

Questions & Answers

Q: Why multi-racquet sports competition?

A: As we all know, variety is a spice of life. Except successful players who play on a competitive level, so often we see people who play one racquet sport, getting bored and losing their interest after while. Among other reasons, this usually happens when they hit plateau, they play the same opponents or possibly at the same locations, for so long. With multiple racquet sports is different. There is always new challenge to face, new opponents to play, new skills to learn, etc. Many of those skills are transferable from one racquet sport to the other and you'll never get bored.

First goal of the organizers is to keep players physically active and in best shape for their age. We all agree that, huge part of overall health and well-being is physical activity (in healthy body - healthy mind). We choose racquet sports because we love to play them and secondly we believe that is an excellent way to achieve our goal, regardless how we do in the competition. On top, it's challenging, fun, new and for good reasons.

Q: Why five racquet sports?

A: Because the ultimate title is **World's Greatest All-Round Racquet Player**, we picked five of the most popular racquet sports in the world right now; otherwise the title would NOT be complete. If in the future other racquet sports will be invented, developed and become as popular like those five, we'll most likely add them to our competition to make it even more challenging. For now we included: **Tennis** - Olympic sport since 1896, **Table Tennis** (the most popular racquet sport, in fact 2nd most popular sport in the world, after soccer) - Olympic sport since 1988), **Badminton** (the fastest racquet sport over all) - Olympic sport since 1992, **Squash** (the fastest racquet sport played with a ball), and **Racquetball**.

Q: Why is it called RACQUETHLON?

A: We see **Racquetlon** as a Marathon of racquet sports. It seemed natural and logical, to replace Greek numerals, for instance: tria [3], penta [5], deka [10] with word "racquet" and combine it with ending ...thlon, from Greek word athlon [contest], like many other sport combinations ending similar way, for example: biathlon, duathlon, triathlon, pentathlon, heptathlon and decathlon.

Q: Why full-length matches?

A: The organizers believe that only full-length matches adequately reflect player's skill level and physical/mental preparation. It also, allows players more time to adjust to opponent style of play and counteract where physical condition becomes a big factor as technical skills. Playing short, single games gives advantage to player with high technical skill level and not particularly to the one with slightly lower skills but good physical/mental preparation. In full-length match it all evens out. Some players are good starters but bad finishers when others are the opposite and since our goal is to find the best overall balanced racquet player, each player (pair in doubles) must be tested under normal playing conditions, just like in each individual racquet sport.

Q: Why scoring system is different?

A: Normally each racquet sport has different serving and scoring system, which sometimes changes to reflect new developments in a sport. For example: badminton goes to 15 or 21 points, table tennis to 21 or 11 points, squash to 9 or 11 points, racquetball to 11 or 15 points and tennis ... is different all together.

Because each rally point counts, scoring system must be same for all racquet sports and must not favor any of them, we believe the same scoring system for all racquet sports that we use, make this all possible.

Q: Why player with the most points wins the match?

A: It's because of the universal scoring system we use for all racquet sports. This is fair and pushes players to fight for each point because at the end of each qualifying round it can be a matter of few points between losing and winning. Only in case, where two opponents have the same amount of points (rarely), then amount of games won is taken under consideration. It's possible to lose by games and win by points (as seen on the sample score card – see our website)

Q: Why order of sports is different for each tournament?

A: To add flexibility, element of surprise, unknown to the game and evens out the playing field.

Q: Why each player has 3 serves?

A: In most racquet sports, serving is an advantage to the serving player and each player (pair in doubles) must have the same advantage. We've chosen 3 serves as a middle ground between 5 or 2 serves widely used before or now (Table Tennis & Badminton), serving throughout entire game (Tennis) and keep serving as long as you keep scoring system (Squash & Racquetball).

Q: Why tournament entry fee is charitable donation?

A: The more reasons we have to do something the most likely we'll do it. Sometimes people do more for others or other greater causes, than they do for themselves. We don't inquire why, but it's a fact. Playing for your charity or our favor cause will give us another reason to go out, keep physically active, do what we love to do anyway (play racquet sports) and possibly stretch ourselves to go that extra step.