



Victoria Azarenka (file pic)

Miami Open

Azarenka books place in third round

Miami

Victoria Azarenka is through to the third round of the Miami Open after US Open finalist Madison Keys was forced to retire with a leg injury.

Belarusian Azarenka is a three-time winner of the tournament and was up by a set and a break when Keys ended the second-round match.

The first set went into a tiebreak after the world number 186 failed to capitalise on two set points when serving for the match, but she prevailed on a tie-break which featured nine breaks across the 12 points.

Azarenka will play Anastasija Sevastova after the Latvian beat Alize Cornet of France 7-5 6-4.

World number one Simona Halep dropped the first set but went on to beat Oceane Dodin 3-6 6-3 7-5 and she will face Agnieszka Radwanska, who prevailed 6-3 7-6 (7/4) against Alison Van Uytvanck.

Other seeds through to the third round include Garbine Muguruza, whose opponent Amanda Anisimova withdrew, and Karolina Pliskova, who prevailed 7-5 7-5 against Ekaterina Makarova.

Reigning US Open champion Sloane Stephens is also through to the next round, where she will face qualifier Monica Niculescu after she beat Ajla Tomljanovic 6-1 6-3. (PA Sport)

Frances Tiafoe sets up meeting with Edmund



Kyle Edmund (file pic)

Miami

Kyle Edmund will play Delray Beach Open champion Frances Tiafoe in the second round of the Miami Open after the American saw off Nicolas Kicker 6-3 7-6 (7/4).

Tiafoe, ranked 63, broke early in the first set against the Argentinian and served out to take the first set 6-3.

Kicker, 25, broke for 3-1 in the second but was swiftly broken back to love as the set went to a tie-break in which Tiafoe prevailed 7/4.

Thanasi Kokkinakis set up a date with Roger Federer by beating Calvin Hemery 6-1 6-2, while Tomas Berdych will take on Yoshihito Nishioka after the Japanese player overcame Alex de Minaue 6-2 6-4.

Nikoloz Basilashvili will meet Kevin Anderson after rallying for a 1-6 6-2 7-5 triumph over Thomas Fabbiano, and 11th seed Sam Querrey will face Radu Albot after the Moldovan beat qualifier Ricardas Berankis 6-1 4-6 7-6 (7/4). (PA Sport)

Kolar upsets top seed Lemoine

(Continued from page 24)

In the Women's Singles, Kolar, ranked 411th in the world, upset top seed Quirine Lemoine of the Netherlands, ranked 322nd, 6-3, 6-4. After a strong first set, Kolar broke Lemoine twice in the second, including in the crucial ninth game to take a 5-4 lead before holding serve to win the match.

For Mihalikova, she overcame a tough challenge against eighth seed Kanika Vaidya of India 7-5, 7-5 in an exciting two-hour encounter. Ranked 404th in the world, Mihalikova needed to break Viadya, ranked 700th, in both the first and second sets with the scores tied at 5-5 each before closing things out in the ensuing games.

In the Men's Singles, Maiga was first to book his ticket to the Men's final after taking down Kellovsky in a three-set thriller that lasted two hours and 36 minutes. It was a heart-

FULL RESULTS:

Men's Singles

Riccardo Maiga (SUI) beat Dominik Kellovsky (CZE) 4-6, 6-4, 6-4
Jelle Sels (NED)-3 beat Patrik Rikl (CZE)-7 6-7 (9), 7-6 (5), 6-4

Women's Singles

Nastja Kolar (SLO)-3 beat Quirine Lemoine (NED)-1 6-3, 6-4
Tereza Mihalikova (SVK)-4 beat Kanika Vaidya (IND)-8 7-5, 7-5

Men's Doubles

Marek Gengel (CZE)/Dominik Kellovsky (CZE)-2 beat Robert Galloway (USA)/Anderson Reed (USA) 6-3, 3-6, [10-6]

Women's Doubles

Marian Jade Capadocia (PHI)/Fatma Al Nabhani (OMA) beat Valeria Bhunu (ZIM)/Emily Webley-Smith (GBR)-1 7-5, 6-2

breaking loss for Kellovsky, who headed into Friday's action as the only player remaining in the entire competition still with a chance to win both the Singles and Doubles titles. Kellovsky settled for just the Men's Doubles crown.

After splitting the first two sets, Maiga, ranked 1,299th in the world, took a 3-1 lead and later turned it to a slim 5-4 advantage. Kellovsky, ranked 957th, then appeared on his way to tying things at 5-5, taking the game's first three



points and going 40-0 up. But Maiga dug deep and rallied to take the next six points to finally end the match and confirm his ticket to the final.

The other Men's Singles semi-final between Sels and Rikl was one of the most tightly contested affairs of the entire tournament, going on for over three hours. With the first two sets decided on a tie-break, the third was surely to be another hard fight. Both

players exchanged games until a 4-4 tie, but then Sels, ranked 534th in the world, broke Rikl, ranked 701st, and he rode his momentum in the last match-clinching game, which included two huge aces.

This year's Bahrain ITF Futures Tennis Tournament features a total prize fund of a staggering \$30,000 for both the men's and women's competitions. Players from more than 50 nations have

registered to compete.

The Bahrain ITF Futures tournaments provide the entry level of professional tournaments, enabling players to reach higher-level competitions on both the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) World Tour and the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Tour. For more information, contact BTC on +973-17729561 or e-mail bahrain.tennisclub@gmail.com.