



SOBEYS STADIUM
1 Shoreham Dr, Suite 100
Toronto ON M3N 3A6
T. 416.665.9777

STADE IGA
285 Rue Gary-Carter
Montréal QC H2R 2W1
T. 514.273.1234

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LOUISA CHIRICO CROWNED CHAMPION OF THE 2024 TEVLIN CHALLENGER

- *Chirico wins in straight sets over Canadian Kayla Cross in Sunday's final*
- *Jamie Loeb and Justina Mikulskyte claimed doubles title on Saturday*

[TORONTO, ON] November 3, 2024 – The Tevlin Challenger concluded on Sunday with No. 5 seed Louisa Chirico of the United States crowned singles champion after she beat Canadian Kayla Cross in the final at Sobeys Stadium.

At 28 years old, the former No. 58-ranked Chirico lost only one set on her path to the title, which was in the first round against Croatian Petra Marcinko. She then defeated Canadian and 2024-25 [National Tennis Centre](#) presented by Rogers (NTC) transition athlete Ariana Arsenault 6-3, 6-4, and Romanian Gabriela Lee 6-3, 6-3 to secure her spot in the semi-finals. There, Chirico triumphed over France's Julie Belgraver, who had recently won the Edmonton National Bank Challenger, by a score of 7-6(7), 6-3. Chirico had also lifted a trophy earlier this season at a W75 tournament in the United States.

Also part of the NTC 2024-25 transition group, 19-year-old Cross is currently ranked No. 312 in the world and is enjoying a terrific year. She reached her first professional final at the Granby National Bank Championships and won her first professional title in a W35 tournament in Saskatoon. On her way to the final at the Tevlin Challenger, she also lost only one set, in the semi-finals against Slovak Viktoria Hrucakova having advanced via a walkover following the withdrawal of fellow Canadian Katherine Sebov in the quarter-finals. In her opening two matches, she won 6-4, 6-2 against Japanese qualifier Ayumi Koshiishi and defeated No. 4 seed, Lithuanian Justina Mikulskyte, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5).

In the final, Chirico won 7-6(5), 6-3 to claim the trophy. "I'm pretty happy with how I competed this week," she said. "I think there were a bunch of really tough matches. Pretty much every match I played was not easy, and there are a lot of great players here. So, I'm really happy to get the win."

In Saturday's doubles final, the No. 2-seeded pairing of American Jamie Loeb and Mikulskyte, who teamed up for the first time this week, triumphed over Belgraver and the Netherlands' Jasmijn Gimbrere 6-2, 6-1. The latter had eliminated Canadians Cross and Arsenault in the semi-finals, winning a decisive tiebreak 10-7 to earn their place in the final.

"I think it was the best [Tevlin Challenger] ever," said Mike Tevlin, long-time donor and former board member. "This has been going on since 2006. Today, there are probably ten challengers going on somewhere in the world, but this is the one that means the most to us. I saw the best week of tennis I've seen. I think the depth is changing so much that the level of tennis was the best we've seen."

Click [here](#) to see the completed draws from the Tevlin Challenger.

GENDER EQUITY INITIATIVES FRONT AND CENTRE DURING TEVLIN CHALLENGER



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During the Tevlin Challenger, several initiatives part of Tennis Canada's Game. Set. Equity. commitment presented by National Bank took place. On Saturday, a group of girls were given the opportunity to job shadow women staff members to experience first-hand what it means to be part of the action and learn more about different leadership paths available to them through tennis.

Meanwhile, on Sunday morning, the tournament hosted a Girls. Set. Match. event for self-identifying girls aged 10-14. They spent the day together in a girls-only environment, playing tennis, enjoying brainstorming activities and having fun. A Women in Coaching event was also held, which provided a professional development opportunity for women coaches to share experiences, build a community, and gain valuable insights from speakers.

About Tennis Canada

Founded in 1890, Tennis Canada is a non-profit, national sport association with a mission to lead the growth of tennis in Canada and a vision to become 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, Vancouver and Calgary. 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](#).

-30-

Information

Charlotte Robillard-Millette
Communications Coordinator
Crobillard-millette@tenniscanada.com
+1 (514) -757-0384