

June 25, 2023

EG2023 In the Mixed the gold goes to Spanish 'babies', silver for Cassetta-Sussarello

Spain won the **first gold medal in padel at the European Games**. In the **'Mixed'** the very young **Noa Canovas**, 18, and **Daniel Santigosa** (19) defeated the Italians **Marco Cassetta and Giulia Sussarello** in two sets (6/3, 7/5).

In the first set, Spain got the break at 3-1 and was able to keep the lead until 6-3, also taking advantage of some Italian mistakes. The first set was well-balanced, but the number of points won by the Spaniards - 29 to 22 - and the quality of their responses (42% of the points won) shifted the balance towards Canovas-Santigosa. In the second set, Spain ran away again on 3:1, thanks to a break inspired by Canovas and realised by Santigosa as usual. Italy, however, reacted immediately, counter-breaking thanks to two points by Sussarello and a couple of mistakes by Santigosa. Shortly afterwards Santigosa with two overbearing conclusions gave Spain the lead and dragged the team to the first match point. Cassetta reacted and pulled acrobatics and three winning shots out of his repertoire. Italy climbed back up to 5-5 but in the end the Spanish team had more and brought home the gold. The total points won - 72 to 60 - confirmed the final score: 6-3 7-5 for Spain, which took home the gold medal.

The two spanish stars were the image of happiness after the award ceremony: *"It is a unique feeling, a dream come true," said Daniel Santigosa. "The main difficulty was to adapt the technical and tactical plans to this speciality that is new to us, but I must say that we enjoyed every single match"*.

"I am so happy, the mixed category was a completely new for us but all the preparation we did led to this great result," added 18-year-old Noa Canovas. "On a physical level it was very hard for me, as I was coming from a very long bronze final this morning. We played on the court for almost three hours and we struggled a lot. But I knew it was the last match of the week for me, so I gave everything to win".

About the International Padel Federation (FIP)

About the International Padel Federation (FIP) The International Padel Federation (FIP) is the world governing body of padel, whose goal is to promote all forms of padel worldwide with: 90 Countries, 64 National Federations, + 25 million active players and 500,000 Federated Players. The sport was created in Acapulco, Mexico, by Enrique Corcuera in 1969. It was 32 years later that the FIP was established in Madrid by the legal representatives of the Argentine Padel Association, the Spanish Padel Association and the Uruguayan Padel Association, by means of Public deeds signed before the Notary Mr. Javier Gaspar Alfaro, with the protocol number 2486. We want to bring the worldwide Padel family together into one community, and make Padel a sport that is recognised and played in all the countries of the World. www.padelfip.com

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