2006 AUSTRALIAN TENNIS CONFERENCE

Melbourne, Australia
12-15 January
Melbourne University

FRESH & FOCUSED



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COACHING CORNER

Coaches Shine at TCAV Awards Night BY NICK HINNEBERG

Michael Robertson, who is now working with Jason Stoltenberg at the National High Performance Academy, and Sue Saliba from Parkwood Tennis Club were honoured recently at the TCAV's annual Christmas and Graduation awards night held at the Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club.

Guest speaker Steve Wood, CEO of Tennis Australia, spoke on a range of tennis issues including his vision for the direction of tennis in Australia. He also made a special acknowledgment of the enormous contribution of tennis coaches.

Sue Saliba was honoured with the George Gilmour memorial Club Coach of the Year trophy.

This award recognises the significant contribution that a coach's business makes to their local tennis club.

Both Saliba and Parkwood Tennis Club vice president, Deb Stagg, were presented with the trophy and individual plaques. They also received tennis equipment to the value of \$500 for their club.

Congratulations also to Michael Robertson who received the TCAV Coach of the Year award. This year the award was supported by SportEd Victoria and acknowledges excellence in coaching from general participation to player development. Robertson was presented with the TCAV Coach of the Year trophy, \$200 of coaching equipment and a SportEd voucher.

TCAV also presented special Service Commendations to two of its long-standing members.



Craig Tiley - Tennis Australia Director of Player Development in action

These awards recognise the significant contribution and distinguished service to our Coaching Association and more broadly to the tennis industry in Victoria. Ian Occleshaw was a founding member of TCAV in 1956 and has been involved with the Association in various roles for 50 years including as president and secretary.

Judy Bull has served on the TCAV Board for 27 years and as president for 13 years. In addition, she has been involved with coach education for 30 years.

Over 80 graduates were awarded course certificates from the 2005 TCAV coaching courses. They were a mixture of development and advanced course graduates.

Each development course produced a top graduate who excelled during their course. These coaches were Wayne Johnson, Sarah Purcell, Joshua Katz and Kelvin Callaghan. Dux of the 2005 advanced course was James Zois.

The evening exceeded everyone's expectations. Congratulations to all award recipients and course graduates and thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a success.



TCAV Commendation award winners: Judy Bull and Ian Occleshaw



James Zois celebrates his TCAV Advanced course Dux award



Delegates at the 2006 Australian Tennis Conference (with the green mini mascot)

Coaches 'Fresh and Focused' for 2006

One of the highlights of the tennis coaching calender is the biennial Australian Tennis Conference (ATC) supported by Tennis Coaches Australia and Tennis Australia. This premier coaching event gives coaches the opportunity to be inspired by world class presenters, hear new coaching ideas and also to meet other industry professionals and network.

This year, the event was held over three and a half days at Melbourne University from 12 to 15 January and was a resounding success with over 220 coaches in attendance.

Coaches were treated to a wide range of presentations from marketing, stroke analysis, squad training, international developments in tennis (such as 'Hawk Eye') and discovering the benefits of pilates. There was a great mixture of on and off-court presentations, featuring tennis guest speakers Jim Courier, Alicia Molik and Roger Rasheed (Lleyton Hewitt's coach).

In addition to the ATC presentations, there were several social events, including the Wilson Tennis Party and the Prince ATC dinner on Saturday night. Golf and the new hybrid sport of beach tennis were also optional activities held during the first day.

Delegates had the opportunity to view and purchase tennis-related products at special prices throughout the Conference at the many on-site tradeshows. All delegates receive 18 PD points towards their Tennis Australia Certification for their full attendance at the 2006 ATC.

A special thanks to all those coaches who invested in themselves and their businesses by attending the 2006 ATC. All delegates will have gained many new and exciting ideas for the coaching year ahead. Thank you also to the ATC organising committee who volunteered their time to co-ordinate such a successful event.