

December 6, 2024

Milano Premier Padel P1, Day 5: Galán and Lebrón claim their third Alonso vs. Icardo: a two-way race for the Finals

Ale Alonso or **Tamara Icardo**, who will be the last player qualified for the **Premier Padel Finals** in **Barcelona**? Saturday, the day of the **Milano Premier Padel P1** semi-finals, could be a decisive day in the **FIP Race**, as Friday's was not. From three, the players still in the running for a place became two anyway, with **Aranzazu Osoro** (and **Veronica Virseda**) losing to **Delfi Brea** and **Bea Gonzalez**, which ruled out the 'Vikinga' and qualified the defending champions thanks to a 7-6 6-1 victory. In the morning, however, Ale Alonso's dream of joining **Andrea Ustero** had become more vivid than ever, with the success of the two young Spaniards over two totems of Spanish and world padel such as **Lucia Sainz** and **Patty Llaguno**, beaten 7-5 4-6 6-1. In the evening, however, came that of **Tamara Icardo**, who started more distant in the **FIP Race** but who – thanks also to the cooperation of **Claudia Jensen** – is building her last chance despite the many tournaments missed this season due to injury. On court number 1, the tournament's number 7 seed won the marathon of the day, eliminating with a score of 6-4 4-6 6-4 in three hours and 18 minutes **Marta Ortega** and **Sofia Araujo**, thus denying the number 4 seeded pair the chance of a rematch of the **Acapulco Major** final. **Gemma Triay** and **Claudia Fernandez**, the champions in **Mexico** and the pair at the top of the **Milano Premier Padel P1** draw, instead continued their march: **Gemma** and **Claudia**, in one hour and 7', stopped the run of **Ale Salazar** and **Jessica Castelló** (6-0 6-3). They will be the ones to open the afternoon session on the centre court, not before 6 p.m. CET. Two semifinals (the first is played at 1 p.m. between **Alonso/Ustero** and **Brea/Gonzalez**) that will decide not only the last P1 of the season, but could also be decisive in the **FIP Race** leading to Barcelona.

MEN To the **Allianz Cloud** crowd it will be strange not to see them in the same half of the court, but on Sunday in the final of the **Milano Premier Padel P1** there will only be place for one of the champions of the first two editions of the tournament. **Juan Lebron** versus **Ale Galan**, two players who together have written the history of padel once again opponents, as in the semi-finals of the **P2** in **Genova** and the **Major** in **Paris** (with two wins for Galan). 'You again': yes, them again, after starting the season together, after they had separated, faced each other as opponents and then reunited for "El Regreso" in the final of the **FIP World Padel Championships** in **Doha** lost by **Spain** to **Argentina**. **Lebron** and **Martin Di Nenno** versus **Galan** and **Fede Chingotto**: up for grabs in the second semi-final of the evening session starting not before 6 p.m., there's only one spot for the final. The quarter-final between **Di Nenno** and

Lebron and the pair formed by **Coki Nieto** and **Jon Sanz** ended when the score was 6-1 4-1 in favour of the number 3 seed: an ankle problem forced **Sanz** to retire, but still allowed a small fan with a wolf mask on his head to go to 'El Lobo' **Lebron** for a souvenir photo. A physical problem also made **Javi Garrido**'s evening difficult. He was defeated in a pair with **Lucas Bergamini** by **Fede Chingotto** and **Ale Galan** who, after two defeats in the semi-finals against **Franco Stupaczuk** and **Mike Yanguas** in **Kuwait City** and **Acapulco**, with 6-4 6-0 in the quarters will now try to return to the final. **Bergamini** will however console himself with an entry into the **Barcelona Premier Padel Finals**. At the top half, however, **Arturo Coello** and **Agustin Tapia** will play versus **Momo Gonzalez** and **Edu Alonso**. The number 1 seed had to struggle against **Paquito Navarro** and **Pablo Cardona**, but managed to bring the match home in two hours and 8 minutes with a score of 7-5 4-6 6-3; **Gonzalez** and **Alonso**, on the other hand, qualified for their third semi-final as a pair (after the P2s in **Finland** and **NewGiza**) after **Franco Stupaczuk** and **Mike Yanguas** withdrew due to a shoulder injury suffered by the Argentine in a spill from an X3 by Alonso.

Between the women's second semi-final and the men's second semi-final, the **Allianz Cloud** audience but also the entire padel world will once again bid farewell to **Fernando Belasteguin**, who in **Milano** by losing in the round of 16 to **Garrido** and **Bergamini** ended a legendary career.

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