

August 2, 2024

## Finland Premier Padel P2, day 4

### Salazar, the legend is back: into the semifinal after three months

**Alejandra Salazar** is a living legend of padel. And yet, the **Spaniard** – number 10 in the FIP ranking – had not played a semifinal in the **Premier Padel** circuit for three months (in **Sevilla**, at the beginning of May). She will do that in **Finland P2**, paired with **Veronica Virseda**, a finalist in another P2, that of **Bordeaux**: the number 5 seed on the draw beat 7-6 6-0 **Lucia Sainz** and **Patty Llaguno** (4), one of the most powerful pairs at the moment, but who may have paid the price for being tired from the many tournaments in the last weeks. **Salazar/Virseda**, not before 4 p.m. local time (3 p.m. CET), will face **Marta Ortega** (Virseda's partner until a few weeks ago) and **Sofia Araujo**, who played with **Salazar** last year: the number 2 seeded players only gave up three games (6-1 6-2) to **Marina Guinart** and **Nuria Rodriguez** (8). The other semifinal, which will open Saturday's schedule at 10 a.m. Finnish time (9a.m. CET), will see on court **Paula Josemaria** and **Ari Sanchez** (the number 1 seeded players conceded just two games, 6-2 6-0, to **Virginia Riera** and **Carmen Goenaga**) and the very young **Andrea Ustero** and **Ale Alonso**, champions of the FIP European Padel Championships with Spain, who after a 7-5 6-3 win over **Jessica Castelló** and **Claudia Jensen** are aiming for their first final on the Premier Padel circuit.

**MEN** Great emotions also in the quarterfinals of the men's draw, where **Coki Nieto** and **Jon Sanz** realised the masterpiece of the day: the number 6 seeded players closed out the first tournament as a pair of **Mike Yanguas** and **Franco Stupaczuk** (2), with a score of 6-4 7-6 but at the end of an incredible tiebreak that ended 13-11. For **Nieto** and **Sanz**, the dream of winning another **Premier Padel** title after the P2 in Bordeaux goes through the challenge against **Pablo Cardona** and **Paquito Navarro** (3) who, in their first tournament together, gained access to the semifinals thanks to a 7-5 7-6 win over **Alex Arroyo** and **Sanyo Gutierrez** (8), with the latter having been Paquito's partner at the start of the season. The other semi-final, the one at the top of the draw, will see on court **Martin Di Nenno** and **Juan Lebron** (1) take on **Momo Gonzalez** and **Edu Alonso** (7). The Argentine and the 'Lobo', in two sets, defeated 6-1 7-6 **Tino Libaak** and **Alex Chozas**; **Gonzalez/Alonso**, who lifted together the trophy in the **FIP Platinum Sardegna**, instead put an end to the great tournament of **Luis Hernandez** and **Inigo Jofre**: having started from the qualifiers, the numbers 65 and 73 in the ranking surrendered 6-4 6-2.

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