



# ADVANTAGE

QUARTER 2 (APRIL - JUNE)

THE SOUTH AFRICAN TENNIS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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## Wimbledon

Two South Africans will be officiating at Wimbledon this year.

Congratulations to Iain Smith and Pieter Hoeksma on receiving these prestigious invitations and we wish them a memorable experience.



Iain Smith - Review Official



Pieter Hoeksma - Line Umpire

*Last year this time we were all wearing our green and gold in support of our South African footballers in the World Cup. This year we are still donning the green and gold but this time in support of our Rugby team and we wish them success at the World Cup in New Zealand later this year.*

*Strawberries and cream are soon to be the order of the day at Wimbledon whilst heaters and blankets will continue to be our priority! Winter has certainly reared its head but lucky for us there has been loads of great tennis to watch on TV with still more to come. So sit back with a hot cuppa and enjoy the Wimbledon feast this month.*

## SOWETO CHALLENGERS

Izak van der Merwe went one better than last year to win the Soweto Open tournament in April. Beaten in last year's final by Germany's Dustin Brown, Izak won an all-South African rain delayed final when he accounted for Rik de Voest 6-7 (4) 7-5 6-3 to win the \$100,000 tournament.



In the women's final unseeded Valeria Savinykh beat second-seeded Petra Cetkovska, the Russian beating her Czech Republic opponent 6-1 6-3 in the final.

The men's doubles was won by Alexander Peya and Michael Kohlman. Due to the rain delays the ladies doubles was not completed.

## Date 2 Remember

Davis Cup :  
South Africa vs Netherlands  
08 - 10 July

Get your tickets now!

## Wimbledon Fever

Irene Tennis Club is holding their annual Wimbledon grass court round robin on 2 and 3 July. Great prizes and great fun! Entries close 24 June. See website - [www.irenecc.co.za](http://www.irenecc.co.za) for details

## New League In SA

SATA, with consent from the Gauteng North Tennis Association, is supporting this league, on a pilot program basis in the Gauteng North area until December 2011.

Flexitennis is South Africa's brand new flexible tennis league for men, women, and juniors. It's designed to provide an organised and competitive league format, but with a flexible playing schedule. The most exciting feature being that every player manages their own league online!

Interested? Go to [www.flexitennis.co.za](http://www.flexitennis.co.za) or for more information send an email to [info@flexitennis.co.za](mailto:info@flexitennis.co.za)



## DAVIS CUP

South Africa will be at full strength for their Euro/Africa Zone Group 1 Davis Cup tie against The Netherlands. The tie will be played at the North West University in Potchefstroom on July 8, 9 and 10. World No 39 Kevin Anderson has confirmed his participation in the tie and he will be backed up by Izak van der Merwe, Rik de Voest and Wesley Moodie.

The Dutch are yet to name their team but the core of the squad is likely to come from Robin Haase (ranked 59), Thiemo de Bakker (801), Thomas Schoorel (102) and Jesse Huta Galung (117).

Tickets go sale from Thursday, June 9 and are available at Postnets across the country and at [www.ticketpros.co.za](http://www.ticketpros.co.za)

## TEAM SA TAKE THE BRONZE

On a day that the world celebrated the royal wedding in England, South Africa's men's wheelchair team celebrated their own momentous achievement by winning the bronze medal at the 27th ITF World Team Cup in Pretoria. The Rainbow Nation's warriors defeated Chile 2-1 in the Men's World Group 2 third/fourth play-off in a contest which offered suspense right to the end.

## UNDER 18 INTER PROVINCIAL

For the second consecutive year, Western Province won the Under-18 junior tennis inter-provincial tournament which was played in Bloemfontein at the end of April. Their team comprised of: MC Visser, Keaton Saunders, Dion Roos, Chevaan Davids, Mikayla Morkel-Brink, Chloe Heerden, Krysa Gaweda and Lilianne Ongendangend.

The final standings for the event were: 1 - Western Province 68 points, 2 - Gauteng Central 45 points, 3 - Gauteng North 40 points, 4 - Boland 37 points.

## FED CUP TEAM PROMOTED

After wins against Algeria, Lithuania and Montenegro the team comprising of Natalie Grandin, Chanel Simmonds, Natasha Fourouclas and Madrie le Roux successfully forged their way through the round robin stage of the tournament and beat host team, Egypt 3-0. They have thus earned promotion to Europe /Africa Group II next year.

## ITF FUTURES IN DURBAN

Local tennis ace, Ruan Roelofse won the first of the ITF Futures events in Durban after he defeated Britain's Nikolaus Moser. The women's title went to Katerina Kramperova of the Czech Republic after she beat South Africa's Surina de Beer in the final. There was still some consolation for De Beer though as she teamed up with Britain's Jennifer Allan to win the women's doubles title against Denmark's Malou Ejdesgaard and Nicole Rottman of Australia.

## Go Green!

Just because your old tennis ball has lost its bounce, doesn't mean it can't serve up an extra use or two. Here are some suggestions for another winning stroke:

1. Use them as dog toys, or, if you have one too many tennis balls, donate them to other playful pups at the local animal shelter
2. Donate them to a senior center or assisted-living facility-tennis balls make great skid stoppers on the legs of walkers
3. Ask your local schools if they need tennis balls for padding desk and chair legs to reduce wear and tear on the floors
4. Cut one in half and use to open stubborn jars
5. Use as a cover for protecting your trailer hitch
6. Hang one up to use as batting practice
7. Use as arm weights by cutting slits into a couple of balls and filling them with sand or pennies
8. Fluff up laundry by throwing a couple into your clothes dryer
9. Use to clean black scuff marks, from any hard-surface floor, by cutting a hole in the ball and staking it with an old broom handle
10. Stick one on top of your car antenna to locate your vehicle quickly in a parking lot
11. Massage the bottom of your foot

In the 2nd ITF Futures, 2nd seed Australian Nicole Rottmann won the ladies singles with Katerina Kramerova and Zuzana Linhova from the Czech Republic taking the doubles title. Hungarian Denes Lukacs won the men's singles and number 1 seeds from Australia Nikolaus Moser and Richard Ruckelshausen walked off with the doubles silverware.

## SOUTH AFRICANS AROUND THE WORLD

A number of our players have been successful in other parts of the world during the last couple of months. With particular interest:

- Chanel Simmonds who recently turned professional won the ITF Women's \$25,000 Changwon and \$25,000 Goyang in the Korean Republic last month. Unfortunately she went out injured in the second round of the \$25,000 Gimcheon also in the Korean Republic.
- Doubles partners Izak van der Merwe and Rik de Voest who were seeded number 1 at the Savannah Challenger in the United States took the trophy after beating Americans Sekou Bangoura and Jesse Witten.
- Kevin Anderson got to the third round in singles and the quarterfinals in doubles at Queens; and to the second round of the French Open.
- Raven Klaasen won the singles and doubles at the \$15,000 Uzbekistan F2
- 4<sup>th</sup> seeds Jeff Coetzee and partner Andreas Siljeström from Sweden went out of the Furth Challenger in Germany in the semi-finals.
- After qualifying Dean O'Brien went out in the second round of the USA F13 Futures played in California.
- Junior player Wayne Montgomery entered the French Open Junior for the first time and was ousted in the first round of singles but made it through to the second round of doubles when had to unfortunately withdraw.
- Rik de Voest and Canadian partner Adil Shamsdin won the Nottingham 2 Challenger Doubles trophy – in the same tournament Rik went out in the quarterfinals of the singles whilst Izak van der Merwe got to the semis.

## OLD BOYS NITE LEAGUE

The Old Selbornian Club in East London runs an annual Nite League based on the Team Tennis format in America. Each team is comprised of two men and two ladies and each fixture consists of one men's singles, one ladies' singles, one men's doubles, one ladies' doubles and one mixed doubles. The singles is the first to reach 5 games while each doubles consists of 9 games, each with a tiebreaker at 4-all. The no-add no-let rules apply.

Lester Barkhuizen of the Alfa Club emerged as the star of the league. Playing scintillating tennis, he went through the series unbeaten and was declared the "Player of the Tournament".

12. Hang from the ceiling of the garage to help you tell where the wall is when you're backing up the car

13. Make a curved sander for refinishing furniture by wrapping a ball in sandpaper

14. Float two or three in your swimming pool to absorb body oils. (Replace every few weeks)

15. Stick on the end of a bicycle kickstand to prevent it from sinking into the mud or grass

16. Stick one on the end of a pole to remove cobwebs and dust from ceiling corners

17. Child-proof spiky points around the house

18. Cut in half and fill with beer to make a slug trap in the garden

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Illovo  
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[www.saschoolstennis.com](http://www.saschoolstennis.com)

In the final of the A section against Old Boys A, he turned in a sterling performance edging out Craig Newton at 5-4. Barkhuizen then teamed up with the unorthodox Tony Brits to register a creditable 5-4 victory over Newton and Grant Grotjohn. Despite Barkhuizen's heroics, the Alfa side was unable to hold the powerful Old Boys team who went on to win 26-15.

The hard-hitting pairing of Karlien Kriel and Jenny Milne took the doubles against Durette Cawood and Joy Brits at 7-2 after Kriel had defeated Brits 5-0. Grotjohn and Milne combined to defeat Tony Brits and Cawood 6-3 in the mixed. The B division went to the well-balanced Abbotsford A side after a keenly-contested fixture against Old Boys A.

Old Boys drew first blood when Lynn Sutherland beat Tanya Dubber 5-4 only to see Jonathan Witthuhn level by defeating Shane Webber by the same margin. Old Boys went one game up when Mike Hanlon and Wendy Mokawem squeezed past Dirk Lange and Petro Hunter at 5-4 in the mixed.

The Abbotsford women turned on the heat conceding only one game in the doubles which left their team needing to win two games in the men's doubles to clinch victory. Lange and Witthuhn beat the Webber/Hanlon partnership 6-3 to give Abbotsford a 24-21 win.

The tournament was ably run by Justin Sparg.

Final logs:

A section: Old Boys A 79; Alfa 61; Beacon Bay 59; Old Boys B 51

B Section: Old Boys A 131; Abbotsford A 130; Centenary 109; Old Boys B 105; Stirling 80; Abbotsford B 73

*Seize the advantage*

*Wendy*