

European Junior Championships 18 & under

Saturday 28 July 2018

Home advantage, Roger Federer and the barking of the dogs

Marco Keller

When only eight matches are left in Klosters, a lot of tennis has already been played. Eight thoughts ahead of the weekend.

Cornerstone

The outstanding Swiss results reflect the priority Swiss Tennis attributes to Klosters in the schedule. «For us, it is one of the most important events during the year» confirms Headcoach Yves Allegro.

A record tied

Bronze medal winners Yannik Steinegger/Damien Wenger and semifinalists Leonie Küng and Joanne Züger guarantee the Swiss three medals. In 21 editions, the outcome was only as good in 2001: Marie-Gaïané Mikaelian took the gold, Stéphanie Bohli and Roman Valent took silver and bronze, respectively.

Success story

As of 2018, the representatives of Swiss

Tennis has won 27 medals in Klosters. This equals approximately 1,25 medals per event. Home, sweet home.

A marathon day

On Tuesday, no less than 68 matches took place. Thanks to this effort, the delay from Monday, when matches started five hours late due to rain, was already compensated. Since then: bright sunshine all over Klosters.

Two jubilees ahead

Tournament director Hans Markutt and Referee Kurt Gogg are both in charge for the ninth time. It's fair to say: Both are ready for their ten-year-anniversary.

Fairplay

Occasionally a player wants to have a ballmark checked and some time there is even some strong language used. But overall, respect and acceptance among players and coaches are as big as rarely before. A development which is probably

also due to the impeccable behaviour of the likes of Federer and Nadal.

Notables

A number of people from the world of sports paid a visit to the Sportzentrum this week, among them are: Florence Schelling, the great goalie of the Swiss national team in ice hockey, beachvolley professional Anouk Vergé-Depré, Thomas Hammerl, the new CEO of Tennis Europe and Reinhard Fromm, the biggest private tennis patron in Switzerland, who is also majorly involved in football.

«Welcome»

The barking of a dog or the crying of a baby are unimaginable noises in Wimbledon. In Klosters, we are likely to hear this sound from time to time. It's a sign that everyone is welcome in the tennis family of the Prättigau.



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