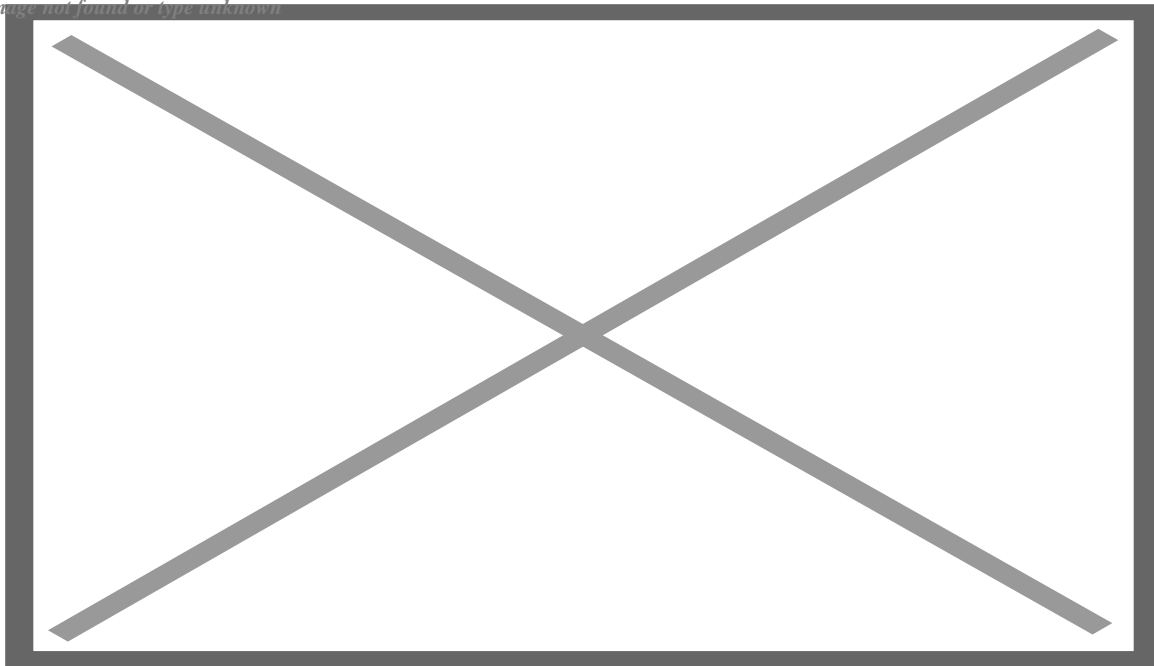


Cuban beach volleyball duo takes fourth place in another world circuit tournament

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Mexico City, April 14 (PL).- Cubans Noslén Díaz and Jorge Luis Alayo concluded in fourth place in the Challenge of Guadalajara, Mexico, where they added important points for the Olympic ranking towards Paris.

In the bronze match, Alayo and Diaz lost in two sets (13-21, 17-21) to the more experienced Brazilians Evandro and Arthur.

The Cubans arrived at the dispute for the bronze exhausted after the spectacular match they had played just two hours earlier against the Americans Trevor Crabb and Theodore Brunner, ranked tenth in the provisional list in the fight for the Olympic tickets.

The Caribbeans lost in three hard-fought sets (21-18, 18-21 and 15-13 in the tie-break).

To advance to the fight for the medals, the Cuban duo had defeated in the quarterfinals the Ukrainians Sergiy Popov and Eduard Reznik, while in the round of 16 they had left in the way the renowned Brazilian duo of Solberg and "Guto".

Despite not winning a medal, the performance of the Cubans can be described as very good, as they have now reached three consecutive finals in the ProTour circuit and this has allowed them to get closer to the Olympic ranking that will give tickets to Paris-2024.

The young Cuban duo of Alayo and Diaz 21 will take part in the next few weeks in the Tepic Elite16 tournament, also in Mexican sands, and in the Challenge of Xiamen, China.

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