

# Internazionali BNL d'Italia

Friday, 19 May 2023

Roma, Italia

## Veronika Kudermetova

Press Conference

A. KALININA/V. Kudermetova

7-5, 5-7, 6-2

THE MODERATOR: Veronika, disappointing result, but a great two weeks for you. How are you feeling right now?

VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA: Of course I feel sad. That match was important for me because, I mean, it's the semis. I play semis in Madrid. I play semis here. I would like to play final.

Unfortunately I'm lost today. Of course, I am sad.

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

**Q. Despite the result of today, you manage to go to Roland Garros with semifinal here, semifinal in Madrid. I'm wondering if it's just outdoor clay or something after a few months without results?**

VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA: I mean, I always love to play on the clay. I mean, I think the clay one of my favorite surface. I mean, yes, I struggle a lot this year. I lose a lot of matches.

But, I mean, I try to work every day. I try to improve. This is the result what I did, like, every day.

**Q. In the third set it seemed like physically, I don't know if you were cramping or tired in the legs. Can you talk about what you had to fight through in the third set.**

VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA: I think Anhelina, she started to play little bit more aggressive than me. She decide to go through it, to play aggressive. This make difference in the final set.

**Q. How are the relations between you and her? You're the same age, but there's the political overtones. Do you two get along now?**

VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA: I mean, here we're athletes. We're here, and we love what we do here.



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Doesn't matter from which country you are. We're athletes and that's it. We are here to play tennis.

**Q. About where your confidence levels are now going into Roland Garros, given what you've done, how are you feeling? It seems like a tough loss, but do you feel you could be a contender in Paris?**

VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA: I hope. I hope. We never know. For everyone, the Grand Slam, it's very important. But I try to stay calm and try to do my best (smiling).

**Q. I saw you with a book on the chair. Can you explain what are you reading?**

VERONIKA KUDERMETOVA: This is the secret. This is my book (laughter).

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