

36 - PROFILE OF SANTA CATARINA YOUTH TENNIS PLAYERS WHO ABANDONED THE FEDERATION'S TOURNAMENTS: ITAJAÍ'S REALITY

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INTRODUCTION The Tennis practice in Santa Catarina increased very much through the time, especially with Gustavos Kuerten's help, Tennis player number one in Brazil, who brought many Tennis adepts with his merity and affinit.

Most part of these players started practice the sport in the childhood and many of them, with few exceptions, have the perspective to play Tennis through their lives and other, to be professional players. However, the Tennis sportive carrier is characterized by several transition levels that according to Brandão (2000) are: the transition from the sporting beginning to the intensive training and performance; the transition from the juvenile sport amateur level to the adult one professional level; And the transition to the careers end or retirement.

All of these levels and their respective transitions deserve special attention by everybody involved with training, because each stage has their own characteristics requiring adaptations between themselves.

According to Brandão et al. (2000), these transitions can happen in a positive way when there are necessary pre-conditions to occur these quick and suitable adaptations, which are indispensable for that to be successful, or negative when there is lack of the basic conditions or if it takes much time to happen, causing a "delayed evolution" or yet a desistance of the sporting career.

The transition between juvenile-amateur level to adult-professional level always happens with success, where as this moment there is a big professional sporting career desistance and also of the practice itself.

PURPOSE This study has the aim to find the principal characteristics of Itajai's Tennis players, related to championship desistance in Santa Catarina, who has played between 1993 and 2003.

METHODOLOGY It is a descriptive research that described the reality of Itajai's young Tennis players, showing their characteristics in the practices beginning and end, it means desistance. According to Thomas & Nelson (2002), investigation with this status are very usefull for the Education and Behavior Sciences. The most common descriptive research method is the exploratoy study that was emphasized through an applied questionnaire. The sample was composed by Tennis players, men and women, with the age between 19 and 29 years, that took part in federation's tournaments. They must be registered in Itajai/SC clubs and also have given up to participate in the championships organized by the State Tennis Federation (FCT) or who didn't become professional in the period of 1993 and 2003.

RESULTS Bompa (2002) mentioned studies done by Ewing & See Feldt in Michigan University (USA), that the more important reasons which caused the sports desistance are: loss of interest, lack of entertainment in the practices, lack of time, the coach was not a good teacher, too much pressure, necessity of more sporting activities, tiredness, lack of time to study, the sport was boring and too much emphasis in the victory.

Garcia (2004) points out results by writers as: Orlick(1973), Gould(1982), Gould and Horn(1984), Guiller (1990) and Fernando (1996), who investigated the main causes of the sporting practice desistance between young people. They were too much emphasis in tournaments interests in doing another activities and lack of entertainment.

Souza (2000) says that the principal factors to give up the sport are the necessity of working, followed by lack of sponsorship, lack of support by the club, family and media, lack of motivation and also bad studies' performances.

Taking as basis this information, the principal results of the variables remarked in the questionnaire, some of them agreed with other studies already pointed, will be presented bellow.

Gender Among the interviewed, 80% are men and 20% are women. In spite of being only six girls interviewed, according to the coaches, teachers and other ex-Tennis players, they were in smaller number in all categories and also they were the ones who gave up the sport earlier than the male players.

This information, which was obtained through the questionnaires, is related to what Bompa 2002 says: "that in the most of power and speed sports (Tennis also has these characteristics) the specialization may happen in the end of the growth peak. Because this happens before in the female gender, it can justify the precocious women desistance the sport before the men.

Tennis practice beginning According to Aparicio (1998), Grosser says the sporting beginning usually starts around the age of six and eight. But referring to platonov this beginning happens between six and nine years old. However, we could see that the interviewed started to practice Tennis with ages from 4 to 14, thought the most of them began with seven years old, which represents 25% of the sample (5 people). In addition we noticed that 2 people started practice the sport with less from six years old and six other with more than 9 years old. Thus, 40% of these people didn't begin the Tennis practice in the recommended age.

Referring to Souto (2002), Weineck says that we live in a society where everybody is worried to insert children into the adult's world so the same happens with young sportsmen.

Attending to the adult's desire, children and teenagers have had unsuitable responsibility which they are not ready to assume such a task.

Main reason to start Tennis practice Among several reasons, there are: "parents incentive" with nine answers. Followed by entertainment with five answers, "sportmanship" and "relatives incentive" with two answers each.

We could notice that taking part in tournament already is on of the main reason to start the sport. That is because most of them answered the questionnaire saying that they wanted to compete, to be in a team and get high performance levels practicing Tennis.

Bompa(2002) warns that sports' programs for children usually reproduce those ones for adults and professional players, which are copied literally without checking if it attends to the youth interests. It happens without understanding that the children are not little adults and considering they have their own physiological characteristics, which are different and complex.

When to start taking part in tournaments The interviewed began participating in tournaments between seven and 15 years old, noticing that most of them started with the ages of light, 11, 12 and 13 years with three answers each. We could evidence that 40% of the children began to participate in tournaments between 7 and 10 years old.

Referring to Roberts (Souza 2000), the tournaments beginning in these ages is precocious, which should happen around 12 years old, when the children already have conditions to reach the ideal level of growth, development and maturity to endure the competitive sport's load which includes physical perceptive, social, emotional and cognitive aspects.

According to Souto(2002): "The sport should be suitable for the youth players physical and physics characteristics which are different in each age and also should have a suitable proportion between intensity and the existent risks in its practices. Because of it we question about the existance of a ten-year category and its contest's form which differ very little from the adult one.

The precocious specialization in the lower categories (infantive-juvenile) should be evaluated carefully because it can

reduce the athlete professional's live, thought they usually get good results in the beginning. Using trainings too much specific before the suitable moment results in high levels of physical and emotional stress which can separate the youth from the trainings and tournaments (Filin and Volkov-Augusti, 2001). Matveev (Augusti, 2001) also agree that the precocious especialization will make the young people not to be capable to develop and reach good results anymore when the get into the adults age.

Weineck (1991) warns that to not occurring a precocious especialization, suitable training's aspect relating to the ages and biological development, should be considered. It is because the children's capacity of enduring is limited so it can cause the bones', cartilages' and ligaments' wearing down.

The over physical requirement can set as consequence the articulations' amplitude reduction and also can damage the trainings process.

According to Samulski (2002) "the entire children development - physical, social, cognitive, motivational and emotional have to be considered in first plan and not to try develop unilaterally the sporting performance".

It means the enjoyable aspects into the sporting practice, allowing the children to live the movements and sports pleasure.

The reasons to start taking part in tournaments The reasons more mentioned in the questionnaire were "to compete" and coach's incentive" with six answers each, followed by "entertainment" and "parents incentive" with two answers each.

The reason to start competing is directly related with desire of taking part in a tournament, followed by other people's incentive such as coaches and parents. This way, there is an agreement between these results and Rudio et al. (Souto 2002) affirmation. He says "the current society has been characterized by the importance for the especialization and competitiveness especially in the sport." The children who want to get into the sporting life are taken to develop attitudes and behavior to seek for the victory since early. "They are inserted prematurely into the sad reality of the adults world, where the pleasure for the activity is replaced by the performance and harsh practices, and the recreation become competitiveness.

Weineck (1991) says the intense and boring trainings can result in a psychologig wearing when are used too many unsuitable trainings according to their age it means a big reason for the sport's desistance.

A lack of multiple body development will bring about damages to obtain other skills in the future. Referring to Mendler (Weineck, 1991) we should take care the training for the children and youth to avoid dull moments as well as pain and suffering moments related to resistance trainings.

CHARACTERISTICS	QUANTITY
Who played all the levels of age since they started to compete	13 people
Who got away from the juvenile's tournament during a period of time and returned to compete after that	1 person
Who began to take part in juvenile tournaments after a period of time competing only in championship by age	6 people

Table 1: Tennis players participation in federation's tournament in Santa Catarina.

We could notice that 65% of the ex-Tennis players took part in all the levels by age since they began to compete in federation's championships of Santa Catarina.

Choosing the tournament The most indicated person among everybody who has influence in deciding which tournaments go in is the players themselves, with nine answers, followed by the coach, seven answers, and parents, with four answers. Bompa (2002) says that children should be put into tournaments when they are ready, want to and present a good ability and psychological capacity levels. Thus, children, coaches and parents should take this decision all together.

The championships should be used as a way to provide the application of skills, technics and tactics which were learnt during the sporting practice, as well as the experience with the victory and defeat as social and sporting tools that develop aptiness and values which will be usefull in the future and without producing only champions.

CONCLUSION Firstly, one of the principal factor to motivate the children and teh youth in the sport is the adults participation. It is because the parents' and relatives' incentive are very important to start the sporting practice and also the parents' and coaches' motivation to begin competing in tournaments.

It is necessary the teachers and the leaders involved with the infantile and juvenile sport make their athletes to have attraction to the sport and not so precociously to the competiton and performance themselves.

Unfortunately, the aspects related to socialization, entertainment and others, are still very little important inside the structure which involves campeonships and emphasizes very much the high level performances.

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PROFILE OF SANTA CATARINA YOUTH TENNIS PLAYERS WHO ABANDONED THE FEDERATION'S TOURNAMENTS: ITAJAI'S REALITY

ABSTRACT - This study identified the profile of young Tennis players who gave up the Federation's Tournament of Santa Catarina State between 1999 and 2003, when they were in the category of 18 years or 21 years old. Twenty ex-Tennis players from Itajaí city took part in the sample. The data were obtained through a questionnaire applied to the selected population. A descriptive analysis was used to interpret the data. Among the interviewed, 80% (16) are men and 20% (4) are women. They started to practice Tennis between the age of 4 and 14 years; the peak occurred with seven years, when most of them started the practice itself. We noticed that 2 people started the training with less than 6 years and 6 people, after 9 years old. The principal reason for them to begin the Tennis practice were: the parents' incentive (with 9 answers), to have fun and entertainment (5), to develop as sportmen (2) and the relative's stimulus (2). We verified that 40% of the children began participate in tournaments between 7 and 10 years old. Related to starting to take part in tournaments, "to compete" and "coach's incentive": six answers each were got, "entertainment" and "parents' incentive", two answers. "Choosing the tournament", the influential person to decide to participate is the players themselves, followed by the coach and their parents. To identify that the parents' and relatives' incentive are pointed as reasons to start practicing Tennis and the coaches' and parents' incentive are pointed as reasons to start competing, we found the one of the main factors to motivate the children and youth in the sport is the adults' influence.

KEY-WORDS: desistance tournament Tennis.

PERFIL DES JEUNES JOUEURS DE TENNIS DE L'ETAT DE SANTA CATARINA QUI ONT ABANDONNÉ LES COMPÉTITIONS FÉDÉRALES: EXEMPLE: LA VILLE D'ITAJAI (SANTA CATARINA)

RÉSUMÉ Cette étude a identifié le profil des jeunes tennismen qui ont arrêté de participer aux tournois fédérés De l'Etat de Santa Catarina entre 1993 et 2003, dans la catégorie des 18-21 ans. Vingt ex-tennismen provenant de la ville d'Itajaí ont participé à cette enquête. Les résultats ont été obtenus par le biais de questionnaires recueillis auprès de ces ex-sportifs ainsi qu'une analyse descriptive pour interpréter ces données. Parmi eux, 80% (16) sont de sexe masculin et 20% (4) de sexe féminin. Ils ont tous débuté la pratique de ce sport entre 4 et 14 ans, plusieurs d'entre eux dès 7 ans. Deux ont commencé le tennis à l'âge de 4 ans, et six avec plus de 9 ans. Les principales raisons pour la pratique de ce sport sont: L'appui des parents (9 réponses), Le plaisir de jouer, se divertir (5 réponses), Développer le sens de sportivité (2 réponses), L'appui des autres membres de la famille (2 réponses). On a constaté que 40% de ces jeunes ont débuté dans des tournois à un âge compris entre 7 et 10 ans. En relation à ces débuts dans ces compétitions: participer (6 réponses), rôle important joué par l'entraîneur (6 réponses), se divertir (2 réponses), l'appui des parents (2 réponses). C'est le joueur lui-même qui décide dans quels tournois il marquera présence, suivi par son entraîneur et ses parents. Sachant que l'appui des parents ainsi que de la famille est primordial dans le choix et la pratique d'un sport, ici le tennis, il est important de remarquer le rôle que joue aussi l'entraîneur, surtout durant les tournois, On a pu en déduire qu'un des principaux facteurs de motivation chez l'enfant et le jeune adolescent Dans le sport est la participation et le rôle joué par l'adulte. **MOTS-CLÉS:** abandon- compétition- tennis.

PERFIL DE LOS JÓVENES JUGADORES DE TENIS DE SANTA CATARINA QUE HAN DEJADO LAS COMPETICIONES FEDERATIVAS: LA REALIDAD DE ITAJAI/SC

RESUMEN Este estudio ha buscado identificar el perfil de los jóvenes tenistas que han dejado de participar en competiciones federativas de tenis en el estado de Santa Catarina entre 1993 y 2003, cuando estaban en la categoría 18 o 21 años. Han participado de la muestra 20 ex-tenistas de la ciudad de Itajaí. Los datos han sido obtenidos por medio de cuestionario aplicado a la población seleccionada. Ha sido utilizada análisis descriptiva para interpretar los datos. Entre los entrevistados, un 80% (16) eran del sexo masculino y un 20% (4) del sexo femenino, y han empezado a jugar el tenis entre 4 y 14 años; el pico ha ocurrido con 7 años. Se ha percibido que 2 han iniciado en el tenis antes de 6 años y 6 personas han iniciado después de los 9 años. Motivos principales para iniciar en el tenis: incentivo de padres (9 respuestas), divertirse (5), desarrollar la deportividad e incentivo de familiares citados con 2 cada. Se ha constatado que un 40% de los niños han iniciado la participación en competiciones entre 7 y 10 años. Relacionado a la iniciación en competiciones, *competir e incentivo del entrenador* tuvieron 6 respuestas cada, *divertirse e incentivo de padres* con 2 cada. En la elección de las competiciones, la influencia mayor en la toma de decisión en disputar competiciones es el propio jugador, seguido por el entrenador y los padres. Al identificar que el incentivo de padres y familiares son citados como motivos de la iniciación deportiva en el tenis, y el incentivo del entrenador y de los padres como motivos para la iniciación en la participación en competiciones, se ha constatado que un de los factores centrales para la motivación del niño y del joven en el deporte es la participación adulta.

PALABRAS-CLAVE: desinterés competición tenis.

PERFIL DOS JOVENS JOGADORES DE TÊNIS DE SANTA CATARINA QUE ABANDONARAM AS COMPETIÇÕES FEDERADAS: A REALIDADE DE ITAJAI/SC

RESUMO Este estudo identificou o perfil dos jovens tenistas que deixaram de participar de competições federadas de tênis no estado de Santa Catarina entre 1993 e 2003, quando estavam na categoria 18 ou 21 anos. Participaram da amostra 20 ex-tenistas da cidade de Itajaí. Os dados foram obtidos por meio de questionário aplicado à população selecionada. Foi utilizada análise descritiva para interpretar os dados. Entre os entrevistados 80% (16) são do sexo masculino e 20% (4) são do sexo feminino. Os entrevistados iniciaram a prática do tênis entre 4 e 14 anos; o pico ocorreu com 7 anos. Percebeu-se que 2 iniciaram no tênis com menos de 6 anos e 6 pessoas iniciaram após os 9 anos. Principais motivos para iniciar no tênis: incentivo de pais (9 respostas), divertir-se (5), desenvolver o sentido da esportividade e incentivo de parentes citados com 2 cada. Constatou-se que 40% das crianças iniciaram a participação em competições entre 7 e 10 anos. Relacionado à iniciação da participação em competições, *competir e incentivo do técnico* tiveram 6 respostas cada, *divertir-se e incentivo de pais* com 2 cada. Na escolha das competições, a pessoa influenciadora na tomada de decisão em disputar competições é o próprio jogador, seguido pelo treinador e os pais. Ao identificar que o incentivo de pais e parentes são apontados como motivos da iniciação esportiva no tênis, e o incentivo do técnico e pais como motivos para a iniciação na participação em competições, constatou-se que um dos fatores centrais para a motivação da criança e do jovem adolescente no esporte é a participação adulta.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: desistência competição tênis.