



The Australian Davis Cup Tennis

Foundation Newsletter

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Australia goes down 0-5 to France in first round World Group Tie

Australia played France in the first round of the World Group in a difficult tie indoor on clay in La Roche sur Yon in Western France. The 5-0 result in favour of France was not the result that we had hope for but perhaps the result we had expected.

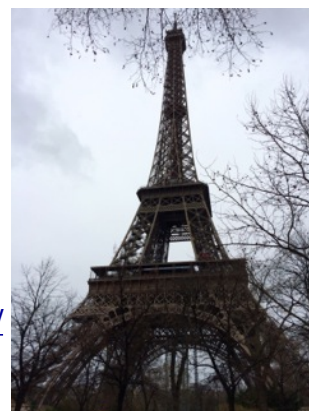
The French team was very strong and dropped only one set over the whole tie. Lleyton tried hard but his serve was no match for Tsonga who seemed to be able to produce an ace when required, whilst Gasquet was very solid and displayed what must surely be one of the best backhands in the world. Kyrgios was impressive and could match it with his opponent for most of the match whilst the younger Kokkinakis started well but faded.

Still, Australia is in a team building phase, and should be seeded and start favourites in our next qualifying match in September. Tomic should be back by then, but may have to fight Kyrgios for his spot in the team.



Our team, Pat Rafter (Capt.) Lleyton Hewitt, Chris Guccione, Nick Kyrgios, and Thanasi Kokkinakis.

For a more detailed report of the tie and the subsequent tour by the Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation supporters, organised by Ian Jane of Bentleigh Travel, go to <http://issuu.com/adctf/docs/francetie>



FRANCE 		5 : 0	 AUSTRALIA
WORLD GROUP 1ST ROUND			
31 Jan - 02 Feb 2014, Vendéspace, La Roche sur Yon, France, Clay (Red Clay), Indoor			
R1	★ <u>R. GASQUET</u>	7-6(3) 6-2 6-2	<u>N. KYRGIOS</u>
R2	★ <u>J. TSONGA</u>	6-3 6-2 7-6(2)	<u>L. HEWITT</u>
R3	★ <u>R. GASQUET</u> <u>J. TSONGA</u>	5-7 7-6(4) 6-2 7-5	<u>C. GUCCIONE</u> <u>L. HEWITT</u>
R4	★ <u>J. BENNETEAU</u>	6-4 6-1	<u>T. KOKKINAKIS</u>
R5	★ <u>G. MONFILS</u>	7-6(5) 6-4	<u>N. KYRGIOS</u>



News in Brief

- Tennis Australia have advised the **dates for the 2015 Australian Open** moving back a week. The event will now start on 19th January and run to 1st February 2015. The AO Luncheon will therefore be held on Friday 30th January.
- **Bernard Tomic** will be sidelined for up to three months after scans revealed a mysterious but longstanding hip injury which ruled him out of Australia's Davis Cup tie with France. Tomic tried to delay surgery until after the tie, but was overruled by doctors. His condition, affecting the hip joint, hindered agility and movement. Tomic is expected to make a full recovery in time for May's French Open.
- **Pat Rafter** says he's committed to leading Australia for another tilt at the top-tier World Group next year, however he has signalled the possibility of stepping down at the end of 2015, revealing that he was finding the travel aspect of the role difficult. "I really enjoy it but because I've got a young family, I don't like being away too much. That's one real drawback for me," said Rafter. "I see myself here for the next couple of years but then again the players might not. That is a really important relationship and if they don't get me and they're the future, I'm not the man either." He believes it will be two or three years before Kyrgios and Kokkinakis are completely ready for the top level.

ATP Rankings

42	L.Hewitt
62	M.Ebden
71	M.Matosevic
74	B.Tomic
142	J.Duckworth
162	S.Groth
171	N.Kyrgios



Special K no.2



Thanasi Kokkinakis

Age: 17, born 10 April 1996

Height: 196 cm (6 ft 5 in)

Weight: 80 kg

Lives: Seacombe Heights, South Australia

Coach: Todd Langman and Brod Dyke

ATP Ranking: 401

Kokkinakis began playing tennis when he was eight years old. As of 25 February 2014 he is ranked World No. 401 by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP). As a junior, Kokkinakis enjoyed a successful career in which he reached two junior grand slam singles finals at the 2013 Australian Open and 2009 US Open respectively. He represented Australia in the ITF World Junior Tennis Competition in 2010. He was a member of Australia's Junior Davis Cup team that won the competition's silver medal in September 2012, losing to Italy in the final, held in Barcelona, Spain.

Kokkinakis made his Davis Cup debut for Australia in February 2014 against France at the age of 17. He was selected to play in the fourth rubber which was a dead rubber. He lost in straight sets to Julien Benneteau.



Other Davis Cup Results from Round One ...

Czech Republic 3 d Netherlands 2

Japan 4 d Canada 1

Germany 4 d Spain 1

Great Britain 3 d USA 1

Italy 3 d Argentina 1

Kazakhstan 3 d Belgium 2

Switzerland 3 d Serbia 2

A round of upsets with five seeded nations being eliminated.

Pundits are predicting a Switzerland v France final with Roger Federer trying to fill the missing space in his trophy cabinet with a Davis Cup victory.



The AO Luncheon 2014 - 25 January at the MCG



Our Presidential guests.....

THE AO LUNCHEON celebrating the 1957 Davis Cup victory

The Presidents of all four Grand Slam tournaments - the United States, France, Australia and Wimbledon, photographed with Neale Fraser, attended our Luncheon.

The 2014 AO Luncheon was a resounding success. Over 300 members and guests filled the Olympic Room at the MCG to celebrate the 1957 Australian Davis Cup team represented by Mervyn Rose, Mal Anderson, Ashley Cooper and Neale Fraser.

Fred Stolle again compered this memorable event and we were entertained by stories from the 1957 team members. The afternoon included a silent auction of tennis memorabilia and overall in excess of \$10,000 was raised towards the work of the Foundation.



Frank Sedgman (right) chats with Wally Masur at the AO Luncheon, with Ken Rosewall in the background.



If you would like a copy of the 1957 Davis Cup Victory booklet please contact the office.



The Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation

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The ADCTF Annual General Meeting - 28 November 2013



Around 100 members attended the Annual General Meeting held at Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club late last year.

The audited accounts of the Foundation reported a surplus of \$25,415 for the year and the Board was in the process of negotiating a new agreement with Tennis Australia for the coming years.

The proposed new ADCTF Constitution was adopted without amendment and the Chair thanked Board Member Rob Hinton in particular for his work on this important document.

Neale Fraser noted with pleasure that Australia had fought its way back into the World Group of the Davis Cup and now faced a difficult away tie against France in February 2014.



Our President commented on the success of the 2013 AO Luncheon held at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, which celebrated the 1953 Davis Cup victory, and thanked Robert Parker for his efforts in organising this event.

Our guest speaker at the AGM was **Todd Woodbridge**, former Davis Cup player who currently has a media/ambassadorial/spokesman's position at Tennis Australia as well as his media role at Channel 7.

His enlightened address entertained the audience with stories of his Davis Cup days as well as giving an insight as to the future of Australian Tennis. Todd is very confident that the Davis Cup Squad, with the addition of the two Ks, will improve and be in a position to challenge for the Cup in 4 or 5 years.

Davis Cup Trivia ...

- **Dwight Davis**, the man who gave his name to the Davis Cup was not only a great tennis player, but also a senior politician in the United States. Davis served terms as the Secretary of War and the Secretary General of the Philippines before his death in 1945.
- In **1974 India played Australia** in a 5 match tie. During the five matches the two teams contested an incredible 327 games of tennis, averaging 64 games per match.
- Australia are honoured with an astounding snippet of Davis Cup trivia. The team made **27 consecutive appearances** in Davis Cup finals from 1938-1968, a virtually unbeatable feat.
- **Bjorn Borg** holds the record for winning the most consecutive Davis Cup matches. The Swede won 33 matches in a row between 1973 and 1980.
- Australia had both the **youngest player** in a final - 17 years, 177 days: John Alexander (AUS), 1968 and **oldest player** in a final - 43 years, 48 days: Norman Brookes (AUS), 1920