

Maltese Women Participation In Tennis



A Brief History

- In 1874 an English man, major Walter C. Wingfield patented in London the equipment and the rules of the game, that would later develop into modern-day tennis
- Throughout history, the game has always been considered both a man's and a women's game
- By 1884, women were competing alongside men at Wimbledon



Overview

- 1966 is the birth-year of tennis in Malta
- Since then, tennis' popularity increased and many people have joined our clubs
- There are currently 15 clubs registered with the MTF
- Unfortunately, only 9 of them gave us information about female members, though they are the biggest clubs in Malta



Overview

- In this presentation, I will be referring to women playing tennis in these mentioned clubs:
 - V.L.T.C
 - T.C.K
 - Marsa Sports Club
 - Zebbug Tennis Club
 - Lija Tennis Club
 - St. Aloysius College
 - Birkirkara Tennis Club
 - Malta Union Club
 - Mgarr Tennis Club



V.L.T.C

- There are currently 138 female members in the club which are over 18 years of age, and 113 members under 18



T.C.K

- T.C.K is V.L.T.C.'s neighbour club so members in one club are the same in the other, therefore, there are approximately the same amount of females playing



Tennis Club Kordin

... where tennis is a way of life



Marsa Sports Club

- Marsa Sports Club is the biggest tennis club in Malta with 2200 members. 266 of those members are females over 18



Zebbug Tennis Club

- Zebbug Tennis Club is a growing club with over 500 members. 111 of those are women.



Lija Tennis Club

- This club hosts for 66 females, and 89 males



St.Aloysius Tennis Club

- There are over 38 females playing at this club who are over 18



Birkirkara Tennis Club

- 32 out of 100 members play at the Birkirkara tennis club



Malta Union Club

- It is interesting to note that the majority of the members in this club are over 40, and there are 20 female and 20 male members. Generally, memberships are paid as a couple, so both sexes participate equally in this club



Mgarr Tennis Club

- 20 women are members in this club, which exceeds the male participation, as there are only 10 male members





Overall Female Participation

- According to the information gathered from these clubs there are 829 female registered players.
- The number would increase if one had to include those women who play without being members, the other members of those clubs who didn't give their feedback, and the females under 18
- In 2005, 828 women participated in tennis activities which was less than the male number (1,353)
- This shows that the number of females playing hasn't changed much in these last 5 years, rather it increased if we had to include everyone

Coaching

- There are currently 8 National ITF Level 1 female coaches in Malta (19 males)



MTF Executive, Council and Sub-Committee

- Currently, the executives are all male
- In the council there are 16 members (1 occasionally, 2 female)
- Whilst, there are 3 females in the sub-committee out of 6 members



Club Committees

- There are very few female representatives in the club committees. The majority of the clubs have no females in their committees, whilst a few have one female representative. The only club not following this pattern is that of Lija where the president is female, even though there is a dominance of male presence in the club committee



Conclusion

- Female participation in tennis is very low, when taking into consideration that there are 404,039 people residing in Malta, out of which 203,324 (50.3%) are females
- However, tennis is a sport where an equal number play. It is simply a time/family constraint that sees the numbers so low

