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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GABRIEL MEDINA TOPS THE MEN'S SURF RANKINGS WITH A WIN AT THE FRESHWATER PRO**

*After taking the win at the Freshwater Pro, Gabriel Medina is now No. 1 with his wins at the last two out of three World Surf League Pro Circuit events.*

LEMOORE, Calif. Sept. 23 2019. Last Sunday, eight of the world's best surfers competed in the finals of the World Surf League (WSL) Pro Circuit event, The Freshwater Pro, at the Kelly Slater Wave Pool in Lemoore, California. Gabriel Medina took the win with a near perfect two wave score of 18.86 and now leads in the men's 2019 rankings.

This event also marked the one-year anniversary of the WSL's decision to close the wage gap and pay all of their competitors equally, regardless of gender.

Gabriel Medina set his scores early with two scores over 9.00 in the first round with multiple air reverses and air grabs. Medina's round two waves didn't score well with a 0.60 and a 6.17, but his earlier scores allowed him to opt out of the round three finals and secure the win.

"It's been a long three days for me, but it's amazing to win against these guys like Julian, Felipe, Owen, and Griffin." Medina said about the contest.

Griffin Colapinto had impressive left and right waves in the second round, getting him 8.17 and 8.27 scores. Colapinto had multiple fin throws in a row and a backside reverse, as well as two 5-second tube sections in the same wave.

Felipe Toledo scored a 9.00 on his right wave in round two, where he had a 10-second tube, a snap off the top, a 3-second tube, and a successful reverse. Sometime during the ride, Toledo sustained a back injury that may affect his ability to compete in the next circuit event.

Yago Dora had a solid right wave in the second round where he had an 8-second tube, multiple backside hammers, and an unsuccessful shove. The 2019 US Open champion scored an 8.10 but it wasn't enough to put him in the finals.

Owen Wright had a solid round two wave with a 6-second tube, multiple backside turns, and a five second tube. The 8.57 score was enough to put Wright into the finals, but the Aussie's round three waves, scoring an 8.23 and an 8.43, weren't enough to boost him above champion Gabriel Medina.

Colapinto scored an 8.10 on his left wave during the finals, where he landed backside carves and a floater. His final right wave only scored a 2.60, setting Colapinto firmly in third place.

“Hopefully, I can keep my results to the end. I'm really happy with my performance here, and these are really important points.” Medina said about the next tour event, the Quicksilver Pro France.

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