

CENTRE COURT RED UP WHEN RAIN HIT

Centre Court Red travelled to Newcomb on Saturday in the opening round of Section 1 Tennis Geelong competition and was leading by 4 sets to 1 when the rain hit and no further play was possible. Points score in the match Court Red 7 Newcomb 4. Court's Karen Filippou and Ry Davies opened up with an outstanding win in 1st mixed proving far too strong for Bianca Duff and Tony Brushfield. In 2nd mixed Ramona Mataruga and Matt Hicks had an interesting set against Joanne Puckett and Peppe Scorpo for Newcomb just getting home in a close struggle.

In the 3rd mixed Newcomb opened its account when Anna Clifton and Chris Higgins defeated Alessia Roso and Sam Arli. Filippou and Mataruga had a hard fought and entertaining 1st ladies against Duff and Puckett with Court getting home in a tiebreak and Hicks and Davies put Court in a commanding position with a strong win against Brushfield and Scorpo.

The next two sets commenced, however the rain came, washing out the match. Final score Centre Court 6 sets 31 games to Newcomb 3 sets 22 games.

In the other match in Section 1 Centre Court Blue was away to St Luke's Highton Uniting where only 2 sets were played before bad weather caused the abandonment of the match at a set all.

Abbie Walker and Jeremy Palmer-Morgan got St Luke's away to a good start winning the 1st mixed in fine style against Carolyn McGann and Adam Lasky. Kelly Brunger and Jordan Drew made amends for Court Blue taking out the 2nd mixed against Raelee Palmer-Morgan and Jared Bromley. Two other sets started, however rain stopped play and no further action took place with Centre Court Blue drawing with St Luke's Highton Uniting.

ST MARY'S IN CLOSE ONE

Top side, St Mary's, opened its account on Saturday in Section 2 Tennis Geelong competition with a close, hard fought win over Shell by 6 games with sets even. For St Mary's Peter Ficca, Peter Rodgers and Adrian Koorn played consistently throughout, winning 2 of their 3 sets in a strong team effort to get home in a close match.

For Shell, Brad Edwards was in outstanding form winning all his 3 sets and Shell's only sets for the day, however the Saints got home by 3 sets 33 games to 3 sets 27 games.

In the final game in Section 2 Hamlyn Park were at home to Highton and took out 3 of the 4 sets played before rain washed out the remainder of the match.

Jozef Horvat and Tony Lazic had won both their sets for Park before the rain hit with Highton's Linas Brazionis and Stan Kenyon winning their only sets. Final match score Hamlyn Park 4 sets 23 games to Highton 2 sets 10 games.

TOP SIDE GHERINGHAP AWAY

Top side Gheringhap in defence of their title last year got away to a good start in Section 3 with a strong win over St Albans. For the Hap Tenille, Nicola and Andrew McInerney along with Daniel Reitter won all their sets, losing only 1st mixed when Susan Bissett and Doug Hewson for the Saints defeated the strong Hap pair of Kathryn Reitter and Anthony Leigh, with the remaining 2 sets unfinished because of rain. Overall Gheringhap home by 7 sets 44 games to St Albans 2 sets 23 games.

NEW SIDE BANNOCKBURN TOO STRONG

New side to Section 3, Bannockburn, is a family affair with the late Ian LeMaitre's children and their uncle playing in the one team. The team comprising Rachel, Nick, Bridget, Angela and Tim LeMaitre along with John Bongiorno started the season well with a comfortable win over Grovedale Yellow on Saturday. Yellow had no answer and won only 2 sets with Steven Muratori involved in both, however Bannockburn ran out winners 7 sets 52 games to Grovedale Yellow 2 sets 26 games.

In other games in Section 3 Geelong Lawn with Mick Carlon and Ashley West in great form, winning all their 3 sets, proved too strong for Grovedale Black on Saturday and brought the team home by 6 sets to 3. For Grovedale Black, Jayde Glascott and Sarah Earls were the better players, winning 2 of their 3 sets, however Lawn too good winning 6 sets 43 games to Grovedale Black 3 sets 35 games.

In the final match in Section 3, Waurm Ponds with youngsters Nicole Mullen and Emily Rankin involved in winning 2 of the 4 sets played before rain finished the match, came out winners 5 sets 19 games to Barwon Heads 3 sets 11 games. For Barwon Heads Robert Begolo and Sally Edwards won their only set in fine style.