



PORSCHE

Press Release

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Porsche Tennis Grand Prix – summary day 1

High class matches right away in the first round

Stuttgart. The draw for the main draw at the 38th Porsche Tennis Grand Prix has bestowed the spectators in the Porsche Arena with high class matches right away in the first round. Above all Andrea Petkovic is facing a tough and potentially exciting match. The Porsche Team Germany player will meet Spaniard Carla Suarez Navarro in a repeat of the encounter she lost in the semifinal of the Miami tournament. Her teammates however appear to have been handed easier draws: Sabine Lisicki will open against Kazakh Zarina Diyas and the Porsche Brand Ambassador Angelique Kerber will face a qualifier. An all-German affair in the first round between Carina Witthöft (Porsche Talent Team Germany) and Mona Barthel (Porsche Team Germany) is sure to be a hard-fought match.

Title-holder and Porsche Brand Ambassador Maria Sharapova (Russia), Simona Halep (Romania), Petra Kvitova (Czech Republic) and Caroline Wozniacki (Denmark) all have first round byes. One player unable to come to Stuttgart is Eugenie Bouchard. The Canadian has had to withdraw from the long-standing tournament in the Porsche Arena.

In the first round of qualifying, the 17-year old Katharina Hobgarski, who has recently been added to the Porsche Talent Team Germany, advanced after upsetting Austrian Patricia Mayr-Achleitner 6-2, 6-0. She thus celebrated the biggest win of her young career. World ranked No. 748, she is 597 positions behind her opponent. On the way to the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix main draw is also Anna-Lena Friedsam. The 21-year old member of the Porsche Talent Team Germany reached the second round when compatriot Dinah Pfizenmaier was forced to retire after losing the first set 6-1.

However for four German players, the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix has come to an end in the first round of qualifying: Annika Beck lost 6-1, 6-0 to Croatian Petra Martić, Katharina Gerlach from Porsche Talent Team Germany was defeated 6-2, 6-1 by the Ukrainian Kateryna Bondarenko and her teammate Antonia Lottner went down 6-4, 6-2 to Magda Linette (Poland). Another newcomer in the Porsche Talent Team Germany has also exited the tournament. Lena Ruffer, the 16-year old from Berlin, was beaten 6-4, 6-4 by the Russian Marina Melnikova.