



2019 ITTF World Tour Asarel Bulgaria Open

CITY:	Panagyurishte, Bulgaria
SITE:	Arena Asarel, Bulgaria, Panagyurishte 4500, Krastyo Geshanov str
DATE:	13-18 Aug 2019
PLAYERS:	166 men 131 women 297 total
COUNTRIES:	38
TABLES:	12
TABLE BRAND:	Double Happiness DHS T1223
BALL BRAND:	DHS 40+
FLOOR BRAND:	Taraflex Table Tennis 3.7 (Framboise)
MEDIA CONTACT:	ITTF Media Officer: Seet Cheng Howe (chenghowe@ittf.com)

Introduction

Welcome to the 2019 ITTF World Tour Asarel Bulgaria Open.

The Asarel Bulgaria Open is a Regular Series event on the ITTF World Tour, which is the latter of the two tiers (Platinum & Regular).

The Asarel Bulgaria Open is the fourth out of six Regular Series, and the eighth event overall as the players fight for points to qualify for the season ending Seamaster 2019 ITTF World Tour Grand Final from 12-15 December.

There are five titles on offer: Men's Singles, Women's Singles, Men's Doubles, Women's Doubles & Mixed Doubles

This media kit is designed to provide an update on the 2019 ITTF World Tour Asarel Bulgaria Open. Enclosed are statistics and notes that will be of assistance during the tournament. Players' biographies as well as statistical, historical and personal data can be found on ITTF.com. Please make player interview requests through a member of the ITTF and OC media staff located in the press room.

Key Dates/Times

- 13 August 2019, 09:00h @ Arena Asarel – Qualification Day 1
- 14 August 2019, 09:00h @ Arena Asarel – Qualification Day 2
- 15 August 2019, 10:00h @ Arena Asarel – Main Draw Day 1
- 16 August 2019, 10:00h @ Arena Asarel – Main Draw Day 2
- 17 August 2019, 13:20h @ Arena Asarel – Mixed Doubles Finals
- 17 August 2019, 19:20h @ Arena Asarel – Men's & Women's Doubles Finals
- 18 August 2019, 17:30h @ Arena Asarel – Men's & Women's Singles Finals

- Timing based on Local time (GMT +3)

Schedule: [Qualification](#) | [Main Draw](#)



Playing System

Men's Singles: Main draw round of 32
16 seeded players + 16 players coming from the qualifications
108 players competing for 16 qualification slots in a Knock Out Format

Women's Singles: Main draw round of 32
16 seeded players + 16 players coming from the qualifications
87 players competing for 16 qualification slots in a Knock Out Format

Men's Doubles: Main draw round of 16
8 seeded players + 8 players coming from the qualifications
17 pairs competing for 8 qualification slots in a Knock Out Format

Women's Doubles: Main draw round of 16
8 seeded players + 8 players coming from the qualifications
13 pairs competing for 8 qualification slots in a Knock Out Format

Mixed Doubles: Main draw round of 16
8 seeded players + 8 players coming from the qualifications
15 pairs competing for 8 qualification slots in a Knock Out Format



International Table Tennis Federation

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2019 ITTF World Tour Events and Winners

There has been 3 World Tour so far, 4 Platinum (Qatar, China, Japan, Australia), 3 Regular series (Hungary, Hong Kong, Korea).

Type	Location	Men's Singles			Women's Singles		
Platinum	Australia	XU Xin		CHN	SUN Yingsha		CHN
Regular	Korea	XU Xin		CHN	CHEN Meng		CHN
Platinum	Japan	XU Xin		CHN	SUN Yingsha		CHN
Regular	Hong Kong	LIN Gaoyuan		CHN	WANG Yidi		CHN
Platinum	China	MA Long		CHN	CHEN Meng		CHN
Platinum	Qatar	MA Long		CHN	WANG Manyu		CHN
Regular	Hungary	LIN Gaoyuan		CHN	CHEN Meng		CHN

Type	Location	Men's Doubles				Women's Doubles			
Platinum	Australia	JEOUNG Youngsik	KOR	LEE Sangsu	KOR	CHEN Meng	CHN	WANG Manyu	CHN
Regular	Korea	FAN Zhendong	CHN	XU Xin	CHN	CHEN Meng	CHN	WANG Manyu	CHN
Platinum	Japan	FAN Zhendong	CHN	XU Xin	CHN	CHEN Meng	CHN	LIU Shiwen	CHN
Regular	Hong Kong	LIANG Jingkun	CHN	LIN Gaoyuan	CHN	CHEN Ke	CHN	MU Zi	CHN
Platinum	China	Timo BOLL	GER	Patrick FRANZISKA	GER	GU Yuting	CHN	LIU Shiwen	CHN
Platinum	Qatar	HO Kwan Kit	HKG	WONG Chunting	HKG	SUN Yingsha	CHN	WANG Manyu	CHN
Regular	Hungary	LIANG Jingkun	CHN	XU Xin	CHN	WANG Manyu	CHN	ZHU Yuling	CHN



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Type	Location	Mixed Doubles			
Platinum	Australia	WONG Chun Ting	HKG	DOO Hoi Kem	HKG
Regular	Korea	WONG Chun Ting	HKG	DOO Hoi Kem	HKG
Platinum	Japan	XU Xin	CHN	ZHU Yuling	CHN
Regular	Hong Kong	LIN Yun-Ju	TPE	CHENG I-Ching	TPE
Platinum	China	LIN Yun-Ju	TPE	CHENG I-Ching	TPE
Platinum	Qatar	XU Xin	CHN	LIU Shiwen	CHN
Regular	Hungary	XU Xin	CHN	LIU Shiwen	CHN



Race to 2019 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals

The players are all battling it out for points to secure their qualification to the Seamaster 2019 World Tour Grand Finals, 12-15 Dec 2019.

How does it work?

Men's & Women's Singles

Places available: 15 players with the most points from the Seamaster 2019 World Tour events, plus one host country player that meets the below criteria. If the player from the host association is already amongst the 15 invited players or does not meet the participation criteria, the 16th player in order will be invited.

Criteria: Have to play in a minimum of 5 events

Men's, Women's & Mixed Doubles

Places available: 7 doubles pairing with the most points, plus one host country player that meets the below criteria. If the pair from the host association is already amongst the 7 invited players or does not meet the participation criteria, the 8th pair in order will be invited.

Criteria: Have to play in a minimum of 4 events (playing together)

Criteria: For XD, maximum of 1 pair per NOC

Full criteria: <https://bit.ly/2QqmA3e>

Points system (Regular)

WORLD TOUR

HUN . HKG . KOR . BUL . CZE . SWE					
	MS	WS	MD	WD	XD
Winner	250 pts	250 pts	200 pts	200 pts	200 pts
Finalist	125 pts	125 pts	100 pts	100 pts	100 pts
SF	63 pts	63 pts	50 pts	50 pts	50 pts
QF	31 pts	31 pts	25 pts	25 pts	25 pts
R16	16 pts	16 pts	13 pts	13 pts	13 pts
R32	8 pts	8 pts			

Full Points allocation: <https://bit.ly/2C47sTR>

Current Race to World Tour Grand Final Standings (after AUS Open):
Men's Singles

Rank	Events	Name	Country	Points
1	6	XU Xin	CHN	1713
2	5	MA Long	CHN	1425
3	6	LIN Gaoyuan	CHN	1250
4	7	WANG Chuqin	CHN	519
5	6	HARIMOTO Tomokazu	JPN	506
6	7	LIN Yun-Ju	TPE	491
7	7	LIANG Jingkun	CHN	460
8	5	FAN Zhendong	CHN	444
9	6	FALCK Mattias	SWE	380
10	5	FRANZISKA Patrick	GER	324
11	5	CALDERANO Hugo	BRA	306
12	6	MIZUTANI Jun	JPN	264
13	6	JANG Woojin	KOR	257
14	4	SUN Wen	CHN	225
15	4	OVTCHAROV Dimitrij	GER	200
16	7	WONG Chun-Ting	HKG	198

Women's Singles

Rank	Events	Name	Country	Points
1	6	SUN Yingsha	CHN	1319
2	5	CHEN Meng	CHN	1300
3	6	WANG Manyu	CHN	1051
4	5	LIU Shiwen	CHN	779
5	5	DING Ning	CHN	775
6	6	ITO Mima	JPN	681
7	6	HIRANO Miu	JPN	429
8	5	ZHU Yuling	CHN	406
9	5	WANG Yidi	CHN	383
10	6	ISHIKAWA Kasumi	JPN	372
11	7	FENG Tianwei	SGP	255
12	6	CHENG I-Ching	TPE	254
13	5	CHEN Xingtong	CHN	239
14	6	SATO Hitomi	JPN	232
15	6	HE Zhoujia	CHN	182
16	4	GU Yuting	CHN	175

**Men's Doubles**

Rank	Events	Name	Country	Points
1	3	FAN Zhendong / XU Xin	CHN	575
2	4	JEOUNG Youngsik / LEE Sangsu	KOR	550
3	2	BOLL Timo / FRANZISKA Patrick	GER	450
4	4	HO Kwan Kit / WONG Chun Ting	HKG	413
5	3	LIANG Jingkun / LIN Gaoyuan	CHN	294
6	4	JANG Woojin / LIM Jonghoon	KOR	263
7	1	LIANG Jingkun / XU Xin	CHN	200
8	4	DUDA Benedikt / QIU Dang	GER	194

Women's Doubles

Rank	Events	Player	Country	Points
1	2	CHEN Meng / WANG Manyu	CHN	500
2	2	SUN Yingsha / WANG Manyu	CHN	450
3	2	WANG Manyu / ZHU Yuling	CHN	350
4	1	GU Yuting / LIU Shiwen	CHN	300
4	1	CHEN Meng / LIU Shiwen	CHN	300
6	4	KIHARA Miyuu / NAGASAKI Miyu	JPN	238
7	1	CHEN Ke / MU Zi	CHN	200
8	5	CHEN Szu-Yu / CHENG Hsien-Tzu	TPE	164

Mixed Doubles

Rank	Events	Player	Country	Points
1	7	WONG Chun Ting / DOO Hoi Kem	HKG	770
2	7	LIN Yun-Ju / CHENG I-Ching	TPE	763
3	4	XU Xin / LIU Shiwen	CHN	600
4	1	XU Xin / ZHU Yuling	CHN	300
5	7	HO Kwan Kit / LEE Ho Ching	HKG	239
6	2	MORIZONO Masataka / ITO Mima	JPN	200
7	6	FLORE Tristan / GASNIER Laura	FRA	170
8	4	LEE Sangsu / JEON Jihee	KOR	164

The full standings for the race to the 2019 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals can be found here:

<https://bit.ly/2HPzENg>



Asarel Bulgaria Open Seeded Players & 2019 Stats

Men's Singles

Players name	Date of Birth	Age	Hand	Grip	Pl. Style	Seed	AUG 2019 WR	% Won	2019 WT Statistics	
									Played	Won
HARIMOTO Tomokazu JPN	27/06/2003	16	R	Shakehand	Attack	1	4	71%	17	12
OVTCHAROV Dimitrij GER	02/09/1988	30	R	Shakehand	Attack	2	11	50%	8	4
NIWA Koki JPN	10/10/1994	24	L	Shakehand	Attack	3	12	34%	9	3
MIZUATNI Jun JPN	09/06/1989	30	L	Shakehand	Attack	4	13	50%	12	6
LEE Sangsu KOR	31/08/1990	28	R	Shakehand	Attack	5	14	25%	8	2
PITCHFORD Liam ENG	12/07/1993	26	R	Shakehand	Attack	6	15	50%	10	5
WONG Chun Ting HKG	07/09/1991	27	R	Penhold	Attack	7	18	46%	13	6
SAMSONOV Vladimir BLR	17/04/1976	43	R	Shakehand	Attack	8	19	63%	8	5
JEONG Youngsik KOR	20/01/1992	27	R	Shakehand	Attack	9	20	62%	13	8
ARUNA Quadri NGR	09/08/1988	30	R	Shakehand	Attack	10	21	50%	10	5
GNANASEKARAN Sathiyam IND	08/01/1993	26	R	Shakehand	Attack	11	24	56%	16	9
GUAZY Simon FRA	25/10/1994	24	R	Shakehand	Attack	12	25	69%	16	11
GROTH Jonathan DEN	02/11/1992	26	L	Shakehand	Attack	13	26	50%	10	5
HABESOHN Daniel AUT	22/07/1986	33	R	Shakehand	Attack	14	27	44%	9	4
CHUANG Chih-Yuan TPE	02/04/1981	38	R	Shakehand	Attack	15	28	59%	17	10
ALEXANDROV Teodor BUL	20/08/1992	26	R	Shakehand	Attack	16	617	-	-	-

* Seeding based on JUL WR

List of players (Men): <https://bit.ly/2OQHVGg>

Link to WT Stats: <https://bit.ly/2Jj4jSG>

Link to WR (Men): <https://bit.ly/2IsOITb>

Top seed (Tomokazu Harimoto):

- Harimoto lost in the semi-finals in the 2018 edition to Kenta Matsudaira
- He has not won a world tour in 2019
- He has won 2 world tour titles and 1 Grand Finals so far



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Women's Singles

Players name	Date of Birth	Age	Hand	Grip	Pl. Style	Seed	AUG 2019 WR	% Won	2019 Statistics	
									Played	Won
ISHIKAWA Kasumi JPN	23/02/1993	26	L	Shakehand	Attack	1	6	57%	14	8
ITO Mima JPN	21/10/2000	18	R	Shakehand	Attack	2	7	70%	20	14
HIRANO Miu JPN	14/04/2000	19	R	Shakehand	Attack	3	9	63%	16	10
SUH Hyowon KOR	10/05/1987	32	R	Shakehand	Defend	4	10	38%	8	3
HE Zhuojia CHN	25/10/1998	20	R	Shakehand	Attack	5	14	68%	19	13
SHIBATA Saki JPN	25/08/1997	21	R	Shakehand	Attack	6	15	34%	9	3
SATO Hitomi JPN	23/12/1997	21	R	Shakehand	Defense	7	16	45%	11	5
JEON Jihee KOR	28/10/1992	26	L	Shakehand	Attack	8	18	50%	12	6
SZOCS Bernadette ROM	05/03/1995	24	R	Shakehand	Attack	9	19	44%	9	4
POLCANOVA Sofia AUT	03/09/1994	24	L	Shakehand	Attack	10	20	56%	9	5
CHEN Xingtong CHN	07/05/1997	22	R	Shakehand	Attack	11	21	55%	11	6
KATO Miyu JPN	14/04/1999	20	R	Shakehand	Attack	12	22	56%	18	10
HASHIMOTO Honoka JPN	05/07/1998	21	R	Shakehand	Defense	13	23	44%	9	4
SAMARA Elizabeta ROM	15/04/1989	30	L	Shakehand	Attack	14	28	50%	6	3
POTA Georgina HUN	13/01/1985	34	R	Shakehand	Attack	15	30	25%	4	1
YOVKOVA Maria BUL	04/06/1999	20	R	Shakehand	Attack	16	154	-	-	-

* Seeding based on Jul WR

List of players (Women): <https://bit.ly/2Ku6So0>

Link to WT Stats: <https://bit.ly/2Jj4jSG>

Link to WR (Women): <https://bit.ly/2N24B1C>

Top seed (Kasumi Ishikawa):

- Ishikawa lost in the quarter-finals in the 2018 edition to eventual Champion Ding Ning
- Her current WR of 6 is the lowest since she was ranked 7th in August of 2017
- She has not won a title in 2019, her last title coming at the Czech Open in 2019



Prize Money

Men's Singles and Women's singles:

Winner:	US\$ 21,000
Runner-up:	US\$ 10,600
Semi finalist:	US\$ 5,500
Quarter finalist:	US\$ 2,800
Round of 16:	US\$ 1,400
Round of 32:	US\$ 750

Men's, Women's & Mixed Doubles:

Winner:	US\$ 6,000
Runner-up:	US\$ 3,000
Semi finalist:	US\$ 1,500

Total: US\$ 190,000

Past Winners

Men's Singles

City	Year	Winner		Runner Up	
Panagyurishte	2018	XU Xin	CHN	MATSUDAIRA Kenta	CHN
Panagyurishte	2017	OVTCHAROV Dimitrij	GER	MATSUDAIRA Kenta	JPN
Panagyurishte	2016	KONECNY Tomas	CZE	ROBINOT Quentin	FRA
Panagyurishte	2015	KIM Donghyun	KOR	MATSUDAIRA Kenta	JPN

Women's Singles

Venue	Year	Winner		Runner Up	
Panagyurishte	2018	DING Ning	CHN	WANG Yidi	CHN
Panagyurishte	2017	ISHIKAWA Kasumi	JPN	ITO Mima	JPN
Panagyurishte	2016	ISHIGAKI Yuka	JPN	MORIZONO Misaki	JPN
Panagyurishte	2015	ISHIKAWA Kasumi	JPN	FUKUHARA Ai	JPN

Men's Doubles

Venue	Year	Winning Pair
Panagyurishte	2018	MA Long (CHN)
Panagyurishte	2017	UEDA Jin (JPN)
Panagyurishte	2016	LIVENTSOV Alexei (RUS)
Panagyurishte	2015	CHO Enroe (KOR)

Women's Doubles

Venue	Year	Winning Pair
Panagyurishte	2018	ISHIKAWA Kasumi (JPN)
Panagyurishte	2017	KATO Miyu (JPN)
Panagyurishte	2016	ISHIKAWA Kasumi (JPN)
Panagyurishte	2015	JEON Jihee (KOR)



Most Successful Asarel Bulgaria Open Players

Kasumi ISHIKAWA has won four titles in Bulgaria and is looking for her third singles title in 2019. Dimitrij OVTCHROV is looking to recapture the title he last won in 2017 while Kenta MATSUDAIRA will want to finally capture the title having finished as runner-up 3 times (2015, 2017 & 2018)

Men's singles – No Player has won the title more than once

Women's singles – Kasumi Ishikawa (2) – 2015,2017

Men's doubles – No Player has won the title more than once

Women's doubles – Kasumi ISHIKAWA & Mima ITO (2 times)

Bulgaria Open Facts

- The Bulgaria Open has always been held in Asarel Arena, Panagyurishte since 2015
- The 2015 Bulgaria Open was the first ever event held in Asarel Arena.
- Kim Donghyun (KOR) won three titles in 2015 (U21, MS & MD).
- Kenta MATSUDAIRA has featured in 3 Men's Singles Final
- This will be the first year that the Mixed Doubles Title will be contested at the Bulgaria Open

ITTF.com

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- [Live streaming](#)
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- [Photos for editorial use](#)
- [Upcoming ITTF calendar](#)
- Schedule: [Qualification](#) | [Main Draw](#)
- List of Seeded Players: [MS](#) | [WS](#) | [MD](#) | [WD](#) | [XD](#)
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