



Novak Djokovic Withdraws from Western & Southern Open

CINCINNATI (Aug. 9, 2021) – Novak Djokovic has withdrawn from the Western & Southern Open. A two-time tournament champion, Djokovic won last year's staging of the event that took place in New York.

A 20-time Major champion, the World No. 1 Djokovic has won the first three Grand Slam events this season.

In announcing the withdrawal, Djokovic posted this message on social media: "Dear fans, I wanted to share with you that I am taking a bit longer to recover and recuperate after quite a taxing journey from Australia to Tokyo. Sadly, that means I won't be ready to compete in Cincinnati this year so I'll turn my focus and attention to US Open and spend some more time with family. See you in New York soon!"

Five former men's champions remain entered in the Western & Southern Open, including two-time champion **Andy Murray** (2011, 2008) along with **Daniil Medvedev** (2019), **Grigor Dimitrov** (2017), **Marin Cilic** (2016) and **Rafael Nadal** (2013). The women's field will also feature five past champions, including two-time winners **Serena Williams** (2015, 2014) and **Victoria Azarenka** (2020, 2013) as well as **Madison Keys** (2019), **Garbine Muguruza** (2017) and **Karolina Pliskova** (2016).

The entry lists for 2021 Western & Southern Open can be found [here](#).

The Western & Southern Open will be held Aug. 14-22. The main draw will be released on the evening of Friday, Aug. 13. Qualifying action takes place this weekend, Aug. 14-15. Men's main draw action gets underway Sunday, Aug. 15, with a full day of men's and women's main draw play scheduled for Monday, Aug. 16. The full schedule 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

Western & Southern Open

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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 for women in sports, the WTA is the global leader in women's professional sport with more than 1,650 players representing 84 nations competing for a record \$180 million in prize money. In 2019, the WTA was watched by a record-breaking global audience of 700 million. The 2020 WTA season includes 55 events and four Grand Slams in 29 countries and regions. The season culminates with the Shiseido WTA Finals Shenzhen, offering a \$14 million total prize purse and honoring the season's top singles and doubles players. Further information on the WTA can be found at www.wtatennis.com.

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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