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DARWIN TABLE TENNIS WEEKLY

GRAND FINAL

Match Results

A GRADE

MMA **6 · 2** CDU

B GRADE

Wolves 6 · 2 Zulus

C GRADE

Geckos 6 • 5 Smashing Pumpkins

Match Report

In A Grade, MMA lived up to their title as the number one team in the comp, when they brushed aside CDU in the Grand Final on Wednesday night. Mitchell Bedford and Aakash Patel closed out the contest, when they outfoxed Sebastian Lai and Michael Yaxley in the second doubles, 11-7, 11-9. Earlier in the night, Mitch needed five games to overcome Julian Payares in the opener, 11-9, 16-18, 9-11, 11-5, 11-8. After a blistering start, when MMA won the first four rubbers, it seemed destined to be a whitewash. It was Julian and Seb who turned it around temporarily, winning two of the next three to be trailing 5-2. Ultimately, the damage was done and so the team that finished on top of the ladder deserved the season-ending prize.

In B Grade, *Wolves* were the deserved victors, as they rolled *Zulus* in a one-sided final. Similar in the A Grade final, **Viqar Ali Khan** and **Eric Catalbas** held their nerve to clinch the second doubles and the tie, 11-8, 6-11, 11-8. Earlier in the contest, it was **Andrew Barton** who stepped up to get his team in a winning position, as he triumphed over **Solomon Nwagor** and **Michael Ndukwe** in the singles, with both going to a fifth game.

Finally, in C Grade, it was the closest final on the night, as *Geckos* had to fight off an inspired *Smashing Pumpkins* to take the team trophy. It was the clash between two youngsters in the decider, as **Jayden Ma** outgunned **Beina Liu**, 11-6, 11-4, 11-3. Earlier in the match, it would be **Shi Zhuang Lu** who would ultimately get his team over the line, as he battled past Beina in the electrifying seventh rubber, 11-5, 9-11, 5-11, 11-5, 11-6. **Paul Liu** (*Smashing Pumpkins*) made sure the final would go down to the wire, when he won three singles.



Individual Medal List

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|-----------------------|------------------|
| A Grade | |
| Individual Champion | Mitchell Bedford |
| Individual Runner-Up | Sebastian Lai |
| Most Improved | Martin Feng |
| MVP Award | Rodney Hee |
| Sportsmanship Award | Julian Payares |
| B Grade | |
| Individual Champion | Michael Yaxley |
| Individual Runner-Up | Viqar Ali Khan |
| Most Improved | Rick Gibson |
| MVP Award | Ryan Starkey |
| Best First Season | Nick Pastrikos |
| C Grade | |
| Individual Champion | Jackson Ma |
| Individual Runner-Up | Paul Liu |
| Most Improved | Sujata Timilsina |
| Best Young Player | Jayden Ma |
| Best First Season | Jimmy Tan |

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