

## Cilic knocked out in the first round of the Open Menorca ATP Challenger 100

- The veteran Croatian player, third seed, fell to an inspired Ignacio Buse in straight sets.
- Seven players, including two qualifiers, advanced to the singles round of 16 after an intense day.
- The doubles competition also moved forward, with four pairs reaching the quarter-finals, including local player Sergio Martos Gornes and India's Niki Kaliyanda Poonacha.

Ciudadella, wednesday 2 april 2025 – The second round of main draw singles matches at the **Open Menorca ATP Challenger 100** delivered high drama on wednesday at **Club Tennis Ciudadella**, headlined by the early departure of third seed **Marin Cilic** at the hands of an inspired **Ignacio Buse**.

The day also saw the doubles action continue with the remainder of the round of 32, as the tournament -backed by the **Consell Insular de Menorca, AETIB, Ajuntament de Ciudadella**, and major sponsors such as San Miguel, Solán de Cabras and Joma- continues to grow in stature on the ATP Challenger calendar.

### Cilic ousted as new faces make their mark

The standout story came mid-morning when **Marin Cilic**, one of the tournament favourites, was comprehensively beaten 6-2, 6-1 by 20-year-old **Ignacio Buse**.

Playing with confidence and composure, the Peruvian dictated the rallies from the baseline and absorbed the Croatian's powerful serve with ease. **Cilic**, a former US Open champion, struggled to find rhythm and answers against Buse's relentless pace and tactical variety.

Buse was joined in the last 32 by Spain's **Javier Barranco Cosano**, Denmark's **Elmer Moller**, fellow Spaniards **Daniel Rincón** and **Daniel Mérida**, Hungary's **Zsombor Piros** and France's **Arthur Gea**. **Mérida** and **Piros**, both coming through qualifying, were particularly impressive.

A heavy downpour briefly halted play around 1:40pm, but the schedule resumed within half an hour and all matches were completed.

### Three-set thrillers across the courts

**Javier Barranco Cosano** opened the day with a rollercoaster three-set win over Swiss qualifier **Kilian Feldbausch** (6-2, 3-6, 6-4).

Soon after, **Zsombor Piros** staged a brilliant comeback to overcome **Andrea Vavassori** (5-7, 6-3, 6-1), while **Elmer Moller** justified his seeding with a straight-sets win over **Max Alcalá Gurri** (6-3, 6-3).

**Daniel Rincón** had to dig deep to edge past Belgium's **Kimmer Coppejans** (6(3)-7, 6-4, 6-2) in a physically demanding contest.

**Daniel Mérida** came through another attritional battle, fighting back to defeat **Nick Hardt** (6(3)-7, 6-4, 6-2).

**Arthur Gea** rounded off the singles schedule with a commanding 6-3, 4-6, 6-0 win over Gerard Campana Lee.

### Doubles draw takes shape with four pairs through

The men's doubles draw saw four more teams progress to the quarter-finals. Indian pair **Saketh Myneni and Ramkumar Ramanathan** cruised past **Pedro Cachín and Izan Corretja** in straight sets (6-1, 6-2).

Fourth seeds **Niki Kaliyanda Poonacha and** Menorcan **Sergio Martos Gornes** also impressed, seeing off Spaniards **Nicolás Álvarez Varona and Carlos Taberner** 6-3, 6-3 in front of a lively local crowd.

Lebanon's **Benjamin Hassan and** Austria's **Sebastian Ofner** edged out Italians **Marco Bortolotti and Giorgio Ricca** in a hard-fought contest (3-6, 6-4, 10-8), while Spaniards **Daniel Rincón and Oriol Roca Batalla** capped off the day with a confident 6-1, 6-4 victory over **Daniel Masur and Luca Sanchez**.

### A tournament on the rise

Running until Saturday 6 April, the **Open Menorca ATP Challenger 100** is fast establishing itself as a must-watch event for emerging talent on the professional circuit.

With institutional backing from Menorca's local government and high-profile brand sponsorships, this 2025 edition continues to shine as a platform for rising stars to test themselves and gain valuable experience.

Thursday's schedule will feature the start of the singles last 16 and the doubles quarter-finals—promising even tighter matchups and another dose of high-quality tennis on the courts of **Club Tennis Ciutadella**.