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NOC SL News

Familiar faces take Clay Court Crowns



Open tournament season resumes

Seventh seed Yasith de Silva and experienced Anika Seneviratne wore the respective men's and women's Clay Court National 2020 tennis titles at the championship held from 21st to the 29th August. The tournament was organized by the Sri Lanka Tennis Association (SLTA) and was played out at the SLTA clay courts, Greenpath.

The tournament was organized by the Sri Lanka Tennis Association (SLTA) and was played out at the SLTA clay courts, Greenpath. Scheduled to be played earlier this year in March, and being postponed due to the pandemic, the Men's and Women's -

events did not fail to disappoint in this Grade One tournament with a few notable performances and favourites not coming forward as expected.

De Silva delivers

The draw was blown wide open early on at the top half with the exit of tournament favourite and top seed Sharmal Dissanayake due to personal reasons. One of the most eye-catching performances in the first half came from the 15-year-old Kiran Vairavanathan beating two seeded players and stretching Savith Weerasinghe to a tie-breaker in the second -

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set after losing the first set at 7/5.

However, Weerasinghe proved to be too strong and booked a semi-final match with Sankha Athukorale.

The unseeded Weerasinghe once again came up trumps and reached the final in a convincing manner with a final score of 7/5,6/3.

Seneviratne serves up another win

Surprises were far and few in the women's main event with the tournament favourites heading into the latter stages of the tournament with many interesting matches along the way. However, there was a top half stumble with the top seed Janali Manamperi losing out to Savini Jayasuriya 6/4, 2/6, 5/7 in the semi-final and thus placed herself in the final.

Her opponent, however, did not have a relatively comfortable path. Second seeded Anika Seneviratne faced a couple of tricky opponents along the way, starting from the round of 16 match series against Oneli Perera.

Eventually winning 6/2, 5/7, 10/3, Seneviratne's persistence paid off again against Neyara Weerawansa in another three-set match in the semi-final with the final score on the board showing 4/6, 6/3, 6/2.

In the final, it was a relatively comfortable win for the bottom seed with Seneviratne ploughing her way through against Jayasuriya 6/2, 6/1 and achieving the 'Queen of Clay' title for the year 2020 - another feather to add to her already remarkable CV in her tennis career.

The tournament referee was Dhara-ka Ellawalla and was powered by HNB and Hutch.

By Kavinka Fernando
Courtesy : Baseline Magazine



TAFISA World Walking Day at Kelaniya

The TAFISA World Walking Day 24 Hours around the Globe has officially started and is going strong! On Sunday October 4 the Sri Lanka version of the walk was held at Kelaniya adjacent to the historic Kelaniya Temple premises with the participation of over seventy five participants.

Keeping to tradition in Sri Lanka too the walk took place with a set of teen roller skaters doing the walk.

Throughout the day, participants from all over the world are passing the baton at 10am local time, joining a relay going across the globe from east to west.



Suresh Subramaniam wins at Digana

Suresh Subramaniam, who generally associates himself as a veteran tennis player along with his responsibilities of the president of the National Olympic Committee, took another leaf from his sporting shelf by bagging the Mark Bostock Memorial Trophy 2020 golf championship, yesterday.

He was named as the overall champion at Rajawella, while consistent performer Chamara Abeyrathna became the runner-up at this event. More than 80 golfers, both members and non-members alike, teed off at this scenic green. Meanwhile Haroon Aslam ended as the Gross winner with young -



Nireth Tejwani becoming the second best in this event.

Niloo Jayathilake got a major liking towards the Victoria course winning at will when she accounted for the Ladies Gross winner with Melanie Bond ending as runner-up.

Jayathilake ended with a double with a win at the Ladies' longest drive as well.

Ladies nearest to the PIN (Pauline Morley), Gents nearest to the PIN (Chamara Abeyrathna), Gents longest drive (Lalith Rohitha), Senior's Ladies (Pauline Morley) and Senior's Gents (Dr. Amunugama) won the rest of the awards.

