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Differences in performance parameters between winning and losing pairs in men's and women's professional padel

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Abstract

The study aims to analyze the differences between winning and losing pairs depending on the sex and the round of the tournament in professional padel. A total of 814 matches (438 men and 376 women) from the draw rounds of eight World Padel Tour Open and Master tournaments played during the 2022 season were analyzed by systematic observation. The results indicate that the winning pair obtains more points won ($p < 0.001$), more break balls ($p < 0.001$), breaks ($p < 0.001$), golden points won ($p < 0.001$), and golden points won to the return ($p < 0.001$) compared to the losing pair, regardless of sex ($p < 0.05$) and round. Regarding the differences in both sexes, men players obtained more points won ($p = 0.025$) and golden points won on serve ($p = 0.032$), while women players obtained more breaks ($p = 0.004$), with differences in the winning pairs ($p < 0.001$). Concerning the round, it only influences the golden points won to the return in men's padel ($p = 0.037$), with a greater difference in the final than in the other rounds. In conclusion, these differences show key game variables that affect the final score, differentiating between sex and establishing game tactics in competition to optimize the players' performance.

Keywords

Gender, golden point, racquet sport, tactics

Introduction

Padel is a sport in constant growth among the entire population,[1] which translates into a significant increase in the number of licenses and facilities in recent years,[2,3] reaching almost 100,000 federation licenses in 2023, where 35% correspond to women athletes and 65% to men athletes, which provides us with information on the relevance of women padel in comparison to other sports. In this same sense, the interest of researchers in this area has increased significantly in recent years, causing an increase in research in padel,[4,5] which has focused on the analysis of physiological and psychological demands, prevalence of injuries, and game parameters,[6–8] allowing to obtain a deeper and more rigorous knowledge about padel.

The most addressed research object in padel focuses on performance analysis,[5,9] which shows that variables such as the player's sex influence the style of play, possibly due to the physical and physiological differences of both.[10,11] These differences cause different game dynamics, on the one hand, men players obtain a higher percentage of winning shots, perform more flat and topspin smashes, execute more shots close to the net and the duration of the points is shorter.[12–15] On the other hand, women players use the lob more to obtain offensive positions, play more trays in the middle areas of the court, play more shots per match and the duration of the points is longer.[16–19] These differences require further analysis of both sexes in different game contexts for better performance optimization in competition.

Other important aspects to highlight within the competition are, on the one hand, the existing differences based on the final score, playing more winning shots, more smashes, and more breaks won by the winning pair compared to the losing pair,[20–22] and on the other hand, the differences between the game rounds of the final table.[23,24] Thus, previous studies have observed that, as the game rounds

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progress, there is greater equality in the matches, reflected by a greater number of games in each set and by a greater number of points of golden played, especially in the second set,[24] affirming these authors that this set could be decisive in the final result of the match.

This last factor (increase in equality on the scoreboard) has been altered in recent years due to the implementation of the golden point rule in World Padel Tour (WPT) tournaments since the 2020 season. The golden point, according to the official padel rules,[25] it consists of a point that decides the game when the score is equal (40–40), where the return pair decides who receives the serve from the right side or left of the court, without being able to change the position to receive the serve, the pair that wins this decisive point, will win the game. The arrival of this rule in the official WPT tournaments has caused a change in the game parameters, among which the slight reduction in playing time and a greater number of breaks stand out,[26] greater equality in the scoreboard, and increase in the volume of the game.[24,27] Furthermore, this rule seems to be a differential performance factor between winners and losers, as observed by Muñoz et al.[24] in professional padel, where the winning pairs, both men and women, won more golden points than the losing pairs. In addition, a greater number of golden points were disputed in women's padel than in men's. However, it has not yet been observed if these golden points are achieved on serve or on return, this aspect being a possible key factor in achieving victory.

Therefore, we believe that delving into the analysis of the variables mentioned above to specify in more detail the differences between each of them depending on the game round and the winning and losing pairs is of great interest, to continue delving into these aspects that are important for the competition and its preparation. Furthermore, our hypothesis points out that there are different parameters that determine the outcome of the match depending on the sex and that can vary depending on the round of play such as the winners and serve parameters, and it is crucial to know what they are in order to work on them. That is why the aim of the study is to analyze the differences between the winning and losing pairs according to sex and the round of play in professional padel.

Methods

Research design

The research methodology is quantitative and it is a descriptive study using an arbitrary code of natural observation. In addition, this work was empirical, nomothetic, cross-sectional, and multidimensional.[28]

Subjects

A total of 814 matches (438 men's and 376 women's) of the round of 32, round of 16, quarterfinals, semifinals, and finals corresponding to eight WPT tournaments played in 2022, both in the men's and women's categories, were analyzed. The matches corresponded to Open and Master tournaments to ensure the participation of the best players in the world and they were chosen randomly but maintaining the equity of tournaments analyzed between them. The study was conducted according to the guidelines of the Declaration of Helsinki,[29] and approved by the Ethics Committee (154/2020).

Study variables

The variables analyzed were the following:

Independent variables

- Result of the match: differentiating between winning pair and losing pair.
- Sex: variable divided into men category and women category.
- Round: round of 32, round of 16, quarterfinal, semifinal, and final matches.

Dependent variables

- Points won: number of points that a padel pair wins.
- Break balls: variable that refers to the number of times a restorative pair has the option of getting a game.[30]
- Breaks: variable that refers to the achievement of the game by the pair to the return.
- Golden points won: decisive point that is played with a score of 40–40.
- Golden points won to the serve: decisive point played with a score of 40–40 where the serving pair gets the point.
- Golden points won to the return: decisive point played with a score of 40–40 where the pair gets the point to the return.

Procedure

The matches analyzed for data collection were extracted from the official WPT page where they are broadcast in streaming and later stored. The matches belonging to the eight WPT tournaments mentioned above were analyzed through systematic observation, using the LINCE software,[31] specialized in collecting information. For the analysis and collection of information through systematic observation of the matches, two researchers specialized in padel (Graduates in Sports Sciences) participated. Each observer recorded the same set to analyze the inter-observer reliability through the Multirater Kappa Free,[32] obtaining values greater than 0.80. In addition, to ensure the viability of the data obtained, the intra-observer reliability was evaluated at the end of the observation process, obtaining

minimum values of 0.80. Thus, the kappa values obtained allowed us to consider the degree of agreement as very high (>0.80).[33]

Statistical analysis

The statistical package SPSS 27.0 for Windows was used for the statistical analysis of the data. Results are expressed as mean ± standard deviation. The Kolgomorov test and the Levene test of homogeneity of variances were used to determine the normality of the data. The multivariate ANOVA test was used to determine the difference between the winning and losing couple and sex, based on the independent variables. Partial eta squared (η^2) was calculated to determine the size of the effect and its magnitude was based on the following ranges: 0.01–0.06 a small effect size, 0.06–0.14 a moderate effect size, and >0.14 a large effect size.[34] The significance level was set at $p < 0.05$.

Results

1. Overall comparison of game variables between winners and losers for each round (Figure 1).

The data of this section show significant differences between the winning and losing pairs in the variables of points won ($p < 0.001$), with a greater number of points

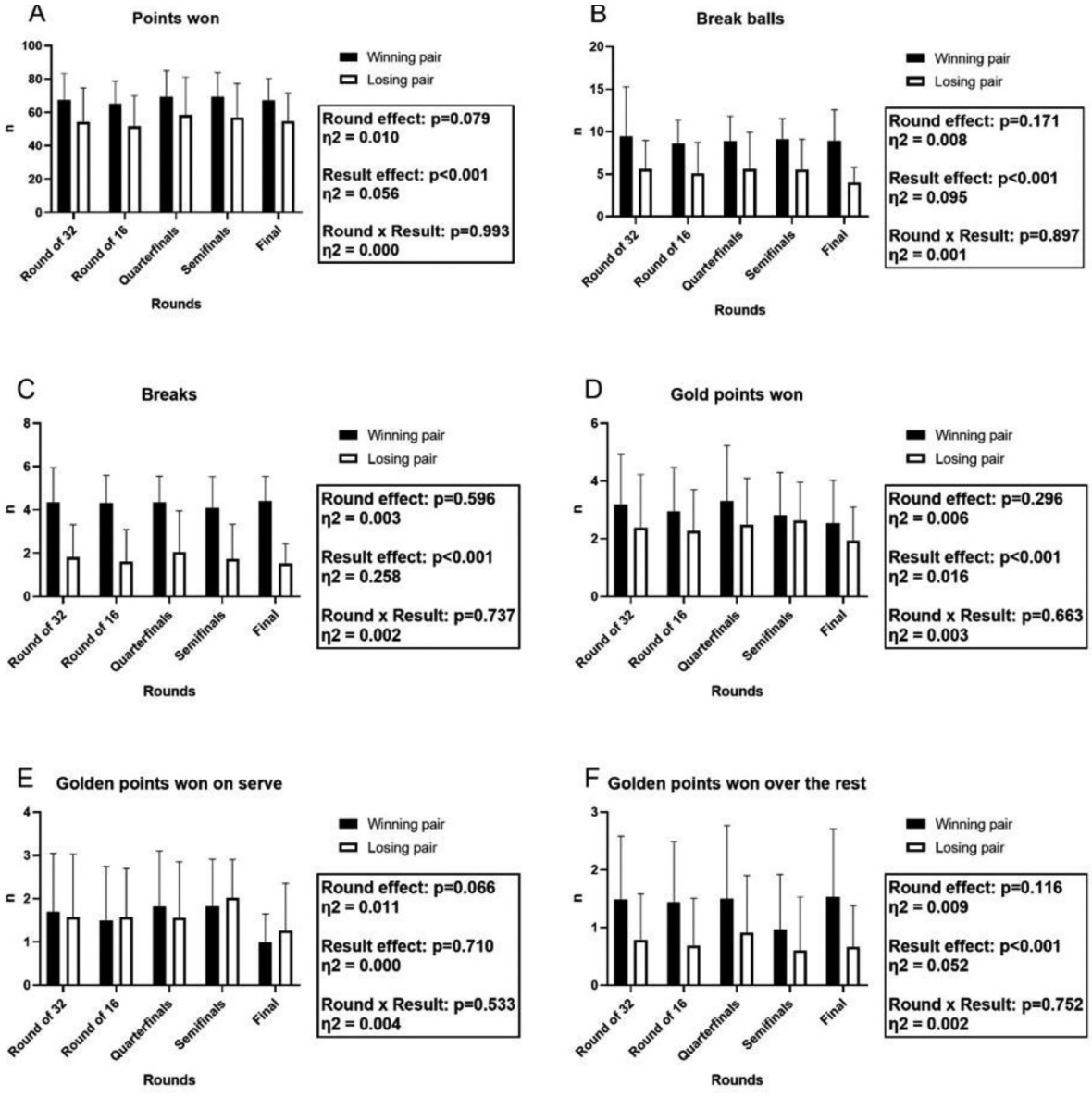

Figure 1. Points won (A), break balls (B), breaks (C), golden points won (D), golden points won on serve (E), golden points won to the return (F) depending on the round and the winner and lose. η^2: partial eta squared.

won on average by the winning pair in the quarterfinals, and in the final where said couple obtains less points won, becoming the round with greater equality between both pairs. In the same way, there are significant differences in the break balls ($p < 0.001$), with the sixteenth round being the round in which the winning pair obtains a greater chance of being able to break serve, it is also the round with more breaks by the winning couple ($p < 0.001$). Likewise, there are significant differences in the golden points won ($p < 0.001$) and golden points won to the return ($p < 0.001$), with the final being the round in which the winning and losing pair earn fewer golden points on average, but where the winning pair gets more golden points than to the return against the other pair. In this way, the winning pair obtains higher values in the variables mentioned above compared to the opposing couple regardless of the game round. However, there are no differences depending on the game round.

2.Comparison for each sex of the game variables between winners and losers in each round (Table 1).

In men and women padel there are significant differences in the variables of points won, break balls, break, golden points won and golden points won by the to return ($p < 0.05$), being the winning pair who obtains higher values in all the variables regardless of the round compared to the losing pair. For its part, the game round influenced on the golden points won over the rest in men padel ($p = 0.037$), with a greater difference in the final compared to the other rounds.

3.Comparison of game variables between men and women for each round (Figure 2).

The results indicate significant differences in the points won ($p = 0.025$), with male players obtaining more points in all rounds compared to female players; in the number of breaks ($p = 0.004$) being in this case the female players who obtain higher values, producing more equality in the scoreboard due to the more significant number of breaks of serve compared to male players and finally, in the variable of golden points won on serve ($p = 0.032$), being the boys who obtain more significant benefits on serve at times of golden points compared to the females.

4.Interaction of sex and outcome on the game variables for each round (Table 2).

There are only significant differences in the number of breaks depending on the sex of the pair by the winners ($p < 0.001$), with the women players having more service breaks in all rounds, being in the final when they make the greatest number of breaks and in the round of 16 when there are more differences between women and men.

Discussion

This study aimed to analyze the differences between winning and losing pairs according to sex and the round of play in professional padel. The results obtained indicate that between the winning and losing pair there are differences between the points won, break balls, break, golden points won and golden points won to the return. Just as they indicate that between men and women players there are differences in terms of points won, breaks and golden points won to the serve.

Previous studies indicate that the winning pair earns more points than the losing pair regardless of sex.[21] The data provided corroborate the previous results, indicating that, although the game round does not affect the points won, in the quarterfinals the difference between the two pairs is greater. Although padel, as indicated by Sánchez-Alcaraz et al.[22] is a sport in which the number of errors is greater than the number of winning shots, becoming a key factor in the score, harming the losing pair, the number of points won is presented as another key factor for both pairs, causing the players to have an adequate decision making in each hit to obtain a balance between both factors.

Although the points won are higher in the winning pair compared to the losing pair in both sexes, the number of points won in men padel is higher than in women padel. The men padel is characterized by the greater use of the flat and topspin smash to define the point, which are technical gestures with which more winning shots are obtained.[14,22] Meanwhile, women's padel is characterized by greater use of the forehand volley and tray to finish the point.[12] Therefore, due to the little continuity offered by the topspin and powerful smash,[14] together with the greater number of errors that are commit with the volley and the tray, in addition to the continuity produced by these gestures,[13,14,22,35] makes men players get more points won due to their playing style.

The implementation of the golden point rule from the 2020 season has caused the number of breaks per set, even set numbers and three-set matches to have increased.[24,36] Thus, due to said rule and its importance, both the number of break balls and the achievement of service breaks influence the result between the winning and losing pairs, as well as sex. The serve provides an advantage to the serving partner since one member of the partner is placed in positions close to the net allowing them to take the initiative of the point.[26,37,38] Therefore, from the point of view of the pair to the return, achieving this type of points by taking away the initiative of the point from the pair to serve, allows them to get an advantage on the scoreboard since, as the results of the study show, the winning pair gets more break and break balls compared to the return pair.

Likewise, the sex of the player does not affect the number of break balls but it does affect the breaks obtained, with women players being the ones who obtained the most service breaks. Previous studies indicate that the duration of the points in women's matches is longer than in men's,[8] due

Table 1. Points won, break balls, breaks, golden points won, golden points won to the serve and golden points won to the return depending on the round and the winner and loser in the men and women category.

Women									
	Round	Winning pair	Loser pair	Round effect	η^2	Result effect	η^2	Round * Result	η^2
Points won	Round of 32	66.58 ± 15.62	51.98 ± 20.23	0.675	0.006	**0.000**	0.064	0.995	0.001
	Round of 16	64.10 ± 13.99	51.16 ± 19.20						
	Quarter final	67.11 ± 14.24	53.22 ± 22.26						
	Semifinal	68.57 ± 15.35	55.71 ± 20.60						
	Final	61.71 ± 8.99	49.71 ± 13.68						
Break balls	Round of 32	9.30 ± 3.47	5.58 ± 3.20	0.930	0.002	**0.000**	0.134	0.781	0.005
	Round of 16	8.85 ± 2.83	5.57 ± 3.97						
	Quarter final	9.03 ± 2.86	5.00 ± 4.90						
	Semifinal	9.00 ± 2.32	6.07 ± 3.64						
	Final	10.00 ± 2.58	4.57 ± 2.14						
Breaks	Round of 32	4.76 ± 1.15	2.03 ± 1.53	0.714	0.006	**0.000**	0.325	0.921	0.003
	Round of 16	4.82 ± 1.16	1.91 ± 1.63						
	Quarter final	4,51 ± 1.18	1.92 ± 1.99						
	Semifinal	4.35 ± 1.08	1.78 ± 1.42						
	Final	5.14 ± 0.89	2.00 ± 1.00						
Golden points won	Round of 32	3.14 ± 1.81	2.27 ± 1.68	0.915	0.003	**0.015**	0.016	0.910	0.003
	Round of 16	3.07 ± 1.49	2.23 ± 1.51						
	Quarter final	2.92 ± 1.93	2.25 ± 1.31						
	Semifinal	2.85 ± 1.70	2.50 ± 1.28						
	Final	2.42 ± 2.07	2.14 ± 0.69						
Golden points won to the serve	Round of 32	1.57 ± 1.34	1.44 ± 1.29	0.162	0.018	0.596	0.001	0.902	0.003
	Round of 16	1.39 ± 1.21	1.35 ± 1.01						
	Quarter final	1.40 ± 1.21	1.48 ± 1.15						
	Semifinal	1.78 ± 0.89	1.92 ± 0.91						
	Final	0.71 ± 0.75	1.14 ± 0.89						
Golden points won to the return	Round of 32	1.53 ± 1.18	0.83 ± 0.80	0.303	0.013	**0.000**	0.052	0.975	0.001
	Round of 16	1.67 ± 1.06	0.87 ± 0.91						
	Quarter final	1.51 ± 1.25	0.77 ± 1.01						
	Semifinal	1.07 ± 1.14	0.57 ± 075						
	Final	1.71 ± 1.49	1.00 ± 0.57						
Men									
	Round	Winning pair	Loser pair	Round effect	η^2	Effect winner loser	η^2	Round * winner loser	η^2
Points won	Round of 32	68.30 ± 15.82	56.54 ± 20.17	0.070	0.020	**0.000**	0.050	0.969	0.001
	Round of 16	65.26 ± 12.35	52.30 ± 17.51						
	Quarter final	70.73 ± 16.17	61.66 ± 21.77						
	Semifinal	69.33 ± 14.39	58.31 ± 20.47						
	Final	72.12 ± 14.74	58.87 ± 19.35						
Break balls	Round of 32	9.60 ± 7.20	5.89 ± 3.58	0.109	0.018	**0.000**	0.075	0.903	0.002
	Round of 16	8.36 ± 2.73	4.65 ± 3.29						
	Quarter final	8.76 ± 3.02	6.16 ± 3.69						
	Semifinal	9.26 ± 2.57	5.12 ± 3.53						
	Final	8.00 ± 4.34	3.50 ± 1.41						
Breaks	Round of 32	4.00 ± 1.83	1.62 ± 1.46	0.128	0.017	**0.000**	0.220	0.879	0.003
	Round of 16	3.83 ± 1.22	1.33 ± 1.30						
	Quarter final	4.20 ± 1.24	2.16 ± 1.83						
	Semifinal	3.86 ± 1.18	1.68 ± 1.81						
	Final	3.75 ± 1.66	1.12 ± 0.64						

(continued)

Table 1. (continued)

Men									
	Round	Winning pair	Loser pair	Round effect	η^2	Effect winner loser	η^2	Round * winner loser	η^2
Golden points won	Round of 32	3.23 ± 1.69	2.46 ± 1.98	0.151	0.016	**0.008**	0.016	0.591	0.007
	Round of 16	2.78 ± 1.50	2.31 ± 1.36						
	Quarter final	3.63 ± 1.88	2.56 ± 1.75						
	Semifinal	2.73 ± 1.38	2.75 ± 1.39						
	Final	2.62 ± 0.91	1.75 ± 1.48						
Golden points won to the serve	Round of 32	1.82 ± 1.36	1.69 ± 1.59	0.516	0.008	0.973	0.000	0.377	0.010
	Round of 16	1.53 ± 1.21	1.77 ± 1.19						
	Quarter final	2.10 ± 1.24	1.56 ± 1.38						
	Semifinal	1.80 ± 1.26	2.12 ± 0.88						
	Final	1.25 ± 0.46	1.37 ± 1.30						
Golden points won to the return	Round of 32	1.43 ± 1.04	0.74 ± 0.80	**0.037**	0.022	**0.000**	0.053	0.734	0.005
	Round of 16	1.25 ± 0.98	0.53 ± 0.71						
	Quarter final	1.53 ± 1.30	1.00 ± 0.98						
	Semifinal	0.93 ± 0.79	0.62 ± 1.08						
	Final	1.37 ± 0.91	0.37 ± 0.74						

Data expressed as mean ± standard deviation. η^2: partial eta squared. Bold indicates: $p < 0.05$.

to the greater use of the lob to achieve offensive positions,[39] and who also play more shots per game.[19] Therefore, since from shot number 12 the advantage to the serve disappears[26] and that, in the case of women, the duration of the points is longer, perform more shots per match and they use get fewer winners, cause the serve advantage to disappear increasing the probability of suffering a break and, conversely, male players get more golden points on serve.

On the other hand, it is important to highlight the difference in golden points won on serve and return in both sexes, especially in the semifinal and final rounds, as the winning pair wins fewer golden points on serve but compensate by winning more gold points on return than the opposing pair. Previous studies show a higher percentage of points won on serve in men's padel,[26] as well as showing how the winning pair win more golden points than the losing pair and the women more than the men,[24] probably due to fewer points won on serve.[26] That is why the results of this study allow us to identify the importance of maintaining the advantage on the serve in padel, especially in the last two rounds of the tournaments. As we can observe that on the one hand, the winning pair, due to their efficiency on the serve reaches fewer golden points, as shown by the lower number of break balls, especially in the final, On the other hand, the losing pair loses more points on serve, increasing the number of golden points and therefore the number of golden points won on serve, but due to the high number of such a situation, the winning pair manages to win certain golden points on return that ends up determining the match. Therefore, as indicated by Sánchez-Alcaraz et al.[23] that the final is the round where there is more equality in the scoreboard, and where more golden points are produced especially in men's padel,[24] it seems that the losing pair suffers the most with their serve in these rounds, being the golden points won on serve what determines the final result in both men's and women's padel.

Although this manuscript addresses the limitations raised in previous studies,[23] the study has limitations that should be considered when interpreting the results. In addition, to our knowledge, this is the first study that analyzes the role of the pair in the golden point, indicating whether the golden point wins on serve or on return, and it is important for future research to address the golden point from this perspective to compare the results. On the other hand, the volume of points analyzed could affect those obtained, and future studies should consider a greater number of points from both categories in order to draw more decisive conclusions. Similarly, analyzing Open tournaments on the one hand and Master tournaments on the other could better identify the specific differences of these tournaments, as well as comparing them in tournaments with identical weather conditions to check if there are differences in the parameters analyzed depending on the weather. Therefore, these limitations should be addressed in future research as they would complement and provide more robust information to the results obtained.

In conclusion, the data from this study allow us to establish a distinction between men and women players and the losing and winning pair, analyzing in detail which variables are critical in the scoreboard. The number of points won, achievement of break and break balls and golden points won are important in the result, the winning pair being the one who achieves the best values in these factors. About the golden points won, the golden points won to the return

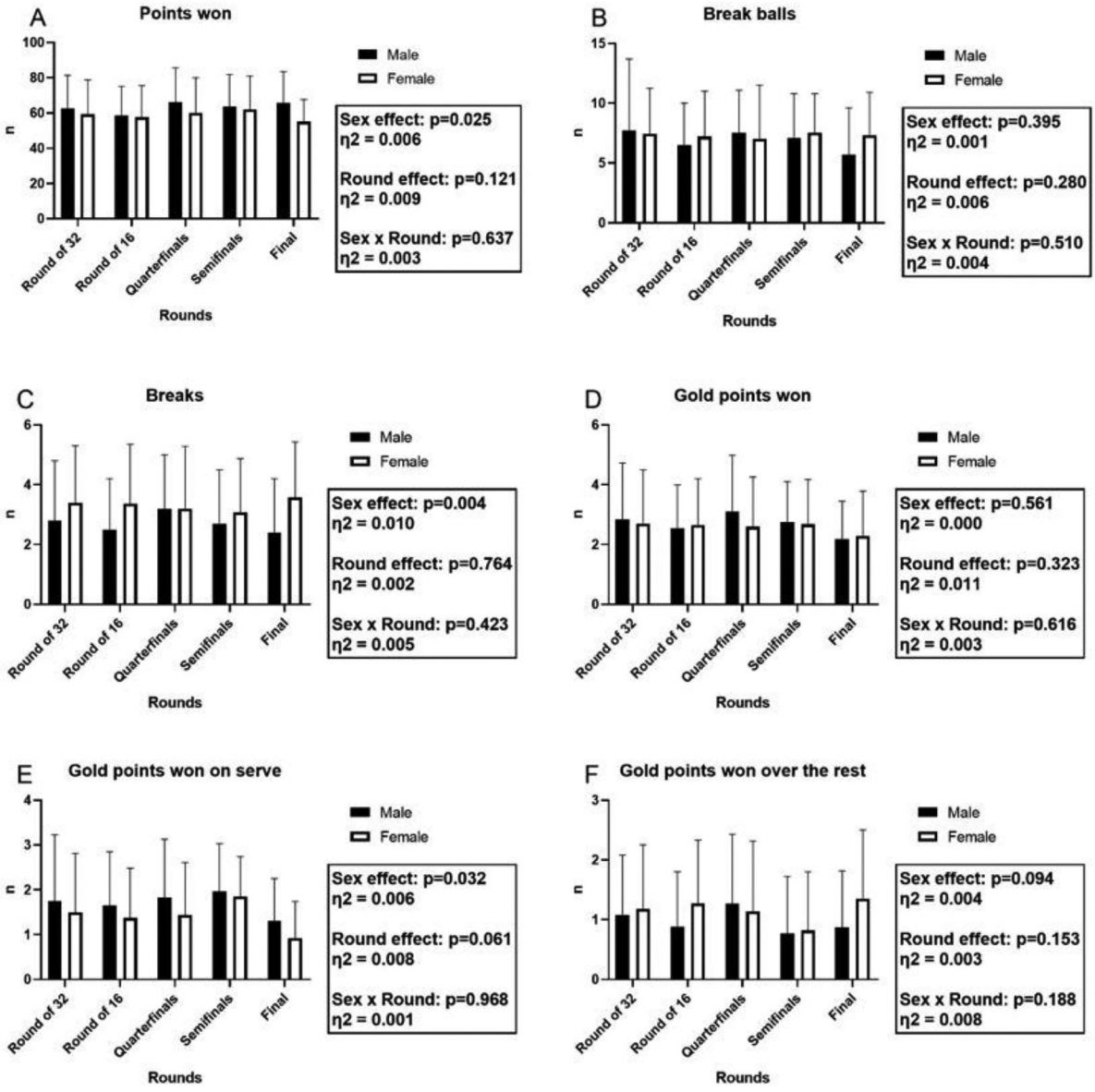

Figure 2. Points won (A), break balls (B), breaks (C), golden points won (D), golden points won on serve (E), golden points won to the return (F) by game round and sex. η^2: partial eta squared.

show more importance between the winning and losing pairs compared to those won on serve regardless of sex. Regarding sex, male players get more points won and golden points won to the serve, while women players get more breaks. Finally, it should be noted that the game round only has an effect on the points won over the rest of the men players, with the final being the round where there is the greatest difference between the winning and losing pair.

Practical applications

The data provided has a practical application both for coaches, allowing them to create training sessions focused on each game situation and specific tactics in competition, and for players, adapting tactically and psychologically based on each case to optimize their performance. Firstly, the separate analysis of men and women allows us to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each sex in order to be able to replicate it in terms of the players without having to generalize the data for all athletes. On the other hand, the differences between the winning and losing pair in winning points and parameters of the serve and return allow us to create training situations that focus on working on these parameters under some tactical conditions to try to minimize errors in the case of the losing pair and continue to strengthen the positive parameters in the winning pair, as well as to adjust the tactics in competition depending on the score of the match. Finally, the game

Table 2. Points won, break balls, breaks, golden points won, golden points won to the serve and golden points won to the return based on the round and sex based on the winning and losing pairing.

Winning pair									
	Round	Men	Women	Sex effect	η^2	Round effect	η^2	Sex * Round	η^2
Points won	Round of 32	68.30 ± 15.82	66.58 ± 15.62	0.103	0.007	0.350	0.011	0.821	0.004
	Round of 16	65.26 ± 12.35	64.10 ± 13.99						
	Quarter final	70.73 ± 16.17	67.11 ± 14.24						
	Semifinal	69.33 ± 14.39	68.57 ± 15.35						
	Final	72.12 ± 14.74	61.71 ± 8.99						
Break balls	Round of 32	9.60 ± 7.20	9.30 ± 3.47	0.502	0.001	0.619	0.007	0.859	0.003
	Round of 16	8.36 ± 2.73	8.85 ± 2.83						
	Quarter final	8.76 ± 3.02	9.03 ± 2.86						
	Semifinal	9.26 ± 2.57	9.00 ± 2.32						
	Final	8.00 ± 4.34	10.00 ± 2.58						
Breaks	Round of 32	4.00 ± 1.83	4.76 ± 1.15	**0.000**	0.037	0.896	0.003	0.511	0.008
	Round of 16	3.83 ± 1.22	4.82 ± 1.16						
	Quarter final	4.20 ± 1.24	4.51 ± 1.18						
	Semifinal	3.86 ± 1.18	4.35 ± 1.08						
	Final	3.75 ± 1.66	5.14 ± 0.89						
Golden points won	Round of 32	3.23 ± 1.69	3.14 ± 1.81	0.634	0.001	0.294	0.012	0.486	0.009
	Round of 16	2.78 ± 1.50	3.07 ± 1.49						
	Quarter final	3.63 ± 1.88	2.92 ± 1.93						
	Semifinal	2.73 ± 1.38	2.85 ± 1.70						
	Final	2.62 ± 0.91	2.42 ± 2.07						
Golden points won to the serve	Round of 32	1.82 ± 1.36	1.57 ± 1.34	0.077	0.008	0.117	0.019	0.670	0.006
	Round of 16	1.53 ± 1.21	1.39 ± 1.21						
	Quarter final	2.10 ± 1.24	1.40 ± 1.21						
	Semifinal	1.80 ± 1.26	1.78 ± 0.89						
	Final	1.25 ± 0.46	0.71 ± 0.75						
Golden points won to the return	Round of 32	1.43 ± 1.04	1.53 ± 1.18	0.221	0.004	0.258	0.013	0.696	0.006
	Round of 16	1.25 ± 0.98	1.67 ± 1.06						
	Quarter final	1.53 ± 1.30	1.51 ± 1.25						
	Semifinal	0.93 ± 0.79	1.07 ± 1.14						
	Final	1.37 ± 0.91	1.71 ± 1.49						
Loser pair									
Points won	Round of 32	56.54 ± 20.17	51.98 ± 20.23	0.073	0.008	0.414	0.010	0.800	0.004
	Round of 16	52.30 ± 17.51	51.16 ± 19.20						
	Quarter final	61.66 ± 21.77	53.22 ± 22.26						
	Semifinal	58.31 ± 20.24	55.71 ± 20.60						
	Final	58.87 ± 19.35	49.71 ± 13.68						
Break balls	Round of 32	5.89 ± 3.58	5.58 ± 3.20	0.575	0.001	0.324	0.012	0.333	0.011
	Round of 16	4.65 ± 3.29	5.57 ± 3.97						
	Quarter final	6.16 ± 3.69	5.00 ± 4.90						
	Semifinal	5.12 ± 3.53	6.07 ± 3.64						
	Final	3.50 ± 1.41	4.57 ± 2.14						
Breaks	Round of 32	1.62 ± 1.46	2.03 ± 1.53	0.126	0.006	0.490	0.009	0.493	0.009
	Round of 16	1.33 ± 1.30	1.91 ± 1.63						
	Quarter final	2.16 ± 1.83	1.92 ± 1.99						
	Semifinal	1.68 ± 1.81	1.78 ± 1.42						
	Final	1.12 ± 0.64	2.00 ± 1.00						
Golden points won	Round of 32	2.46 ± 1.98	2.27 ± 1.68	0.713	0.000	0.721	0.005	0.959	0.002
	Round of 16	2.31 ± 1.36	2.23 ± 1.51						
	Quarter final	2.56 ± 1.75	2.25 ± 1.31						
	Semifinal	2.75 ± 1.39	2.50 ± 1.28						
	Final	1.75 ± 1.48	2.14 ± 0.69						

(continued)

Table 2. (continued)

Winning pair									
	Round	Men	Women	Sex effect	η^2	Round effect	η^2	Sex * Round	η^2
Golden points won to the serve	Round of 32	1.69 ± 1.59	1.44 ± 1.29	0.210	0.004	0.336	0.011	0.949	0.002
	Round of 16	1.77 ± 1.19	1.35 ± 1.01						
	Quarter final	1.56 ± 1.38	1.48 ± 1.15						
	Semifinal	2.12 ± 0.88	1.92 ± 0.91						
	Final	1.37 ± 1.30	1.14 ± 0.89						
Golden points won to the return	Round of 32	0.74 ± 0.80	0.83 ± 0.80	0.207	0.004	0.527	0.008	0.205	0.015
	Round of 16	0.53 ± 0.71	0.87 ± 0.91						
	Quarter final	1.00 ± 0.98	0.77 ± 1.01						
	Semifinal	0.62 ± 1.08	0.57 ± 0.75						
	Final	0.37 ± 0.74	1.00 ± 0.57						

Data expressed as mean ± standard deviation. η^2: partial eta squared. Bold indicates: $p < 0.05$.

rounds will allow the creation of tactical game situations to which more importance should be given in order to optimize the performance of the players. Also, these dates provide new perspectives on the existing knowledge of the match parameters depending on the match outcome, sex of the players and specific tactical match aspects.

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