

At the Formentera Sports Gala held today in the Sala de Cultura-Cinema, Formentera paid tribute to athletes, clubs, volunteers, sponsors and people who excelled in local sport in 2020 and 2021. **Andrea Romero** and **Mateo Sanz** were proclaimed the **best male and female athletes** of the last two years. The gala, which was presented by sports journalist Maria Mayans, featured demonstrations in karate, taekwondo and figure skating and was broadcast on the YouTube channels of the Consell de Formentera and IB3.

Additional accolades went to **Club Bàsket Formentera**, which was named **best club**, **Cosmitos Deportivo** and **SD Formentera**, **best teams**, and **Helena Lafuente** and **Mateo Jiménez**, **most promising athletes**. In addition, **Alex Figueiras** was celebrated for **exemplary coaching**; **Agustí Moyà** for **most sportsmanlike values**, and **Maria del Carmen** Costa for **pre-eminent efforts to promote sport**, with **Trasmapi** named the **best sponsoring company**.

Gala attendees additionally applauded outstanding athletes in every specialty where a candidate sought consideration. Awardees included **Luka Romero** (football), **Roger Márquez** (tennis),
Alex Buchau
(windsurfing),
Andrea Romero
(athletics),
Pamela Torres
(judo),
Darío Ibañez
(cycling),
Martí Juan
(triathlon),
Carla Santamaría
(archery),
Paula Escandell
(taekwondo) and
Verónica Luceno
(indoor football).

Ana Juan, president of the Consell de Formentera, closed the ceremony. She applauded award recipients and framed the gala as, above all, acknowledgment for all those who make sport possible on the island. "Sport enriches us as a society. This is why we must never lose sight of its value as a social transformer and tool to boost participation, social integration and equality... Sport helps us eliminate barriers and overcome prejudices that, sadly, many still hold. The Consell de Formentera will continue fomenting sport and accentuating sportsmanlike values from the bottom up and in everything we promote".

For her part, Paula Ferrer, councillor of sport, praised the efforts of "the entire family that is Formentera sport, particularly during the challenging times of the pandemic". She also offered special kudos "to collaborating volunteers, without whom these events would be impossible".

After the ceremony, pupils of IES Marc Ferrer's cooking and services module served light food and drinks to award winners and the audience.

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