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 merit and affinity. 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 abd other, to be professional players. However, the Tennis sportive career 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.

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 sport career desistance and also of the practice itself.

RESULTS

Bompa (2002) mentioned studies done by Ewing & See Feldt in Michigan University (USA), that the more important reasons which caused the sport 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 sponsorship, lack of support by the club, family and media, lack of entertainment and also bad studies' performances.

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.

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 begins happening 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), Weinneck 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 reasons 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 to play with 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 precarious, 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 present in each age and adolescents should have a suitable proportion between intensity and the existent risks in its practices. Because of it we question about the existence 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 (Fillin and Volkov-Augusti, 2001). Mateeva (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 psychologic 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 demages 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARACTERISTICS</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who played all the levels of age since they started to compete</td>
<td>13 people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who got away from the juvenile’s tournament during a period of time and returned to compete after that</td>
<td>1 person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who began to take part in juvenile tournaments after a period of time competing only in championship by age</td>
<td>6 people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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. Souto (1999) says that 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.

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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 competition 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.

REFERENCES


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PERFIL DE OS JÓVENES JOGADORES DE TÉNIS DE SANTA CATARINA QUE ABANDONARON AS COMPETIÇÕES FEDERATIVAS: A REALIDADE DE ITAJAÍ/S

RÉSUMÉ: Ce document identifia les jeunes tennismen qui ont arrêté de participer aux tournois fedéraux 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 obtenu 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 principaux 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-CLES: abandon- compétition- tennis.