

Yuki hopes for a good showing at Wimbledon

Delhi youngster Yuki Bhambri is highly satisfied with his preparation for the Wimbledon grass court tennis championships and is confident of doing well at the third Grand Slam event of the year, starting next week.

Yuki, 15, is currently ranked number seven among the juniors on the International Tennis Federation (ITF) charts and has been training hard on the grass courts at the Delhi Lawn Tennis Association (DLTA) complex in a bid to win a Grand Slam title.

'I am happy the way I have trained for the Wimbledon. I had enough time to prepare, so I am confident of a good showing, I should at least make it to the quarterfinals,' an excited Yuki told IANS

Yuki is all set to leave here Friday for junior Wimbledon, starting June 28.

Yuki began the year on a high note, reaching the semi-finals of the Australian Open where he lost to the eventual winner and current world No. 2 Bernard Tomic of Australia. Tomic is again a favourite at the Wimbledon.

Yuki, however, had a poor outing on clay, making second round exit from the Belgian international junior championships in the run-up to the French Open. He was beaten by little-known Serb Ilija Vucic after getting a bye in the first round.

On the red clay of Roland Garros at French Open, he lost in the first round to lesser-ranked French player Guillaume Rufin in straight sets.

But Yuki is not unduly worried over his disappointing clay season and prefers to view it as a learning experience.

'I know I had a bad time in Belgium and France. But frankly I didn't get enough time to practice on clay. After the two back-to-back Challengers here in May, it rained heavily the next three days. Then there aren't many clay courts out here to practice,' Yuki explained.

'I could reach Roland Garros just three days before my match, so even there I didn't get a enough time to work out on clay.'

'But it was a great experience. I learned a lot being there and the boys played amazing tennis there. I hope I have a good Wimbledon to make up for the Paris disappointment,' said Yuki.

Yuki was actually ranked five in the singles, but the new combined junior ranking introduced by ITF January 1 pushed him to No.seven.

The combined ranking was introduced to encourage doubles play among juniors and subsequently at professional level.

The doubles points come in handy when players tie on singles points, and a player who doesn't play doubles is at a disadvantage.

A player's ranking is calculated taking the best six singles results and 25 percent of best six doubles results.

However, points continue to be counted on a 52-week rollover system.

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