

17<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

Press Release

### **Begum Kulsum Saifullah ITF Futures Tennis Tournament December, 2017 Men's Finals**

**Begum Kulsum ITF Futures Tennis Tournament, 2017** culminated on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 at Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) Complex, Islamabad on a good note.

In the Singles event Finals, second seed **Spaniard Enrique Lopez-Pererz** stunned top seed **Ivan Nedelko** from Russia who was unable to build on his success in Futures F1. The Spaniard was in top form and won the match in straight sets but faced resistance from the Russian in the first set. Both players pushed each other to the limits but the Spaniard's experience proved to be vital.

In the Doubles event Final, Pakistani pair of **Aqeel Khan and Shahzad Khan** kept up their winning run and played sensational tennis to outclass their opponents in three sets. The Pakistani pair was at their best once again and proved to be too good for the Russian & Ukranian Pair of **Anton Chekhov and Alexandr Lebedyn**. The pair recorded their names in the annals of history by winning consecutive Doubles ITF Finals.

**HE Zafar Iqbal Jhagra Governor KPK, honorable Minister Inter-provincial Coordination Riaz Hussain Pirzada, President PTF Mr. Salim Saifullah Khan, HE Ali Alizada Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Dr. Akhter Nawaz Ganjeera DG Pakistan Sports Board (PSB)**, diplomats and high profile dignitaries witnessed the matches and expressed their pleasure at the exciting games of Tennis being played in Islamabad.

The President PTF congratulated the winners of the Finals and thanked the government and all its functionaries, the Sponsors and the media for their support especially PTV for live coverage of the Final. He also commended the PTF Management and staff for their untiring efforts to make the event successful.

Honorable Minister Inter-provincial Coordination Riaz Hussain Pirzada also expressed his pleasure at the holding of International events in Islamabad and thanked the President PTF for the invitation. He was pleased at the arrangements at the complex and hoped that more such Sports events will be held in the future to promote sports activities and improve the soft image of Pakistan worldwide.

HE Zafar Iqbal Jhagra Governor KPK also spoke on the occasion. He expressed his pleasure to be the Chief Guest at such an auspicious occasion. He applauded the efforts of President PTF, the government and all its functionaries especially the Law

Enforcement Agencies, the Ministry of Sports and media for their efforts to successfully hold the Tennis tournaments.

Results of the Main Draw are as follows:

**Men's Singles Results (Finals):**

Enrique Lopez-Perez (ESP) [2] beat Ivan Nedelko (RUS): 7-6 (1), 6-1.

**Men's Doubles Results (Final):**

Aqeel Khan (PAK) / Shahzad Khan (PAK) beat Anton Chekhov (RUS)/ Alexandr Lebedyn (UKR) [2]: 7-6 (5), 3-6, 10-6.