by Australian Open runner-up Jan Kumstat and Wimbledon runner-up Mees Rottgering. In the girls’ event, Stojsavljevic is joined by Australian Open and Wimbledon runner-up Emerson Jones, Roland Garros runner-up Laura Samson and Wakana Sonobe, whom Stojsavljevic defeated in the girls’ singles final at the US Open.

Three players have won at least one junior Grand Slam singles title and the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals in the same year – Marta Kostyuk, who won the Australian Open girls’ singles and the Junior Finals in 2017, Holger Rune, who won the Roland Garros boys’ singles and the Junior Finals in 2019, and Alina Korneevea, who won the girls’ singles at both the Australian Open and Roland Garros, and the Junior Finals in 2023.

## TOP-TIER JUNIOR EVENTS

The Grand Slam tournaments are the pinnacle of the ITF World Tennis Tour Juniors, with J500 events representing the next-most prestigious level on tour. Six of the 16 players competing in Chengdu this week have won a singles title at either a Grand Slam tournament or a J500 event. (see table overleaf)

### 2024 Grand Slam and J500 champions

| Tournament            | Surface | Date        | Boys' singles champion | Girls' singles champion   |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Australian Open       | Hard    | 20-27 Jan   | Rei Sakamoto           | Renata Jamrichova         |
| J500 Cairo (EGY)      | Clay    | 19-24 Feb   | <b>Luca Preda</b>      | Rositsa Dencheva          |
| J500 Blumenau (BRA)   | Clay    | 4-10 Mar    | Oliver Bonding         | Kaitlyn Rolls             |
| J500 Offenbach (GER)  | Clay    | 23-28 Apr   | <b>Maxim Mrva</b>      | <b>Wakana Sonobe</b>      |
| J500 Milan (ITA)      | Clay    | 20-26 May   | Kaylan Bigun           | <b>Emerson Jones</b>      |
| Roland Garros         | Clay    | 3-9 Jun     | Kaylan Bigun           | Tereza Valentova          |
| Wimbledon             | Grass   | 6-14 Jul    | Nicolai Budkov Kjaer   | Renata Jamrichova         |
| US Open               | Hard    | 1-7 Sep     | <b>Rafael Jodar</b>    | <b>Mika Stojsavljevic</b> |
| J500 Osaka (JPN)      | Hard    | 23-29 Sep   | Roh Hoyoung            | Mika Buchnik              |
| J500 Merida (MEX)     | Clay    | 2 Nov-1 Dec | ???                    | ???                       |
| J500 Plantation (USA) | Clay    | 9-15 Dec    | ???                    | ???                       |

Players competing at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals in **bold**

## PROFESSIONAL TITLE WINNERS

A number of the juniors competing in Chengdu have already made inroads at the professional level with title-wins in 2024. Three of the 8 players competing in the girls' event in Chengdu have won at least one ITF World Tennis Tour women's singles title this year – Tyra Caterina Grant, Laura Samson and Mika Stojsavljevic. Two more players have reached an ITF World Tennis Tour women's singles final this year – Emerson Jones at W35 Swan Hill (AUS), and Wakana Sonobe at W15 Kursumlijska Banja (SRB).

### 2024 ITF World Tennis Tour girls' event competitors to have won a professional title in 2024

| Player              | Title(s)   |
|---------------------|--|
| Tyra Caterina Grant | W15 Antalya (TUR)  |
| Laura Samson        | W15 Monastir (TUN), W15 Kranjska Gora (SLO), W15 Bol (CRO) |
| Mika Stojsavljevic  | W35 Nottingham (GBR)                                       |

In the boys' event, Maxim Mrva claimed his first professional title this year at M15 Pardubice (CZE). Two more players have reached at least one ITF World Tennis Tour men's singles final this year – Rafael Jodar at M25 Denia (ESP), and Mees Rottgering at M15 Sharm El Sheikh (EGY).

## 2024 LEADERS

Four of the 8 players competing in the girls' event at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals are among the Top 10 players by win-loss record at J300-level and above this year – Tyra Caterina Grant, Emerson Jones, Kristina Penickova and Jeline Vandromme.

### 2024 girls' singles win-loss (J300-level and above) as of 13 October

| Rank | Player                     | 2024 win-loss |
|------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1.   | Teodora Kostovic           | 48-10         |
| 2.   | Iva Jovic                  | 33-8          |
| 3.   | <b>Jeline Vandromme</b>    | <b>32-13</b>  |
| 4.   | Monika Stankiewicz         | 29-13         |
| 5.   | <b>Emerson Jones</b>       | <b>28-8</b>   |
| 6=   | Rositsa Dencheva           | 25-9          |
|      | <b>Tyra Caterina Grant</b> | <b>25-7</b>   |
| 7.   | <b>Kristina Penickova</b>  | <b>24-10</b>  |
| 8.   | Sonja Zhiyenbayeva         | 23-11         |
| 9.   | Yelyzaveta Kotliar         | 22-13         |
| 10=  | Mayu Crossley              | 21-7          |
|      | Elizara Yaneva             | 21-20         |
|      | Mingge Xu                  | 21-10         |

Players competing at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals in **bold**

In the boys' event, 6 of the 8 players competing are among the Top 10 players by win-loss record at J300-level and above – Hayden Jones, Kim Jangjun, Maxim Mrva, Luca Preda, Charlie Robertson and Mees Rottgering.

**2024 boys' singles win-loss (J300-level and above) as of 13 October**

| Rank | Player                   | 2024 win-loss |
|------|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1.   | Nicolai Budkov Kjaer     | 35-7          |
| 2=   | <b>Hayden Jones</b>      | <b>30-11</b>  |
|      | Miguel Tobon             | 30-14         |
| 4.   | <b>Kim Jangjun*</b>      | <b>29-14</b>  |
| 5=   | Theo Papamalamis         | 28-12         |
|      | <b>Luca Preda</b>        | <b>28-7</b>   |
| 6.   | <b>Maxim Mrva</b>        | <b>27-9</b>   |
| 7=   | Kaylan Bigun             | 26-6          |
|      | <b>Charlie Robertson</b> | <b>26-11</b>  |
| 9=   | Roh Hoyoung              | 25-13         |
|      | <b>Mees Rottgering</b>   | <b>25-8</b>   |

Players competing at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals in **bold**

\*As alternate, replaces Theo Papamalamis