

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Saturday, January 15, 2005**

**FEDERER KOOYONG CLASSIC '05 CHAMPION**

**ROGER FEDERER** extended his match winning streak to 24 matches today when he was crowned Kooyong Classic '05 Champion. **FEDERER** defeated **ANDY RODDICK** **6/4, 7/5** in an entertaining match featuring heavy serving from Roddick and signature sublime ground strokes from the world number one. Roger was upbeat and relaxed after the final responding to a question about what he sees as his greatest threat to defending his title starting next week. "It's the whole thing because there is enough good players around there, pressure is there. The heat is there, the five setters are there, so there are many things you have to overcome to win a Grand Slam".

In great news for the event, Federer also responded very positively to the prospect of coming back to play at the Kooyong Classic next year, "I really got the feeling during today's match that this is actually a good place to come back to, also next year and also in the future so I would definitely consider this tournament very strongly. I hope Colin Stubs invites me again".

**Andy RODDICK**, who experienced some soreness in his ankle during the second set, was very happy with his preparation of three good matches this week, "Yeah, I feel good. I thought Roger and I hit the ball pretty well today. I felt like I was playing well against Andre the other day before he had to stop and I played a good match against Ljubicic so I feel prepared, I'm ready, I'm excited and I'm anxious for the tournament to start".

A huge crowd responded to today's program which included the second match play-off for third and fourth places. **ANDRE AGASSI** returned to Kooyong after his injury scare on Thursday to play Brit **TIM HENMAN** who won the match **6/3, 6/7 (5-7), 7/5**. After a tentative start from Agassi, losing the first set, he fought back to take out the second set tie-breaker before narrowly losing the third set. Agassi conceded that today was a test for his injury, "I suppose every day is a test. Today is a good sign, no question, to be out there just playing for that long, but I definitely wasn't getting to the balls that I feel like I would normally get to, but part of it is a certain amount of hesitancy but it's also just gaining that confidence on it. Yeah I wanted to pull up good tomorrow but keep moving the game plan forward".

On centre court after the match, in a generous gesture from the Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club, an obviously surprised and emotional **ANDRE AGASSI** was inducted as a Life Member. Andre spoke of his affection for the Kooyong and his regret that he did not compete at the Australian Open when it was held at the Club.

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