



EuroAmerica Padel Cup

Dear Players and Padel Sympathizers,

For the first time ever, from July 3rd to July 6th, we witnessed the birth of the 1st edition of the EuroAmerica Padel Cup. As organizers we had the pleasure and honor of hosting such magnificent event - not because of what we did, but because of what it represented and what it will represent in the ages to come.

The event was the face of the values of sport and a true display of sportsmanship – inside and outside the court. For the first time in padel, sport took over history, and we could see, side by side, Argentinians and Brazilians fighting for their continent as if there was no tomorrow. On the other side Portuguese and Spaniards pairing up as well with their continent in mind. And the same for all the players which represented CAPF (Canada, USA, Chile, Paraguay, Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, and Dominican Republic), as well as the ones from EPA (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, & Switzerland).

Never before an event had the participation of players from so many nationalities at the same time. Honor was all they played for and the pride of being part of either America or Europe and representing their country the best they could.

This was a non-profit event with the sole intent of promoting padel worldwide. We were very successful at that as the numbers don't allow us to lie – for the three days of competition we had close to 600.000 people interacting with our social media all together. So, we can say in true conscience that padel was the winner, as the matches were broadcasted in live stream around the world and watched by hundreds of thousands of people.

All federations from the Americas and Europe were invited to attend, even though this was not a federations event. These kinds of initiatives most times need private agents to step forward and make them possible, and in this case that is exactly what happened.

EPA first came out with the idea and soon found a promoter. The idea was to invite the American countries to gather a team which would play against a European Team, turning the EuroAmerica Padel Cup into the Ryder Cup (Golf) of padel. In the process, the CAPF was formed and heroically gathered the players from the Americas – despite all forces attempting to sabotage the event.

This has to be said unfortunately, but for all the good intentions and wishes to help we had, a fistful of federations paid us back by trying to sabotage the event. Coming up with the most delusional excuses (we won't waste time commenting), a group of South American federations not only tried to boycott the event, but in the biggest display of unsportsmanship,





they also issued a public statement threatening their players with sanctions should they choose to participate. One wouldn't be surprised if it was just the FEPACHI or FEMEPA as they have been an active part in the latest wrongdoings of the International Padel Federation, and are currently on the board of such International Padel Federation - in clear opposition of the Federation Nacional de Padel de Chile which recently has shown proof of officiality in Chile, and FemexPadel from Mexico which has already won a court case in CAS regarding their admission to the IPF. Apparently the Paraguay Padel Federation and the Confederation of Brazilian Padel which still do not show in their Ministry of Sports as Official Institutions have also taken part in waging war against the EuroAmerica Padel Cup, but last and not least, Uruguay which is the only Federation, of the five, which has official recognition, surprisingly also joined the destructive mission.

On the same note, this was not the only despicable behavior from Federations which should be supporting padel, and instead chose to attack it. It is no coincidence that out of the six "said elected" board members of the IPF, four out of five of the sabotaging countries are represented on that "said elected" board. To add another member of the board, in our understanding, sabotaging the event, the IPF President himself never even responded to the invitation the organization addressed him to take part in the event. Shameful is the only word that comes to mind in such case. That and the fact that later we were contacted by Italian Players which wanted to participate in the event but also suffered pressures not to. If one can add one + one it might not be difficult to understand why.

In the end, and despite all the forces that gathered to keep it from happening, the event did happen, and it was a success. CAPF came out strong and the threatened players were the ones that came through. Obviously, they could distinguish the right from wrong and answered the call. Even though they were threatened, Brazilian players came, Chilean players came, Paraguayan players came, and Mexican players came. We cannot shy away from telling them how brave they were and how grateful we are to them. One day the padel world will remember this first edition and will remember who the real heroes of this event were. Thank you to all American players for coming and making this possible. And also thank you to all European players for coming and making this possible. EPA also remained strong and 17 of their 18 members were supportive and respectful of the event. Thanks EPA and CPAF for staying true to the sports values.

Due to all that was explained above, the event was hit hard by something else. The original promoter of the event quit and we quote part of his letter: "we are not used to work with people who behave like this. We are in sport to build things, and not to see people who are unfamiliar with sports values try to destroy such a beautiful event. We have never seen this in the several decades we have been at the service of sport. It seems this sport needs some





inside cleaning. There are always people who don't like to see their own inertia threatened by the people who actually do things. Some countries in padel seem to be infected. We choose to withdraw and work in more healthy environments".

With three weeks left, the event had no promoter and was at risk of not happening. The Portuguese Padel Federation stepped in and said no matter what, the event had to happen. EPA had the same opinion and strongly supported that all had to be done to keep the event alive. CAPF came right in as well and said they would take care of their side and for EPA to take care of the Europe side. The event was going to take place, and no matter what!

It did, and for that to happen a lot of people and institutions had to step in and help. We will surely forget some important ones, which we apologize for in advance, but we must thank the ones we can remember.

First of all the Portuguese Government through the Secretary of State of Sports and Youth, Dr. João Paulo Rebelo, who not only officialized the event naming it an event of National Public Interest, but made the effort to be there in the inauguration Dinner to salute all players, captains, coaches, presidents of Federations and all participating people. What a gesture of support to our sport.

Then to the Portuguese Institute of Sports and Youth (IPDJ) through his President, Dr. Vitor Pataco, who sponsored the event so it could happen and wouldn't die. The financial support was of the utmost importance and without it, we wouldn't have had one.

The CASCAIS municipality, represented by his Sports Councilor Dr. Nuno Piteira Lopes, who immediately said yes when we came to him asking for help to organize the event. Not only did the Cascais Municipality gave it's best to help with all the infra-structure but it also came through financially to support the event. A special thanks to Cascais and to the Clube de Tennis Estoril, and his president Arq. Luis Campos Guerra for being such wonderful hosts, putting all the resources they could at our disposal.

The presidents of the federations which decided to come and support the event live. Thank you very much. It was important to us to have you over and to feel that we can count on you in the future.

The Sponsors, as no event can live without them. Carlsberg and Vitalis, thanks for dressing up our event and for being there for padel. You have been supporting some of the greatest padel events in Portugal. Thanks for keeping our throats dry throughout the event and let's do more in the future. Thank you, Vera, and Andreia.





EuroAmerica Padel Cup

Thanks to the Official Hotel Vila Galé for making the stay of both delegations so comfortable and for making us all feel at home. To Fonderia, this great watch brand which made a special limited edition of 45 watches so we could immortalize the event, and in years to come both delegations will have an item to remember their adventure in Portugal, and the first time the event was played. Miguel, thank you and what a beautiful watch.

To AYSA for being with us in the past years and for all the hours you spent putting up the central court where the event was played. For always being there and trying to improve the court day after day. And for being the official court constructor of the FPP. Once again you came through. Thank you, Paulo.

To DropShot a special thank you as always. They are the official clothing company of the FPP and once again they came through. They dressed all the delegations with the official uniforms and all the staff as well. Once again, such a quality brand was involved in yet another event in Portugal, with the FPP. I thank Javier who couldn't be present but also to Marcelo who came to watch and support the event. We are deeply thankful to DropShot.

To UZINA for creating such a beautiful logo for the event. It will always be remembered. To Vista Alegre for presenting the beautiful trophy. And to Nicola for the coffee we could all drink throughout the event and that gave us the strength to work through the long days.

To the Media, specially M80 radio. They have always been the official padel radio station in Portugal, and once again they came to our rescue. Great promotion and thank you for being with us. João you are great. To Eleven Sports which recently signed a contract to transmit all padel events in Portugal, and which started a, hopefully, very long collaboration with FPP and Padel everywhere. Thank you, David, for coming in in such short notice. To Raquetc and Bola Amarela, two great padel sites who helped us cover the event. To Jornal Publico for the coverage of the event. And to Jorge Figueira for being our official commentator and for covering the event in his padel page (Padel Wall).

To the referees, Raquel and Nuno, for all the hours they spent chairing the event. Great attitude, keeping the event fun but applying the rules when they had to be applied. And specially to all the volunteers and staff who spent a lot of hours making this event possible. To the "Padel Adaptado" for their exhibition and the time they took to come and show us how padel can be played by all – and example to all. To the Director of our School Padel program – thanks Paulo for bringing all the kids from schools around and making padel known in such age group. And to Pedro who feeds us all throughout the week in the Restaurant, our





thanks for the wonderful food. And the Physios who kept the teams healthy throughout the event – thank you very much Physioclem.

Special thanks to the FPP staff and the staff that usually works with us: Thank you Rui Gloria for a great production, thank you Desidério and your team for putting everything together, thank you Bernardo for being there and covering for everybody when necessary, thank you Paulo and your team for all the images, and thank you Rui. Special thanks to Culto da Imagem which produced all the materials with two days left to the start of the event – Gonçalo and your team, you were great once again and you dressed the event beautifully.

To the board of the FPP a special thank you as well for supporting the event when we knew how hard it would be to put it together. Thanks for the help and all the work you put in for developing padel in Portugal. A special thanks to Ana who came to our rescue once again, and had to stay up some nights to finish the image of the event, cause we didn't have another option. Thanks all for supporting the EPA project and specially the EuroAmerica Padel Cup with all the risks we took.

And last but not least, we must congratulate the champions. EPA put up a fight, but CAPF came out stronger in the end. The sport spirit was present at all times, and the true winner was padel. We thank EPA and CAPF delegations. The people who made this possible. But specially two great legends of the sport who accepted to be the captains of the teams which participated in this wonderful event. Mr. Alejandro Lasagues for Americas and Mr. Willy Lahoz for Europe, what a luxury it was to have you lead your teams throughout the week. You have given so much to padel, and yet again you give a bit more. It was an honor to host such brave men who made up the teams and the captains which lead them. To all the countries who stood together and believed in this event, a special thanks. If we stick together, we can do wonderful things. In two years, we'll all be in America for the second edition, but for now: We did it!

Lisbon, July 24th, 2019

The Honorary Commission





EuroAmerica Padel Cup

Participating American Delegation:

Argentina	Captain	Alexandro	Lasaignes
Argentina	Coach	Mariano	Lasaignes
Paraguay	Player	Diego	Gonzalez
Mexico	Player	Emilio	Trejo
Argentina	Player	Federico	Chiostri
EEUU	Player	Francisco	Riverol
Chile	Player	Carlos	Zahri
Mexico	Player	Jose Angel	Montoya
Brasil	Player	Julio	Julianoti
Brasil	Player	Matheus	Simonato
Mexico	Player	Maximiliano	Montaño
Argentina	Player	Pablo	Egea
Paraguay	Player	Samuel	Miltos
República Dominicana	Player	Santiago Valentín	Mota
Brasil	Player	Stefano	Flores
Argentina	Player	Yain	Melgrati
Monaco	President	Fabrice	Pastor
Argentina	Director	Oscar	Nicastro

Participating European Delegation:

Austria	Player	Kristopher	Sotiriu
Spain	Captain	Willy	Lahoz
Spain	Coach	Óscar	Not
Belgium	Player	JEREMY	GALA
Germany	Player	Pablo	Andrés
Germany	Player	Fabian	Schmidt
Hungary	Player	Milan	Terkovics
Netherlands	Player	Uriel	Maarsen
Portugal	Player	Miguel	Oliveira
Portugal	Player	Vasco	Pascoal
Portugal	Player	Ricardo	Martins
Switzerland	Player	Roby	Gatikker
Spain	Player	Jaime	Bergareche
Spain	Player	Marcelo	Perez
Spain	Player	Jacobo	Blanco
Sweden	Player	Carl	Knutsson
Belgium	President	Philippe	Cerfont
Spain	VP	Alfredo	Garbisu

Honorary Comission:

Sergio Navarro (CAPF)

Novy Karlson (EPA)

Ricardo da Silva Oliveira (Host)

Referees:

Raquel Mascarenhas

Nuno Moreira

