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## Victoria Mboko named as first player in ITF's Class of 2025; celebrating the best performances on the ITF World Tennis Tour this season



Canadian 19-year-old Victoria Mboko has been named as the first player in the International Tennis Federation's (ITF) Class of 2025, which will celebrate the achievements of five players who have enjoyed outstanding results on the ITF World Tennis Tour this season.

The four other players in the Class of 2025 will be announced over the course of this week, with one player revealed across ITF digital and social channels every day from Tuesday to Friday at 1000 GMT.

The ITF's 'Class of...' series recognises and celebrates players who have had a successful year on the ITF World Tennis Tour, identifying the season's most promising and breakthrough talents, and those predicted to go on to bigger and better things next year.

This year's group was decided by a panel of experts: Ashley Keber (WTA), Julia Boyadjieva (ATP), Mark Woodforde (ITF), Mary Pierce (ITF) and Nao Kawatei (ITF). The panel voted for five players to be included in the Class of 2025 from a longlist of 19 players.

Players who have previously been named in the 'Class of...' series who have continued to progress towards the highest levels of the sport include Jakub Mensik (2022), Mirra Andreeva (2023), Learner Tien (2024) and Iva Jovic (2024).

Having begun the 2025 season ranked at No. 333, Mboko won four ITF World Tennis Tour titles in January-February, winning 20 consecutive main draw matches in straight sets. She added a fifth World Tennis Tour title in March and made her Billie Jean King Cup debut for Canada at the Qualifiers in Tokyo in April, winning both matches she contested in Japan.

In May, Mboko qualified at Roland Garros to make her Grand Slam debut, reaching the third round of the main draw before falling to Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen. Two months later, competing as a wild card at the WTA 1000 event in Montreal, she won seven consecutive matches to win her first WTA Tour title, defeating four-time major champion Naomi Osaka in the final. Then-ranked at No. 85, she became the 2nd-lowest ranked player to win a WTA 1000 title in the history of the format, as well as becoming the third Canadian player to win the tournament.

Mboko closed the year strongly by winning her second WTA Tour title at the Hong Kong Open before winning all three matches she contested as Canada won the Billie Jean King Cup Play-off Group A event in Mexico to secure their place in the 2026 Qualifiers. She currently sits at a career-high WTA ranking of No. 18.

Mboko said: "I'm very happy to be recognised as part of the Class of 2025 for the ITF. It really means a lot to me and I'm really grateful to have been a part of this award. It's been such a great year. Starting the year off playing many tournaments especially in Europe and the Caribbean I gained a lot of momentum and confidence which has helped me throughout the year when playing more WTA tournaments. I think starting off there let me have a lot of matchplay and playing such difficult players to prepare me physically and mentally for the WTA Tour. I'm really grateful for everything that I went through this year, and it has helped me become a better player overall."

David Haggerty, ITF President, said: "Congratulations to the Class of 2025, all of whom have enjoyed sensational seasons. Victoria Mboko's achievements this year are truly remarkable – an incredible winning streak on the ITF World Tennis Tour, a WTA 1000 title on home soil in Montreal and representing Canada with distinction in the Billie Jean King Cup. The ITF World Tennis Tour is the main artery to the top of the game and a vital part of developing our sport's top talents. It has been gratifying to see the Tour continue to improve and expand this year and we look forward to sharing the success stories of the four other members of the Class of 2025 in the coming days."

## The ITF World Tennis Tour in 2025

A total of 11,595 players took part in 1,261 tournaments as competitive opportunities increased (up from 10,979 players at 1,200 events in 2024).

A total of 634 men's and 627 women's tournaments were staged through the year on the ITF World Tennis Tour (up from 598 men's and 602 women's events in 2024) with 77 different hosting countries.

A record \$18.56 million in prize money paid out for women's events in 2025 (up from \$17.87million in 2024) with a record \$13.8 million on offer to the men (up from \$11.32 million in 2024).

The ITF World Tennis Tour also continued the journey towards gender parity in 2025, an important part of Advantage All, the ITF's gender equality strategy. There were 206 events across the ITF World Tennis Tour W50-W75-W100 and WTA 125 categories in 2025, a record number and only marginally shy of the 217 events on the ATP Challenger Tour.

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## About the ITF

The International Tennis Federation (ITF) is the world governing body of tennis. Founded in 1913, its purpose is to ensure the long-term growth and sustainability of the sport, delivering tennis for future generations in association with its 213 member National Associations. The ITF oversees the rules and regulations that govern international and national competition. The ITF is responsible for the worldwide development of tennis through its highly regarded global Development Programme, its Science and Technical department which monitors equipment and technology, and its Officiating department which oversees the education and advancement of officials. The ITF organises up to 1850 men's, women's, and junior tournaments on the ITF World Tennis Tour, and manages the ITF junior team competitions, ITF Beach Tennis World Tour, UNIQLO Wheelchair Tennis Tour and the ITF World Tennis Masters Tour, together with the men's and women's World Cup of Tennis, Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup by Gainbridge respectively, the two largest annual international team competitions in tennis. The ITF manages the Olympic Tennis Event on behalf of the IOC and the Paralympic Tennis Event on behalf of the IPC and the Qualification Pathways for both events at the Games. For further information please visit www.itftennis.com.