



The Australian

Davis Cup Tennis

Foundation News

Produced for Members of the Foundation ABN 90 004 905 060

April 2016



USA defeats Australia in Davis Cup 1st Round



The Australian Davis Cup team suffered a first round defeat against the USA in the tie held at Kooyong from March 4-6.

It was a hard fought match with scratch doubles team of Hewitt and Peers losing a tight 5 set match against the Bryan brothers in the crucial doubles rubber. On the final day Tomic tried hard and got close to Isner but in the end Isner's amazing serving on grass left the Australian without an answer. Australia now goes on to play a World Group qualification tie from September 16-18, against one of the winners from the second tier of the competition.

AUSTRALIA  1 : 3  USA

WORLD GROUP 1ST ROUND

04 Mar - 06 Mar 2016, Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, Melbourne, Australia, Grass, Outdoor

R1	<u>S. GROTH</u>	6-7(2) 2-6 2-6	<u>J. ISNER</u> ★
R2	★ <u>B. TOMIC</u>	7-6(2) 6-3 3-6 6-4	<u>J. SOCK</u>
R3	<u>L. HEWITT</u> <u>J. PEERS</u>	3-6 3-6 6-4 6-4 3-6	<u>B. BRYAN</u> <u>M. BRYAN</u> ★
R4	<u>B. TOMIC</u>	4-6 4-6 7-5 6-7(4)	<u>J. ISNER</u> ★
R5	<u>S. GROTH</u>	Not played	<u>J. SOCK</u>

Australia Post has issued a set of tennis stamps



Fed Cup News



WORLD GROUP PLAY-OFF

AUSTRALIA VS USA

16-17 APRIL 2016

PAT RAFTER ARENA, BRISBANE

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Davis Cup Dinner at Royal South Yarra LTC

Following the doubles rubber on Saturday 135 Foundation members and guests gathered at RSYLTC to chat about the tie and enjoy a three-course dinner.

Rob Hinton ably compered the evening and ran a Davis Cup Quiz to keep everyone entertained. A highlight of the evening was when Wally Masur and Thanasi Kokkinakis dropped in for a chat. Thanasi is recovering from shoulder surgery but hopes to be back for the French Open. He is a very amiable young man and impressed everyone.

It was pleasing to receive so many favourable comments after the dinner, including one from Jan Taylor who wrote *"May I congratulate you and the committee for a wonderfully successful Davis Cup Dinner this year. All dinners are terrific but this was outstanding."*

Our thanks to Donna Low, Bob Parker, Rob Hinton and Judy Pullyblank who were the main organisers of this function.



Kokkinakis and Masur

ATP Rankings at 23.3.16

Bernard Tomic	20
Nick Kyrgios	26
John Millman	69
Sam Groth	77
Matthew Ebden	111
Jordan Thompson	117
Thanasi Kokkinakis	147
John-Patrick Smith	151

2016 AO Luncheon a great success!



Stolle interviews special guests Laver and Fraser.



What more could you want in a tennis luncheon celebrating our Davis Cup victories from the past?

Laver and Fraser recounted Australia's success in 1960, 1961 and 1962, Hewitt and Rafter discussed the current Davis Cup team, Roche and Cash shared their thoughts on how to achieve Davis Cup success and Masur and Cahill regaled the audience with humorous anecdotes about their time as Davis Cup players.

The audience included past greats including Sedgman and Rosewall plus Tennis Australia President Steve Healy and Presidents of the other Grand Slam tournaments.

The function and the associated silent auction and raffles raised around \$15k for the Foundation to continue our support of the future Australian Davis Cup teams.



The Grand Ballroom at the Pullman on the Park Melbourne was a superb venue.



A big thanks to Lleyton Hewitt for donating some of his tennis gear for our silent auction.

Introducing John Peers

John Peers is an Australian doubles specialist, aged 28 years, who was born in Melbourne, son of former pro tennis player Elizabeth Little. His sister Sally is also on the pro tennis circuit.

During 2015 Peers partnered Jamie Murray, brother of Andy, and was runner-up at both Wimbledon and the US Open. He has won 7 doubles titles on the ATP circuit, including the 2016 Brisbane International. He is currently ranked no.9 in doubles in the world and impressed everyone with his skill and composure during the high pressure doubles rubber.

It looks like Peers will be the mainstay of Australia's doubles pairing for the next few years.



Why grass?



Is it time to move on? In the old days there is no doubt that Australian players were brought up on grass courts, including numerous country grass court tournaments every long week-end, and that grass as a surface gave us a competitive advantage, but is that true today? As the spectators at the Kooyong tie saw John Isner smash down 33 aces in his last two sets against Bernard Tomic, including one serve of 253 kph - the third fastest serve ever, they must have wondered if grass was the best choice for this tie.

Australia has a number of stadia, such as Margaret Court Arena, which would be ideal for a Davis Cup tie and it may be time to consider saving the time and cost of setting up a grass court venue at short notice.

A big thanks to the girls who manned the Davis Cup booth at the Kooyong Tie, Judy, Mary and Jan.

Foundation merchandise, including caps, visors and shirts proved to be very popular with spectators at the tie.

