



Press release, Saarlouis 2022-08-29

World class beach tennis sport and unique atmosphere at the 5th beach tennis open Saarlouis 2022

Once again, for five days Saarlouis was probably the hippest beach tennis hot spot of the world. Thrilling duels at the net on the Kleinen Markt (little market) as well as at the neighboring beach clubs, great team spirit, world championship worthy sporty performances and a terrific atmosphere in the Allgäuer Latschenkiefer arena. The grand slam tournament of beach tennis, the ITF world tour sand series ended with a triumph of the top-favorites Antonio Miguel Ramos Viera/Michele Cappelletti over Nicolas Gianotti/Mattia Spots

In the women's category, the victory went to the Italian Sofia Cimatti/Nicole Nobile, who were able to win against Giulia Gasparri/Ninny Valentini. At the German championships of the German tennis federation, which took place at the same time, the defending champions' duo Benjamin Ringlstetter/Alexander Bail had to pass the title on to Manuel Ringlstetter & Pit Große-Wilde. Maraike Biglmaier/Margarete Pelster were able to defend their title. In the mixed final, the succeeding duo Maraike Biglmaier/Pit Große-Wilde managed to win against Margarete Pelster/Benjamin Ringlstetter.

For five days, the Saarland was full of excitement about the beach tennis open in Saarlouis. By now, the event is widely known and popular across the borders. Summer, beach feeling and sunshine: The atmosphere at the little market was simply sensational. The audience got inspired by the unique, urban beach atmosphere and especially enjoyed the spectacular floodlight matches in the Allgäuer Latschenkiefer arena on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evening – as well as of course the final matches of the ITF beach tennis world tour sand series on Sunday. Only few seats stayed free on the grandstands, which fit 800 people. A true beach tennis fan from day one on was also mayor Marion Jost who joined all the final matches on the center court.

ITF beach tennis world tour sand series – beach tennis at absolute world class level

For the first time, the mixed category with 500\$ prize money was played within the context of the ITF sand series. In the finals, two well-rehearsed duos were competing against each other and showed a head-to-head match for the title. At the end, Daria Churakova and Nikolai Gurev claimed the victory over Liudmila Nikoian and Gerard Querol Rodriguez with 6:3 6:4.

There was high tension at the women's final, which saw the same pairing as last year at the first sand series in Saarlouis. In fact, with Giulia Gasparri/Ninny Valentini against Sofia Cimatti/Nicole Nobile the four best women in the world matched each other and showed impressive face-offs in the "Italian" final. After the first set with 6:4, Cimatti/Nobile could also claim the second set with 6:4 for themselves and the victory at the fifth stop of the world series.

Beach tennis on a world class level could also be seen at the men's final, which offered a star lineup with Antonio Miguel Ramos Viera/Michele Cappelletti against Nicolas Gianotti/Mattia Spoto. The first set went to Gianotti/Spoto in a tie break. The pairings didn't give credit to each other in this match. The much sought-after title went to the favorites Ramos/Cappelletti after a hard-fought match tie break with 10:7.

„ The Sand Series Saarlouis Classic is an unique tournament on the calendar with its market setting. Bringing the beach to the people provides great moments and attracts new fans, and this year has been no different. We look forward to an even bigger and better event in 2023“, said Ben Philip, senior manager beach tennis ITF.

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DTB German championships – defending female champions and new male champions

The German starting field was filled like never before. About 150 registered teams played in eight age-groups for the titles at the German highlight-event. The sport is booming, especially here in the Saarland. The final matches under floodlight on the center court showed a great atmosphere and high-tension duels of the German top players.

„The German championships here in Saarlouis together with the grand slam tournament of the ITF beach tennis world tour sand series are our absolute highlight of the 2022 event calendar. The Saarland is one of the beach tennis hot spots in Germany and for sure a great inspiration and motivation for the development of the sport here in Germany. A special thanks goes to the clubs TSV Ford Steinrausch, TuS Wadgassen and TV Griesborn, which support us here with their outdoor facilities“, said Fabienne Bretz, head of division sports development with the German tennis federation.

Finals German championships women

Unfortunately, the final match of the top favorites Maraike Biglmaier/Margarete Pelster against Sarah Bolsmann/Christin Nimtz was overshadowed by the injury of Sarah Bolsmann, which happened in the first set. Sarah Bolsmann fought back to the court after a break, but the runner-up could not step back into the game hard enough. Therefore, they had to give up after the first set, and the title of the German champions went again to the Biglmaier/Pelster duo, who despite of the depressed atmosphere presented themselves in absolute top shape and won with 6:0. Both had already underlined that in the previous semifinal game against Fricke/Hummel with a high-tension match, which they could claim for themselves after two tie breaks. Sarah Fricke/Charlize Hummel secured third place.

Final German championships men

In the men's category the same player constellation as in the previous year met; runner-up Manuel Ringlstetter/Pit Große-Wilde against the reigning champions Benjamin Ringlstetter/Alexander Bailer. A final that promised high tension literally was rising the cheering audience at the Allgäuer Latschenkiefen arena from their seats. Ringlstetter/Große-Wilde could claim the first set for themselves. The reigning champions did not really find into the game before the second set and had to admit defeat to the slightly stronger challenger at the end after the tie break. Hauke Große-Holthaus/Oliver Wagner took third place.

Final German championships mixed

In this year's mixed final two pairs - Maraike Biglmaier/Pit Große-Wilde and Margarete Pelster/Benjamin Ringlstetter – who were expected to compete on eye level fought against each other. The rather tight atmosphere within the teams at the beginning, only started to loosen up a bit in the second set. The Pelster/Ringlstetter team stayed in the lead for a long time and dominated the game in the first set and beyond. After a tactical change, finally the defending champions took over at the match tie break and secured the German championship title in the mixed category.

Organizer Christian Stephan draw a summary of this year's event: "Together with the city of Saarlouis we have created once again top urban beach tennis atmosphere. We are overwhelmed by the record level response this year. Many thanks go to the terrific beach tennis community. At its fifth edition, the beach tennis players from all over the world have turned the event into the spectacular, but also family-like event we were able to witness again this year."

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Results:

German championships

Women's double

1. Margarete Pelster/Maraike Biglmaier
2. Sarah Bolsmann/Christin Nimtz
3. Sarah-Kristin Fricke/Charlize Hummel

Men's double

1. Manuel Ringlstetter/Pit Große-Wilde
2. Benjamin Ringlstetter/Alexander Bailer
3. Hauke Große Holthaus/Oliver Wagner

Mixed double

1. Maraike Biglmaier/Pit Große-Wilde
2. Benjamin Ringlstetter/Margarete Pelster
3. not played

Mixed 40 double

1. Petra Korn/Heiko Schorch
2. Irina Friedmann/Thomas Wolff
3. Susanne Münch/Alexander Lawall

Damen 40-Doppel

1. Tina Hellmann/Heike Hellmann
2. Susanne Münch/Eva Schneider
3. Sara Leichsenring/Almut Schlarman

Herren 40-Doppel

1. Alexander Bailer/Benjamin Blank
2. Oliver Munz/Alexander Stähle
3. Sven Peukert/Philipp Zimmermann

Junioren U18

1. Valentin Fritsche/Simon Thome
2. Leo Müller-De Anha/Martin Schaale
3. Ralf Puslat/Oliver Schleich

ITF Sand Series

Mixed Doubles

1. Daria Churakova/Nikolai Gurev
2. Liudmila Nikoian/Gerard Rodriguez Querol

Women's Doubles

1. Sofia Cimatti/Nicole Nobile
2. Giulia Gasparri/Ninny Valentini

Men's Doubles

1. Michele Cappelletti/Antonio Miguel Ramos Viera
2. Nicolas Gianotti/Mattia Spoto

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All results German championships:

<https://planb-beachtennis.com/itf-sand-series/#ergebnisse>

All results ITF world tour sand series:

https://planb-beachtennis.com/deutsche-meisterschaften/#preisgelder_dm

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