

LAWN HOLD POSITION IN FOUR

Tennis Geelong Competition recommenced on Saturday following the Christmas break and in Section 1 Geelong Lawn cemented its position in the four with a solid 6 sets to 3 win over Centre Court Red.

The better players for Lawn were Lewis O'Brien and Melissa Mortimer winning their 3 sets for the day, with Michael Jiang and Fiona Walker chipping in with 2 sets each. For Centre Court Red, top player and current Victorian Grass court Singles champion Matthew Hicks, was in fine form winning 2 of his 3 sets and losing one set in a tiebreak. Romano Mataruga was in good form for Red also winning 2 of her 3 sets, however Lawn held on to win 6 sets 48 games to 3 sets 42 games.

CENTRE COURT BLUE STILL TOP

Centre Court Blue travelled to Newcomb on Saturday and won well 7 sets to 2 to hold down top spot on the ladder. Once again Carolyn McGann led the way for Court Blue winning her 3 sets along with Nathan Mayes and Adam Lasky also winning 3 sets and the Court men with Jordan Drew took out all 3 men's doubles sets. Stephanie Guy contributed with 2 sets.

Greg Steele and Ana Clifton won 1st mixed for Newcomb and Sascha Bruenjes and Joanne Puckett took out 3rd ladies' doubles in Newcomb's 2 sets 40 games to 7 sets 52 games loss to Court Blue on Saturday.

ST LUKE'S WIN THE BATTLE OF THE SAINTS

St Luke's Highton Uniting at home to St Mary's ran out comfortable winners to retain 2nd place on the ladder with a 7 sets to 2 victory. For St Luke's Brianna Bateup was outstanding winning her 3 sets for the day and with Abbie Walker doing likewise, and with Hayley Bromley, took out all 3 ladies' doubles in fine style.

The St Luke's men of Jeremy Palmer-Morgan, Grant Thompson and Jared Bromley shared the load winning 2 sets each.

St Mary's only 2 sets in the match came in 3rd mixed with Jenelle Findlay and Paul Field winning well, and 1st men's when Peppe Scorpo and Matthew Fisher recorded a great win over Palmer-Morgan and Thompson. Overall St Luke's too strong taking the match 7 sets 47 games to 2 sets 34 games.

OCEAN GROVE RETAIN 7TH WITH ONE GAME WIN

Ocean Grove, away to Grovedale in the battle of the bottom placed teams in Section 1, came away with an exciting one set and one game victory in a hard fought contest. For the winners James Kerr was in fine form winning his 3 sets and along with Brad Edwards and Claire Reiners winning 2 sets led the way for an Ocean Grove win.

For Grovedale Cameron Govan, Bianca Duff and Jayde Glascott kept their side in the match winning 2 of their 3 sets, however, in a close finish went down 4 sets 36 games to Ocean Grove 5 sets 37 games.

SECTION 1 LADDER – Centre Court Blue 85.5 points, St Luke's Highton Uniting 84, Geelong Lawn 78.5, Newcomb 61.5, Centre Court Red 56.5, St Mary's 47.5, Ocean Grove 44.5, Grovedale 26.

GROVEDALE HOME IN CLOSE ONE

Grovedale played Geelong Lawn at Lawn on Saturday in Section 2 Tennis Geelong and came away with a 5 sets to 4 win to remain 3rd on the ladder.

For Grove Lisa Graham was in outstanding form winning her 3 sets and with Belinda Lee and Andrew Veenstra winning 2 sets each, these three were instrumental in getting Grove home.

For Lawn, Mick Carlon, Justin Pelly and Jill Pavia were the better players winning 2 of their 3 sets, however Grove just too strong winning 5 sets 45 games to Lawn 4 sets 39 games.

SUTHERLAND'S CREEK WINS WELL

2nd placed Sutherland's Creek were too strong for Waurm Ponds, 4th, on Saturday, winning 6 sets to 3. For the Creek Adrian Koorn was a standout winning his 3 sets, while Peter Rodgers, Susan Bissett, Colleen Battye and her daughter Kristen won 2 sets each in an overall strong display.

For the Ponds Michael Mullen took out 2 sets, with Emily Rankin and Nicole Mullen winning the Ponds' only other set in 1st ladies doubles. Final result – the Creek 6 sets 48 games to the Ponds 3 sets 37 games.

GHERINGHAP STILL LEAD

Gheringhap travelled to Ocean Grove on Saturday and got back on the winning list following their shock loss in the last round before the Christmas break to Grovedale, with a hard fought win over Ocean Grove by 5 sets to 4 to still lead the competition in Section 2 tennis. For the Hap Anthony Leigh and Kathryn Reitter were again showing the way taking out 1st mixed in fine style and with Jane Dunell and Bronwen Elford, Reitter won 1st and 2nd ladies' and Leigh with Andrew McInerney and Daniel Reitter won 1st and 2nd men's in an outstanding performance.

For the Grove David Franks, Jarryd Proctor, Julie Allwood and Sophia Blakeborough played well to push Gheringhap all the way winning 2 of their 3 sets for the day, however Gheringhap prevailed winning 5 sets 46 games to 4 sets 40 games.

LARA KNOCKING ON THE DOOR

Lara kept it's final hopes alive with a solid 6 sets to 3 win over bottom side Western Heights and is only 2.5 points from 4th position.

For the winners Lara's women Jacqui Watson, Christina Blaskovic and Jennie Prince dominated the match winning all their sets and the 3 ladies' doubles in an outstanding performance.

For Western Heights the men won the only sets when Andrew Forster, Zac Ludowyk and Cameron Gibson won all 3 men's doubles sets, however, Lara's overall strength in ladies won out 6 sets 42 games to 3 sets 33 games.

SECTION 2 LADDER – Gheringhap 80.5 points, Sutherland's Creek 78.5, Grovedale 65.5, Waurm Ponds 60.5, Lara 58, Ocean Grove 51.5, Geelong Lawn 49.5, Western Heights Uniting 40.