

# Miami Open presented by Itaú

Friday, March 22, 2019

## Simona Halep

Press Conference



S. HALEP/T. Townsend

6-1, 6-3

THE MODERATOR: Questions, please.

**Q. Your third time beating her in straight sets. Pretty efficient for you. What do you think is beneficial about her game for you?**

SIMONA HALEP: I think this was my best match so far. I feel more confident. I feel the game here. I think today I just liked how she played against me. The atmosphere was good, the weather.

I have only good thoughts about this match. It was really good.

**Q. Were the conditions different playing later and practicing early?**

SIMONA HALEP: Yeah, I was waiting a lot today. Was not easy. I practice around 3 p.m., was very early. For everybody is the same, so I'm not going to complain about this.

But the weather was nice. Playing during the night is a little bit better. Is not that humid, not that hot. The wind was not there. It was a good timing.

**Q. Would you attribute this improvement in rhythm to the coaching switch?**

SIMONA HALEP: Practice. I practiced a lot since the coach came here. Credit to him because he just settle me down a little bit. Now I start to feel the ball very well.

**Q. Obviously you are playing an American player, but there were many Romanian fans. Did you expect that before the match?**

SIMONA HALEP: It's always nice atmosphere here when I play in Miami. Many Romanians are coming to watch me. I can say I expected because in the previous years was similar.

**Q. You are the No. 2 seed in the tournament, but your first match was not on the grandstand or the stadium. Did you feel surprised when you heard about this?**

SIMONA HALEP: I'm not thinking about these things ever. I'm just trying to focus on my game, on myself. Everywhere I play, it's okay. As I showed today, didn't

matter where I play, I just played well. The court was nice.

**Q. Talk about your next matchups.**

SIMONA HALEP: Misaki Doi, we didn't play since long time ago. I don't know if we played together. But she's fast. She's moving well. I have just to see a little bit how I have to play. I'm pretty sure that I will be ready.

Against Hercog, I know she has a big forehand, serve is good. I just have to adjust myself on the position on court and we will see.

**Q. With the clay court season coming up, what adjustments do you feel you can make in your game on the hard court?**

SIMONA HALEP: I'm not thinking about the clay court yet. I'm just focusing on what I have to do on hard court. Is the last tournament. I want just to give my best, try 100% what I have to try for this surface.