



Smrikva Bowl M+ Family Holiday Week

unique holiday opportunity for professional SB seeds

... short story of a new opportunity for the Smrikva Bowl

„seeds of the Legends“...

September 2nd, 2025

„No matter how much wealth you earned in your professional career, if you lack basic knowledge in how to manage the wealth you earned, it is highly probable that you will end up among the 70%+ group of financially broken stars five years after completing your professional career...“

Back in summer 1998, 27+ years ago, I was attending Citicorp Associate Development program in New York... this was an opportunity for me to visit the US OPEN...

I do remember I had only a vision about the event I was creating... Smrikva Bowl... it was a dream about creating an inspiring event... and among my dreams I was thinking that there might come the day when there will be 25 past Smrikva Bowl players among top 100 ATP/WTA...

I also remember the big Wilson tennis ball I bought in New York and made it a tradition for the Smrikva Bowl winners to sign it... wishing them to lift one day the US OPEN trophy... this wish become a true story when Dominic Thiem, who signed the famous ball back in 2003, lifted the real US Open trophy in 2020... and in September 2022, Carlos Alcaraz also lifted the US Open trophy, being 19 years and four months old becoming the youngest #1 ATP ranked player in the history of tennis.

At the moment I am redrafting this letter there are 51 Smrikva Bowl players who actually reached top 100 ATP/WTA ranking... it seems that some of my dreams are turning real...

There are 99 Smrikva Bowl players who made it into the top 200 ATP/WTA and they made in total over 300M USD in prize money. Total prize money keep increasing by an important double digits rate on yearly basis... and these are big numbers... more than big numbers these are opportunities that Smrikva Bowl seeds may find the way to spread in years to come...

By taking into consideration the above there was an idea coming to my mind that I wish to start sharing with Smrikva Bowl seeds... some SB seeds are already grown and is time to start to share the idea and make it real...

I remember that Citicorp Associate Development program I was attending was considered at the time one of the best programs in finance on the Wall Street... I was part of an amazing class and we had amazing professors... the one who impressed me the most at the time was professor Barry... he had a unique way of sharing his knowledge...

What I learned from Barry helped me understand the real financial situation of the Fiat Group back in 2001... and that knowledge actually helped this company survive one of its deepest financial crisis in its century long history...

But Barry's words, that I vividly recall, is the story he shared with our class one afternoon... we were at Citicorp training center building and he told us that he is not teaching finance only to financially educated individuals like we were at the time, but he is also sharing his knowledge with successful retired professional athletes.

At first I did not understand why... and he also smiled looking at our class being most of us surprised...

I was thinking why should you teach finance to someone who created so much wealth throughout their sport career that could last for centuries?

... and he explained it with very simple words... he said that many successful professionals were becoming social problems in the US... I was still not getting his point... then he told us that the majority of the professional athletes in the US were broken five years after completing their successful careers. We are talking in certain sports of about 3 out of 4 famous and successful players who spent all their wealth earned during their careers just five years after completing to play at professional level...

I learned about this problem 25 years ago and I learned it is not only US related problem but is world wide issue... no matter how much wealth you earn if you lack basic knowledge in how to manage the wealth you earned it is highly probable that you will end up among the 70%+ group of financially broken stars...

I always believed that Smrikva Bowl kids will build their own luck... and there are many doing great... in most different fields... thanks to their tennis skills over 372+ received scholarship to study in the US... and at the moment of redrafting this letter there are 36 Smrikva Bowl players who made over 1M USD of total prize money so far with a combined total of 277M+ USD... there are 20+ that will cross this threshold in two years time...

... and because of the above I wished to open this opportunity for the past Smrikva Bowl players to get some basics knowledge about the topic... at what to pay attention to... and also to share some hints about the age of resilience we are entering into... it is another milestone for our developing Smrikva Bowl family...

I envisage this experience as vacation opportunity to learn something in emotionally positive environment therefore store it into the long term memory... visiting Smrikve with the family is always an opportunity to create good memories...

In 1996 the Smrikva Bowl story started... in 2007 the possibility to return to Smrikve for holidays in order to fine tune some tennis and human skills at „La Bottega“ started... in 2015 we started with friend Luca another family holidays opportunity known as Smrikva Bowl Tennis Talents Family Week experience. Family Week was envisaged to share with families some long term elements that can help them to increase the awareness on what to pay attention in building their family path towards high level tennis... and I believe this new opportunity will further nurture our „seeds of the Legends“ resilience story...



As of August 18th, 2025 SB „seeds of the Legends“ track record includes the following:

- 137 professional ATP/WTA titles (6 Grand Slams) conquered by 35 players
- 53 Grand Slam titles (including junior titles) conquered by 38 players
- 7 Olympic medals
- 2 NEXT GEN ATP Finals titles
- 2 Davis Cup & 1 Billie Jean King Cup
- 99 players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking
=> 51 players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking
=> 17 players reached TOP 20 ATP/WTA ranking
=> 7 players reached TOP 10 ATP/WTA ranking
=> 1 player reached #1 ATP
- 15 players reached #1 ITF ranking
- 372+ SB players received scholarships to study & play tennis for the US Universities.

Mio's formal education background includes:

- Maths information science high school completed with highest marks; completed at the same time also Conservatory of music. Elementary music school which last six years completed in four years and as accordion player was awarded several times with National, International and World prizes. Learned to play piano and guitar on his own.
- Graduated in Finance at Bocconi University in Milan - top 10 World Business University (4 years program –according to current Bologna system would be 3+2 equivalent to a Masters degree in Finance) – graduation mark 110/110 with magna cum laude, awarded with Bocconi's golden medal as top student of the generation.
 - o Participated in exchange program with ESADE University (Escola Superior d'Administració i Direcció d'Empreses) – another top tier European Business University located in Barcelona
- Obtained Master in Common European Management Science (CEMS) – top International Management Master
 - o Completed program requirements at ESADE (Barcelona) & Bocconi University (Milan)
- Completed Citicorp Associate Development Program in New York
- Young Leaders program member at The European House - Ambrosetti in Milan. Participated to Cernobbio convention.
- Graduated in Political Science at Milan University (4 years program – according to Bologna system would be 3+2 equivalent to a Masters degree in Political Science)
- Van der Meer Tennis University Europe permanent education program (Professional Tennis Registry - PTR) – title Professional
 - o International Sport Mental Coach Association (ISMCA) member;
 - o Certified Chair and Line Umpire (Croatian Tennis Association);
 - o Croatian Tennis Coaches Association member.

Among professional experiences his Investment Banking experience was built in the following institutions: KPMG Peat Marwick, JP Morgan, Citigroup (Citibank - Salomon Smith Barney), Banca IMI (Intesa San Paolo), UBS (Union Bank of Switzerland).

Other experiences:

- founded Smrikva Bowl in 1996 (2600+ families, 112 country & six continents story)
- Smrikve limited editions of wine making started in 2004 (112 country & six continents story)
- Olive oil limited editions making started in 2005 (112 country & six continents story)
- completed „Unione Europea e Democrazia Cosmopolita – un'idea per la pace“ book in 2005
- completed 4 stars Villa Smrikve Charme in 2006
- „La bottega di Smrikve“ holiday program started in 2007 (over 200+ families from 35+ countries attended)
- completed and published on line cultural e-book „Istria from Smrikve“ in 2009
- founded Smrikva Bowl library in 2009 (counting over 3600+ books out of which over 400+ tennis and sport related books that are used in „La bottega di Smrikve“ experiences)
- completed 5 stars Villa Smrikve Lounge in 2012
- started to coach his niece individually in 2014 (top National player U10,U12,U14,U16 & U18) and second niece individually in 2023
- started Smrikva Bowl Tennis Talents Family Week (SBTTFW) holiday program in 2015 (around 100 past Smrikva Bowl families attended)
- Smrikva Bowl M+ Family Holiday Week (SBM+FHW) is a new holiday opportunity
Smrikva Bowl family members are eligible to present their candidacy for the
Smrikva Bowl M+ Family Holiday Week experience

APPLICATION FORM

Smrikva Bowl M+ Family Holiday Week (SBM+FW)

NAME: _____ SURNAME: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Played Smrikva Bowl in (year) : _____

My level of English: _____ very good _____ basic

Other Languages I am fluent in: _____

Education: _____

Professional experience: _____

Best ranking: _____ (ATP or WTA)

e-mail: _____

People coming: 1+ _____ Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date: _____

ACCOMMODATION:

SMRIKVE LOUNGE Villa: _____

Villa SMRIKVA Charme: _____

TRS Apartment: _____

ULIKA Apartment: _____