

Q = Cath Bannister (researcher)

A = Finnegan K (tennis coach at Totally Tennis Kids)

Q I'll put the recorder there if that's OK. So we're going to start with some general questions so could you just tell me a bit about your activity group or the coaching and what it does?

A The lesson, the one that we're talking about or generally...

Q In general, the organisation that you sort of work for.

A OK. So Totally Tennis Kids does coaching for kids as young as three years old up to junior levels, so sixteen, seventeen and maybe beyond that as well if they want individual coaching. Myself, I'm more associated with the Totally Tennis side of things which is your primary ages, I guess I would say that is three years old up to eleven years old. That's where I feel like I thrive a bit more. I just enjoy coaching the young kids a bit more, you can have a bit more fun with it, but I enjoy coaching Totally Tennis. I think it's good for kids, for any sport, not just tennis, just to get involved just because it's good for co-ordination, it's good for listening skills, social skills as well, it gets them working with other children not just in a play setting but in a sort of like a teamwork sort of setting, so it just gets them, it's good for their growth and it's just a good influence for a child as they grow up so everything helps in that respect.

Q And is it, the lessons are kind of paid for sessions?

A Yeah so you can have taster sessions when you're with your coming mid-term, you can drop in and see what the sessions are like and you can talk with the administrator and they will set you up for the rest of the term. It is usually block bookings though so all the kids would book on for summer or Easter term and so on.

Q Yeah and has it got kind of like funding from sort of charities or sport foundations or anything like that?

A I'm unsure personally. I know our Totally Tennis Kids has a deal with Ellesse, so all the coaches wear our Ellesse sponsored ??? so we do get them, obviously we don't get them for free we still have to pay for them which is yeah, but it's ??? but as far as the squads are concerned, I know we do get funding of some sort, we do often get new equipment coming in, new racquets, we desperately need some new nets at the moment, just waiting for them to come in. But yeah we do get funding but I couldn't tell you, sorry.

Q OK. That's great and how often does the activity that, how often do the lessons run, are they weekend or weekly for the Totally Tennis?

A So they're weekly sessions. I think we run our usual Totally Tennis, I would say our Totally Tennis reds are sort of like our foundation lesson. We do have like obviously tiny tots which is three years old and we also have Totally oranges and greens but the reds are sort of the foundation if you've not played tennis at a younger age before we will always try you on a Totally red. If they're older, let's say nine or ten, then we'll put them in at a level one

orange or green session but they're weekly lessons. Each lessons an hour at a time. Our tiny tots sessions are 45 minutes just because they do tend to lose interest through no fault of our own they're only three years old or they do get tired quickly so then there you go.

Q Yeah and how many children are in each group or in each session as a rule?

A So we try, as a rule we try and keep the ratio of coaches to players, it's about six players for a coach. So if we have any more we'll try and either get an extra coach on or an assistant coach just as an extra pair of hands. I know I've had lessons, that Sunday session that Zander's in, that used to be about 17 children so it was me and a couple of other coaches at one point it was quite busy. But yeah we try to keep it, a nice group for me coaching would be round about 8-10 kids if I had an assistant and that's just a very manageable match and hopefully an even number.

Q And how often does Zander attend?

A Once a week.

Q Once a week.

A Sunday nine till ten.

Q The types of things that I saw when I came on Sunday was that the types of things that he normally does, that's the sort of structure of the...

A Yeah we always try and, so the sort of the rule of thumb we use is we try and get the racquets in the kids' hands at around the 20 minute mark. We always start with some sort of throwing or coordination based drill, just because if we get them hitting for too long and there's no offence here but like sometimes the kids, it's a level one group, a lot of them do struggle to either make contact or if they can hit the ball over the net it's, we just don't want to get monotonous for them if they're struggling so something like a throwing and catching drill or a reaction based drill which gets them livening up a bit more. I believe we did good old fashioned battle cones on a Sunday which is an easy game to connect to if you fail to hit the ball, you hit the cone on the top, just trying to get your cone back if you lose it, it's just a good little sportsmanship game.

Time: 05:00

Q Yeah and I saw the cups and saucers game as well at the start.

A That's a great little game.

Q It looks really good fun.

A Yean I personally call that one 'Valleys and Volcanoes'.

Q Ah, right.

A Clubs just call them all sorts. Like you go to different clubs and they'll have different names for different games. You'll be like 'Oh you mean Snowballs?', 'No I mean Jail'.

Q Oh that's really interesting.

A Yeah but basically coaches all use the same games and that's the good thing about tennis coaching because you learn off another coach, you pick up drills, you pick up warm-ups that they might have brought from another club. And they are always good to use in different sessions.

Q Oh that's really interesting, so it's like this transmission of games and drills and warm-ups between coaches.

A Yeah well we've had two new coaches start recently and I've learnt a couple of warm-up drills, like one which is a really good one which is basically just sort of stand and keep your legs nice and planted and sort of like strength, sort of like core stability warm up where you sort of basically start with your hands together and you try and push the other person but if you can you sort of like just move your hands away and if they push too much then they fall over. It was just, it was a very simple game and you can definitely do it for five to ten minutes and it would be very fun.

Q And is that sort of a game that's designed to encourage sort of supporting each other or trust or...

A I guess. I think it's a tactical game as well, obviously you don't want to touch too much on as a young player of like four or five they don't want to be thinking about tactics, you want to think fun first and then performance but then as they get older they want to win more and more especially when it comes to tennis so yeah so those sort of games definitely help in that respect.

Q Yeah, one thing as well, just going back to, when we were talking about the Totally reds level, I noticed a few of them had the Totally Tennis red booklets and I also noticed that some of them did they have children's university passports or ...

A Some of them do yeah. I usually have to sign off. It's quite fun for me because I have to sign off these, I get about four or five books handed to me and I've got another session starting afterwards so I'm just trying to sign off on all these and then the sticker books they have, they get a sticker for every time they attend and I think there's about fourteen or sixteen spots in their book for them to fill up. In my opinion it's a bit too many because sometimes they just forget one week to bring their sticker book and so they don't get it and some of them never actually get a prize because they either forget or they just don't have a sticker book so I'd like it to be more like eight or ten just so it's a bit more regular and if they get, if they fill a sticker book out they get a little prize from the front of the club.

Q Oh that's lovely. What sort of thing do they get as a prize?

A We have lots of like Totally Tennis branded accessories so you can have like wristband, you can have absorbers for your racquet, shock absorbers, we have these, I don't think these are very good but they seem to love them for some reason, like little furry tennis buddies I call them, but we've had complaints about them because you can unpeel the feet and they stick on things and kids immediately unpeel it and put it on mum and dad's

favourite coffee table. It just doesn't come off but they love those for some reason. No complaints.

Q So little sort of mascot type things.

A Yeah so like a googly eyes sort of thing. Probably like ten pence at a supermarket.

Q OK. So moving on to some questions about sort of technology and media in the club, does technology or media feature in the group at all?

A Not in the application of the lesson. We use registers which are off a website called 'CoursePro' which is all our day to day for all our players and levels and ratings and what not. We use their website and all the coaches firms they have all the names up. It's listed for each coach so I believe that Sunday, [male coach name] he has a login for CoursePro, all the sessions he sees, oversees, he has access to so he can get that register up, it should just come up on the day so if it's Sunday he'll be the first one, nine o'clock, to click on. But apart from that we don't really use digital devices for lessons. The only instance I can think about using digital device is if I was doing an individual lesson and perhaps wanted to show a player how their serve would look and so obviously I would ask the parents I would ask them first before I film their child and all that, but what I would get them to do is like if they would not bring their shoulder back and try to get their racquets as far back as they can, I'd do a slow-mo video rather than just going here and just saying you need to bring the elbow back and then do a side by side comparison how they were doing at the start and how they were doing at the end.

Q And what would you film that on?

A It would just be my mobile phone, obviously, the parents are there, I'd ask permission and all that just to make sure. But yeah, but apart from that I can't think of any application. Maybe some music, when we warm up we, this is like two years ago, we used a hi-fi, so like a musical warm-up so when the music stopped playing you'd have to find a cone, or a ball and ??? but generally yeah they're not really used in lessons.

Time: 10:00

Q I think that's really interesting yeah when you talk about the using the mobile phone to show the child what they look like.

A Yeah and they're fascinated by the slow-mo aspect of it as well. Because they don't really, well, they may have, but they haven't seen themselves in slow motion, they just half find it hilarious but they do actually take something from it, which is a good sort of ??? that's why again I want to make it more fun first and then performance, just so it gets their attention.

Q That's really interesting, do they like sort of watching themselves?

A Yeah the last couple I've done it with they just, they enjoyed it first and once they're watching it I'd be like not making silly noises, but making, but 'That's an interesting face you've got there, [boy's name]. Is something up?' just to make it fun and then they go 'Can I do it again?' and they obviously want to make it better, next time round and then they're

thinking 'Let's watch that back' and they watch it back and that sort of grabs their interest a bit more.

Q So they watch it back and then they have another go and they watch that back and you sort of build in what they're doing in commentary.

A Yes because, especially when it comes to tennis, it's easy to hit a ball over a net. Obviously we're starting these kids at a younger age and want them to get their technique properly and like, so for example, if I'm saying they're not bringing their racquet over their shoulder enough but they keep saying 'Well it's going over the net so what's the problem?' and well, 'OK, let me try getting a good shot here and I'll film it and then hit the back shot and I'll show you what could go wrong' and I might pause it and one stage where they're just making contact with the ball for example, and I go 'OK which way are the strings pointing? Are they pointing upwards, are they pointing forwards?' Obviously upwards. 'OK, try and bring the strings forwards'. It's a good way of sort of making performance more intriguing just strive and get that technique better, but for group sessions it's not going to be of use because too many kids and you can't concentrate on one kid too much.

Q Is this something other coaches do are you aware or...

A Not enough personally. I'm sure all coaches will have their methods, I know one coach, not really a digital with clients but one coach brings a drum to warm-ups and he'll just start drumming away sort of like how we used the hi-fi back in the day, but he'll drum away and then stop and they'll do something.

Q OK. So we've covered now what sort of technology and do you ever sort of advise the children about any websites they might go on because it sounds like CoursePro is for their parents and so does CoursePro contain the details of what they'll be doing week on week?

A I don't believe it does. The CoursePro will just show their child's advancement so to speak.

Q Oh right, OK.

A So it will be, I believe we do it every month. It just shows, it's a very basic layout it'll have an area for attendance, behavior and all that jazz and it'll also have performance on their footwork for example. Are they turning before they hit the ball? Not really, fair, improving and very well and ??? which I'll click on whatever they're doing but obviously as weeks go by, as months go by I'll slowly start building that up if they're doing well, but it's just good for parents like to see them actually making that progress on paper, instead of just on the court and parents obviously are going to use that. I run Totally Tennis match plays as well which is a monthly session and that's run through the LTA, that's like an LTA run event and I always implore kids to, well, parents as well, but other children to use it to look on the website, try and find any match plays in the area that ??? and then once the results are done I shoot them off to the LTA, they go on the website and see how they've done, see how they've affected their rating and then usually one person has an issue with their score, that's just people being people I guess.

Q So how do the match plays work? Are they sort of like Totally tournaments or competitions or...

A Yeah so I do run junior match plays as well, but it's interesting for Totally Tennis because we encourage competition at any level, you don't have to be the best player to compete. I know the last match play I did I had three children doing it as their first match play and they were a bit unsure on scoring so I had to go sort of where you serve from first and all of them had a shaky start just because they weren't used to it but they did enjoy it at the end just because we try and make it a bit more of a fun activity and for Totally Tennis red and orange, so for five to seven, eight year olds, you improve your rating by just competing in the tournaments in the match plays, so it doesn't matter if you win or lose, we always tell them that the fact that you've come here will affect your rating. But when you get to Totally green that's when the ratings start having a prominence, so if you win your matches you'll increase, if you lose your matches you'll stay at the same rating.

Time: 15:37

Q Oh OK.

A But it's just a good way of introducing kids to that level of competing especially at a Totally red level. I always try and follow my Totals reds up just because it's more of a fun Saturday afternoon. It's just when it gets to the greens and they actually start like having rivalries and things when they're actually playing.

Q Oh right, it sounds exciting.

A Yeah and I've got another one in two weeks time, it's a very busy one so I'm already stressed about that.

Q So the children can go on the website and they can see where they are and do they share that information with their peers or...

A Oh yeah I've had a, after this last play that I've just done, ??? red or orange but I had players who trained in Totally green just requesting that they don't play each other and I think for them it's sort of a [Tennis club name] vs other clubs mindset and I always tell them that I think it's quite good if you do play each other because it's just have that competition between the two players because academies are always looking for the best players at that level to sort of push for national teams and to push for Sheffield and District competitions. So if we actually see them playing each other on a non-bias stage then it's good for us ??? but for them as enjoying tennis sort of thing, they don't want to play their mates. So...which is fine, I can sort of understand that.

Q Right and how old are Totals greens, just to...

A So the Totally Tennis red would be five to six, maybe seven, it depends on how old they are in their academic year. Seven to eight for Totals oranges and then Totals greens is a, we usually introduce Totals greens about eight or nine years old. It also depends on their performance level. If a Totally orange is doing particularly well in their group we can always up them up to Totals greens just so they can have that level of competition that they want but we're always going to have nine or ten year olds that haven't played tennis before that are going to a green level one session and just sort of struggle, you know. And on that Sunday I do a Totally green session with [coach name] and it is basically two little groups either a one

point one group as we say and [coach name] has the one point two, just because there's just such a gap in performance and it's not the fault of the kids, it's just we got half of them haven't really played tennis before and half of them have been in our programme since Totally reds so they already have that performance. But we still make it fun. We still make it fun.

Q Yeah. Does Totally Tennis or the organization have any kind of policy about using technology or when you do things like the coaching website is that more of a local thing to you or...

A It's not really a policy of ours for, we just make sure, for example, our syllabus that you asked us about, what we would be coaching for that term, we all, like the first lesson of every term, we do like a leaflet handout to parents who are in attendance. It'll be either a coach or the lead coach on the day will just talk to the parents one by one and explain what we're doing. As far as the websites go, especially for like competitions which is the one we all use apart from CoursePro, which, I guess CoursePro will be mentioned in that first brief, we always just say 'Check the LT website. You can contact directly through the club if you want to compete but it's much easier to go through the website because then you can just pay online and show up on the day'. Yeah, we don't really have policies centered around it.

Q Are there any technology or sort of media that you would like to use in Totally Tennis or in the coaching sessions if you had the funding or if it was more possible to do it?

A Well one thing I know that I think is on the horizon and lots of not just junior members but club members in general have been asking for is a ball machine. We used to have a ball machine and I think the reason we stopped using it is just because it was so sought after; everyone wanted to use it. I'm pretty sure we are getting a new one but it's, if we had that sort of, especially as a single coach it's just a very handy implement to use because if you're a coach and you're coaching on your own with some players, you'll be on one side of the net feeding in balls after balls after balls and you can't really take in their shot, that kind of forehand from whatever angle. So I think just having a ball machine in that regard would be very helpful. It obviously wouldn't be helpful for Totally reds or Totally oranges if a faster ball was coming at them. Apart from, maybe for some, I wouldn't mind being able to sort of use a hi-fi for every lesson for like musical movements, not at the start of the lesson, maybe at the end because we always finish our tennis lesson with games of some sort. So if we had some standard music on just to make the atmosphere a bit more lively and we've got our Christmas Totally Tennis party coming up in about three weeks' time and we'll always have music on for that, get dressed up and make it fun.

Time: 21:00

Q That sounds really good fun.

A Yeah I mean I've been an elf for three years in a row.

Q Have you?

A I'll probably be an elf this year.

Q What kind of music do they like, that age group? Is it your choice or is it their choice?

A It's all, well I also do a junior social tennis and I always put on music for that in like just social periods and I just put on just chart stuff and it's just the stuff they know. Obviously these kids are twelve, thirteen at this stage but you've obviously got to make sure it's clean, it's not explicit, but apart from that, anything that's popular they like. I think we'll probably put the Frozen soundtrack on for the Christmas party just because everyone likes Frozen.

Q Oh right so the Disney musical tunes and things like that.

A Yeah and I like that as well, so.

Q Yeah. Just going back to the ball machine. I will hold my hands up and say I don't know an awful lot about tennis. Ball machines when I've seen them have been quite sort of big things. Have they moved on?

A Yeah they have. They've got smaller and ball machines used to be just sort of like a set path, so the tube would be pointing that way and it would be at one speed all the time and all that would change would be the direction and I think in the ones that you can get nowadays, you can get smaller ones that fire out a slower ball and you can just choose the height of it ??? and you can control how fast the ball comes over. The only issue with using a ball machine, if we have one ball machine is the fact that we've only got one ball machine to spare between all the coaches, so I think members would want to use it more for social aspects. I'm not sure, I mean we'll probably get it anyway and use it for special occasions but as far as Totally Tennis coaching is concerned I don't think we'd need one because coaches, nine times out of ten, if it's a busy session will have a assistant coach who is competent at feeding, they can take one court and the coach can take another court. It's not, we don't really need it for coaching juniors, but I just think it's the only way of adding digital sort of ways to coaching kids, so...

Q Are they, like do you control them remotely or anything like that or are they still...

A I'm not sure on that front. I wouldn't have thought it was remotely, I'm pretty sure you would have to manually aim it, but yeah, not sure. I haven't actually seen one since we had one here about five and a half years ago.

Q Yeah. OK. I'm going to move onto some questions relating to Zander, how does, or has Zander ever used sort of tech or media during coaching sessions? Have you ever done slow mo videos of Zander?

A No. Again I would only use the slow mo videos in my individual sessions. As far as I know Zander has always turned up with a bottle of water and a tennis racquet and a smile on his face.

Q OK. So and I think we were talking about just sort of about using tech and media quite sort of creatively, can you think of any instances where you know Zander's been sort of involved in using any sort of devices or tech creatively during the session?



A No. To be honest our sessions don't use really any tech. The only instance I can think of is if Zander's here early on a Sunday and he might sit on the side with his dad and just go on his phone or something but in terms of actually contributing to the lessons then no not especially.

Q OK then, that's fine. So some of these questions then may not relate about when Zander's playing with technology if you've ever sort of engaged with him when he is, that would not be something that would happen during the sessions.

A No. None of the kids really bring anything digital.

Time: 25:00

Q OK. Do you think there's any kind of technology or media that might work well for playing with Zander if you can think of any examples of something that might work well for playing with him.

A Only digital technology?

Q Or media, so media can include things like films or you know popular culture, things like...

A I guess, well I think an easy example would be any time there's a big tennis tournament on like locally I know the Davis Cup just finished recently from Great Britain we just implore kids to watch the tennis, try and find the tennis on telly. Nine times out of ten they won't realize that Wimbledon's on at the moment, or tennis is on or whatever, but we just try and say 'This weekend is the Wimbledon final so you should try and watch it guys. The biggest tennis payers are playing'. Because that's sort of, I mean that's how I got into tennis by watching the big players play each other and I just thought 'I want to do that' so if it can work for me surely it can work for the next generation. Yeah obviously younger players know players like Andy Murray, Roger Federer and it's just making sure that they stay in touch with who else is on the scene and who else can inspire them. Yeah I think just getting to stay in touch with bigger tennis news I guess, probably just like just watching big matches, the Wimbledon final is always an easy one but that's because it's the biggest event on the calendar. Yeah, I can't think of anything else.

Q And do you get feedback that they've watched it? Do they ever...

A One or two really keen ones will say that they watched this match or they watched that match. Again, they don't really tend to take notice of that sort of thing at like ten or eleven years old. I know I coached a twelve year old whose favourite player is like a fairly under noticed player in the grand scheme of things but he just loves this guy watching all his matches and yeah I just like that he takes interest in it. I just think that it helps his development.

Q Yeah. Speaking of helping development, thinking about Zander in relation to Totally Tennis, how do you sort of, we're kind of interested in understanding how it might help sort of develop his skills and his knowledge, so can you think of any kind of examples where what he does at his sessions you may have noticed has helped develop or is designed to develop certain skills like physical skills, ??? skills and things like that.

A You mean the ones that we've introduced in our ???

Q Yeah, yeah.

A We like to think the warm ups we do at the start sort of get kids clicking with what we're doing on that day, so for example a warm up that requires reaction based skills like trying to catch one of two balls after they've bounced would be based on movement, trying to move quickly and then we might do one that's just sort of based on throwing, maybe a bit of accuracy, sort of how we did the battle cones and sort of trying to think about how you aim, not just a throw or a swing, just how we aim our racquet on our ball that we hit. In terms of Zander, he's only been coming since the start of this last term I believe or the term before so he's still relatively new as a player to the session and he has like he has definitely made improvements, he's one of the more coordinated players we've got. Definitely ??? movement, actually he's very fast on court and now it's just translating that into being fast and getting to that tennis ball and then making sure he can stop with that racquet behind us so sort of running to it, swiping it and hoping for the best. But yeah you do see a change in the games that we do and kids do learn to like certain games as well. Nine times out of ten we will finish with 'Jungle's on Fire' which is basically Dodgeball or things like 'Jailbreak' which is just trying to catch a ball ??? and yeah kids just get favourite games. Some of them I hate playing.

Q Really? Which do you hate?

A Well it's because I play them all the time I guess. There's one called 'Cabbages' which is basically if they miss the ball they sit down on the court. They still play tennis and it's sort of knowing my level one group they'll hit the first shot and miss the second one and then they'll just be sat down for the rest of the time which is like 'I'd rather you be running about to be honest'.

Q Yeah.

A But they love that game for some reason, so...

Q Yeah. Which games do you notice that Zander particularly likes?

Time:29:45

A Again, everyone likes 'Jungle's on Fire', I think maybe because we, well, every player gets an animal and then you call out the animals and the animals run across and you try and hit them with a sponge ball but if they, if we shout 'Jungle's on Fire' then everyone runs and it's, it's not like a controlled game. I think the fact kids like it is because it's a chance for them to sort of go nuts for like ten seconds and run across the court. There's another good game that they like, I think I made it on the day actually, on that Sunday which is called 'Snowballs', which is when they, it's a good game of sort of competing but trying to get them to concentrate and it's one player at a time has to roll a sponge ball towards the tennis net and they have to get the ball as close to the net as they can without it actually touching and it's nine times out of ten they'll just roll it too hard and it will just go straight into the net, but every so often you get that perfect roll which is about two centimeters away and it's just like 'I can't believe it didn't hit. That's the closest roll I've ever seen'. And just

like they really like that sort of stuff, the fact that they did it and it's almost a perfect roll. But other games kids like...there's one called 'Stopwatch' which is similar to 'Jailbreak' so you have one team which is running against the watch and then one other team is trying to get any forehands over as they can and it's just a good little competing game because this team runs, this team hits and once they're done they swap it round and that team runs and that team hits. It's just good competition.

Q Do you notice what his mood is like when he's playing Totally Tennis? Is he quite enthusiastic or...

A He's enthusiastic on court. I do actually remember on that Sunday, you'll always have kids that know the answer to questions and they always stick their hand up straight away but I always try to see if I can get the quieter kids who I think do know the answer but who just don't want to put their hand up but they know it and I think Zander's one of them kids. Like I asked him, at one point four or five hands went up and I was like Zander do you know this one and he gave me almost the correct answer he just didn't know how to put it into words. I did know what he was talking about though. He, yeah I think he's just sometimes he's a bit shy to voice his opinion in fear of getting it wrong which is fine with children but yeah, very enthusiastic when it comes to playing though, good.

Q So do you think it's got a benefit then for his emotional skills or sort of emotional wellbeing?

A Yeah I think for confidence building as well, especially and I think I mentioned either it's just a good tennis, especially in these lessons, it's just a good social side for kids as well. It's not just playing in the playground it's just trying to get a, if they get like a rally of ten with the coach they'll run off and go to the other kids 'I got ten' and another one'll be like 'I've got six,' which is, so it sort of gets them conversing about it and trying to one up each other, you know.

Q Oh, OK, so they sort of get a sense of pride and the competition sort of fosters talking to one another and...

A Yeah and obviously they'll sometimes get sneery with it and be like 'Well I got twelve' you know. I mean in a good way that's healthy for them I guess, it's competing, but kids can sometimes get carried away with it and get a bit over zealous but yeah, I don't mind them doing that. It gets them you know engaged and wanting to get better.

Q So we've looked at whether you ever sort of initiate player activities with tech with the case study child that doesn't tend to happen, I think you were saying. I just wondered how do you think, do you ever sort of sense or get a sense from knowing Zander whether he's drawing or taking from experiences he's had outside the club or knowledge of tech or media which can be things like films or TV or things like that. Do you ever get a sense that he's drawing on those experiences while he's here at all?

A I can't really tell on the tech side. I do get a feeling from like the kit he turns up in and when he turns up with his dad I feel like he probably plays some form of sport or does active, takes part in activities and his dad seems very keen on it which is good so I think that he likes bouncing off his dad's enthusiasm for a bit which is always good. Yeah I just get that feeling he's a very active kid, probably does, probably plays football in the playground

with his friends. On the tech side I'm not sure. It's very hard to get a read on that sort of thing, just on court.

Q Do you get any sense of like any brands that he likes or anything that he might have watched or...?

A He usually wears like a grey hoody, I think it's like a Nike brand. Again, the fact that he turns up in that kit is sort of evident to me that he loves taking part, he loves the sort of, he just finds it fun I guess. Sports, which is you don't have to be a winner to enjoy sport, it's the competing that's the fun bit so...

Time: 35:15

Q OK. So there's just some final questions now just about your own thoughts on technology. Do you think any technologies or media are particularly positive for the children who may be anything that you can think of that might be positive as part of a club activity, as part of the activities that you do or any that might be particularly negative?

A You mean generally as a ???

Q Yeah generally, in relation to the activity, but also...

A I think...I think platforms like, I think YouTube can be a good way, obviously everything's on YouTube. You can basically see a video for everything but I have seen kids like get guidance on ??? forehand, not the Totally reds, or Totally oranges, but they do sort of learn off that in their spare time. Like watching highlights of a certain match or watching the best moments of this player or that tennis player.

Q And do they mention that at the sessions?

A Mainly at my Totally socials, yeah. I've got one kid called [boy's name] who always turns up, he's like 'OK I've been watching Milos Raonic's best hard court moments' and ??? OK yeah, go for it [boy's name].

Q Do you ever watch any YouTube videos about tennis or coaching?

A So for the last big tournament that was on, well the Davis Cup, the US Open was recently on and the you had to watch the US Open on Amazon Prime ??? responsibilities for it so I don't have Amazon Prime so I used YouTube sneakily to see like poorly edited highlights of tennis matches. Yeah, I might use it ever so often for not just tennis just like for football highlights or whatever just because it interests me, it's a good thing to put on. As far as other applications I can't really think of anything else to be honest. I'm not too sure.

Q Are you aware of any tennis apps or anything like that?

A The LTA has an app, but that and its website are pretty poor. I'm not going to lie, they just don't work. I can't think, no, tennis is, it doesn't really have that sort of popular side of it like football does or...

Q So it's like an image thing as well?

A Yeah, I mean tennis isn't the flashiest sport in the world. Obviously you've got like football and in the states they've got NFL and they've got Basketball which is way more showy and tennis I think has that sort of, definitely has a class issue about it. It's a very middle class sport I'm not going to lie. Not everyone has access to a tennis court or to the [Tennis Club name] so, but if you want to play football you've just got to go into your back garden and kick a ball around.

Q Yeah.

A Yeah I think tennis hasn't got that much exposure and I think it will do at some point with new players coming in and new generation of players, but yeah, I don't think it has many applications.

Q Oh right, so just sort of speculating then maybe do you think that the status that tennis has impacts on the fact that maybe people aren't creating these things because of how tennis is sort of perceived?

A Well obviously the country goes nuts about once a year for tennis and that's when Wimbledon's on. Apart from that it's just everyone else is either watching football or cricket's huge here as well. I think it will reach that stage at one point but it's just hard to sort of tell when that is.

Q So how important do you think technology is or access to media and digital devices is involved for children in general? Do you think that it's important for them to have that you know to play with them or to use them, or less important or...?

A I think it's important to have the access. Obviously you shouldn't leave it up to the children to designate how much time they have with that application or whatever. You don't want your kids staying up all night watching things on YouTube and things. Obviously they need a cut-off point. But I think it's important they do sort of keep their foot in the door with that sort of aspect. Just, yeah, I don't know, it's, with things like obviously kids will play a lot of sports and games and things, you have like games like FIFA for like sports for like football fans which helps them keep in touch with who the big names are and all that sort of thing. Again, that's different for tennis because it hasn't got the exposure. I think it is important that it's used but I think it's up to parents or guardians to control how much time is used.

Time: 40:25

Q Are there any tennis games? The only thing I can think of is sort of like the Wi Sports and stuff like that.

A Yeah that looks fun. There are tennis games. I think the issue with tennis though is it's harder for people to get sucked into a tennis game, as opposed to a football game because in football you can enter a team, you can bring people into your team out of your team. If you have a tennis game it's basically pick a guy, play a tournament or something and that's it. There's just not much spec to it and there are tennis games, they just don't, you know, they don't appeal as much to everyone. I like a tennis game.

Q Have you got any kind of concerns about children's experiences with technology or with media?

A I mean yeah I guess I would. I mean I don't know if it's a bad concern or not – I don't know if that makes sense – but just it's just something I don't understand sometimes. Recently about six months ago I went on a trip with the club to La Manga which is like a tennis tournament sort of trip, a few coaches went along, ten or so players and if we weren't on the tennis court practicing they were in the villa. Not the outside, where we had an outside, but they were in the villa playing Minecraft on their iPads or something or just playing on their Wiis or whatever and yeah I just didn't quite get that side of it because if I were their age in sunny Spain I'd be in the pool every day and just trying to get like 100 or so ??? with my dad. Yeah, I think that's just changed slightly. Every kid has access to an iPad these days and I'll be doing tennis lessons and brothers and sisters of players will be sat on the side, just sort of iPadding away and I mean again, I liked doing games as well when I was younger and things like that but everyone's just lost touch with other things that we like to do. Yeah. I'm unsure. I wouldn't say it's a concern but I just don't understand.

Q Right. How old were the players on the trip?

A On the trip? They went from about eight years old to thirteen. So it was a big, a couple of the older ones went outside every so often but the younger ones were just, surprising for me, didn't go outside, just watched telly or go on their phones or whatever so...

Q Can I just sort of ask how old you are?

A Twenty-six.

Q Twenty-six. So did you play or game particularly when you were younger?

A Yeah. It was a console, so it was nothing we could take out and about and play. Obviously we didn't have phones when we were eight or nine but every kid seems to have a phone now at nine years old or ten years old.

Q So it's the portability?

A Yeah. I think it's the fact that they can do it anywhere. Like for me if I was going to a park or something I'd have to, well, not that I'd want to play football but I'd just play football because that's what you would do but now you can just take your phone and your Nintendo or whatever it is and just play wherever you like and fair enough if you want to do that but...

Q Are there any kind of, do you have any safety concerns about technology or internet enabled devices or toys and things like that or any concerns about safety or maybe data privacy or things like that?

A There are obviously going to be dangers in that aspect if you give a child or a kid a mobile device so they can go onto any website if they want and put in any details in that they wanted to then I think yeah, there's obviously a danger. It's probably, it can be handled if a guardian or someone puts a lock on the internet or just stays on top of it. Yeah there's always threats in that aspect but I know it's very easily handled. Easily handled.

Q Yeah. So do you think children's use of technology or media impacts positively or negatively on their lives? Have you noticed any impact on children's lives more widely from the children that you've observed from the tennis lessons that you get to know through the tournaments and things like that? What kind of impact do you think it has?

A I'm not really sure to be honest. Do you mean for like competing and playing Match plays and things?

Time: 45:00

Q I think, perhaps what we were just talking about really maybe about when you were away on the tournament and they were using the devices when they sort of you could see alternatives. Can you see any positives coming from tech that they ...

A I mean yeah I guess they like they won't often be sat in a group and be talking about stuff. I think for them it's just a good social aspect which I can totally understand because they sort of, all bunched on the sofa and just still talking but either talking to each other via whatever they were looking at but just sort of half talking, half playing. And it is like a social thing for them. Yeah but apart from that I can't really see how it would affect them.

Q OK, there's just a few questions left now. The last questions are just sort of thinking about technology and media and wellbeing. So, do you have any thoughts on any connection between play with technology or exposure to media or digital toys and children's emotions? Have you got any general thoughts about their emotional wellbeing in relation to the kind of tech and devices that they use these days?

A Can you repeat that sorry?

Q Just wondering about the, if you think or have any thoughts on whether there might be any connection between children's sort of emotional, mental health I suppose and wellbeing and using technology?

A I guess you could argue that someone who's more socially awkward would probably feel more comfortable talking to someone through their phone or just keeping to themselves. Obviously platforms like YouTube and Twitter and things can let someone just sort of go to that sort of on their own sort of space and just sort of concentrate on one thing which isn't exactly a sort of healthy thing to do, but again you can socialise through these platforms. Facebook's great. I use Facebook for keeping in touch with friends still and so I know that works. Yeah I think just things like YouTube, just the internet in general can just be a place where kids forget how to socialize properly and just sort of talk to each other through a screen without the consequences of actually talking to them face to face. Yeah.

Q But I also think it's interesting that you mentioned how somebody that might be socially awkward might actually use it to sort of communicate as well.

A Yeah. Actually I was talking about this the other day with someone. One of their friends just saw a show the other day about how two people in America just were getting married but they'd been talking in a chat room for eight years and they were getting married and it was, I mean it works for some people I guess clearly. Yeah I think it does, yeah people

can comfortably talk to each other on line, through chat rooms and whatever and if that works for them then that's fine you just need to realise that you don't get the social, you don't get the behavioural stuff from a screen so it's probably not as good.

Q So can you think of any types of technology that lead to more social play? Like actually encourage...

A Things like, well I don't use it anymore just because I found them annoying to wear, but things like FitBits and I use this app called 'Strada' which is a fitness app and you can add friends and things that are also on Strada and you can share your fitness details, how far you ran today, that sort of stuff. It has like a little plotted map you can find on line. That's good. I like it as a competing thing, I ran this far today or I burned this many calories. Obviously that's not going to appeal to a ten or twelve year old as much but...

Q Are you aware that any of them have FitBits or anything like that then?

A I've seen some of the older players, fourteen, fifteen wear FitBits. That's just, it's like a glorified watch so for them it's like time, oh that's my heart rate, just things like that. It's very fashionable for kids to be wearing that sort of thing.

Q OK. Can you think of any sort of technology that you're aware of because I'm very aware that there isn't an awful lot of tech that can be used in your sessions but have you ever kind of gathered anything that they're more likely to get bored with, what they don't favour through...

A In tennis lessons?

Q Yeah.

A The kids always want to get their racquets as quick as they can. They like holding their racquet. If they're just sitting and watching a demonstration they'll have their racquet and just be going like that which we always try and discourage them...

Q Oh so they wave it about, yeah.

Time: 50:00

A They'll just have a like, OK, I'll say for example, 'Why is it bad to do this shot as opposed to this shot?' and instead of telling me they'll stand up and go like 'Because of this and that' and I'm just like 'Watch out for the other kids. Keep your racquet on the floor'.

Q That's really interesting. Have they got any like moves that they do with the racquets like spinning them and stuff?

A They like, obviously as a tennis coach you don't want to put things into their heads that they can try and copy, so you don't want to be on court flipping a racquet around because they'll try and do it and it just never works. They always try to spin it on their finger, or if it's not a tennis racquet they'll try and have a ball in their hand and bounce it and bounce it and hit it off their foot and run after it. Yeah, they just love to fiddle with things especially when listening to someone talking. They just love having something in their hands.



Q So thinking about just a couple of more questions really about you, the kids in the sessions and you can see them getting excited and expressing enjoyment at what they're doing and things like that. Can you think of any certain types of play generally with technology that are likely to lead to these kind of, get them excited, get children sort of enjoying themselves?

A I mean games these days can be more fitness orientated, I mean like WiiFit and things and ??? controllers probably got kids more engaged in that sort of aspect. No apart from that, not really. I think sort of media, it's designed for you to concentrate on it and you can't really do anything else.

Q Right, so it may be that you're concentrating on it that in comparison to, because thinking about the comparison between digital play and what you do which is encouraging active physical activity on a court and...do you think there's any kind of like emotions they might experience playing tennis or feelings of enjoyment that they may not experience on digital technology.? What sort of things will they get out of it?

A If they hit a milestone, say like a rally of ten, that'll be big for a child who's just playing tennis, who's just learning. Obviously kids will have like high scores on videos and things that they're trying to achieve, which is the same ballpark I guess. But it's just, from my point of view anyway, it's just nice to see a kid get a ten and really enthusiastic parents go 'I got it, I got it!'

Q Oh so they go to their parents for the interaction then?

A Yeah or they go to the other players and say 'I got twelve points' or...

Q OK and how does that compare with say when you were observing the kids on holiday when they were playing the games when they were playing on the devices? Did you see any kind of similar reactions when you were in the villa with them?

A I think for them that was sort of a social hangout sort of thing, that's something like what they'd do outside of school. I think for some kids here like they'd just think 'OK, this is my Wednesday. I've got tennis lesson after Wednesday' so I think for them they don't really turn off and start relaxing until they get home and then they can go back in their room and whatever, but if they're at the tennis club, they know they're there because their mum and dad's taken them. Some kids obviously act out sometimes and just don't want to be there but for some kids they obviously want to be there to show their mum and dad how they're doing and show them how well they're doing. I think the way it's different is just because you can have kids hanging out and just doing it for fun ??? device and their parents have taken the kids and the kids want to show their parents that they're getting better and the parents really bounce off that, so...

Q OK that's great. Just before we close, have you got any further sort of thoughts that you'd like to share that have come out of the interview today or anything you can think of?

A No. I think that's it, Yeah.

Q OK, well thank you ever so much for your time.

A      No worries.