

# **LTA Daily Brit Player Media Notes**

# Rothesay Open Nottingham – Friday 14 June 2024

# **Centre Court Match 1**

Francesca Jones (GBR) v Ashlyn Krueger (USA) to a finish 64 46 65 30-30

Head to head: 1st meeting

Fran Jones biography **HERE** 

# Career highlights:

- Made her Grand Slam debut in the 2021 Australian Open and went on to play at Wimbledon later that year.
- Reached the biggest final of her career at the San Luis Open in March, where she was edged to the silverware by world No.67 Nadia Podoroska.
- She has won seven titles on the ITF World Tennis Tour and clinched the biggest of her career at the W75 Grado last month after beating Kathinka von Deichmann 61 75 in the final.
- Coached by Carlos Martinez, who also worked with world No.14 Daria Kasatkina.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came against world world No.58 Caroline Dolehide in the opening round of the 2024 Rothesay Open Nottinggam and she is aiming to beat her second top 100 player in back-to-back matches for the first time in her career against Krueger.

# Did you know:

- Jones was born with a rare genetic condition: Ectodermal Dysplasia (ED) syndrome (missing one finger on each hand and three toes) which has required frequent surgeries over the years, but according to herself, never saw this as something that could prevent her from reaching her dreams.
- She was on the <u>LTA's Pro Scholarship Programme until 2023</u>, the highest level of support offered to developing players by the LTA. It is offered to players aged between 16 and 24 with the best chance of reaching the ATP/WTA top 100 singles within five years.

#### Ashlyn Kruger biography HERE

# Career highlights:

- Won her first WTA Tour title at the Japan Women's Open last September, beating China's Zhu Lin in the final. She did not drop a set en-route to winning the title. Her success in Japan saw her make a debut in the top 100 of the WTA rankings for the first time.
- She won a grass court title on grass last June, taking the W125 Gaiba title in Italy.

- Reached a career-high ranking of No.65 last month.
- Best career result on grass is quarter-final in s-Hertogenbosch last year.
  Best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.70 Ekaterina Alexandrova on clay in Madrid in April.

# Did you know:

- Favourite players growing up were Kim Clijsters and Maria Sharapova
- She likes to draw and read poetry to relax away from tennis.

# Centre Court Match 2 Katie Boulter (GBR) v Magdalena French (POL)

Head to head: 1-1

Previous meeting: 2023 China Open, 1st round (Hard). Boulter won 64 36 62

# Katie Boulter biography **HERE**

# Career highlights:

- Became British No.1 for the first time after the 2023 Lexus Surbiton Trophy.
- Won her first WTA Tour title at the <u>2023 Rothesay Nottingham Open</u>, beating fellow Britain Jodie Burrage in the first all-British WTA final since 1977 San Francisco (Barker d. Wade).
- Beat Harriet Dart in the quarter-finals of last year's Rothesay Open Nottingham. Statistics from that match HERE
- Won her first WTA Tour 500 title in <u>San Diego in March 2024</u> and rose to a highest career-high of World No.27 later that month.
- Recorded the biggest clay court win of her career against Clara Burel at the Billie Jean King Cup Qualifiers, where she defeated the French star 75 60 to help guide Great Britain to the 2024 Finals.
- Best ranking win of 2024 came against world No.5 Jessica Pegula in the United Cup on January 1<sup>st</sup> (57 64 64).

#### Did you know:

- She began playing tennis when she was five years old and lists her tennis idol as Serena Williams
- Boulter is a graduate of the <u>LTA Pro Scholarship Programme</u>, the highest level of support offered to developing players aged between 16 and 24 with the best chance of reaching the ATP/WTA top 100 singles.
- Born in Leicester, she is a fan of Leicester City FC.

# Magdalena Frech biography HERE

# Career highlights:

- Frech's best performance in a Grand Slam event was reaching the 4th round at 2024
   Australian Open. That run included wins against former world No.1 Naomi Osaka and No.17 seed Carolina Garcia from France.
- She achieved a career-high ranking of No.42 in February 2024.
- Recorded the second win of career against a top 20 opponent when she beat No.14 seed Ekaterina Alexandrova at the WTA 1000 Dubai Championships in February.
- This Polish player has won eight singles titles on the ITF World Tennis Tour, with her win at the W125 Thoreau Tennis Open in Concorde, Massachusetts her biggest tournament win so far.
- She has a win against two-time former Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova on her record from the 2022 Credit One Charleston Open.
- She will be looking to secure a grass court semi-final appearace the first time in her career after runs to the quarter-finals in Nottingham and Birmingham last year and Nottingham once again in 2024.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came against Alexandrova in Dubai in February.

# **Centre Court Match 3**

# Emma Raducanu (GBR) v Francesca Jones (GBR) or Ashlyn Krueger (USA)

Head to head: 1st meeting with either player

# Emma Raducanu biography **HERE**

# **Career Highlights:**

- In the summer of 2021, she made her Grand Slam debut at Wimbledon, where she reached the fourth round <u>becoming the youngest British woman to progress to the last 16 of The Championships in the Open Era</u>. She's the first British female winner at Flushing Meadows since Virginia Wade in 1968, and the first qualifier in the Open era to win a Slam.
- In September 2021, <u>Raducanu made history by becoming the first qualifier and youngest</u> British player to win a Grand Slam title at the US Open.
- In 2024, pulled off a comeback win against world No.49 Diane Parry to win 46 61 76(1) to defeat France 3-1 and send GB to the Billie Jean King Cup Finals in Seville.
- Making her third appearance at the Rothesay Open Nottingham, she won her first match on grass after 713-day break away from playing on the surface when she beat Ena Shibahara 61 64 in the opening round.
- Missed the entire British grass court season last summer due to injury as she underwent surgery on both wrists and her ankle.
- Will be looking to secure a place in her first WTA Tour semi-final today.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.23 Caroline Garcia in the Billie Jean King Cup Qualifiers on April 12 (36 63 62).

#### Did you know:

- Born in Toronto but she has lived in Britain from the age of two, Emma first started playing tennis at the age of five and has long been regarded as one of the brightest talents in British tennis.
- Emma is an ambassador for <u>LTA Youth</u> the innovative junior programme to help more children aged 4-18 enjoy tennis.

# Court 1 Match 1 Ons Jabeur (TUN) v Linda Fruhvirtova (CZE)

Head to head: 1st meeting

# Ons Jabeur biography **HERE**

#### Career highlights:

- Reached a career-high WTA ranking of No.2 in June 2022.
- Runner-up at Wimbledon for the last two years and she was also runner-up at the 2022 US Open.
- Won her first WTA Tour final at <u>2021 Rothesay Classic Birmingham</u>, beating Daria Kasatkina in the final.
- Most recent WTA Tour title win came at the Ningo Open in China in September.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.10 Jelana Ostapenko at the Madrid Open in April.

### Did you know:

- Mother's name is Samira and father's name is Ridha, She has two brothers (Hatem and Marwen) and one sister (Yasmine).
- Currently coached by Issam Jellali, with fitness trainer Karim Kammoun.
- Started playing tennis at age 3 as her mother loved playing the sport and would take her with her to the local tennis club.

### Linda Fruhvirtova biography HERE

### Career highlights:

- Achieved a career-high ranking of No.49 in June 2023. Currently ranked at No.139.
- Best run at a Grand Slam came in the 2023 Australian Open, where she reached the 4<sup>th</sup>
- Won here first and so far only WTA Tour title at the Chennai Open in India in September 2022
- Will be looking for a first win against a player ranked in the top 10 when she takes on Jabeur.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.43 Caroline Dolehide in Abu Dhabi in February.

#### Did you know:

- Younger sister Brenda is also making her mark on the WTA Tour.
- She is a big fan of US TV show Suits.
- Went to see Harry Styles in what she describes as 'her first big concert' last summer.

# Court 1 Match 2 Dan Evans (GBR) v Charles Broom (GBR)

Head to head: 1st meeting

# Dan Evans biography **HERE**

#### Career highlights:

- Since turning pro in 2008, Evans has steadily climbed up the ATP rankings, achieving a career-high of world No.21 in singles in 2023 and world No.52 in doubles in 2021.
- Was unranked in April 2018 before becoming ranked GB's No.1 British male in October 2019.
- Evans made history at the Rothesay Open Nottingham 2022, lifting his second trophy to become the joint leading title holder in Nottingham. After defeating Jack Sock in the semi-finals, Evans claimed a 64 64 win at the ATP Challenger event over Jordan Thompson to wrap up the title without dropping a set.
- He was the 11<sup>th</sup> British male to win an ATP Tour singles title in when he lifted an ATP250 title in Melbourne in February 2021.
- Evans has picked up one ATP 500 title in Washington, one ATP 250 title in Melbourne, nine ATP Challenger titles and 13 ITF Future titles throughout his singles career.
- A two-time champion in Nottingham, with his most recent win coming in 2022.
- His best rankings win of 2024 came against world No.38 Roman Safiullin in Los Cabos on February 19<sup>th</sup> (62 64).

### **Charles Broom biography HERE**

- Achieved a career-high ranking of No.283 coming into the Rothesay Open Nottingham and it is set to rise again following his run to the quarter-finals.
- Won an ITF M25 event at the Nottingham Tennis Centre in April, beating Britain's 2023
   Wimbledon Boys' Singles winner Henry Searle in the final.
- He also reached the final of another ITF M25 event the week before his win, losing against fellow Brit Paul Jubb in the final.
- Reached the semi-finals of an ITF M25 tournament in Calabasas, United States, in March.
- Won an ATP Challenger Tour doubles title alongside partner Ben Jones in Georgia, USA, in May.
- Lifted an ITF M25 doubles title with partner Daniel Little at the Lexus Nottingham Tennis Centre in April.
- Best rankings win of 2024 came in the opening round of the 2024 Rothesay Open, as he beat world No.98 and newly crowed Lexus Surbiton Trophy champion Lloyd Harris.