



## Media Release

### IT'S ALL GREEK *TENNIS* TO ME

**Hellenic Tennis Association set to build on the overwhelming success of last year's inaugural Greek-Australian tennis tournament.**

The Greeks are at it again. After an extremely successful debut last year the Thomas Hotels Hellenic-Australian Tennis Championships are back for the Anzac Day long weekend at Cintra Park, Concord, with a huge celebration of tennis and Greek culture in a festival-type atmosphere.

The stakes are high for this year's championships, presented by Thomas Hotels with almost \$13,000 in prizes up for grabs including a return trip to Greece.

The talent will come from all over Australia and abroad, including players from Europe and Asia, who will compete in the open events.

"The talent pool at last year's championships was amazing, and we are looking forward to an even bigger tournament this year," Hellenic Tennis Association president John Giavis said.

With 19 events for both male and female competitors of all standards, nationalities and ages, the championships have something for everyone.

The main event on the program - the Men's Singles Championship – not only carries a return trip to Greece, it is also named in the honour of Australia's most successful and best-known player of Greek origin, Mark "The Scud" Philippoussis.

The Scud, whose dad Nick was born in Greece, has always worn his Greek pride on his sleeve, so to speak, with a tattoo of Alexander the Great on his shoulder.

Philippoussis is a great supporter of the tournament, saying that it's a great opportunity to bring together the best Greek-Australian tennis players from all over the country.

"By supporting the Hellenic-Australian Tennis Championships I hope to encourage talented Greek-Australians playing for the 'Mark Philippoussis Cup' to reach their potential and showcase their talents to the sporting world," he said.

Players wishing to compete must register online on [www.hellenictennis.org.au](http://www.hellenictennis.org.au) by April 6 to enter the championships on April 23 - 25, which will boast some of the brightest up-and-coming tennis stars Australia has to offer.

The Thomas Hotels Hellenic-Australian Tennis Championships have been sanctioned by Tennis NSW and is a National Open Point Score Series Tier 1 Event. For more information please visit the website.

**Event: 2005 Hellenic Australian Tennis Championships**

**Venue: Cintra Park Tennis Centre**

**Date: 23-25 April 2005**

**Entries Close: 6 April 2005**

**Entry Forms: [www.hellenictennis.org.au](http://www.hellenictennis.org.au)**

**Contact: [info@hellenictennis.org.au](mailto:info@hellenictennis.org.au)**