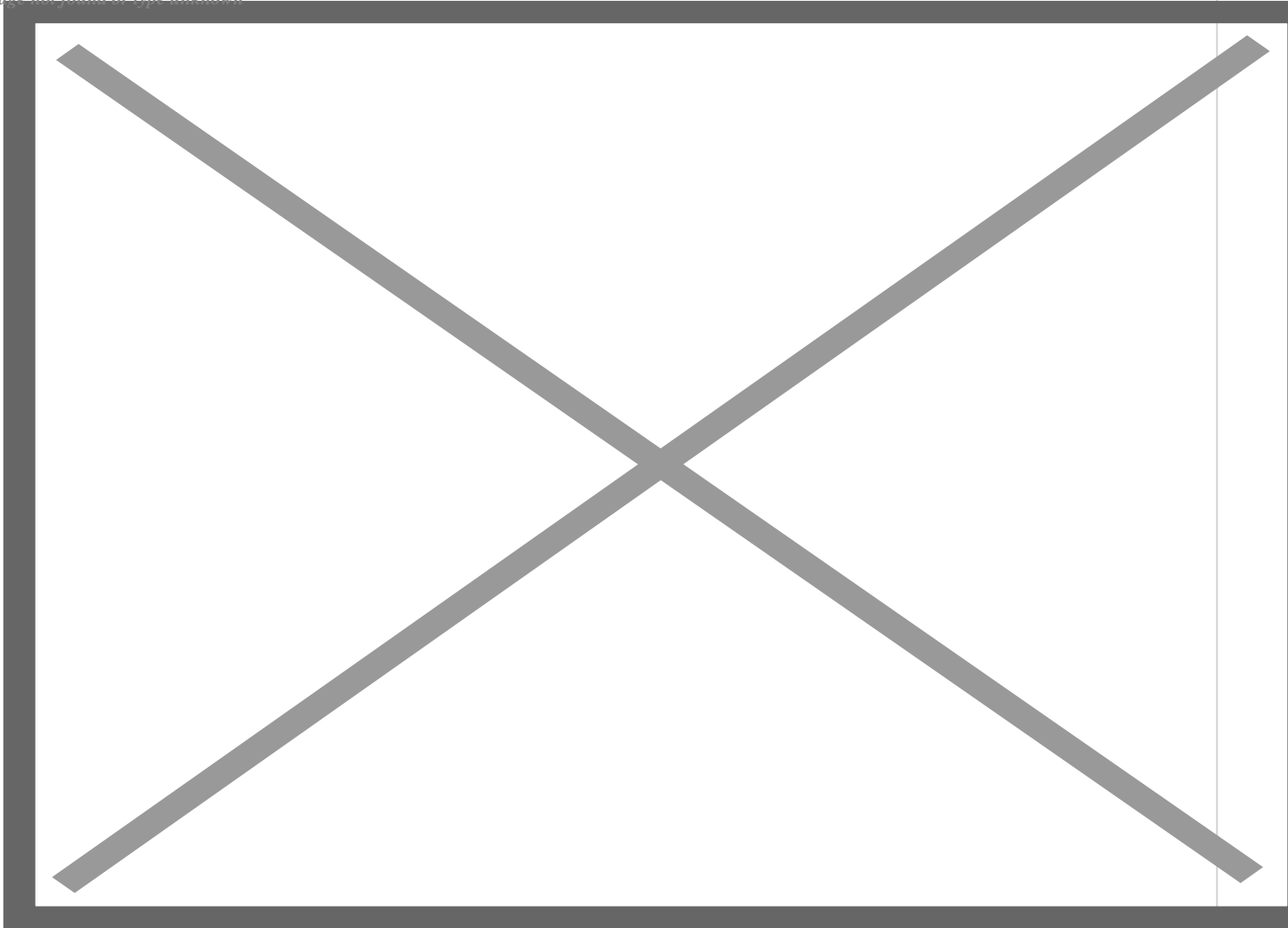


# *Tight battle for tickets to the Dominican baseball finals*

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**Photo: Prensa Latina**

Havana, December 30 (RHC)-- As the last games of the year of the Dominican Baseball League are played today, a close fight prevails between the teams playing the semifinals of the season.

Tigres del Licey and Águilas Cibaeñas are currently neck and neck at the top with four games won and three lost, and only one game behind are Gigantes del Cibao and Estrellas Orientales, with three and

four.

The day before, the felines defeated the Orientales 7-4, Pablo Reyes and Jorge Alfaro each drove in two runs against the Estrellas, who committed three errors on defense.

The losers threatened in the seventh with two runs in an episode in which the bases were loaded but Jonathan Aro, dominated the last two batters, including Robinson Canó, whom he struck out without throwing.

The winner was César Valdéz (1-1), Phillips Valdez (0-1) lost and Jairo Asencio saved the game.

In the other game of the day, the Águilas defeated the Gigantes 8-0.

Offensive highlights included Jerar Encarnación, who drove in two runs, and Brett Sullivan, who debuted with a home run against Luis Santos.

The winning pitcher was Carlos Hernández (1-0) and the losing pitcher was Cuban Jorge Martínez (0-2).

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