

Wind and underdogs shake up quarter-finals at the Open Menorca ATP Challenger 100

- Lithuania's **Vilius Gaubas**, seeded seventh, knocks out No.2 seed **Sebastian Ofner**
- **Ignacio Buse**, **Pol Martín Tiffon** and **Lukas Neumayer** also book semi-final spots
- Doubles final to feature unseeded duos: the **Vavassori brothers** and **Hassan/Ofner**

Menorca, 4 April 2025 – Wind, upsets and early exits defined Friday's play at the **Open Menorca ATP Challenger 100**, with the singles quarter-finals and doubles semi-finals taking place at **Club de Tenis Ciutadella**.

Gusts reaching over 50 km/h disrupted the early matches, leading to unforced errors and rewarding those able to handle the conditions. Austria's **Sebastian Ofner**, the tournament's second seed, was knocked out by an inspired **Vilius Gaubas**, while in doubles, two unseeded pairs secured their place in Saturday's final.

Gaubas stuns No.2 seed in a blustery battle

The morning began with tough conditions. The strong south-southeasterly wind made accuracy a challenge—particularly for Austria's **Sebastian Ofner**, who struggled to find his rhythm and lost in straight sets to a confident **Vilius Gaubas**, 7-6(2), 6-2. The Lithuanian seventh seed played smart, stayed solid at the baseline and capitalised on his opponent's mistakes.

Earlier on Centre Court, Peru's **Ignacio Buse** was the first to reach the singles semi-finals. Facing Hungarian qualifier **Zsombor Piros**, **Buse** handled the gusty conditions well and came through 7-6(4), 6-3. His ability to stay focused and manage the wind made the difference in a tightly contested opening set.

With the wind easing later in the day, an all-Spanish clash between **Pol Martín Tiffon** and fifth seed **Carlos Taberner** delivered another gripping battle. **Taberner** started strong, taking the first set 6-4, but **Martín Tiffon** raised his game both physically and tactically to turn things around with a 6-4, 6-3 comeback win—earning his first ATP Challenger semi-final of the season.

The final singles quarter-final saw Austria's **Lukas Neumayer** get past fourth seed **Elmer Moller** of Denmark in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4. **Neumayer** kept his cool in a fast-paced match, converting key break points in both sets to round off the day's singles action.

Saturday's singles semi-final line-up:

- **Ignacio Buse (PER) vs [7] Vilius Gaubas (LTU)**
- **Pol Martín Tiffon (ESP) vs Lukas Neumayer (AUT)**

Both matches will be streamed live on **ATP Challenger TV, Eurosport Max, Marca TV and Tennis Channel** from **11:00 a.m.** on Saturday 5 April.

Doubles final set: unseeded teams rise to the occasion

The doubles semi-finals brought more surprises. Wildcards **Andrea and Matteo Vavassori** put in a composed and well-synchronised performance to defeat the No.3 seeds **Daniel Cukierman and Joshua Paris**. With a solid serve and clever shot selection in the breeze, the Italian duo sealed a 6-3, 6-3 win.

In the second semi-final, Lebanon's **Benjamin Hassan and Sebastian Ofner** — returning to the court not long after his singles exit — dominated their match against Spaniards Daniel Rincón and Oriol Roca Batalla. The unseeded pair imposed their rhythm early and controlled the net, taking the match 6-1, 6-4.

The doubles final will take place on Saturday at 3:00 p.m., featuring: **[WC] Andrea Vavassori (ITA) / Matteo Vavassori (ITA) vs Benjamin Hassan (LBN) / Sebastian Ofner (AUT)**

Saturday's line-up promises drama and quality tennis

Saturday's penultimate day at the **Open Menorca ATP Challenger 100** will test the stamina and skill of the remaining players in what's fast becoming a standout tournament on the ATP Challenger calendar.

Supported by **Consell Insular de Menorca, AETIB, and Ajuntament de Ciutadella**, alongside sponsors such as San Miguel, Solán de Cabras, Joma, Marca, Bolt 6, Conecta Balear and Led Projects, the tournament is gaining momentum as a high-level competition and a launchpad for emerging talent.

National and international coverage ensures the matches are broadcast far and wide via **ATP Challenger TV, Eurosport Max, Marca TV and Tennis Channel**, bringing the excitement from Ciutadella's clay courts to tennis fans around the globe.