

Atlanta – Sunday, August 6, 2023 – Women’s Championship Match

12:00 pm – #2 Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss vs #3 Melissa Humana-Paredes / Brandie Wilkerson

NOTE: The notes below do not include events on the Tour Series unless specifically stated

Head to Head

- These two teams are playing each other for the 8th time (and 3rd time in a week)... Kloth / Nuss hold a 4-3 lead in the series, and 4 of the 7 meetings have gone to a third set... the only other time they played in a finals was in Chicago 2022, with Kloth / Nuss winning in three sets

Date	Tour	Tournament	Round	Winning Team	Seed	Losing Team	Seed	Score	Time
8/5/23	AVP	Gold Series Atlanta Open	Winner 3	Kloth/Nuss	2	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-16, 21-17	0:48
7/29/23	FIVB	Elite16 Montréal	Winner 2	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	4	Kloth/Nuss	3	21-15, 14-21, 15-8	0:50
6/3/23	FIVB	Elite16 Ostrava	Winner 2	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	13, Q1	Kloth/Nuss	8	21-19, 13-21, 15-12	0:52
5/20/23	AVP	Pro Series Huntington Beach Open	Winner 3	Kloth/Nuss	2	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-18, 21-14	0:41
4/16/23	AVP	Pro Series New Orleans Open	Semis	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	2	Kloth/Nuss	4	16-21, 21-15, 15-13	1:00
9/4/22	AVP	Chicago Open	Finals	Kloth/Nuss	6	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-18, 17-21, 15-10	1:06
9/2/22	AVP	Chicago Open	Winner 2	Kloth/Nuss	6	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-18, 21-15	0:46

Title Tidbits

- Including the Tour Series the AVP has had 6 different winning team in 7 events... if Kloth / Nuss win it will be the 7th different team... if Humana-Paredes / Wilkerson win they will join Kelly Cheng / Sara Hughes as the only tandems to win twice this season
- Kloth / Nuss are looking to join Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh Jennings as the only women’s tandem to win multiple times in Atlanta
- It’s a close race for career team AVP wins amongst teams playing in Atlanta... Kelly Cheng / Sara Hughes have won 4 times in addition to a Tour Series victory while Kloth / Nuss have won 4 times, so a win today would give Kloth / Nuss the lead
- Kloth / Nuss are the only active team which has won multiple Gold Series titles (won in Atlanta 2021 and the last one held in Chicago 2022)
- Since the start of the 2022 season, including the Tour Series, 15 different women’s team won in the 21 events in that span... however both of these two teams have won in that span
- 19 of the last 26 AVP title matches (excluding Tour Series) have been sweeps... the team winning the first set is 24-2 in the last 26 championship matches
- Each of the last 3 women’s championship matches in Atlanta have gone three sets
- On Friday here there were 5 matches (out of 16 played) that went three sets, but since then just 1 match (out of 12 played) has required a third set
- This weekend marked the second time this season (also New Orleans 2023) that the top four seeds played in the semifinas

Kloth / Nuss are playing together for the 13th time on the AVP Tour and the 29th time overall

- The duo won 4 AVP titles (in their debut as a team in Atlanta 2021, in Austin 2022, in Chicago 2022 and Phoenix 2022)
- Entering the Atlanta championship match 17 of their last 23 matches have come against teams seeded 5th or better

- Entering the Atlanta championship match in 3 seasons as partners on the AVP (including qualifiers), they are 52-16 in matches... they are 45-4 when winning the first set, 6-10 when losing the first set, and 0-2 in one-set matches and one win by forfeit...they are 15-6 in three-set matches
- They won 38 of their first 39 matches in their partnership when winning the first set, but in the first two tournaments this season they lost 3 times when winning the first set... in Atlanta they have swept all four opponents
- In their AVP careers, 13 of their 16 match losses have come against teams with at least one beach Olympian
- In AVP finals they have a 4-1 record (defeated #2 Kelly Cheng / Sarah Sponcil in Atlanta 2021, defeated #1 Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan in Austin 2022, lost to #1 Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint in New Orleans 2022, defeated #3 Melissa Humana-Paredes / Brandie Wilkerson in Chicago 2022 and defeated #3 Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint in Phoenix 2022)
- Entering the Atlanta championship match, they have a 14-2 match record in Atlanta (includes 3-0 in qualifier matches) in their 3 times playing here
- Kloth and Nuss both played for LSU beach volleyball in 2019, 2020 and 2021... Kloth and Nuss were teammates on court 1 in 2021, finishing the season 36-0
- The duo won a gold medal in Brazil at the end of April, their first Elite16 gold medal

All AVP Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	5/18-21/2023	Pro Series Huntington Beach Open	2	3	1990	\$6,000.00
AVP	4/13-16/2023	Pro Series New Orleans Open	4	3	1990	\$6,000.00
AVP	9/23-24/2022	Phoenix Championships	4	1	1891	\$15,000.00
AVP	9/2-4/2022	Chicago Open	6	1	2321	\$30,000.00
AVP	8/18-21/2022	Manhattan Beach Open	6	5	1891	\$9,000.00
AVP	8/5-7/2022	Atlanta Open	4	5	1891	\$10,000.00
AVP	7/29-31/2022	Fort Lauderdale Open	4	5	1706	\$4,200.00
AVP	5/27-29/2022	New Orleans Open	2	2	1990	\$8,500.00
AVP	5/6-8/2022	Austin Open	6	1	2095	\$14,000.00
AVP	9/1-5/2021	Chicago Open	9	3	756	\$9,000.00
AVP	8/18-22/2021	Manhattan Beach Open	9	5	810	\$7,750.00
AVP	8/11-15/2021	Atlanta Open	14, Q4	1	1050	\$20,000.00

Taryn Kloth – age 26 – 6’4” – hometown Sioux Falls, S.D. – currently Sioux Falls, S.D. – Creighton / Louisiana State

- This is Kloth’s 13th AVP tournament (all with Nuss) and she has now advanced to the semifinals 9 times, the finals 6 times, and has 4 wins
- Kloth won her first ever pro beach volleyball tournament that she played... outside of the early days of the AVP, no other player has ever won an AVP title when making their beach volleyball debut (in Glendale 2009 Julianna Felisberta / Larissa Maestrini won when both players were making the AVP debuts but were already one of the top teams in the world)
- And for another first, Kloth played indoors at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, and is the first player known to go to Creighton in the bvbinfo.net database of 22,000 players (which also includes international players)
- Kloth went 50-0 in matches her last two seasons of beach volleyball at LSU
- In the semifinal win against Terese Cannon / Sarah Sponcil, Kloth had 17 kills and no hitting errors (.708 hitting percentage)

Kristen Nuss – age 25 – 5’6” – hometown New Orleans, La. – currently Metairie, La. – Louisiana State

- This is Nuss’ 18th AVP event, and she has now been to 9 semifinals, 6 championship matches, and has 4 wins

- She played 5 events with 3 other partners before teaming with Kloth and was 0-4 in main draw matches in those AVP tournaments... in 4 of her first 5 AVP tournaments, Nuss was eliminated in a three-set match
- All 4 of her career partners on the AVP Tour were teammates of hers at LSU
- Nuss has had at least 13 digs in all 4 matches in Atlanta so far... she is averaging 8.50 digs per set this weekend

Humana-Paredes / Wilkerson are playing together for the 5th time on the AVP Tour and 11th time overall

- The duo advanced to the finals in each of their first 3 AVP tournaments together, winning in Miami 2023... including Atlanta they have played for the title in 4 of their 5 career AVP events as partners
- In their debut in Chicago 2022, the pair lost in the second round and had to win 4 straight must-win matches (including 2 three-setters) to reach the championship match
- In the 2023 season opener in Miami, the pair lost in the third round but then swept 3 three straight opponents to win the title
- They are 1-2 in AVP finals, losing to #6 Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss in Chicago 2022, defeating #3 Betsi Flint / Julia Scoles in Miami 2023, and losing to #1 Kelly Cheng / Sara Hughes in New Orleans 2023
- The duo began the season 11-2 in matches, then lost their last 2 matches entering Atlanta... they are 4-1 in Atlanta this weekend
- Entering the Atlanta championship match the pair has a 20-7 match record... they are 17-1 when winning the first set and 3-6 when losing the first set... they are 5-2 in three-set matches
- Entering the Atlanta championship match they are 6-3 all time against teams seeded 4th or better
- In the semifinal match against #1 seed Kelly Cheng / Sara Hughes, the duo ended the top seed's 24-match winning streak... Humana-Paredes / Wilkerson had 33 kills and just 2 hitting errors in the match (team hitting percentage of .674)

All AVP Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	5/18-21/2023	Pro Series Huntington Beach Open	3	5	1796	\$4,200.00
AVP	4/13-16/2023	Pro Series New Orleans Open	2	2	2095	\$8,500.00
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	1	1	2205	\$14,000.00
AVP	9/2-4/2022	Chicago Open	3	2	2205	\$22,000.00

Melissa Humana-Paredes – age 30 – 5'9" – hometown Toronto, Ontario – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif.

- This is Humana-Paredes' 15th AVP event with 2 different partners... she played her first 10 with Sarah Pavan, with 2 wins (Manhattan Beach 2019 and Honolulu 2019), 3 seconds and 2 thirds... she won in the 2023 season opener in Miami with Brandie Wilkerson
- She has now advanced to the semifinals in 11 of her 15 AVP events and to the championship match 9 times
- In her 8 AVP title matches she was the #1 seed twice... in the other 6 finals she played against the #1 seed 5 times... this will mark the first time playing in an AVP championship that did not include the #1 seed
- She has played in 80 FIVB / Volleyball World Beach Pro tournaments (9 golds, 7 silvers, 3 bronzes and 7 fourths)... all of her medals came with Sarah Pavan before getting her first with Brandie Wilkerson in June
- This is the first time Humana-Paredes has played in Atlanta
- In the tournament Humana-Paredes has had 6 service aces and just 2 service errors

Brandie Wilkerson – age 31 – hometown Lausanne, Switzerland – currently Redondo Beach, Calif.

- Wilkerson is playing in her 24th AVP tournament with her 7th different partner
- Won her first AVP title in the 2023 season opener in Miami... her other best career AVP finishes have been second 5 times (2017 Manhattan Beach and 2018 New York with Nicole Branagh, 2020 Long Beach event

#1 with Sara Hughes, 2022 Chicago with Melissa Humana-Paredes and 2023 New Orleans with Humana-Paredes) and 3rd five times

- Her appearance in the title match in New Orleans 2023 marked the first time in her AVP career that she has reached the finals through the winner's bracket (she came through the contender's bracket in the other 5)... here in Atlanta she also had to come through the contender's bracket to reach the title match
- From 2019-2020 Wilkerson advanced to the semifinals in 4 straight AVP tournaments... then she played in 6 consecutive AVP events without reaching the semifinals... including this weekend she has now advanced to the semifinals in 6 of her last 7 AVP outings
- In total she has been in the semifinals 12 times in her 24 AVP tournaments including Atlanta... she has reached the semis with 4 different partners and the title match with 3 different ones
- Wilkerson has played 59 sets alongside Humana-Paredes entering Atlanta, and has at least 1 block in 46 of them (total of 72 blocks in those 59 sets)
- This is the 3rd time Wilkerson has played in Atlanta on the AVP Tour, placing 7th with Sara Hughes in 2021 and 3rd in 2022 with Zana Munoz
- Wilkerson has had double digit kills in all 5 matches in Atlanta so far