



Laura Siegemund and Tatjana Maria ensure Germany has a successful Fed Cup start in Brazil

Porsche Team Germany goes 2-0 up

Stuttgart/Florianopolis. Successful start for Porsche Team Germany on the opening day of the Fed Cup tie in Brazil – Laura Siegemund and Tatjana Maria both won in Florianopolis, the capital of the southern state of Santa Catarina on Friday to hand the team captained by Rainer Schüttler a 2-0 lead.

Playing on clay in humid conditions and a temperature of 27 degrees centigrade in the Costão do Santinho Resort, Laura Siegemund, the world No. 73, beat Teliana Pereira (No. 359) 6-3, 6-3 in the day's first rubber. For the winner of the 2017 Porsche Tennis Grand Prix, it was her first ever Fed Cup win. Tatjana Maria (No 91) then extended the lead for Porsche Team Germany with a 6-3, 7-6 victory against the world No. 225 Gabriela Cé.

“It's very nice to have recorded two wins on the first day. It was important that Laura was a comfortable winner in the first rubber. It gave Tatjana all the backing she needed,” said team captain Rainer Schüttler. Laura Siegemund said: “I know Teliana well and knew it was going to be a tough match and that I had to battle for every point. I started off by playing a little tentatively but then found my A-game more and more.” Tatjana Maria was simply “very happy to have supplied the second point”.

On Saturday, Laura Siegemund will play Gabriela Cé and Tatjana Maria will face Teliana Pereira. In the concluding doubles, Antonia Lottner and Anna-Lena Friedsam will take on Laura Pigossi/Luisa Stefani. The winner of the first-round tie will qualify for the Fed Cup finals in Budapest from 14 to 19 April.

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