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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# TEAM CANADA FALLS TO BRAZIL 3-2 IN BILLIE JEAN KING CUP PLAY-OFFS

***Canada will now compete in Regional Group I in April 2027***

**[VITORIA, BRA] November 21, 2026 –** On Saturday, Team Canada fell 3-2 to host nation Brazil in its Billie Jean King Cup Play-off tie in Vitoria, Brazil. The defeat means Canada will compete in Regional Group I in April 2027.

After Canada and Brazil each earned a singles victory on the opening day, the tie was level at 1-1 heading into day two. Up first was the doubles rubber, with Gabriela Dabrowski (Ottawa, ON) and Ariana Arseneault (Richmond Hill, ON) taking on Brazil's Luisa Stefani and Laura Pigossi. The Brazilian duo came away with a 6-4, 6-2 victory in 75 minutes, despite the Canadians saving two match points. The win gave Brazil its first lead of the tie, putting the team ahead 2-1.

In the fourth match of the tie, Bianca Andreescu (Mississauga, ON) faced Brazil's Gabriela Ce in a must-win match for Canada. Andreescu delivered a dominant performance, defeating Ce 6-2, 6-1 in one hour and 31 minutes to keep Canada's hopes alive and extend her impressive run to 21 match wins in her last 22 matches.

With the tie on the line, Clémence Mercier made her Billie Jean King Cup debut in the decisive fifth and final singles match against 16-year-old Nauhany Silva. Despite her efforts, Mercier fell 6-2, 6-4, giving Brazil the 3-2 victory and ending Canada's Play-off campaign.

"We are obviously very disappointed – this is a tough loss," said captain Heidi El Tabakh. "I'm incredibly proud of the girls and their support for each other. We win as a team and lose as a team. Congratulations to Brazil on a great performance, and a big thank you to everyone who supported us back home. It means so much to this team."

## MEDIA NOTES

- Canada (No. 8) entered the Play-offs after falling 3-1 to Kazakhstan in the Qualifiers.
- Brazil (No. 19) advanced to the Play-offs after winning its Regional Group I, defeating Chile, Argentina, Peru and Mexico.
- Canada was crowned world champions in 2023, defeating Italy 2-0 in the final.

### About Tennis Canada

Founded in 1890, Tennis Canada is a non-profit, national sport association with a mission to lead the growth, development and promotion of tennis in Canada and a vision to be a world-leading tennis nation. We value teamwork, passion, integrity, innovation and excellence. Tennis Canada owns and operates the premier National Bank Open presented by Rogers WTA and ATP Tour events, it financially supports 15 other professional tournaments in Canada, as well as operating more than 60 events nationally across junior, wheelchair, university and Masters tennis categories. Tennis Canada is a proud member of the

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