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Tennis carnival a smash hit

THE FUTURE of tennis in the Cook Islands is bright after over one hundred budding tennis stars turned out at the national tennis centre on Saturday for the free CITC and Coca Cola carnival.

Armed with mini racquets, baskets of tennis balls and loads of enthusiasm – the tennis centre came to life as the youngsters put their talents to the test.

Fun and easy beginner games kept the first time players swinging their racquets while competition was hot on the main courts where up-and-coming players showed off their impressive skills.

A refreshment break courtesy of event sponsor CITC and Coca Cola ensured the kids had buckets of energy under the blazing sun.

One of the fun highlights of the day was the impromptu 'Gangnam style' mob dance that got the kids going.

With the familiar and catchy beat blasting, the kids downed their tennis racquets and swung much to the delight of their parents and CITC key brands manager George George.

For George, the fun filled day was a huge success achieving the ultimate goal of attracting Rarotonga children to the tennis courts and getting them into more active lifestyles.

Before saying a big meitaki maata to the sponsor of the day – Tennis Cook Islands coach Malcolm Kajer took the opportunity to showcase some of the associations aspiring junior tennis players.

In front of first time players – the regular junior stars let rip with young Maka Maui impressing all with his natural talent.

After a final thank you to George George, CITC and Coca Cola – it was back to the fun business of playing tennis for the kids.

Kajer runs regular after school tennis programmes and for parents interested in getting their kids into the sport – contact Kajer on 75614.

A budding tennis star put on a fine display of tennis during Saturday's tennis carnival. 13021028

New gear for Pukapuka footballers