



# Ones to Watch in 2025

## SPECIAL REPORT:

# Grass Court Season Preview



**Tournaments, stats, and players to follow in the 2025 grass court season - on the road to Wimbledon...**

An exclusive *Ones to Watch* report

By

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## Here comes the summer...

June 2025

The **grasscourt season** exists in a hazy summer spell all of its own...

While multiple hard court and clay events take place throughout the year, the grass season is compressed into one period. With back-to-back tournaments, culminating in the big one at Wimbledon...

Here's how the June-July schedule looks this year:

*Date - Event - Surface*

**9th June - ATP 250 Stuttgart - *Boss Open* - Grass**

**9th June - WTA 500 London (Queen's) - *HSBC Championships* - Grass**

**9th June - WTA 250 's-Hertogenbosch - *Libema Open* - Grass**

**9th June - ATP 250 's-Hertogenbosch - *Libema Open* - Grass**

**16th June - WTA 250 Nottingham - *Lexus Nottingham Open* - Grass**

**16th June - WTA 500 Berlin - *Berlin Tennis Open by Hylo* - Grass**

**16th June - ATP 500 Halle - *Terra Wortmann Open* - Grass**

**16th June - ATP 500 London (Queen's) - *HSBC Championships* - Grass**

**22nd June - WTA 500 Bad Homburg - *Bad Homburg Open powered by Solarwatt* - Grass**

**22nd June - ATP 250 Mallorca - *Mallorca Championships* presented by Ecotrans Group - Grass**

**23rd June - WTA 250 Eastbourne - *Lexus Eastbourne Open* - Grass**

**23rd June - ATP 250 Eastbourne - *Lexus Eastbourne Open* - Grass**

**30th June - Grand Slam - WIMBLEDON - Grass**

That's 12 grass tournaments across the **ATP** and **WTA** Tours. Followed by the annual **Grand Slam** at SW19...

Lots of tennis to be played between now and finals weekend at Wimbledon in mid-July. And plenty of opportunities to back grass-court specialists and in-form players on the turf...

**Grass** presents a very specific challenge to players. Even some of the world's very best have struggled with the slick surfaces and low bounces...

For example, multiple Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek has failed to get past the quarter finals in five visits to Wimbledon. And both Swiatek and **women's** world no.1 Aryna Sabalenka are yet to win a grass-court trophy on the WTA Tour, full stop.

While in the **men's** game, the era of 'Big Four' dominance is now over - between 2003 and 2022, all 19 Wimbledon trophies were gobbled up by Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal, and Andy Murray. These days, only Djokovic is still going. And the door is open for others to come through...

Heading into this summer's grass campaign, then, it's going to be useful to have an idea of which **top-ranking players** have the **best career records** on the green stuff...

Let's take a look at the stats:

## WOMEN

### WTA Top 20 Players (1st June 2025)

*% = Grass career match win rate*

*Y/ N = career grass court title/s Yes or No*

1. Aryna Sabalenka = 64.15% N
2. Coco Gauff = 70.59% N
3. Jessica Pegula = 58% Y
4. Jasmine Paolini = 48.28% N
5. Iga Swiatek = 69.23% N
6. Mirra Andreeva = 66.67% N
7. Qinwen Zheng = 27.27% N
8. Madison Keys = 72.46% Y
9. Emma Navarro = 70% N
10. Paula Badosa = 58.82% N
11. Elena Rybakina = 75% Y
12. Diana Shnaider = 71.43% Y
13. Karolina Muchova = 59.28% N
14. Elina Svitolina = 53.85% N
15. Barbora Krejckikova = 64.52% Y
16. Amanda Anisimova = 59.09% N
17. Daria Kasatkina = 67.31% Y
18. Liudmila Samsonova = 66.67% Y
19. Donna Vekic = 61.11% Y
20. Ekaterina Alexandrova = 66.67% Y

If we recalibrate that world Top 20 list, ordering the players by their overall **grass-court** win-rate instead of their current ranking - then it looks like this:

**Elena Rybakina** = 75% Y  
**Madison Keys** = 72.46% Y  
**Diana Shnaider** = 71.43% Y  
**Coco Gauff** = 70.59% N  
**Emma Navarro** = 70% N  
**Iga Swiatek** = 69.23% N  
**Daria Kasatkina** = 67.31% Y  
**Mirra Andreeva** = 66.67% N  
**Liudmila Samsonova** = 66.67% Y  
**Ekaterina Alexandrova** = 66.67% Y  
**Barbora Krejckova** = 64.52% Y  
**Aryna Sabalenka** = 64.15% N  
**Donna Vekic** = 61.11% Y  
**Karolina Muchova** = 59.28% N  
**Amanda Anisimova** = 59.09% N  
**Paula Badosa** = 58.82% N  
**Jessica Pegula** = 58% Y  
**Elena Svitolina** = 53.85% N  
**Jasmine Paolini** = 48.28% N  
**Qinwen Zheng** = 27.27% N

**Rybakina** comes out top on that criteria, with the highest career grass win rate of the current Top 20 women on the tour. The 25-year-old Kazakh won Wimbledon as a **100/1** outsider in 2022. At the time of writing - before a ball is hit on grass this summer - Rybakina is just **6/1** at best for Wimbledon 2025...

In terms of ***Ones to Watch on the grass this summer***, we want to focus on players yet to win a Grand Slam or get to a Wimbledon final. Names who are therefore, more likely to be priced at big odds in the tournament Outright Winner markets - which is the area we specialise in here at *Ones to Watch*...



**Diana Shnaider**

- **DIANA SHNAIDER.** The Russian left-hander went 9-3 on grass last season (75% match win rate). Including lifting the first grass title of her burgeoning career, winning WTA Bad Homburg in June 2024, having gone off as 50/1 outsider. At just 21 years of age, Shnaider is an exciting one to watch. She plays the no-fear attacking tennis that we love to see from young players on the up...



**Liudmila Samsonova**

- **LIUDMILA SAMSONOVA.** Two of Samsonova's five career WTA titles to date have come on grass. Which considering how few grass events there are on the calendar compared to other playing surfaces, makes her one to watch on the turf. When she's on song, the 26-year-old Russian has one of the most dangerous first serves in the women's game - and a good serve always helps on grass. Liudmila went 8-3 on grass in 2024 (72.73%), including a trophy win in the Netherlands. If she stays fit, Samsonova has decent dark-horse credentials...

## MEN

### ATP Top 20 Players (1st June 2025)

*% = Grass career match win rate*

*Y/ N = career grass court title/s Yes or No*

1. Jannik Sinner = 66.57% Y
2. Carlos Alcaraz = 82.76% Y
3. Alexander Zverev = 67.19% N
4. Taylor Fritz = 59.46% Y
5. Jack Draper = 56.67% Y
6. Novak Djokovic = 84.51% Y
7. Lorenzo Musetti = 63.33% N
8. Casper Ruud = 40% N
9. Alex De Minaur = 68.91% Y
10. Holger Rune = 61.11% N
11. Daniil Medvedev = 70% Y
12. Tommy Paul = 66.67% Y
13. Ben Shelton = 46.15% N
14. Arthur Fils = 66.67% N
15. Andrey Rublev = 65.91% N
16. Frances Tiafoe = 57.14% Y
17. Grigor Dimitrov = 60% Y
18. Francisco Cerundolo = 50% Y
19. Jakub Mensik = 28.57% N
20. Stefanos Tsitsipas = 55.36% Y

And when we rejig that men's world Top 20 list, ordering the players by their **grass-court** win-rate instead of their current ranking - it looks like this:

- Novak Djokovic** = 84.51% Y
- Carlos Alcaraz** = 82.76% Y
- Daniil Medvedev** = 70% Y
- Alex De Minaur** = 68.91% Y
- Alexander Zverev** = 67.19% N
- Jannik Sinner** = 66.67% Y
- Tommy Paul** = 66.67% Y
- Arthur Fils** = 66.67% N
- Andrey Rublev** = 65.91% N
- Lorenzo Musetti** = 63.33% N
- Holger Rune** = 61.11% N
- Grigor Dimitrov** = 60% Y

**Frances Tiafoe** = 57.14% Y  
**Jack Draper** = 56.67% Y  
**Stefanos Tsitsipas** = 55.36% Y  
**Francisco Cerundolo** = 50% Y  
**Ben Shelton** = 46.15% N  
**Casper Ruud** = 40% N  
**Jakub Mensik** = 28.57% N

No surprise to see seven-time Wimbledon champion **Djokovic** at the top of that grass list. The 38-year-old is just **5/1** to land title number eight this summer. Likewise two-time defending champion, 22-year-old **Alcaraz**, who is just 2/1 to make it three in a row at SW19.

You'll also only get short odds at any tournament right now for the likes of world no.1 **Sinner**, and no.5 **Draper**. Sinner posted a 9-1 match win-loss on grass last year (90%), winning ATP Halle. Draper went 8-2 (80%), lifting the trophy at ATP Stuttgart.

Other established big names include **Medvedev** (75% win rate on grass last season), and **Fritz** (83.33%). Medvedev has made the Wimbledon semi finals two years running, beaten both times by eventual champ Alcaraz. Fritz reached the quarter finals in 2022, and again in 2024. However, both are yet to reach a final anywhere in 2025.

Back to our *Ones to Watch* criteria, in search of a potential newcomer making it on the big stage, and/ or a less-heralded name. These two stand out for me from the current Top 20:



- **TOMMY PAUL.** The 28-year-old American often flies under the radar. But Tommy has got a great all-round game, and has shown his quality on grass: winning the prestigious Queen's title last summer, at 20/1. He posted a 10-2 match win record on turf in 2024 (83.33%). And at Grand Slam level, Paul has produced more than one big run in recent years: French Open quarter final 2025, Australian Open quarter final 2025, Wimbledon quarter final 2024, Australian Open semi final 2023. Tommy is often underrated...



- **BEN SHELTON.** The 22-year-old possesses a big serve - and being a left-hander, his sliding, wide serve has the potential to do plenty of damage on grass this summer and in years to come. Ben has been a Ones to Watch name for a while. The energetic young American announced himself at the Majors with a US Open semi final in 2023; followed by another Grand Slam semi at this year's Australian Open. On grass, Shelton is yet to shine - but he has age on his side, and I'm expecting results to pick up on the turf sooner rather than later. He's only made two appearances at Wimbledon, and improved each time: 2nd round in 2023, 4th round (last 16) in 2024...

## The road to Wimbledon...

This report is only the start of our work for the 2025 **grass** season...

Throughout the summer, I'll keep you up-to-date with the latest in-form players on the ATP & WTA Tours. Helping you hunt out big value Each Way opportunities in the Outright Winner markets, and players to profit from in the individual match markets, too.

And of course, when **Wimbledon** comes along - I'll be guiding you to ways to cash-in on the most celebrated tennis tournament of them all. Including dedicated, members-only advice. Stay tuned...

I'll be in touch again by email very soon...

Enjoy the tennis...



Oliver Upstone

**Ones to Watch**

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