



# ADVANTAGE

OCTOBER 5, 2009

THE SOUTH AFRICAN TENNIS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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**'If you don't practice,  
you don't deserve to  
win'**

**Andre Agassi**

**'Start where you are.  
Use what you have. Do  
what you can.'**

**Arthur Ashe**

**'I fear no one, but  
respect everyone.'**

**Roger Federer**

**'Champions keep  
playing until they get it  
right.'**

**Billie Jean King**

**'Whoever said – 'It's  
not whether you win or  
lose that counts',  
probably lost'**

**Martina Navratilova**



*Hosting an international event is always exciting and I suppose stressful at the same time. South Africa were proud to play host to the BNP Paribas South Africa - India Davis Cup Tie and we hope that all our members- whether you were watching it live or on TV, enjoyed the tennis. Ellis Park Arena turned out to be a very impressive venue and watching indoor tennis was very different and special. Although the crowds were not as large as we would have liked the atmosphere inside the arena was electrifying at times. Thank you all for your support!*

## DAVIS CUP

As much as we all would have loved to see South Africa win – credit must go to the Indian team who pulled out all the stops. Congratulations to them as they have now earned promotion to the World Group. South Africa remain in the Euro/Africa Group 1 and have a bye in the first round in 2010.

### Results:

Somdev Devvarman bt Izak van der Merwe 7-6(5) 6-3 6-4

Rohan Bopanna bt Rik de Voest 2-6 6-4 6-2 6-4

J Coetzee/W Moodie beat R Bopanna/M Bhupathi 6-3 3-6 4-0 (Bhupathi retired injured)

Somdev Devvarman bt Rik de Voest 3-6 6-7 7-6 6-2 6-4

Yuki Bhambri bt Izak van der Merwe 3-6 6-3 6-4

*India beat South Africa 4 – 1*

Compliments to our two juniors – Jarryd Botha (Western Province) and Hernus Pieters (Gauteng North) who formed part of the squad as hitting partners. They conducted themselves in an exemplary manner and were a credit to SATA.

The South African Davis Cup players spent some time on Saturday morning speaking to the Gauteng Central Provincial Squad players at Ellis Park and were kind enough to meet the juniors and answer all their questions. Lots of autographs were signed and meeting the players and watching them go through their practice drills was an education in itself.

## CAT under 14

The CAT tournament took place in Cape Town and unfortunately rain seemed to have taken over for that week. However a fair amount of play was made up and the winners were:

*Girls:* Valeria Bhunu (ZIM); Kay-Leigh Nicholas (runner up)

*Boys:* Matthew Rossouw; Umaru Balami (NGR) (runner up)

## **Do you have a story for us?**

**Has your school hosted or played in a tennis tournament lately?**

**Please send us your story**

**Visit our "schools" page on [www.satablog.com](http://www.satablog.com) for stories about school tournaments**

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## **NIKE JUNIOR MASTERS**

Congratulations to the following juniors who will be jetting their way to Club Med Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic to play in the Nike Junior Tour International Masters from 13 – 20 October:

*Under 12:* Kelsey Joffe (GC) and Brandon Laubser (GE)

*Under 14:* Kay-Leigh Nicholas (BOR) and Wayne Montgomery (BOL)

## **NATIONALS**

SATA's premier event Junior Nationals has just been played in Bloemfontein and was preceded by the KeyHealth Super 7. Both tournaments are very popular and this year attracted 831 and 726 entrants respectively. Congratulations to all the winners.

Thanks to all of you who entered and paid in good time – it really does allow things to run smoother and more efficiently.

Full results will be displayed on the blog for both tournaments once they have been verified and ranking points have been updated.

## **TENNIS MAGAZINE**

Matchball Tennis will be publishing their first edition of Tennis World at the beginning of October and will contain news from SATA. This magazine will be a monthly one and will be available at all leading bookstores at R29-95.

*All SATA paid-up members will receive free magazines for the first 6 months and thereafter you will be offered a discounted subscription fee.*

Please therefore ensure that your postal address is correct on our database – you may check and make changes on the members profile facility on the web.

## **SATA BLOG**

Stories featured on the blog this month included:

- SA Players at the World Junior Finals in the Czech Republic
- Zanmarie Pienaar at the 1<sup>st</sup> Petit Camp Junior Open in Mauritius
- All the Davis Cup info and photos
- Hilton College/St Anne's Doubles Invitational Tournament
- Profile of a Tournament Director – Vanessa Jooste
- Press Releases – Wheelchair players
- A new RSS feed from the Davis Cup website has also been added

Visit the blog for updated local news and results – [www.satablog.com](http://www.satablog.com)

*If you have any thoughts and/or opinions that you would like to share, please email us.*

**Wendy**