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## 1. Arina Sabalenka won the Australian Open title ( Jan. 28, 2023 )

In the Australian Open 2023, Arina Sabalenka of Belarus has won the women's singles title by defeating Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan. Sabalenka has won a Grand title for the first time.

#### An overview of the news

- Sabalenka defeated Elena Rybakina 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the final match played at Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne on 28 January.
- Sabalenka has won the Grand Slam title for the first time, while Rybakina missed out on winning the Grand Slam for the second time.
- 22nd seed Rybakina won the **Wimbledon title** last year.
- It was Sabalenka's 11th win since the start of 2023, meaning the Belarusian player will now reach a **career-best No. 2 ranking.**
- Rybakina and Sabalenka met face to face for the fourth time in their tennis career. Earlier, there was a match between Rybakina and Sabalenka in the fourth round of the 2021 Wimbledon Championship.
- Sabalenka had won all the three matches before this.

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# 3. Australian Open: Brazilian duo of Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos won the Mixed Doubles title (Jan. 27, 2023)

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In the **Australian Open Tennis**, the **Brazilian duo** of Luisa **Stefani and Rafael Matos** won the **Mixed Doubles title** on 27 January.

#### An overview of the news

- The Brazilian pair defeated the **Indian pair of Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza** 7-6, 6-2 at the **Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne.**
- The 36-year-old Mirza, regarded as India's greatest female tennis player, reached the decider at Melbourne Park.
- But he and the 42-year-old Bopanna could not win and lost to Brazilian pair of Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos.
- Mirza was the **first Indian to win a WTA singles title** in her hometown Hyderabad in 2005.
- She reached the fourth round of the US Open as early as 2005, and by 2007 was in the **women's top 30.**
- She will retire from tennis next month after a tournament in Dubai, where she has spent more than a decade and recently launched a **tennis academy.**

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## 5. England's Ben Stokes and Nat Sciver win ICC annual awards ( Jan. 26, 2023 )

England's Ben Stokes and Nat Sciver win ICC annual awards

England Test captain **Ben Stokes** and all-rounder **Nat Sciver** have won **ICC cricketer of the year** 2022 awards.

#### An overview of the news

- All-rounder Stokes was named the Men's Test Cricketer of the Year, while Sciver won the Rachael Hayhoe Flint Trophy for the ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year.
- Sciver, 30, is also named Women's **one-day international (ODI) Cricketer of the Year.**
- The 31-year-old Stokes took over the Test captaincy from Joe Root in **April 2022** and has **won nine of his 10 Tests** in charge.
- Stokes previously won the overall Men's Cricketer of the Year award in 2019.
- Babar Azam has been given the Men's ODI Player of the Year award (Sobers Trophy), before Pakistan's Shaheen Shah Afridi won the award for 2021.

#### ICC awards winners for 2022

- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy: Babar Azam (Pakistan)
- Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy: Nat Sciver (England)
- Men's Test Cricketer of the Year: Ben Stokes (England)
- Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year: Babar Azam
- Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year: Nat Sciver
- Men's T20 International Cricketer of the Year: Suryakumar Yadav (India)
- Women's T20 International Cricketer of the Year: Tahlia McGrath (Australia)
- Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year: Marco Jansen (South Africa)
- Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year: Renuka Singh (India)

- Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year: Gerhard Erasmus (Namibia)
- Women's Associate Cricketer of the Year: Esha Oza (India)
- **David Shepherd Trophy**: Richard Illingworth (England)
- Spirit of Cricket Award: Aasif Sheikh (Nepal)

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- Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy: Nat Sciver (England)
- Men's Test Cricketer of the Year: Ben Stokes (England)
- Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year: Babar Azam
- Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year: Nat Sciver
- Men's T20 International Cricketer of the Year: Suryakumar Yadav (India)
- Women's T20 International Cricketer of the Year: Tahlia McGrath (Australia)
- Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year: Marco Jansen (South Africa)
- Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year: Renuka Singh (India)

- Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year: Gerhard Erasmus (Namibia)
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# 7. India becomes No 1 ODI team in ICC Rankings after 3-0 series win over New Zealand ( Jan. 26, 2023 )

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### An overview of the news

- Team India, led by Rohit, defeated the New Zealand team by **90 runs** in the third match.
- Two-time world champions India have scored 5,010 points in 44 matches.
- World Champions **England are second** with 3,400 points from 30 ODIs.
- Former world champions **Australia are third** with 3,572 points (112 rating points) while **New Zealand are now placed fourth** in the latest ICC Team Rankings.

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## 9. Suryakumar Yadav named ICC "T20 Cricketer of the Year" ( Jan. 25, 2023 )

Suryakumar Yadav named ICC "T20 Cricketer of the Year"

Indian batsman **Suryakumar Yadav** has been selected as the **ICC T20 Cricketer of the Year for the year 2022** for his stellar performance.

#### An overview of the news

- Suryakumar Yadav beat Zimbabwe all-rounder Sikander Raza, Pakistan wicket-keeper batsman Mohammad Rizwan, England all-rounder Sam Curran to win the award.
- Suryakumar Yadav scored 1164 runs in 31 T20 matches played in 2022 and also became only the second batsman in T20 history to score more than 1000 runs in a calendar year.
- Yadav hit 68 sixes in 2022, the most by any batsman in a single year in the history of the format.

#### In the Women's Section

- Australia's Tahlia McGrath has been awarded the ICC T20 Women's Cricketer of the Year award.
- McGrath left behind India's Smriti Mandhana, New Zealand's Sophie Devine and Pakistan's Nida Dar for the award.
- Tahlia McGrath scored 435 runs and 13 wickets in 16 T20 matches in 2022.

# 10. Thailand's shuttler Kunlavut Witidson won men's singles title at India Open Badminton ( Jan. 24, 2023 )

Thai shuttler **Kunlavut Vitidsarn** won the **India Open title** on 22 January.

#### An overview of the news

- He defeated World No.1 Denmark's Viktor Axelsen in the men's singles final of the India Open Badminton Championship 22-20, 10-21 and 21-12 at K. D. Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.
- Earlier, Korean sensation **An Seyoung** won the **Women's singles final**. She beat **World No.1** Japanese Akane Yamaguchi 15-21, 21-16, 21-12.

### Other winners (doubles)

- Men's: Liang Weikeng and Wang Chang (China)
- Women's : Nami Matsuyama and Chiharu Shida (Japan)