

CENTRE COURT BLUE TAKE TOP AT THE BREAK

Centre Court Blue took over top place in Section 1 Tennis Geelong Competition on Saturday with an 8 sets to 1 comfortable win over bottom team Wandana Heights in the last match before the Christmas break.

Blue are now equal on points with Newcomb at the top of the ladder, but hold top by only .79 of a percent after ten rounds.

Although the weather was threatening on Saturday, Tennis Geelong competition managed to complete all matches in both seniors and juniors for the second week in a row, which has been difficult to do this season thus far.

Matches in senior and junior competition will recommence following the Christmas break on 5th February 2011 with finals scheduled for March 5, March 19 and Grand Finals on March 26. The Association Tournament will be staged on March 12.

In the Centre Court Blue-Wandana Heights match on Saturday in Section 1, Court Blue's women of Carolyn McGann, Stephanie Guy and Jayde Glascott once again dominated their opposition, winning all their sets, and in ladies doubles lost only 3 games in 3 sets.

The clash between Ry Davies, Court Blue, and Mathew Holschier, Heights, was a highlight of the afternoon with Davies coming out on top winning all 3 sets, however, the 1st men's set was a tight hard struggle with Davies and Chris Baxter just getting home over Holschier and James Brushfield for the Heights in a tiebreak 7/6.

The Heights went close to winning the 2nd mixed also when Sami Midwood and Brushfield went down to Guy and Baxter 6/7 in the only close sets for the day.

Brushfield and Josh Vines won the Heights' only set for the afternoon defeating Baxter and David Hicks 6/4 in the 3rd men's set.

Final result – Centre Court Blue 8 sets 54 games to Wandana Heights 1 set 31 games.

OCEAN GROVE CONSOLIDATE THIRD PLACE

Ocean Grove at home to St Luke's Highton Uniting gained a 14 point lead on 4th placed St Luke's with a runaway win over a disappointing St Luke's team by 8 sets

to 1. The Grove had State grader Julie Golightly in the line-up on Saturday and unfortunately St Luke's had three of its best players missing for this very important encounter.

The Grove ladies led by Golightly and with Danielle Vigilante and Ellie Deane proved far too strong for St Luke's winning all their sets, however, had to struggle in 1st ladies when Golightly and Vigilante defeated Brianna Bateup and Abby Walker 7/5 in the only close set of the afternoon.

Brad Edwards, Jason Raselli and Ari Levinson also played strong tennis for Grove, losing only one set, 1st men's, when St Luke's Grant Thompson and Jared Bromley defeated Edwards and Raselli 6/3.

Overall Grove has booked a finals berth, winning 8 sets 52 games to 1 set 23 games.

GROVEDALE WITHIN ONE POINT OF FOUR

Grovedale playing away against St Mary's has moved to within one point of fourth placed St Luke's with a fighting victory over St Mary's by 6 sets 45 games to 3 sets 43 games.

The Dale men turned the match in their favour when Braeden Lubcke, Cameron Govan and Murray Surkitt won all 3 men's sets against Peter Ficca, Peppe Scorpo and Paul Field with 1st and 2nd men's sets the highlight of the day, both going to Dale 7/5 7/6. Sara Kucenko was a standout for Grovedale winning all her sets.

St Mary's only 3 sets for the day were 1st and 2nd mixed and 2nd ladies when Carolyn Dodds playing well teamed with Melinda Spalding to outplay Ebony Del Rio and Rachel Lolait to win 6/2.

Grovedale by winning the last 2 sets of the day managed to just get home and will now push for a finals berth in the New Year.

NEWCOMB HOME IN TIGHT MATCH

Equal leader, Newcomb at home to Centre Court Red, did not have things their own way on Saturday with Red taking it up to them. For Newcomb their ladies led by top player Joanne Puckett along with Raquel Murdoch and Sascha Bruenjes took out all 3 ladies' doubles to set the win up with Puckett and Bruenjes winning all their sets for the day. David Kos and Peter Cullen for Newcomb also played well to ensure a Newcomb win.

For Court Red, State grader Matthew Hicks won all his 3 sets and Court's only sets for the day, taking out 1st mixed with Georgia Kelly, 1st men's with Mitchell Field and 2nd men's with Steve Donaldson, and losing only 8 games in doing so. A fine performance in a losing side.

Overall Newcomb with dominant ladies, got home by 6 sets 45 games to 3 sets 34 games.

SECTION 1 LADDER – Centre Court Blue 77.5 points, Newcomb 77.5, Ocean Grove 65.5, St Luke's Highton Uniting 51.5, Grovedale 50.5, Centre Court Red 43.5, St Mary's 40.5, Wandana Heights 33.5.

TOP 3 CLEAR IN SECTION 2

Geelong Lawn, St Mary's and Gheringhap have booked finals positions following outstanding wins on Saturday in Section 2 Tennis Geelong competition in the last match before the break.

Geelong Lawn recorded a crushing win against Highton at Lawn on Saturday and is hot favourite for the flag with this 9 sets to love win.

St Mary's at home defeated Ocean Grove winning 7 sets to 2, however Grove pushed them all the way going down by 11 games.

Gheringhap recorded a strong win against 4th placed Grovedale by 8 sets to 1 and will be well placed following the break, to contest the title.

SECTION 2 LADDER – Geelong Lawn 79 points, St Mary's 60.5, Gheringhap 56.5, Grovedale 39, Ocean Grove 33, Barwon Heads 31.5, Highton 30.5.