



Barty, Medvedev Top Seeds at Western & Southern Open ***Qualifying Serves Up First Action Beginning Saturday at 10 a.m.***

CINCINNATI (Aug. 13, 2021) – World No. 1 **Ashleigh Barty** and 2019 champion **Daniil Medvedev** are the top seeds in the Western & Southern Open singles draws that were made Friday.

Barty, the 2021 Wimbledon champion, begins her 87th week as the WTA's No. 1 ranked player on Monday. The Australian was the Western & Southern Open top seed in 2019 and reached the semifinals. This will be her fourth appearance in Cincinnati.

The No. 2 seed in the women's draw is 2020 Western & Southern Open finalist **Naomi Osaka**. The four-time Major champion will face either a qualifier or **Coco Gauff**, who is making her Cincinnati debut at 17-years-old, in the second round.

First round matches of note include a rematch of the Tokyo Olympics Gold Medal match that Switzerland's **Belinda Bencic** won over **Marketa Vondrousova** of the Czech Republic. **Madison Keys**, the 2019 Western & Southern Open champion, will take on two-time Wimbledon winner **Petra Kvitova** in the opening round while two-time Cincinnati finalist **Angelique Kerber** will face **Maria Sakkari**. **Victoria Azarenka** will begin her title defense against a qualifier.

[View](#) the WTA Singles Draw

Medvedev's 2019 win came just weeks before he reached the US Open final. It was the first of his three ATP Masters 1000 titles, and the Russian now owns 11 career titles. He owns an 8-3 record at the Western & Southern Open.

Medvedev will face the winner of an all-American showdown in his first match after **Brandon Nakashima** faces **Mackenzie McDonald**. **Nakashima** reached back-to-back finals this summer at Los Cabos and Atlanta while **McDonald**, an NCAA champion at UCLA, reached his first career final last week in Washington, D.C.

Three other former champions are in the men's draw. **Grigor Dimitrov**, the 2017 champion, will take on No. 13 seed **Roberto Bautista Agut** in the first round while 2016 winner **Marin Cilic** faces 2021 Australian Open semifinalist **Aslan Karatsev** and two-time winner **Andy Murray** will face a qualifier.

[View](#) the ATP Singles Draw

The two-round qualifying tournament starts play at 10 a.m. Saturday. Two local players highlight the schedule with Mason native **Peyton Stearns** facing Wimbledon doubles champion **Hsieh Su-wei** while Cincinnati's **JJ Wolf** will take on American Olympian **Marcos Giron**.



Here is the full schedule for Saturday:

ORDER OF PLAY - SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2021

CENTER COURT start 10:00 am

ATP - Qualifying - [7] Lorenzo Musetti (Italy) vs Kevin Anderson (South Africa)
WTA - Qualifying - [WC] Alycia Parks (USA) vs [9] Caroline Garcia (France)
ATP - Qualifying - [1] Richard Gasquet (France) vs [WC] Fernando Verdasco (Spain)
WTA - Qualifying - [8] Donna Vekic (Croatia) vs Christina McHale (USA)
WTA - Qualifying - [5] Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic) vs Lauren Davis (USA)

GRANDSTAND start 10:00 am

WTA - Qualifying - [1] Viktorija Golubic (Switzerland) vs Fiona Ferro (France)
ATP - Qualifying - Steve Johnson (USA) vs [13] Emil Ruusuvuori (Finland)
WTA - Qualifying - [WC] Katie Volynets (USA) vs [11] Heather Watson (Great Britain)
ATP - Qualifying - [WC] J.J. Wolf (USA) vs [8] Marcos Giron (USA)
ATP - Qualifying - [WC] Jack Sock (USA) vs [14] [Alt] Alexei Popyrin (Australia)

STADIUM 3 start 10:00 am

ATP - Qualifying - Tennys Sandgren (USA) vs [11] Jeremy Chardy (France)
ATP - Qualifying - [3] Tommy Paul (USA) vs Soonwoo Kwon (South Korea)
ATP - Qualifying - [6] Vasek Pospisil (Canada) vs Corentin Moutet (France)

STADIUM 4 start 10:00 am

WTA - Qualifying - [2] Shuai Zhang (China) vs Yaroslava Shvedova (Kazakhstan)
WTA - Qualifying - [7] Kristina Mladenovic (France) vs Aliaksandra Sasnovich (Belarus)
WTA - Qualifying - [4] Rebecca Peterson (Sweden) vs Astra Sharma (Australia)
WTA - Qualifying - Irina-Camelia Begu (Romania) vs [13] Lelyah Fernandez (Canada)

PORSCHE COURT 10 start 10:00 am

WTA - Qualifying - Polona Hercog (Slovenia) vs [15] Marie Bouzkova (Czech Republic)
WTA - Qualifying - [WC] Emma Navarro (USA) vs [12] Andrea Petkovic (Germany)
WTA - Qualifying - [WC] Peyton Stearns (USA) vs [14] Su-Wei Hsieh (Chinese Taipei)
WTA - Qualifying - [8] Tereza Martincova (Czech Republic) vs Elena-Gabriela Ruse (Romania)

COURT 7 start 10:00 am

ATP - Qualifying - [4] Yoshihito Nishioka (Japan) vs Egor Gerasimov (Belarus)
ATP - Qualifying - [2] Carlos Alcaraz (Spain) vs Thiago Monteiro (Brazil)
ATP - Qualifying - [5] Dominik Koepfer (Germany) vs Andreas Seppi (Italy)

Western & Southern Open

250 East Fifth Street - Suite 1310
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

VOICE 513.651.0303 FAX 513.651.3088
www.WSOpen.com



TOURNAMENT IS PLAYED AT:
Lindner Family Tennis Center, Mason, Ohio
TOURNAMENT CONTRIBUTES TO:
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
The Barrett Cancer Center
Tennis for City Youth



COURT 8 start 10:00 am

WTA - Qualifying - Anna Blinkova (Russia) vs [16] Maria Camila Osorio Serrano (Colombia)

WTA - Qualifying - [3] Liudmila Samsonova (Russia) vs Vera Zvonareva (Russia)

WTA - Qualifying - Jasmine Paolini (Italy) vs Anastasija Sevastova (Latvia)

COURT 11 start 10:00 am

ATP - Qualifying - Ricardas Berankis (Lithuania) vs [12] Gianluca Mager (Italy)

ATP - Qualifying - [WC] Mitchell Krueger (USA) vs [9] Ilya Ivashka (Belarus)

ATP - Qualifying - Norbert Gombos (Slovakia) vs [10] Jaume Munar (Spain)

While the qualifying matches take place over opening weekend, many main draw players will also be on the grounds practicing. The main draw action begins Sunday for the ATP with a full slate of main draw play on tap from Monday, Aug. 16. The schedule for the week is available [here](#).

All tickets, including full series, mini-plans, single session and hospitality packages, are now on sale and information about available tickets can be found [here](#).

The Western & Southern Open, an ATP Masters 1000 and a WTA 1000, is part of the US Open Series and is held at the Lindner Family Tennis Center in Mason, Ohio.

About the Western & Southern Open

Founded in 1899, the Western & Southern Open is an ATP Masters 1000 and a WTA 1000 tournament. The Western & Southern Open annually welcomes nearly 200,000 fans who come from all 50 states and more than 35 countries and is seen by more than 50 million global viewers in over 160 countries. The tournament is also one of the last stops on the US Open Series before the US Open in New York. Since 1974, the tournament has contributed more than \$11 million to various beneficiaries including Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, the Barrett Cancer Center and Tennis for City Youth. The tournament is held at the Lindner Family Tennis Center, 20 miles north of Cincinnati in Mason, Ohio. For more information, visit www.wsopen.com.

About the US Open Series

The US Open Series serves as a true "regular season" of summer tennis in North America, linking nine WTA and ATP Tour tournaments to the US Open. Featuring a cohesive weekly viewing schedule, as well as comprehensive outreach and grassroots engagement initiatives, the Series serves as a vital platform to promote and grow the game of tennis in person and at home. Fans can follow along all summer as today's top champions go head-to-head with tomorrow's emerging stars, while each tournament engages its local community with a variety of programs geared toward showcasing and promoting the game to new and existing fans.

About the WTA

Founded by Billie Jean King in 1973 on the principle of equal opportunity, the WTA is the global leader in women's professional sports. The WTA is one of the world's most recognizable and high-profile sports organizations, consisting of more than 1650 players representing approximately 85 nations, all competing to earn WTA rankings points and prestigious tournament titles. The WTA Tour is comprised of over 50 events and four Grand Slams, spanning six continents and nearly 30 countries and regions with a global audience of over 700 million. The Tour culminates with the Shiseido WTA Finals Shenzhen, honoring the season's top singles and doubles players based on the final standings of the Porsche Race to Shenzhen leaderboard. Further information on the WTA can be found at wtatennis.com.

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About the ATP

As the global governing body of men's professional tennis, the ATP's mission is to serve tennis. We entertain a billion global fans, showcase the world's greatest players at the most prestigious tournaments, and inspire the next generation of fans and players. From the ATP Cup in Australia, to Europe, the Americas and Asia, the stars of the game battle for titles and FedEx ATP Rankings points at ATP Masters 1000, 500 and 250 events, and Grand Slams. All roads lead towards the Nitto ATP Finals, the prestigious season finale held in Turin, Italy. Featuring only the world's top 8 qualified singles players and doubles teams, the tournament also sees the official crowning of the year-end ATP World No. 1, the ultimate achievement in tennis. For more information, please visit www.ATPTour.com.

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