

TOP SIDE NEWCOMB SMASH GROVEDALE BLACK

Top side Newcomb travelled to Grovedale on Saturday in the top-of-the-table clash in Section 1 Tennis Geelong competition and handed Grovedale Black a smashing, pushing them to 3rd on the ladder after 8 rounds. The Newcomb team of Bridget LeMaitre, David Kos, Ana Clifton and Greg Steele were in outstanding form winning 5 of the 6 sets played.

Grove Black started well with Sara Earls and Cameron Govan winning the opening set and Black's only set for the day in a tiebreak. Grove also fought hard in the 2nd mixed set with Lisa Sherwell and Alex Olney going down in another tiebreak set to Ana Clifton and Greg Steele to level the match at 1 set all and games equal. However, Newcomb broke the match open winning the remaining 4 sets conceding only 6 games in the process to record a runaway 5 sets 37 games to 1 set 19 games victory.

ST MARY'S MOVE TO SECOND

St Mary's continued its move up the ladder and now holds 2nd position with a 5 sets to 1 victory over 4th placed St Albans on Saturday. St Mary's Carly McClelland and Paul Field fought hard to win the opening mixed against Clare Burns and Peter Lange 7/5. Carly was involved in three hard fought sets, losing the ladies doubles with her sister Melanie 5/7 against Burn's Andrea Oldham which was St Mary's only set loss in the match, but managed to win another close match in the final mixed doubles 7/6 with Peter Ficca. Ficca and Field dominated the match winning their 3 sets in St Mary's 5 sets 37 games to 1 set 24 games victory.

SECTION 1 LADDER – Newcomb 37 points, St Mary's 30, Grovedale Black 26.5, St Albans 18, Grovedale Yellow 16.5.

TOP SIDES MOVE FURTHER AHEAD

In Section 2 Tennis Geelong, top sides Waurin Ponds, Lara and Ocean Grove have moved further ahead on the ladder with strong wins on the weekend, however 4th position currently held by Bannockburn is up for grabs as only 3 points separate 4th and 7th teams.

Waurin Ponds, top, were at home to Bannockburn on Saturday and with Ben Rankin and Rick Mullen in fine form winning their 3 sets, and with Nick Zyppel taking out all 3 men's doubles sets, put the Ponds in a winning position.

The Bannockburn ladies led by Ida Durran winning her 3 sets and the Burn's only sets for the day, together with Sarah Round and Carol Dodds, were outstanding in Bannockburn's loss to the top side Waurin Ponds 3 sets 33 games to 6 sets 47 games.

2nd placed Lara at home to Geelong East Uniting recorded a solid 6 sets to 3 victory. Lara's ladies led the way with Jacqui Watson and Sandra Slade winning their 3 sets for the day and with Sheree Newman, dominated the ladies doubles, winning all three sets. Xavier Christensen and Daniel Sluggett won 2 of their 3 sets for Lara. East's men of Sandy Cust, Robert Fraser and Brad Verfurth fought hard all day, winning 2 of the 3 men's doubles sets and Cust winning East's only 3 sets for the day, all in tiebreak sets. Overall Lara too strong winning 6 sets 55 games to 3 sets 39 games.

Ocean Grove currently 3rd outplayed Grovedale 5th to win 7 sets 49 games to 2 sets 31 games. For the Grove Sally Hughes, Julie Allwood, Jarrod Proctor, Scott Bibby and Josh Hudson were outstanding with Hughes, Proctor, Bibby winning their 3 sets.

For Grovedale Belinda Veenstra was a standout winning 2 of her 3 sets for the afternoon and Dale's only sets in the match.

In the final match in Section 2 Torquay 6th had a close tussle with bottom placed Western Heights Uniting and won narrowly by 5 sets to 4. For Torquay Leanne Beale was a standout winning her 3 sets, conceding only 7 games in a fine performance. She had strong support from Megan Hapgood, Sam Rogers and Kris DiMartino winning 2 of their 3 sets for the day.

For Western Heights, Matthew Wrigley was dominant in winning his 3 sets and with Lynne Claridge winning 2 sets fought hard, however Torquay too strong overall recording a 5 sets 45 games to 4 sets 38 games victory.

SECTION 2 LADDER – Waurin Ponds 74 points, Lara 59.5, Ocean Grove 59, Bannockburn 37, Grovedale 35, Torquay 34.5, Geelong East Uniting 34, Western Heights Uniting 19.

BARWON JUNIORS PERFORM WELL

Tennis Victoria's Association/Regional Challenge for Juniors 12 and 14 & Under was staged at the Traralgon Tennis Centre over the Queen's Birthday Weekend with our Barwon team coming in 5th overall out of 16 teams entered throughout the State.

This is an annual event and brings together talented players from both regional and country areas across the State.

Our Barwon representatives were 14 & Under Georgie Daulaca, Jesse Brunt, Nicole Mullen and Nicola McLennan, 12 & Under Jayson Tomicic, Axel Hider, Taylah Mielczarek and Olivia Ryan. All players were a credit to the Region and performed well playing 10 x 8 game sets over the 3 days recording 4 wins and a narrow loss to finish 5th in the competition, which was well deserved.



PHOTO – Back row (left to right) – Jayson Tomicic, Jesse Brunt, Georgie Daulaca and Nicola McLennan. Front row (left to right) Axel Hider, Nicole Mullen, Olivia Ryan and Taylah Mielczarek.