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JUSTIN BOULAIS CLAIMS TITLE AT THE INAUGURAL EDMONTON NATIONAL BANK CHALLENGER

No. 1-seed Arina Rodionova of Australia crowned women's singles champion

[MONTREAL, QC] November 6, 2023 — The Edmonton National Bank Challenger crowned its first-ever champions on Sunday, as the first edition of the tournament came to an end. Held out of the Royal Glenora Club in Edmonton, Alberta, the combined ITF \$25,000 event saw Canadian Justin Boulais and Australia's Arina Rodionova take home the top honours in singles.

Boulais, 22, who recently represented Canada at the Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile, entered the week as the sixth-seeded player in the men's draw. He cruised through his first two matches with wins over compatriot Marko Stakusic and American Colin Markes. In the quarter-finals, Boulais defeated top-seeded Aziz Dougaz of Tunisia 7-6(4), 6-4 before beating another fellow Canadian, Newmarket's Liam Draxl, by a score of 6-4, 6-1 in the semi-finals.

In the finals, Boulais faced Great Britain's Giles Hussey – the tournament's No. 5 seed. Despite dropping the opening set, Boulais came back to claim the second set in a tiebreaker. The Canadian carried that momentum into the deciding set, winning the contest 3-6, 7-6(1), 6-0. With the win, Boulais now has three career titles – two in singles and one in doubles. His opponent, Hussey, wouldn't leave empty-handed, as he claimed the doubles trophy with South African partner Vasilios Caripi.

For the fifth time this season, 33-year-old Rodionova claimed a singles title at an ITF event. Key wins en route to the final included victories over former World No. 29 Urszula Radwanska of Poland and fourth-seeded Justina Mikulskyte of Lithuania. Rodionova, who was the top-seeded player in the women's draw, had no issues in the final, ousting No. 2-seed Lesley Pattinama Kerkhove of the Netherlands 6-3, 7-5.

In the doubles final, Canadian Kayla Cross and American Liv Hovde took down Allura Zamarripa and Maribella Zamarripa – twin sisters from the United States – by a score of 4-6, 6-4, 10-7.

About Tennis Canada

Founded in 1890, Tennis Canada is a non-profit, national sport association with a mission to lead the growth, development and promotion of tennis in Canada and a vision to be a world-leading tennis nation. We value teamwork, passion, integrity, innovation and excellence. Tennis Canada owns and operates the premier National Bank Open presented by Rogers WTA and ATP Tour events, four professional ATP and ITF sanctioned events and financially supports four other professional tournaments in Canada. Tennis Canada operates junior national training centres/programs in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. Tennis Canada is a proud member of the International Tennis Federation, the Canadian Olympic Committee and the Canadian Paralympic Committee, and serves to administer, sponsor and select the teams for Davis Cup, Billie Jean King Cup, the Olympic and Paralympic Games and all wheelchair, junior and senior national teams. Tennis Canada invests its surplus into tennis development. For more information on Tennis Canada please visit our Web site at: www.tenniscanada.com and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.



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