



The 2019 Scarbro Caro Bowl season gets underway this Friday night at various club venues across the Auckland region. This year is a very special season because we are celebrating 100 years of the competition. The Caro Bowl was first held in 1919 and over time it has become the premier club competition in the country for tennis. In fact, it is one of NZ's oldest events.

Without exception every top Auckland player and many of NZ's greatest ever players have participated in the Caro Bowl competition. Several clubs like Parnell, Remuera and Eden Epsom played in the inaugural competition a hundred years ago are still in the competition today.

Scarbro Construction has supported the Scarbro Caro Bowl for many years now and Tennis Auckland is tremendously appreciative of this ongoing support. Last year we successfully live-streamed the Men's Final and this year we intend to live-stream the Women's final too.

More history will be created this season when the first ball is served on Friday night. The season promises to deliver high quality and even contests in both the men's and women's competitions. As usual it is difficult to predict winners, but it is crucial for teams to get off to a winning start in the round robin format.

Friday night sees defending champions Karaka take on Royal Oak in the Men's competition. Karaka boast 3 players who have ATP rankings and on paper must be a force to be reckoned with. The local derby between newly promoted Bucklands Beach and Cockle Bay should be a tough encounter and the result will have a major bearing on which club progresses to the semi-final stage. In the other pool Next Gen tackle Remuera and last years finalist Blockhouse Bay are up against the side from Eden Epsom.

The Women's matches are split over Friday and Saturday this weekend. Last years winners Royal Oak play Parnell at home on Friday and Sunnyhills take on Pompallier. On Saturday Bucklands Beach face off against Campbell Park while Kohimarama are up against the newly promoted Blockhouse Bay team in what promises to be an interesting contest.

It is going to be a busy weekend for sport with the Scarbro Caro Bowl kicking off in its centenary year and then the play-off matches in the Rugby World Cup. Not a bad way to spend a Friday and Saturday night.

The draw for the opening weekend is:

Men - Friday 1 November at 6pm

Karaka v Royal Oak at Royal Oak Blockhouse Bay v Eden Epsom at Eden Epsom Next Gen v Remuera at Remuera Cockle Bay v Bucklands Beach at Bucklands Beach

Women - Friday 1 November at 6pm

Royal Oak v Parnell at Royal Oak Sunnyhills v Pompallier at Pompallier

Women - Saturday 2 November at 6pm

Bucklands Beach v Campbell Park at Campbell Park Kohimarama v Blockhouse Bay at Blockhouse Bay

Full draws and venues are available in the Scarbro Caro Bowl section on the <u>Tennis Auckland website</u>. We encourage all tennis fans to come along, support their clubs, watch some great tennis and enjoy host club hospitality.