

WTT CHAMPIONS MACAO 2022 MEDIA NOTES DAY 3

EVENT OVERVIEW

CITY:	Macao, Macao, China
SITE:	Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion
DATE:	19–23 October 2022
TABLE BRAND:	DHS
BALL BRAND:	Double Fish
FLOOR BRAND:	Enlio
MEDIA CONTACT:	Press@WorldTableTennis.com

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World Table Tennis (WTT) touches down in Macao as Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion plays host to WTT Champions Macao 2022 from 19-23 October 2022.

QUICK LINKS

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WTT CHAMPIONS MACAO

MEN'S SINGLES R16

FAN ZHENDONG

KANAK JHA

PATRICK
FRANZISKA

DARKO JORGIC

LIANG
JINGKUN

ALEXIS LEBRUN

TOMISLAV
PUCAR

LIN YUN-JU

TRULS
MOREGARD

YANG WANG

ANTON
KALLBERG

MATTIAS FALCK

WANG CHUQIN

DIMITRIJ
OVTCHAROV

DANG QIU

MA LONG



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WTT CHAMPIONS MACAO

WOMEN'S SINGLES R16

SUN YINGSHA

XIAOXIN YANG

HANA
MATELOVA

CHENG I-CHING

JIA NAN YUAN

CHEN SZU-YU

DINA MESHREF

KASUMI
ISHIKAWA

JEON JIHEE

CHEN XINGTONG

XIAONA SHAN

WANG YIDI

MIMA ITO

MIYUU KIHARA

BERNADETTE
SZOCS

CHEN MENG



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KEY MATCHES OF DAY 3

Liang Jingkun (CHN) vs Alexis Lebrun (FRA) – Men’s Singles Round of 16 | Infinity Arena | 10:35 (GMT+8)

A young man who makes headlines wherever he plays, Alexis Lebrun has proven a hot topic in 2022 thanks to his rapid rise up the table tennis ladder. Set to become the highest-ranked French player in the ITTF Table Tennis World Rankings, 19-year-old Lebrun is still in contention to qualify for the WTT Cup Finals in Xinxiang but to do so must reach the final at the very least. With 3rd seed Liang Jingkun standing in his way on Day 3, Lebrun will need to topple one of the sport’s biggest names in order to keep the dream alive, but the young Frenchman has a knack for taking down world-class opposition having beaten household figures such as Dimitrij Ovtcharov and Tomokazu Harimoto in 2022 alone. Liang prevailed 3-1 over Lebrun in their one and only previous encounter at WTT Star Contender European Summer Series (ESS) 2022, but can Lebrun slay another titan to stay in the race for Xinxiang?

Xiaona Shan (GER) vs Wang Yidi (CHN) – Women’s Singles Round of 16 | Infinity Arena | 13:30 (GMT+8)

The race to Xinxiang also holds significant importance in the Women’s Singles event. One player whose destiny continues to be in their own hands is Germany’s Xiaona Shan, who knows that she can secure qualification without debate if she can reach the Women’s Singles final in Macao. However, a defeat to China’s Wang Yidi on Day 3 would prove a major setback for Shan with multiple rivals ready to pounce should the opportunity arise. Ranked 16 positions lower than 4th seed Wang Yidi, Shan knows the odds heading into Day 3 are firmly against her, but can the German player cause an upset and beat the WTT Champions ESS 2022 runner-up in their first-ever international meeting?

Jeon Jihee (KOR) vs Chen Xingtong (CHN) – Women’s Singles Round of 16 | Infinity Arena | 18:30 (GMT+8)

Stakes continue to rise as the day progresses with Korea Republic’s Jeon Jihee heading into the evening session of play in search of a grand prize. If Jeon prevails in the round of 16 then her ticket to the WTT Cup Finals will be secured, but she has a major test ahead of her with China’s Chen Xingtong providing the opposition on Day 3. Already qualified for Xinxiang, Chen has never lost to Jeon on the international stage, winning all three of their previous encounters without being stretched the full match distance. However, Chen was eliminated in the round of 16 at the inaugural WTT Champions event in Budapest. Will Chen Xingtong make it four in a row over Jeon Jihee or can the Korean star raise her game to book her ticket to Xinxiang?

Dang Qiu (GER) vs Ma Long (CHN) – Men’s Singles Round of 16 | Infinity Arena | 21:25 (GMT+8)

We round off the day’s action with a cracking rematch from the 2022 World Team Championships final as European champion Dang Qiu and all-time great Ma Long face off for a spot in the Men’s Singles quarterfinal draw. Ma’s 3-1 victory over Qiu earlier this month helped Team China to a gold medal finish in Chengdu, but Ma has been somewhat troubled by the penhold style of play in the past, and at World No.9, Qiu is the world’s highest-ranked penhold grip player. Ma leads the head-to-head against Qiu 2:0, but is looking to avoid a second consecutive round of 16 exit on the WTT Champions stage having exited to Qiu’s German compatriot Patrick Franziska at the same hurdle at the European Summer Series in Budapest.

DAY SCHEDULE

21 OCTOBER	DAY THREE
	SESSION 1
	Infinity Arena
Starting At: 10:00	Women's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Men's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Women's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Men's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Women's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Men's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Women's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Men's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Women's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Men's Singles – ROUND OF 16
	SESSION 2
Starting At: 18:30	Women's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Men's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Women's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Men's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Women's Singles – ROUND OF 16
followed by	Men's Singles – ROUND OF 16
	END OF DAY

RACE TO XINXIANG (STATE OF PLAY - DAY 3)

The WTT Cup Finals Xinxiang 2022 get underway on Thursday 27th October, and WTT Champions Macao 2022 presents the final opportunity for players to book their tickets to the event.

Already Qualified for the Men's Singles: Fan Zhendong, Ma Long, Liang Jingkun, Tomokazu Harimoto, Hugo Calderano, Truls Moregard, Lin Yun-Ju, Darko Jorgic, Dang Qiu, Dimitrij Ovtcharov, Wang Chuqin, Lin Gaoyuan, Patrick Franziska, Quadri Aruna.

The latest state of play in the Men's Singles event is as follows:

- Quadri Aruna's Day 2 loss to Anton Kallberg confirmed Lin Gaoyuan and Patrick Franziska's tickets to Xinxiang with no player outside the top 16 able to catch the Chinese and German players regardless of results.
- Despite suffering an opening round defeat, Aruna leaves Macao with a WTT Cup Finals ticket of his own after Germany's Timo Boll failed to beat 7th seed Lin Yun-Ju in the evening session of play. Boll still remains in contention, but is now dependant on results elsewhere going his way.
- If Anton Kallberg exits in the round of 16 then Boll will take home the 15th ticket for Xinxiang, and the Swedish player's chances of qualifying will come to an end.

- As things stand, Chinese Taipei's Chuang Chih-Yuan is currently Xinxiang bound, and can only lose his ticket if Kallberg, France's Alexis Lebrun or United States' Kanak Jha make the final in Macao or if one of Mattias Falck or Yang Wang lift the Men's Singles trophy. Croatia's Tomislav Pucar is still involved in Macao, but can no longer qualify for Xinxiang.

Already Qualified for the Women's Singles: Sun Yingsha, Chen Meng, Wang Manyu, Wang Yidi, Mima Ito, Doo Hoi Kem, Han Ying, Kasumi Ishikawa, Adriana Diaz, Yang Xiaoxin, Chen Xingtong, Nina Mittelham, Miyuu Kihara.

The latest state of play in the Women's Singles event is as follows:

- Jeon Jihee's Day 2 win against Ying Han has moved her a step closer to securing a place on the plane to Xinxiang, and she can put any doubt to rest with victory over China's Chen Xingtong in the round of 16.
- German penholder Xiaona Shan continues to hunt down a ticket of her own after prevailing 3-1 over Jieni Shao. However, Shan is still walking a tightrope and could be out of the race if she loses to China's Wang Yidi in the round of 16 and Chinese Taipei's Chen Szu-Yu beats France's Jia Nan Yuan.
- Shan's fate could still be up in the air even if Chen fails to best Yuan with a semifinal finish for one of Hana Matelova, Dina Meshref, Bernadette Szocs or Cheng I-Ching another possible trigger for the German's exit.
- A win for Chen Szu-Yu on Day 3 would see her close in on qualification, and will make certain of her spot in Xinxiang if she topples Yuan and the quartet of Matelova, Meshref, Szocs and Cheng all fail to make the quarterfinals.

STORIES OF DAY 2

WTT CHAMPIONS ESS 2022 WINNERS STUNNED AT FIRST HURDLE

France's Jia Nan Yuan, world-ranked 25th, shocked the table tennis world on Thursday with a historic victory over 3rd seed and WTT Champions ESS winner Wang Manyu. One of the title favourites in the Women's Singles draw, Wang fought to the bitter end but couldn't find a way through the round of 32 as Yuan secured a landmark win in Macao (8-11, 11-5, 8-11, 11-9, 12-10). Thursday also proved a day to remember for Sweden's Mattias Falck, who added another famous upset to his collection after emerging triumphant over the Men's Singles champion from WTT Champions ESS 2022 Tomokazu Harimoto (11-4, 11-6, 3-11, 11-6).

ISHIKAWA MAKES IT 10 IN A ROW

Women's Singles 8th seed Kasumi Ishikawa extended her head-to-head record against United States' Lily Zhang to 10 wins without reply on Day 2. The Japanese star booked her spot in the round of 16 draw with a convincing victory over her American counterpart, needing just three games to bring Zhang's campaign to an early halt (11-5, 11-8, 11-5).

THREE NEW NAMES QUALIFY FOR XINXIANG

Three new names have been added to the Men's Singles lineup at WTT Cup Finals Xinxiang 2022 after the trio of China's Lin Gaoyuan, Germany's Patrick Franziska and Nigeria's Quadri Aruna secured their tickets to the prestigious event on Day 2 in Macao.

PLAYERS INFORMATION

Men's Singles (Main Draw)

PLAYER	AGE	PLAYING HAND	GRIP	Playing Style	Year to Date Win %
FAN Zhendong	25	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	89
MA Long	34	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	89
LIANG Jingkun	25	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	80
Tomokazu HARIMOTO	19	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	73
Hugo CALDERANO	26	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	76
Truls MOREGARD	20	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	71
LIN Yun-Ju	21	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	73
Darko JORGIC	24	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	70
Dang QIU	25	Right-handed	Penhold	Attacker	63
Dimitrij OVTCHAROV	34	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	73
WANG Chuqin	22	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	84
LIN Gaoyuan	27	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	77
Patrick FRANZISKA	30	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	68
Quadri ARUNA	34	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	71
Timo BOLL	41	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	79
CHUANG Chih-Yuan	41	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	66
JANG Woojin	27	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	75
Kristian KARLSSON	31	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	59
Anton KALLBERG	25	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	69
Liam PITCHFORD	29	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	62
Yukiya UDA	21	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	72
WONG Chun Ting	31	Right-handed	Penhold	Attacker	59
Kirill GERASSIMENKO	25	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	65
Alexis LEBRUN	19	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	70
Kanak JHA	22	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	66
Marcos FREITAS	34	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	67
Mattias FALCK	31	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	63
Sathiyam GNANASEKARAN	29	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	62
Yang WANG	28	Right-handed	Shakehand	Defense	64
AN Jaehyun	22	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	73
Joao GERALDO	27	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	67
Tomislav PUCAR	26	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	63

* Accurate as of 20 October 2022

Women's Singles (Main Draw)

PLAYER	AGE	PLAYING HAND	GRIP	Matches played	Year to Date Win %
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SUN Yingsha	21	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	87
CHEN Meng	28	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	87
WANG Manyu	23	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	87
WANG Yidi	25	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	82
Mima ITO	21	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	75
DOO Hoi Kem	25	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	71
Ying HAN	39	Right-handed	Shakehand	Defense	72
Kasumi ISHIKAWA	29	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	72
Adriana DIAZ	21	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	71
Xiaoxin YANG	34	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	75
CHEN Xingtong	25	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	82
Nina MITTELHAM	25	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	70
Miyuu KIHARA	18	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	75
JEON Jihee	29	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	69
Fu YU	43	Right-handed	Penhold	Attacker	69
Xiaona SHAN	39	Right-handed	Penhold	Attacker	67
Bruna TAKAHASHI	22	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	70
CHEN Szu-Yu	29	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	62
Jia Nan YUAN	37	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	63
Hana MATELOVA	32	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	56
Dina MESHREF	28	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	66
Bernadette SZOCS	27	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	73
CHENG I-Ching	30	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	61
Lily ZHANG	26	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	69
Xia Lian Ni	59	Left-handed	Penhold	Attacker	70
Hana GODA	14	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	67
Manika BATRA	27	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	64
Barbora BALAZOVA	30	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	62
Mariam ALHODABY	22	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	69
Linda BERGSTROM	27	Right-handed	Shakehand	Defense	56
Jieni SHAO	28	Left-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	59
LEE Ho Ching	29	Right-handed	Shakehand	Attacker	61

* Accurate as of 20 October 2022

EVENT FACTS

- An exclusive event for the world's top ranked players held on Infinity ∞ Arena, WTT Champions is located in the highest echelons of the WTT Series, offering a premium event at the pinnacle of global table tennis.
- WTT Champions Macao 2022 marks the second-ever WTT Champions event following the series' successful launch at the European Summer Series held in Budapest in July.
- China's Wang Manyu and Japan's Tomokazu Harimoto won the respective Women's and Men's Singles titles on that occasion, making history as the first-ever WTT Champions title-winners. Both players return for WTT Champions Macao 2022.
- Egypt's Hana Goda (aged 14) is the youngest player on duty in Macao while Luxembourg's Xia Lian Ni is the oldest player on the entry list (aged 59).

- WTT Champions Macao 2022 offers a total prize purse of USD 800,000 (USD 400,000 for each event) with the Men’s and Women’s Singles champions receiving USD 35,000 and 1000 ITTF Table Tennis World Ranking points each.

EVENT PREVIEW

- Making history as the first-ever player to lift a WTT Champions trophy in July at WTT Champions European Summer Series 2022, China’s Wang Manyu is back for more. Can the World champion add another Women’s Singles trophy to her collection in Macao?
- Top seed Sun Yingsha is going for her first individual success of the year with her last Women’s Singles title coming at the 2021 WTT Cup Finals. Meanwhile, 2nd seed Chen Meng already has silverware to her name in 2022 following a commanding display at Singapore Smash, beating Wang Manyu to the title on that occasion.
- Mima Ito, seeded 5th, arguably carries the greatest threat to the Chinese stars at the top of the Women’s Singles seeding list, with only Chen Meng boasting an unbeaten record against the 21-year-old from Japan.
- Captivating fans with an extraordinary run to the Men’s Singles title at the first-ever WTT Champions event, Tomokazu Harimoto travels to Macao in search of more glory as he looks to go two for two on the illustrious stage.
- One man looking to shatter the Japanese sensation’s hopes and dreams in Macao is World champion Fan Zhendong. Making his WTT Champions debut in Macao, World No.1 Fan holds a whopping 3200-point lead at the summit of the World Rankings thanks in part to his historic title-win at Singapore Smash in March.
- Another key challenger for the Men’s Singles title in Macao, Ma Long heads to his second WTT Champions event on a mission following his shock round of 16 exit to Germany’s Patrick Franziska in Budapest. Can the “Dragon” redeem himself on his second WTT Champions appearance?