



Preserving the Past.
Promoting the Future.

KOOYONG SLAMS AGAIN



The Kooyong Foundation has produced another junior Grand Slam winner with the outstanding success of Marc Polmans in the Boys Doubles at the 2015 Australian Open. Marc's victory with partner Jake Delaney came just a few months after another Kooyong Foundation Scholarship player, Omar Jasika, clinched the rare double of winning both junior singles and doubles titles at the 2014 US Open.

Marc Polmans (left) and Jake Delaney with their Grand Slam trophy at Melbourne Park.

The victories by Omar and Marc mean that Kooyong Foundation players currently hold three of the eight Grand Slam junior titles.

Foundation Chairman, Peter Quinn, yesterday congratulated Marc on becoming a Grand Slam champion. "Marc has worked extremely hard at developing his game and is now enjoying the reward for his efforts," Peter said. "Omar, too, is a committed and determined young player with great potential. I'd like to think that both these young men have benefited not only from the coaching and other help they have received but also from the warm and friendly atmosphere at Kooyong."

Kooyong President Peter Carew was equally delighted with Marc's victory and the club's unprecedented achievement of claiming three Grand Slams.

"Kooyong deserves its title as the spiritual home of Australian tennis," he said. "Our club doesn't simply provide for the needs of its members but takes a positive role in promoting the development of young players."

Marc and Jake Delaney looked long odds to win the doubles final at Melbourne Park when they crashed to a 0/6 result in the first set against Hubert Hurkacz of Poland and Alex Molcan from Slovakia. However, they came out firing in the second set, teaming together like a well-oiled doubles combination, to claim the set comfortably at 6/2.

The result was decided in an exciting Super Tiebreak with the Aussie boys showing coolness under pressure to triumph 10/8.

Although they had played together on occasions in



Omar Jasika celebrates one of his two US Open Grand Slams.

the past, Marc and Jake, from NSW, came together in unusual circumstances for the Australian Open. Marc was expecting to play with South Korean Duck Hee Lee, with whom he had reached the quarters at the US Open, but on the eve of the tournament Lee told him he was playing with a fellow countryman.

Marc seemed stuck but quickly sought out his mate Jake. "I messaged Jake on Facebook asking if he had a doubles partner and he said, 'No, let's play,' so it was great to play with another Aussie guy," Marc explained. "We somehow drew the No.1 seeds in the first round, so we thought, 'Let's play one match and see how it goes.' "We scraped through the super (tiebreak) and somehow just kept it rolling from there.

"Jake and I worked really well as a team under pressure and it was just great fun to play with him and win a junior Grand Slam doubles. "It is, obviously, a great thing and to do it in Australia in front of my friends and family was a great moment."

Jake said the pair had plenty of experience playing together in the under 12 and under 14 ranks, team well together and maintain a positive attitude even when things aren't going their way on court.

He was full of praise for Marc's court craft. "He's the doubles specialist, I'm happy to always play with him.

I don't think there are too many better doubles players out there than him. He's got some pretty unreal hands at the net.

"Some other guys I've played with, you sort of get down and the teamwork just sort of stops, that doesn't really happen with Marc."

The title capped off a great tournament for 17-year-old Marc from East Brighton. Earlier in the week he had fought through to the quarter final of the singles, finally bowing out to the Number One seed and ultimate champion Roman Safiullin, whose big serve troubled all opponents.

The Foundation also saw a number of its players progress through the early rounds of the Open. Brilliant youngster Destanee Aiava, still just 14, won two rounds of the girls singles before losing to the 17-year-old fourth seed, Aliona Bolsova Zadoinov from Spain.

Destanee, who is rated one of Australia's brightest hopes for the future, makes a habit of playing against much older opposition. Kooyong members might recall her astonishing performance a couple of years back when at the age of 12 she reached the open women's singles final of the Club Championships.

Kooyong's Andrew Whittington, John Peers & Destanee Aiava were others to shine at Melbourne Park

Kooyong's Andrew Whittington and John Peers were others to shine at Melbourne Park. Andrew made the third round of the men's doubles with Alex Bolt, backing up his quarterfinal run from last year. They went down 7/6 7/6.

John also reached the third round of the doubles with Scot Jamie Murray before they went down after winning the first set against the number four seeds. John also made the quarterfinals of the mixed doubles with Casey Delacqua, losing to the top seeds.

Both Peter Carew and Peter Quinn this week thanked Kooyong members and friends for their ongoing support for the Foundation. Since it was founded 13 years ago the Foundation has raised more than \$1 million, assisted more than 300 junior players and has helped to secure much of the memorabilia that is now such an integral part of the new clubhouse.

Last month the Club and the Foundation were recognised by Tennis Victoria for their outstanding contribution to the sport, in particular the assistance given to Omar Jasika. At a function attended by representatives of 350 tennis clubs, the US Junior Open titleholder presented Peter Carew with a framed photograph of himself on his way to victory at Flushing Meadow. He also thanked Kooyong for its role in launching his career.

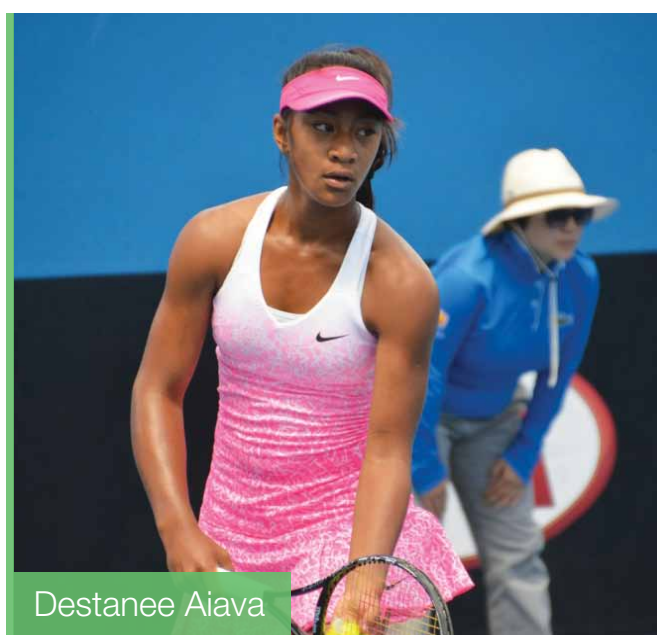
The picture can be viewed in the Foundation display case on the right side as you enter the clubhouse via the members' entrance.



Andrew Whittington



John Peers



Destanee Aiava



Preserving the Past. Promoting the Future.

Since the Kooyong Foundation was launched 13 years ago it has provided hundreds of talented and deserving young players with scholarships to develop their game in the Club's wonderful environment. Many of these young men and women have seized their opportunity and gone on to become excellent players, successfully representing their country in individual and teams events around the world.

Now the club can boast the rare feat of having assisted two young men to Junior Grand Slam success in the space of five months.

Over the years members and friends of Kooyong have donated more than a million dollars to aid the Foundation's work in promoting junior tennis and preserving the past through the splendid collection of memorabilia on display in the clubhouse.

This work will go on and the Club needs to call upon the generosity of its members to ensure that the Foundation continues to flourish.

If you wish to support this cause you can do so in a tax-effective manner via the Australian Sports Foundation. Please ask at the front desk for a donation form. Gifts can also be made in a similar way through the Club's website.

A number of supporters have also chosen to remember the Foundation by making a bequest in their will.

For any further information please contact **Kooyong CEO Chris Brown 9822 3333**
or **Foundation Chairman Peter Quinn 0418 396 999**.

To make a donation visit www.kooyong.com.au

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