

COURT BLUE SMASH GEELONG LAWN

Geelong Lawn, without their No.1 man Matthew Holschier, were no match for Centre Court Blue in Section 1 Tennis Geelong Competition on Saturday and were smashed 8 sets to 1. The Blue team led by top players Ry Davies and Carolyn McGann, combining with Karen Filippou, Barry Golightly (returning to top tennis), Stephanie Guy and Brodie Young, proved far too strong for Lawn.

Melissa Mortimer and Lewis O'Brien won Lawn's only set for the afternoon, 2nd mixed, in what turned out a one-sided match between 2nd and 3rd placed teams on the ladder, with Court Blue running out comfortable winners 8 sets 52 games to 1 set 28 games.

OCEAN GROVE CAUSE UPSET

Ocean Grove 7th travelled to Newcomb on Saturday and caused the upset of the day, narrowly defeating Newcomb 4th by 1 set with games even. Danielle Vigilante for Grove was in outstanding form playing at No.1 lady and winning her three sets along with James Kerr and Daniel Thomas both winning 2 sets, to get Grove over the line by the smallest of margins.

For Newcomb Kavid Kos won 2 sets, losing only 1st men's in a tiebreak. Peter Cullen, Evelina Varju and Ana Clifton also played well for Newcomb winning 2 of their 3 sets for the afternoon. However, Ocean Grove fought hard to win the last set of the day, 3rd men's doubles, to win the match 5 sets 45 games to 4 sets 45 games.

COURT RED MOVE CLOSER TO FOUR

St Mary's 6th after their shock win over Centre Court Blue (2nd) last week, came back to earth this week losing to 5th placed Centre Court Red by 7 sets to 2.

Court Red with Matthew Hicks in great form winning his 3 sets and conceding only 3 games for the day was ably backed up by Mario Matajcek and Natalie Mann also winning all their sets, along with James Brushfield and Katrina Zera taking out 2 sets each. The Red team won all men's doubles losing only 4 games in an outstanding display. For St Mary's Jenelle Findlay was their only shining light winning the Saints' only 2 sets for the day in their loss to Court Red 2 sets 28 games to 7 sets 45 games.

ST LUKE'S MAINTAIN TOP

St Luke's Highton Uniting at home to bottom placed Grovedale did enough to get home by 6 sets to 2 on Saturday to maintain top position on the ladder. 3rd ladies' was not played due to weather conditions. Jeremy Palmer-Morgan along with Grant Thompson won all their sets and with Jared Bromley 2 sets, won all men's doubles to put St Luke's in a strong position to win the match. St Luke's ladies Abbie Walker won 2 sets, losing 2nd ladies only in a tiebreak and Raelee Palmer-Morgan won the two sets she played, with 3rd ladies' washed out.

For Grovedale Ebony DelRio was a standout winning the Grove's only 2 sets for the day in their loss to St Luke's 6 sets 44 games to 2 sets 23 games.

SECTION 1 LADDER - St Luke's Highton Uniting 71 points, Centre Court Blue 69.5, Geelong Lawn 59.5, Newcomb 52.5, Centre Court Red 49.5, St Mary's 41.5, Ocean Grove 30.5, Grovedale 22.

GHERINGHAP CONTINUE WINNING RUN

Gheringhap continued its unbeaten run on Saturday against Geelong Lawn in Section 2 Tennis Geelong Competition with a solid 6 sets to 3 victory to maintain top position on the ladder with one round to go before the Christmas break. Daniel Reitter was in fine form for the Hap, winning his 3 sets for the day and was supported well by Robert Nicholls. The 3 ladies, Kathryn Reitter, Jane Dunell and Bronwen Elford won 2 sets each in an overall team performance to win the match.

For Lawn, Mick Carlon was the standout winning 2 sets in a lone effort. However, Gheringhap without their No.1 man Anthony Leigh, won well 6 sets 44 games to 3 sets 37 games.

SUTHERLAND'S CREEK HOLD DOWN SECOND

Sutherland's Creek travelled to Western Heights Uniting on Saturday and held onto 2nd spot on the ladder with a comfortable win over bottom placed Western Heights by 6 sets to 3. For the Creek, Colleen Battye winning her 3 sets and losing only 5 games, and Adrian Koorn winning his 3 also with the loss of 4 games, were the stars and well backed up by Reece Johnson and Kristen Battye winning 2 sets.

For the Heights Andrew Gibson and Denise Airey played outstanding tennis, winning 2 of their 3 sets in the No.1 position. However, the overall strength of the Creek saw them home 6 sets 46 games to 3 sets 28 games.

LARA HOME BY ONE GAME

Lara travelled to Grovedale on Saturday and came away with a one game victory, having won only 4 sets to Grovedale's 5. However, the one game advantage gave them the match and elevated their position on the ladder to 5th, just behind Grovedale 4th. For Lara Jennie Prince was outstanding winning her 3 sets and with Christina Blaskovic and Jacqui Watson, dominated the ladies' doubles winning all 3 sets in easy fashion.

Matthew Squire was the standout player for Grove, winning 1st mixed with Sara Earls and with Troy Mickelsons also winning 3 sets, and David Muratori, took out all men's doubles. However, Lara held on to win 4 sets 38 games to 5 sets 37 games.

The final game in Section 2 between Ocean Grove and Waurm Ponds was washed out

SECTION 2 LADDER - Gheringhap 71 points, Sutherland's Creek 62, Waurm Ponds 54.5, Grovedale 50, Lara 44, Geelong Lawn 43, Ocean Grove 42.5, Western Heights 29.

BARWON REGION JUNIORS DO WELL

The Barwon Region was represented by Zaine Cordy of Geelong Lawn Tennis Club and Michael Chapman, Emily Rankin and Nicole Mullen all of Waurm Ponds Tennis Club at Tennis Victoria's Ambassadors Cup for boys and girls 15 & Under staged at Warrnambool recently.

The team did particularly well, playing lots of tennis on the grass courts over two days and won all their pool matches and were only defeated in the final by the Loddon-Campaspe team. Excellent tennis was played by all and the team played with great spirit.



PHOTO L TO R – Zaine Cordy, Michael Chapman, Nicole Mullen and Emily Rankin.