

HEPNER PLACE LADIES IN CONTROL

Hepner Place at home at Centre Court in Tennis Victoria Grade 1 Ladies Winter Pennant soundly defeated Kooyong No.1 on Saturday by 4 rubbers to love to remain on top of the ladder.

Hepner with Karen Filippou, Carolyn McGann and Kellie Brunger winning their rubbers in straight sets never looked like losing. Hepner's Ramona Mataruga's rubber was the highlight of the match as she came from 1/6 4/5 down and facing a match point to recover winning 6/4 in the 3rd. Overall Hepner Place 4 rubbers 8 sets 48 games to Kooyong No.1 0 rubbers 1 set 33 games.

HEPNER JUST HOME IN MEN'S GRADE 1

Hepner defeated Grace Park in Men's Grade 1 Section 1 Tennis Victoria on Saturday. Matthew Hicks for Hepner said the match was tight throughout and although he won the opening rubber in straight sets, Justin Robinson for Hepner lost in straight. Hepner's Nathan Mayes lost a hard fought match 6/2 in the 3rd leaving the match on Adam Lasky's racquet if Hepner was to win. Adam won the 1st set 6/3 and in a long 2nd set highlighted by very long rallies broke serve at 5-all then held serve to secure the match for Hepner 2 rubbers 5 sets 47 games to Grace Park 2 rubbers 4 sets 40 games to retain 2nd place on the ladder.

HEPNER'S GRADE 1 SECTION 2 TEAM WINS WELL

Hepner Place had a convincing 4 rubbers to love win over Royal South Yarra in Grade 1 Section 2 Tennis Victoria pennant on Saturday. The highlight of the match was a straight sets victory at No.1 for Hepner by Travis Sandlant from Werribee who has recently returned to Australia after nine years in USA at East Tennessee University.

Sandlant was strongly backed up by Mario Matecjek, Brent McCombe and Andrej Mataruga in their thrashing of Royal South Yarra 4 rubbers 8 sets 49 games to 0 rubbers 0 sets 18 games to remain in the top four.

David Hicks at Centre Court Indoor said Travis Sandlant has joined the team of coaches at the Indoor and has a Major in Sports Management Masters Degree,

Level 1, accredited coaching through Tennis Australia. He has been an assistant coach at East Tennessee State University and is currently Associate Head Coach ETSU Women's Tennis/Director of Buccaneer Tennis Club located in East Tennessee.

Hicks also said that as a college player Travis had outstanding accomplishments. In 2004 he was named in the first team All-American, earned himself a college ranking of No.6 nationally and named ITA Freshman of the year. In 2006 he earned a doubles ranking of No.4 nationally and in 2007 he was an Atlantic Sun All Academic and Conference Champion. As a college coach at ETSU his team were the Atlantic Sun Conference champions from 2009-11 and he was nominated as an assistant coach of the year Ohio Region.

BARWON JUNIORS IN CHALLENGE

The team comprising 12 players in ages from 12 & Under to 16 & Under represented Barwon Region in Tennis Victoria's Association-Regions Tennis Challenge staged at Bendigo over the Queen's Birthday weekend. The event attracted approximately 150 high quality players from across the State with 12 regions involved.

Barwon competed against some of the strong Melbourne based Associations and were outstanding, making the final four playoff. However, they were defeated by North Eastern Junior Tennis Association in the playoff to finish 4th out of 12 regions overall.

David McLennan on behalf of the Region said the Barwon team, with all players involved in 15 sets in superb weather over the weekend, should be congratulated.



ST ALBANS BY 2 GAMES

In Section 1 Tennis Geelong on Saturday St Albans at home got the points in a close and hard fought struggle over Moolap by 2 games. The highlight of the match was Clare Burns for the Saints winning her 3 sets and the Saints' only sets for the day, conceding only 7 games, which was a match winner. For Moolap Paul Throckmorton and Penny Fiolet were the better players in their loss 3 sets 26 games to St Albans 3 sets 28 games. With this win the Saints retain their position in the four.

ST MARY'S HOLD SECOND

The St Mary's team of Carly McClelland, Melinda Spalding, Peppe Scorpo and Paul Field smashed Grovedale Black on Saturday to remain 2nd on the ladder. Better players for Grove were Sara Earls and Jayde Glascott in their loss 0 sets 19 games to the Saints 6 sets 37 games.

NEWCOMB HOLD COURT

Top side Newcomb travelled to Ocean Grove on Saturday and came away with a solid 5 sets to 1 victory over the bottom team. For Newcomb David Kos and Greg Steele were outstanding, winning all their sets although Steele and Emma Nixon had to struggle in 2nd mixed, winning in a tiebreak. The Grove's ladies Sally Hughes and Ashleigh Cooke won their only set for the day defeating Ana Clifton and Nixon in the ladies' doubles in another close struggle. Overall Newcomb too strong winning 5 sets 36 games to 1 set 22 games.

SECTION 1 LADDER – Newcomb 49 points, St Mary's 44, Grovedale Black 28, St Albans 27, Grovedale Yellow 18, Moolap 15, Ocean Grove 11.

HIGHTON TOO GOOD FOR THEIR NEIGHBOURS

Highton continued its good form and 2nd place on the ladder with another outstanding win in Section 2 Tennis Geelong against its neighbours Wandana Heights on Saturday. The Highton team of Paul McConachy, Ryan Parkinson, Lionel Fernandes and Stan Kenyon showed no mercy in their demolition of the Heights team to win 6 sets 36 games to 0 sets 11 games.

SPRINGS BLUE JUST HOLD ON

Clifton Springs Blue at home just held on to win by one game over Geelong East Uniting on Saturday to move off the bottom of the ladder. For the Springs it was an even performance with Andrew Miles, Alex Wiggins and Nathan Batterham winning 2 of their 3 sets each. East's star was Barry Rowland winning his 3 sets and East's only sets for the afternoon in their loss 3 sets 26 games to Springs Blue 3 sets 27 games.

HAMLIN PARK IN A MISMATCH

Hamlyn Park, top of the ladder and at home, annihilated Clifton Springs Red on Saturday to keep its unbeaten run intact, winning 6 sets 36 games to 0 sets 10 games.

SECTION 2 LADDER - Hamlyn Park 56 points, Highton 40, Wandana Heights 30, Clifton Springs Red 30, Geelong East Uniting 15, Clifton Springs Blue 13, All Saints Anglican 8.