

# Beach Volleyball

## Men and Women Comparative Study - 2015



2015

# Beach Volleyball

## Picture of the Game



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE VOLLEYBALL

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COORDINATED BY

# Índice

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Statistic study Sampling .....  | 3  |
| (Sampling: 12 Women Beach Volleyball matches – The Netherlands Beach WCHs 2015) ..... | 3  |
| (Sampling: 12 Men Beach Volleyball matches – The Netherlands Beach WCHs 2015) .....   | 3  |
| Study Questions .....   | 3  |
| Complementary Notes .....   | 3  |
| Duration Statistics .....   | 4  |
| Match Duration .....  | 4  |
| Rally Duration .....  | 4  |
| Flying Ball .....   | 4  |
| Structure of the Rallies .....  | 5  |
| Type of Rallies .....   | 6  |
| Conclusions .....   | 7  |
| Specific Game Actions Analyses .....  | 8  |
| Service Analyses .....  | 8  |
| Averages .....  | 8  |
| Structure .....   | 9  |
| Action Zones .....  | 12 |
| Conclusions .....   | 12 |
| Reception Analyses .....  | 13 |
| Averages .....  | 13 |
| Structure .....   | 14 |
| Action Zones .....  | 15 |
| Conclusions .....   | 16 |
| Setting Analyses .....  | 16 |
| Averages .....  | 16 |
| Structure .....   | 17 |
| Action Zones .....  | 18 |
| Conclusions .....   | 19 |
| Attack Analyses .....   | 19 |
| Averages .....  | 19 |
| Structure .....   | 20 |
| Action Zones .....  | 23 |
| Conclusions .....   | 24 |
| Block Analyses .....  | 24 |
| Averages .....  | 24 |
| Structure .....   | 25 |

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Action Zones.....   | 27 |
| Conclusions .....   | 28 |
| “Peeling Off” .....                                       | 28 |
| Defense Analyses .....                                    | 29 |
| Averages.....   | 29 |
| Structure .....   | 30 |
| Action Zones.....   | 33 |
| Conclusions .....   | 34 |
| Scoring.....  | 35 |
| Field of Play .....                                       | 36 |
| Jumps per Match.....                                      | 37 |
| General Conclusions.....                                  | 38 |
| Facts .....   | 38 |
| Key Words.....  | 38 |
| Possibilities.....  | 38 |
| Final Teaser .....  | 38 |
| Side Notes, by the FIVB Rules of the Game President ..... | 39 |
| Eventual Future Approaches.....                           | 40 |
| Correlation Attack – Defense .....                        | 40 |
| Attack – Defense Analysis .....                           | 40 |
| Attack – Defense all Actions Graphic .....                | 42 |

## Statistic study Sampling

(Sampling: 12 Women Beach Volleyball matches – The Netherlands Beach WCHs 2015)

| Team A                       |    | Team B                  | Res | Set 1 | Set 2 | Set 3 | Time  |
|------------------------------|----|-------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Wang/Yue CHN                 | vs | Menegatti/Orsi Toth ITA | 1-2 | 21-16 | 14-21 | 12-15 | 55:50 |
| van Gestel/van der Vlist NED | vs | Holtwick/Semmler GER    | 0-2 | 17-21 | 21-23 | -     | 40:26 |
| Meppelink/Van Iersel NED     | vs | Bawden/Clancy AUS       | 1-2 | 22-24 | 21-16 | 12-15 | 65:31 |
| Lima/Fernanda BRA            | vs | Liliana/Baquerizo ESP   | 2-0 | 21-17 | 21-19 | -     | 42:48 |
| Ross/Walsh USA               | vs | Wang/Yue CHN            | 1-2 | 19-21 | 21-17 | 13-15 | 57:51 |
| Antonelli/Juliana BRA        | vs | Larissa/Talita BRA      | 2-1 | 19-21 | 21-18 | 15-13 | 65:45 |
| Bawden/Clancy AUS            | vs | Lima/Fernanda BRA       | 1-2 | 21-15 | 16-21 | 16-18 | 57:46 |
| Wang/Yue CHN                 | vs | Barbara/Agatha BRA      | 0-2 | 18-21 | 21-23 | -     | 47:29 |
| Bansley/Pavan CAN            | vs | Antonelli/Juliana BRA   | 0-2 | 23-25 | 18-21 | -     | 50:06 |
| Barbara/Agatha BRA           | vs | Antonelli/Juliana BRA   | 2-0 | 24-22 | 21-19 | -     | 52:15 |
| Holtwick/Semmler GER         | vs | Antonelli/Juliana BRA   | 1-2 | 25-23 | 18-21 | 9-15  | 64:49 |
| Lima/Fernanda BRA            | vs | Barbara/Agatha BRA      | 0-2 | 18-21 | 20-22 | -     | 46:11 |

(Sampling: 12 Men Beach Volleyball matches – The Netherlands Beach WCHs 2015)

| Team A                        |    | Team B                    | Res | Set 1 | Set 2 | Set 3 | Time  |
|-------------------------------|----|---------------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Gibb/Patterson USA            | vs | Marco/García ESP          | 2-1 | 18-21 | 22-20 | 15-10 | 59:54 |
| Nicolai/Lupo ITA              | vs | Brouwer/Meeuwsen NED      | 0-2 | 20-22 | 18-21 | -     | 45:13 |
| Krou/Rowlandson FRA           | vs | Goldschmidt/Williams RSA  | 2-0 | 21-18 | 21-16 | -     | 38:28 |
| Nummerdor/Varenhorst NED      | vs | Semenov/Krasilnikov RUS   | 2-1 | 21-17 | 22-24 | 15-12 | 62:31 |
| Álvaro Filho/Vitor Felipe BRA | vs | Virgen/Ontiveros MEX      | 2-1 | 21-19 | 19-21 | 20-18 | 68:58 |
| Gonzalez/Nivaldo CUB          | vs | Pedro Solberg/Evandro BRA | 1-2 | 19-21 | 21-19 | 11-15 | 57:39 |
| Nummerdor/Varenhorst NED      | vs | Hyden/Bourne USA          | 2-0 | 23-21 | 23-21 | -     | 46:51 |
| Lucena/Brunner USA            | vs | Jefferson/Cheirif QAT     | 2-0 | 21-19 | 21-19 | -     | 43:49 |
| Nummerdor/Varenhorst NED      | vs | Pedro Solberg/Evandro BRA | 2-1 | 21-18 | 21-23 | 15-12 | 55:54 |
| Alison/Bruno Schmidt BRA      | vs | Lucena/Brunner USA        | 2-0 | 21-17 | 21-15 | -     | 39:19 |
| Pedro Solberg/Evandro BRA     | vs | Lucena/Brunner USA        | 2-0 | 22-20 | 21-13 | -     | 39:55 |
| Nummerdor/Varenhorst NED      | vs | Alison/Bruno Schmidt BRA  | 1-2 | 21-12 | 14-21 | 20-22 | 58:49 |

## Study Questions

- ⌚ How is the game and what defines it?
- ⌚ What actions are used and in which situations?
- ⌚ What are the durations of the various moments of the game?
- ⌚ Which gender best incorporates the slogan "keep the ball flying"?
- ⌚ What distinguishes the women's from men's game?
- ⌚ How can we make the game more spectacular?

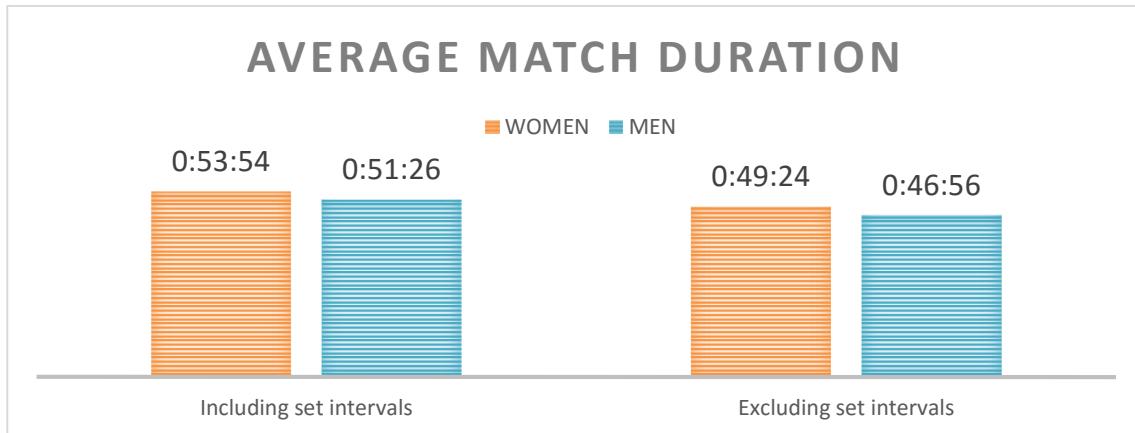
## Complementary Notes

- ⌚ The ranking average of the teams observed is 10.8 for the Women and 27.4 for the Men, with 8 out of the 13 women teams and 5 out of the 16 men teams being among the respective top 10;
- ⌚ The average match duration for the total 103 Women matches played in the World Championships has been 42 min 28 sec (41 min 12 sec excluding the set intervals) while for the total 104 Men matches the average has been 43 min 48 sec (42 min 29 sec excluding the set intervals).

## Duration Statistics

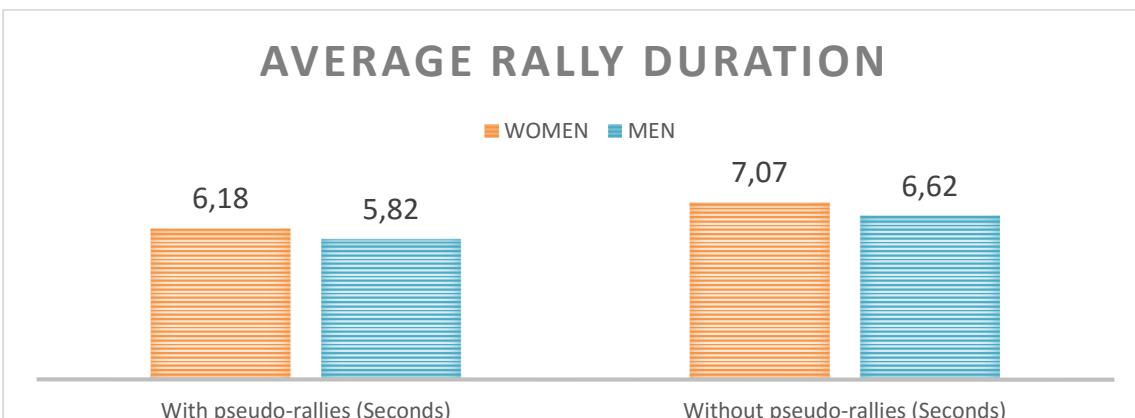
### Match Duration

| Match Duration   | Women    | Men      |
|--|----------|----------|
| Average match duration including set intervals (h:m:s) | 00:53:54 | 00:51:26 |
| Average match duration excluding set intervals (h:m:s) | 00:49:24 | 00:46:56 |



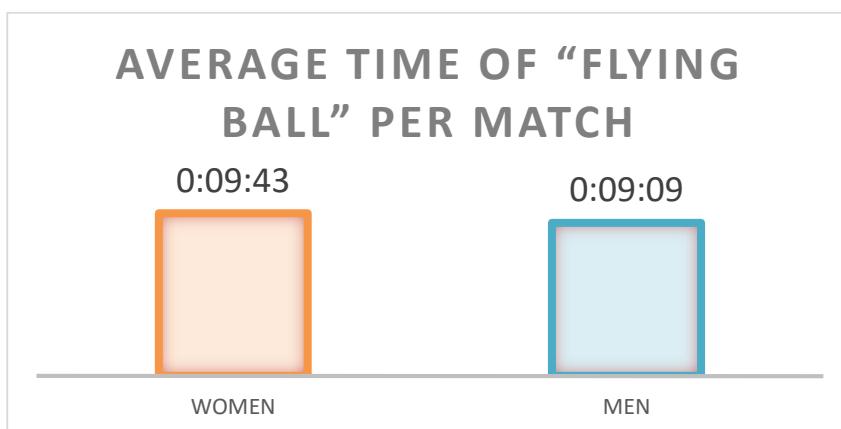
### Rally Duration

| Rally Duration                                | Women     | Men       |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Average rally duration with pseudo-rallies    | 6,18 sec. | 5,82 sec. |
| Average rally duration without pseudo-rallies | 7,07 sec. | 6,62 sec. |
| Longest Rally                                 | 39 sec.   | 25 sec.   |

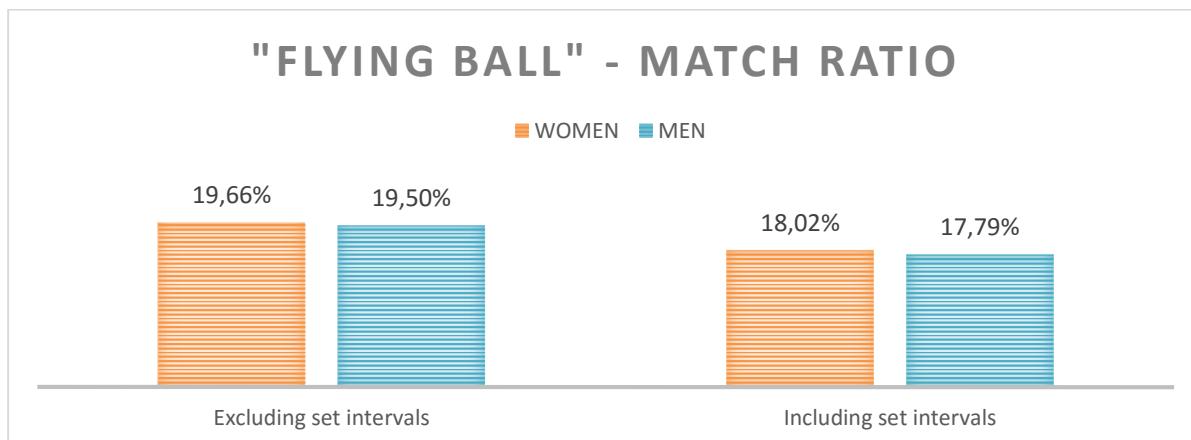


### Flying Ball

| “Flying Ball”                                   | Women    | Men      |
|---|----------|----------|
| Average time of “Flying Ball” per match (h:m:s) | 00:09:43 | 00:09:09 |

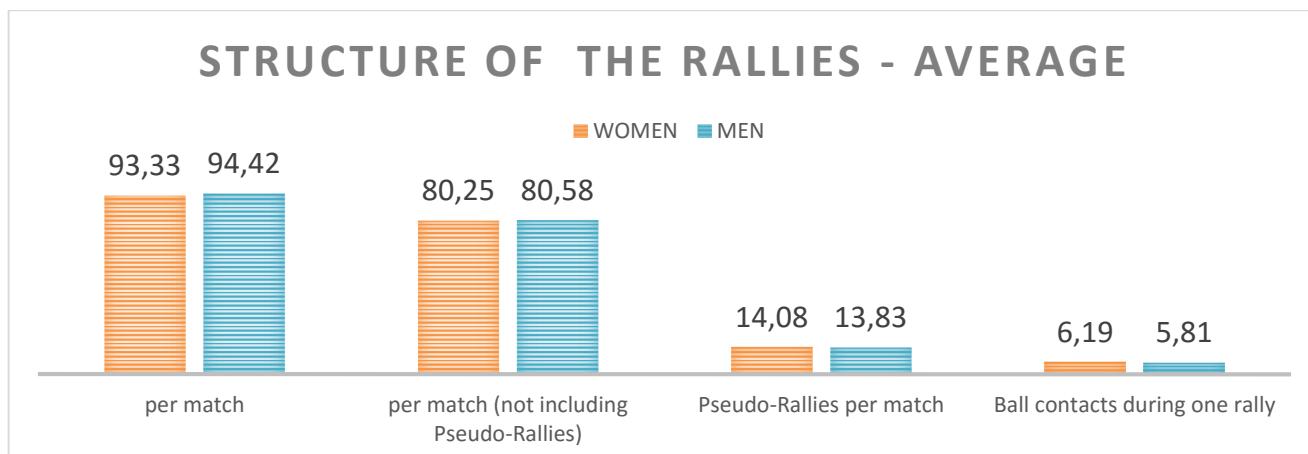


| "Flying Ball" - Percentage of "Flying ball" per match | Women  | Men    |
|---|--------|--------|
| Excluding set intervals                               | 19,66% | 19,50% |
| Including set intervals                               | 18,02% | 17,79% |

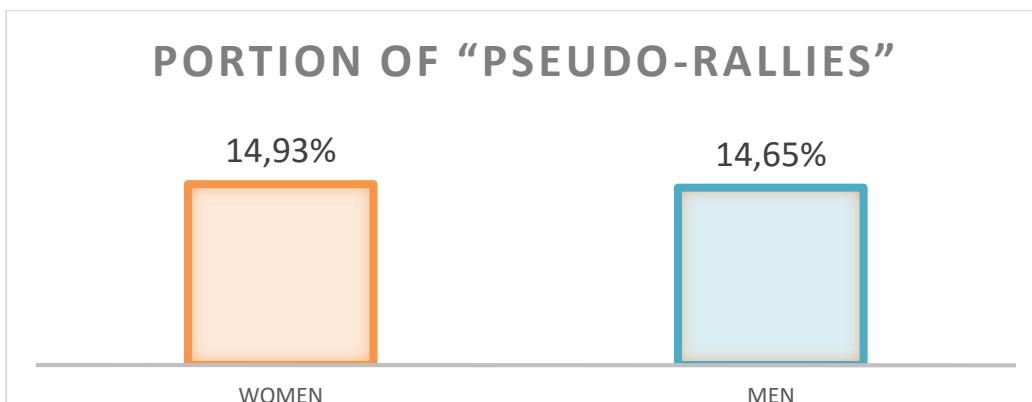


### Structure of the Rallies

| Structure of the Rallies   | Women | Men   |
|--|-------|-------|
| Average number of Rallies per match                                | 93,33 | 94,42 |
| Average number of Rallies per match (not including Pseudo-Rallies) | 80,25 | 80,58 |
| Average number of Pseudo-Rallies per match                         | 14,08 | 13,83 |
| Average amount of ball contacts during one rally                   | 6,19  | 5,81  |



| Structure of the Rallies    | Women  | Men    |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Portion of "pseudo-rallies" | 14,93% | 14,65% |



### Structure of the Rallies

Average amount of ball contacts per match

**Women**

**Men**

583,9

548,3

### AVERAGE AMOUNT OF BALL CONTACTS PER MATCH

583,9

548,3

WOMEN

MEN

### Type of Rallies

#### TYPE OF RALLIES – Match Average

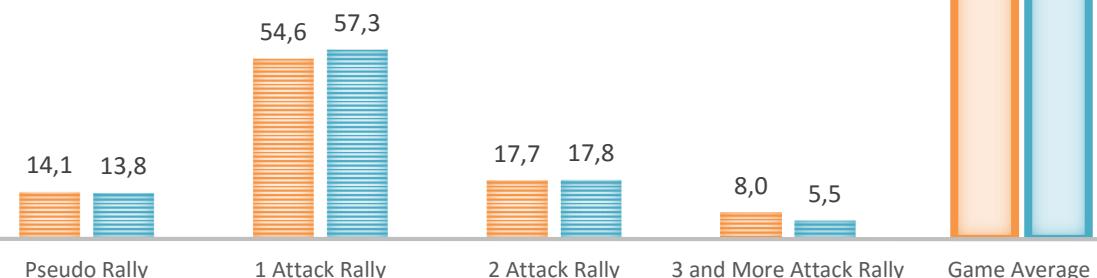
**Women**

**Men**

|                         |      |      |
|-------------------------|------|------|
| Pseudo Rally            | 14,1 | 13,8 |
| 1 Attack Rally          | 54,6 | 57,3 |
| 2 Attack Rally          | 17,7 | 17,8 |
| 3 and more Attack Rally | 8,0  | 5,5  |

### TYPE OF RALLIES - MATCH AVERAGE

■ Women ■ Men



### STRUCTURE OF THE RALLIES

70,0%

60,0%

50,0%

40,0%

30,0%

20,0%

10,0%

0,0%

■ Women ■ Men

57,9%

60,7%

14,9% 14,7%

18,7% 18,8%

8,5% 5,8%

Pseudo Rally

1 Attack Rally

2 Attack Rally

3 and More Attack Rally

## Conclusions

The above information indicates:

- ⌚ The Women's game:
  - ⌚ Has longer rallies;
  - ⌚ Has an average of more contacts per rally;
  - ⌚ Has more "flying ball" time;
  - ⌚ Has a higher percentage of rallies with 3 or more exchanges than the male's
- ⌚ The Men's game:
  - ⌚ It has more rallies per game, although they are shorter;
  - ⌚ It has a high percentage of rallies which end at the first attack.

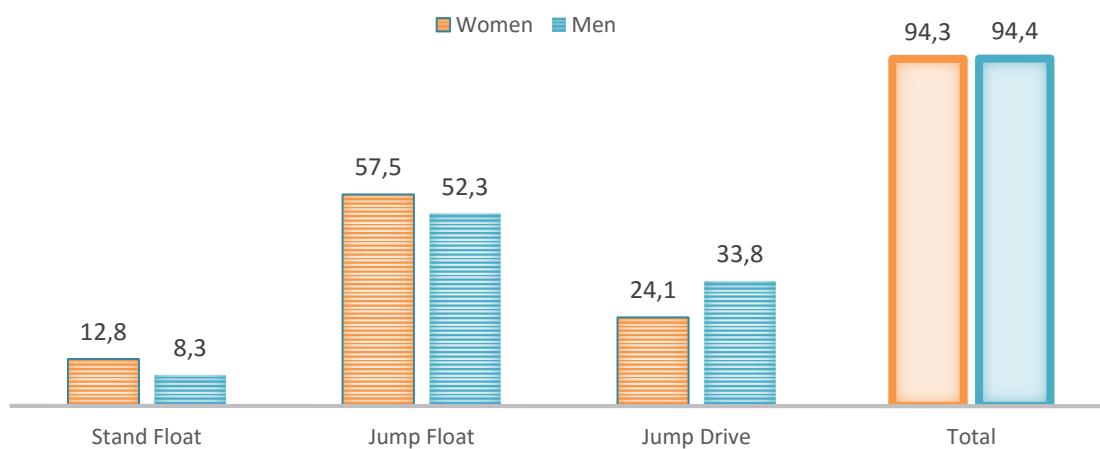
## Specific Game Actions Analyses

### Service Analyses

#### Averages

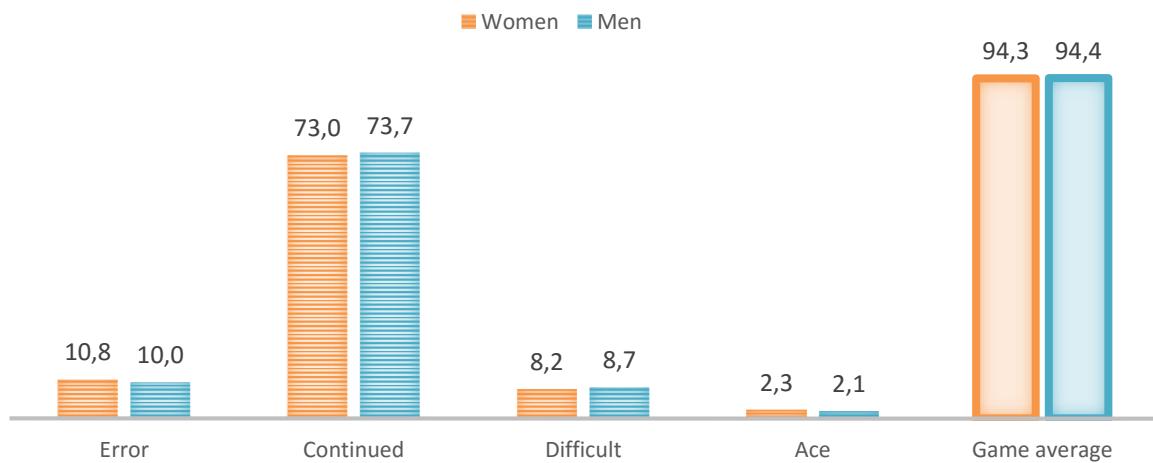
| SERVICE TYPOLOGY – Match Average |  | Women | Men  |
|----------------------------------|--|-------|------|
| Stand Float                      |  | 12,8  | 8,3  |
| Jump Float                       |  | 57,5  | 52,3 |
| Jump Drive                       |  | 24,1  | 33,8 |
| Total                            |  | 94,3  | 94,4 |

### SERVICE TYPOLOGY - MATCH AVERAGE



| SERVICE OUTCOME – Match Average |  | Women | Men  |
|---------------------------------|--|-------|------|
| Service Error                   |  | 10,8  | 10,0 |
| Service Continued               |  | 73,0  | 73,7 |
| Service Difficult               |  | 8,2   | 8,7  |
| Service Ace                     |  | 2,3   | 2,1  |
| Total (Game Average)            |  | 94,3  | 94,4 |

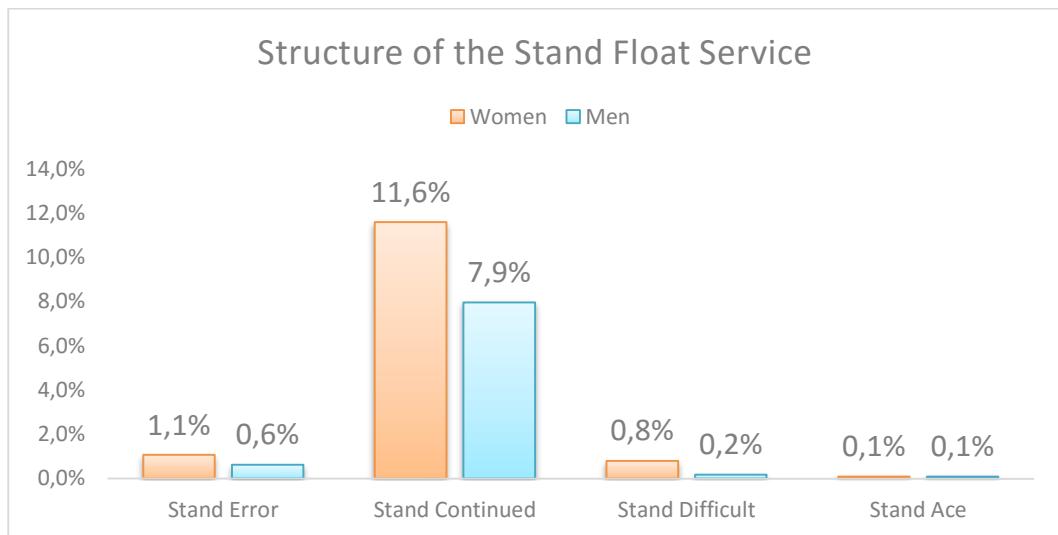
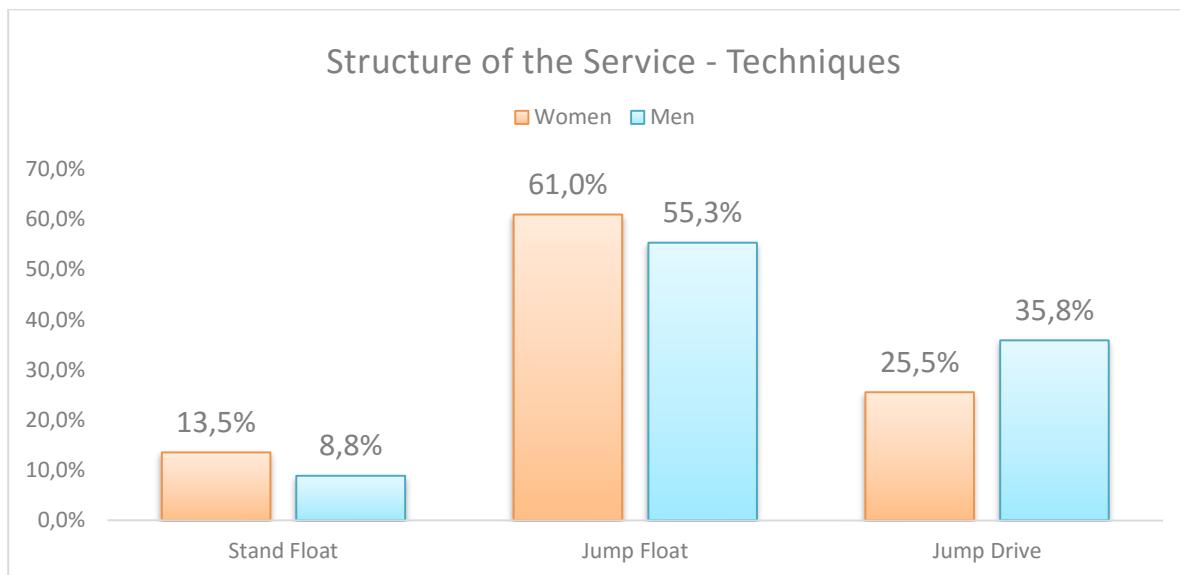
### SERVICE OUTCOME - MATCH AVERAGE



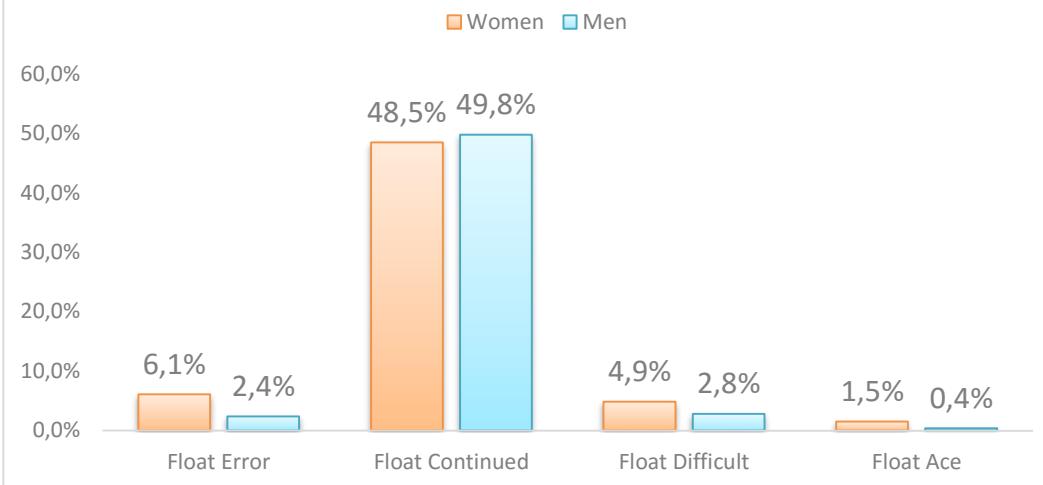
## Structure

### SERVICE TECHNIQUES STRUCTURE

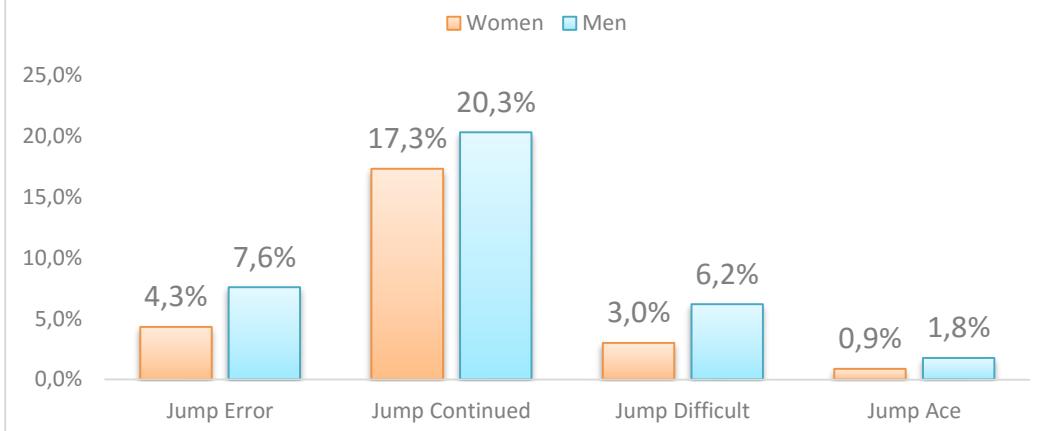
| TYPOLOGY    | OUTCOME   | Women  | Men    |
|-------------|-----------|--------|--------|
| Stand Float | Error     | 1,1 %  | 0,6 %  |
|             | Continued | 11,6 % | 7,9%   |
|             | Difficult | 0,8 %  | 0,2 %  |
| Jump Float  | Ace       | 0,1 %  | 0,1 %  |
|             | Error     | 6,1 %  | 2,4 %  |
|             | Continued | 48,5 % | 49,8 % |
| Jump Drive  | Difficult | 4,9 %  | 2,8 %  |
|             | Ace       | 1,5 %  | 0,4 %  |
|             | Error     | 4,3 %  | 7,6 %  |
| Jump Drive  | Continued | 17,3 % | 20,3 % |
|             | Difficult | 3,0 %  | 6,2 %  |
|             | Ace       | 0,9 %  | 1,8 %  |



### Structure of the Jump Float Service



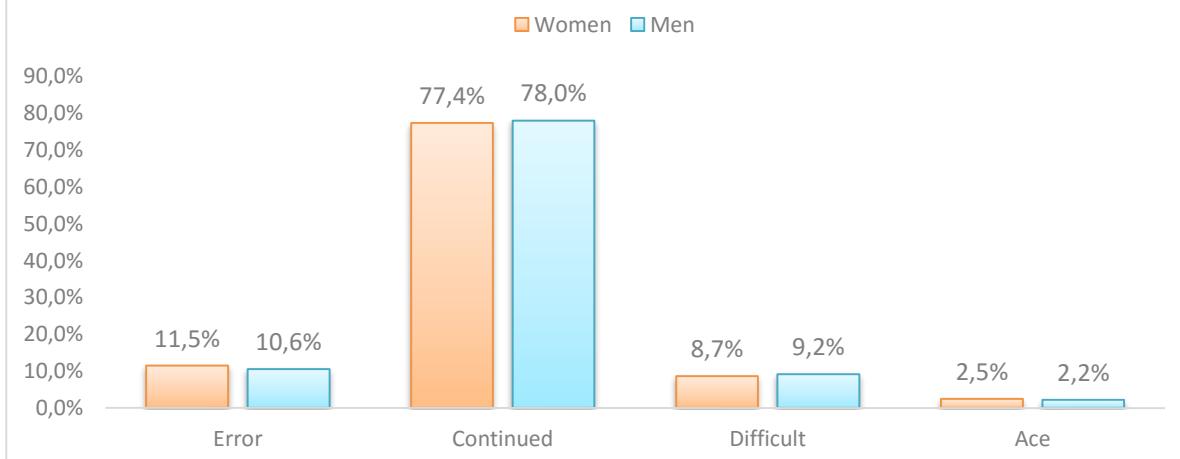
### Structure of the Jump Drive Service

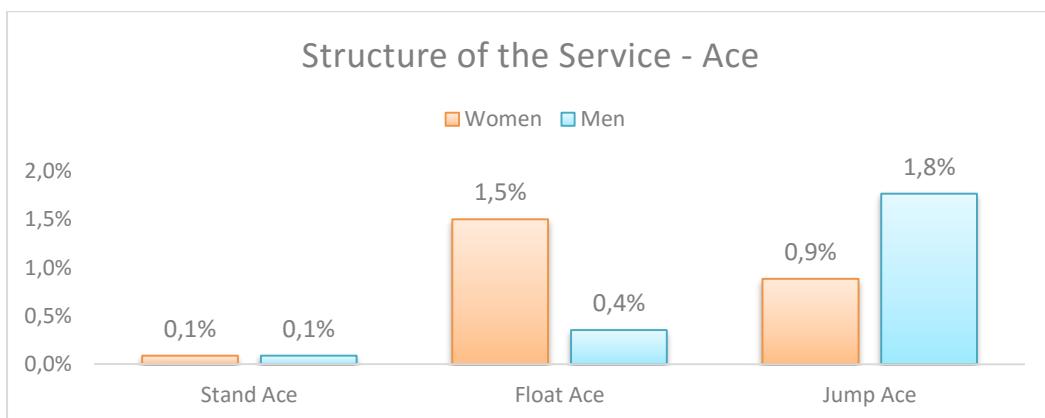
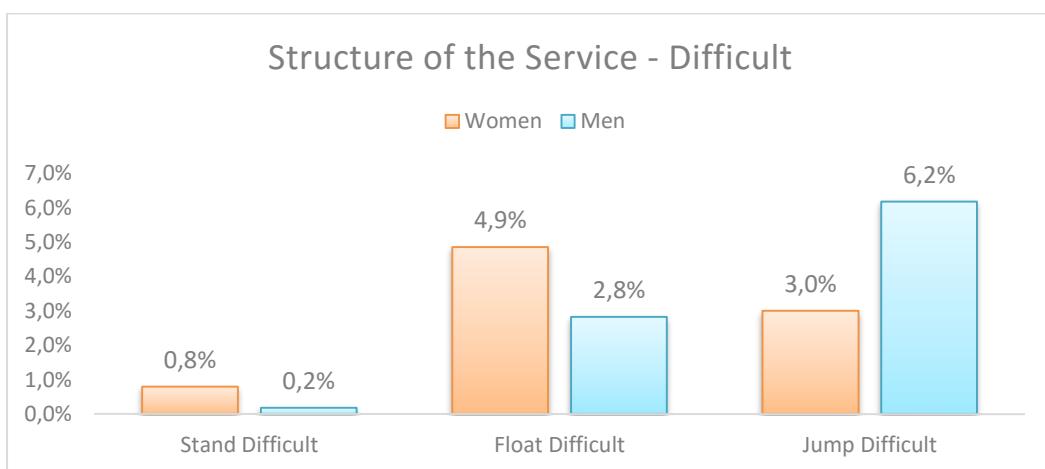
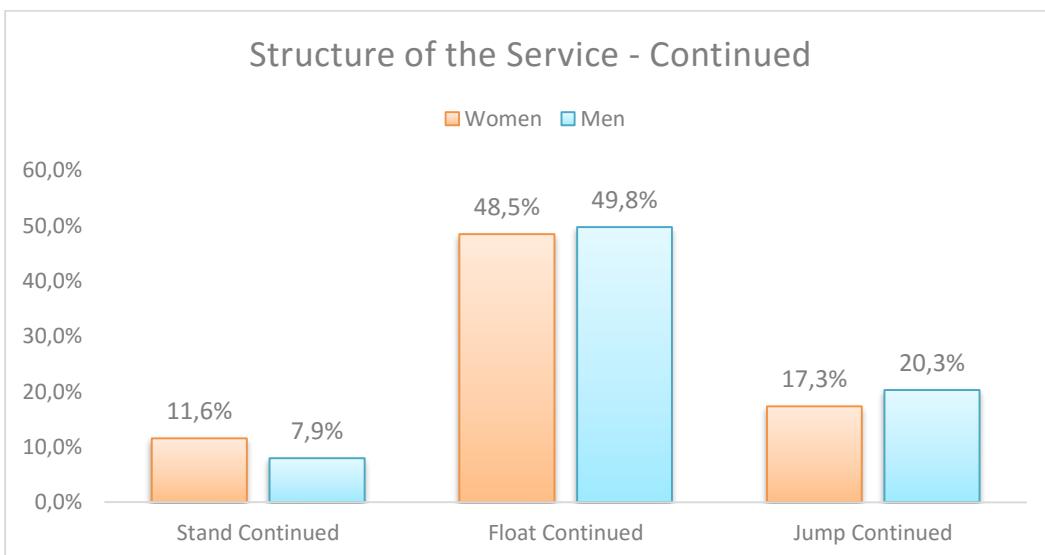
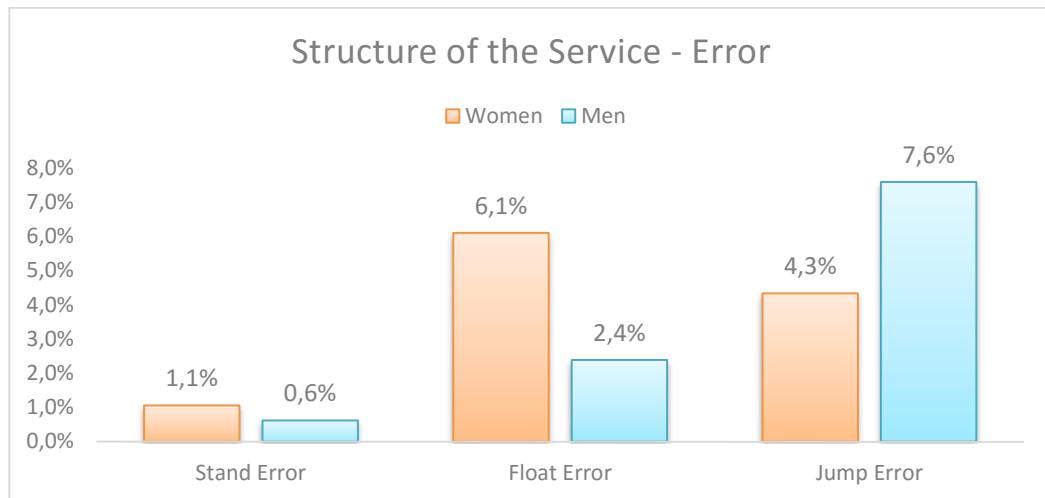


### SERVICE OUTCOME STRUCTURE

|           | Women | Men   |
|-----------|-------|-------|
| Error     | 11,5% | 10,6% |
| Continued | 77,4% | 78,0% |
| Difficult | 8,7%  | 9,2%  |
| Ace       | 2,5%  | 2,2%  |

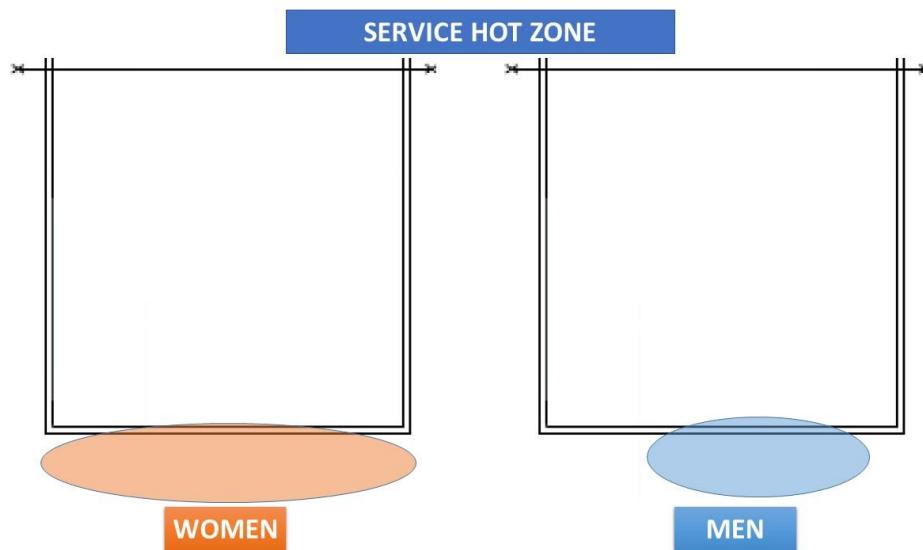
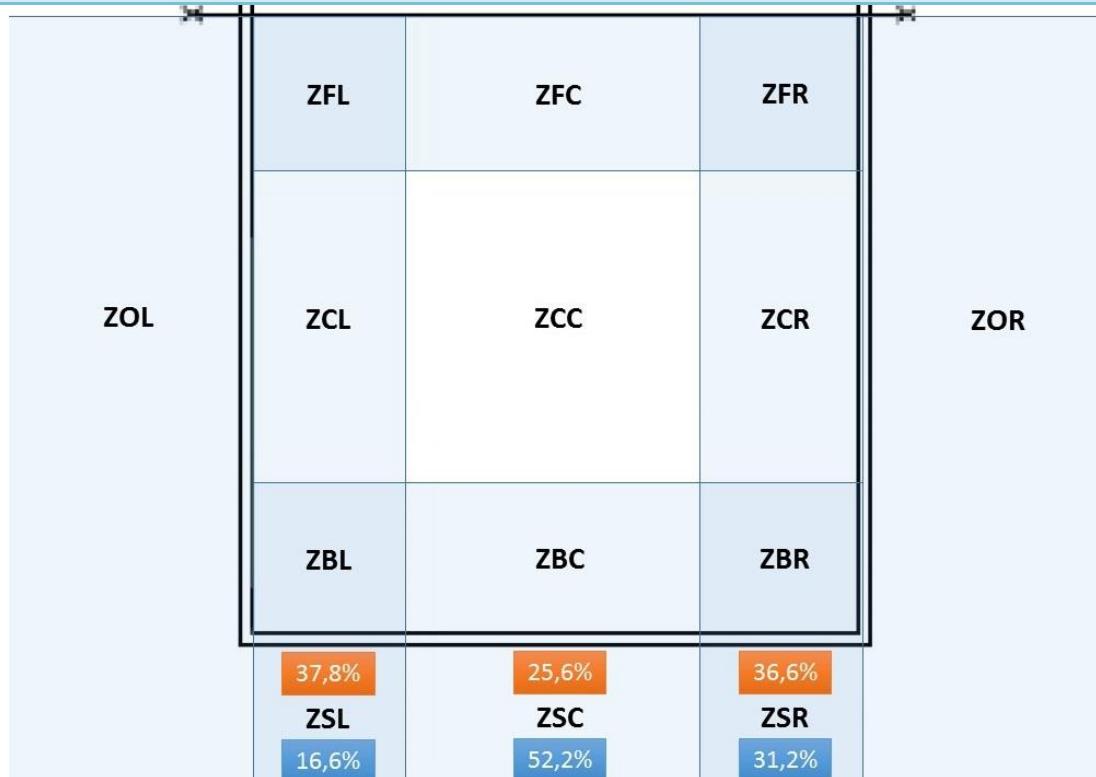
### Structure of the Service - Outcome





## Action Zones

| SERVICE ACTION ZONES     | Women  | Men    |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| ZSL (Left Service Zone)  | 37,8 % | 16,6 % |
| ZSC (Center Back Zone)   | 25,6 % | 52,2 % |
| ZSR (Right Service Zone) | 36,6 % | 31,2 % |



## Conclusions

Regarding the Service we note:

- ⌚ In both genders half of the service actions, are:
  - ⌚ Float Continued
- ⌚ Differences between Men and Women:
  - ⌚ In the female's game the Stand Service and the Jump Float are used more often than in the male's;
  - ⌚ In the male's game the Jump Drive Service is used more than in the female's;

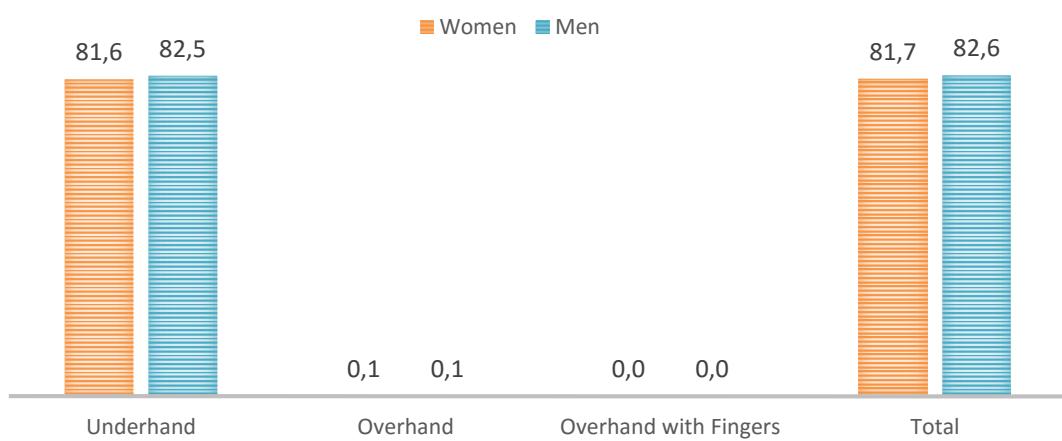
- ⌚ The data indicates that in the Men's game there is more risk in the service than in the Women's;
- ⌚ The data indicates that women vary their service position over the entire service zone, while the men tend to use more the center of the service zone.

## Reception Analyses

### Averages

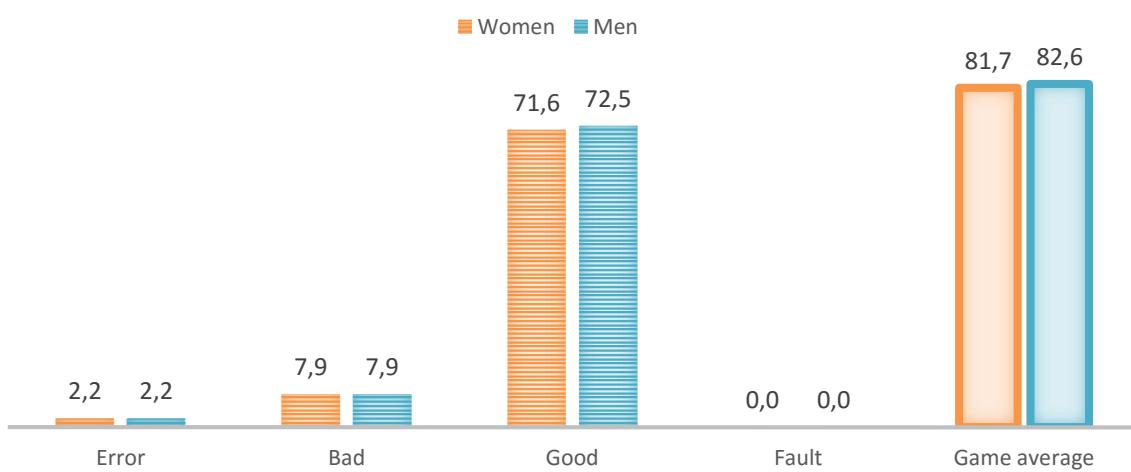
| RECEPTION TYPOLOGY – Match Average | Women | Men  |
|------------------------------------|-------|------|
| Underhand                          | 81,6  | 82,5 |
| Overhand                           | 0,1   | 0,1  |
| Overhand with Fingers              | 0,0   | 0,0  |
| Total                              | 81,7  | 82,6 |

### RECEPTION TYPOLOGY - MATCH AVERAGE



| RECEPTION OUTCOME – Match Average | Women | Men  |
|-----------------------------------|-------|------|
| Error                             | 2,2   | 2,2  |
| Bad                               | 7,9   | 7,9  |
| Good                              | 71,6  | 72,5 |
| Fault                             | 0,0   | 0,0  |
| Total (Game Average)              | 81,7  | 82,6 |

### RECEPTION OUTCOME - MATCH AVERAGE

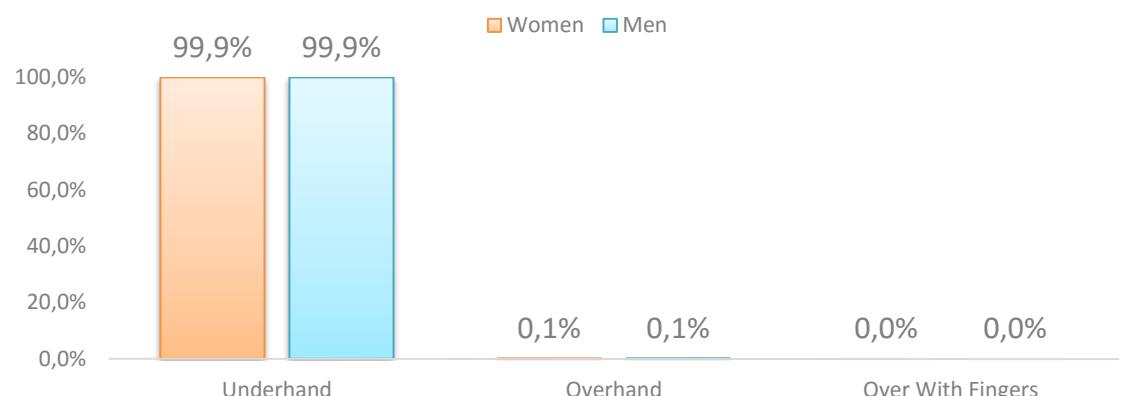


## Structure

### RECEPTION TECHNIQUES STRUCTURE

| TYPOLOGY              | OUTCOME | Women | Men   |
|-----------------------|---------|-------|-------|
| Underhand             | Error   | 2,7%  | 2,6%  |
|                       | Bad     | 9,7%  | 9,5%  |
|                       | Good    | 87,6% | 87,8% |
|                       | Fault   | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
| Overhand              | Error   | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
|                       | Bad     | 0,0%  | 0,1%  |
|                       | Good    | 0,1%  | 0,0%  |
|                       | Fault   | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
| Overhand with Fingers | Error   | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
|                       | Bad     | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
|                       | Good    | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
|                       | Fault   | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |

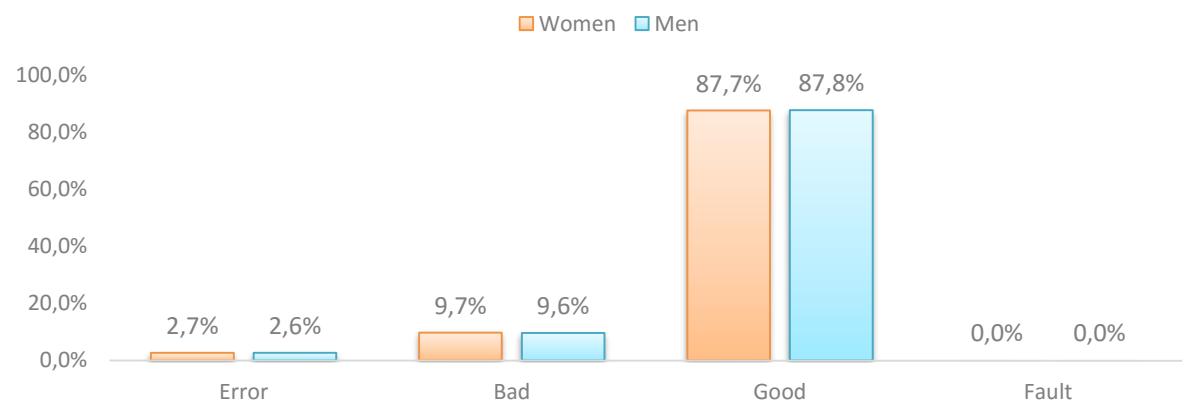
Structure of the Reception - Techniques



### RECEPTION OUTCOME STRUCTURE

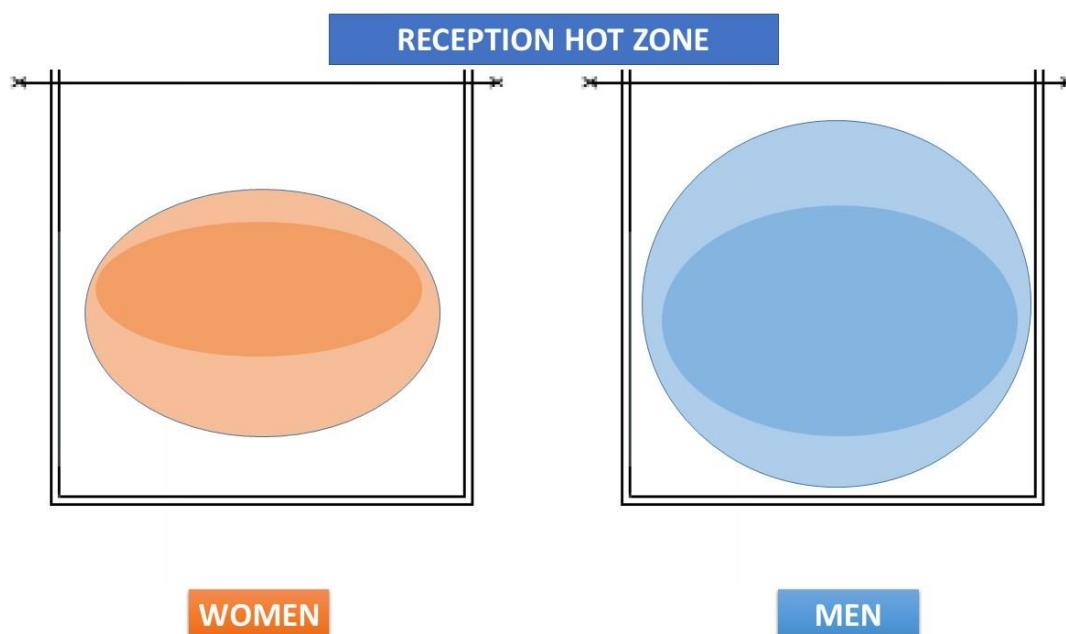
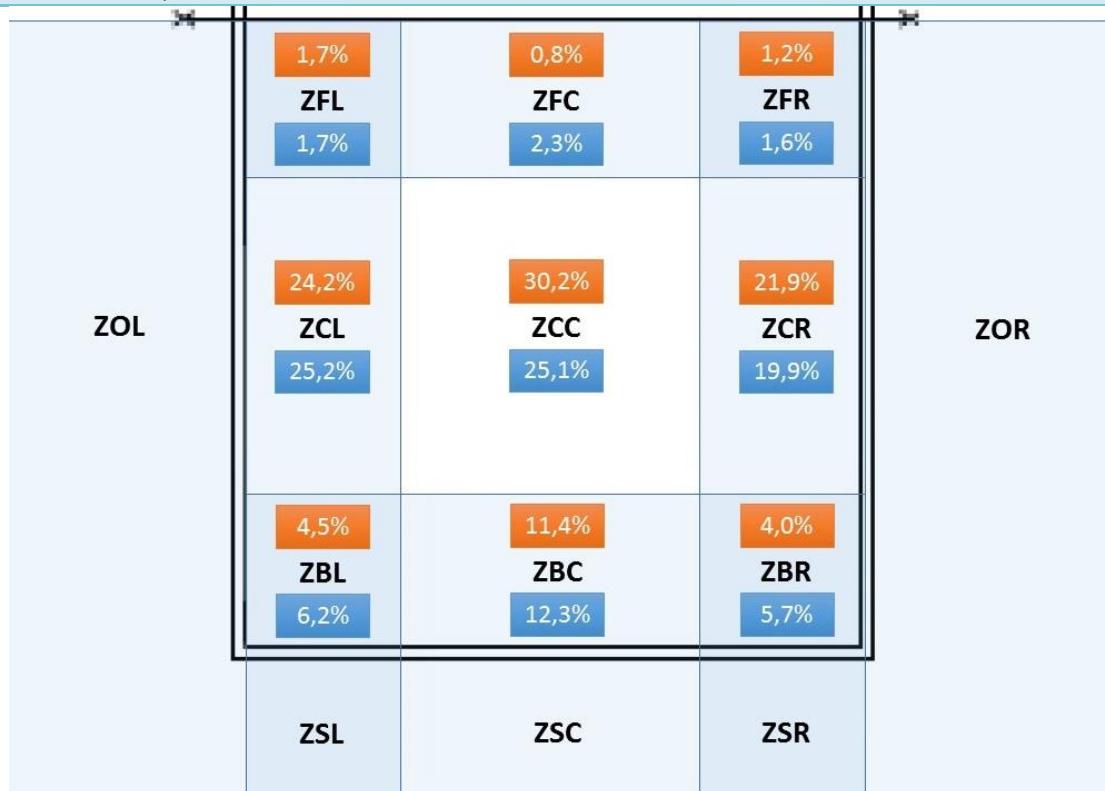
|       | Women  | Men    |
|-------|--------|--------|
| Error | 2,7 %  | 2,6 %  |
| Bad   | 9,7 %  | 9,6 %  |
| Good  | 87,7 % | 87,8 % |
| Fault | 0,0 %  | 0,0 %  |

Structure of the Reception - Outcome



## Action Zones

| RECEPTION ACTION ZONES   | Women  | Men    |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| ZFL (Left Front Zone)    | 1,7 %  | 1,7 %  |
| ZFC (Center Front Zone)  | 0,8 %  | 2,3 %  |
| ZFR (Right Front Zone)   | 1,2 %  | 1,6 %  |
| ZCL (Left Center Zone)   | 24,2 % | 25,2 % |
| ZCC (Center Center Zone) | 30,2 % | 25,1 % |
| ZCR (Right Center Zone)  | 21,9 % | 19,9 % |
| ZBL (Left Back Zone)     | 4,5 %  | 6,2 %  |
| ZBC (Center Back Zone)   | 11,4 % | 12,3 % |
| ZBR (Right Back Zone)    | 4,0 %  | 5,7 %  |



## Conclusions

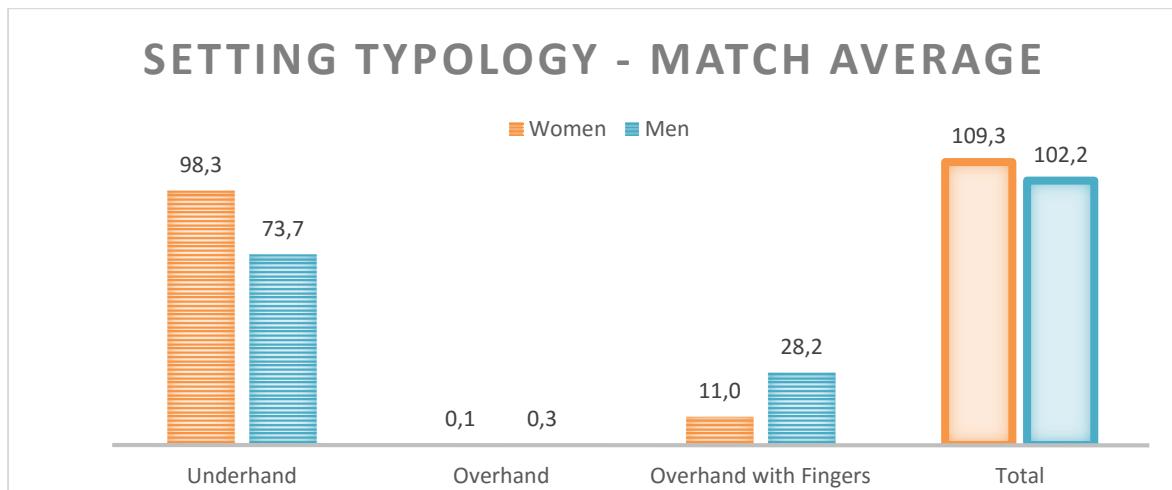
Regarding the Reception we note:

- ⌚ Both genders have very similar values with Underhand reception being almost exclusively and successfully used.
- ⌚ The data indicates that the Men's game has more dispersed reception actions in the field of play, which is a consequence of the service targeting a more varied range of court areas.

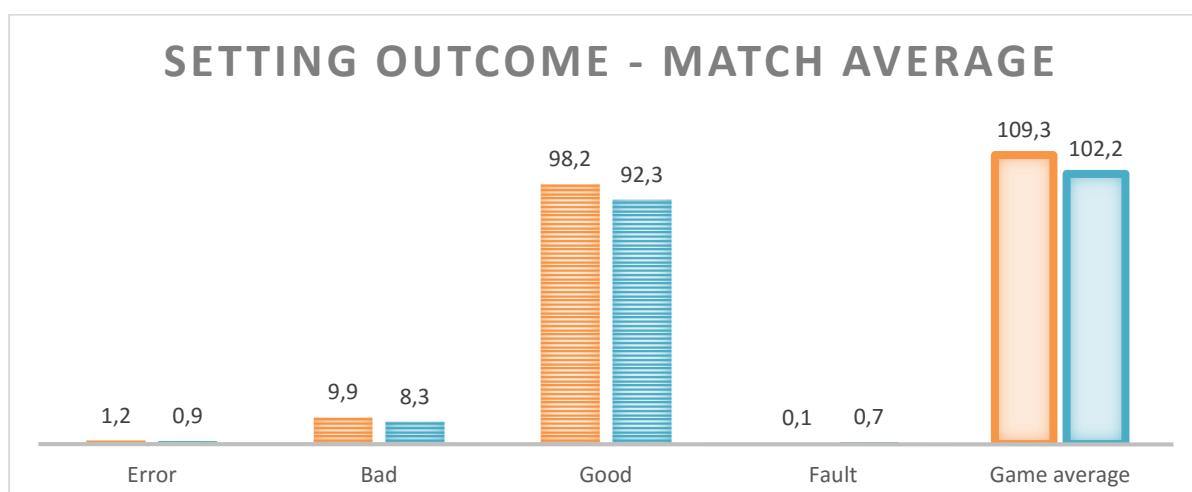
## Setting Analyses

Averages

| <b>SETTING TYPOLOGY – Match Average</b> |  | <b>Women</b> | <b>Men</b> |
|---|--|--------------|------------|
| Underhand                               |  | 98,3         | 73,7       |
| Overhand (no Fingers)                   |  | 0,1          | 0,3        |
| Overhand with Fingers                   |  | 11,0         | 28,2       |
| Total                                   |  | 109,3        | 102,2      |



| <b>SETTING OUTCOME – Match Average</b> |  | <b>Women</b> | <b>Men</b> |
|--|--|--------------|------------|
| Error                                  |  | 1,2          | 0,9        |
| Bad                                    |  | 9,9          | 8,3        |
| Good                                   |  | 98,2         | 92,3       |
| Fault                                  |  | 0,1          | 0,7        |
| Total (Game Average)                   |  | 109,3        | 102,2      |

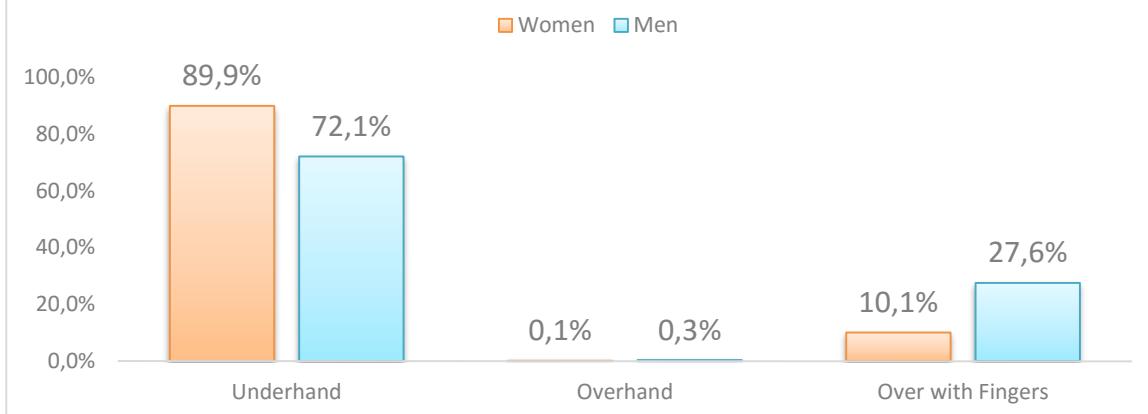


## Structure

### SETTING TECHNIQUES STRUCTURE

| TYPOLOGY              | OUTCOME | Women | Men   |
|-----------------------|---------|-------|-------|
| Underhand             | Error   | 1,1%  | 0,9%  |
|                       | Bad     | 8,8%  | 7,5%  |
|                       | Good    | 80,0% | 63,5% |
|                       | Fault   | 0,0%  | 0,2%  |
| Overhand (no Fingers) | Error   | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
|                       | Bad     | 0,1%  | 0,2%  |
|                       | Good    | 0,0%  | 0,2%  |
|                       | Fault   | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
| Over with Fingers     | Error   | 0,0%  | 0,0%  |
|                       | Bad     | 0,2%  | 0,5%  |
|                       | Good    | 9,8%  | 26,7% |
|                       | Fault   | 0,1%  | 0,4%  |

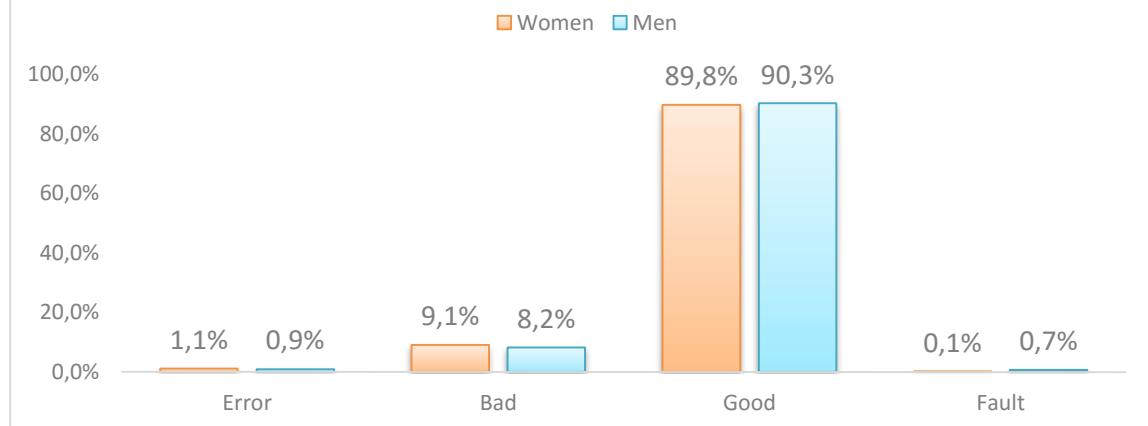
Structure of the Setting - Techniques



### SETTING OUTCOME STRUCTURE

|       | Women  | Men    |
|-------|--------|--------|
| Error | 1,1 %  | 0,9 %  |
| Bad   | 9,1 %  | 8,2 %  |
| Good  | 89,8 % | 90,3 % |
| Fault | 0,1 %  | 0,7 %  |

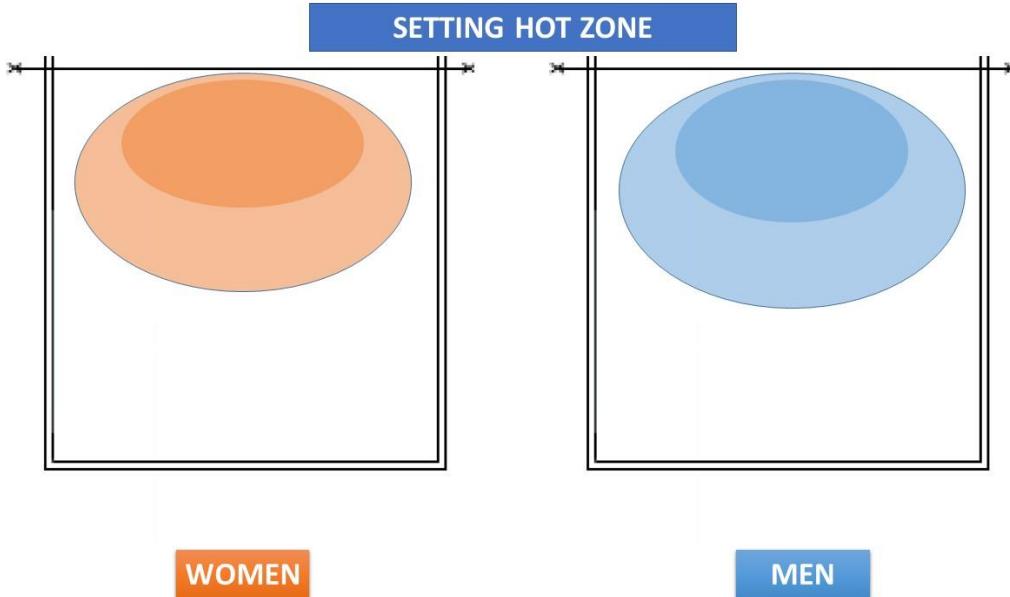
Structure of the Setting - Outcome



## Action Zones

| SETTING ACTION ZONES     | Women  | Men    |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| ZFL (Left Front Zone)    | 8,5%   | 10,7 % |
| ZFC (Center Front Zone)  | 60,0 % | 59,2 % |
| ZFR (Right Front Zone)   | 9,5 %  | 9,4 %  |
| ZCL (Left Center Zone)   | 2,9 %  | 3,5 %  |
| ZCC (Center Center Zone) | 12,3 % | 9,9 %  |
| ZCR (Right Center Zone)  | 1,8 %  | 2,6 %  |
| ZBL (Left Back Zone)     | 0,3 %  | 0,6 %  |
| ZBC (Center Back Zone)   | 2,0 %  | 0,1 %  |
| ZBR (Right Back Zone)    | 0,8 %  | 0,7 %  |
| ZSL (Left Service Zone)  | 0,1 %  | 0,0 %  |
| ZSC (Center Back Zone)   | 0,4 %  | 0,2 %  |
| ZSR (Right Service Zone) | 0,2 %  | 0,1 %  |
| ZOL (Left Outside Zone)  | 0,5%   | 1,1 %  |
| ZOR (Right Outside Zone) | 0,8%   | 1,1 %  |





## Conclusions

Regarding the Setting we note:

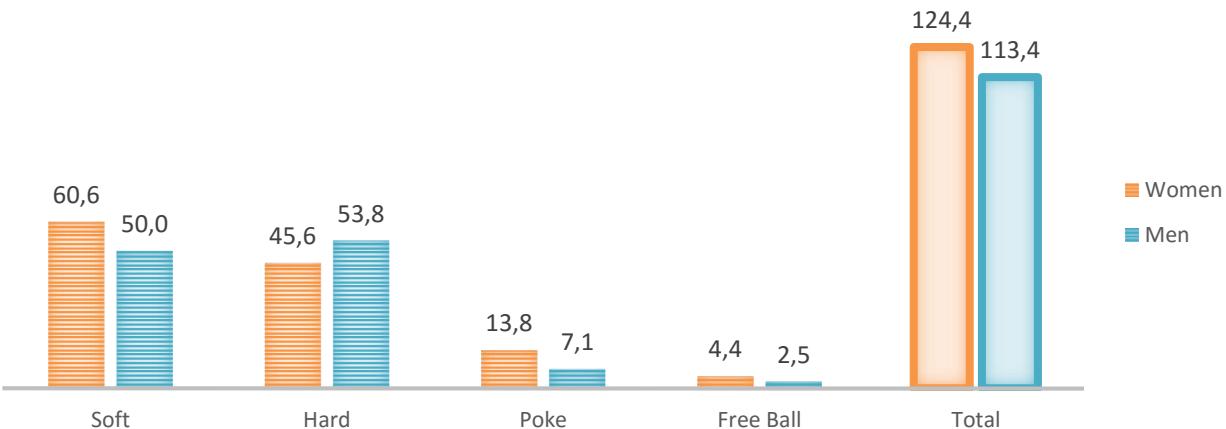
- ⌚ The Women's game displays an almost exclusive use of the Underhand technique;
- ⌚ In the Men's game 3 out of 4 actions use the Underhand technique with the remaining displaying the use of the Overhand with Fingers technique;
- ⌚ In both genders the quality of the Setting is good, being executed in the front center zone of the court.

## Attack Analyses

### Averages

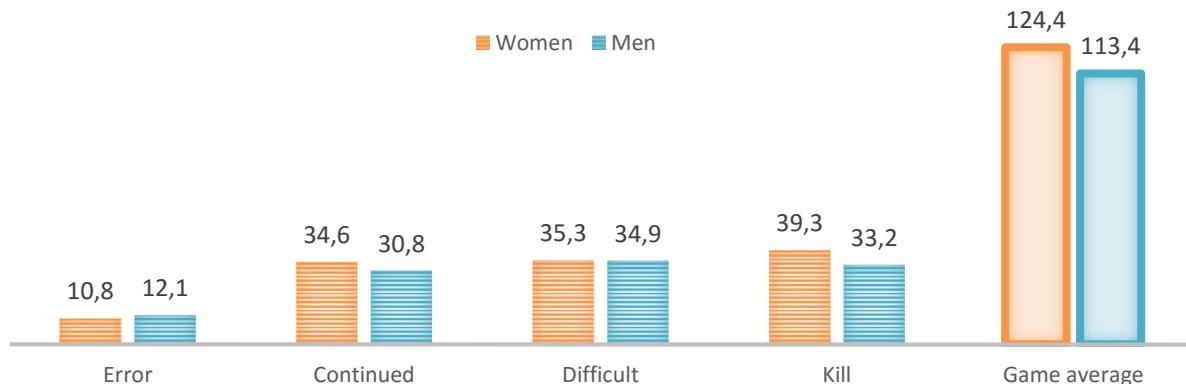
| ATTACK TYPOLOGY – Match Average |  | Women | Men   |
|---------------------------------|--|-------|-------|
| Soft                            |  | 60,6  | 50,0  |
| Hard                            |  | 45,6  | 53,8  |
| Poke                            |  | 13,8  | 7,1   |
| Free Ball                       |  | 4,4   | 2,5   |
| Total                           |  | 124,4 | 113,4 |

### ATTACK TYPOLOGY - MATCH AVERAGE



| ATTACK OUTCOME – Match Average | Women | Men   |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Error                          | 10,8  | 12,1  |
| Continued                      | 34,6  | 30,8  |
| Difficult                      | 35,3  | 34,9  |
| Kill                           | 39,3  | 33,2  |
| Total (Game Average)           | 124,4 | 113,4 |

## ATTACK OUTCOME - MATCH AVERAGE

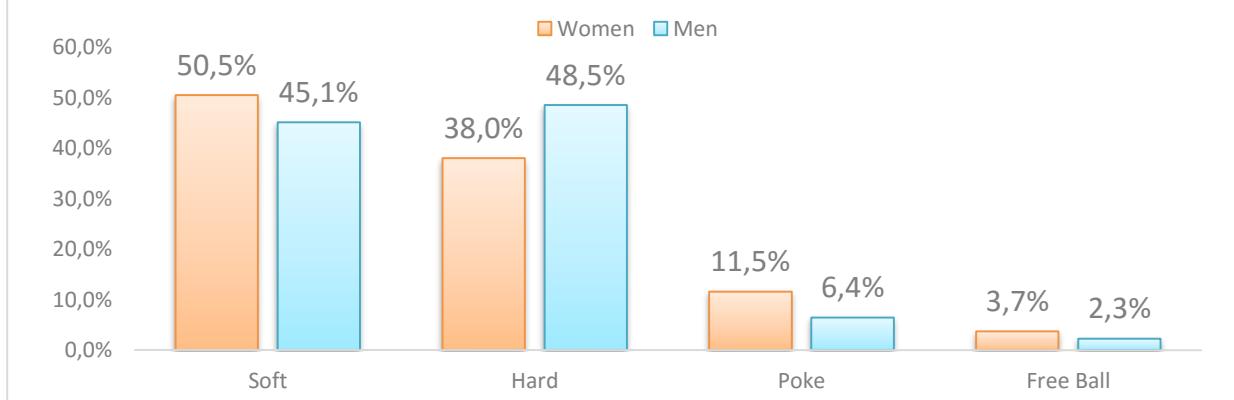


Structure

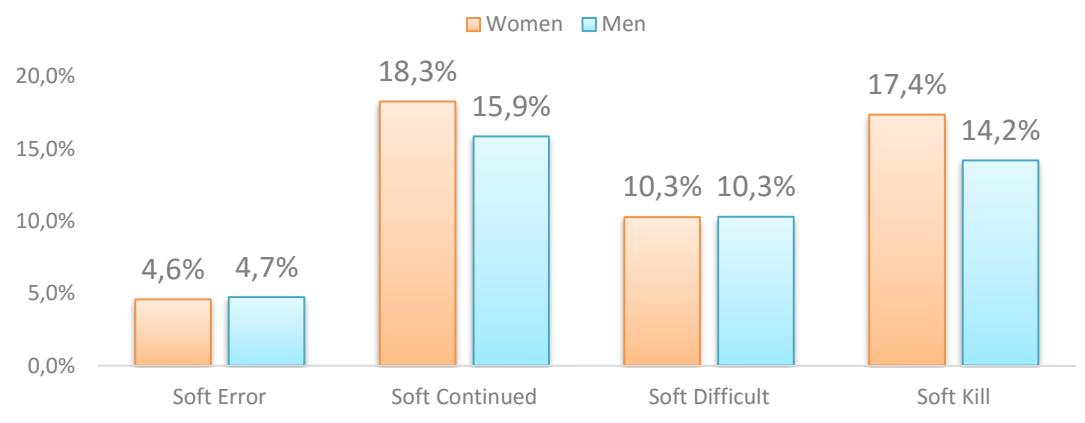
## ATTACK TECHNIQUES STRUCTURE

| TYPOLOGY  | OUTCOME   | Women |        | Men   |
|-----------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|
|           |           |       |        |       |
| Soft      | Error     | 4,6%  |        | 4,7%  |
|           | Continued | 18,3% | 50,5 % | 15,9% |
|           | Difficult | 10,3% |        | 10,3% |
|           | Kill      | 17,4% |        | 14,2% |
| Hard      | Error     | 3,6%  |        | 4,8%  |
|           | Continued | 7,6%  | 38,0 % | 9,4%  |
|           | Difficult | 16,5% |        | 20,1% |
|           | Kill      | 10,3% |        | 14,2% |
| Poke Shot | Error     | 0,8%  |        | 1,4%  |
|           | Continued | 3,0%  | 11,5 % | 2,5%  |
|           | Difficult | 2,6%  |        | 1,1%  |
|           | Kill      | 5,1%  |        | 1,5%  |
| Free Ball |           | 3,7%  |        | 2,3 % |

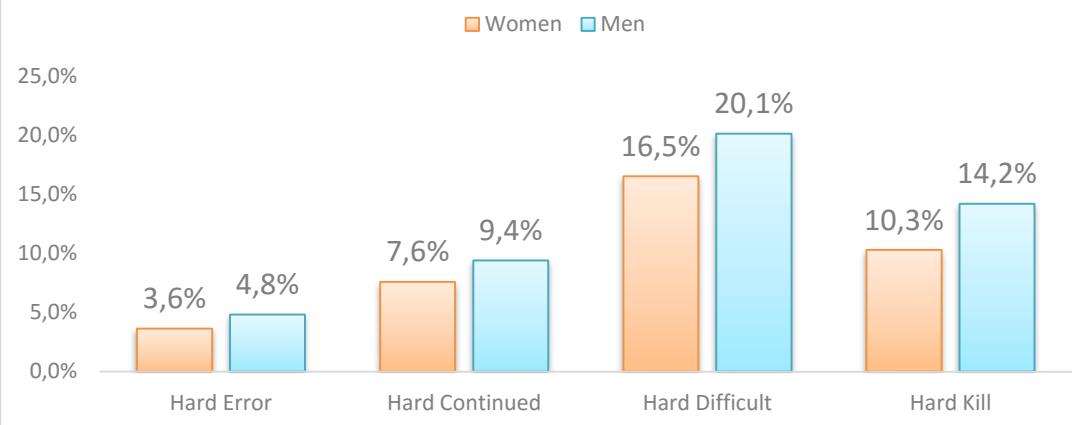
## Structure of the Attack - Techniques



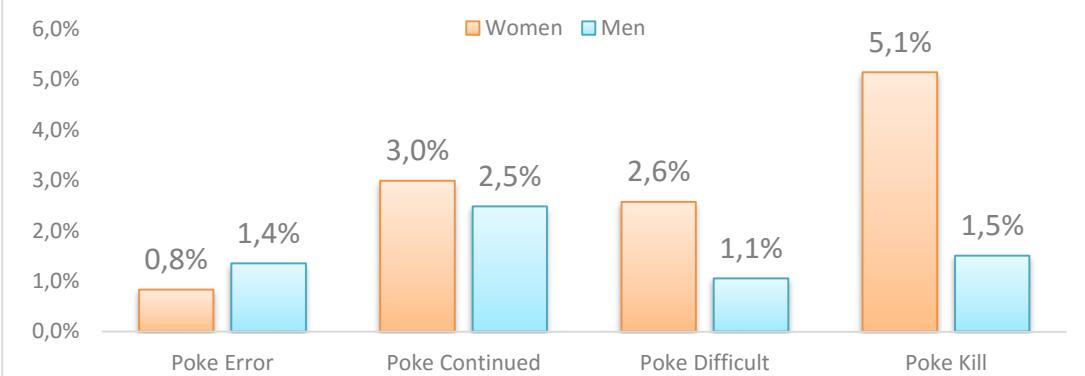
### Structure of the Attack Soft



### Structure of the Attack Hard



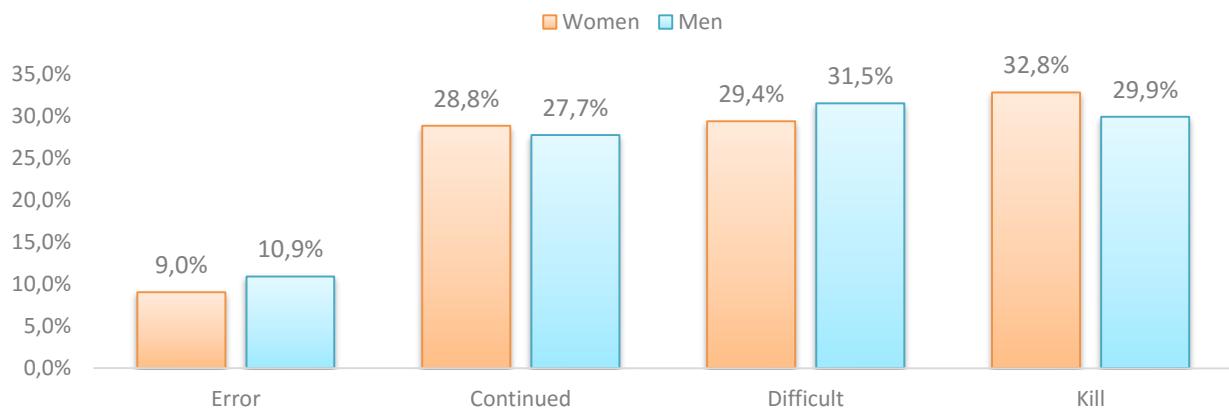
### Structure of the Attack Poke



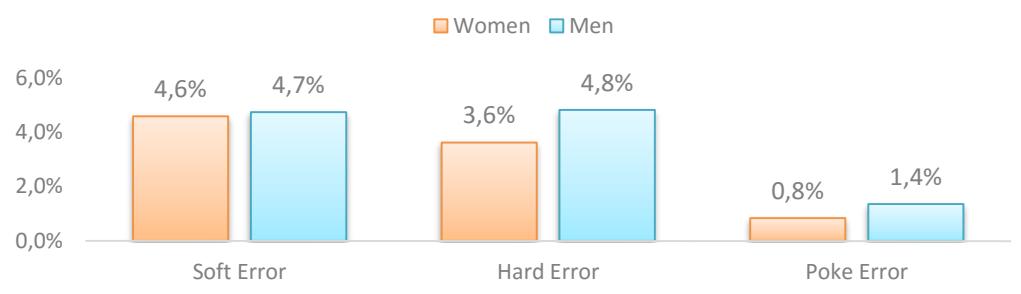
### ATTACK OUTCOME STRUCTURE

|           | Women  | Men    |
|-----------|--------|--------|
| Error     | 9,0 %  | 10,9 % |
| Continued | 28,8 % | 27,7 % |
| Difficult | 29,4 % | 31,5 % |
| Kill      | 32,8 % | 29,9 % |

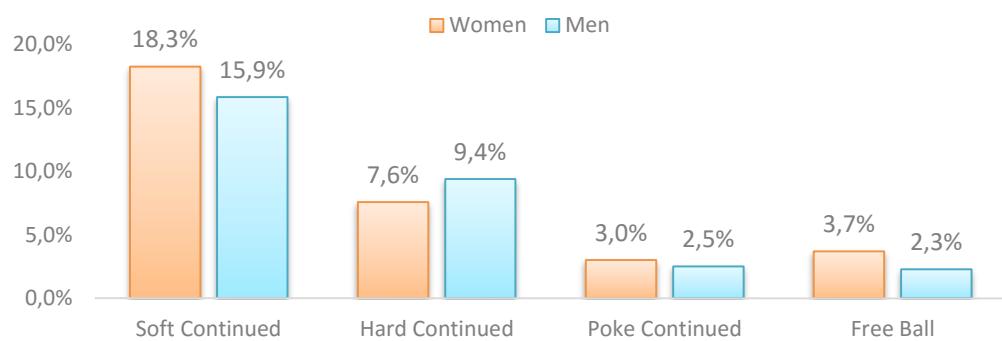
### Structure of the Attack - Outcome



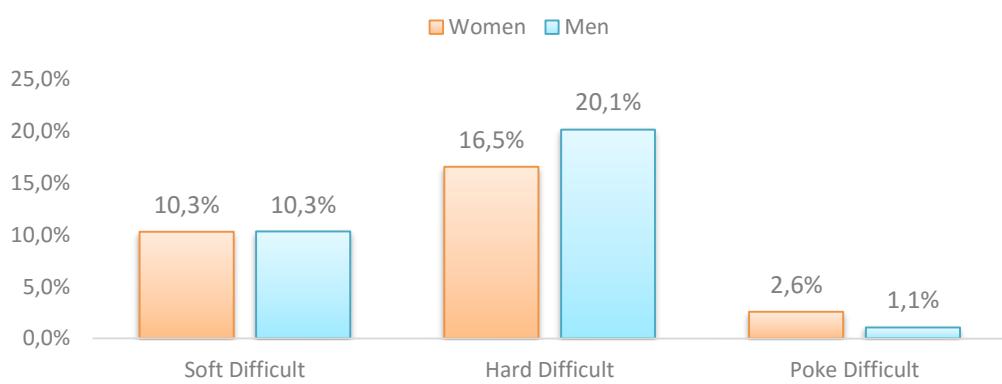
### Structure of the Attack - Error



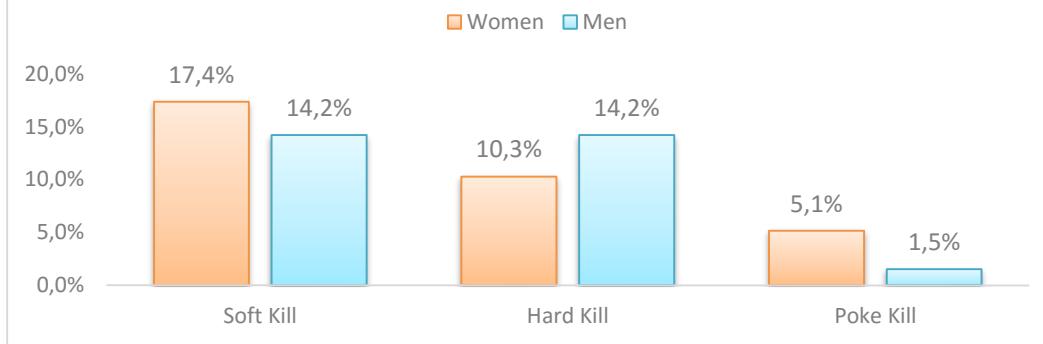
### Structure of the Attack - Continued



### Structure of the Attack - Difficult

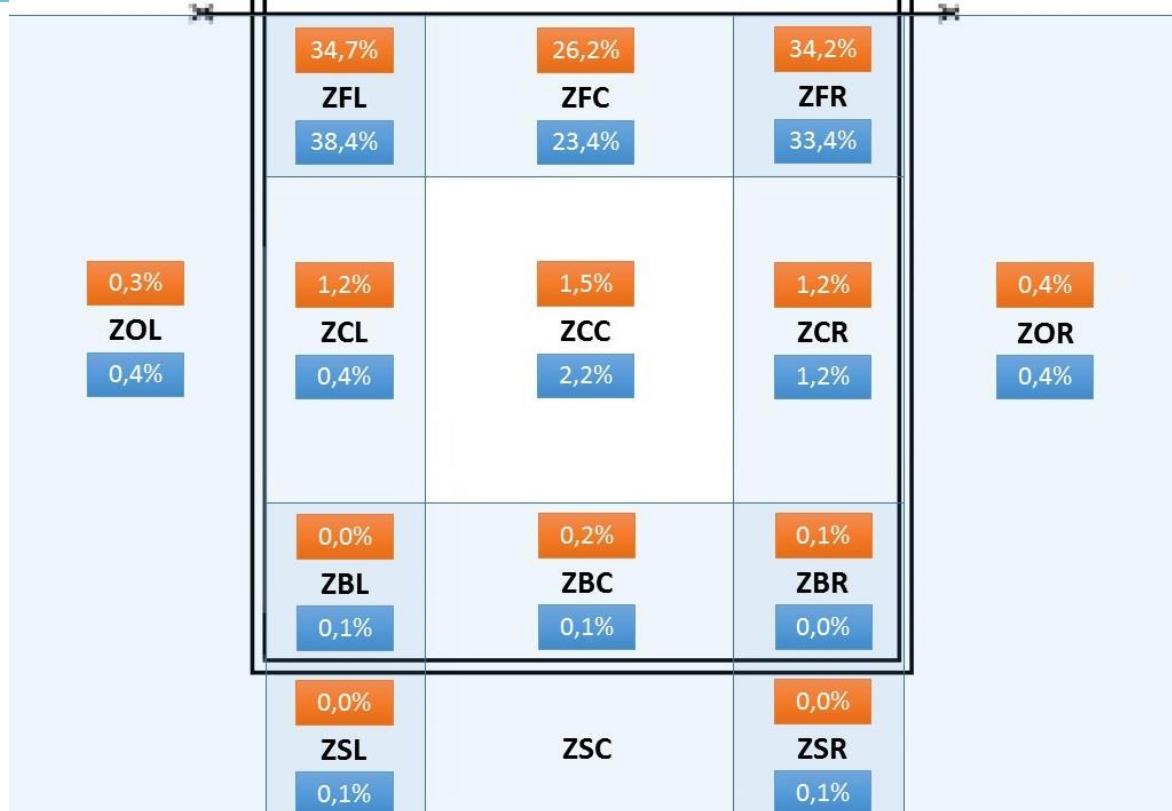


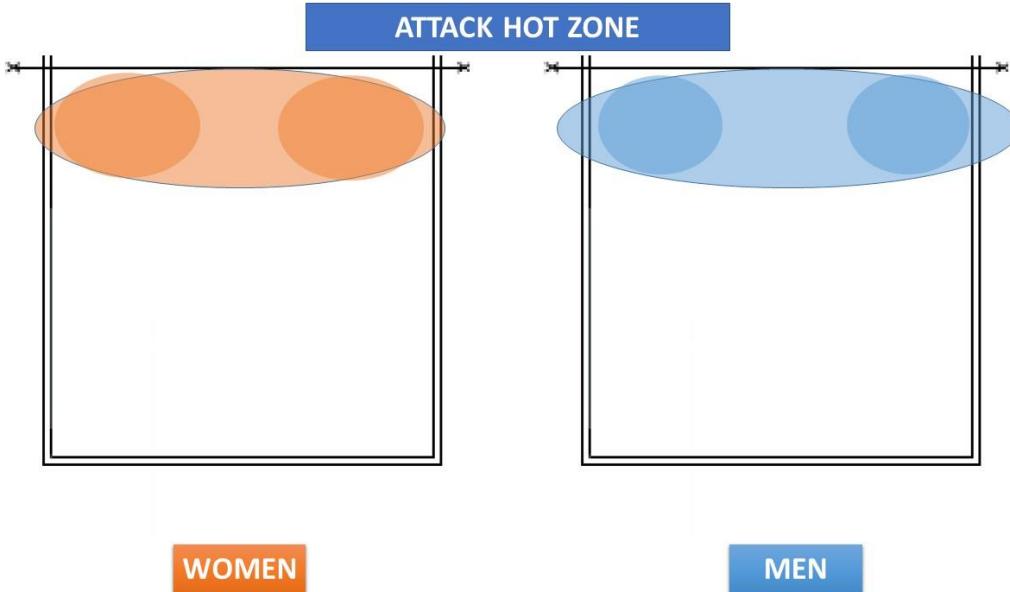
### Structure of the Attack - Kill



### Action Zones

| ATTACK ACTION ZONES      | Women  | Men    |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| ZFL (Left Front Zone)    | 34,7 % | 38,4 % |
| ZFC (Center Front Zone)  | 26,2 % | 23,4 % |
| ZFR (Right Front Zone)   | 34,2 % | 33,4 % |
| ZCL (Left Center Zone)   | 1,2 %  | 0,4 %  |
| ZCC (Center Center Zone) | 1,5 %  | 2,2 %  |
| ZCR (Right Center Zone)  | 1,2 %  | 1,2 %  |
| ZBL (Left Back Zone)     | 0,0 %  | 0,1 %  |
| ZBC (Center Back Zone)   | 0,2 %  | 0,1 %  |
| ZBR (Right Back Zone)    | 0,1 %  | 0,0 %  |
| ZSL (Left Service Zone)  | 0,0 %  | 0,1 %  |
| ZSR (Right Service Zone) | 0,0 %  | 0,1 %  |
| ZOL (Left Outside Zone)  | 0,3 %  | 0,4 %  |
| ZOR (Right Outside Zone) | 0,4 %  | 0,4 %  |





## Conclusions

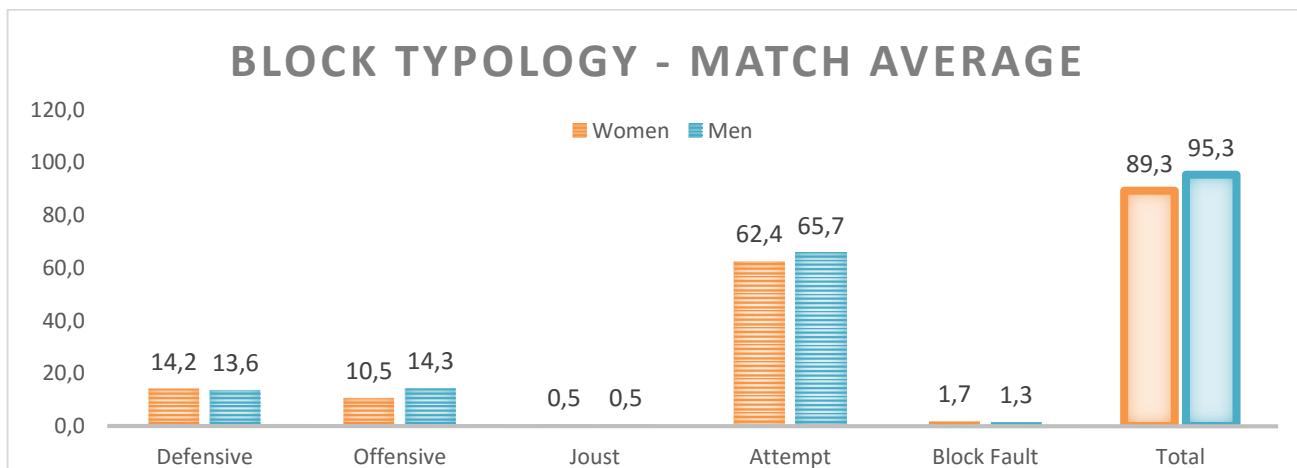
Regarding the Attack, we note:

- ⌚ In both genders 60% of the time, Attack prevails over defense;
- ⌚ For both genders, only 10% of the Attacks are error;
- ⌚ Differences between Men and Women:
  - ⌚ In the Women's game, teams try to finish the rally more times in controlled attacks through the use of the Soft or the Poke technique;
  - ⌚ In the Men's game teams use more power and try to finish the rally more often using the Hard attack technique.

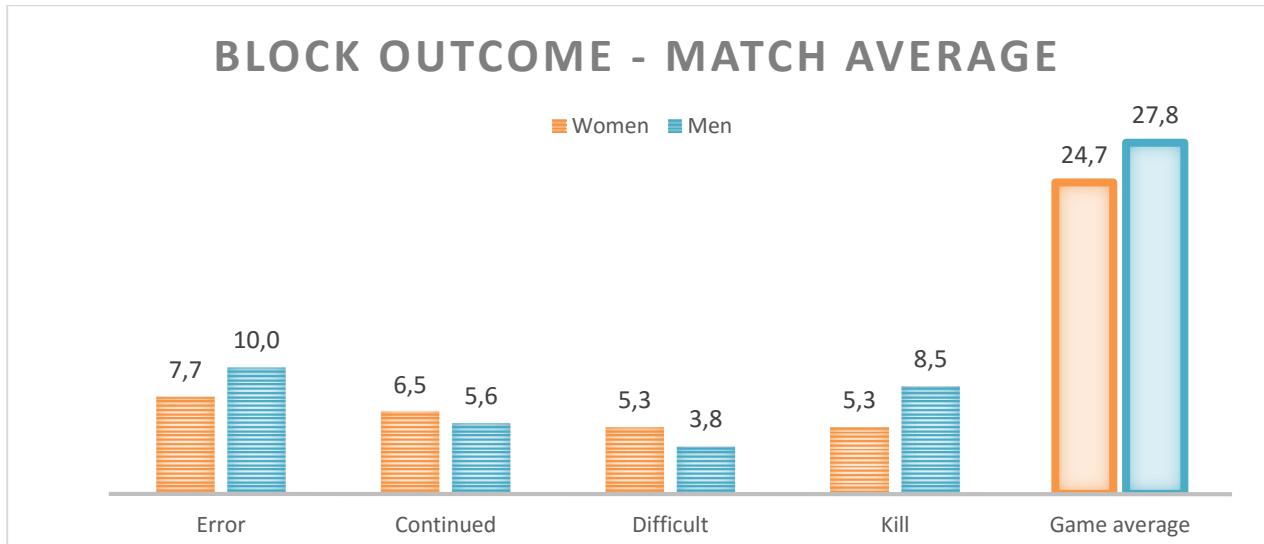
## Block Analyses

### Averages

| BLOCK TYPOLOGY – Match Average |  | Women | Men  |
|--------------------------------|--|-------|------|
| Defensive                      |  | 14,2  | 13,6 |
| Offensive                      |  | 10,5  | 14,3 |
| Joust                          |  | 0,5   | 0,5  |
| Attempt                        |  | 62,4  | 65,7 |
| Block Fault                    |  | 1,7   | 1,3  |
| Total                          |  | 89,3  | 95,3 |

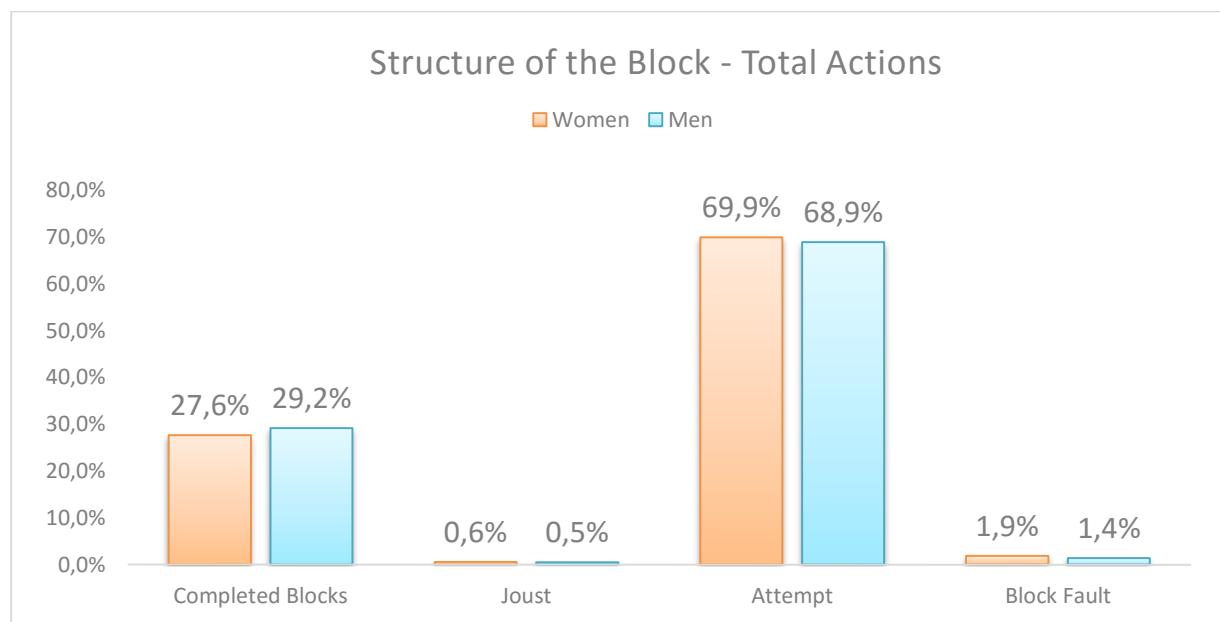


| BLOCK OUTCOME – Match Average | Women | Men  |
|-------------------------------|-------|------|
| Error                         | 7,7   | 10,0 |
| Continued                     | 6,5   | 5,6  |
| Difficult                     | 5,3   | 3,8  |
| Kill                          | 5,3   | 8,5  |
| Total                         | 24,7  | 27,8 |



## Structure

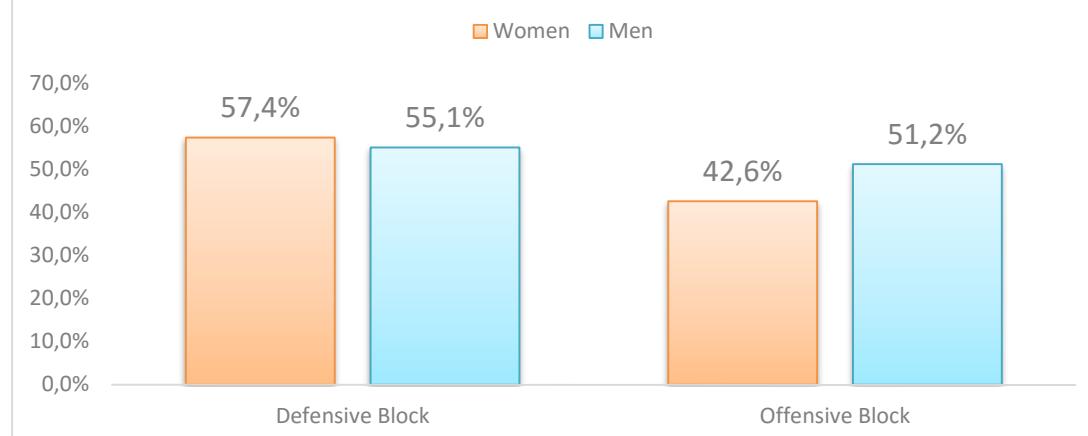
| BLOCK STRUCTURE  | Women  | Men    |
|------------------|--------|--------|
| Completed Blocks | 27,6 % | 29,2 % |
| Joust            | 0,6 %  | 0,5 %  |
| Attempt          | 69,9 % | 68,9 % |
| Block Fault      | 1,9 %  | 1,4 %  |



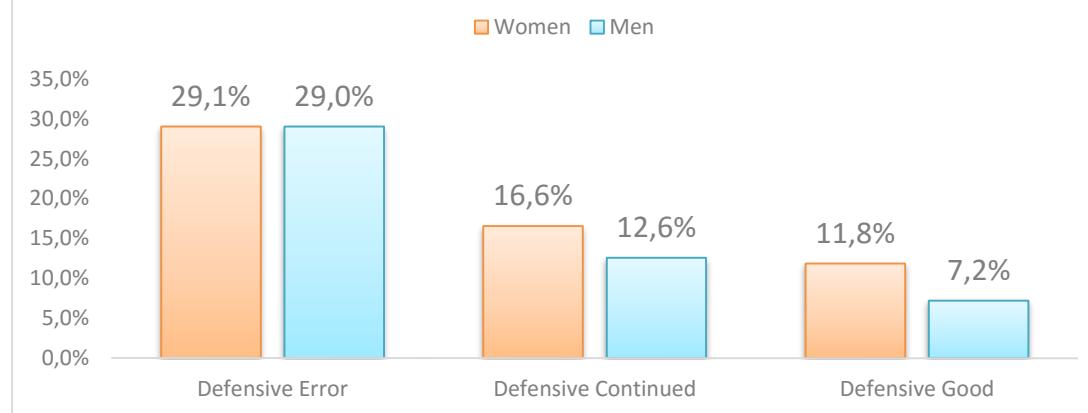
## COMPLETED BLOCK TECHNIQUES STRUCTURE

| TYPOLOGY  | OUTCOME   | Women |        | Men   |        |
|-----------|-----------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
|           |           | Women | Men    | Women | Men    |
| Defensive | Error     | 29,1% |        | 29,0% |        |
|           | Continued | 16,6% | 57,4 % | 12,6% | 55,1 % |
|           | Good      | 11,8% |        | 7,2%  |        |
| Offensive | Error     | 2,0%  |        | 6,9%  |        |
|           | Easy      | 9,8%  | 42,6 % | 7,5%  | 51,2 % |
|           | Good      | 9,5%  |        | 6,3%  |        |
|           | Kill      | 21,3% |        | 30,5% |        |

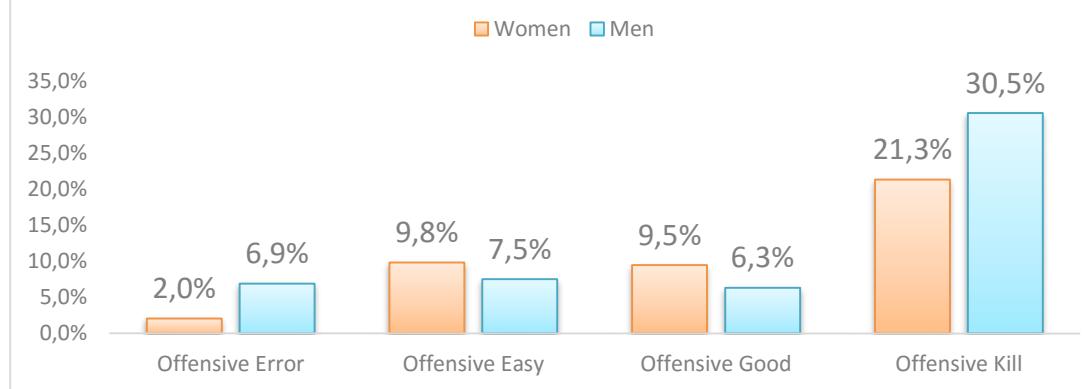
Structure of the Block - Completed Blocks



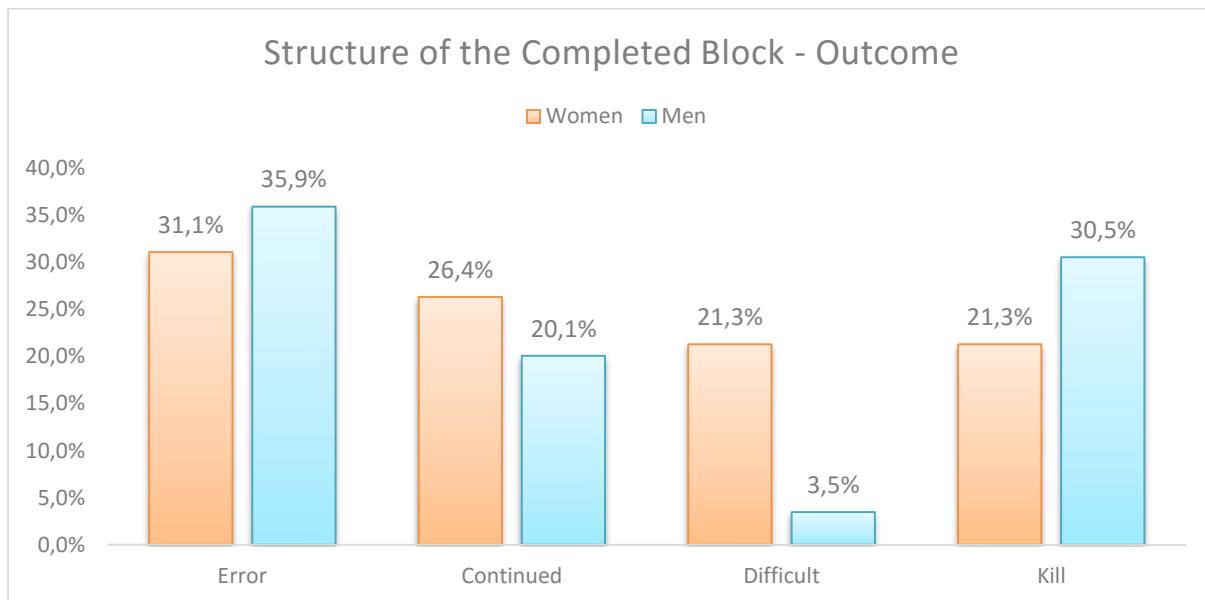
Structure of the Defensive Block



Structure of the Offensive Block

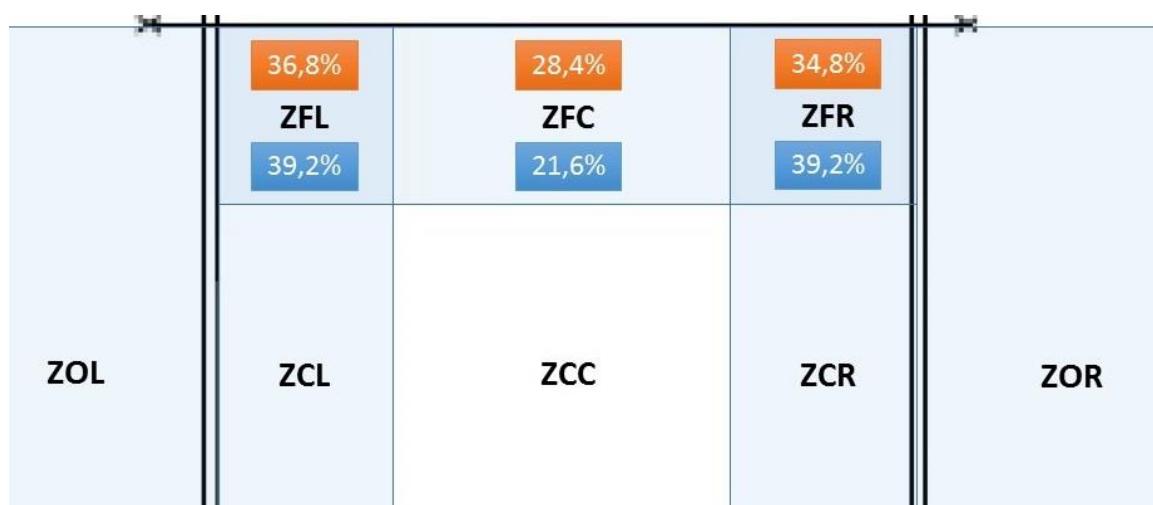


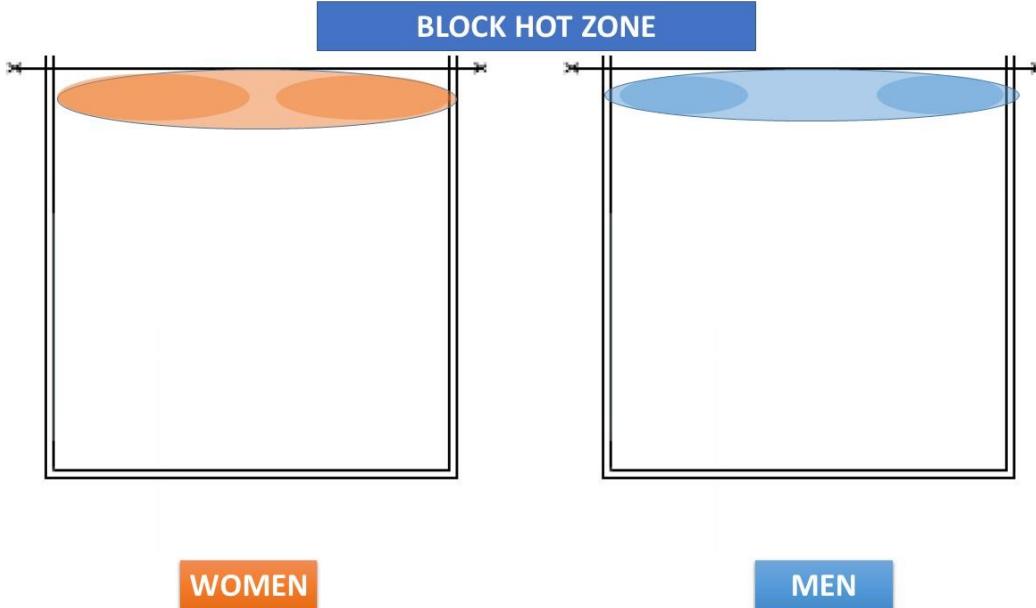
| BLOCK OUTCOME STRUCTURE | Women  | Men    |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|
| Error                   | 31,1 % | 35,9 % |
| Continued               | 26,4 % | 20,1 % |
| Difficult               | 21,3 % | 3,5 %  |
| Kill                    | 21,3 % | 30,5 % |



### Action Zones

| COMPLETED BLOCK ACTION ZONES | Women  | Men    |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|
| ZFL (Left Front Zone)        | 36,8 % | 39,2 % |
| ZFC (Center Front Zone)      | 28,4 % | 21,6 % |
| ZFR (Right Front Zone)       | 34,8 % | 39,2 % |





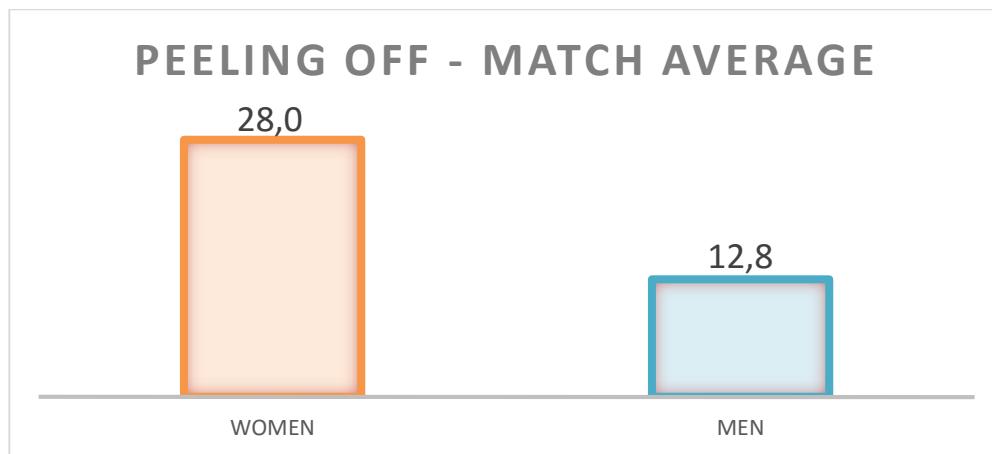
## Conclusions

Regarding the Block, we note:

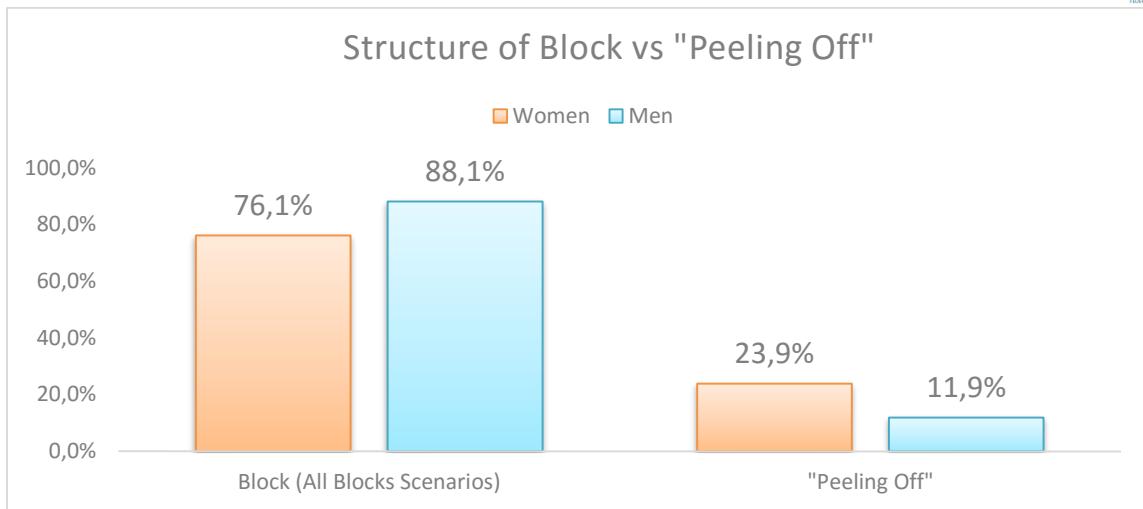
- Women's game
    - 27,6% of the attempts become Completed Blocks;
    - The Completed Blocks are distributed much more within the Outcome options (error; continued; etc.) than with the Men.
  - Men's game
    - 29,2% of the attempts become Completed Blocks;
    - For the same reason there are clearly more Block Kills and Block Errors than Continued blocks after Completed (block contacts the ball);
    - There are more Offensive Blocks in the Men's game than in the Women's.

## “Peeling Off”

| <b>“PEELING OFF” – Match Average</b> | <b>Women</b> | <b>Men</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| “Peeling Off”                        | 28,0         | 12,8       |



| “PEELING OFF” AND BLOCK STRUCTURE | Women  | Men    |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Block (All Block Scenarios)       | 76,1 % | 23,9 % |
| “Peeling Off”                     | 23,9 % | 11,9 % |



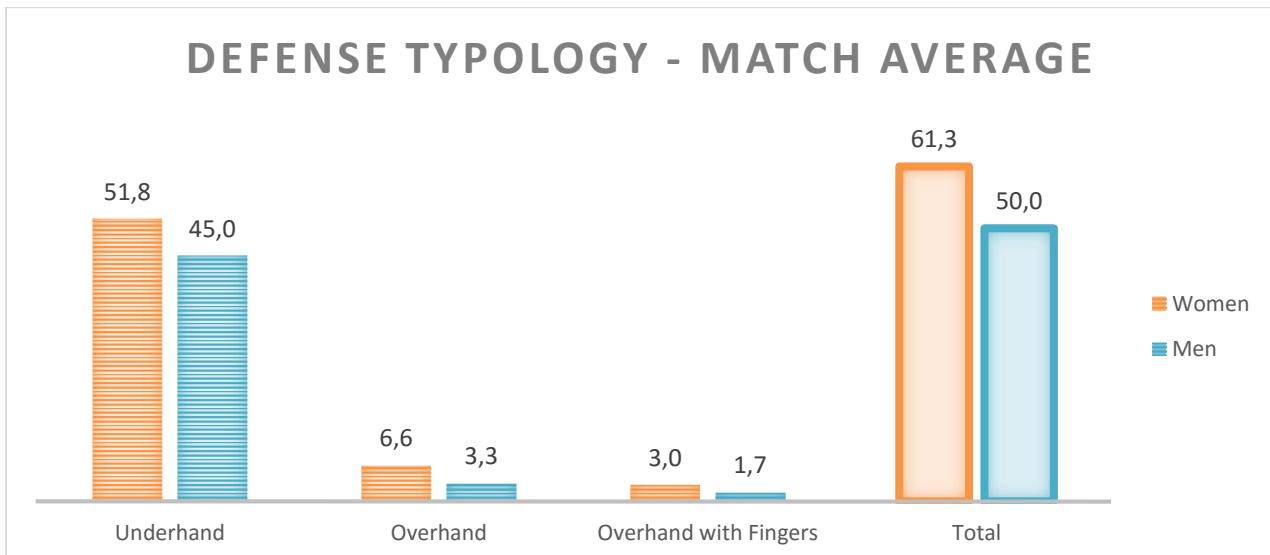
Regarding the “Peeling off”, we note:

- ⌚ Women’s game
  - ⌚ Obvious bigger trend for "peeling off" the block than with the men, most likely because of the game style where the Attack hit is more often Soft than Hard;
- ⌚ Men’s game
  - ⌚ Men do not use so often the "peeling off" the block technique: on the contrary, the trend is always to jump for a block, most likely because of the game style where the Attack uses a lot of power;

## Defense Analyses

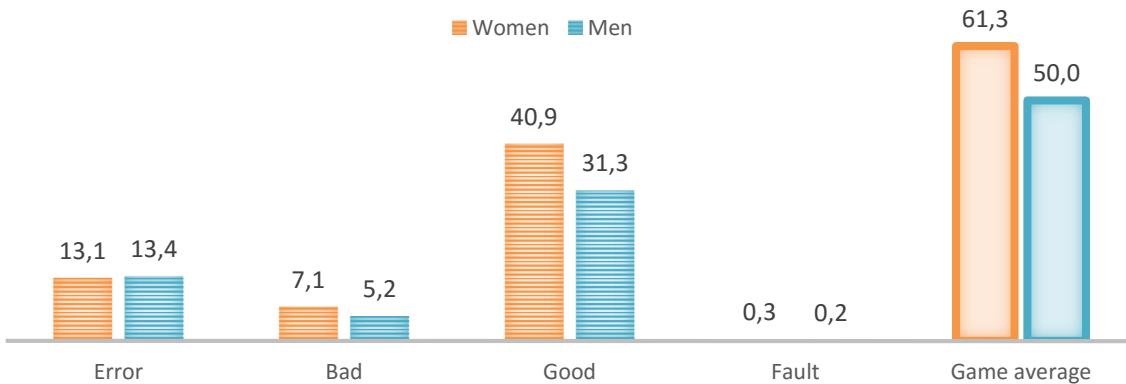
### Averages

| DEFENSE TYPOLOGY – Match Average | Women | Men  |
|----------------------------------|-------|------|
| Underhand                        | 51,8  | 45,0 |
| Overhand (no Fingers)            | 6,6   | 3,3  |
| Overhand with Fingers            | 3,0   | 1,7  |
| Total                            | 61,3  | 50,0 |



| DEFENSE OUTCOME – Match Average | Women | Men  |
|---------------------------------|-------|------|
| Error                           | 13,1  | 13,4 |
| Bad                             | 7,1   | 5,2  |
| Good                            | 40,9  | 31,3 |
| Fault                           | 0,3   | 0,2  |
| Total                           | 61,3  | 50,0 |

## DEFENSE OUTCOME - MATCH AVERAGE

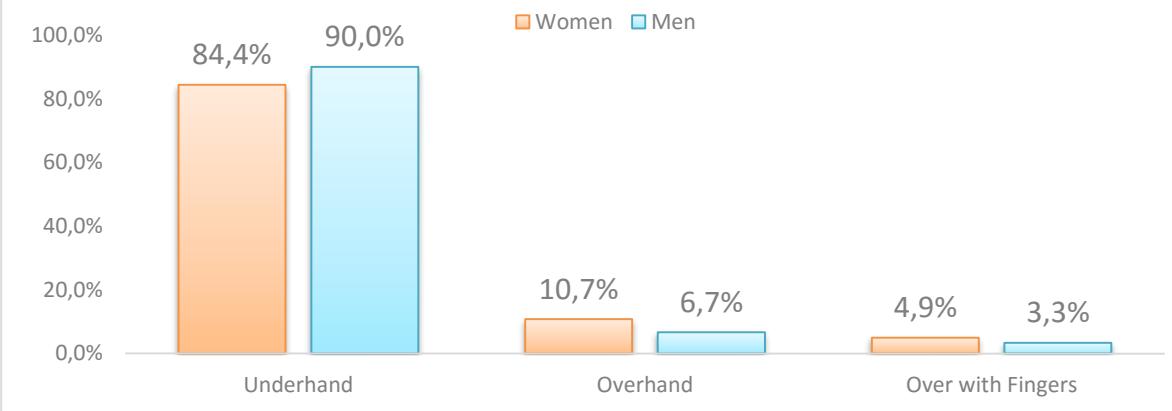


Structure

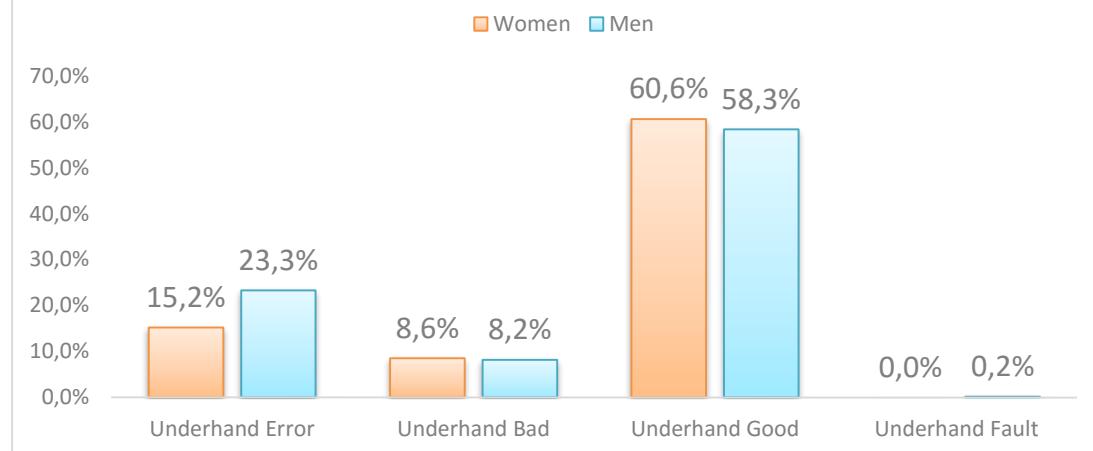
## DEFENSE TECHNIQUES STRUCTURE

| TYPOLOGY              | OUTCOME | Women  |        | Men    |
|-----------------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
|                       |         |        |        |        |
| Underhand             | Error   | 15,2 % |        | 23,3 % |
|                       | Bad     | 8,6 %  | 84,4 % | 8,2 %  |
|                       | Good    | 60,6 % |        | 58,3 % |
|                       | Fault   | 0,0 %  |        | 0,2 %  |
| Overhand (no Fingers) | Error   | 4,9 %  |        | 2,5 %  |
|                       | Bad     | 2,2 %  | 10,7 % | 1,5 %  |
|                       | Good    | 3,7 %  |        | 2,7 %  |
|                       | Fault   | 0,0 %  |        | 0,0 %  |
| Over with Fingers     | Error   | 1,2 %  |        | 1,0 %  |
|                       | Bad     | 0,8 %  | 4,9 %  | 0,7 %  |
|                       | Good    | 2,4 %  |        | 1,5 %  |
|                       | Fault   | 0,4 %  |        | 0,2 %  |

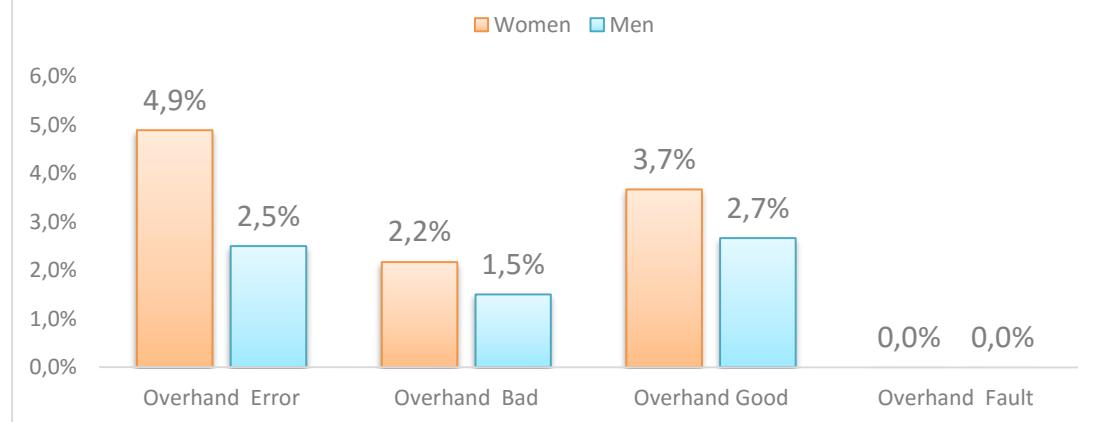
## Structure of the Defense - Techniques



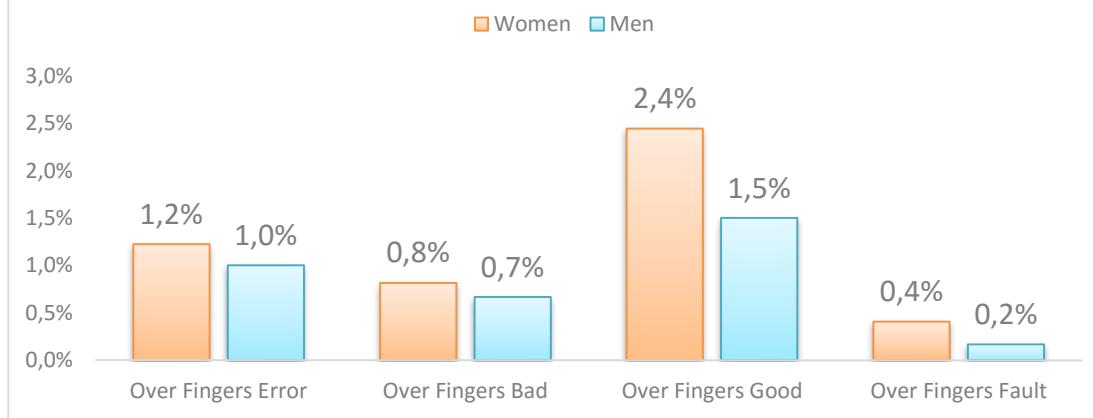
### Structure of the Defense Underhand



### Structure of the Defense Overhand

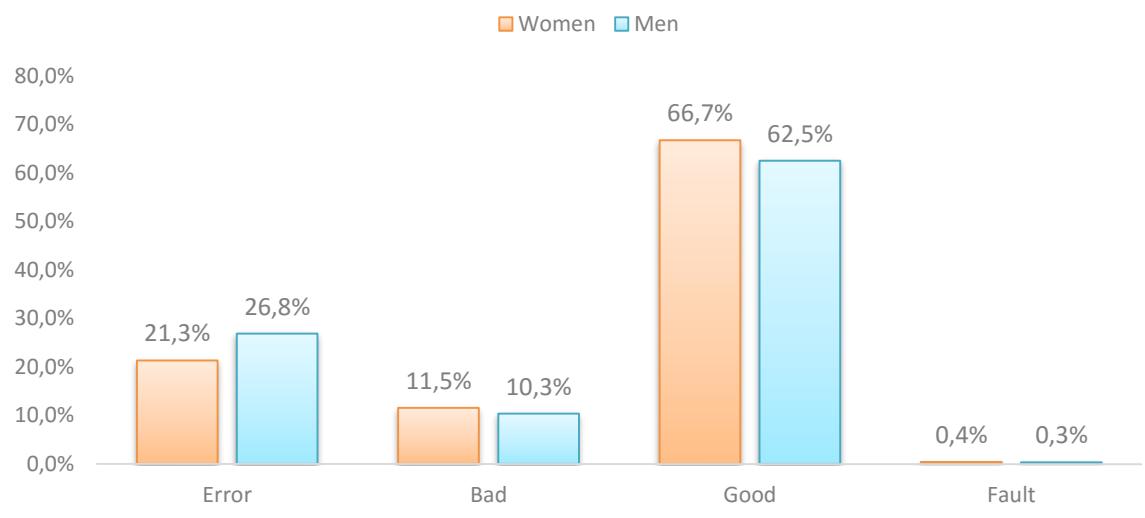


### Structure of the Defense Over with Fingers

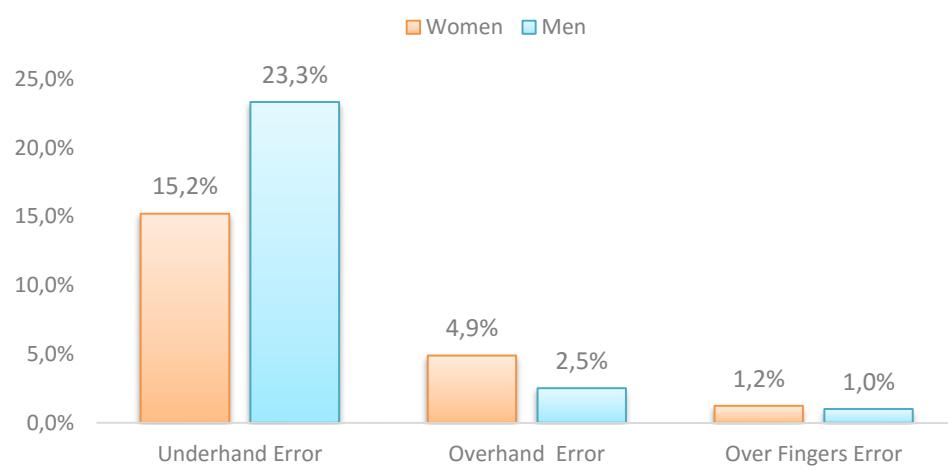


| DEFENSE OUTCOME STRUCTURE | Women  | Men    |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|
| Error                     | 21,3 % | 26,8 % |
| Bad                       | 11,5 % | 10,3 % |
| Good                      | 66,7 % | 62,5 % |
| Fault                     | 0,4 %  | 0,3 %  |

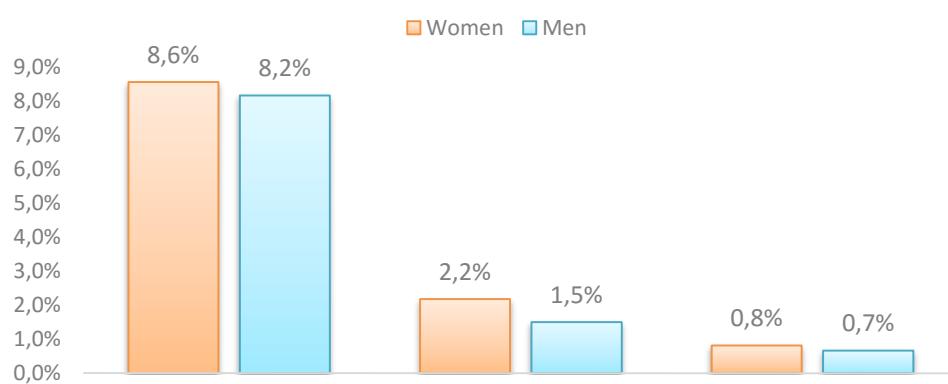
### Structure of the Defense - Outcome

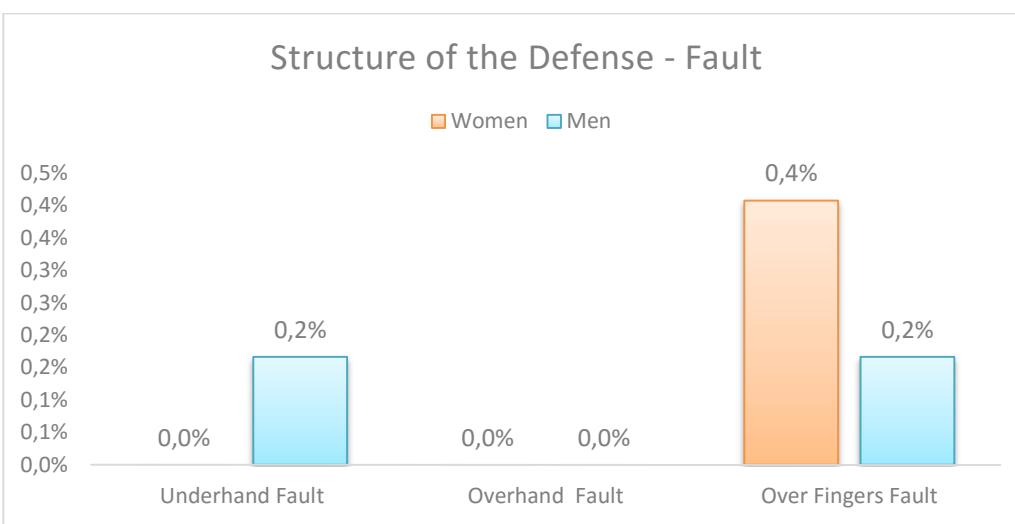
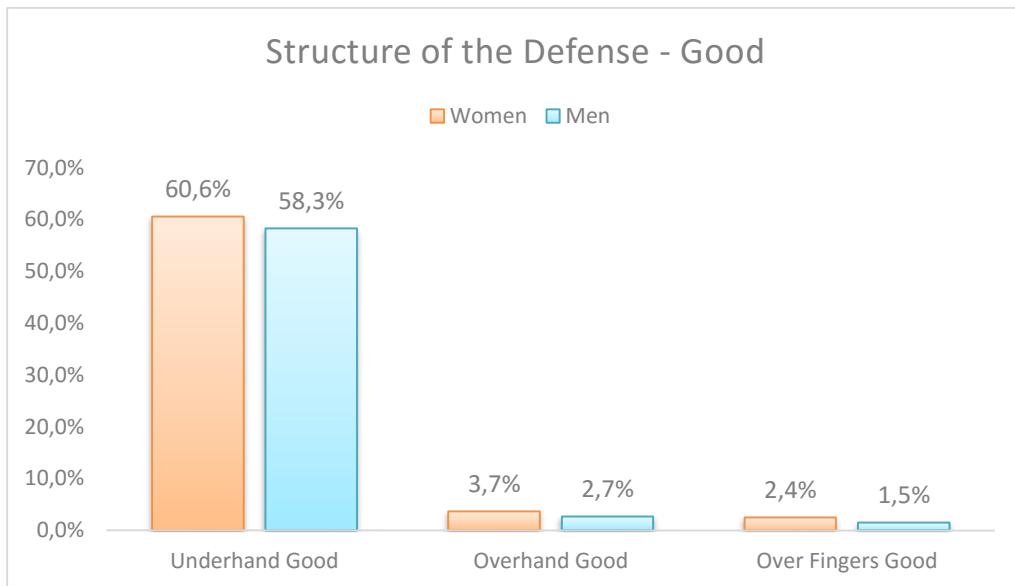


### Structure of the Defense - Error



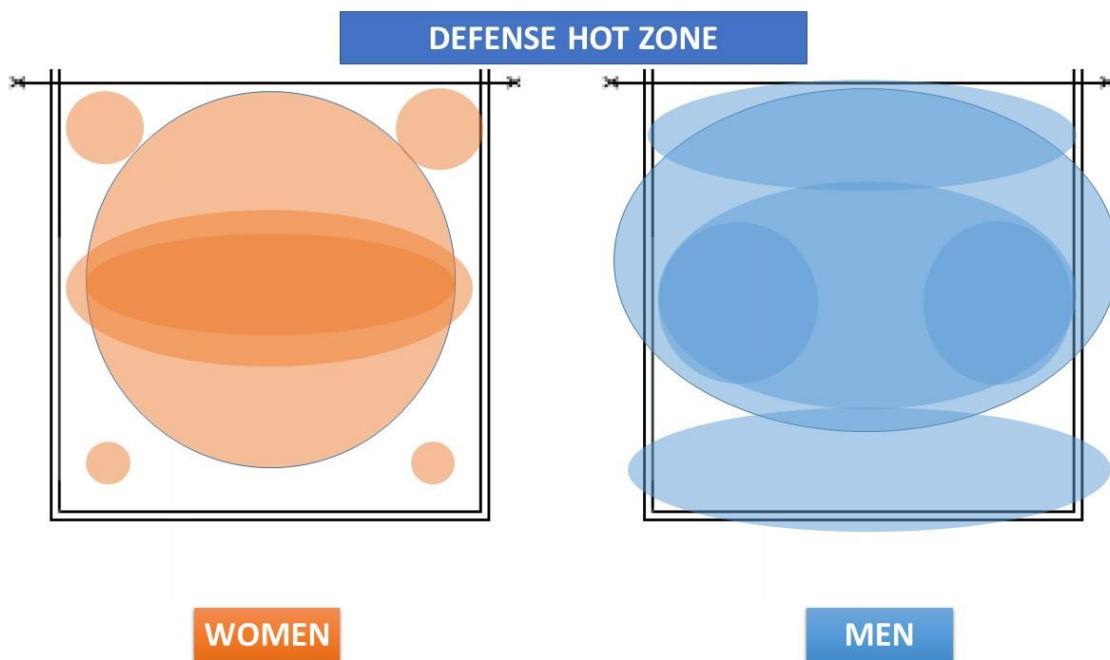
### Structure of the Defense - Bad





## Action Zones

| DEFENSE ACTION ZONES     | Women  | Men    |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|
| ZFL (Left Front Zone)    | 8,0 %  | 9,5 %  |
| ZFC (Center Front Zone)  | 8,7 %  | 7,7 %  |
| ZFR (Right Front Zone)   | 8,7 %  | 7,3 %  |
| ZCL (Left Center Zone)   | 21,9 % | 23,5 % |
| ZCC (Center Center Zone) | 23,1 % | 17,0 % |
| ZCR (Right Center Zone)  | 18,6 % | 20,7 % |
| ZBL (Left Back Zone)     | 3,0 %  | 3,2 %  |
| ZBC (Center Back Zone)   | 4,6 %  | 4,8 %  |
| ZBR (Right Back Zone)    | 3,3 %  | 5,8 %  |
| ZOL (Left Outside Zone)  | 0,1 %  | 0,2 %  |
| ZOR (Right Outside Zone) | 0,0 %  | 0,3 %  |



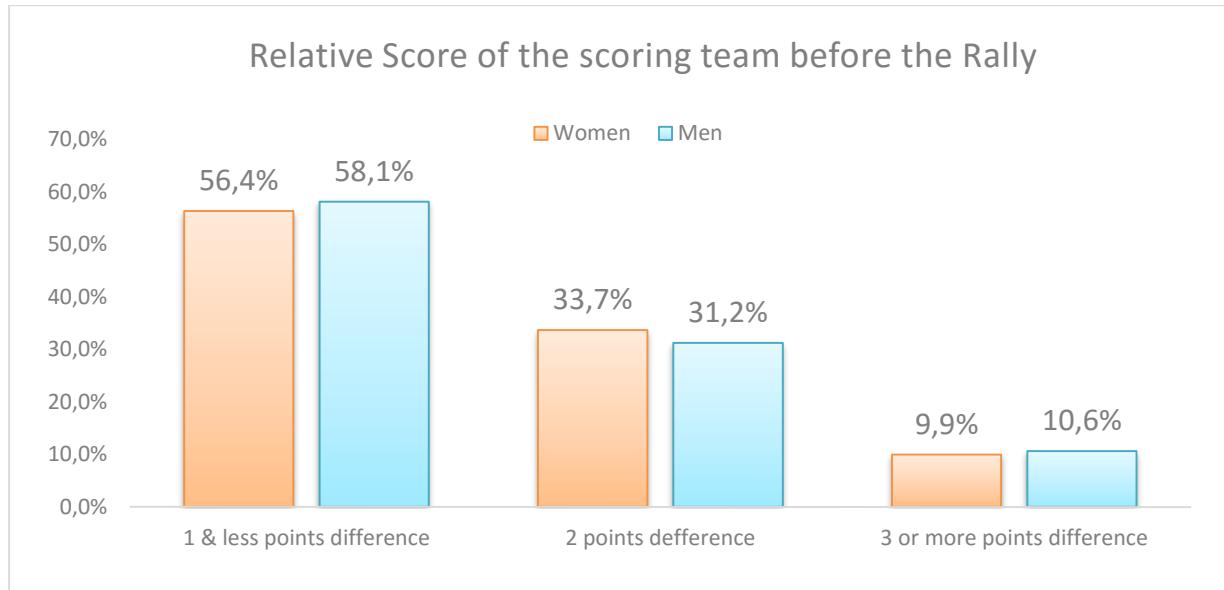
## Conclusions

Regarding the Defense, we note:

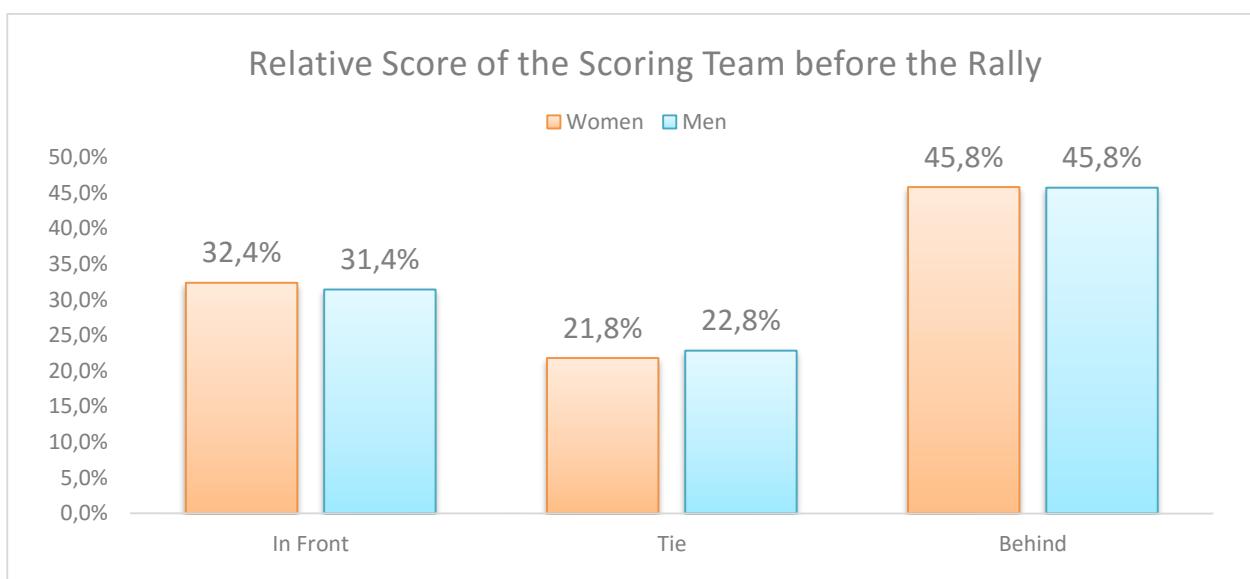
- ⌚ Women's game
  - ⌚ It has on average more 10 defenses per match than the Men's
  - ⌚ Uses more of the Overhand action compared to the male;
- ⌚ Men's game
  - ⌚ The technique used is mostly the Underhand
  - ⌚ There are more defenses around the core of the court than in the women's game

## Scoring

| Relative Score of the Scoring Team before the Rally | Women  | Men    |
|---|--------|--------|
| 1 & less points difference                          | 56,4 % | 58,1 % |
| 2 points difference                                 | 33,7 % | 31,2 % |
| 3 or more points difference                         | 9,9 %  | 10,6 % |



| Relative Score of the Scoring Team before the Rally | Women  | Men    |
|---|--------|--------|
| In Front  | 32,4 % | 31,4 % |
| Tie   | 21,8 % | 22,8 % |
| Behind  | 45,8%  | 45,8%  |

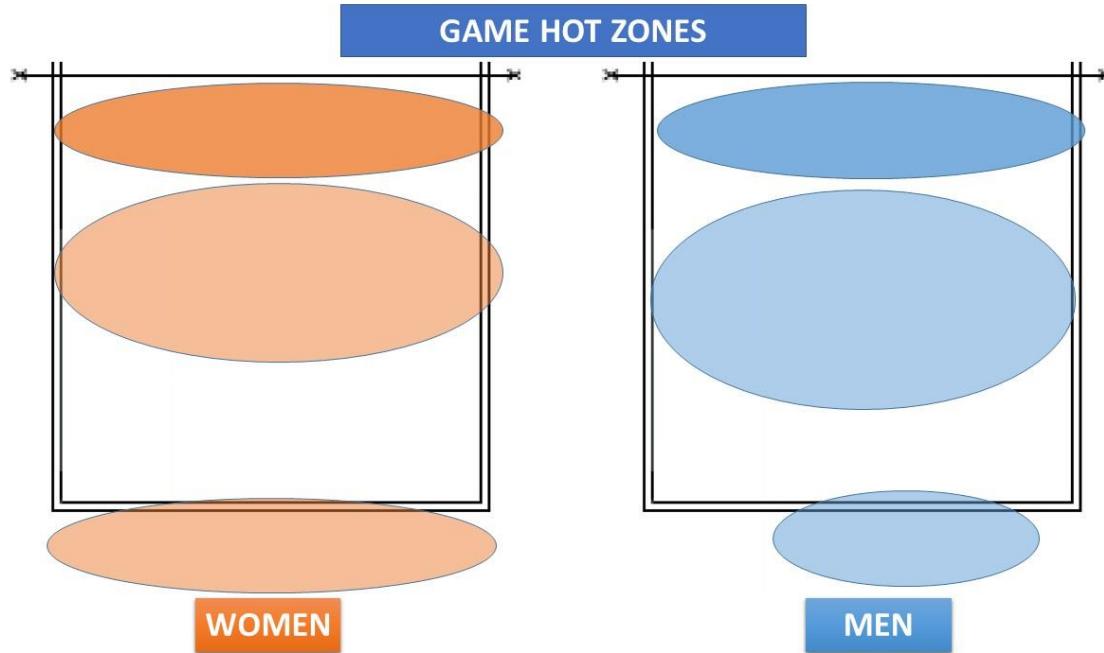


At this level of play, the game is played mostly with balanced scoring in both genders. The available data – even if this may look strange – shows that most of the points are won by the team that lags behind (has a point's disadvantage at the time of scoring).

## Field of Play

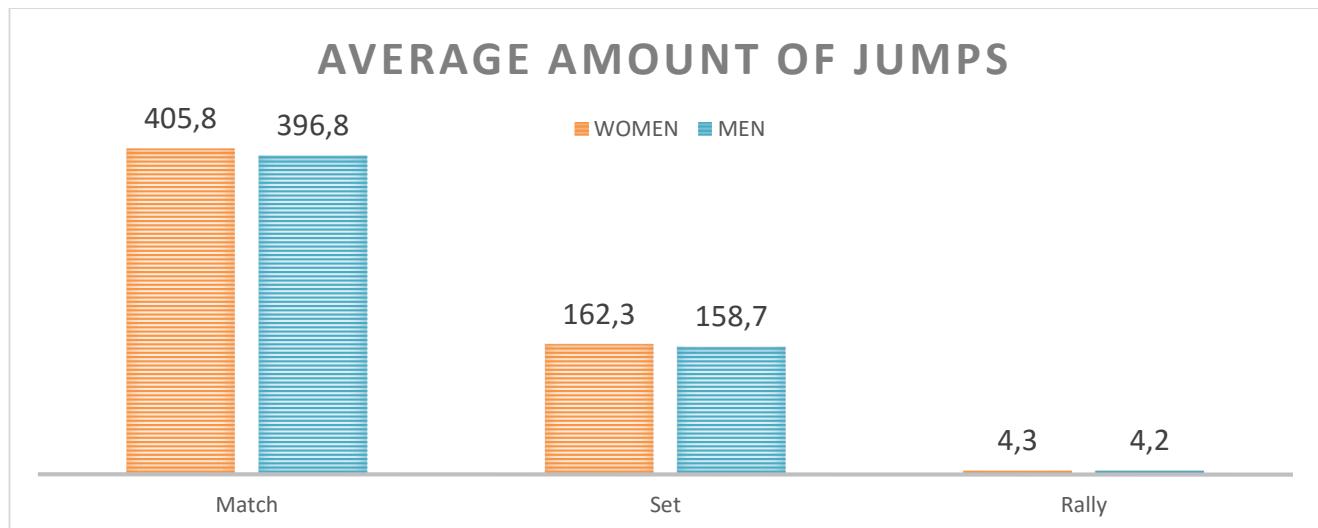
| GAME ACTION ZONES        | Women | Men   |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| ZFL (Left Front Zone)    | 14,1% | 15,1% |
| ZFC (Center Front Zone)  | 15,1% | 14,6% |
| ZFR (Right Front Zone)   | 13,9% | 13,6% |
| ZCL (Left Center Zone)   | 8,7%  | 8,6%  |
| ZCC (Center Center Zone) | 11,9% | 9,6%  |
| ZCR (Right Center Zone)  | 7,5%  | 7,4%  |
| ZBL (Left Back Zone)     | 1,3%  | 1,8%  |
| ZBC (Center Back Zone)   | 3,3%  | 3,3%  |
| ZBR (Right Back Zone)    | 1,6%  | 2,0%  |
| ZSL (Left Service Zone)  | 8,3%  | 3,9%  |
| ZSC (Center Back Zone)   | 5,7%  | 12,1% |
| ZSR (Right Service Zone) | 8,0%  | 7,3%  |
| ZOL (Left Outside Zone)  | 0,2%  | 0,4%  |
| ZOR (Right Outside Zone) | 0,3%  | 0,4%  |





## Jumps per Match

| Average amount of Jumps | Women | Men   |
|-------------------------|-------|-------|
| Per Match               | 405,8 | 396,8 |
| Per Set                 | 162,3 | 158,7 |
| Per Rally               | 4,3   | 4,2   |



# General Conclusions

## Facts

- ⌚ The women's game has more long rallies in general;
- ⌚ There are more defenses, and consequently more counterattacks in the female than in the male's game;
- ⌚ In the women's game there are more ball contacts per game and rally, and consequently more exchanges;
- ⌚ The setting is made primarily with the Underhand technique. However, in the men's game, 25% of the time setting is performed with the technique of Overhand with Fingers;
- ⌚ The men's game takes more risk and power in the service, the attack and the block;
- ⌚ The women's game favors the control, in the service, the attack and the block;
- ⌚ 60% of the time, the attack prevails over the defense;
- ⌚ In the men's game there are more block errors and block kills;
- ⌚ In the women's game there is a greater tendency for using the "peel off" at the block;
- ⌚ For the various actions of the men's game there is a greater use of all areas of the field of play, unlike the women's which concentrates the play largely to a more central area of the court.

## Key Words

| Palavras Chave   |   |
|--|---|
| WOMEN  | MEN   |
| ⌚ Control;<br>⌚ Long Rallies;<br>⌚ Float Service<br>⌚ Underhand Set;<br>⌚ Attack Soft and Poke;<br>⌚ "Peel Off"; | ⌚ Power;<br>⌚ 1 Attack Rallies;<br>⌚ Jump Drive Service;<br>⌚ Setting Overhand with Fingers;<br>⌚ Attack Hard;<br>⌚ Block Kill and Error; |

## Possibilities

- ⌚ The Women's game is longer because of the relation of the Attack versus the Defense;
- ⌚ The Attack in the Men's game is more often made with power and accuracy, therefore the rallies end more quickly;
- ⌚ The male's physical capacity enables a higher risk in the game actions, a larger displacement capability and power (even with a higher net than the women's). This causes the game to display different characteristics for the respective genders.

## Final Teaser

- ⌚ Is the game more Spectacular just because the Rallies are longer? Is extended length in the rallies the main determinant for the Spectacular, or can we also find spectacular in a series of quick powerful and very plastic (esthetic) actions which can thrill the audience?

(\* followed by showing two videos demonstrating the reality above "the various faces of the spectacular").

## Side Notes, by the FIVB Rules of the Game President

- ⌚ To answer our own question, we can take guidance from other competitions and from our sister form of the sport, Volleyball: “long rallies” can mean boring; “dig-set-spike” can be boring too. What we need is variety in attack and defense, service and block, front court and back, powerful hitting mixed with delicate cut shots or pokes – all of these add to the charm of the game. We need instability in the rally to reduce the impact of first attack – hence the underhand reception is vital to maintain as the norm. In turn this makes the set less accurate, and so the first spike is less decisive – but it does create the scrambled defense which has the audience on its feet! We have all the elements for the perfect game. We need to cherish what we have in order to celebrate the special nature of the sport.
- ⌚ There are many aspects to a successful and spectacular match – some have to do with the techniques and some have to do with the relative strength of the teams in their respective skill areas, and some have to do with the players and how they interact with each other and with the spectators in the venue. And we must not forget the driving force of the DJ. There can be a lot of style and little substance yet we still can have a match which is remembered – but where we have style and substance then we have a truly great match experience. The substance comes from having rules which create the instabilities described above – we need to have the strong service to create the slightly imperfect dig reception, to create the strong but not necessarily decisive spike past the partly effective (but completed) block; this sets up the second phase or counter-attack, which is also not decisive. So we need to monitor the sport constantly to maintain a drift towards a less than 60% attack-dominated game, to give the serving team opportunities to win their own service – and thus move into 2nd and third phase rallies which we can proclaim on the web-sites as the strongest advert for our sport.

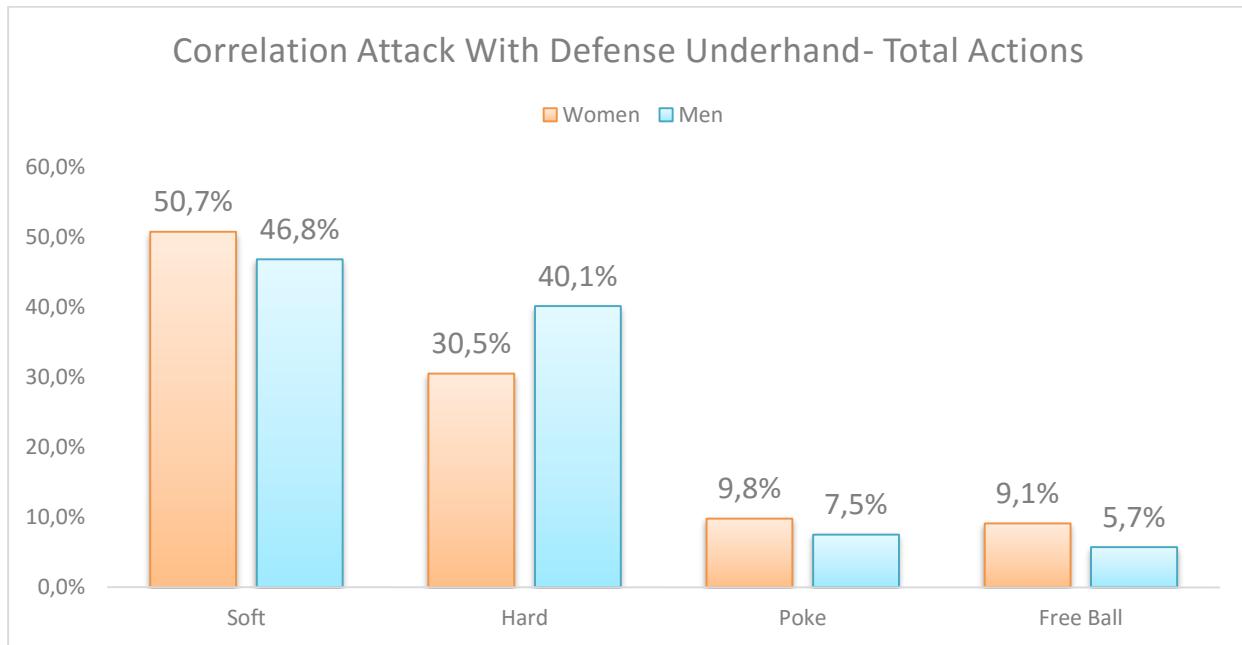
## Eventual Future Approaches

### Correlation Attack – Defense

This correlation tells us the average amount of times that a particular defensive action takes place after a certain type of attack. Note that this percentage assessment is carried out based on a universe of "completed defenses," that is, we exclude all error and kill attack actions, as well as all completed block actions that could interfere in the analysis. In a future study we may be able to further address this correlations as well as the triad attack-block-defense, but this was not the case of the analysis here carried out.

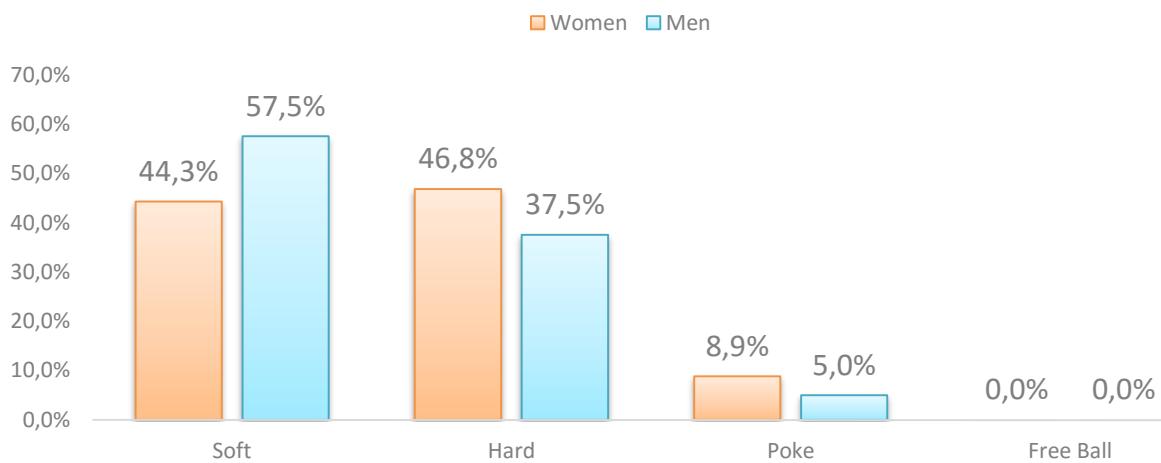
### Attack – Defense Analysis

| Correlation Attack – Defense Underhand | Women  | Men    |
|--|--------|--------|
| Attack Soft                            | 50,7 % | 9,1 %  |
| Attack Hard                            | 30,5 % | 46,8 % |
| Attack Poke                            | 9,8 %  | 7,5 %  |
| Free Ball                              | 9,1 %  | 5,7 %  |



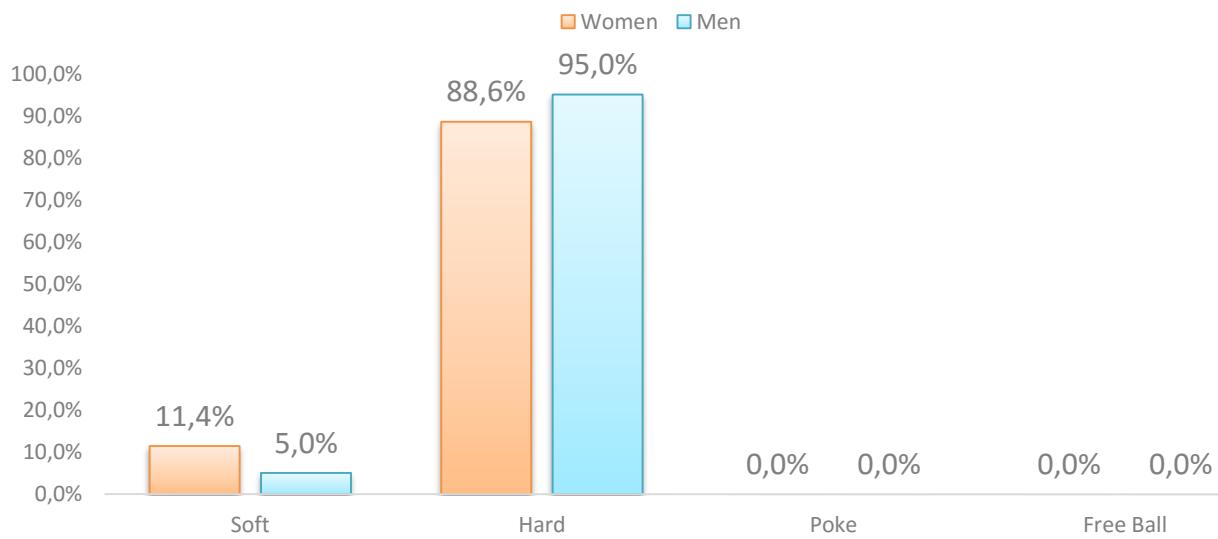
| Correlation Attack – Defense Overhand | Women  | Men    |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Attack Soft                           | 44,3 % | 57,5 % |
| Attack Hard                           | 46,8 % | 37,5 % |
| Attack Poke                           | 8,9 %  | 5,0 %  |
| Free Ball                             | 0,0 %  | 0,0 %  |

### Correlation Attack With Defense Overhand- Total Actions



| Correlation Attack – Defense Overhand with Fingers | Women  | Men    |
|--|--------|--------|
| Attack Soft  | 11,4 % | 5,0 %  |
| Attack Hard  | 88,6 % | 95,0 % |
| Attack Poke  | 0,0 %  | 0,0 %  |
| Free Ball  | 0,0 %  | 0,0 %  |

### Correlation Attack With Defense Over with Fingers- Total Actions



## Attack – Defense all Actions Graphic

