

Dittmar beats Hill in squash clash

By our sports reporters

CHRIS Dittmar, ranked fourth in the world, overcame Ricky Hill in an exhibition squash match at the Emirates Golf Club in Dubai last night.

Hill ranked tenth, was in command in the first game but his Australian compatriot hit back to snatch the game 15-8 and the two subsequent ones 15-3, 15-9.

The exhibition match marked the conclusion of the KLM-Orient Irrigation Handicap Squash Tournament in which Pawar beat Ian Colton 5-15, 15-11, 15-11, 15-13 in the final. John Pascoe also won the plate final by thrashing Peter Mohring 15-8, 15-11, 15-13.

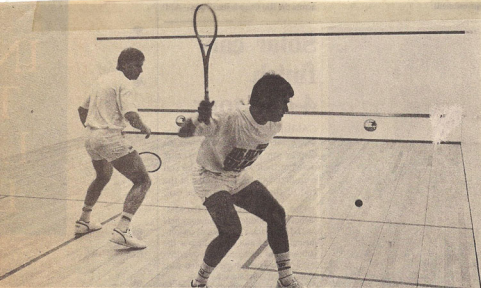
In the main final, Pawar, with a handicap of -7 as against Colton's +5, put every trick into the game before grabbing a 3-1 victory. Pawar went behind the first game as his opponent almost dominated the proceedings.

But Pawar showed a courageous fight at certain stages. In the second game for instance, Pawar managed to restrict Colton to only +8 as he wiped out his handicap -7 before romping to a fine 15-11 win.

But Colton made Pawar work harder in the last two games. In the third game, Colton kept the lead for a spell but Pawar levelled 11-11. He then took the lead from there on to win 15-11. The plate final between Pascoe and Mohring was fairly balanced in the early stages but Pascoe gained more strength later on to win the match.

The exhibition match between the two Australians was a fitting finale to the tournament.

Dittmar and Hill will meet Brian Beeson ranked 18th in the world and Mark McClean, ranked 20, at the Dubai Country Club at 8pm today.



● Chris Dittmar and Ricky Hill in action



● Prize-winners at Emirates Golf Club courts—KT photos