



***Tennis Foundation's Survey & Plans for
2017***

Journey of the network programme

- **2012 YouGov survey**
 - Lack of profile – $\frac{3}{4}$ of disabled people didn't know of a TC near to them
 - Negative perceptions – too fast, too hard, too expensive
 - Charismatic individuals have contributed to engaging & retention of players
- **2012 – 2013 Disability Tennis Hubs**
- **2013 – 2016 Disability Tennis Networks**
- **Present** - Sport England proposal

Survey methods



Online survey (24th May – 24th June 2016)

- 127 tennis players and parents (participants in Tennis Foundation activities)
 - 85 were players aged 16+;
 - 42 were parents/ guardians/relatives/ carers of players
- 97 tennis coaches, 65 reported coaching disabled people
- 45 venue staff



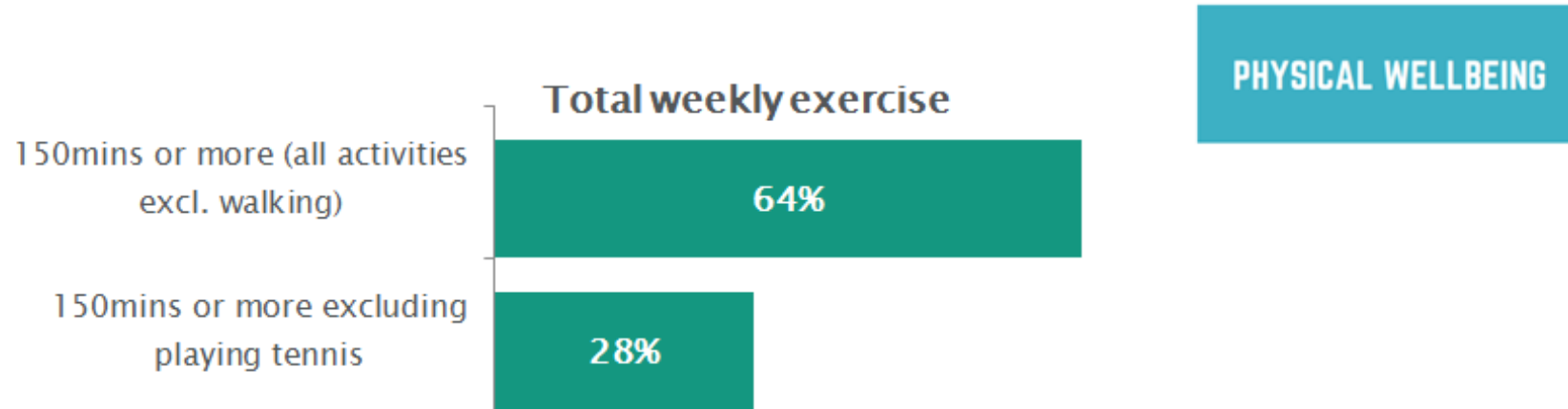
Ethnographic site visits (July 2016)

Venue	Type of session
Surbiton	Learning disability tennis
Shrewsbury	Wheelchair tennis
Grantham	Wheelchair tennis
Sussex	Visually impaired tennis

Survey results

- Focusing on Sport England/DCMS 5 Key Outcomes:
 - Physical Wellbeing
 - Mental Wellbeing
 - Individual Development
 - Social & Community Development
 - Economic Development

Tennis brings 1 in 5 out of inactivity

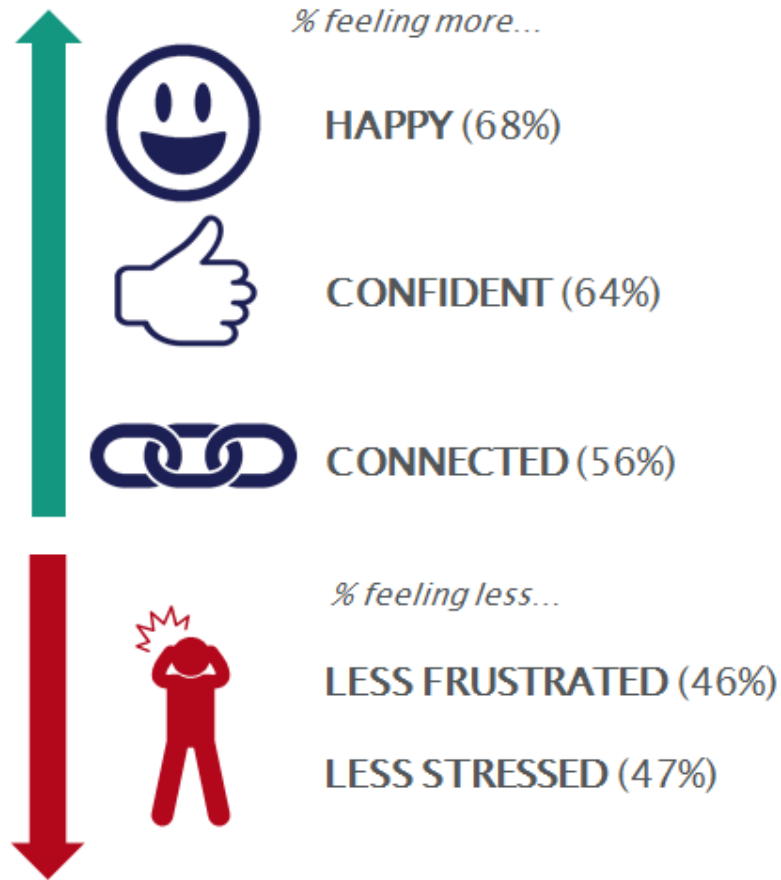


36% would **miss the Chief Medical Officer's guidelines** (150mins or more high or medium intensity activity) if not playing tennis



20% – **“inactive”** if playing tennis and walking were not included

Tennis has shown to Increase Mental Health Wellbeing



MENTAL WELLBEING

"I'm a lot calmer. It's very good for your mental health as well. You can just go out there and blast as many tennis balls as you need. At the end of the session you feel like you've done something as well. You have this massive sense of accomplishment at the end of each session."

Player, wheelchair tennis, Grantham

"He has friends here which he values hugely and he thinks that he can do stuff. This is an environment in which he feels relatively comfortable. He's much more confident."

Player's parent, learning disability tennis, Surbiton

Tennis helping to support Independence & Belonging



Current barriers to participation



64% of players say they are members of a tennis club

"You have to work out which bit am I appropriate to, which bit fits me? It [the Tennis Foundation website] gave me the wobbles when I looked at it those years ago."

Player, wheelchair tennis, Shrewsbury

Biggest barriers to participation



FINDING PLAYERS OF A SIMILAR ABILITY (38%)

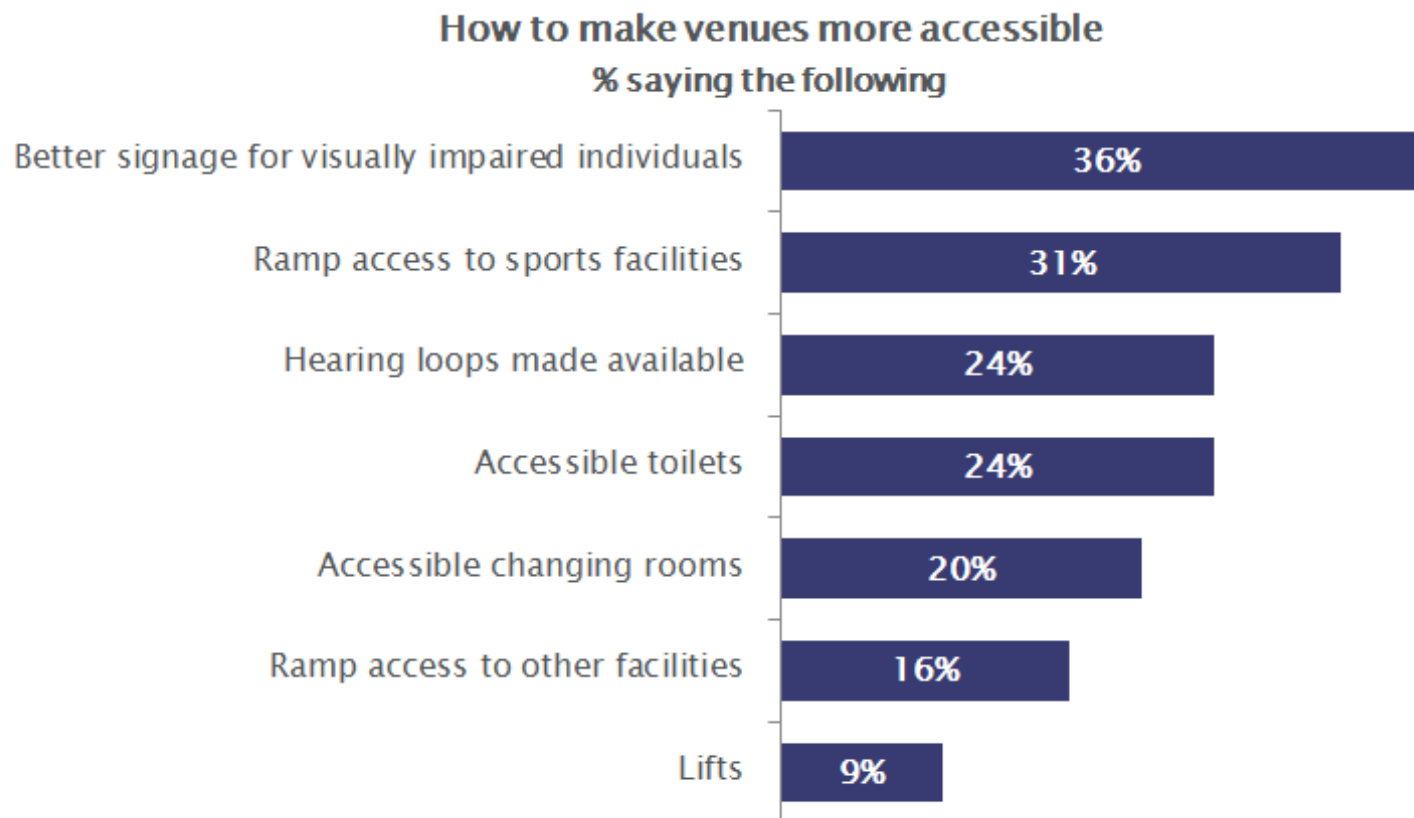


COST OF LESSONS (27%)



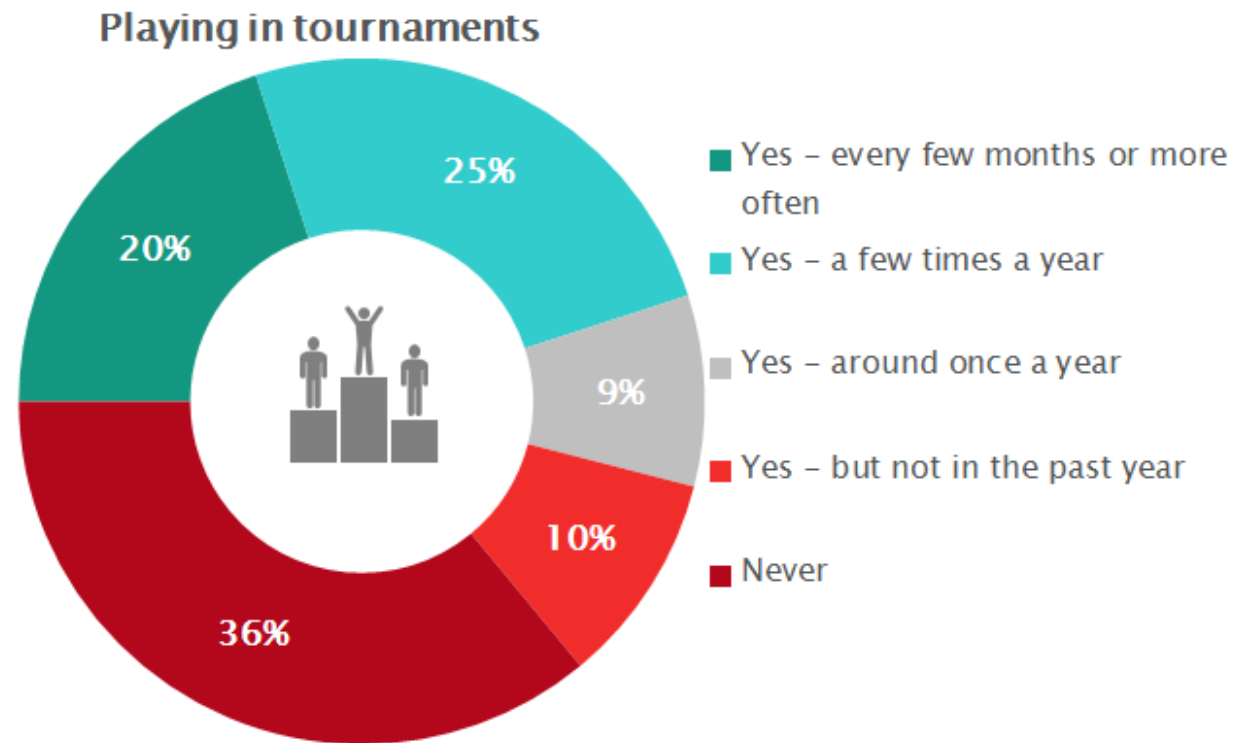
TRAVEL TO THE VENUE (25%)

How can we support venues to be accessible?



Competition

A third of players have never competed



Barriers to competition?

Biggest barriers to participating in competitions



NOT ENOUGH TAKING PLACE NEARBY (43%)



TOO EXPENSIVE (27%)



DO NOT HAVE TIME TO PLAY (26%)

Recommendations from networks

✓ Tennis Foundation is having a **genuine, positive impact** for its' players

**TO CONTINUE AND EXPAND YOUR SUCCESS:
MAKE IT EASY, MAKE IT SIMPLE, MAKE IT HEARD ABOUT**

- Increase **awareness, promote programmes and competitions** – eg. through schools and local networks, centralised list & easier sign up process, clearer website
- **Support** venues and centres (and competitions) with accessibility
- **Badges** to help incentivise and celebrate progression
- **Funding** for VI tennis balls

Tennis Foundation 2017 suggested plans

- Continue with the network programme
- Club engagement – focused & engaged venues in partnership with LTA
- Develop junior WC tennis - supporting pilot venues
- Coaching & Workforce
- Develop a more inclusive competition framework for four impairment groups

Thank you for listening

