



The Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation News

Celebrating the past, supporting the present and promoting the future.

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The Australian team

Photo: Martin Sidorjak

Congratulations to the Australian Davis Cup team of Nick Kyrgios, Jordan Thompson, Sam Groth, John Peers and Captain Lleyton Hewitt on their comprehensive victory over the Czech Republic at the Kooyong Tie on February 4th - 6th.

This time the tie was held on the same surface as the Australian Open, rather than grass, and the surface seemed to suit our players, in particular Jordan Thompson, who played a great first rubber to defeat his higher ranked Czech opponent. He proved to be a very adequate replacement for Bernie Tomic who unfortunately had "scheduling problems" and missed the tie.

The crowd was down on the previous tie v USA at Kooyong, perhaps because of the proximity to the Australian Open and the warmer weather in February. Kooyong did however provide some shaded seats and most of our members were not inconvenienced by the heat.

The next tie will be in Brisbane against the USA from April 7th - 9th.



Australia v Czech Republic

World Group Round 1 tie

held at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club

4th - 6th February 2017

Jordan Thompson d Jiri Vesely 6-3 6-3 6-4.

Nick Kyrgios d Jan Satral 6-2 6-3 6-2.

Sam Groth/John Peers d Jan Satral/Jiri Vesely 6-3 6-2 6-2

Sam Groth lost to **Jiri Vesely** 6-3 5-7 3-6.

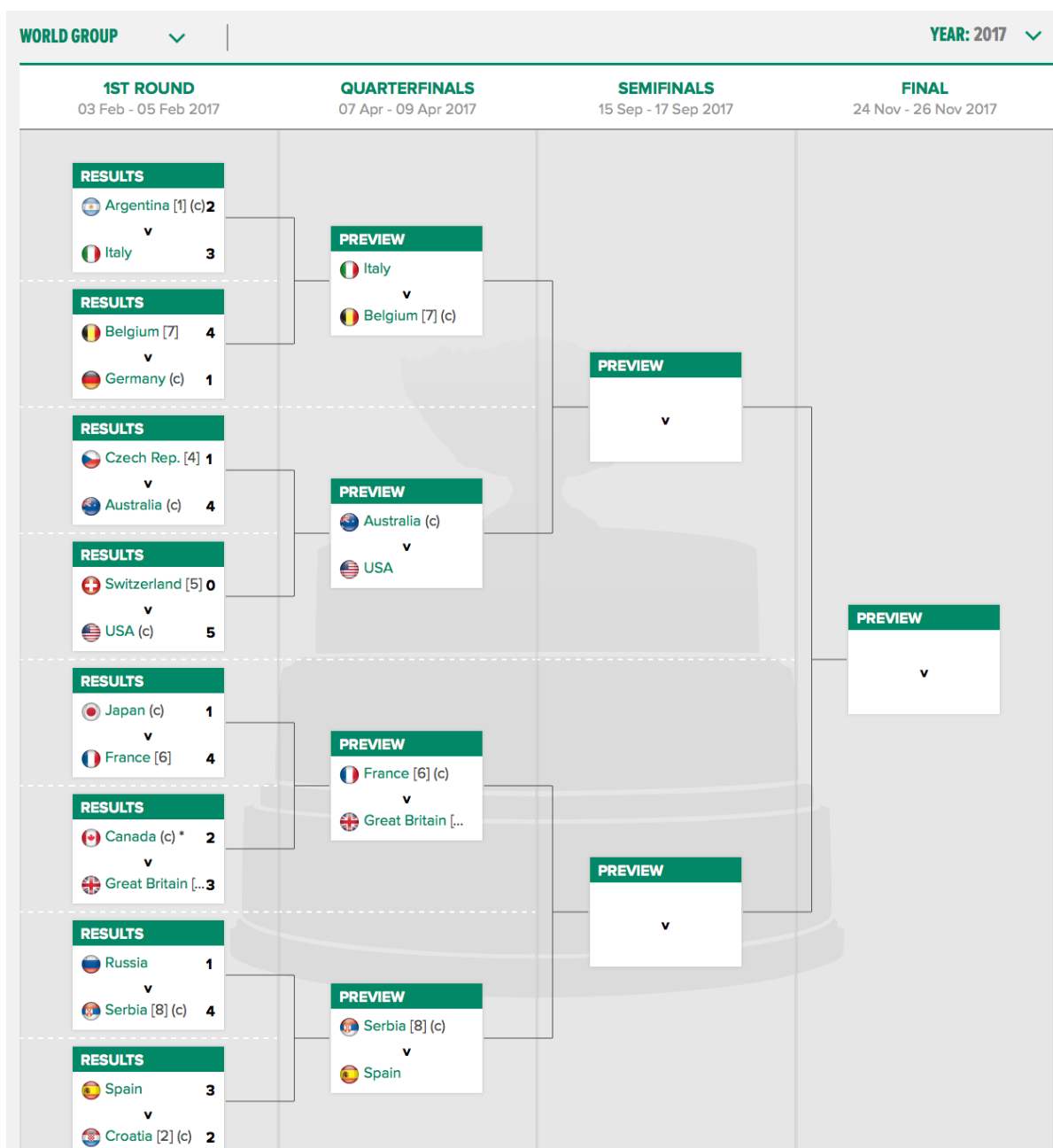
Jordan Thompson d Jan Satral 7-6 6-2.

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AO Luncheon a great success.

The 2017 AO Luncheon, held at the MCC Member's Dining Room on 27 January attracted over 350 enthusiasts and was a resounding success.

ADCTF members were able to mingle with all their Davis Cup heroes, from Frank Sedgman to Lleyton Hewitt and to listen to stories of our past glories.

First up were Pat Rafter and Lleyton Hewitt who gave us their thoughts on the current players then our MC, Leon Wiegard, interviewed Pat Cash, Wally Masur, John Fitzgerald and Darren Cahill. The highlight of the day was the celebration of our 1964 and 1965 Davis Cup victories with team members Fred Stolle, Tony Roche, John Newcombe and Roy Emerson regaling us with stories from their victory over the USA.

To finish off the afternoon Leon Wiegard interviewed "the voice of tennis" Craig Willis who shared a few stories about his involvement in the sport over so many years and the players that he has met.

Rob Hinton then conducted an auction of various tennis items including a set of clothing generously donated by Novak Djokovic.

Neale Fraser thanked everyone for supporting the Luncheon, in particular two members in attendance aged 99 & 100 years!

Our thanks to Robert Parker and the organising sub-committee who arranged this very successful function.

Next year we plan to celebrate the 1966 and 1967 Davis Cup victories.



Fred Stolle, Tony Roche, John Newcombe and Roy Emerson share a joke.



Leon Wiegard interviews Craig Willis.

Davis Cup organisation

The Foundation occasionally receives criticism about the dates for a tie, the choice of venue or the late notice for ticketing.

It seems that some members are not aware that our role is purely that of a support group for the Australian Davis Cup team. Tie dates are set each year by the ITF and the choice of venue and ticketing are the responsibility of Tennis Australia which has to work under the sometimes very tight deadlines and requirements of the ITF.



Brisbane Tie Tickets

The application form for tickets for the Brisbane Tie is now available (check the website if you haven't got a copy). Applications should be returned to the ADCTF immediately. A tour and a dinner will be organised in conjunction with the tie so look for the offers.

Masur replaces Rafter

Tennis Australia Performance Director Pat Rafter has stepped down, with former Davis Cup captain and coach, Wally Masur, moving into the role.

"The time is right for me, I came in to Davis Cup and then in this role because I wanted to make a difference and I feel we have taken some major strides" said Rafter.

Things are looking bright for Australian Tennis and we wish Wally all the best in his new role.



Wally Masur - appointed to new role.

New Team Event - "The Laver Cup"

The **Laver Cup** is an international men's tennis competition to be held annually, except during Olympic years, two weeks after the US Open, with the location rotating. The first edition will be held in Prague on September 22–24, 2017, indoors at the O2 Arena. The competition will pit six top European players against their counterparts from the rest of the world. There will be 12 matches played over three days (nine singles and three doubles), with the number of points awarded for victories increasing each day. Each player will take the court once or twice for singles, with at least four of the six taking part in doubles.

ATP Rankings at 15.2.17

Nick Kyrgios	15
Bernard Tomic	32
Jordan Thompson	63
James Duckworth	108
John Millman	111
Andrew Whittington	167
Sam Groth	183