



PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

**WORLDCLASS TENNIS TOURNAMENT IN BALI
ANNOUNCES THE NEW TITLE :
“COMMONWEALTH BANK TENNIS CLASSIC”**

Jakarta, 29 May 2007 ... Tournament Director Kevin Livesey today revealed that the Wismilak International will be re-named from this year as the Commonwealth Bank Tennis Classic, reflecting the new sponsorship deal of one of Australia’s leading financial institutions.

After thirteen wonderful years with Wismilak International, we have seen the tournament grow from strength to strength, it is expected to reach even greater heights this year. Wismilak International will still remain as a major co-sponsor” expressed Kevin Livesey.

Symon Brewis-Weston the President Director of the Commonwealth Bank in Indonesia said that they are really excited about being part of this premier event in Asia.

Although there is a new name, the tournament will retain the same staff and volunteers who have helped make the tournament the leading women’s tennis event in South East Asia. And the tournament has once again attracted many of the world’s leading players. Main draw matches begin on 10th September and continue through to 16th September.

FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

The tournament, which initially started in Surabaya, has managed to attract many of the best players in the world. They include former world number one Lindsay Davenport (Wismilak International 2005 champion), 2004 US Open winner Svetlana Kuznetsova (Wismilak International champion in 2002, 2004 and 2006), French and US Open finalist Elena Dementieva (Wismilak International 2003 winner), French and US Open champion Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario and the French Open 2004 champion Anastasia Myskina, all of whom have experienced Bali’s sunny weather and gracious hospitality. In Bali, sports and leisure are perfectly combined as a part of their professional tennis tour activities.

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HOW IT ALL BEGAN

The first Wismilak tennis tournament was held in 1994 at the Embong Sawo Tennis Club in Surabaya. The dilapidated club which had not been used in 25 years was refurbished in four weeks for the tournament. Titled the Wismilak Open, it was a WTA Tour Tier IV women's tennis tournament offering prize money of US\$107,000.

INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM

The tremendous response from spectators and players saw the tournament held again under the banner of Wismilak International at the Embong Sawo Tennis Club in 1995, and the tournament continued to attract international acclaim until the unsettling political situation in Indonesia during 1998 persuaded the WTA to cancel the event that year for security reasons.

AWAY FROM HOME

Not to be denied by circumstances out of their control, the organizers moved the event to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, for 1999 and 2000. Although the situation had stabilized at home for the second year in Kuala Lumpur, the tournament remained there to satisfy a condition set by the WTA as the Tour did not want to confuse players and upset the tour calendar with yearly changes of the venue. It was in Kuala Lumpur that the event became a Tier III tournament offering prize money of US\$170,000.

A NEW HOME ON THE PARADISE ISLAND OF BALI

The tournament returned to Indonesia, its home, in 2001. The move to the Grand Hyatt Bali in Nusa Dua was in line with the organizers aim to promote Indonesia and primarily Bali to the world, given all the negative press the country received from the 1998 crisis. Despite the 9/11 tragedy in New York occurring about 10 days before the tournament, players from all over the world chose to travel to Bali. The tournament had a full main draw and the top seed was winner of 14 Grand Slam titles and former world number one Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario.

THE LARGEST EVENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

In 2002 the tournament increased the prize money to US\$225,000 and by doing so it became the biggest WTA event in South East Asia. The year also saw the establishment of the Bali Tennis Foundation and the Wismilak International officials decided that the entire tournament ticket sales should go into the Foundation's fund, geared to giving the youth of Bali an opportunity to play tennis. This long term vision began to show fruition through the years as more and more Bali players showed quality tennis skills, including the emerging Junior champion Ayu Fani Damayanti.

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A REPUTATION EARNED

From its early years up until today, Wismilak International Bali has justly earned the reputation of hosting excellent events of a first class standard, and for hospitality and care of not only players but staff and volunteers alike. Tennis journalists from around the world have also spoken of the wonderful hospitality offered to all, around the tournament, on and off courts. It is about tennis, yet it is also about girls - and tennis fans - just wanting to have fun!

“The tournament has worked hard to get where it is today, and maintaining this image and continuously striving to exceed the success achieved year by year is the hardest part of organizing the tournament,” said Commonwealth Bank Tennis Classic tournament director Kevin Livesey. *“With a goal to promote Bali and Indonesia in the eyes of tennis fans and sports enthusiasts around the globe, our efforts of inviting world class tennis players to indirectly act as ambassadors for Bali is the approach we have achieved each year.”*

“Our tournament has become a ‘must participate’ event amongst international tennis players, and this year promises yet another successful tournament as we prepare to showcase the best of professional women’s tennis on the courts of the Grand Hyatt, Nusa Dua” he further added

Throughout the next few months, the Commonwealth Bank Tennis Classic will continue to announce further players as they confirm their participation in one of the most popular tournaments on the worldwide Sony Ericsson WTA Tour.

The tournament will not only showcase professional tennis on the courts in Nusa Dua, but allow the players to discover Bali’s charm through various off-court activities. For the tennis fans there are activities from an SMS competition with various grand prizes, to the chance of being up close with their favorite tennis stars.

Editors’ Note :

About Bank Commonwealth

Bank Commonwealth is a subsidiary of Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA), one of the largest public financial companies in Australia. Bank Commonwealth was established in Indonesia in 1997 and in year 2000 started to focus on retail banking by providing a variety of quality banking products and services. Bank Commonwealth has 23 branches and outlets in greater Jakarta, Bandung, Semarang, Surabaya, Denpasar, Medan, Balikpapan and Pekanbaru.

Bank Commonwealth offers a variety of products, such as savings, deposit, investments and services such as Safe Deposit Box (SDB), Call Center, and ATM Autobank. Bank Commonwealth’s customers can easily access online direct link with CBA ATM’s in Australia.

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About the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) Group

Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) is one of the largest banks in Australia and has been in operation for around 100 years. With over 30,000 employees, CBA services outside Australia can be found in New Zealand, Fiji, the United Kingdom, and Asia with total customers of over 10 million.

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