

RED AND BLUE MOVE AWAY

Centre Court Red and Blue have moved away from the rest of the teams in Section 1 Tennis Geelong competition with strong wins on the weekend. Top side Court Red with Matthew Hicks, Nelson Roso and Sam Arli teamed well with Romona Mataruga, Karen Filippou and Taylor Sobczyk to take out 8 of the 9 sets against Newcomb. Newcomb surprised last week when they defeated St Luke's Highton Uniting easily, but found Centre Court Red a much harder opponent on Saturday and won only one set. Chris Higgins and Greg Steele won Newcomb's only set with Steele losing two other sets in a tiebreak to be Newcomb's best player for the day. Overall a strong win to the Red team by 8 sets 54 games to 1 set 35 games to remain top of the Section 1 ladder and flag favourite.

Centre Court Blue took a hold on 2nd position with a hard fought victory over St Luke's Highton Uniting on Saturday by 6 sets to 3 and it would appear at this early stage of the season that the two Court teams will play off for the flag.

Kelly Brunger led the way for Court Blue and was in outstanding form winning all her sets, and with strong support from Carolyn McGann and the three men Adam Lasky, Nathan Mayes and Jordan Drew, Blue were far too good in an impressive performance to take the points.

Vicky Stucky was in fine form for St Luke's winning two sets for the day. St Luke's three sets were 3rd mixed, 1st men's and 2nd ladies' in their loss 3 sets 34 games to Centre Court Blue 6 sets 47 games.

SECTION 1 LADDER – Centre Court Red 39 points, Centre Court Blue 32.5, Newcomb 25, St Luke's Highton Uniting 20.5, All Saints Anglican 15.

ST MARY'S BACK ON TRACK

St Mary's travelled to Shell on Saturday in Section 2 Tennis Geelong and although both teams were level on points in 2nd place before this match, St Mary's played strongly throughout to record a 5 sets to 1 victory to secure outright 2nd place. The team of Paul Field, Peter Rodgers, Wayne Spalding and Adrian Koorn were up to the challenge and proved too strong for the Shell boys.

Ivan Bosnjak and Ray Edwards won Shell's only set for the afternoon in their loss by 1 set 22 games to St Mary's 5 sets 37 games.

In the other match in Section 2, Highton were at home to Hamlyn Park and unfortunately the home court advantage was of no use as Park came out winning 6 sets to love in a one-sided affair.

The Park men, Tony Lazic Jozef Horvat, Tyler Dickson and Andrew Frost showed no mercy to the bottom team and remain top of the Section 2 ladder following this 6 sets 36 games to 0 sets 10 games' victory.

SECTION 2 LADDER – Hamlyn Park 30 points, St Mary's 26, Shell 20, Ocean Grove 17, Highton 3.

GROVEDALE BLACK IN CLOSE ONE

Grovedale Black were away to Barwon Heads in Section 3 Tennis on Saturday in the battle to stay off the bottom of the ladder and in an exciting match came away with a 1 set and 3 games victory.

For the winners Andrew Paull was the standout winning all his sets and with great support from Jayde Glascott and Tamika Hider got Black over the line.

For the Heads 3 players stood out – Tracy Lazarus, Andrew McKinnon and Robert Begolo, however Grovedale Black held on to win 5 sets 41 games to Barwon Heads 4 sets 38 games.

GHERINGHAP CONTINUE THEIR PUSH FOR TOP

Gheringhap played fourth team Grovedale Yellow on Saturday and continued their push for top spot with a strong win by 7 sets to 2. The Hap team of Kathryn Reitter, Anthony Leigh, Nicola and Andrew McInerney, Jane Dunell and Daniel Reitter took out all 3 mixed doubles sets in fine style to place them in a strong position for the match. The Hap ladies continued to play well winning all three ladies' doubles albeit two in tiebreak sets.

For the Grove Yellow team Jason Schoenmaekers was involved in the only two sets the team won for the day, winning 1st men's with Steven Muratori and 3rd men's with Ben Flynn.

Final result – Gheringhap 7 sets 48 games to Grovedale Yellow 2 sets 34 games.

GEELONG LAWN CONSOLIDATE THIRD

Geelong Lawn had a solid win against bottom side St Albans on Saturday to consolidate 3rd position on the ladder with their 6 sets to 3 victory. For Lawn Saifon Love and Ashley West won all their sets which provided the team with the edge in the match. Two of Love's sets won were tiebreak sets, which could have gone either way. West combined well with Ryan Michell and Mick Carlon to win all 3 men's doubles sets.

For the Saints, Angela Oldham and Sharon Taylor were stiff not to win all their sets, losing 2nd and 3rd ladies in the tiebreak encounters. However, Lawn prevailed winning 6 sets 48 games to St Albans 3 sets 38 games.

The final game in Section 3 saw top side Bannockburn defeat Waurn Ponds by 6 sets to 3 to remain top of the ladder. Seasoned veteran Ken LeMaitre played his first match for the season and won all his sets, losing only three games in the process and with strong support from the team, recorded a comfortable 6 sets 45 games to 3 sets 30 game victory.

SECTION 3 LADDER – Bannockburn 53 points, Gheringhap 48, Geelong Lawn 42, Grovedale Yellow 31, Waurn Ponds 26.5, Barwon Heads 25.5, Grovedale Black 22, St Albans 16.