

US SQUASH



WOMEN AND GIRLS' SQUASH

PLAYER PATHWAYS



ACCESS



RETENTION



SPORTSMANSHIP



COMMUNITY

EVENTS

PAST

- October - organize a panel on women and girls' squash at the US Open

CURRENT

- September 18-26, 2021 - Women's Squash Week – gets women back on court after summer and kick off the competitive season; multiple formats in over 30 cities in US and around the world at no charge; engages pros to be focused on women and girls squash initiatives – see Squash is Friendship Brochure
- November 12-14, 2021 - Howe Cup @ The Specter Center– yearly post-collegiate focused team tournament between cities in US and Canada; over 300 women participate in both singles and doubles competitions; multi-generational participation; multiple divisions accommodate beginners to former professionals; for many women this is the only tournament they play all year; see Squash Magazine Article about 2017 event. Launch the Women and Girls' Squash Initiative
- US Nationals – many of our female squash masters' players compete in the age-group and skill-level US nationals and in the World Squash Masters and World Masters Games

EXISTING US SQUASH PATHWAYS

Ages 2-6

Parental Play
Lessons
Clinics



Ages 11-14

Modified Tournaments – Ratings
Competitive Ranking Events: Bronze-JCT
US Junior Open
US Squads
Middle School Nationals
Local and Boarding Camps



College

3 Female Coaches of Men's Teams
6 Female Coaches of Women's Teams
30 Women's Teams
600 Female Players



Ages 7-10

Parental Play
Lessons & Clinics
Modified Tournaments - Ratings
Summer and Holiday Camps
Competitive Events: Bronze-JCT's



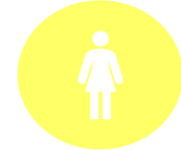
Ages 15-18

Modified and Competitive Ranking Events: Ratings and Bronze-JCT
High School Nationals
Junior National Teams: British Junior Open, Pan Am's, Worlds
Battle of the Borders
College Showcases & Camps



Adult & Pro

Local Play, Women's Squash Week, Howe Cup
US Singles and Doubles Nationals
Women in Sports Day @ US Open
12 Female Teaching Pros in US
Team USA Pro's at the Specter Center
Local US Pro Events
US Open (Equal prize money)



DIFFERENTIATORS & KEY ISSUES

- Differentiators for Women and Girls Squash:
 - Friendship - social is very important component
 - Team formats work well
 - Harder for women to commit to regular playing time due to career and family commitments; need flexible formats
 - Just participating is enough for some, some want competitive situations
- Key Issues
 - Engaging and retaining girls – girls start sports later than boys and 80% of kids quit sports at 15
 - Encouraging participation post college and into adulthood – many take a break for career and family; how do we re-engage them?
 - Getting young adult women to realize the importance that squash networking can have for their careers – working on a network career path
 - Getting college graduates to consider a career in squash – coaching, administrative, professional playing, etc.
 - Girls can reap huge benefits from the discipline and mindset required by playing squash which can translate to improved confidence in academics and their lives in general

NEEDS TO DEVELOP AND RETAIN FEMALE GROWTH

Ages 2-6

Early Development Programs including multi sport coordination options

Launch Tee Partnership

Recruit More Volunteers and Coaches for all age groups



Ages 11-14

Entry and Re entry access points

Recreational fun play options

Local recreational events, team events, non-competitive, inter-club, districts

Middle School Team Development

Female Empowerment Workshops



College

Recruit and develop more female coaches

Create summer coaching internships

Include non-college players locally at clubs

Networking: connect with adult professionals



Ages 7-10

Green Level Education Series

Recreational learn to play fun options

Online programming tools for coaches, volunteers, clubs and schools

Rating based pathway and events



Ages 15-18

Local ½ Day modified & team events

Intra-club and Inter-club individual and team events

Districts and National team events

Mindset Education Programs

High School Team Development

Volunteer/Leadership Programs



Adult & Pro

Coaching Certifications and Community Leaders

Recruit collegiate players to coach

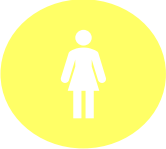
Internship Programs

Community Inclusion and Programs

Continuing Education Programs

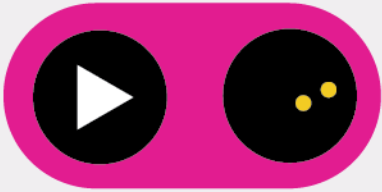
More local events and leagues

Pro Women's Doubles Tour



HOW CAN DISTRICTS HELP?

- What Are You Doing in Your District to Encourage Women and Girls to Play Squash?
 - Provide funding for a Howe Cup team
 - Engage pros to host women and girls focused events and training
 - Offer modified events – round robins, fun day, ratings events
 - Organize middle school and high school teams for girls only teams
- How Can We Help
 - The Women's Squash Fund was established to help fund events in areas that have historically had low participation by women; we'd like to see women's squash grow all over the US – ask us how to apply for a grant
 - We have experience in promoting and running women's events – tap into our experience at USQ and Women's Committee Members all over the US
 - Launch the Women & Girls' US Squash Initiative Nationally to raise funds and implement programs to foster and develop the women's game -
 - WOMEN & GIRLS' SUMMIT @ The Specter Center MAY 2022
 - Provide fun playing opportunities, roundtables/seminars on topics relevant to women and girls squash focusing on development and retention; foster more female coaches and volunteers for schools, colleges and clubs; career development; key female speakers



PLAY
SQUASH