

October 31, 2024

FIP World Padel Championships: Julia Giusti Gomes, the 'young' talent lighting up Doha

She started playing when she was nine, alongside her father, who is also a player and padel enthusiast. Just six years later, **Julia Giusti Gomes** won her first match at the **FIP World Padel Championships** in Qatar, in a decisive match for **Brazil's** future in the tournament. It's an impressive journey for the prodigy from Pelotas, the youngest participant at the World Championships in Doha. Just over a month after her fifteenth birthday — celebrated on September 16 — Julia Giusti Gomes, teamed with **Alessandra Abbud De Barros**, defeated the Chilean pair **Araneda Curtze/Tajimuch Poblete** (6-2 6-4), securing the first point for the green-and-yellows in the tie that decided their spot in the quarterfinals. It's an incredible achievement for a girl who, after the match, described the wonder of being in Doha: *"I can't believe I'm able to sit down for lunch and dinner with champions like Delfi Brea, Ale Salazar, and Martita Ortega, who I admire so much, and to greet them whenever I see them at the venue"*. Wednesday's great result also turned around a challenging start in Group A, with Julia facing the unstoppable **Spain** and the phenomenal pair of Paula Josemaria and Bea Gonzalez. Even in that case, however, Julia found a reason to be happy: *"We had the privilege of playing against two of the best players in the world"*, she wrote on Instagram after the match with the Spanish team. *"Happy about everything that sport can bring to our lives!"*

Talent and a lighthearted spirit have been the keys to the rapid rise of this young girl who, at just 10 years old, was already competing in tournaments. Her first appearance in the **Panamerican Padel Games** dates back to 2022, followed in 2023 by the **Junior World Championships** in Asuncion, where — she proudly recalls — she managed to beat a Spanish pair. In September, she returned to the Panamerican Games in Mexico, earning third place with Brazil. *"The World Championships are another big goal"*, she said after the win against **Chile**. *"But I'm already thinking about next year: I want to play more in FIP tournaments and represent my country in both junior and senior national championships. And I dream of playing one day in the Premier Padel circuit"*. It's an adventure still to be lived, with the support of her visibly emotional parents and her younger brother, who is also in Doha: *"Having them here with me is very important because they cheer, share my excitement, and give me strength"*. Equally important is the work of those who train her daily on the court. Among her key figures is coach Fabricio Bareño, but above all — with a magical overlap of roles — her coach **Gabriela Menna Barreto**, who is also part of the Brazilian team in Doha and is *"one of my favorite players"*. An admiration reciprocated by "Gabi": *"Since she started training with me, she has always worked very hard, with a strong*



desire to learn”, says the coach. “She was different from other children I had trained before, and she still is. She always aims for something bigger, and I believe that her family also makes a big difference. They are very present, giving her a lot of support and encouragement. For all these reasons, we believe Julia is Brazil’s next great talent”.

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