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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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In cricket, **India climbed to the top** of the **ICC Men's ODI rankings** after winning the series 3-0 against New Zealand at the Holkar Stadium in Indore.

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 Vitidsarn 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)

