



## 2025 AUSTRALIAN OPEN JUNIOR SINGLES SEMIFINAL NOTES Friday 24 January

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### On court today...

- Australia's Emerson Jones finished as girls' singles runner-up at both the Australian Open and Wimbledon last year – and the world No. 1 is looking to go one better and claim her first junior Grand Slam title here this week. Her opponent in the semifinals today, Wakana Sonobe, is also experienced at this level, having finished as girls' singles runner-up at the 2024 US Open. Jones would become the first player to reach multiple Australian Open girls' singles finals since Laura Robson in 2009-10 if she wins today, and become the first Australian player to do so since 3-time junior Australian Open champion Anne Minter in 1979-81. For Sonobe, a victory today will see her become the first Japanese player to reach the girls' singles final here.
- In the other girls' singles semifinal today, USA's Kristina Penickova takes on unseeded Slovakian Mia Pohankova. Penickova was victorious on their only previous Grand Slam meeting, at Roland Garros last year, but Pohankova won their most-recent meeting at J300 Repentigny in August. Pohankova defeated Penickova's twin sister, Annika, in the 1st round here – and should she defeat Kristina today she will emulate compatriot Renata Jamrichova, who reached the final here (and won the title) last year. It is a big day for the Penickova sisters – as well as Kristina's singles semifinal, the sisters face Jones and Hannah Klugman in the doubles final later. Should Kristina (or Jones) win both titles here, she would become the first player to win both girls' singles and girls' doubles titles here in the same year since Liang En-Shuo in 2018.
- USA is guaranteed a boys' singles finalist as Jagger Leach takes on Benjamin Willwerth in the semifinals this afternoon. The winner will become the 9th American player to reach the Australian Open boys' singles final this century – and the 3rd in 4 years after Bruno Kuzuhara won the title in 2022 and Learner Tien finished runner-up in 2023. Leach will surely have taken some advice from his mother, former women's world No. 1 and 3-time Grand Slam women's singles champion Lindsay Davenport, who finished runner-up in the girls' singles here in 1992 before going on to win the women's singles title in 2000.
- Both Oskari Paldanius and Henry Bernet are looking to make history for their nations today, Paldanius as the first Finnish player to reach an Australian Open junior singles final and Bernet as the first Swiss player to reach an Australian Open boys' singles final. Bernet would join Rebeka Masarova, 2017 girls' singles runner-up here, as the only Swiss players to reach a junior singles final at the Australian Open. He would also become the first Swiss player to reach a Grand Slam junior singles final since Dominic Stricker and Leandro Riedi contested an all-Swiss boys' singles final at 2020 Roland Garros. Bernet has won all 3 of the pair's previous meetings, including in the semifinals at Traralgon last week, where he went on to win the title.

# NO. 1 EMERSON JONES (AUS) v NO. 4 WAKANA SONOBE (JPN)

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

2023	Billie Jean King Cup Junior Finals	Clay (O)	5/6PO	Sonobe	76(5) 62
2024	ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals	Hard (O)	RR	Jones	64 60

A 3rd meeting for Jones and Sonobe – but their first at a Grand Slam. Sonobe won their first meeting at the 2023 Billie Jean King Cup Junior Finals, but Jones won their most recent meeting – and only previous match on a hard court – at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals in Chengdu last year.

## Road to the semifinals

JONES	Time		Time	SONOBE
d. (Q) Anastasia Lizunova 63 63	1:00	1st round	2:29	d. (Q) Zhang Ruien 63 46 76(8)
d. Thea Frodin 67(3) 62 63	2:11	2nd round	0:55	d. Deniz Dilek 62 62
d. (Q) Yuliya Perapekhina 63 62	0:53	3rd round	1:44	d. No. 16 Julia Stusek 64 63
d. Lilli Tagger 46 62 62	1:55	Quarterfinals	1:12	d. (WC) Tahlia Kokkinis 62 64
total time on court	5:59	(Infosys time)	6:20	total time on court

## Possible final head-to-heads

	Penickova	Pohankova
Jones	0-0	0-1
Sonobe	2-0	0-0

JONES	v	SONOBE
16	Age	17
1	ITF Junior Ranking	5
293	WTA Ranking	839
21-8	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	14-8
10-2	Australian Open Record (Junior)	5-2
115-41	Career Record (Junior)	102-45
4-0	2025 Record (Junior)	4-0

- **JONES** is bidding to reach her 3rd Grand Slam girls' singles final. She finished runner-up in girls' singles at both the Australian Open and Wimbledon last year, falling to Renata Jamrichova in the final at both events.
- Jones is bidding to become the **first player to reach multiple Australian Open girls' singles finals** since Laura Robson, who finished runner-up in girls' singles here in both 2009 and 2010.
- Jones is bidding to become the **first Australian player to reach multiple Australian Open girls' singles finals** since Anne Minter, who won 3 consecutive Australian Open girls' singles titles in 1979-81.
- By reaching the final here last year, Jones became the **first Australian player to reach the Australian Open girls' singles final since 2008**, when Jessica Moore finished as runner-up (l. Arantxa Rus). She also became the first Australian player to reach an Australian Open junior singles final since 2016, when Oliver Anderson won the boys' singles title here.
- Jones is bidding to become the **first Australian player to win the Australian Open girls' singles title since 1995**, when Siobhan Drake-Brockman won the title here. The Australian Open has seen the longest wait for a home player to win the girls' singles title of the 4 Grand Slams. Jones and Moore are the only Australian players to reach the girls' singles final here since Drake-Brockman defeated fellow Australian Annabel Elwood to win the title in 1995.

Grand Slam	Most-recent home boys' singles champion	Most-recent home girls' singles champion
Australian Open	Oliver Anderson (2016)	Siobhan Drake-Brockman (1995)
Roland Garros	Gabriel Debru (2022)	Elsa Jacquemot (2020)
Wimbledon	Henry Searle (2023)	Laura Robson (2008)
US Open	Taylor Fritz (2015)	Katherine Hui (2023)

- Jones is bidding to become the **first player to win the Australian Open girls' singles and girls' doubles titles in the same year since 2018**, when Liang En-Shuo defeated Clara Burel to win the girls' singles title and partnered Wang Xinyu to win the girls' doubles title, defeating Violet Apisah/Lulu Sun in the final. Jones and Hannah Klugman face Annika Penickova/Kristina Penickova later on Friday.
- Jones is bidding to become the **first Australian player to win the Australian Open girls' singles and girls' doubles titles in the same year since 1988**, when Jo-Anne Faull defeated Emmanuelle Derly to win the girls' singles title and partnered Rachel McQuillan to win the girls' doubles title, defeating Kate McDonald/Rennae Stubbs in the final.
- Jones is making her **3rd Australian Open girls' singles appearance**. In addition to her runner-up finish last year, she reached the 2nd round on her junior Grand Slam debut here in 2023 (d. Carolina Xavier Laydner, I. Tereza Valentova).
- Jones is making her **9th Grand Slam girls' singles appearance**. Elsewhere at the Grand Slams last year, she reached the 3rd round at the US Open (I. Mika Stojsavljevic) but fell in the 1st round at Roland Garros (I. Daria Shadchneva).
- Jones' **best results at junior-level in 2024** were winning the titles at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (d. Iva Jovic), J500 Milan (ITA) (d. Tyra Caterina Grant) and the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals (d. Laura Samson). She did not contest a junior event prior to the Australian Open this year.
- Jones won her **first professional title in 2024** – as a wild card at W75 Sydney (AUS) (d. Taylah Preston). She also reached the final at W35 Swan Hill (AUS) (I. Gabriella da Silva Fick) and the semifinals at W35 Cairns (AUS) (I. Destanee Aiava) and W75 Carrara (AUS) (I. Lizette Cabrera).
- Prior to the Australian Open this year, Jones **made her WTA Tour debut** as a wild card at Adelaide, where she reached the 2nd round. She defeated Wang Xinyu in the 1st round for her first Tour-level match-win before falling to Daria Kasatkina. She also competed as a wild card at the WTA Canberra 125 event, falling to Elsa Jacquemot in the 1st round.
- Jones also competed in the **women's singles and mixed doubles at the Australian Open this year**. As a wild card in women's singles, she fell to No. 6 seed Elena Rybakina 61 61 in the 1st round. She competed as a wild card team in mixed doubles alongside her brother, Hayden – they fell to No. 6 seeds Hsieh Su-Wei/Jan Zielinski 60 75 in the 1st round.
- Jones became **junior world No. 1** in September last year and plays here at the same ranking. She is the first Australian player to reach the girls' No. 1 ranking since Jelena Dokic in 1998. She played in the women's singles draw here at a career-high WTA ranking of No. 293.
- **SONOBE** is bidding to reach her 2nd Grand Slam girls' singles final. She finished runner-up in girls' singles at the US Open last year, falling to Mika Stojsavljevic in the final.
- Sonobe is bidding to become the **first Japanese player to reach the Australian Open girls' singles final** – and the 2nd Japanese player to reach an Australian Open junior singles final after Rei Sakamoto, who won the boys' singles title here last year.
- Sonobe is bidding to become the **2nd Japanese player to reach multiple Grand Slam junior singles finals** – after Kazuko Sawamatsu, who won the girls' singles titles at Roland Garros and Wimbledon in 1969. By reaching the girls' singles final at the US Open last year, she became the 6th Japanese player to reach a Grand Slam junior singles final – after Sawamatsu, Yuka Yoshida (1993 US Open girls' singles runner-up), Sachie Ishizu (2010 Wimbledon girls' singles runner-up), Shintaro Mochizuki (2019 Wimbledon boys' singles champion) and Sakamoto (2024 Australian Open boys' singles champion).
- Sonobe is making her **3rd Australian Open girls' singles appearance**. She reached the 2nd round on her junior Grand Slam debut here in 2023 (d. Shruti Ahlawat, I. Mirra Andreeva) but fell in the 1st round here last year (I. Maya Joint).
- Sonobe is making her **9th Grand Slam girls' singles appearance**. Elsewhere at the Grand Slams last year, she reached the 3rd round at both Roland Garros (I. Tereza Valentova) and Wimbledon (I. Iva Jovic).

- Sonobe's **best result at junior-level in 2024** was winning the title at J500 Offenbach (GER) (d. Teodora Kostovic). She also finished runner-up at the ITF World Tennis Tour Junior Finals (I. Jones) and reached the quarterfinals at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (I. Hannah Klugman). She did not contest a junior event prior to the Australian Open this year.
- Sonobe's **best results at professional-level in 2024** were finishing runner-up at W15 Kursumlijska Banja (SRB) (I. Carmen Andreea Herea) and reaching the quarterfinals as a qualifier at W35 Klagenfurt (AUT) (I. Sofia Costoulas).
- Sonobe entered the **girls' doubles here** alongside Stojsavljevic. As No. 1 seeds, the pair reached the quarterfinals (I. Alena Kovackova/Jana Kovackova).
- Sonobe reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 5 in November last year. She plays here at No. 7. She reached a career-high WTA ranking of No. 786 in September last year and is currently ranked at No. 839.

## NO. 6 KRISTINA PENICKOVA (USA) v MIA POHANKOVA (SVK)

Head-to-head: tied 1-1

2024	Roland Garros	Clay (O)	R16	Penickova	62 62
2024	J300 Repentigny (CAN)	Hard (O)	R16	Pohankova	64 61

A 3rd meeting for Penickova and Pohankova – and their 2nd at a Grand Slam. Penickova won when the pair met in the 3rd round at Roland Garros last year, but Pohankova won the pair's most-recent meeting – and only previous match on a hard court – at J300 Repentigny in August last year.

Pohankova defeated Penickova's twin sister, Annika, in the 1st round here this year. Both Penickova and Pohankova defeated another pair of sisters in the draw in the 3rd round – with Penickova defeating Alena Kovackova and Pohankova defeating Jana Kovackova.

### Road to the semifinals

PENICKOVA		Time		Time	POHANKOVA	
d. Kamonwan Yodpetch	36 64 76(5)	2:07	1st round	1:44	d. Annika Penickova	26 76(3) 62
d. Wang Yuhan	57 75 76(8)	2:26	2nd round	2:10	d. No. 8 Elizara Yaneva	67(4) 75 64
d. No. 12 Alena Kovackova	26 61 61	1:31	3rd round	1:32	d. No. 11 Jana Kovackova	57 63 61
d. (Q) Shihi Tsujioka	75 63	1:27	Quarterfinals	0:56	d. No. 3 Jeline Vandromme	62 61
	total time on court	7:31	(Infosys time)	6:22		total time on court

### Possible final head-to-heads

	Jones	Sonobe
Penickova	0-0	0-2
Pohankova	1-0	0-0

PENICKOVA	v	POHANKOVA
15	Age	16
10	ITF Junior Ranking	48
1175	WTA Ranking	511
11-4	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	8-3
4-0	Australian Open Record (Junior)	4-0
71-30	Career Record (Junior)	72-31
4-1	2025 Record (Junior)	7-1

- **PENICKOVA** is bidding to reach her first Grand Slam girls' singles final.
- Penickova is bidding to become the **first American player to reach the Australian Open girls' singles final since 2012**, when Taylor Townsend won the title here.
- Penickova is also bidding to be the **6th American player to reach the Australian Open girls' singles final\*** – after Kim Kessaris (1989 champion), Andrea Farley (1989 runner-up), Lindsay Davenport (1992 runner-up), Madison Brengle (2007 runner-up) and Townsend (2012 champion). (\*NB no records of runners-up prior to 1977).
- Penickova is bidding to become the **first American player to reach a Grand Slam girls' singles final since the 2023 US Open**, when Katherine Hui won the title.
- Penickova is bidding to become the **first player to win the Australian Open girls' singles and girls' doubles titles in the same year since 2018**, when Liang En-Shuo defeated Clara Burel to win the girls' singles title and partnered Wang Xinyu to win the girls' doubles title, defeating Violet Apisah/Lulu Sun in the final. Penickova and her sister, Annika, face Emerson Jones/Hannah Klugman later on Friday.
- By reaching the semifinals here, Penickova has equalled her **best Grand Slam result**. She also reached the semifinals at Roland Garros last year (l. Laura Samson).

- Penickova is making her **junior Australian Open debut this year and is contesting her 5th junior Grand Slam event overall**. Elsewhere at the Grand Slams last year, she reached the 3rd round at the US Open (l. Wakana Sonobe) and the 2nd round at Wimbledon (l. Sonja Zhenikhova).
- Penickova's **best results at junior-level in 2024** were winning the titles at J300 Kuching (MAS) (d. Kanon Sawashiro) and J200 Kuala Lumpur (MAS) (d. Li Yuyao). She also finished runner-up at both J300 San Jose (USA) (l. Shannon Lam) and J300 San Diego (USA) (l. Iva Jovic) and reached the quarterfinals at J500 Plantation (USA) (l. Elizara Yaneva).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Penickova competed at J300 Traralgon (AUS) but fell to Tahlia Kokkinis in the 1st round.
- Penickova **made her professional debut in October 2023** and has contested 8 professional events. She is yet to advance beyond the 2nd round at any professional event.
- Penickova reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 10 in June last year and plays here at the same ranking. She reached a career-high WTA ranking of No. 1159 in October 2024 and is currently ranked at No. 1175.
- **POHANKOVA** is bidding to reach her first Grand Slam final
- Pohankova is bidding to become the **4th Slovakian player to reach an Australian Open junior singles final** – after Katarina Basternakova (1999 girls' singles runner-up), Tereza Mihalikova (2015 girls' singles champion and 2016 runner-up) and Renata Jamrichova (2024 girls' singles champion).
- Pohankova is bidding to become the **11th Slovakian player to reach a junior Grand Slam singles final** – and the 2nd to do so in consecutive years, after Jamrichova won the girls' singles titles at both the Australian Open and Wimbledon in 2024.
- By reaching the semifinals here, Pohankova has recorded her **best Grand Slam result**. Her previous best result was reaching the 3rd round as a qualifier on her junior Grand Slam debut at Roland Garros last year, where she defeated Alice Soulie and Hannah Klugman before falling to Kristina Penickova.
- Pohankova is making her **junior Australian Open debut this year and is contesting her 4th junior Grand Slam event overall**. Elsewhere at the Grand Slams last year, she reached the 2nd round as a qualifier at Wimbledon (d. Shannon Lam, l. Flora Johnson) and as a special exempt at the US Open (d. Vittoria Paganetti, l. Teodora Kostovic).
- Pohankova's **best results at junior-level in 2024** were finishing runner-up at J200 Bratislava (SVK) (l. Laima Vladson), reaching the semifinals at J300 Barranquilla (COL) (l. Thea Frodin) and J200 Valencia (l. Charo Esquivia Banuls) and reaching the quarterfinals at J300 Repentigny (CAN) (l. Paganetti) and J300 Oberpullendorf (AUT) (l. Kostovic).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Pohankova reached the quarterfinals at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (l. Klugman).
- Pohankova won her **first professional title in 2024** – as a wild card at W75 Bratislava (SVK) (d. Jamrichova). She has contested 4 professional-level events, reaching the quarterfinals or better at all of them. In addition to her title at W75 Bratislava last year, she also reached the quarterfinals as a qualifier at 2023 W60 Bratislava (SVK) (l. Ella Seidel), as a wild card at 2024 W15 Trnava (SVK) (l. Radka Zelnickova) and as a qualifier at 2024 W75 Trnava (SVK) (l. Dominika Salkova).
- Pohankova entered the **girls' doubles here** alongside Jeline Vandromme. The pair reached the 2nd round (d. Nellie Taraba Wallberg/Sonja Zhenikhova, l. Emerson Jones/Klugman).
- Pohankova reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 44 in September last year. She plays here at No. 48. She reached a career-high WTA ranking of No. 505 in December last year and is currently ranked at No. 511.

# NO. 5 JAGGER LEACH (USA) v BENJAMIN WILLWERTH (USA)

## Head-to-head: first meeting

Leach and Willwerth are both bidding to become the 9th American player to reach the Australian Open boys' singles final since 2000 – after Andy Roddick (2000), Donald Young (2005), Sean Berman (2010), Stefan Kozlov (2014), Sebastian Korda (2018), Emilio Nava (2019), Bruno Kuzuhara (2022) and Learner Tien (2023).

The winner of today's match will become the 28th American player to reach a boys' singles Grand Slam final since 2000.

If either Leach or Willwerth win the title here, they will become the 7th American player to win the Australian Open boys' singles title – after Gerry Moss (1955), Butch Buchholz (1959), Roddick (2000), Young (2005), Korda (2018) and Kuzuhara (2022).

### Road to the semifinals

LEACH	Time		Time	WILLWERTH
d. Ivan Iutkin 64 63	1:00	1st round	1:03	d. No. 15 Alan Wazny 63 63
d. (Q) Gabriele Crivellaro 64 64	1:24	2nd round	1:27	d. Nikola Djosic 63 76(5)
d. No. 11 Flynn Thomas 63 57 76(6)	2:29	3rd round	1:43	d. (Q) Pierluigi Basile 76(3) 75
d. No. 14 William Rejchtmann Vinciguerra 61 75	1:08	Quarterfinals	1:20	d. No. 9 Timofei Derepasko 64 64
total time on court	6:01	(Infosys time)	5:33	total time on court

### Possible final head-to-heads

	Paldanius	Bernet
Leach	0-0	0-0
Willwerth	0-0	0-0

LEACH	v	WILLWERTH
17	Age	17
8	ITF Junior Ranking	22
1768	ATP Ranking	1310
9-4	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	4-1
5-1	Australian Open Record (Junior)	4-0
109-37	Career Record (Junior)	77-32
7-1	2025 Record (Junior)	4-1

- **LEACH** is bidding to reach his first Grand Slam boys' singles final.
- By reaching the semifinals here, Leach has recorded his **best Grand Slam result**. His previous best result at the Grand Slams was reaching the quarterfinals at 2024 Wimbledon (l. Theo Papamalamis).
- **Last year here**, on his junior Grand Slam debut, he reached the 2nd round here (d. Daniil Sarkisian, l. Hayden Jones),
- Leach is making his **5th junior Grand Slam appearance**. Elsewhere at the Grand Slams last year, he reached 2nd round at the US Open (d. Denis Petak, l. Thomas Faurel) but fell in the 1st round at Roland Garros (l. Daniele Rapagnetta).
- Leach's **best results at junior-level in 2024** were winning back-to-back J100 events at Brisbane (AUS), defeating Brendan Loh in both finals, and winning the titles at J300 Kuching (MAS) (d. Ivan Iutkin) and J200 Kuala Lumpur (MAS) (d. Kim Jangjun). He also reached the semifinals at J300 College Park (USA) (l. Rafael Jodar) and J300 Bradenton (USA) (l. Andres Santamarta Roig).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Leach reached the quarterfinals at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (l. Egor Pleshivtsev).

- Leach made his **professional debut** as a junior exempt entry at 2024 M15 Fayetteville, AR (USA), where he reached the 2nd round (d. Arthur Bellegy, I. Niccolo Baroni). He fell in the 1st round at his only other professional event to date, as a junior exempt entry at 2024 M15 Ann Arbor, MI (USA) (I. Matt Kuhar).
- Leach entered the **boys' doubles here** with Oliver Bonding. As No. 1 seeds, the pair defeated Yannick Theodor Alexandrescou/Thilo Behrmann, Chen Kuan-Shou/Kim MooBeen and Jamie Mackenzie/Niels McDonald before falling to Ognjen Milic/Pleshivtsev in the semifinals.
- Leach reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 7 earlier this month and plays here one place lower at No. 8. He reached a career-high ATP ranking of No. 1768 in September last year and is currently ranked No. 1865.
- Leach's mother, Lindsay Davenport, finished runner-up in the girls' singles here in 1992 and won the Australian Open women's singles title in 2000. She won 3 Grand Slam women's singles titles and 3 Grand Slam women's doubles titles, won the gold medal in women's singles at the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Tennis Event and reached the world No. 1 ranking in both singles and doubles.
- **WILLWERTH** is bidding to reach his first Grand Slam boys' singles final.
- By reaching the semifinals here, Willwerth has recorded his **best Grand Slam result**. He fell in the 1st round in his only previous Grand Slam appearance as a wild card at the 2024 US Open (I. Theo Papamalamis).
- Sakamoto's **best result at junior-level in 2024** was winning the title at J200 Miki (JPN) (d. Moise Kouame). He also finished runner-up at J100 Plantation (USA) (I. Jack Satterfield) and J200 Tampico (MEX) (I. Noah Johnston) and reached the semifinals at J100 San Jose (CRC) (I. Jack Kennedy), J200 Santo Domingo (DOM) (I. Rafael Botran Neutze) and J300 Spring (USA) (I. Kennedy).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Willwerth fell in the 1st round at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (I. Andres Santamarta Roig).
- Willwerth made his **professional debut** in November last year as a junior exempt entry at M15 Boca Raton, FL (USA), where he reached the semifinals (I. Stefan Dostanic). He reached the 2nd round at the only other professional event he has contested, as a junior exempt entry at M15 Tallahassee, FL (USA) (d. Joshua Dous Karpenschif, I. Robin Catry).
- Willwerth entered the **boys' doubles here** with Johnston. As No. 8 seeds, the pair defeated Haydar Cem Gokpinar/Ivan Iutkin and Zangar Nurlanuly/Kriish Tyagi before falling to No. 2 seeds Maxwell Exsted/Jan Kumstat in the quarterfinals.
- Willwerth reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 22 earlier this month and plays here at the same ranking. He reached a career-high ATP ranking of No. 1307 in December last year and is currently ranked at No. 1310.

## NO. 7 OSKARI PALDANIUS (FIN) v NO. 8 HENRY BERNET (SUI)

### Head-to-head: Bernet leads 3-0

2021	ITF World Junior Tennis Finals	Clay (O)	5/6PO	Bernet	63 64
2024	J200 Bratislava (SVK)	Hard (I)	QF	Bernet	26 63 64
2025	J300 Traralgon (AUS)	Hard (O)	SF	Bernet	61 62

A 4th meeting for Paldanius and Bernet. Bernet won all 3 of their previous meetings, including earlier this month in the semifinals at J300 Traralgon, where he went on to win the title.

### Road to the semifinals

PALDANIUS	Time		Time	BERNET
d. Rethin Pranav Senthil Kumar 57 64 60	2:04	1st round	1:11	d. Luis Guto Miguel 63 61
d. Ludvig Hede 63 62	1:39	2nd round	1:11	d. (WC) Naoto Tomizawa 63 64
d. Egor Pleshivtsev 63 62	1:09	3rd round	2:40	d. Ognjen Milic 46 76(6) 76(2)
d. No. 4 Jack Kennedy 76(6) 75	2:01	Quarterfinals	1:28	d. No. 1 Jan Kumstat 76(4) 76(2)
total time on court	6:53	(Infosys time)	6:30	total time on court

### Possible final head-to-heads

	Leach	Willwerth
Paldanius	0-0	0-0
Bernet	0-0	0-0

PALDANIUS	v	BERNET
17	Age	17*
10	ITF Junior Ranking	6
1594	ATP Ranking	778
5-1	Grand Slam Record (Junior)	10-3
4-0	Australian Open Record (Junior)	4-0
104-37	Career Record (Junior)	96-35
8-1	2025 Record (Junior)	10-0

\*Turns 18 on Saturday 25 January

- **PALDANIUS** is bidding to reach his first Grand Slam boys' singles final.
- Paldanius is bidding to become the **first Finnish player to reach an Australian Open junior singles final\***. (\*NB no records of runners-up at the Australian Open prior to 1977)
- Paldanius is also bidding to become the **4th Finnish player to reach a Grand Slam junior singles final\*** – after Birgitta Lindstrom (1966 Wimbledon girls' singles champion), Jarkko Nieminen (1999 US Open boys; singles champion) and Henri Kontinen (2008 Wimbledon boys singles runner-up). (\*NB no records of runners-up at the Australian Open prior to 1977)
- By reaching the semifinals here, Paldanius has recorded his **best Grand Slam result**. He reached the 2nd round in his only previous Grand Slam appearance, at the 2024 US Open (d. Jack Secord, l. Mees Rottgering).
- Paldanius's **best results at junior-level in 2024** were winning the titles at J300 Charleroi-Marcinelle (BEL) (d. Atakan Karahan), J200 Vigo (ESP) (d. Jamie Mackenzie) and J300 Sanxenxo (ESP) (d. Izan Almazan Valiente). He also finished runner-up at J100 Bromma (SWE) (l. Manvydas Balciunas) and J300 Bamberg (GER) (l. Diego Dedura-Palomero) and reached the semifinals at J200 Florence (ITA) (l. Daniele Rapagnetta).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Paldanius reached the semifinals at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (l. Bernet).

- Paldanius made his **professional debut** in November 2023, as a wild card in the qualifying draw at the Helsinki Challenger (FIN), where he lost in the 1st round of qualifying (l. Skander Mansouri). He made his professional main draw debut as a junior exempt entry in at 2024 M15 Selva Gardena (ITA), where he reached the quarterfinals (l. Luca Castagnola). He also fell in the 1st round as a wild card at the 2024 Helsinki Challenger (FIN) (l. Patrick Kaukovalta) – his only other professional event to date.
- Paldanius entered the **boys' doubles here** with Alan Wazny. As No. 6 seeds, the pair fell to Luis Guto Miguel/Tom Sickenberger in the 1st round.
- Paldanius reached a **career-high junior ranking** of No. 9 earlier this month and plays here one place lower at No. 10. He reached a career-high ATP ranking of No. 1582 in November last year and is currently ranked at No. 1594.
- **BERNET** is bidding to reach his first Grand Slam boys' singles final.
- Bernet is bidding to become the **2nd Swiss player to reach an Australian Open junior singles final** – after Rebeka Masarova, who finished as girls' singles runner-up here in 2017. (NB Masarova represented Spain from 2018 to 2024)
- Bernet is bidding to become the **7th Swiss player to reach a Grand Slam boys' singles final** – after Heinz Gunthardt (1976 Roland Garros and Wimbledon boys' singles champion), Roger Federer (1998 Wimbledon boys' singles champion, 1998 US Open boys' singles runner-up), Roman Valent (2001 Wimbledon boys' singles champion), Stan Wawrinka (2003 Roland Garros boys' singles champion), Dominic Stricker (2020 Roland Garros boys' singles champion), and Leandro Riedi (2020 Roland Garros boys' singles runner-up). (\*NB no records of runners-up at the Australian Open prior to 1977)
- By reaching the semifinals here, Bernet has recorded his **best Grand Slam result**. His previous best Grand Slam performance was reaching the quarterfinals as a qualifier on his junior Grand Slam debut at 2024 Roland Garros (l. Kaylan Bigun).
- Bernet is making his **3rd junior grand Slam appearance**. In addition to his quarterfinal finish at Roland Garros last year, he also reached the 3rd round at 2024 Wimbledon (l. Naoya Honda) and the 2nd round at the 2024 US Open (l. Rei Sakamoto).
- Bernet's **best results at junior-level in 2024** were runner-up finishes at J200 Bratislava (SVK) (l. Denis Petak) and J300 Beaulieu-sur-Mer (FRA) (l. Nicolai Budkov Kjaer). He also reached the semifinals at J200 Istres (FRA) (l. Carles Cordoba), J300 Oberpullendorf (AUT) (l. Jacopo Vasami).
- **Prior to the Australian Open this year**, Bernet won the title at J300 Traralgon (AUS) (d. Egor Pleshivtsev). He is bidding to emulate Sakamoto, who won the titles at both J300 Traralgon and the Australian Open last year.
- Bernet made his **professional debut** in March 2023, as a wild card in the qualifying draw at M25 Trimbach (SUI). He has contested 5 professional events, across qualifying and main draws, at all levels, recording 6 professional match-wins.
- Bernet entered the **boys' doubles here** with Flynn Thomas. As No. 5 seeds, the pair fell to Jamie Mackenzie/Niels McDonald in the 1st round.
- Bernet reached a **new career-high junior ranking** of No. 6 this week. He reached a career-high ATP ranking of No. 778 in October last year and is currently ranked at No. 784.