

The News Bulletin of the
International Tennis Federation
www.itftennis.com



ITF renews agreements with Cruyff Foundation

The ITF has renewed its agreements with the Cruyff Foundation as a programme partner for the Wheelchair Tennis Silver Fund and the wheelchair tennis junior programme.



*Netherlands International Junior Camp
(Photo: Mark Bullock)*

The Cruyff Foundation began financing the Silver Fund in 2003, supporting the development of wheelchair tennis in several countries, including Bolivia, Romania, Sri Lanka, El Salvador, Bulgaria, Morocco and Indonesia. The new agreement will extend the relationship between the Cruyff Foundation and the ITF for 2006–07 to develop wheelchair tennis projects in Nigeria, Tanzania, Malaysia and Thailand.

At the same time, following the success of the partnership initiated in 2005, the Cruyff Foundation will continue to support wheelchair tennis training and competitive opportunities for juniors in 2006. The junior programme will include international and national camps, the Junior Masters at Les Petits As in France, the Junior Invacare World Team Cup and a continuation of the successful Cruyff Foundation international junior ranking started this year.

ITF President Francesco Ricci Bitti said: “We are extremely pleased to continue our relationship with the Cruyff Foundation. The Silver Fund and the wheelchair tennis junior programmes have already made a significant impact on the lives of many children worldwide. With further funding we are able to increase the opportunities available to players to participate in and enjoy wheelchair tennis.”



Clinic in Morocco (Photo: Yann Maitre)

Carole Thate, director of the Johan Cruyff Foundation, said: “Because of the great work done so far and all the kids we have reached through this project we are very happy to continue the partnership and let even more children enrich their lives through sports.”

The Wheelchair Tennis Silver Fund was set up to celebrate the 25th anniversary of wheelchair tennis. The Fund aims to establish sustainable wheelchair tennis programmes in developing nations through the provision of tennis equipment and technical expertise and the identification of local partners who will take the programme to self-supporting levels.

The Cruyff Foundation supports and stimulates play and sport for children worldwide, with a special focus on sports programmes for children with a disability. The Foundation supports a wide variety of sports projects from street soccer to sitting volleyball, and wheelchair basketball to swimming.

For further information, visit www.itftennis.com/wheelchair.

Please note that the next edition of This Week will appear on TUESDAY 3 JANUARY 2006

Inside

 Davis Cup Radio

 Australian Open prize money

 Hyundai Hopman Cup

 New Women's 80 ranking

 East African Junior Circuit

 Federation News

 Rankings

 Results



Thousands tune in to Davis Cup Radio

Davis Cup Radio presented by Getronics, which carried a live web broadcast of ball-by-ball commentary of the 2005 Davis Cup by BNP Paribas Final, proved a hit with visitors to DavisCup.com.

The service, which was made possible thanks to the generosity of Getronics and a commentary team from the Tennis Radio Network, received 56,716 connections during the three days of the Final, which generated over 7,800 hours of coverage. Listeners tuned in from all round the world, as the wealth of positive feedback sent in from Shanghai to Dubai to Dublin demonstrated. Over 12,500 audio interviews were downloaded, while the Davis Cup Radio podcasting service saw nearly 2,000 file retrievals over the weekend.

DavisCup.TV, the official broadband service of the competition, also enjoyed a surge in usage in the last few weeks of the year. There were almost 1,600 new registrations in December, as users took advantage of the free 2005 video highlights available to view online, including action from the Final. The total number of people registered is now almost 12,500, and there have been nearly 27,500 log-ons to the service during the year.

Davis Cup Radio will return in 2006 with interviews and features in the run-up to the World Group first round ties in February, followed by a daily show over the first round weekend. For further information, visit www.daviscup.com.

Australian Open offers record prize money

The 2006 Australian Open will offer a record prize fund of AUD\$19.3 million, with the men's and women's singles champions both picking up AUD\$1,220,000. For the sixth consecutive year, the tournament will offer equal prize money to men and women. For the latest news from the Australian Open, visit www.australianopen.com.

Singles	AUD\$	Doubles per team	AUD\$
Champion	1,220,000	Champions	444,500
Runner-up	610,000	Runners-up	222,250
Semifinalist	305,000	Semifinalists	110,420
Quarterfinalist	152,000	Quarterfinalists	55,210
Round of 16	76,250	Third Round	31,140
Third Round	46,760	Second Round	16,980
Second Round	28,465	First Round	9,550
First Round	18,300		

China and Netherlands launch 2006 Hyundai Hopman Cup

The 2006 Hyundai Hopman Cup begins on Friday 30 December, with China taking on the Netherlands in a preliminary match to determine the final place in Group B.

Top seeds Russia, represented by Marat Safin and Svetlana Kuznetsova, will face round robin matches against USA(4), Sweden and Serbia & Montenegro in Group A. Second seeds Argentina will take on Australia (3), Germany and the winners of the preliminary match in Group B.

The two group winners will contest the Final on Friday 6 January 2006 at 17:30 local time.

The Hyundai Hopman Cup XVII takes place at the Burswood Dome in Perth, Australia. For further information, visit www.hopmancup.com.au.

Knode tops inaugural Women's 80 ranking



*Dorothy Knode (USA)
(Photo: Paul Zimmer)*

Dorothy Knode of the United States will be named world No. 1 when the first ever Women's 80 ranking is published in the ITF Seniors year-end rankings.

A new Women's 80 singles and doubles age category was introduced at the ITF Super-Seniors World Individual Championships in Antalya, Turkey in October. Knode, a two time Roland Garros finalist (1955, 57) and Wimbledon semifinalist (1953, 57), saw off a strong German challenge, defeating Ingeborg Knuth 60 75 in the final.

Although the year-end Women's 80 ranking will be based solely on the results from the World Championships, from January 2006 singles results from all ITF Senior Circuit events will count towards the Women's 80 ranking. There will be many contenders for the No. 1 crown judging by the strong participation in this age-group at the European Championships for Super-Seniors, the USTA National events and other prominent Grade 1 tournaments in Europe.

Charles Trippe, Chairman of the ITF Seniors Committee, said: "The ITF has been very pleased with the prompt and positive response from National Associations and female players of 80 years and over who entered the ITF Super-Seniors World Championships in Turkey and showed their talent and skills on court during the tournament. As a consequence I am delighted to see the ITF Seniors department issuing the very first Women's 80 age group individual ranking in 2005." For further information, visit www.itftennis.com/seniors.

Madagascan dominates East African Junior Circuit

Lofo Ramiaramanana of Madagascar was the most successful player on the 2005 ITF East African 18 & Under Junior Circuit which ended last week in Nairobi, Kenya, following earlier legs in Rwanda and Uganda. The Circuit, which featured three events for the first time, attracted many players from East Africa, as well as the west and southern African regions, India and Europe.

Sixteen-year-old Ramiaramanana dominated the boys' events, winning two singles and two doubles titles. He defeated Tomer Hodorov (ISR) 61 61 in the Rwanda singles final, before seeing off Emmanuel Mensah (GAH) in the Uganda final. His 14-match unbeaten run was ended in the Kenya final 26 62 64 by Mensah, who consolidated his position as the highest ranked player in the circuit.

Ramiarmanana won the Rwanda and Kenya doubles titles with Bokan Setshogo of Botswana, while Mensah and Gelawdios Mesfin were victorious in Uganda.

The girls' events were far more open, although Nicole Smith (RSA) and Suzelle Davin (NAM) both reached two singles finals. Smith won the opening leg in Rwanda, defeating Davin 64 61, but went down 63 60 in the Uganda final to Veronika Studena (CZE), who had not played in Rwanda.

The final event saw 15-year-old Aziza Butoyi of Burundi become the first girl from the East Africa region to win a singles title on the circuit, defeating Davin 64 62 in the final. This was a fine achievement by a player from a country affected by civil war.

Davin and Smith captured the doubles titles in Rwanda and Kenya, while Studena teamed up with Anahita Jagtiani (IND) for success in Uganda. For further information, visit www.itftennis.com/development.

FEDERATION NEWS

The ITF, its member associations and affiliated organisations

Russia wins European tennis trophy

Tennis Europe announced that Russia has won three of its five European Tennis Trophies for 2005, including the category of Overall Tennis Performance. It also won the Professional Tennis Trophy and Junior Tennis Trophy. Germany won the Senior Tennis Trophy, while Netherlands won the Wheelchair Tennis Trophy.

This marks the fifteenth year of the awards, which are presented annually by Tennis Europe in order to recognise the performances of its 48 member nations across all areas of the game. The prizes will be formally presented at the Tennis Europe Annual General Meeting in Sofia, Bulgaria, next March.

For further information, visit www.tenniseurope.org.

Obituaries

The ITF was saddened to learn of the death of its former Media & PR Administrator **Ian Barnes**, who died on 13 December at the age of 70. Barnes, who was the tennis correspondent for the Daily Express in London for over 10 years, went on to work for the ITF from 1989-96.

The ITF has also been informed of the death of **Alois Kovacs**, tournament director of the International Spring Bowl tournament in Austria. The event has been part of the ITF Junior Circuit for over 20 years and Kovacs ran the tournament with dedication and enthusiasm. Unfortunately he lost his battle against cancer on 8 December and will be very much missed.

development events

1-22 December: Pacific Oceania Junior Team to New Zealand

18-23 December: ITF/CAT African Junior Champs, West/Central Africa Qualifying, Ghana

30 December - 20 January: Pacific Oceania Junior Team to Australia

6-13 January: ITF/CAT African Junior Champs, Southern/East Africa Qualifying, Tanzania

8-19 January: ITF 14 & Under Asian Champs - Group 2, Yangon, Myanmar



INDESIT ATP 2005 Race

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	FEDERER, Roger (SUI)	1345
2nd	NADAL, Rafael (ESP)	953
3rd	RODDICK, Andy (USA)	617
4th	HEWITT, Lleyton (AUS)	498
5th	DAVYDENKO, Nikolay (RUS)	478
6th	NALBANDIAN, David (ARG)	474
7th	AGASSI, Andre (USA)	455
8th	CORIA, Guillermo (ARG)	438
9th	LJUBICIC, Ivan (CRO)	436
10th	GAUDIO, Gaston (ARG)	410

ITF Wheelchair Rankings

MEN'S SINGLES RANKING 12.12.05

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	JEREMIASZ, Michael (FRA)	2095
2nd	HALL, David (AUS)	1950
3rd	AMMERLAAN, Robin (NED)	1821
4th	KRUSZELNICKI, Tadeusz (POL)	1301
5th	SAIDA, Satoshi (JPN)	1227
6th	LEGNER, Martin (AUT)	1227
7th	WELCH, Stephen (AUS)	1196
8th	KUNIEDA, Shingo (JPN)	1077
9th	WIKSTROM, Peter (SWE)	1036
10th	VINK, Ronald (NED)	1019

WOMEN'S SINGLES RANKING 12.12.05

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	VERGEER, Esther (NED)	2009
2nd	WALRAVEN, Sharon (NED)	1576
3rd	GRIFFIOEN, Jiske (NED)	1468
4th	GRAVELLIER, Florence (FRA)	1347
5th	SMIT, Maaïke (NED)	1144
6th	HOMAN, Korie (NED)	949
7th	YAOSA, Mie (JPN)	818
8th	SUTER-ERATH, Karin (SUI)	782
9th	BARTCZAK, Agnieszka (POL)	634
10th	CHOKYU, Yuka (CAN)	634

QUAD SINGLES RANKING 12.12.05

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	WAGNER, David (USA)	1224
2nd	TAYLOR, Nicholas (USA)	1002
3rd	NORFOLK, Peter (GBR)	938
4th	JORDAN, David (USA)	763
5th	HUNTER, Sarah (CAN)	745

Porsche Race to the Championships

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	DAVENPORT, Lindsay (USA)	4910
2nd	CLIJSTERS, Kim (BEL)	4829
3rd	MAURESMO, Amelie (FRA)	4032
4th	SHARAPOVA, Maria (RUS)	3958
5th	PIERCE, Mary (FRA)	3797
6th	SCHNYDER, Patty (SUI)	3069
7th	HENIN-HARDENNE, Justine (BEL)	2936
8th	PETROVA, Nadia (RUS)	2902
9th	DEMENTIEVA, Elena (RUS)	2751
10th	WILLIAMS, Venus (USA)	2628

ITF Junior Rankings

JUNIOR BOYS RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	YOUNG, Donald (USA)	1397.50
2nd	CILIC, Marin (CRO)	1361.25
3rd	SWEETING, Ryan (BAH)	1176.25
4th	CHARDY, Jeremy (FRA)	1077.50
5th	MAYER, Leonardo (ARG)	1060.00
6th	HAASE, Robin (NED)	745.00
7th	ROSHARDT, Robin (SUI)	733.75
8th	DESEIN, Niels (BEL)	732.50
9th	DE BAKKER, Thiemo (NED)	691.25
10th	MIELE, Andre (BRA)	690.00

JUNIOR GIRLS RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	AZARENKA, Viktoria (BLR)	2146.25
2nd	SZAVAY, Agnes (HUN)	1282.50
3rd	RADWANSKA, Agnieszka (POL)	1128.75
4th	WOZNIACKI, Caroline (DEN)	1013.75
5th	CIBULKOVA, Dominika (SVK)	958.75
6th	OLARU, Raluca (ROM)	936.25
7th	DULGHERU, Alexandra (ROM)	922.50
8th	GLATCH, Alexa (USA)	895.00
9th	CHAN, Yung-Jan (TPE)	813.75
10th	BUZARNESCU, Mihaela (ROM)	806.25

This
Week

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Results week commencing 12 December

ITF MEN'S CIRCUIT

INDIA F8 FUTURES, DELHI (\$10,000+H)

Singles

Sanam Singh (IND) d. Radoslav Nijaki (POL) 62 62

Doubles

Ravi-Shankar Pathanjali/Vinod Sridhar (IND) d. Vijay Kannan/Ashutosh Singh (IND) 63 36 63

ITF WOMEN'S CIRCUIT

\$25,000 VALASSKE MEZIRICI (CZE)

Singles

Margit Ruutel (EST) d. Eva Hrdinova (CZE) 60 62

Doubles

Darija Jurak (CRO)/Renata Voracova (CZE) d. Lucie Hradecka/Sandra Zahlavova (CZE) 63 63

\$50,000 BERGAMO (ITA)

Singles

Ekaterina Bychkova (RUS) d. Mervana Jugic-Salkic (BIH) 63 60

Doubles

Ekaterina Bychkova/Marina Shamayko (RUS) d. Francesca Lubiani/Valentina Sassi (ITA) 61 63

\$75,000+H DUBAI (UAE)

Singles

Marion Bartoli (FRA) d. Kaia Kanepi (EST) 62 60

Doubles

Gabriela Navratilova/Hana Sromova (CZE) d. Ekaterina Makarova/Olga Panova (RUS) 75 64

ITF JUNIOR CIRCUIT

MERIDA, MEXICO, GRADE 1

Boys Singles

Petru-Alexandru Lunceanu (ROM) d. Donald Young (USA) 63 63

Girls Singles

Mihaela Buzarnescu (ROM) d. Sorana-Mihaela Cirstea (ROM) 63 62

Boys Doubles

Marin Cilic (CRO)/Robin Roshardt (SUI) d. Dennis Lajola (USA)/Roberto Maytin (VEN) 63 (one set only)

Girls Doubles

Agnieszka Radwanska (POL)/Natasa Zoric (SCG) d. Bibiane Schoofs (NED)/Caroline Wozniacki (DEN) 40 54(4)

MIAMI, FL, USA, GRADE 4

Boys Singles

Axel Michon (FRA) d. Artem Smirnov (UKR) 57 63 75

Girls Singles

Kristina Antoniychuk (UKR) d. Arina Rodionova (RUS) 64 75

Boys Doubles

Vladyslav Klymenko/Artem Smirnov (UKR) d. Rikus De Villiers/James Monroe (RSA) 62 62

Girls Doubles

Kristina Antoniychuk (UKR)/Eleonora Sidjemileva (UZB) d. Arina Rodionova/Julia Semenekova (RUS) 46 64 63

PORT ELIZABETH, SOUTH AFRICA, GRADE 5

Boys Singles

Jean Andersen (RSA) d. Keith-Patrick Crowley (RSA) 75 62

Girls Singles

Bronwyn Davidson (RSA) d. Lisa Levenberg (RSA) 46 61 75

Boys Doubles

Jean Andersen/Wesley Baptiste (RSA) d. Matthew Fawcett/Mpiloenhle Migogo (RSA) 63 61

Girls Doubles

Marne Roos/Hedda Wolmarans (RSA) d. Engela Olivier/Jane Pringle (RSA) 76(2) 76(1)

SINGAPORE, GRADE 5

Boys Singles

Hyun-Soo Lim (KOR) d. Khunpol Issara (THA) 61 62

Girls Singles

Yui-Lynn Miao (TPE) d. Shiho Otake (JPN) 64 64

Boys Doubles

Aditya Hari Sasongko/Ganang Surya-atmaja (INA) d. Yong-Kyu Lim (KOR)/Mohammed-Ashaari Zainal (MAS) w/o.

Girls Doubles

Shiho Otake/Mayumi Seki (JPN) d. Mu-Ying Chen/Ting-Fei Juan (TPE) 62 62

ITF WHEELCHAIR CIRCUIT

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND, ITF FUTURES SERIES

Men's Singles

Glenn James (NZL) d. Dave Venter (NZL) 76(4) 60

Women's Singles

Jacqueline Courtier (NZL) d. Tiffney Perry (NZL) 62 63

Men's Doubles

Glenn Barnes/Cameron Hastings (NZL) d. Danny McBride/Dave Venter (NZL) 60 76(3)