

## **Tactical strategy on landing areas and shots outcomes by Malaysia top player in international squash competition.**

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### **Abstract**

**Introduction:** Convincing performances and achievements by Malaysia top players in several world championships had lifted Malaysian player at par with other world figures in squash. The purpose was to establish and verify tactical strategies used at international level via notational analysis. **Methods:** 50 matches involving Malaysian player from several international competitions were observed and analysed. Notational analyses were based on observation of the ball landing area and rally outcomes. **Results:** Total number of shots performed was 17369 shots and mean total shots and SD per game was  $347.38 \pm 635.77$ . Total rally outcomes performed was 2823 shots and mean total number of outcomes performed per game was 55.12 (SD=55.32) shots. Playing area was divided into 16 areas and Area 13 has recorded the highest number of ball landed (24%) during rally. In contrast, Area 15 was the least favoured area to deliver the ball during rally with only 22 shots. Rally outcomes were categorized as winners, errors and lets. There were more winners produced (55%) compared to errors (25%) and lets (20%). The most effective area with the highest number of winners was Area 1 (297 shots). Interestingly, the most ineffective area with the highest number of errors was also Area 1 (151 shots). **Discussion:** This finding recognized that there were possible winner and error outcomes occurred in specific or similar areas. It signifies that although the area was recorded high rate in delivering success during rally, it also could be catastrophe area due to the player's errors. **Conclusion:** Findings of this study could portray practical feedback to the players and coaches to understand key areas that need to be emphasized to enhance the performance and boosting players to higher levels.

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