



MEDIA RELEASE
Tuesday, October 13, 2009

KOoyong COUP - AAMI CLASSIC SIGNS DEL POTRO

Tournament Director, Colin Stubs, announced today that World No. 5 and US Open winner, JUAN MARTIN DEL POTRO, will assume alternate status at Kooyong next January (13-16).

Stubs confirmed seven of his eight-man field last month and, on request, is holding the eighth spot for world no. 1 ROGER FEDERER. *"If Roger decides against playing at Kooyong, or another player withdraws before January 13, Juan Martin will step into the field. I am delighted that such strong back-up plans have been put in place"* said Stubs.

The just-turned 21 year-old from Tandil, Argentina, has had a hero's welcome since returning from Flushing Meadows. Former Argentine Davis Cup captain, Alberto Mancini, said after del Potro's US Open win: *"Without doubt, Juan Martin can be world no. 1. He has improved beyond measure this season, but he is still only a 20 year-old and has not yet reached his full potential"*.

Del Potro reached the quarter-finals or better in 11 of 13 tournaments this year:

Quarter-finalist: Australian Open, San Jose, Memphis, Indian Wells Masters, Rome Masters

Semi-finalist: Miami Masters, Madrid Masters, French Open

Finalist: Montreal Masters

Winner: Auckland, Washington, US Open (over Federer in 5 sets).

4-1 Singles Record in 3 Davis Cup ties.

Other confirmed signings for the 2010 AAMI Classic are:

NOVAK DJOKOVIC (4)	JO-WILFRIED TSONGA (7)	FERNANDO VERDASCO (9)
ROBIN SODERLING (11)	FERNANDO GONZALEZ (12)	TOMMY HAAS (18)
MARCOS BAGHDATIS (87)		

Djokovic won last week's China Open, while Tsonga took out the Japan Open.

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