

The News Bulletin of the  
International Tennis Federation  
[www.itftennis.com](http://www.itftennis.com)



## Slovaks win 2009 Hopman Cup

Slovak Republic won its third Hyundai Hopman Cup title on Friday, defeating 2007 champion Russia 2-0 at the Burswood Dome in Perth, Australia in front of 8,000 spectators.

Dominik Hrbaty and Dominika Cibulkova combined for the ITF's mixed team event and won 11 of the 12 matches they contested during the week to lift the trophy, including victories over siblings Marat Safin and Dinara Safina in the final. It was the Slovak's first victory since Hrbaty also marched to the title in 2005 with Daniela Hantuchova.

Slovak Republic reached the final when Germany's Nicolas Kiefer had to withdraw from his match against Hrbaty after rolling his ankle in Thursday's day session. The Russians needed to battle past France's Alize Cornet and Gilles Simon in the mixed doubles later that day to book their place in the final and also stop Italy reaching the final.

Hrbaty and Cibulkova both fought back from a set down in their final matches which consisted largely of long and fiercely contested rallies of the highest quality, and the outcome of each was unpredictable until the final ball. In the first, Safina and Cibulkova each had chances in their battle, but the Slovak's persistence and Safina's growing frustration eventually gave Cibulkova the upper hand 67 61 64.



*Dominik Hrbaty & Dominika  
Cibulkova (SVK)*  
(Photo: Theron Kirkman)



*Dinara Safina (RUS)*  
(Photo: Theron Kirkman)

The men's match was even more closely contested, although most games in the opening set went easily with serve. That set finally went to Safin when he struck a tremendous crosscourt forehand winner to break Hrbaty's serve at 6-5 in the tiebreak. The second set saw Hrbaty break at love to lead 5-4, but he failed to serve out the set at his first opportunity. Safin levelled at 5-5, but Hrbaty was able to break again and take the match to a deciding set.

Safin earned an early chance to take control but failed to convert four break points to lead 3-1, and that proved to be costly. With that crisis averted Hrbaty didn't face another break point as the set went to another tiebreak, which the Slovak claimed to give him a 67 75 76 victory and secure the title for Slovak Republic. The two matches lasted a total of exactly five hours and because they finished well after midnight, the mixed doubles was not played.

Visit the official Hyundai Hopman Cup website [www.hopmancup.com](http://www.hopmancup.com) for full reports, results, photos and interviews from the 2009 tournament. The ITF website also has a dedicated Hopman Cup section where you can find reports and photos from this and previous editions of the event.



## Countdown to 2009 Australian Open

The first Grand Slam of the year, the 2009 Australian Open, gets underway in just a week's time with defending men's champion Novak Djokovic, world No. 1's Rafael Nadal and Jelena Jankovic and leading Grand Slam champions Roger Federer and Serena Williams all heading to Melbourne for the event, to be held 19 January - 1 February.

Defending champion Maria Sharapova is the most high profile name absent from the line-up, having not recovered sufficiently from a right shoulder injury that blighted much of her 2008 campaign. Another former champion, Lindsay Davenport, will also miss the tournament while pregnant with her second child. The men's draw is missing world No. 5 Nikolay Davydenko due to a heel injury.

Tennis Australia has announced that Bernard Tomic (AUS), Sam Groth (AUS), Colin Ebelthite (AUS), Brydan Klein (AUS), Carsten Ball (AUS), John Isner (USA), Adrian Panatta (ITA) and Denis Istomin (UZB) have been awarded wild cards into the men's main draw. The women's wild cards are Jelena Dokic (AUS), Monika Wejnert (AUS), Olivia Rogowska (AUS), Isabella Holland (AUS), Jessica Moore (AUS), Christina McHale (USA), Kristina Mladenovic (FRA) and Yuan Meng (CHN). Tennis Australia also announced that this year's winners will receive AUD\$2 million and the runners-up AUD\$1 million, an increase of 12.3 per cent on 2008.

Qualifying takes place Wednesday through Saturday in the run-up to the main draw event, and the draw will be held on Friday 16 January. For further information, including how to purchase tickets, please visit [www.australianopen.com](http://www.australianopen.com).



Novak Djokovic (SRB)  
(Photo: Paul Zimmer)

## Burundi claim team competition in Tanzania



The Burundi team with Frank Couraud

Burundi came out on top in the East Africa Junior Championships which finished at the weekend in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, claiming victory in three of the four competitions. This domination ensured they were crowned champions and retained the team trophy for the second year running.

Nikita Dawda's victory in the girls' 14 & under event helped Kenya to a second place in the team competition. She overcame Semira Michael (ETH) 61 63 in the final. In the boys' 14 & under section, Guy-Orly Iradukunda (BDI) defeated Ibrahim Shabani (TAN) 62 61 in the final.

In the 16 & under event, Burundi came out top in both the boys' and girls' sections. Laura Syori (BDI) won the girls' event by defeating Shufaa Changawa (KEN) 16 61 62. In the boys' section, it was an all-Burundian battle for the top spot with Hassan Ndayishimiye overcoming Iddrissa Ndayisenga 64 75.

The proceedings finished with the President of the Tanzania Tennis Association, Mr Dennis Makoi, thanking the sponsors and the ITF/CAT for their continuous support. ITF Development Administrator Frank Couraud, who was present at the tournament, thanked the Federation for a well organised event. He also acknowledged the media who covered the event very well.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### National Association updates

#### Cameroon - CMR

#### **Federation Camerounaise de Tennis**

New President:

**Mr Jean Marie Abouna**

New telephone:

**+237 99 93 80 70**

New email:

**socatrac031@yahoo.fr**

#### Israel - ISR

#### **Israel Tennis Association**

New President:

**Michael Klein**

#### Egypt - EGY

#### **Egyptian Tennis Federation**

New President:

**Israa El Sanhoury**

New Vice President:

**Motaz Sonbol**

#### Mauritania - MTN

#### **Federation Mauritanienne de Tennis**

New Address:

**Avenue gemal abdel nasser  
Immeuble BMCI Appt no. 206  
BP: 1629  
Mauritania**

### Obituary - Sidney Wood

The ITF was saddened to learn of the death of Sidney Wood who died on Saturday in Palm Beach, Florida at the age of 97.

Mr Wood reached a career high of No. 5 in 1938, won Wimbledon in 1931 and was a finalist at the US Championships in 1935. He was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1964.

## ITF Wheelchair Rankings

### MEN'S SINGLES RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	KUNIEDA, Shingo (JPN)	4341
2nd	AMMERLAAN, Robin (NED)	3229
3rd	HOUDET, Stephane (FRA)	2358
4th	JEREMIASZ, Michael (FRA)	2256
5th	OLSSON, Stefan (SWE)	2240
6th	KRUSZELNICKI, Tadeusz (POL)	1904
7th	SCHEFFERS, Maikel (NED)	1847
8th	LEGNER, Martin (AUT)	1623
9th	SAIDA, Satoshi (JPN)	1622
10th	PEIFER, Nicolas (FRA)	1574

### WOMEN'S SINGLES RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	VERGEER, Esther (NED)	3685
2nd	HOMAN, Korie (NED)	2663
3rd	GRIFFIOEN, Jiske (NED)	1933
4th	GRAVELLIER, Florence (FRA)	1766
5th	WALRAVEN, Sharon (NED)	1577
6th	VAN KOOT, Aniek (NED)	1007
7th	YAOSA, Mie (JPN)	998
8th	SEVENANS, Annick (BEL)	971
9th	FRIDMAN, Ilanit (ISR)	962
10th	HONG, Young-Suk (KOR)	875

### QUAD SINGLES RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	NORFOLK, Peter (GBR)	3112
2nd	WAGNER, David (USA)	2888
3rd	ANDERSSON, Johan (SWE)	1496
4th	TAYLOR, Nicholas (USA)	1348
5th	VAN ERP, Bas (NED)	1121

### Visit the ITF websites

ITF homepage: [www.itftennis.com](http://www.itftennis.com)

Davis Cup website: [www.daviscup.com](http://www.daviscup.com)  
[www.daviscup.com/es](http://www.daviscup.com/es)

Fed Cup website: [www.fedcup.com](http://www.fedcup.com)

ITF Store: <http://store.itftennis.com>

## ITF Junior Rankings

### JUNIOR BOYS RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	YANG, Tsung-Hua (TPE)	1173.75
2nd	BHAMBRI, Yuki (IND)	1110.00
2nd	DIMITROV, Grigor (BUL)	1087.50
4th	TOMIC, Bernard (AUS)	980.00
5th	PEREIRA, Jose (BRA)	725.00
6th	BASIC, Mirza (BIH)	681.25
7th	KRAJINOVIC, Filip (SRB)	635.00
8th=	BUCHANAN, Chase (USA)	630.00
8th=	VAZQUEZ-VALENZUELA, Juan (ARG)	630.00
10th	URIGUEN, Julien (GUA)	617.50

### JUNIOR GIRLS RANKING

Position	Player Name (Nationality)	Points
1st	LERTCHEEWAKARN, Noppawan (THA)	1082.50
2nd	BOGDAN, Ana (ROU)	995.00
3rd	HALEP, Simona (ROU)	987.50
4th	BOGDAN, Elena (ROU)	981.25
5th	ROBSON, Laura (GBR)	980.00
6th	TOMLIJANOVIC, Alja (CRO)	803.75
7th	NARA, Kurumi (JPN)	790.00
8th	OU DIN, Melanie (USA)	757.50
9th	JOVANOVSKI, Bojana (SRB)	741.25
10th	EMBREE, Lauren (USA)	706.25

### development events

5-23 January: ITF/OTF Pacific Oceania Junior Team - Australia

8-13 January: ITF/CAT Southern Africa Junior Championships - Pretoria, South Africa

10-21 January: ITF 14&Under Asian Championships, Group 2 - Sarawak, Malaysia

12-18 January: North East European Regional Training Camp - Estonia

EDITOR: Emily Bevan/Emily Forder-White

THIS WEEK IS PRODUCED BY:  
ITF Communications Department  
Tel: +44 20 8878 6464; Fax: +44 20 8392 4747  
Email: [communications@itftennis.com](mailto:communications@itftennis.com)

## Results weeks commencing 5 January

### ITF MEN'S CIRCUIT

#### CHINA F1 FUTURES, GUANGZHOU (\$15,000)

##### Singles

Tsung-Hua Yang (TPE) d. Shao-Xuan Zeng (CHN) 63 57 64

##### Doubles

Hsin-Han Lee/Tsung-Hua Yang (TPE) d. Zhe Li/Yu Jr. Wang (CHN) 60 63

#### GERMANY F1 FUTURES, SCHWIEBERDINGEN (\$10,000)

##### Singles

Andis Juska (LAT) d. Daniel Lustig (CZE) 76(3) 63

##### Doubles

Andis Juska (LAT)/Lukas Rosol (CZE) d. David Klier/Philipp Marx (GER) 61 64

### ITF JUNIOR CIRCUIT

#### SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, GRADE 1

##### Boys Singles

David Souto (VEN) d. Denis Kudla (USA) 62 62

##### Girls Singles

Madison Keys (USA) d. Valeria Solovieva (RUS) 64 75

##### Boys Doubles

Jesus Bandres/David Souto (VEN) d. Mauricio Astorga (MEX)/Gabriel Dias (BRA) 60 36 [10-8]

##### Girls Doubles

Veronica Cepede Royg (PAR)/Cecilia Costa (CHI) d. Gabriela Dabrowski (CAN)/Zsofia Susanyi (HUN) 61 64

#### CHANDIGARH, INDIA, GRADE 3

##### Boys Singles

Laurent-Olivier Daxhelet (BEL) d. Yoannis Hilelis (FRA) 61 60

##### Girls Singles

Valentina Starkova (KAZ) d. Kyra Shroff (IND) 36 62 60

##### Boys Doubles

Chandril Sood/Lakshit Sood (IND) d. Jeroen Benard (NED)/Jeroen Claeys (BEL) 26 63 [10-6]

##### Girls Doubles

Sachie Ishizu (JPN)/Melis Sezer (TUR) d. Kyra Shroff/Rashmi Teltumbde (IND) 63 63

#### KAWAGUCHI, JAPAN, GRADE 4

##### Boys Singles

Jea Moon Lee (KOR) d. Shota Tagawa (JPN) 63 64

##### Girls Singles

Shoko Yamamoto (JPN) d. Ayaka Okuno (JPN) 76(1) 64

##### Boys Doubles

Yutaro Matsuzaki/Keisuke Watanuki (JPN) d. Yi-Lun Lin (TPE)/Yohei Ono (JPN) 75 62

##### Girls Doubles

Arisa Murakami/Midori Yamamoto (JPN) d. Moe Aoki/Nao Tada (JPN) 62 64

#### VASTERAS, SWEDEN, GRADE 4

##### Boys Singles

Oliver Golding (GBR) d. Tobias Blomgren (SWE) 75 64

##### Girls Singles

Mai Grage (DEN) d. Ellen Allgurin (SWE) 26 63 64

##### Boys Doubles

Tuomas Manner (FIN)/Mate Pavic (CRO) d. Cedrick Commin/Antoine Escoffier (FRA) 76(7) 76(4)

##### Girls Doubles

Ysaline Bonaventure (BEL)/Rosalie Van der Hoek (NED) d. Mai Grage (DEN)/Katharina Holert (GER) 63 46 [10-6]

## This Week Next Week

### Events - week commencing 12 January

#### MEN/WOMEN AUSTRALIAN OPEN QUALIFYING, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

<b>MEN</b>	Germany F2 Futures	Stuttgart	\$10,000
	Spain F1 Futures	Menorca	\$10,000
	USA F1 Futures	Boca Raton, FL	\$10,000
	China F2 Futures	Shenzhen	\$15,000
	Great Britain F1 Futures	Glasgow	\$15,000
<b>WOMEN</b>	Great Britain	Glasgow	\$10,000
	USA	Boca Raton, FL	\$25,000
<b>SENIORS</b>	Austria	Seefeld	Grade 1
<b>JUNIORS</b>	Australia	Traralgon	Grade 1
	Venezuela	Caracas	Grade 1
	India	New Delhi	Grade 2
	Slovak Republic	Bratislava	Grade 2
	Austria	Bergheim	Grade 4
	Poland	Szczecin	Grade 4
<b>WHEELCHAIR</b>	New Zealand	Christchurch	ITF 2 Series
	Chile	Vina del Mar	ITF Futures Series

### Events - week commencing 19 January

#### MEN/WOMEN AUSTRALIAN OPEN, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

<b>MEN</b>	Austria F1 Futures	Bergheim	\$10,000
	El Salvador F1 Futures	Santa Tecla	\$10,000
	Germany F3 Futures	Kaarst	\$10,000
	Israel F1 Futures	Eilat 1	\$10,000
	Spain F2 Futures	Magaluf	\$10,000
	USA F2 Futures	Hollywood, FL	\$10,000
	Great Britain F2 Futures	Sheffield	\$15,000
	<b>WOMEN</b>	Germany	Kaarst
Great Britain		Wrexham	\$10,000
USA		Lutz, FL	\$25,000
<b>SENIORS</b>	Australia	Unley	Grade 1
	Great Britain	Dudley	Grade 2
	USA	Rancho Mirage, CA	Grade 2
	USA	Palm Beach Gardens, FL	Grade 3
<b>JUNIORS</b>	Colombia	Barranquilla	Grade 1
	Czech Republic	Prerov	Grade 1
	India	Kolkata	Grade 3
	Germany	Hamburg	Grade 4
	China	Hong Kong	Grade 5
	United Arab Emirates	Fujairah	Grade 5
<b>WHEELCHAIR</b>	New Zealand	Christchurch	ITF 3 Series

Visit [www.itftennis.com](http://www.itftennis.com) for full contact details for all forthcoming events