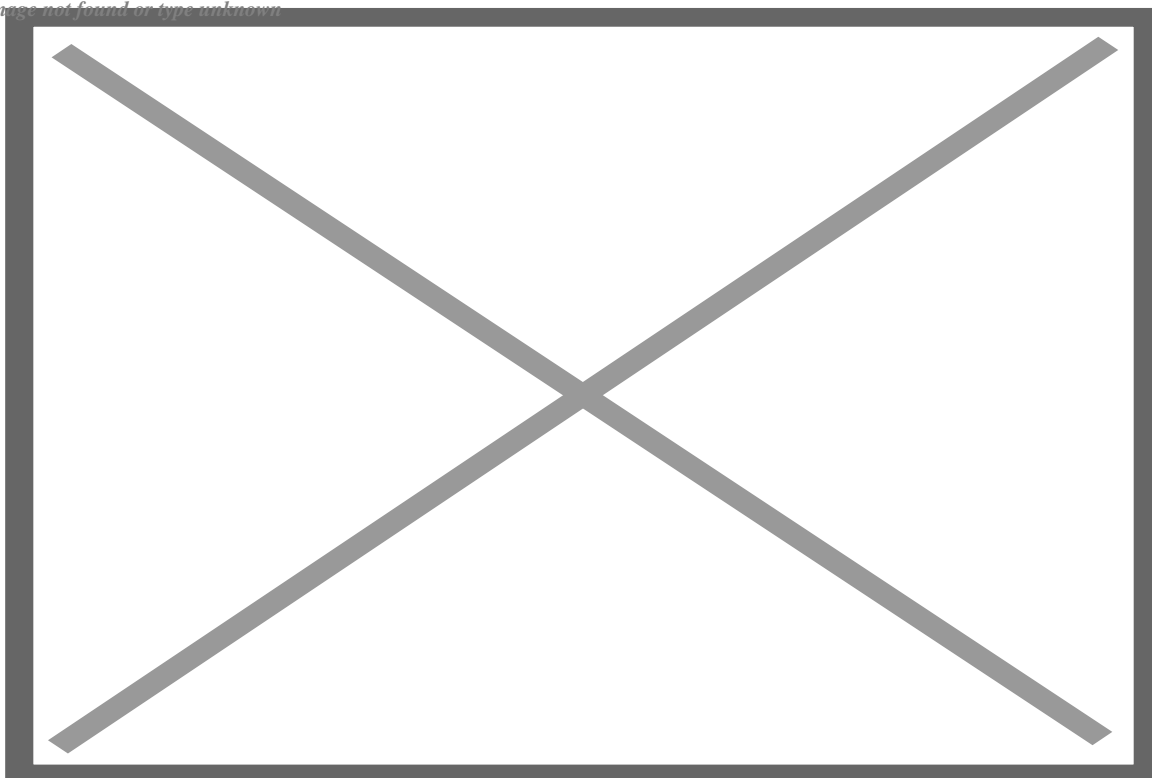


Silver medal for Cristian Abreu in Pan American Frontbol

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Havana, November 4 (JIT) -- Cristian Abreu conquered today Cuba's first medal in the Basque pelota of the XIX Pan American Games, the silver medal in the frontbol modality.

After three victories in the group phase and coming out on top in the semifinals, expectations grew about his chances in the final, especially after showing a high level of play.

Just one detail... Cristian did not lose a single set on the way to the final, against representatives from Peru, United States, Brazil and Argentina.

Unfortunately he was injured in his silver medal match, which showed up in the final against Mexican David Alvarez.

The match ended in sets of 12-5 and 12-0, with Cristian assisted by doctors and taken out in a wheelchair to the applause of the crowd.

"Very special this competition. I feel happy, although it's a pity that the injury caused me not to be able to give 100% of my capacity. The pain in my legs became unbearable and I could not play. I came to the final with the expectation of facing a great pelotari, but it was impossible", expressed the young man.

"Now it's time to recover and move on. Thanks to everyone who supported me, from athletes and coaches to fans. My next goal is the 2024 world championship in frontbol," he exclaimed.

Cuba tried to win three bronze medals today, but failed in each of those opportunities.

In rubber paddle, Alejandro Gonzalez lost in two sets to Chile's Renato Bolelli and Laura Alvarez lost in the same way to local player Rosario Valderrama. In women's frontbol, Yalieska Leoncio was unable to defeat Argentina's Micaela Cortez.

The actions of this sport will conclude this Sunday, last date of the Pan American Games.

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