

February 29, 2024

Riyadh Season P1, day 4

The wonderful journey of Nachi Sager and Salvador Oria

The fairy tale of the **Riyadh Season P1** is that of **Nachi Sager** and **Salvador Oria**. Starting from the qualifiers, the two Spaniards – respectively number 54 and number 106 in the FIP ranking – will tomorrow play for a place in the final in the men’s draw against world number 1 **Arturo Coello** and **Agustin Tapia**, who beat **Arroyo/Alonso** (14) 6-3 6-4 today. If in the second round Sager and Oria had already eliminated **Diestro/Leal** (15) in three sets, in the round of 16 they did even better against **Alex Ruiz** and **Juan Tello** (7), again in three sets. They needed only two (double 6-4) in the quarters against **Javi Rico** and **Juanlu Esbri**, who also finished in the top eight of the tournament against all odds after eliminating **Navarro/Gutierrez**. Sager had already achieved great things recently, such as victory in the **CUPRA FIP Finals 2022**; a few months ago, however, he had come close in the quarters of the **FIP Platinum Sardegna**, where he was defeated in three sets by Sanchez/Capra. The other semifinal, the one at the top of the draw, will see on court **Juan Lebron** and **Ale Galan** (6-1 6-2 to Campagnolo/Gutierrez) and ‘Superpibes’ **Franco Stupaczuk** and **Martin Di Nenno** (6-2 6-1 over **Yanguas/Garrido**). This will be the first time the four will meet on court since the epic Milan P1 final, won by Lebron/Galan after almost three hours of battle.

WOMEN In the semifinals, in the women’s draw, there are three of the top four seeds. The only pair who beat one higher on the entry list was **Jessica Castelló** and **Claudia Jensen** (6), who defeated **Marta Ortega** and **Gemma Triay** (3). It was the last match together for the pair who first won a Premier Padel tournament, last July at the Foro Italicco in Rome. From **Doha** – where qualifiers will begin tomorrow –, Ortega and Triay will play **Veronica Virseda** and **Claudia Fernandez** respectively. **Castelló/Jensen** will face **Delfina Brea** and **Bea Gonzalez**, who beat **Navarro/Guinart** 6-1 6-2. The other semi-final will see the number 1 seed, **Ari Sanchez** and **Paula Josemaria**, facing off with a 6-3 6-2 win over **Osoro/Virseda**, and 4, with **Alejandra Salazar** and **Tamara Icardo** dropping just four games (6-1 6-3) to **Riera-Araujo**.

All four semi-finals will be played on the **Padel Rush Centre Court**: afternoon session from 1 p.m. CET (3 p.m. in Arabia), evening session from 5p.m., when it will be 7 p.m. in Riyadh.

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