

ST LUKE'S HOME IN CLOSE ONE

St Luke's Highton Uniting has reached the grand final of Section 1 Tennis Geelong with a close victory over Geelong Lawn on Saturday in the preliminary final by 5 sets to 4. St Luke's has now earned the right to defend its 2010-11 title against Centre Court Blue in next week's grand final.

The win on Saturday was due mainly to the ladies with Vicky Stucky winning all her 3 sets and Brianna Bateup and Abbie Walker winning 2 each in a strong display for St Luke's in both mixed and ladies' doubles.

St Luke's Grant Thompson and Jeremy Palmer-Morgan played well with Thompson winning 2 sets and Palmer-Morgan 1 set in strong support for the ladies.

In contrast Lawn's men of Lewis O'Brien winning his 3 sets and Mathew Holschier 2 sets almost swung the match their way, however with Nicole Cooke, Fiona Walker and Ari Levinson winning only one set each, Lawn went down 4 sets 42 games to St Luke's 5 sets 48 games.

Next week's grand final will be a repeat of last season's summer grand final with Centre Court Blue playing St Luke's at Geelong Lawn – Courts 25 and 27 commencing at 1.30pm.

A repeat of Saturday's preliminary final form could see St Luke's worrying Court Blue, however the Centre Court team led by Victorian top player Carolyn McGann should avenge last season's loss by taking the title on Saturday.

GHERINGHAP TOO STRONG IN 2

In the revised knockout finals in Section 2 Tennis Geelong, top side Gheringhap was pitted against 4th placed Waurndale and proved far too strong winning 6 sets to 1 with 2 sets not played, to reach the grand final.

The Hap team with Anthony Leigh and Kathryn Reitter again dominating this section were in outstanding form winning all their sets along with Daniel Reitter 2 sets from 2. They were supported by Andrew, Nicola and Tenille McInerney and Bronwen Elford in a strong showing and are favoured to win the Section 2 title.

The Pond's only set win in the match came in 2nd mixed with Nicole Mullen and Nick Zyppe taking the set.

Overall Gheringhap had more experience against the young Waurndale team and ran out winners 6 sets 41 games to 1 set 25 games.

SUTHERLAND'S CREEK INTO GRAND FINAL

Second placed Sutherland's Creek landed a grand final berth in the second knockout final of Section 2 against Grovedale, 3rd, winning 7 sets to 2.

The Creek's women of Susan Bissett, Colleen Battye and her daughter Kristen completely outplayed the Grove women, winning all their sets in fine style.

Peter Rodgers and Adrian Koorn won 2 of their 3 sets in strong support of the women.

Matthew Squire, David Muratori and Troy Mikelsons won Dale's only sets for the day in their loss 2 sets 36 games to Sutherland's Creek 7 sets 49 games.

Sutherland's Creek will now meet Gheringhap in next Saturday's Section 2 grand final to be played at Newcomb – Courts 3 and 4 commencing at 1.30pm.

All grand finals of senior and junior competition will be played this Saturday in Tennis Geelong to conclude another great summer of tennis in this region.