

FITEQ NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION

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TEQBALL WORLD SERIES DEBUT IN PARIS HEADLINES EXCITING FIRST QUARTER OF COMPETITIONS

A blistering start to the year

Following the momentum of the successful 2021 Teqball World Championships in Gliwice in December 2021, FITEQ organised four major international competitions in the first quarter of 2022:

- USA Teqball Tour – San Diego
- European Teqball Tour – Lisbon
- Brazilian Teqball Tour – Porto Alegre
- Teqball World Series – Paris.

The continental teqball tours have taken place in three continents, with further events planned across the globe in Q2. In addition to this, the first ever Teqball World Series took place in Paris, which was a special and record-breaking competition. Altogether, 277 different athletes competed in the four major competitions hosted in Q1.

Teqball World Series - Paris

The Teqball World Series held in Paris has been the highlight of the year so far and the following analysis takes a close look at the numbers behind the successful event.

The new competition type is the most prestigious FITEQ event outside of the Teqball World Championships, and in Paris, there were:

- A record number of entries – 179 different athletes from 29 countries, covering 4 continents.
- 242 matches played during the 3 competition days, which is 16 more matches than during the 2021 Teqball World Championships.

The women's doubles competition was won by the Lea Vasas – Zsanett Janicsek doubles pairing from Hungary. This triumph was special to them as it was their first event playing together. They only lost one set during the competition winning 6/6 matches.

In the mixed doubles competition, the well-established Csaba Bányik – Zsanett Janicsek team came out on top in a rematch of the 2021 World Championships final against the Brazilian duo of Leonardo Lindoso – Vania Moraes. The Hungarian winners have a winning percentage of 96.55% losing only two matches in the time on court together.

The men's doubles competition was won by Serbia's reigning world champions, Bogdan Marojevic and Nikola Mitro. Following their World Championships success, the pair participated and won the European Teqball Tour in Lisbon, before the success in Paris. They have played 47 matches on an international level since the 12-point system in teqball was established in early 2020, winning 45. Since last October, they are unbeaten and look very hard to surpass at the top of the doubles World Ranking.

Key data points

FITEQ has published two studies on the importance of services in teqball singles (link: <https://www.fiteq.org/news/-35>) and teqball doubles (link: <https://www.fiteq.org/news/-91>). After the event in Paris, Barnabas Nemeth (Coach Education Manager of FITEQ) and the Sport Instructors of FITEQ undertook further research to compare the earlier findings to this competition.

1. Serving

In previous analysis, it was found that 50.74% of services were first services, whilst the remaining 49.25% were either successful second service attempts or double faults. In Paris, analysing 581 teqball rallies, 59.45% of the services were first services, while 39.34% of the services were second services and only 1.21% were double faults. This is almost a 10% improvement on first service success, which can be interpreted as the often more risky first services being delivered more accurately.

2. Serving team winning the point

In the previous studies, it was found that in 47.79% of the cases, the serving team won the point as the outcome of the rally. In Paris, this number slightly dropped to 44.41%.

3. Successful first service and serving team winning the rally

In the past analysis, it was noted that there was a 55.66% chance of the serving team winning the rally after a successful first service. This meant that a successfully undertaken first service is a slight advantage for the serving team.

In Paris, this number dropped to 51.2%.

This, and the previous figure of 44.41% likely means that either the quality of the first services slightly dropped (but the efficiency improved), or the defending (receiving) skills of the players improved to a level that they are more likely to counterattack a service or a return.

Summary

In summary, we can see that the overall participation and the level of gameplay continuously evolves in teqball. Teams are deeply analysing their opponents and preparing accordingly. This has led to an improvement in defending and counterattacking against many different kinds of returns. Following the success of the FITEQ events in Q1, competitions continue to come thick and fast all over the world.

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