

TENNIS GEELONG HEATED OFF

All tennis in Tennis Geelong was cancelled last Saturday due to extreme weather being forecast and a total fire ban day in place. As the Association involves a large geographical area the decision made was correct as many areas from Bannockburn to Lara had recorded temperatures at 40 and 39 deg. Coastal areas such as Anglesea have a rule in place regarding many pennant matches that on total fire ban days they will not play.

The Geelong Bowls Region is reluctant to cancel matches but made the decision to cancel also. As both sports involve people of all ages it was a smart decision as the temperature in Geelong does not determine the temperature in surrounding areas – e.g. the temperature in Bannockburn on Saturday was 40 deg and in North Geelong 34 deg.

The cancellation of matches has made it interesting in Sections 1 and 2 in the run home to the finals in 3 weeks. In Section 1 Grovedale, currently 4th on 65, one point ahead of Newcomb, play Clifton Springs this week and should win and play 2nd placed All Saints Anglican in the last match.

Newcomb on the other hand play Bannockburn, 6th and Clifton Springs 7th, and should win both to secure a finals spot.

Only six points separate the top three teams – Centre Court, All Saints Anglican and Leopold – and it will be interesting to see which gets the double chance in the 1 and 2 spot for the finals.

In Section 2 only one point separates Shell, Hamlyn Park and Highton for 4th position. In the final two weeks before finals Shell play Clifton Springs 7th and St Mary's 3rd, and should win at least one. Hamlyn Park play Ocean Grove (top) and Wandana Heights (bottom) and should win one also.

Highton currently 6th, one point behind Hamlyn Park and Shell play the bottom two teams and should win both to make the four for the finals.

Finals will commence on Saturday March 1st with preliminary final on March 15th and grand final on March 22nd for teams involved in 8-team draw.

For teams in 6-team draw semi-finals March 15th, grand final March 22nd.

The Tennis Geelong Association Tournament will be held at Geelong Lawn Tennis Club on 8th March. To enter ring Susan Bissett on 52481644 for seniors and Nigel Wilson 52433465 for juniors or list your name on the back of score sheets over the next 2 weeks.