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Critical analysis of unforced error of all India intervarsity tennis players

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Abstract

The purpose of this study was to analyze the unforced errors in the performances of Tennis players. For the purpose of this study 26 male tennis players were selected who had participated in All India Intersarsity Tennis (Men's) championship held in Jiwaji University, Gwalior 2008-09. The following measures were selected in analyzing the unforced error in Tennis; First serve, Second serve, Foot fault, Fore hand drive fault, Back hand drive fault, Smash fault, Back hand slice and Fore hand slice. The tester competency was evaluated together with the reliability of the tester by analyzing the performance of the 26 players of All India Intersarsity tennis (Men's) championship. The data was collected for each criterion measure by seen the match performance during the All India Intersarsity Tennis (Men's) championship. For the critical analysis of unforced error in the performance of All India Tennis players 'P'-test was employed. The level of significance was set at 0.05. The finding of the study revealed that The players of All India Intersarsity Tennis (Men) championship did not show any statistical significant differences in unforced errors related to first service fault, second service fault, foot fault, forehand drive fault, backhand drive fault, smash fault, backhand slice fault & forehand slice fault. This may be attributed to the fact that they have comparatively same level of skill & technique and are playing in a same competition.

Keywords: Unforced error, intersarsity, tennis players

Introduction

Success in tennis requires a mix of player talent, good coaching, appropriate equipment, and an understanding of those aspects of sport science pertinent to the game.

Tennis is a game that has always appeared to both sexes and to both young and old. It is considered by many to be one of the best forms of recreational sports. The pace of the game can be set to the individual's ability, for it may be played merely as a mild form of exercise, or so strenuously that it taxes one's endurance and strength to their limits, speed, agility, coordination, and endurance can be developed, and indeed are needed to play a sound game of tennis (Mark V., 2002) [3].

There are only three ways to end a point - with a winner, forced error or unforced error. The idea of an error being either forced or unforced is to place the blame for the error - who is responsible for the missed shot? Was the error forced by the aggressive play of the opponent or was it unforced, just a mistake by the player who hit the shot?"

An unforced Error is when the player has time to prepare and position him or herself to get the ball back in play and makes an error. This is a shot that the player would normally get back into play. The real keys here are time and position. When the opponent takes away time by hitting the prior shot with extra pace this can result in a forced error. Also, when the opponent forces the player out of position with placement (depth and/or angle) this can result in a forced error.

There is one important factor which can influence the Tennis performance i.e. Unforced Error. Hence, with desired thought and expectation research felt necessary to attempt to study the effect of Unforced Error on the performance of a Tennis player in All India Intersarsity Tennis (MEN) Championship.

Keeping in mind the purpose of the study it is hypothesized that there will be no significant effect of unforced errors in the performance of Tennis players.

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Methodology

For the purpose of this study 26 male tennis players were selected who had participated in All India Intersarsity Tennis (Men’s) championship held in Jiwaji University, Gwalior. The following measures were selected in analyzing the unforced error in Tennis:-First serve, Second serve, Foot fault, Forehand drive fault, Back hand drive fault, Smash fault, Back hand slice and Fore hand slice. The reliability of data were ensured by establishing the tester competency, and the subject reliability. The tester competency was evaluated together with the reliability of the tester by analyzing the performance of the 26 players of All India Intersarsity tennis (Men’s) championship. The study was delimited to performance of

single matches only. The availability of scores of their performance was used for measuring criterion measures was considered as a limitation for the investigation. No motivational techniques were used.

For the critical analysis of unforced error in the performance of All India Tennis players ‘t’-test was employed. The level of significance was set at 0.05.

Result and Discussion of Findings
Findings

The statistical analysis of data pertaining to unforced errors in different criterion measures is given in the following Table:

Table 1: Comparison of mean scores to unforced errors in different criterion measures among Winners and Losers (N=26)

Criterion Measures	Winners		Losers		t-Ratio
	Mean (M)	S.D.	Mean (M)	S.D.	
First Service Fault	23.34	7.98	25.00	3.12	0.69
Second Service Fault	4.46	2.43	4.65	3.35	0.23
Foot Fault	0.11	0.43	0.11	0.43	0.00
Forehand Drive Fault	17.57	12.56	19.19	9.85	0.51
Backhand Drive Fault	11.57	6.96	15.05	7.30	1.77
Smash Fault	0.46	0.81	0.57	0.90	0.48
Backhand Slice fault	2.34	1.64	3.07	2.92	1.11
Forehand Slice Fault	1.11	1.36	1.65	2.24	1.05

Tab ‘t’_{0.05(50)} with d.f. (50) =2.01

It is evident from table-1 that ‘t’ value of first service fault, second service fault, foot fault, forehand drive fault, backhand drive fault, smash fault, backhand slice fault and forehand slice fault of Winners and Losers were 0.69, 0.23, 0.00, 0.51, 1.77, 0.48, 1.11 and 1.05 respectively, which are not significant at 0.05 level. It indicates that mean scores of different criterion

measures among Winners and Losers do not differ significantly. Thus, the null hypothesis namely there is no significant difference in mean scores of first service fault, second service fault, foot fault, forehand drive fault, backhand drive fault, smash fault, backhand slice fault and forehand slice fault of Winners and Losers is accepted.

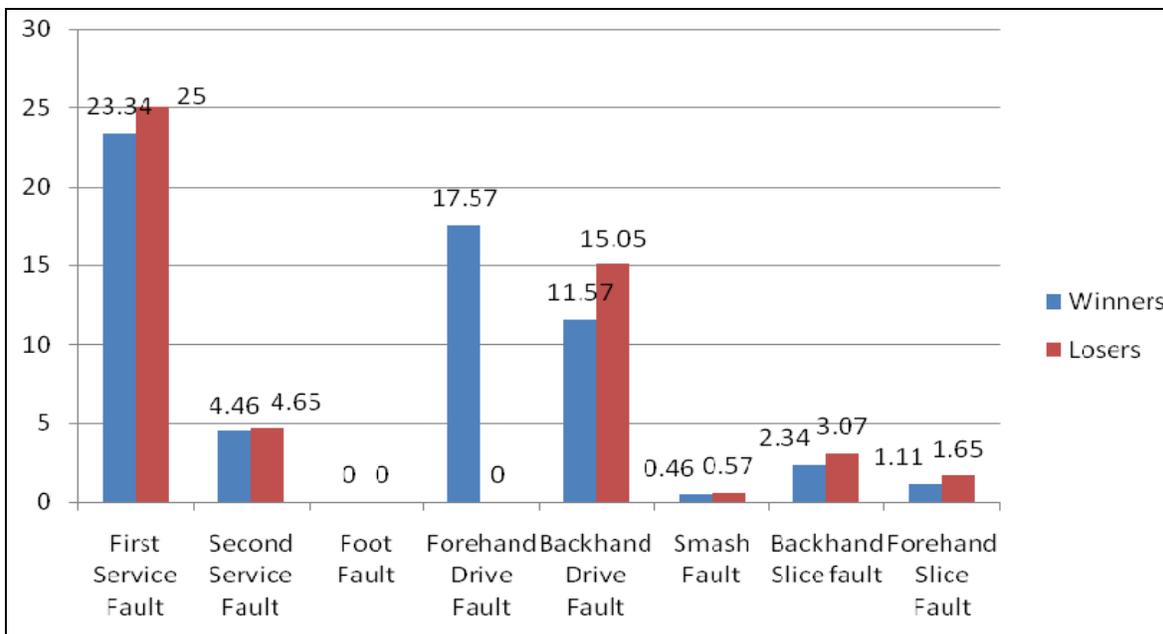


Fig 1: Graphical representation of mean scores to unforced errors in different criterion measures among Winners and Losers

Discussion of Findings

The analysis of data using the ‘t’ test shows that Winners and Losers of All India Intersarsity Tennis players had no significant difference on first service fault, second service fault, foot fault, forehand drive fault, backhand drive fault, smash fault, backhand slice fault & forehand drive fault. This may be attributed to the fact that they have comparatively

same level of skill & technique and are playing in a same competition.

Since sports has been one of the important aspects in the university. Hence the players have been engaged in different levels of competition at college, university & open Tennis championship. So they have more or less similar skills & techniques related to Tennis. Also, the sample size and the

number of competition chosen for the study might have not sufficient for the statistical significance of the unforced errors in the performance of tennis players.

Discussion and Conclusion

Based on the statistical finding it may be said that the hypothesis stated earlier that there is no significant effect of unforced errors in the performance of winners and Losers of All India Interschool Tennis players is accepted.

The players of All India Interschool Tennis (Men) championship did not show any statistical significant differences in unforced errors related to first service fault, second service fault, foot fault, forehand drive fault, backhand drive fault, smash fault, backhand slice fault & forehand slice fault.

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