



THE

OFFICIAL

new

WORD

The official newsletter of Tennis Officials Australia

Edition Two: September 2010



CHAMPS DOWN UNDER

breaking news

Sydney will play host to eight of the sport's greats, when the ATP Champions Tour heads Down Under later this year.

Australian heroes Pat Rafter and Pat Cash will compete against John McEnroe, Swedes Mats Wilander and Thomas Enquist, South Africa's Wayne Ferreira and Croatia's Goran Ivanisevic at the event, to be played at the Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre from 11-14 November.

Two-time US Open champion Rafter said fans could expect to see plenty of his famous serve and volley.

"The ATP Champions Tour is just as competitive as the current tour and even more entertaining," Rafter said, while announcing the event in Sydney.

"We all still take great pride in our fitness, reputations and ability to perform, so the standard of play will be incredibly high."

Queenslander Rafter is playing just four tournaments this year, but expects to be competitive for the Sydney event.

Players will be split in to two round robin groups of four, with the winners meeting in the final.

There is no word yet on officials for the event; however, details will be placed on the TOA website as soon as they're finalised.



exclusive



TA'S \$350,000 OFFICIATING BOOST

Tennis Australia has reaffirmed its commitment to officiating in this country with a dramatic funding boost.

An extra \$350,000 has been set aside by TA to recruit, educate and train tennis officials around Australia during 2010-11.

Tennis Australia's Chief of Officials, Mr Wayne Spencer, announced the funding would be spent on several new initiatives to bolster local officiating, including:

- New state-based officiating development coordinators to be employed by TA in NSW and Victoria (full-time) and Queensland, SA and WA (part-time);
- Provision of linespeople to all main draw Pro-Tour matches;
- Engagement of five contracted 'badged' chair umpires for Pro-Tour; December Showdown and AO/AO Series events;
- A Competency-based assessment program; and
- 3.5% Increases in payment for AO, Pro-Tour, Optus Junior Tour events.



DELHI 2010
XIX COMMONWEALTH GAMES



COME OUT AND PLAY

DELHI'S RACE AGAINST TIME ...BUT AUSSIE UMPS ARE READY TO GO!

Will India be ready in time?



The countdown is well and truly on to the Commonwealth Games in New Delhi but serious doubts remain about whether the vibrant Indian capital will be ready in time.

The lead-up to next month's Games has been blighted by corruption claims, delays in completion of the city's multi-billion dollar stadia and reports of shoddy work.

India has installed extraordinary security measures for the 12-day event, amid fears it could be targeted by terrorist groups.

The Department of Foreign Affairs' website advises Australians travelling to India "to exercise a high degree of caution because of the high risk of terrorist activity by militant groups". Australians are also urged to register their travel and contact details with DFAT prior to leaving for India.

80,000 local police have assumed control of security at all Games venues, which were locked down earlier this month. 175,000 paramilitary have been deployed to guard the city against terrorist strike.

The construction and security concerns have cast a shadow over the XIX Commonwealth Games – the biggest multi-sport event ever to be held on the sub-continent.

Sixteen TOA members will officiate at the tennis tournament to be played at RK Khanna Stadium – the first time tennis has featured on the Commonwealth Games program.

NSW Division's Wayne McKewen will referee the event, while John Blom (ACT), Simon Cannavan (QLD) and Leanne White (TOAQLD) will chair matches at the event.

Shane Chung (VIC), Cheryl Jenkins (QLD), Kelly Krusic (VIC), Dianne Larkin (VIC), Kane Lillywhite (VIC), Matthew McAleer (NSW), Abhaya Parthy (NSW), Thomas Sweeney (VIC), Glenn Toland (NSW), James Tucker (QLD), Shannon Walding (QLD) and Bhuvanesh Devarajan (VIC) have been chosen as line umpires.

Officials travel and accommodation details have now been finalised.

Australia's top-ranked players Lleyton Hewitt and Sam Stosur will miss the event, with Peter Luczak and Anastacia Rodionova to spearhead the Aussie charge for gold.



exclusive

ITF LEVEL-3 OFFICIATING COURSE
15-18 APRIL 2010
R.K. KHANNA STADIUM, NEW DELHI (INDIA)



BRONZED AUSSIES

These are the four rising stars of Australian officiating – our latest bronzed Aussies.

TOA Victoria's Tom Sweeney, TOA Queensland's James Tucker and Catherine Caswell and Matthew Kellert, both from TOANSW, successfully completed the ITF Level Three School in New Delhi, India, in April.

The school - held at the home of the upcoming Commonwealth Games tennis event, the R.K. Khanna Stadium – was attended by up and coming officials from around the globe.

Tom, James, Matthew and Catherine passed the three-day course and were awarded their ITF bronze chair umpire badges.

Meanwhile, Australia's top chair umpire, Kerrilyn Cramer (pictured right), successfully completed the referees' component of the school.

Kerrilyn, already a gold badge chair officials, was awarded her silver referee badge – the latest in a long list of a achievements in her distinguished career.

Congratulations to them all!



facebook



exclusive



Tennis Officials Australia

Write something...

Attach:

More

Suggest friends

Who People Like This



Photos



Official Open

Share

Like Comment Like Share

Like

Comment

Like

Share

TOA puts on a new facebook

TOA has turned to the social network phenomenon, facebook, to bolster member communications and raise awareness about tennis officiating.

The page - launched by TOA Communications Coordinator Troy Deighton last month - has already attracted dozens of fans.

TOA will use facebook to alert members to breaking news and important information added to the division's website, www.tennisofficials.org.au.

Members can then log in to the TOA homepage for full details.

But the facebook page will also provided a forum for Australian and international officials to connect, discuss topics and share photos from tennis events.

"It's about bringing the officiating community closer together and also about raising the profile of TOA and what we do," Troy Deighton said. "Facebook is a great social networking to and the possibilities are endless - from providing information on the rules of tennis, to sharing person insights on our officiating experiences and allowing officials across the country and around the world to keep in touch."

So if you are on facebook - become a fan of Tennis Officials Australia now!



Message from TOA Chairman

To all members,

I would like to update you on a few matters,

AUSTRALIAN OPEN: Overall there will a 3.5% increase in wages across the board to all members at the 2011 Open which is a good result considering the Economic climate. We are hopeful that the extra space in the umpires room will be granted ~ Wayne is working on that. The span of hours will be from when you sign in at 10am until 8pm and then overtime will be paid. At the AO selection meeting we have ensured that we have enough officials for the hour on/off for all main draw matches.

AO SERIES: There will also be a pay increase across the board for all AO Series events of 3.5% as well. Conditions and selections will be worked out shortly after phone conference of the Chiefs at those events.

PRO-CIRCUIT EVENTS: Major changes at these events where officials will be required for all main draw singles matches from the Tuesday. Tennis Australia plan to run Linesperson D courses in regional centres to help divisions with the numbers. There is a pay increase to \$60 per day and \$40 for meal allowance another good result.

RULE BOOKS: After further changes by Asitha, the rule book is in now in production at the printer and should be available by the end of August. Because of the costs involved we may need to charge divisions a price to be determined.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The terms of three Directors - Craig Glennon, Greg Hutton & Donna Kelso - expire in January. There is also currently one position vacant so nomination forms will be available in October.

OFFICIATING CO-ORDINATORS POSITIONS: Another great initiative by Tennis Australia, the applications for these positions have now closed and Wayne has indicated that they are short-listing candidates shortly with the aim to interview by the end of August and appoint soon after.

Enjoy your upcoming officiating!

Craig Glennon



news briefs

TOAV VETERANS RETIRE



During the past year, long-serving TOA Victoria members Ian Adderly and Peter Stranks resigned from on-court work. They were presented with a gift to acknowledge their long and distinguished service to tennis officiating in Victoria at the division's AGM.

AO PLAY-OFF CROSSLINES

Tennis Australia is seeking applications from TOA members who are keen to develop their skills on crosslines at the end of year AO play-off event in Melbourne. TA will partially subsidise selected officials' travel and accommodation costs. Members who wish to apply must have a minimum 'C' base or service line grading. For more information contact your division secretary!

VALE FRANKLIN CHAPLIN

TOA members saddened to hear of the passing of Franklin Chaplin on 10th August. Franklin was 88 years of age. Over the past few years, Franklin had been confined to nursing home care and is survived by wife, Dorothy.

NEW RULEBOOKS

The new TA rule book is now available. TOA will provide copies to divisional secretaries for distribution to all members.



exclusive



DAVIS CUP

By Andrew Watermeyer

I say a word

And he says another - "Correction!"

"The ball was good."

Australia played Japan in the Davis Cup in Brisbane in May so I begin with a haiku - a short unrhymed Japanese poem. Fortunately for those chosen in the squad, overrules like these were few and far between and we all had a great time at this tournament.

For local tennis fans it was a long time between drinks with the last Davis Cup tie played in Brisbane in 2000 on a temporary grass court at Brisbane's old ANZ Stadium. This time Australia was the clear favourite and did not disappoint with a 5-0 clean sweep over Japan and booking a spot in the World Group playoffs in September.

For officials it was an opportunity to catch up with old and new acquaintances again and swap stories. Cheryl Jenkins enjoyed her first role as Chief of Umpires and the Chair Umpires were John Blom and Ali Katebi (from Iran).

The rest of the squad was made up of Joshua Carter, Julie Cleverly, Adam Coombs, Mark Crawley, Dell Dent, Allen Gates, Michael Golinelli, Joanne Herbener, Dennis Jarman, Robert Kane, David Lecce, Winson Lo, Nick Marjason, Moya McGirr, Troy McKernon, Tianna Moore, Vickie Maroney, Vince Robertson, Jan Walczak and Andrew Watermeyer.

As always the first day began with the accreditation process which, because we had our photos on file from earlier in the year, was quick and efficient. Then with pass in hand it was on to the officials' area for our uniform collection. For most of us this was a long sleeved shirt, but for a couple of lucky people (aka Moya and Julie), a cap was also provided. Team schedules were handed out, meal vouchers provided and interstate friends reacquainted. Then it was off for a quick opening ceremony rehearsal and all that was left was to wait for the first match. Needless to say the formal ceremony did not go off quite as smoothly as anticipated though not in any part due to us, but it did provide us some amusement while standing out on court in front of the growing spectator crowd.

Play commenced at 3pm on Day One and with matches being the best of five sets, we thought it might be a long evening ahead. But as the history books will show, both Hewitt and Ball won in straight sets. With a squad rotation of an hour about, there was plenty of time to relax and wander about between rotations and spend our food vouchers. Then after what began as a slow afternoon, the day was over and we were outside with everyone else and heading off to respective homes and accommodation.



Day Two was an earlier start but still allowed for a good sleep-in and leisurely breakfast with report time at 12 noon. Only the Doubles rubber was scheduled and for all of us new to a Davis Cup we soon realised the officiating position assigned on Day 1 was our position for the duration of the competition.

The match was quickly over and the Saturday night 'Officials' Dinner' organised. Those attending agreed to meet up at the Fox, a pub restaurant also in Southbank and from all accounts everyone had a great evening, with good food and helpings more than sufficient. The only thing missing was the initiation ceremony for new Davis Cup initiates.

Day Three again began at 12midday and with no visibly apparent hangovers we were all ready for the final two Singles matches. Although dead rubbers, and possibly because the Japanese players had nothing to lose and so too the Australians, the crowd was thoroughly entertained with long rallies and great shots. As for me on Centre Serve I'm sure the coach told Carsten Ball my blue shirt was a practice target!

As with all tournaments there were some memorable calls and overrules. Fortunately nothing controversial and apart from having to stare at offending ball marks until court services could run on and sweep away the evidence, these calls were quickly forgotten. Much to the amusement of the crowd, one game had Chair Umpire Ali Katebi on court inspecting ball mark after ball mark for most of the point ending shots.

Then there was 'sun time'. At about 3.30 each afternoon and for about 20 minutes line umpires on the southern end of the court were further challenged by the sun. All one could hope for was no surprising lob or smash coming to you from that direction.

But as with all tournaments, it was all over before we realised it and we were all saying our good-byes with some people heading off to the airport and all of us heading back to our 'other' lives.

Being part of a Davis Cup squad is certainly an experience. The squad is small with matches played only on one court. Each day each match feels like a finals match at other tournaments. For those new to umpiring like me, being part of a Davis Cup squad is something I will always remember. If you have not experienced this yet I encourage you to put the time in so you too can be chosen for the squad and enjoy similar experiences. You will never forget them. And so I finish on my theme...

***Deserted tennis court
Wind through the net
Memories.***



exclusive

NEW UNIFORMS



TOA is pleased to advise all members that there is now a uniform for Referees and Court Supervisors.

For the Referees the uniform will be White Polo, Cap or Hat and for the Court supervisors there will be a Red Polo, Cap or Hat.

TOA will be providing free of charge the initial polo and cap for all members qualified to be Referee's and Court Supervisors as per the list provided by each state and territory.

These uniform items should be available by the end of August and all members working in the capacity of Referee or Court supervisor should wear the uniform from 1 October this year.

The correct uniform as of that date for referees will be beige pants with white polo and white cap/hat and for court supervisors will be beige pants with red polo and red cap/hat.

Current uniform jackets and vest may also be worn with these items

Meanwhile, the uniform for umpires is also being changed. The current silver/grey polo is being phased out with a new royal blue polo which is now available. Umpires will be given until the end of 2014 to make the change over.

All these items are now available from our uniform supplier.



exclusive

news briefs

LEVEL 'C' SCHOOL IN WA



Some of the West's up-and-coming chair umpires recently took part in a Level 'C' chair school, held in Perth. The course was run by TOANSW's Nicole Howson (pictured above). TOAWA members are getting ready for a busy Spring officiating schedule after a long, cold winter. TOAWA has welcomed Victoria's Chris Lawton to its ranks and is keen to show him just how good life in the west is!

45 YEARS AND COUNTING



TOA Victoria's Bruce Chapman has notched up a personal milestone – 45 years in officiating. Bruce was presented his service certificate at the TOAV AGM, along with Frank Ewald and Andrew Simpson (20 years), Brian Grace, Bob Lee and Ande Hutchinson (25 years), and Bob Giddings (35 years).

2010 AGM ELECTIONS STATE-BY-STATE RESULTS

Tennis Officials Australia Divisions across the country have held their 2010 Annual General Meetings.

Elections for office bearers were held in each division, resulting in several new faces being elected to Executive and Board of Management positions.

Here are the election results from each TOA division:

New South Wales:

President: Glenn Toland; Vice President: Nicole Howson; Secretary: Troy Deighton; Treasurer: Nicholas Yip; Board Members: Adam Coombes, Dominga De La Cruz, Justin Ellem, Allan England, Noriko Koizumi; Winson Lo; Steven Nguyen, Graham Warbrick.

Victoria:

President: Phillip Goodman; Vice Presidents: Alan Cobb and Jean Ringham; Secretary: Trevor Wakely; Assistant Secretary: Rajiv Shukla; Treasurer: Greg Brooks; Board Members: Eva Bettiol, Michele Crawley, Mark Harrison, Robyn Judd, Wolfgang Krahn, Greg Smales and Tony Warland.

Queensland:

President: Vince Robertson; Vice President: Dell Dent; Treasurer: Nick Marjason; Secretary: David Best; Board Members: Julie Cleverly, Philipa Collins and James Micallef.

Western Australia:

President: Matt Hayes; Vice Presidents: Josh Carter and Jill Sheridan; Secretary: Trevor Mitchell; Treasurer: Sue Tribe; Board Members: Troy Hancock and Dawn Hay.

South Australia:

President: Ann Langman; Vice Presidents: Graham Knight and Lindsay Cox; Secretary: Kristy Marnane; Treasurer: Kristy Marnane; Board Members: Jan Walczak, David Anspachy, Pam Bessell, Angus Thomson and Shirley Lynott.

Tasmania:

President: Michael Wells; Secretary: Helen Vaughan

Australian Capital Territory:

President: Jacqui Marsden; Vice President/Chief of Officials: Mark Crawley; Treasurer: Damian Highmore; Secretary: Emma Walter; Board Member: Myles Emery.



Aussies umps courted by US Open

Eleven Australian officials took to the courts at Flushing Meadow for the US Open earlier this month.

The sport's governing body in the United States, the USTA, reduced its intake of international officials for the 2010 event.

But 11 Aussie umpires were invited to officiate at the year's final grand slam – Simon Cannavan (QLD), Shane Chung (VIC), Kerrilyn Cramer (VIC), Matthew Kellert (NSW), Donna Kelso (NSW), Abhaya Parthy (NSW), Wayne McKewen (NSW), Thomas Sweeney (NSW), James Tucker (QLD), Shannon Walding (QLD) and Leanne White (QLD).

In the men's singles, Spanish world number one, Rafael Nadal cruised to a four-set victory over Serbia's Novak Djokovic, 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-2 – giving him his breakthrough win in New York.

In the women's singles, comeback queen Kim Clijsters won her second consecutive US Open crown - downing Vera Zvonareva in straight sets, 6-2, 6-1.

Meanwhile, the US Open will likely be one of the last major tournaments on the road for many of our officials, who will follow the sun home for the long Australian summer of tennis.

TOA members have had a successful year on the circuit so far, working at ATP and WTA events around the globe.

Catherine Caswell (NSW), Matthew Kellert and Abhaya Parthy, John Blom (ACT), Shannon Walding (QLD) and Kerrilyn Cramer and Tom Sweeney (VIC) officiated at the French Open, Roland Garos, in May.

John, Abhaya, Shannon and Kerrilyn also umpired this year's The Championships at Wimbledon alongside Simon Cannavan, Shane Chung and Di Larkin (VIC) and Matthew McAleer (NSW).

Catherine Caswell, Matthew Kellert, Kelly Krusic (VIC), Tom Sweeney and James Tucker (QLD) also officiated at Wimbledon qualifying and other lead up events in Europe.



AUSSIE HOPES DASHED

... BELGIUM'S SHOCK DAVIS CUP WIN IN STEAMY CAIRNS

Australia has missed out on a berth in the illustrious Davis Cup World Group after going down to Belgium in both reverse singles rubbers in Cairns.

The tie, staged in the tropical North Queensland tourist mecca last weekend, spilled over into a fourth day due to heavy rain on Sunday.

19 officials from Queensland and other TOA divisions officiated at the tie – Australia's most-important in years (*See list of selected officials, right*).

Queensland's Cheryl Jenkins was the Chief Umpire and all umpires performed well in hot and steamy conditions.

Lleyton Hewitt scored a four-set win over Ruben Bemelmans in the opening singles match to give Australia the early advantage but Belgium levelled at one rubber all after Olivier Rochus defeated Carsten Ball in straight sets.

Hewitt then teamed up with Paul Hanley for an easy straight-sets win over Rochus and Bemelmans in the doubles – giving Australia a two-one lead in the tie.

But wins to Rochus over Peter Luczak and Steve Darcis over Ball wrapped up the tie for Belgium, elevating them to the Davis Cup World Group and consigning Australia to a fourth consecutive year in the Asia-Oceania group.



Family Name	First Name
1 Anspach	David
2 Astell	Julie
3 Dent	Dellivene
4 Emery	Myles
5 Gates	Allen
6 Hancock	Troy
7 Harrison	Mark
8 Herbener	Joanna
9 Hinds	David
10 Jarman	Dennis
11 Koizumi	Noriko
12 Lecce	David
13 Machamer	Steven
14 McCarthy	Orla
15 McKernan	Troy
16 Micallef	James
17 Moore	Tianna
18 Vaughan	Helen
19 Wettstein	Bjorn



ROSE & HANNAH AWARDED DIVISIONS' HIGHEST HONOURS

These two women have received their divisions' most prestigious awards in recognition of their contribution to officiating both on and off the court and their determination to be the best official they can be.

TOA Victoria's Rose Almasi (top left) has been awarded the 2010 Les Isaacs Achievement Award, in memory of the late Les Isaacs, who was a member of the association from 1953 to 1994. The award was struck in Les' honour in 2002, four years after his death, and is awarded to a member who is a team player, shows initiative, demonstrates a desire to improve and is reliable.

It's hoped Rose's much-deserved award will inspire her to climb further through the TOA Victoria ranks.

Meanwhile, Hannah Ng (top right) has collected the 2010 Bill Whipp Trophy – TOANSW Division's highest honour.

The trophy - named in recognition of the long service to the division of former treasurer, Bill Whipp - is awarded by the TOANSW Board of Management to a member who's achieved a good work rate at tournaments; is well presented; has good manner on and off the court; has a positive attitude towards assignments; demonstrates ability.

Hannah's only been a member for a couple of years but with her great ability and infectious personality, she has proven a wonderful asset to TOANSW.