

February 27th, 2024

## Riyadh Season P1, day 2 Navarro and Belasteguín already defeated

First stars on the court in the men's draw at the **Riyadh Season P1** and first surprises of the **Premier Padel 2024**. The feat of the day was achieved this morning by **Javi Rico** and **Juanlu Esbri**, number 28 and 56 in the unified FIP ranking from this year, who defeated in three sets (6-2 1-6 6-3) **Paquito Navarro** and **Sanyo Gutierrez** (4), who thus began their 'reunion' season with a defeat (they had already played together in 2016 and 2017). But the season also got off to a bad start for the legend **Fernando Belasteguín** who, paired with **Luciano Capra**, lost 4-6 6-1 6-4 against the Italian-Argentiniens **Aris Patiniotis** and **Facundo Dominguez**. With the number 4 and 6 seeds out, the other big names were ahead, starting with **Juan Lebron** and **Ale Galan** (1), who debuted in the evening with a 7-6 6-1 win over **Daniel Windahl** and **José Solano Marmolejo**. Also doing well in front of a special fan like Neymar were **Arturo Coello** and **Agustin Tapia** (2) who, after winning four out of six Premier in 2023, suffered a set against **Ruiz/Cardona** before closing 7-6 6-1. Good first for **Franco Stupaczuk** and **Martin Di Nenno**, 6-4 6-3 to **Ayats/Guerrero**. Finally, among the 'top seeds', **Chingotto/Gonzalez** (5) were ok, double 6-2 to **Sans/Gala Sanchez**.

**WOMEN** In the women's draw, the first round ended. Among the favourite pairs, the one that had the most problems was the one formed by **Marta Ortega** and **Gemma Triay**, who began their last week together (in Doha they will play with other teammates) by overcoming but only in three sets **Melania Marino Saez** and **Sofia Saiz Vallejo**. Losing the first in the tiebreak, **Triay/Ortega** (3) took the match back into their hands, closing 6-7 6-3 6-0. **Delfina Brea** and **Bea Gonzalez** (2) fared better, giving up only two games (6-1 6-1) to qualifiers **Castillo Velarde/Peralta Exposito** in the first match of the day on court 1. In the afternoon, finally, good job also for world number 1 **Ari Sanchez** and **Paula Josemaria**: some problems in the first set before closing 7-5 6-1 against **Rodriguez-Talavan**.

Tomorrow the tournament gets into full swing with the round of 16: play on all four courts at the **Padel Rush** in **Riyadh**, starting at 3 pm Saudi time, 1 pm in Central Europe. Four matches on each court: on the Central, **Brea/Gonzalez** versus **Soriano/Mesa** will open.

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