



## Day One Preview

### AAMI Classic heats up

The action is set to heat up as the AAMI Classic gets underway tomorrow at Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club.

Despite hot weather being expected on the first day we are set for a wonderful tournament over the next four days as the temperature cools down for the remainder of the week.

The event will kick off with Cypriot Marcos Baghdatis to play Stanislas Wawrinka at 11am as Baghdatis continues his return from injury.

Needing matches to play himself into form early in the season, Baghdatis will be hoping to get plenty of time on court this week to prepare for a tough year ahead.

Wawrinka, on the other hand, has come off a breakout year on the tour and will be hoping to continue that form in 2009 and consolidate his spot in the top ten.

Next up on court will be Roger Federer and Carlos Moya and this will be an interesting match at such an early part of the season.

Both are experienced campaigners but Federer has shown he will be tough to beat again this year with a strong showing in the Middle East last week.

Despite losing in the semi final to Andy Murray, Federer will be keen to get his season off to a good start after the illness he suffered at this time last year.

The highlight of the day could be the match between two of the sport's most exciting prospects.

Marin Cilic and Fernando Verdasco have both come off career shaping years which have seen them both climb into the top twenty and their form coming into this event is exciting for tennis.

Cilic won in Chennai last week and Verdasco was runner up at the Brisbane International so both are playing well leading into the Australian Open and this could be a preview of things to come in international tennis.

Last up on Kooyong's centre court will be Fernando Gonzalez and Ivan Ljubicic, who has taken Marat Safin's place in the field.

This match could go either way as Gonzalez comes off a three-month break from competitive tennis and Ljubicic returns from injury, which ruined his 2008 season.

Both are experienced players and each will be trying to feel their way into the new season with three matches at Kooyong this week to round out their preparation for the Australian Open.

It should be an exciting first day of tennis at Kooyong for the 2009 AAMI Classic.