

Media Information

23 April 2023

Holger Rune defends his title at the BMW Open by American Express and wins an all-electric BMW i4 M50.

+++ Holger Rune (DEN) wins a third-set tiebreak to defeat Botic van de Zandschulp (NED) in a memorable final +++
Winner's Car BMW i4 M50 made in the BMW Group home plant in Munich +++ Alexander Erler and Lucas Miedler (both AUT) win the doubles +++

München. For Holger Rune, the BMW Open by American Express must increasingly feel like playing in his own living room. The Dane remains undefeated in the MTTC Iphitos, having won the ATP World Tour event in Munich for the second year in a row. In a repeat of the 2022 final, the 19-year-old needed 2:52 hours to defeat Botic van der Zandschulp from the Netherlands 6:4, 1:6, 7:6 (3). Rune's reward for his fourth ATP title was € 85,605 in prize money, the traditional champion's lederhosen, and the fully-electric Winner's Car. The BMW i4 M50 in Frozen Pure Grey metallic (power consumption: 22.5-18.1 kWh/100km; CO2 emissions: 0 g/km; range: 414-520 km) is manufactured just a few kilometres from center court at the BMW Group home plant in Munich. Now with two BMW Winner's Cars in his collection, it is about time the world number seven took his driving test.

"On behalf of the BMW Group, I would like to congratulate Holger Rune on his fantastic performance and title at the BMW Open by American Express 2023. We are proud to have been the title partner of this magnificent tournament since 1987 and to provide a stage for world-class tennis in the singles and doubles competitions, as well as for para-athletes. The BMW i4 M50 is also a high-performance sports car and guarantees our winner all-electric driving pleasure," said Pieter Nota, member of the Board of Management of BMW AG, responsible for Customer, Brands and Sales at the presentation ceremony, during which he handed over the keys to the Winner's Car. During the tournament week, a record of more than 43,000 visitors enjoyed world-class tennis at first hand.

The final was a repeat of the 2022 title decider. Last year, van de Zandschulp was forced to retire with health issues in the opening set.

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This time, Rune struggled with a painful shoulder from the second set, and then twisted his right foot in set three. However, the Dane battled on in a match full of sporting drama. In the final set, he fended off two match points on van de Zandschulp at both 2:5 and 5:6. Rune then promptly converted his first match point in the tie-break to successfully defend his title.

"It was a struggle. I never thought that I could get back into the match again. I was playing on the very limit and am overjoyed to have won here again. I am already looking forward to the 2024 BMW Open by American Express," said Rune, who received his trophy from Minister-President of Bavaria Markus Söder. The BMW i4 M50 was driven onto center court by BMW brand ambassador Lena Gercke who, like last year, chauffeured the beaming winner across the red clay.

The BMW i4 combines fully-electric driving pleasure from BMW i and sporty handling from BMW M with a high level of comfort and everyday suitability. Equipped with fifth-generation BMW eDrive technology, the BMW i4 M50 delivers sporty performance values and an extensive range (WLTP) of up to 520 kilometres. Like the prize car, the shuttle fleet used by BMW during the tournament was also exclusively electric. It comprised BMW i7, BMW iX, BMW iX3 and BMW iX1 models.

The doubles competition at the BMW Open by American Express 2023 was won by Austrians Alexander Erler and Lucas Miedler, who defeated the German Davis Cup doubles pairing of Kevin Krawietz and Tim Pütz 6:3, 6:4. The Para Trophy by Allianz, which was held as part of the BMW Open by American Express, was won by the top favourite. World number one Alfie Hewett from Great Britain overcame Dutchman Tom Egberink 7:5, 6:3 in a high-class final.

The BMW Group thanks the organiser MMP Event, MTTC Iphitos, American Express and all other partners, as well as all the volunteers, for their commitment and is looking forward to the 37th BMW Open by American Express next year.

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With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises over 30 production sites worldwide; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2022, the BMW Group sold nearly 2.4 million passenger vehicles and more than 202,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2022 was € 23.5 billion on revenues amounting to € 142.6 billion. As of 31 December 2022, the BMW Group had a workforce of 149,475 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company set the course for the future at an early stage and consistently makes sustainability and efficient resource management central to its strategic direction, from the supply chain through production to the end of the use phase of all products.

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