



Growing the Game

Squash Around The World

Why Is there So Much Attention on this Sport ?

- Squash is a **U.S. Olympic Committee Schedule C sport** and is contested in the Pan Am Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, African Games, University Games and World Games.
- Squash is considered **the number one fitness activity** based on strength, agility, cardiovascular fitness, and convenience. Professional squash players are amongst the most fit athletes in the world.
- Ranked by Forbes Magazine as the **#1 healthiest sport** for fitness, agility and safety
- 1,400,000 squash players in the USA
- **Fastest growing racquet sport** in the USA
- Differentiator for **college admissions**



Squash In The United States

Squash is the Faster Growing Sport in the US?

- **United States has the fastest growing squash participation worldwide** Source: Sports & Fitness Industries Association (SFIA).
- SFIA shows **115% growth overall** between 2008 and 2013 to more than 1.4 million squash players.
- **Geographic growth is strong.** In the years 2010-2013, West Coast tournaments experienced a **375% increase** in the number of tournaments with a **55% increase** in number of players per tournament.
- For past 10 years, US Squash membership has grown on average over **11% per year.**

Squash Among American Youth

Squash is One of the Hottest Junior Sports...

United States (2010 to 2014):

- US Squash Junior accredited tournaments grew from 110 to 156, **42% growth**
- The number of accredited matches played grew from 14,270 to 20,305, concurrently **42% growth**
- Overall junior participation grew from 9,048 to 11,920, **31% growth**

Midwest (2010 to 2014):

- Number of junior participants grew from 799 to 1130, **41% growth**
- Adult amateur participation now includes 25 US Squash sanctioned tournaments in the Midwest

For Middle & High School Programs:

- High School Team Squash Championships has grown from 16 teams in 2004 to 152 teams in 2014, 850% growth
- The Middle School Team Squash Championships has grown from 29 teams in 2009 to 59 teams in 2014, 103% growth

Squash At Colleges & Universities In The United States



College-Bound High School Squash Players Are Increasing Significantly

- Since 2007, the number of teams in the U.S. High School Team Championships **increased 88%**; it is the largest squash tournament in the world with 1,500 players
- There are nine accredited Scholastic Squash Program Middle and High School Leagues around the country with **more than 300 teams** actively participating
- The 2012 High School Team Championships hosted **155 teams from 20 states**. In 1998, only 43 schools had squash programs.
- Top ranked high school juniors in 2013 went to **Harvard, Yale & Princeton**, as well as other top colleges and universities around the country.
- More than 200 colleges and universities have squash courts, **including 23 of the top 25 colleges** as ranked by Forbes magazine.
- **Every Ivy League University** has a **Varsity** squash team.
- Since 2009, there has been an **18% increase in club and varsity college programs**, and this level of participation will increase as high school junior participation continues to drive collegiate club and varsity program development.

Squash At Colleges & Universities In The United States



Current College Squash programs around the country

- 65 Colleges and Universities have squash programs (Varsity or Club) in the United States (59 Men's, 43 Women's)
- 51% of these programs have their own squash courts
- Of the top 25 ranked teams in the country for Men's and Women's programs, 24 and 23 of those schools own their own courts respectively
- 8 is the average number of courts at a top 25 ranked Men's or Women's school
- 18 Schools have 8 or more courts at their facility

Some of the top schools and facilities in the U.S.

<u>College - University</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u># Courts</u>
Princeton University	Varsity	15
Yale University	Varsity	15
Harvard University	Varsity	14
United States Naval Academy	Varsity	12
Williams College	Varsity	12
Amherst College	Varsity	10
Dartmouth College	Varsity	10
Hamilton College	Varsity	10
University of Pennsylvania	Varsity	10
St. Lawrence University	Varsity	10
Trinity College	Varsity	10
Vassar College	Varsity	10

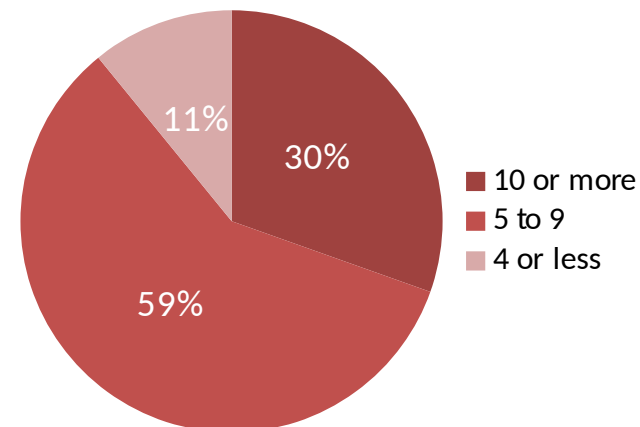
Squash At Colleges & Universities In The United States



- Of the 46 competitive schools where court counts are available, **89% have 5 or more courts.**
- 5 or more courts has significance in squash – it is the **absolute minimum number of courts needed for a team to practice together** – building anything less **denies the school an opportunity for a Club Team.**
- Club squash team must have at least 10 players (9 starters and one alternate) – with two players per court, requiring at least 5 courts to run a practice.

# of International Squash Courts			
	Mean	Median	Mode
All College	7	7	5
Club	5	5	5
Varsity	8	8	10

Percentage of Schools by Court Count



Squash as Recruitment Tool (College Only)



Squash Appeals to a Broad International Audience

- There are 25 million squash players **worldwide in 185 countries**.
- World Champions have come from **every continent in the world**.
- Major professional tournaments are held in a diverse array of countries, such as the U.S., England, Egypt, China, France, Malaysia and Qatar
- College squash facilities and programs attract dynamic students and faculty from around the world. There are currently hundreds of international students competing in intercollegiate squash competition; this number is dwarfed by the amount of casual squash players who use the availability of recreational courts as one of the factors in choosing a college or university.