

Locals enjoy success



Hannah Slyth during the 2022 Golden Open PSA women's grand final against Erin Classen.



Tayla Mounter during her match against Hannah Slyth during the 2022 Golden Open.

SQUASH NEALE HARVEY

The resounding success of last weekend's 50th anniversary Golden Open squash tournament, with Goldfields players among the best performers in the lower grades, was reflected by there being 168 players across 324 matches.

Saturday and Sunday were the main competition days.

Matches, however, started last Friday afternoon and resumed at 7am on the next two days to ensure the program ran to schedule — ahead of a gala function on Sunday night.

"There was probably an extra 50 (entries) on what we had (last year) and early starts to make sure we got all the games in," tournament director Peter Siebert said.

"HydroBlast got involved and it was great to see them, as a new sponsor, on board. Being our 50th, it was a big celebration and all our life members were there (for Sunday's function). Outside the PSA side of the tournament, regional teams from all over WA were there, so it's been fantastic."

Locals who fared well included men's division-one runner-up Shane Leknys, and Hollie Braid, who won the plate final.

Travis Kenna was successful in the men's third division and Travis Hosking was the plate final winner.

In the women's third division, Di Watts was victorious, alongside Tahlia Tagliaferri in the women's fourth division.

Ben Conroy was the men's division-five runner-up and William Gentsch headed the men's division-eight field.

Hosking was also the men's masters division-two plate winner.

The 1999 tournament was headlined by world No.1 Michelle Martin and the special guest in 2001 was Australian squash legend Geoff Hunt, who won the first four men's world championships in 1976, 1977, 1979 and 1980.

Australia's squash history is tied closely to the British Open, with both the men's and women's championships monopolised by Australians in the 1960s and 1970s when Heather Mackay won 16 titles on end from 1962 to 1977 and Hunt took the men's crown eight times between 1968 and 1980.



Erin Classen and Hannah Slyth.



Rhys Dowling in action during the grand final.