

## **ST MARY'S SHOCK NEWCOMB TO WIN TITLE**

St Mary's who finished the regular season in 3<sup>rd</sup> place upstaged the more fancied Newcomb side to win the Grand Final of Section 1 Tennis Geelong Competition on Saturday.

This was a shock loss to the Newcomb team who were undefeated for the season and primed to win their 6<sup>th</sup> premiership in succession in Winter Competition. The match played at Grovedale in excellent conditions saw the favoured Newcomb off to an excellent start winning the opening three sets, although closely contested with Bridget LeMaitre and David Kos taking out the 1<sup>st</sup> mixed doubles set for Newcomb, defeating Carly McClelland and Peppe Scorpo 7/5 in a hard-fought encounter.

Ana Clifton and Greg Steele put Newcomb further ahead winning 2<sup>nd</sup> mixed 6/3 over Melanie McClelland and Paul Field.

In the set of the day Carly McClelland and Natasha Edwards for the Saints took it up to their more favoured opponents in LeMaitre and Clifton losing in a tiebreak ladies' doubles, but winning valuable games for their team which proved to be a match winner in the end.

With Newcomb leading 3 sets to love and by 6 games it appeared they would win, however the Saints came back strongly with Scorpo and Field leading the way by outplaying the strong Newcomb pair of Kos and Steele to win the men's doubles 6/1.

It was all St Mary's in the final two mixed doubles sets winning both and conceding only 4 games to overrun Newcomb to win the flag by 3 sets 32 games to Newcomb 3 sets 25 games in a big upset.

## **WAURN PONDS STRUGGLE TO WIN**

Top side all year, Waurnd Ponds, had a surprising struggle against Ocean Grove to win the Section 2 flag of Tennis Geelong on Saturday by 5 sets to 4. The Ponds team who had dominated the competition all season were made to fight hard against a very confident Grove side in what turned out to be an exciting and entertaining grand final at Newcomb on Saturday.

It was evident the Ponds' younger players were a little nervous, however with their more senior and experienced team members, managed to just get over the line.

The Ponds got away to a good start winning the opening two mixed doubles with the Rankins, Emily and Ben, proving too strong for the Grove's Megan Vicary and Jarryd Proctor, and Joanne Mullen and Nick Zypfel defeating Ashleigh Cooke and Josh Hudson.

Grove's Scott Bibby and Julie Allwood upset the father/daughter combination in 3<sup>rd</sup> mixed when they won a hard-fought set over Michael and Nicole Mullen. The Grove continued to fight hard by winning 1<sup>st</sup> ladies in a tight affair 7/6 and 1<sup>st</sup> men's to open up a lead in the match 3 sets to 2 sets with games even.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> ladies' saw Rankin and Nicole Mullen for the Ponds turning the match in their favour by defeating Vicary and Sally Hughes comfortably.

Waurnd Ponds continued to dominate from this point, winning 2<sup>nd</sup> men's and 3<sup>rd</sup> ladies in fine style and although they lost the 3<sup>rd</sup> men's set, they won the match and the flag by 5 sets 49 games to a gallant Ocean Grove team 4 sets 40 games.

Tennis Geelong's AGM will be held at St Luke's Hall 7.30pm on 6<sup>th</sup> September and the Summer Season of competition will commence on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October.