





Malobabic Ivana

Nickname:	-
Nation:	Croatian 
Date of birth:	4 July 1980
Height:	160 cm
Place of birth:	-
Playing hand:	right 
Style of play:	Defensive, Shakehand grip
Coach:	-
Current world ranking (week 51 - 2024):	83
Current European ranking (December 2024):	18
Clubs as the active player(s):	-

Senior Career Highlights

Medals and Titles

2024:

- August: Represented Croatia in the Women's Singles at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, marking her Olympic debut.

2023:

- August: Reached the final in Women's Doubles at the WTT Feeder Olomouc 2023, partnering with Mateja Jeger.

2022:

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- September: She reached the Round of 64 in the Women's Singles and the Round of 32 in the Women's Doubles during the 2022 European Championships.

Breakthrough Moments and Achievements

2017:

- Return to National Team: After a 16-year hiatus, Malobabic was invited to rejoin the Croatian national team to assist in qualification matches, marking the beginning of a rejuvenated phase in her career.

Junior Career and Early Achievements

Specific details about Malobabic's junior career are limited. However, her early involvement in table tennis set the foundation for her professional career, leading to national recognition and subsequent international representation.

2024: Detailed Overview and Achievements

Medals and Titles

- August: Participated in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, competing in the Women's Singles event.

Breakthrough Moments and Achievements

August: Made her Olympic debut at the age of 44, exemplifying her enduring skill and dedication to the sport.

Biography and Career

Ivana Malobabic, born on July 4, 1980, in Croatia, began her table tennis journey at a young age. She initially represented the Croatian national team until 2001, after which she took a break from international competitions. During this period, she continued to



train and compete at the club level. In 2017, she was recalled to the national team to aid in qualification matches, marking a significant resurgence in her career. Since her return, Malobabic has achieved a career-high ITTF world ranking of 84 in April 2024 and has represented Croatia in various international tournaments, including the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

Early Life and Background

Information regarding Malobabic's early life and background is limited. Her early dedication to table tennis and subsequent rise to national prominence suggest a strong commitment to the sport from a young age.

Playing Style and Personality

Malobabic is known for her defensive playing style, utilizing a right-handed shakehand grip. Her strategic approach and resilience on the table have been key factors in her successful return to international competition. Off the table, she is recognized for her perseverance and dedication, particularly evident in her return to high-level play after a prolonged absence.

Legacy and Future Goals

As of December 2024, Ivana Malobabic's career serves as an inspiration, demonstrating that dedication and passion can lead to success, regardless of age. Her return to international competition and participation in the Olympic Games at 44 highlights her exceptional commitment to the sport. While specific future goals are not publicly documented, her recent achievements suggest a continued pursuit of excellence in table tennis.

Conclusions

Ivana Malobabic's journey in table tennis is marked by resilience and a remarkable comeback to international competition after a significant hiatus. Her achievements, particularly her participation in the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, underscore her enduring

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talent and dedication to the sport. Malobabic's story is a testament to the possibilities that arise from unwavering commitment and passion for one's discipline.

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