NEWCOMB HOME IN THRILLER

Old foes Newcomb and St Mary's clashed in Section 1 of Tennis Geelong Winter Competition which hit off recently with eleven senior and seventeen junior sections playing second round matches. The match was a thriller with Newcomb getting home by two games with sets even.

The Newcomb team with top players David Kos, Chris Higgins, Sue Kos and Ana Clifton won 2nd mixed, ladies doubles and 4th mixed against Peppe Scorpo, Peter Ficca, Carly McClelland and Natasha Chequer for St Mary's. The last set of the day was a close affair with Kos and Clifton winning 7/5 for Newcomb and the match 3 sets 30 games to 3 sets 28 games.

GROVEDALE BLACK HOLD TOP

In the other Section 1 match both Grove teams battled it out with Black proving too strong for Yellow, winning 5 sets to 1. However, the match was a lot closer than the score indicated with Yellow losing two sets in tiebreaks and another 7/5.

The Black team led by Cameron Govan and with Steven Muratori, Sara Earls and Lisa Sherwell won the first 5 sets, losing only the last set of the day against Yellow's Matthew Squire, Andrew Veenstra, Jill Menzel and Lisa Graham to take the match 5 sets 37 games to 1 set 29 games to hold top position after 2 rounds of matches.

Section $1 - 2 \times 2$ Format Ladder –

Grovedale Black 13 points, St Albans 7, Newcomb 5, St Mary's 5, Grovedale Yellow 2 points.

LARA MOVE INTO SECOND

Lara at home to Ocean Grove moved into 2nd place on the Section 2 ladder with an outstanding win 7 sets to 2 over Grove who is currently 3rd on the ladder. Lara won the first 7 sets of the afternoon with Daniel Peters and Ashleigh Cooke in fine form winning their 3 sets for the day.

They were strongly supported by Xavier Christensen, Robyn Cogan, Daniel Sluggett and Sandra Slade all winning 2 of their 3 sets.

The Grove's only sets for the day came late with Megan Vicary, Julie Allwood, Phillip Nash and Adam Lazarus taking out 3rd ladies' and men's doubles. Final result – Lara 7 sets 48 games defeated Ocean Grove 2 sets 31 games.

In other matches in Section 2 Grovedale with James Headlam, Linda Muratori and Belinda Lee in good form winning their 3 sets proved too strong for Western Heights Uniting to win 7 sets 52 games to 2 sets 30 games. The Heights' Bruce Rookes fought strongly to win The Heights' only 2 sets for the afternoon.

Bannockburn moved into the four in Section 2 with a strong 6 sets 48 games victory over Torquay at Torquay on Saturday. The Burn's ladies Sarah Round, Ida Durran and Carol Dodds were outstanding, winning their 3 sets and all ladies' doubles losing only 4 games to set up Bannockburn's win in the match.

The Torquay men of Sam Rogers, Kris Di Martino and Paul Archer dominated in men's doubles winning all 3 sets and Torquay's only sets for the afternoon, however Bannockburn too good on the day.

In the final match in Section 2 on Saturday top side Waurn Ponds was at home to bottom side Geelong East Uniting and ran out comfortable winners 8 sets to 1 and by 20 games.

For The Ponds Ben Rankin, Emily Rankin, Joanne Mullen and her daughter Nicole were far too strong, winning their 3 sets in fine style.

East's only set for the afternoon was in 3rd men's when Brad Verfurth and Jason McCallum defeated Nick Zyppel and Jesse Brunt.

The young Waurn Ponds team hold top position after two rounds and could prove hard to beat this season.

Section $2 - 3 \times 3$ format – ladder

Waurn Ponds 19 points, Lara 18, Ocean Grove 12, Bannockburn 10, Grovedale 10, Torquay 10, Western Heights Uniting 6, Geelong East Uniting 3 points.

IN BRIEF

The Barwon Region was represented at the Alicia Molik Cup recently by juniors Jayson Tomicic, James Thorne, Olivia Ryan and Taylah Mielcarek. This was a Round Robin event for 12 & Unders that was held at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club.

The event run by Tennis Victoria attracted 16 teams from both Metropolitan Melbourne and Regional Vicitoria. David McLennan from the Barwon Region said the level of tennis was of a high standard and the Barwon team performed well to finish in 10th position overall. The highlights for the players were playing at Kooyong and meeting Alicia Molik.