# Mission to save the Davis Cup from oblivion

**COURTNEY WALSH** TENNIS

A week after playing an epic Davis Cup match against Juan Martin del Potro, Andy Murray has conceded there is some merit to changing the format of one of the world's iconic sporting events.

Murray and the Argentine slugged it out for more than five hours in the opening rubber last Friday, with del Potro clinching what turned out to be the decisive match in the semi-final.

Anyone viewing the tie in isolation would think the Davis Cup was in rude health, with two elite combatants striving with every muscle to claim victory for their nation in front of 12,000 fans in Glasgow.

But the International Tennis Federation is mindful the signs in general are far less positive and is considering changes to the Davis and Fed Cups to ensure both remain the sport's premier teams events.

The ITF is considering abandoning a nation's right to host semi-finals and finals, on a return basis, and instead inviting neutral cities and countries to bid for the deciders

A final-four event is proposed for the Fed Cup, which would see the semi-finals and final played in succession in the same city, with the competition's world group extended from eight to 16 nations. Consideration is also being given to the merits of Davis Cup rubbers being played over three sets.

While Australia and nations such as France still draw their best players, decent crowds and reasonable publicity, it is not necessarily the case elsewhere.

Tennis Australia and the USTA, the bodies in charge of the two most successful Davis Cup nations in history, are adding another layer of argument with their support for the Laver Cup.



**Britain's Andy Murray** 

Driven by Roger Federer and based on a Ryder Cup-style format, it will make its debut next year in Prague, with a follow-up played in 2018 in the US.

ITF president David Haggerty said the mooted changes to the Davis and Fed Cups would be discussed at an AGM next August.

"We have enjoyed significant

fan interest in both competitions over recent years and remain determined to grow that passion and support globally," Haggerty said. The potential changes out-

lined today will help these unique international team tennis competitions to grow and prosper."

Murray, who led Britain to victory in the Davis Cup last year, is not convinced about the idea of abandoning host privileges for finals.

"With the neutral venue, I am not sold on that," he said. "I do love the home and away atmosphere that we get in the Davis Cup

"It is something that we, as tennis players, aren't really used to because when we travel around the world, we are playing in neutral venues a lot of the time and the home and away aspect of the Davis Cup is something that I enjoy and makes it different."

Paul McNamee, a member of Australia's victorious 1983 and 1986 sides, is aghast at some elements up for vote.

"So the Davis Cup semis and finals would resemble a regular tournament. Shame on the ITF. Change it, yes, but not like this. Dear me," he wrote on Twitter.

Murray, who was speaking prior to a charity match in Glasgow, has long been a staunch supporter of best-of-five matches amid suggestions from some that the longer concept is outdated.

But he conceded there might be merit in shortening Davis Cup matches, with ties played over two days instead of three.

Depending on the format, this could avoid situations such as the one that occurred in Australia's win over Slovakia in Sydney last weekend in a playoff to retain a spot in the world group.

The Australians claimed the tie on Saturday so Sunday's matches were dead, though rain ultimately washed out the day.

"A lot of the players have spoken about that, about shortening the format, maybe playing it over Saturday and Sunday, best of three sets," Murray said. "I like that idea. If it doesn't work, you can always change back.

"A lot of the top players have spoken about the scheduling and format of the Davis Cup for a number of years and nothing has changed, so trying something new would give the event a lift for sure in terms of the participation of the top players.'

Meanwhile, the Tennis Integrity Unit has banned French professional Constant Lestienne for seven months after he placed bets on 220 matches between 2012 and 2015. The 24-year-old, who is ranked 164, did not wager on any matches he was involved in.

Half of the sentence is suspended, so too a \$10,000 fine provided he assists the TIU in anticorruption measures.

## Ricciardo get his teeth into dream F1 track



WILL RUSSELL

Formula One driver Daniel Ricciardo shows off his custom-designed Scalextric racing track inspired by his favourite circuits

The Grand Prix star can't beat Nic Nat on a Scalextric circuit

TRENT DALTON MOTORSPORT

That smile has its own T-shirt; that top lip grin that curves like a Monaco chicane opening to an Albert Park straight of perfect white teeth.

"Smile like you're Danny Ric!" the shirt demands. Some 200 Perth Formula One fans heartily obeved that instruction vesterday as hometown hero Daniel Ricciardo packed out the local Crown Casino sports bar to unveil his personally designed Scalextric racing track inspired by iconic F1 tracks he's sped through around the

Naturally, Ricciardo's dream racetrack was a deadly circuit of brutal corners and white-lightning straights that saw his model Red Bull car collide violently with his lone competitor car fingersteered with a surprisingly deft touch by the AFL tragic's old mate, West Coast Eagles superstar Nic Naitanui.

"Trust me, driving the real thing is a lot more exhilarating," Ricciardo said. Fresh from a valiant second-place finish in the Singapore Grand Prix last Sunday, Ricciardo is briefly home to see family and friends and spread the word on Fox Sports' exclusive coverage of the 2016 Formula One Championship which heads to Malaysia next weekend. There was reason to throw that

million-dollar smile yesterday as

'This year most things we've put on the car are working'

DANIEL RICCIARDO

Ricciardo looked back on a hot and heartening streak of four championship podium finishes from his past five races.

"It's one of those seasons that has worked well," he said. "Last year, the team was always trying but it didn't always work out. It

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was a bit more of a fight. Whereas, this year most things we've put on the car are working

He was careful to balance the backslaps with insight into the challenge of conquering Mercedes duo Nico Rosberg and Lewis Hamilton, who have largely fought off his courageous shots at securing his first race victory since

"The big thing they've had for the last few years is the power," he

"It seems when they want to they can turn it up a bit more. We've still got some gains to make there but that would be the bigger

Yesterday Ricciardo was sensing the slow build that might see him conquer Mercedes and even

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 $take \,out \,the \,champion ship \,in \,2017.$ "I've got momentum on my side," he said. "(Rosberg and Hamilton) have had it pretty easy the last few years.

"It's about time we made them a bit nervous. They're still controlling a lot of the races. It's nice to give them a hard time.

He took approximately one-

tenth of a second to respond to a question of who would win the championship on a perfectly even playing field.

"Me," he said. "Otherwise I'm wasting my time.'

And in the battle of the Ricciardo Scalextric track racers yesterday, the beaming underdog winner inspired a new T-shirt of his own: "Smile like you're Nic

Thanks to all those that participated

in the **CCA STATE IC POWERADE** TRADE INCENTIVE. Winners are currently being validated and will be advertised

19 October 2016.

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winner: J. Betts (Bond University)

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- 1. Reflect the new functions and features in Westpac Live that allow for the opening and management of Term Deposits; and
- 2. Incorporate recent amendments to the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and Taxation Administration Act 1953 in regards to Farm Management Deposits.

	Change Section	Change Detail
	Section A - Features and Benefits	We have extended the ability for business customers to open Term Deposits online and have updated the table accordingly.
	Clause 6.1 'Authority to operate'	We have clarified that a Notice of Authority form does not provide access to Online Banking and that a separate form is required for this.
	Clause 6.2 'Access Levels for Online Banking and Business Telephone Banking'	We have updated the table to include the ability to open and manage a Term Deposit in Online Banking and we have clarified the functionality that is available in Online Banking and Business Telephone Banking.
	Clause 9.1 'Renewing your Account'	We have allowed for renewal instructions to be provided via Online Banking, Telephone Banking or at any of our branches.
	Clause 9.3 'Closing your Account'	We have allowed for closure instructions to be provided via Online Banking, Telephone Banking or at any of our branches.
	Clause 12.3 'Important requirements for farm management deposits'	We have deleted the paragraph which prevented a customer from using a Farm Management Deposit as a mortgage offset account.
	Clause 12.5 'Additional Information'	In accordance with changes to the legislation, the amount of \$400,000 has been updated to \$800,000 to allow for higher value Farm Management Deposits to be opened by our customers.

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The Fair Work Ombudsman is seeking applications for its Community Engagement Grants Program. The program aims to support community organisations and assist them with providing advice and help to vulnerable people about workplace issues.

Not-for-profit community organisations are eligible to apply for a grant. Applicants must be a legal entity with a current ABN, and be registered for GST purposes

The following are ineligible to apply: • individuals or groups of individuals

- unincorporated organisations
- for-profit or commercial organisations
- government departments and agencies (including local government) educational institutions.

Applying for a grant Applications for funding from 1 January 2017 are now open and must be received by 5pm, 4 November 2016 (AEDT).

> To find out more about the program and apply for a grant visit www.fairwork.gov.au/grants

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94 www.fairwork.gov.au

#### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR GRANT

After 14 days from today an application for a grant of Probate of the Will dated 10 May 2014 of MATTHEW JOHN JACKA late of 68 Sutherland Street, Kingscliff, New South Wales, deceased will be made by SUZANNE THERESE FLYNN to the Supreme Court at Brisbane

You may object to the grant by lodging a caveat in that registry All creditors in the estate of the deceased are required to send in particulars of their claim to the Applicant within six weeks from the date hereof, at the expiration of which time, pursuant to s 67 of the Trusts Act 1973, the Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Executor shall then have had notice.

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