



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 15 September 2011

PREMIER WELCOMES TENNIS STARS TO SYDNEY

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell joined tennis superstars Roger Federer and Lleyton Hewitt at the official draw for the Davis Cup by BNP Paribas World Group Play-off, which will see Australia take on Switzerland at the Royal Sydney Golf Club.

Mr O'Farrell said the NSW Government is pleased to support Australia's bid to return to the Davis Cup World Group in 2012 by hosting the play-off in Sydney from 16-18 September 2011.

"The Royal Sydney Golf Club will host the tournament with players battling it out on the historic grass courts.

"The Davis Cup is an iconic event in world tennis, holding a special place in Australian tennis and sporting history with Australia being one of the most successful nations to compete in the Davis Cup," he said.

Players representing Australia and Switzerland were at the official draw with world No.3 Roger Federer, one of tennis' greatest icons set to play alongside world No.14 Stanislas Wawrinka, Stephane Bohli and Marco Chiudinelli as they represent Switzerland.

The Australian team including Lleyton Hewitt, Bernard Tomic, Matthew Ebden and Chris Guccione will have the home ground advantage.

Mr O'Farrell said the Davis Cup World Group Play-off is an exciting international sports event on the 2011 NSW Events Calendar.

"Strengthening the NSW economy through a strong and enduring year-round events calendar is a key priority for my Government," he said.

"I wish Australia's Davis Cup captain Pat Rafter and the Australian team all the best. Hopefully they can ride the momentum of Sam Stosur's fantastic win at the US Open and win back the Davis Cup in 2012," he said.

Tickets to the Davis Cup World Group Play-off at Royal Sydney Golf Club have sold out. The round will be broadcast on the Seven Network. Those attending the event are recommended to leave the car at home and take public transport.

Sydney Buses are providing a free bus shuttle service on Friday, Saturday and Sunday to Royal Sydney Golf Club from Stand K Bondi Junction Interchange. Details are available from Transport Infoline on 131 500 or www.131500.com.au.