

NEWCOMB HOME IN THRILLER

Newcomb held onto top spot with a thrilling 5 game win over St Luke's Highton Uniting on Saturday in Tennis Geelong Section 1.

The match played at St Luke's was a battle between the ladies' and men's doubles following the 3 mixed doubles sets with games even. However Newcomb won 2 of the 3 sets involved.

St Luke's had top players Jeremy Palmer-Morgan and Raelee Anderson missing from the line-up which put pressure on the team from the outset.

Newcomb's men dominated the men's doubles with Chris Higgins, David Kos and Peter Cullen proving too strong for Jackson Smith, Grant Thompson and Jared Bromley, allowing the St Luke's men only eight games in 3 sets.

St Luke's matched this in ladies doubles with Vicky Stucky, Brianna Bateup and Hayley Bromley outplaying Raquel Murdoch, Sascha Bruenjes and Linda Vaughan, winning all 3 sets in close and hard-fought sets.

Newcomb missed the services of their No.1 player in ladies, Joanne Puckett, for this encounter, but got home 5 sets 48 games to St Luke's 4 sets 43 games.

BLUE TOO GOOD FOR RED

Centre Court Blue, currently 2nd, played Centre Court Red on Saturday in the battle of the home teams and came out on top 7 sets to 2. Both sides introduced many young players to Section 1 in this clash with State grader Matthew Hicks playing for the red team to help these players.

For Blue, Ry Davies had a day out, teaming with Kelly Brunger, Adam Lasky and Jordan Drew, to win all his 3 sets against Matthew Hicks who teamed with young gun Alessia Roso, Mitchell Field and veteran Steve Donaldson.

Carolyn McGann for Blue played in the ladies doubles only and did not lose a game in 2 sets. For Red, Steve Donaldson won the only 2 sets for the team with Georgia Kelly in mixed and 3rd men's with Mitchell Field, however Centre Court Blue too strong winning 7 sets 49 games to 2 sets 26 games.

OCEAN GROVE FORCED TO STRUGGLE

Ocean Grove has moved into outright 3rd place with a hard fought win against Grovedale at Grovedale on Saturday in Section 12 Tennis Geelong competition by 7 sets to 2, however by only 6 games.

Daniel Thomas for Ocean Grove had a hard day at the office and although he won all his sets, was forced to advantage and tiebreak sets in all three. He was partnered by Danielle Vigilante in mixed, Brad Edwards and Ari Levinson in men's doubles. Braeden Lubcke was on the receiving end for Grovedale, losing all 3 sets to Daniel Thomas. The Grove's top player Jason Raselli was unavailable for this clash.

Vigilante was dominant in her sets for Grove winning all 3, with Thomas, Michelle Little and Ellie Deane. For Grovedale Bianca Duff won Grove's only 2 sets in fine style when she partnered Cameron Govan in 1st mixed to win 6/1 and Sara Kucenko in 3rd ladies, to win also at 6/1.

Overall Ocean Grove too good, winning 7 sets 49 games to 2 sets 43 games.

ST MARY'S MOVE OFF BOTTOM

St Mary's travelled to Wandana Heights in the final game of Section 1 Tennis Geelong on Saturday and moved off the bottom of the ladder with a strong win 6 sets 49 games to 3 sets 36 games.

For St Mary's their ladies won the day when Suzanne Pickering, Carolyn Dodds and Melinda Spalding won all their 3 sets and in ladies' doubles, and lost only 6 games in the process. St Mary's took out all 3 mixed sets, however the Heights with State grader Matthew Holschier along with Josh Vines and Mark Hagebols won all 3 men's doubles and the Heights' only sets for the day.

SECTION 1 LADDER - Newcomb 69.5 points, Centre Court Blue 67.5, Ocean Grove 55.5, St Luke's Highton Uniting 50.5, Grovedale 42.5, Centre Court Red 40.5, St Mary's 37.5, Wandana Heights 32.5.

ST MARY'S MOVE INTO 2ND

In Section 2 of Tennis Geelong on Saturday St Mary's away to Highton won well 6 sets to 3 to move into 2nd place. St Mary's Kristen Battye was in fine form winning her 3 sets and losing only 5 games for the day.

Peter Rodgers, Adrian and Rohan Koorn won 2 of their 3 sets for St Mary's.

For Highton Emily Stephenson and Nicole Spong took out 1st ladies and Ross Parkinson won 2 of his 3 sets in their loss to St Mary's 6 sets 48 games to 3 sets 32 games.

OCEAN GROVE SURPRISE

Ocean Grove 6th surprised Grovedale 4th at home on Saturday and recorded a strong runaway win 6 sets 50 games to 3 sets 37 games. The Grove won all three opening mixed doubles sets and their men namely James Kerr, David Franks and Josh Hudson continued their domination by winning all three men's doubles sets, losing only 6 games in the process.

Grovedale's only shining light was their women – Lisa Sherwell, Donna Schoenmaekers and Michelle Henderson winning the Grove's only 3 sets for the afternoon.

In the final game in Section 2 Geelong Lawn continued its excellent form and has extended its lead at the top of the ladder with a thumping win over Barwon Heads on Saturday by 8 sets to 1 and by 26 games.

The Heads' only set in the match was 2nd mixed with Rhonda Sutas and Ashley Myers just getting home over Lawn's Alice Broadway and Mick Carlon.

SECTION 2 LADDER – Geelong Lawn 68 points, St Mary's 51.5, Gheringhap 46.5, Grovedale 38, Barwon Heads 31.5, Ocean Grove 31, Highton 30.5