

July 12, 2023

Lima says goodbye to Rome, but what a surprise the 'Melendez brothers'

From next year, padel without **Pablo Lima** will not be the same. The Brazilian legend announced his retirement from competition at the end of this season, but his last adventure at the **Foro Italico** is already over. Paired with Argentinean **Agustin Silingo**, Lima was defeated 6-2 5-7 6-0 by Spanish brothers **Pedro** and **Alvaro Melendez Amaya**, one of the big surprises of the **BNL Italy Major Premier Padel**. Coming from the qualifiers, they have already made it through two rounds of the main draw and on Thursday they will earn their place on the Centre Court by opening the schedule against another seed, number 9, formed by Argentines **Maxi Sanchez** and **Luciano Capra**.

Divided by three years (Pedro was born in 1997, Alvaro in 2000) they smile after their game on court 8: they sign autographs and take selfies with the fans. *"We worked hard to achieve this result – says Pedro –. We always believed we could beat a legend like Lima, but before the match it was obviously much more likely that they would win. Now, however, we are in the round of 16 and it is a dream".* It's logical to ask how is the feeling between two brothers in the same half of the court: *"At the beginning it wasn't easy because obviously we know each other perfectly and you have to know how to say the right words to each other, but we are a very close couple: we have fun".*

They are doing it in an iconic location like the Foro Italico. *"Wonderful - adds Alvaro -. The fans do not fail to support all the players, and this makes the atmosphere magnificent. We want to enjoy it, thinking game by game".* And nobody knows how the Melendez Amaya family is enjoying this exploit: *"Our parents are in Sevilla because they work, I don't know if they will be here – Pedro concludes –. For sure, I'll go back to the locker room and book a flight for my girlfriend".*

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

Press contacts:
International Padel Federation
Email: press@padelfip.com