

2nd Smrikva Bowl Tennis Talents Olives Harvest Family Week 2027



(9th of October– 17th of October 2027)

... presenting Smrikva Bowl

„seeds of the Legends“ Olive Trees story...

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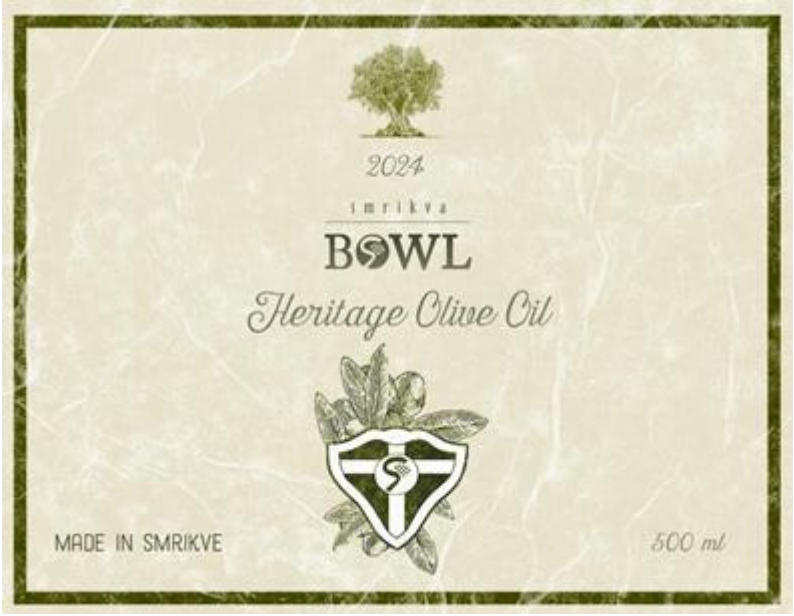
Smrikva Bowl Olives Harvest Family Week 2027

„a natural learning opportunity“

2nd of November, 2026

This is the story of a truly unique olive oil… made with olives collected from the Smrikva Bowl "seeds of the Legends" Olive Trees...

It is more than just olive oil… it is the story of a magical Heritage Olive Oil...





... if you have your Olive Tree growing in Smrikve, planted during your Smrikva Bowl... or if you would like to become part of the Smrikva Bowl family by planning to present your candidacy for the 2028 Smrikva Bowl edition, and you like spending time in nature...

I am pleased to share that, at the end of October 2027, there will be an opportunity to join us during our olive harvest season...

It is a wonderful time to experience the smell and taste of our freshly pressed olive oil... it is a time to enjoy some inspiring stories during our moments of rest... and it is an opportunity for an active autumn outdoor holiday, to feel connected with nature and enjoy some new experiences...

What makes Smrikva Bowl „seeds of the Legends" Olive Oil story unique?

Since Roman Empire times, Istria has been known as a land of prestigious olive oil, appreciated for its exceptional quality...

Olive oil production was one of the important pillars of the Istrian economy... a tradition that contributed to the prosperity of the region and its cities...

It is fascinating to think that, during those times, olive oil was already one of the precious products shaping Istria's history... the same land where, centuries ago, the magnificent Arena in Pula was built...

And today... Istria continues to be recognised as a home of some of the world's most prestigious olive oils...

The Smrikva Bowl "seeds of the Legends" Olive Oil story is a small but special part of this great heritage...



The Smrikva Bowl Olive Oil story is a story of top-quality olive groves, nurtured with passion... but it is also a unique story about something that gives our trees a new story every day...

Back in 2004, the father of one of the Smrikva Bowl players suggested that we should plant an olive tree during Smrikva Bowl...

I liked the idea because I felt that the story of the olive tree was perfectly in line with the Smrikva Bowl DNA... and from the very beginning, I imagined that we should plant an old olive tree every year...

For the first planting ceremony, I found an olive tree from Spain that was more than 150 years old...

I will explain a little later why the message behind planting an old olive tree was so important to me...

It was on 30 June 2005, during the 10th Smrikva Bowl anniversary, that we started this magnificent story...

We began planting an old Olive Tree as part of the Smrikva Bowl Ambassador's Nomination Ceremony...

And today, we can count on 22 generations of “seeds of the Legends” Olive Trees... those trees have been planted by more than 2,200 Smrikva Bowl seeds coming from 114 countries...

In the picture below, you can see Donna Vekić, Olympic silver medalist, back in 2005... she is planting her generation's Olive Tree...



Today, when planting a tree, the kids make a Grand Slam wish... and donate their names to the tree...

And this picture was taken on exactly the day when this magical story began...

I am particularly pleased to have Donna in this picture because there is another little story I would love to share...

Years ago, I learned that Donna celebrates her birthday on the very same day when we played the first day of the first Smrikva Bowl... 28 June 1996...

And ever since I discovered that coincidence, every time I see Donna, I find myself wondering...

How would Smrikva Bowl look like if it were a woman...?

A family vineyard... and another tradition born at Smrikva Bowl...

In 2003, I bought a small vineyard in the valley of Smrikve...

Interestingly, our family vineyard is located just next to the vineyard my grandfather, Mate Bencic (Matteo Benci), planted back in 1957, when he moved his family to Smrikve...

In 2005, we started bottling our Malmsey wine and donating a special collection bottle to each player's family...

Most years, we bottled it in 375 ml bottles... with a special hope that one day we would be able to recall these bottles when some of the Smrikva Bowl seeds from that generation won a Grand Slam event...

I kept telling the players and their families the story of how these bottles would become prestigious one day... because of the achievements they would accomplish...

And this is becoming more and more true, as you will discover...

The Grand Slam collections connected to bottles from so many generations keep growing year after year...

Then, in 2006... during the Olive Tree planting ceremony... we prepared another special gift for the players for the first time...



A small collection bottle of olive oil...

Since then, every Smrikva Bowl seed has taken home one little bottle...

Today, this has also become a traditional part of the Smrikva Bowl Ambassador's Nomination Ceremony...

Small family collections... with stories reaching around the world...

We have kept this tradition alive... and every year, each Smrikva Bowl kid receives a special bottle, marked with the year of their generation...

I am always happy to hear from families and discover the stories behind the special meaning this olive oil has for their children...

Both our wine and olive oil gift bottles are very limited collections per edition... usually between 90 and 150 bottles per year...

The number is always in line with the families we can invite to Smrikva Bowl, plus a few extra bottles reserved for our close friends in Smrikve...

And it is thanks to the stories that our “seeds of the Legends” keep writing that every drop of our olive oil and wine is becoming something truly unique...

Today, more than 2,200 life stories have become part of the story of our legendary trees...

Thanks to the Smrikva Bowl seeds, our olive oil and wine have travelled to 114 countries...



And I am quite sure that if we asked AI to tell us how many places on our planet can count on a family courtyard with a limited number of grapevines and olive trees, whose olive oil and wine drops have reached 114 countries and six continents... it might have some difficulties finding another example...

Apart from naming our little Smrikve valley and its gardens, of course...

We have a small family vineyard... and a relatively small number of olive trees...

But we feel truly honoured to know that the wine and olive oil produced from this little piece of land have touched so many different countries... and that they are connected to such an extraordinary tennis track record, one that continues to grow day after day...

The meaning of planting an old Olive Tree...

The Olive Trees we select are traditionally older than our players... and the age of each tree is a symbol of intergenerational responsibility...

Every person is born into this world without knowing anything about life... and it is the responsibility of every generation to understand, learn and preserve all that we have been fortunate enough to inherit...

When I think about our old Olive Trees, I often remember the story from *The Lion King*... when Mufasa explains to Simba that being a King is not easy...

A good King should understand that everything around us lives within a delicate equilibrium... and that, with wisdom and intelligence, we should try to understand this balance and learn to respect it...

I believe that only through a sense of intergenerational responsibility will future generations be able to enjoy the beauty of life... the sunsets... and the changing seasons of our Earth...

Planting an old Olive Tree is therefore much more than planting a tree...

It is a reminder that we are part of something much bigger than ourselves... that we inherit a world we did not create... and that we have a responsibility to leave it in good hands for those who come after us...



From "Istria from Smrikve" to the Smrikva Bowl Library...

On 26 March 2009, after 18 months of full-time work, "Istria from Smrikve" cultural heritage book was published online...

That was also the year when the idea of creating the Smrikva Bowl Library started...



“Istria from Smrikve” was created with the idea of supporting cultural tourism development in Istria... and attracting travellers interested in discovering new cultures and new places...

But there was a bigger dream behind this idea... to support the stories of farmers and their olive oil and wine-making traditions...

I grew up on my grandparents' farm in Smrikve... I worked in the fields and helped my grandparents and our large family take care of the animals and cultivate the land...

I know how passionate you have to be to stay connected with the land and soil every day...

When you experience this during childhood, you are likely to develop a special kind of love... a love for the smell of freshly cut grass... and even for the joy of sweating under the hot summer sun while working in the fields...

While creating this virtual cultural book, I believed that, in the long run, it could help some of Istria's wine and olive oil producers...

These are people who take care of the land every day... people who preserve traditions, knowledge and a special relationship with nature...

And I knew that, to make this idea become reality, I would need the help of our Smrikva Bowl seeds...

They have their own Olive Trees planted during Smrikva Bowl, growing here in Smrikve... we nurture them and take care of them...

But I also imagined that one day our seeds might become capable of giving a voice to the beauty of this story...

Perhaps they will be the ones who, through their own life journeys, achievements and connections around the world, will help more people discover the beauty of Istria... its land... its traditions... and the people who dedicate their lives to preserving them...

And perhaps this is another meaning of planting an Olive Tree during Smrikva Bowl...

We plant a tree today... nurture it over the years... and trust that future generations will give its story a voice...



Giving another dimension to the "seeds of the Legends" story...

I kept thinking about how to make this dream come true...

And then, in March 2019... with 14 generations of Olive Trees already growing in Smrikve, I realised that, after 14 years of planting our old Olive Trees, it was time to connect another dot...

It was time to start bottling some super-special, limited olive oil collections... with the ambition of making this another Smrikva Bowl tradition...

I wanted to find the best way to share with our seeds the story that our very special olive oil was now being made from the very Olive Trees we had been planting together over the years...

I thought that if this could become a tradition, it would also make it easier to measure, year after year, the growth of our living fairy tale... a story that keeps evolving every day thanks to our seeds...

Their tennis racket skills continue to create entertainment for more than one billion people around the world...

But how is all this connected?

By making our Olive Trees' story special and legendary... the “Istria from Smrikve” story would also gain visibility...

And, in the long run, both cultural tourism and the families of Istrian olive oil and wine producers might shine thanks to the Smrikva Bowl seeds...

Knowing that Istrian olive oil is produced in relatively limited quantities, I thought that encouraging some of the world's top restaurants to feature the best Istrian olive oils and wines on their tables could make a real difference for many local families...

This was also one of my dreams behind dedicating so many hours to creating the “Istria from Smrikve” cultural e-book... that every family whose story I included in my book could live with dignity and pride from their work...

Back in 2019, there were already more than 1,440 Smrikva Bowl seeds with their Olive Trees growing in our courtyard...

There were more than 1,440 stories to share...

To turn this idea into a tradition, I imagined that every year we should bottle a limited collection of numbered bottles...

The final decision was to put our golden drops into elegant, 200 ml square bottles... with just enough space to display some of the words I wished to see written on them...

Filled with the golden colour of our olive oil, the bottles started reminding me of the neoclassical look of a luxury Bvlgari perfume bottle...

The second idea was related to the number of bottles we should produce every year...

I thought that the number should be exactly equal to the number of generations of Olive Trees living in Smrikve at the time when the annual collection was bottled...

This meant that every year, after planting a new Olive Tree generation, we would increase the number of collection bottles by exactly one...

A simple idea... but one that would make every annual collection different and give it its own place in the history of Smrikva Bowl...

And there was one more important detail to decide...

What should be written on each annual bottle?

I knew that I wanted every bottle to have its own number... but I also wanted the back of each bottle to display a few key facts summarising the combined tennis track record of the Smrikva Bowl seeds...

In this way, every bottle would tell two stories at the same time...

The story of our Olive Trees... and the story of the generations of young tennis players who planted them...



The children are the ones who make our Olive Trees special...

The children who planted our Olive Trees are the ones who make them special... with their tennis rackets, their achievements and, above all, with their life stories...

Their stories on and off the court matter to me...

Every tree today has many stories to share... stories of childhood dreams, friendships, personal journeys, challenges, achievements and life experiences...

And this is one of the reasons why our olive oil and wine story is so unique...

Our trees grow in Smrikve... but their stories travel around the world...

And every year, as our Smrikva Bowl seeds continue writing new chapters of their lives, our Olive Trees become part of an ever-growing collection of human stories...



Back in March 2019... there were already more than 1,930 Smrikva Bowl seeds spread across 87 countries and six continents...

Since we started planting our Olive Trees in 2005, 1,440 names had become part of this special tradition... represented by 14 generations of Olive Trees growing in Smrikve...

And I wanted to take this distinction into account too... and find a way to present both numbers on our collection bottles...

One number would tell the story of the international Smrikva Bowl family... while the other would tell the story of the children who had planted their Olive Trees and become part of our living heritage...

Two different numbers... two different perspectives... but one shared story...

... therefore, on the first 200 ml collection cube bottles, we decided to write the following text... a small summary of the Smrikva Bowl history and the tennis achievements of our seeds, with a special distinction between all Smrikva Bowl participants and those belonging to the 14 generations of Olive Tree planters...

Smrikva Bowl was founded in 1996 and over 1930 players from 87 countries and 6 continents participated so far. In 2005 Smrikva Bowl players started to plant olive trees. 14 generations (over 1440 players) have their olive tree in Smrikve.

As of 18/03/2019, their track record* is:

• 30 (**23**) junior Grand Slam titles conquered by 23 (17) players
• 30 (13) professional ATP/WTA titles
• 45 (31) players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking & 21 (15) players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking
• 150+ (100+) players received scholarships to study in the US

Note – In brackets: 14 olive trees generations track record



The note was added to explain that the figures in brackets represent the tennis track record of the players who planted our Olive Trees... while the figures outside the brackets represent the combined track record of all Smrikva Bowl seeds...

But I was also thinking about something else...

Sensing how special this story could become in the long run, I decided to find a way to assign a symbolic value to our annual collection bottles...

More and more, I became convinced that this symbolic value could eventually become a way of measuring the prestige achieved by our Olive Trees and their fruits...

And I thought of linking the symbolic value of each bottle to the number of Grand Slam titles conquered by Smrikva Bowl seeds at the time when the bottles were produced...

To give you an idea of the symbolic value of that first collection...

Since we were starting with the 200 ml bottle as our reference volume... and since the combined number of Grand Slam titles won by the players who had their Olive Trees growing in Smrikve was 23 at that time...

The symbolic value of the first collection bottle was 23...

This was the starting point of an idea that I hoped would grow together with our Olive Trees... and with the achievements of the generations connected to them...



Following the achievements of our Smrikva Bowl seeds...

From the very first collection bottles, we started tracking the total number of Grand Slam titles conquered by Smrikva Bowl seeds... and, in particular, the titles won by those who had planted our Olive Trees in Smrikve...

But I also decided to follow other professional tennis achievements...

One of them was the number of professional ATP/WTA titles won by our seeds... because every professional title is a significant achievement and something very difficult to accomplish...

I also wanted to indicate the number of players who had reached the TOP 200 and TOP 100 ATP/WTA rankings...

People who have played professional tennis, or have followed the game passionately for many years, can understand how difficult it is to climb the ATP/WTA mountain... and how demanding it is to reach the heights of the TOP 100...

There was another achievement that was particularly meaningful to me...

The number of players who received scholarships to study in the United States thanks to their tennis and academic abilities...

I have always considered this an important part of the Smrikva Bowl story...

Receiving a US college tennis scholarship means that, by the age of 17 or so, a young player has typically invested thousands of hours in developing their tennis skills... alongside their academic education...

I often think of this as a commitment of at least 7,000–8,000 quality working hours dedicated to developing their tennis...

Above, you can read all these figures as they appeared in the track record printed on the bottles produced in spring 2019...

And it is quite an impressive exercise to look back and observe how all the different numbers and achievements indicated on that first collection bottle have continued to change over time...

Every new Grand Slam title... every professional trophy... every new TOP 100 or TOP 200 player... and every new scholarship recipient...

They all add another little piece to the story...

And this is exactly what I wanted our annual collection bottles to document... a living tennis track record that grows together with the Olive Trees and the generations connected to them...



Grand Slam titles... and the growing symbolic value...

Grand Slam tournaments are the most prestigious events in tennis... and winning either a junior or a senior Grand Slam title is a tremendous honour for any player, their family and their coaches...

And, as you will discover in the following chapters, some new achievements were added to our annual collection bottles over the years...

As I explained earlier, the symbolic value of our first collection bottle was 23... corresponding to the 23 Grand Slam titles won at that time by the Smrikva Bowl seeds who had planted their Olive Trees in Smrikve...

The total number of Grand Slam titles won by all Smrikva Bowl seeds was already 30... but seven of those titles had been conquered by players who participated in Smrikva Bowl before we started planting Olive Trees in 2005...

I expected this number to increase year after year... but I had no idea how quickly it would grow, knowing how challenging it is to win even a single Grand Slam title...

Over the years, our seeds kept surprising and impressing me... achieving things that went far beyond my imagination...

And this is one of the most exciting aspects of following our annual collection... every new edition brings another opportunity to discover just how far the Smrikva Bowl seeds can go...



A photo frame of a living fairy tale...

There are millions of registered tennis players around the world in every generation... and only four Grand Slam tournaments take place each year...

I have always believed in our Smrikva Bowl seeds... and I knew that these collection bottles would represent a kind of photo frame in time... a snapshot of a living fairy tale, a story that is being written every day in so many countries around the world...

Since all our collection bottles are individually numbered and find their way into the homes of Smrikva Bowl friends, I also wanted to keep a record of which family each numbered bottle belongs to...

And so, from the very first collection, every bottle has been tracked on the Smrikva Bowl Heritage Olive Oil and Wine website page...

In this way, every numbered bottle has its own place... not only in the history of our collection, but also within the international Smrikva Bowl family...

A small bottle... a unique number... and a story connecting a family in one part of the world with our little valley of Smrikve...



... over the years, I have learned that you can never thank enough those who are willing to believe in your story and support your dreams...

And I am always truly happy when, year after year, at least one new friend falls in love with the story of Smrikve...

Every new friend brings us something special... that encouragement that inspires us, gives us new energy and helps us continue sharing and developing our story...

Because every story needs people who believe in it... and every new friend who becomes part of ours gives us another reason to keep it growing...



Spring 2022... continuing the story after the pandemic

It was in spring 2022 that we bottled our second limited collection...

At that time, there were already more than 2,220 Smrikva Bowl players who had become part of the Smrikva Bowl family... spread across 98 countries and six continents...

That year, we bottled 17 collection bottles... representing the 17 generations of Olive Trees growing in Smrikve at the time...

As you may notice, there was a jump from 14 generations, when we started this story, to 17 generations when we continued it...

Why did this happen?

Smrikva Bowl was founded in 1996... and our tradition of planting an Olive Tree during Smrikva Bowl started in 2005...



It is true that, so far, 22 generations of players (more than 2,200 players) have their Olive Trees planted in Smrikve...

But there is an interesting detail behind these numbers...

The 25th and 26th Smrikva Bowl generations did not have the opportunity to play their events because of the COVID-19 pandemic...



Nevertheless, those two generations also have their Olive Trees growing in Smrikve...

Although the two editions could not be held in their usual format, every player who passed the Smrikva Bowl selection process during the pandemic received the Smrikva Bowl Ambassador title... and a dedicated Olive Tree generation was planted in Smrikve...

We restarted our traditional gatherings and Olive Tree ceremonies in spring 2022, when it became possible to meet again...

And this is the reason for the jump from 14 to 17 collection bottles...

The 15th and 16th generations had also become part of our living heritage during the pandemic... even though their Smrikva Bowl editions could not take place in the usual way...

Our Olive Trees kept growing... and our story continued...



The second Heritage collection... spring 2022

The 2nd Heritage Smrikva Bowl collection bottles had the following text inscribed on them:

As of 04/04/2022, Smrikva Bowl seeds track record* is:

• 60 (38) professional ATP/WTA titles (1 Grand Slam title) conquered by 21 (16) player
• 37 (**30**) Grand Slam titles conquered by 29 (22) players
• 1 (1) Olympic golden medal (singles) & 1 (1) Olympic silver medal (doubles)
• 1 (1) NEXT GEN ATP Finals title
• 57 (42) players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking & 33 (24) players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking
• 12 (11) players reached #1 ITF ranking
• 250+ (200+) players received scholarships to study in the US

**Note – In brackets: 17 olive trees generations track record*

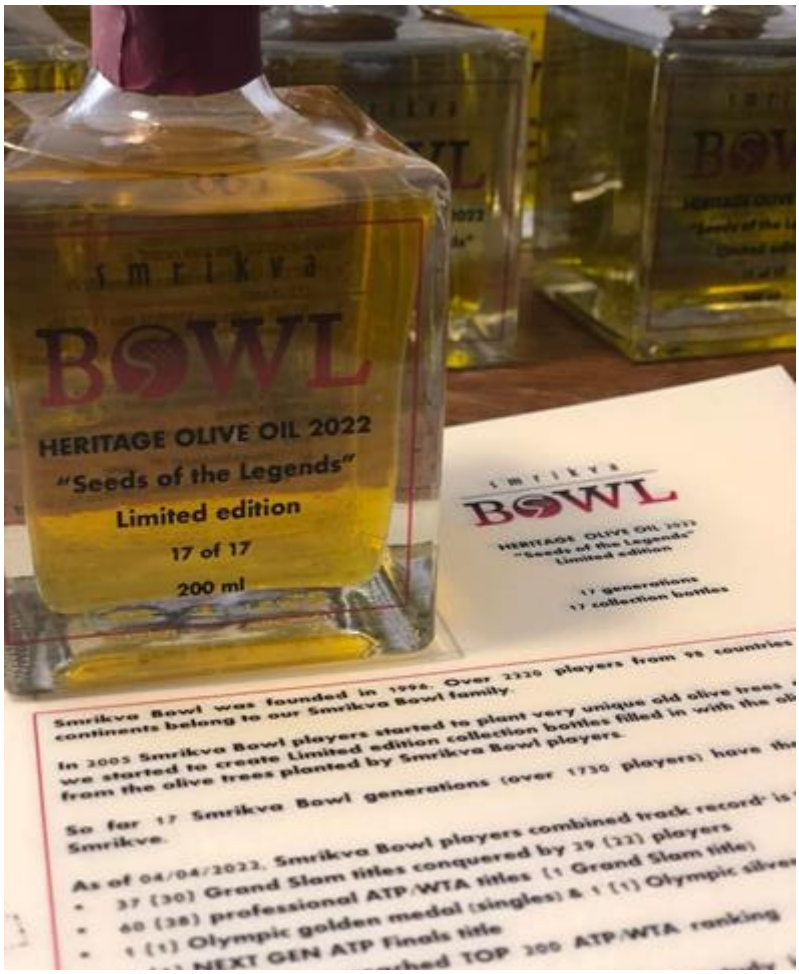
If you compare the numbers on the 1st and 2nd collection bottles, you will notice an increase in all the comparable data...

In addition, we started tracking Olympic medals, NEXT GEN ATP Finals titles and the number of players who reached the #1 ITF ranking...

And now... to give you an idea of the growth in the symbolic value of our collection...

The 200 ml Heritage Olive Oil bottle had a symbolic value of 30 at that time... reflecting the seven new Grand Slam titles added since our first collection...





The 3rd Heritage Smrikva Bowl collection bottles was limited to **18 bottles** and had inscribed on it the following:

As of 06/03/2023, their track record* is:

• 43 (**36**) Grand Slam titles conquered by 33 (22) players
• 84 (59) professional ATP/WTA titles (2 GS titles) conquered by 26 (20) players
• 1 (1) Olympic golden medal (s) & 1 (1) silver medal (d)
• 1 (1) NEXT GEN ATP Finals title
• 71 (55) players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking & 36 (27) players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking
• 280+(230+) players with scholarships to study in the US
• 13 (12) players reached #1 ITF ranking; 1(1) player reached #1(1) ATP ranking

**Note – In brackets are the track records of 18 olive trees generations*

All the numbers kept increasing!

… 200 ml of the heritage symbolic value was at the time equal to 36… because of 6 new Grand Slam titles...



The 4th collection bottles series limited to **19 bottles** had inscribed on it the following:

As of 04/03/2024, Smrikva Bowl seeds track record* is:

- 46 (**39**) Grand Slam titles conquered by 35 (24) players
- 104 (78) professional ATP/WTA titles (3 (2) Grand Slam titles) conquered by 32 (26) players
- 1 (1) Olympic golden medal (singles) & 1 (1) Olympic silver medal (doubles)
- 2 (2) Davis Cup titles & 1 (1) Billie Jean King title
- 2 (2) NEXT GEN ATP Finals titles
- 82 (65) players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking & 42 (32) players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking
- 324+ (274+) players received scholarships to study in the US
- 13 (12) players reached #1 ITF ranking; 1 player reached #1 (1) ATP ranking

** Note – In brackets: 19 olive trees generations track record*

If you compare the numbers on the 3rd and 4th collection bottles, you will notice once again a significant increase in all the comparable data...

In addition, we started tracking Davis Cup and Billie Jean King Cup titles... as well as the number of players who reached the #1 ATP/WTA ranking...

And now... to give you an idea of the growth in the symbolic value of our collection...

The 200 ml Heritage Olive Oil bottle had a symbolic value of 39 at that time... thanks to three new Grand Slam titles...




BOWL
Heritage Olive Oil



The 5th collection bottles series of 200 ml is limited to 20 bottles, and was bottled in spring 2025, and have inscribed on it the following:

As of 17/03/2025, Smrikva Bowl seeds track record* is:

• 51 (**44**) Grand Slam titles conquered by 37 (26) players
• 122 (96) professional ATP/WTA titles (5 (4) Grand Slam titles) conquered by 32 (26) players
• 7 (7) Olympic medals (singles, doubles, mixed doubles)
• 3 (3) Davis Cup titles & 2 (1) Billie Jean King title
• 2 (2) NEXT GEN ATP Finals titles
• 96 (78) players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking & 47 (37) players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking
• 361+ (311+) players received scholarships to study in the US
• 15 (14) players reached #1 ITF ranking; 1 player reached #1 (1) ATP ranking

**Note – In brackets: 20 olive trees generations track record*

If you compare the numbers of the 4th and the upcoming 5th collection bottles, you will notice once again a significant increase...

And now... the 200 ml Heritage Olive Oil bottle has reached a symbolic value of 44... thanks to five new Grand Slam titles...

How amazing is that!...

2025... introducing two new Heritage Collection lines...

In 2025, for the first time, we decided to introduce two new Heritage Collection lines for the new seeds coming to experience the Smrikva Bowl theatre...

For the 30th anniversary, we prepared a collection of 30 individually numbered Heritage bottles of 250 ml... each accompanied by a certificate representing the 30 Smrikva Bowl editions...



We also prepared a collection of 10 individually numbered Heritage bottles of 500 ml... each accompanied by a certificate representing the peaks of the ITF/ATP/WTA mountains...



The TOP 10 level in ITF/ATP/WTA rankings represents an extraordinary achievement... a level where players are competing among the very best in the world and have opportunities to challenge for the greatest titles in tennis...

The desire of Smrikva Bowl families to take home one of these special bottles was beyond our expectations...

And so... we had to prepare a second edition of both collections...



The 6th collection bottles series, limited to 21 bottles, was bottled in spring 2026, and had inscribed on it the following:

As of 09/03/2026, Smrikva Bowl seeds track record* is:

- 58 (**51**) Grand Slam titles conquered by 41 (30) players
- 148 (122) professional ATP/WTA titles (8 (7) Grand Slam titles) conquered by 35 (29) players
- 7 (7) Olympic medals (singles, doubles, mixed doubles)
- 4 (4) Davis Cup titles & 2 (1) Billie Jean King title
- 2 (2) NEXT GEN ATP Finals titles
- 104 (86) players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking & 52 (42) players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking
- 402+ (352+) players received scholarships to study in the US
- 16 (15) players reached #1 ITF ranking; 1 player reached #1 (1) ATP ranking

**Note – In brackets: 21 olive trees generations track record*

2026... a growing family of Heritage Collections...

In 2026, we prepared several Heritage Collection lines for the new seeds visiting the Smrikva Bowl theatre...

We prepared:

21 numbered Heritage Collection bottles of 200 ml, each with a certificate representing the 21 generations of Smrikva Bowl Legendary Olive Trees...

31 numbered Heritage Collection bottles of 250 ml, each with a certificate representing the 31 Smrikva Bowl editions...

10 numbered Heritage Collection bottles of 500 ml, each with a certificate representing the peak of the ITF/ATP/WTA ranking mountains... The TOP 10 level in ITF/ATP/WTA rankings is where players compete among the very best in the world and challenge for the greatest titles in tennis...

20 numbered Heritage Collection bottles of 250 ml, each with a certificate representing the 20 Smrikva Bowl seeds who reached the TOP 25 ATP/WTA rankings...

7 numbered Heritage Collection bottles of 500 ml, each with a certificate representing the seven Smrikva Bowl seeds who reached the TOP 10 ATP/WTA rankings...

7 numbered Heritage Collection bottles of 250 ml, each with a certificate representing the seven Olympic medals conquered by Smrikva Bowl seeds...

The 7th collection bottles series, limited to 22 bottles, will be bottled in spring 2027, and will have inscribed on it inscribed at least the following:

As of 2/11/2026, Smrikva Bowl seeds track record* is:

- 60 (**53**) Grand Slam titles conquered by 42 (31) players
- 167 (141) professional ATP/WTA titles (8 (7) Grand Slam titles) conquered by 39 (33) players
- 7 (7) Olympic medals (singles, doubles, mixed doubles)
- 4 (4) Davis Cup titles & 2 (1) Billie Jean King title
- 2 (2) NEXT GEN ATP Finals titles
- 112 (94) players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking & 57 (47) players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking
- 407+ (357+) players received scholarships to study in the US
- 16 (15) players reached #1 ITF ranking; 1 player reached #1 (1) ATP ranking

**Note – In brackets: 22 Olive Tree generations track record*

A little more about our Heritage Wine Collection... and the story of our family Malvazija...

In the text above, I partially mentioned the story of our collection wine bottles... and before returning to our SB generations olive trees, I would be pleased to share just a few more words with the families who keep their Malvazija collection bottles at home in their living rooms...

I wish to update them on how their bottles are progressing... and I will be pleased to share how many Grand Slam titles each generation of wine has won, as well as a little more about the story of the vines whose grapes are used to make our family white wine...

Istria is very close to Italy... and for approximately six centuries, Istria was part of the Roman Empire... and for almost six centuries, a large part of Istria was part of the Republic of Venice... These two civilizations nurtured the tradition of winemaking and left their traces on our family winemaking culture too...

Today, in Italy, you can still find almost 350 different varieties of vines... With so many different grape varieties, you can make so many different wines... In addition, good wines are usually structured, so the number of possible combinations is statistically huge...

In our family, we make two types of wine for our own use... one is white and one is red... Our white wine is made mostly from Malmsey grapes (Malvasia Istriana)... and this was my grandfather's preferred wine...

When my family decided to build our first tennis court, we did not have enough land to build it, and my grandfather agreed to remove some of the vines that had already been planted and give us the necessary land to fit our first tennis court into our property... We removed those vines, but our collection bottles from that same valley have travelled through tennis to 114 countries so far... a tennis & wine story combined in a bottle...

... Historically... the story of our white wine is closely linked to the heritage of the Republic of Venice...



Malmsey grapes very likely arrived in Istria from Greece thanks to the Republic of Venice... The origin of the Malmsey vine is Monemvasia... a small town in Greece... The Venetians were famous traders, and they made this wine very popular throughout Europe for a couple of centuries...

... Having created huge demand for this particular type of wine, they planted many Malmsey vineyards on the biggest Greek island - Crete... But when the island of Crete became part of the Ottoman Empire, they moved some of the Malmsey vines to the friendly territories of the Republic... and Istria was, at that time, part of the Republic of Venice... This mostly happened towards the end of the 17th century...

... During my childhood, Malvasia was still the most famous type of white wine traditionally cultivated in Istria... It is a dry white wine... has a beautiful pale golden colour... its aroma is youthful and subtle, with a complex fragrance... You can feel and smell multiple layers that can bring back memories of various natural experiences you have lived through... and almost every family living in the countryside is still nurturing this type of vine and wine in Istria...

Recently, I learned that Malvasia di Candia Aromatica was also among the preferred wines of Leonardo da Vinci...



... Being a very delicate plant... if you do not dedicate time to your vines, after a couple of years you could easily lose your vineyard and its fruits...

Our red wine story... is also a special story that reminds me of love and peace... This is reflected in the name we gave to our red wine... "Angvšta"... It may look and sound strange to you at first... but... let me share the following story with you...

... When I decided to name it Angvšta, I did so because in this name I can still hear the voices of my grandfather and grandmother... This is how we call the month of August in the Istrian dialect... My grandparents got married on 15 August 1940 and were lucky enough to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in 1990...

... Western readers of this note might be familiar with the person after whom the month of August was named... Those who know the story, when they hear the word August, might find their thoughts turning towards the Roman Empire because August was actually named after Emperor Augustus...

... If you are familiar with this fact, you might also know that July was named after the Gens Julia family... and the history of the town where Smrikva Bowl is held has links with this family and its story...

... Readers might not know that Emperor Augustus was married to Livia Drusilla (Julia Augusta) for 51 years... and Julia Augusta had an important influence on Emperor Augustus throughout their five decades of marriage... and probably had an impact on what we might describe today as Pax Augustea... a story of love and peace...

But what does all this have to do with our red wine?...

... There is a story, apparently documented by Pliny the Elder, who wrote that the first Roman Emperor's wife, Livia Drusilla - Julia Augusta, appreciated Istrian wine... The note reads:

"Julia Augusta (Livia Drusilla) lived to the age of 87 thanks to the wine Pucinum; and drinking only that wine, whose grape grows in the Hadrian's Bay, not far from the spring of Timavo, on a rocky hill..."

On the site of present-day Sovinjak, there was a Roman fortress named Pucinum... and thanks to Pliny the Elder and Livia Drusilla, we can assume that the wine described could have been of Istrian origin, or at least from somewhere not very far from this place...

... If this is true, and if it was indeed drunk by the Emperor's family, it must have been a very good wine at the time... but we do not know which type of grape it was made from...

Our second wine is made from seven different types of red grapes, and as I wrote above, I named it Angvšta...

... After reading an inspiring book entitled "Roma Caput Vini", I kept thinking that there might be a very small possibility that the DNA of the vines we use to make our Angvšta could also have been present in the wine enjoyed by Livia Drusilla... The probability is very remote, but the story is still a nice one...

We use mostly Teran, but in limited quantities, there are also Merlot, Refosco, some unknown old variety of vine, a few newer grape varieties in Istria, and another grape variety from the East...



During our breaks, you will have the opportunity to taste both our Malvazija and Angvšta... and there is no other place in the world where you can taste them...

The same as our olive oil story, our vineyard story also continues to grow thanks to our SB seeds...



...and as promised I am pleased to share in the following as of July 2026 the Grand Slam titles related with SB collection bottles which makes them special:

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2005** (2 Grand Slam titles) – 1st Olive Tree **X** SB generation

Borna CORIC – 2005 SB player
• Junior US OPEN 2013 winner
• #1 ITF in 2013
Date of birth: 14th of November 1996

Gianluigi QUINZI – 2005 SB player
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2013 winner
• #1 ITF in 2013
Date of birth: 1st of February 1996

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2006** (3 Grand Slam titles) – 2nd Olive Tree **XI** SB generation

Belinda BENCIC – 2006 SB player
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2013 winner
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2013 winner
• #1 ITF year end 2013
Date of birth: 10th of March 1997

Gianluigi QUINZI – 2006 SB winner
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2013 winner
• #1 ITF in 2013
Date of birth: 1st of February 1996

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2007** (4 Grand Slam titles) – 3rd Olive Tree **XII** SB generation

Ana KONJUH – 2007 SB runner up
• Junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2013 winner
• Junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2013 doubles winner
• Junior US OPEN 2013 winner
• #1 ITF in 2013
Date of birth: 27th of December 1997

Tommy PAUL – 2007 "Little Mo"/SB player
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2015 winner
Date of birth: 17th of May 1997

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2008** (5 Grand Slam titles) – 4th Olive Tree **XIII** SB generation

Tereza MIHALIKOVA – 2008 player
• Junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2015 winner
• Junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2016 doubles winner
Date of birth: 2nd of June 1998

Viktoria KUZMOVA – 2008 SB semifinalist
• Junior US OPEN 2015 doubles winner
Date of birth: 11th of May 1998

Alexei POPYRIN – 2008 player
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2017 winner
Date of birth: 5th of August 1999

Patrik RIKL – 2008 player
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2016 doubles winner
Date of birth: 6th of January 1999

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2009** (4 Grand Slam titles) – 5th Olive Tree **XIV** SB generation

Alex DE MINAUR – 2009 SB quarterfinalist
• Junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2016 doubles winner
Date of birth: 17th of February 1999

Alexei POPYRIN – 2009 SB Consolation winner
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2017 winner
Date of birth: 5th of August 1999

Patrik RIKL – 2009 SB quarterfinalist
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2016 doubles winner
Date of birth: 6th of January 1999

Alejandro DAVIDOVICH FOKINA – 2009 SB SF
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2017 winner
Date of birth: 5th of June 1999

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2010** (8 Grand Slam titles) – 6th Olive Tree **XV** SB generation

Yshai OLIEL – 2010 SB runner up
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2016 doubles winner
Date of birth: 5th of January 2000

Paula ARIAS MANJON – 2010 SB runner up
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2016 doubles winner
Date of birth: 26th of February 2000

Olga DANILOVIC – 2010 player
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2016 doubles winner
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2017 doubles winner
• Junior US OPEN 2017 doubles winner
Date of birth: 23rd of January 2001

Claire LIU – 2010 “Little Mo”/SB player
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2016 doubles winner
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2017 winner
• #1 ITF in 2017
Date of birth: 25th of May 2000

Nicola KUHN – 2010 SB winner
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2017 doubles winner
Date of birth: 20th of March 2000

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2011** (3 Grand Slam titles) – 7th Olive Tree **XVI** SB generation

Olga DANILOVIC – 2011 SB winner
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2016 doubles winner
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2017 doubles winner

• Junior US OPEN 2017 doubles winner
Date of birth: 23rd of January 2001

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2012** (2 Grand Slam titles) – 8th Olive Tree **XVII** SB generation

Lorenzo MUSETTI – 2012 SB QF
• Junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2019 winner
• #1 ITF in 2019
Date of birth: 3rd of March 2002

Flavio COBOLLI – 2012 SB
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2020 doubles winner
Date of birth: 6th of May 2002

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2013** (9 Grand Slam titles) – 9th Olive Tree **XVIII** SB generation

Holger Vitus NODSKOV RUNE – 2013 SB QF
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2019 winner
• #1 ITF in 2019
Date of birth: 29th of April 2003

Daniel RINCON – 2013 SB SF
• Junior US OPEN 2021 winner
Date of birth: 7th of January 2003

Carlos ALCARAZ – 2013 SB runner up
• US OPEN 2022 winner
• Wimbledon 2023 winner
• Roland Garros 2024 winner
• Wimbledon 2024 winner
• Roland Garros 2025 winner
• US OPEN 2025 winner
• AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2026 winner
Date of birth: 5th of May 2003

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2014** (2 Grand Slam titles) – 10th Olive Tree **XIX** SB generation

Mili POLJICAK – 2014 SB
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2022 doubles winner
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2022 winner
Date of birth: 13th of July 2004

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2015** (6 Grand Slam titles) – 11th Olive Tree **XX** SB generation

Alexandra EALA – 2015 SB player
• Junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2020 doubles winner
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2021 doubles winner

• Junior US OPEN 2022 winner
Date of birth: 23rd of May 2005

Petra MARCINKO – 2015 SB player
• Junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2022 winner
• #1 ITF year end 2021
Date of birth: 4th of December 2005

Dino PRIZMIC – 2015 SB QF
• Junior ROLAND GARROS 2023 winner
Date of birth: 5th of August 2005

Mara GAE – 2015 SB SF
• Junior US OPEN 2023 doubles winner
Date of birth: 14th of September 2005

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2016** (3 Grand Slam titles) – 12th Olive Tree **XXI** SB generation

Rose Marie NIJKAMP – 2016 SB
• Junior WIMBLEDON 2022 doubles winner
Date of birth: 3rd of February 2006

Martin LANDALUCE – 2016 SB QF
• Junior US OPEN 2022 winner
• #1 ITF in 2023
Date of birth: 8th of January 2006

Kylan BIGUN – 2016 SB winner
• junior ROLAND GARROS 2024 winner
• #1 ITF in 2024
Date of birth: 23rd of May 2006

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2017** (2 Grand Slam titles) – 13th Olive Tree **XXII** SB generation

Tereza VALENTOVA – 2017 SB player
• junior ROLAND GARROS 2024 winner
• junior ROLAND GARROS 2024 doubles winner
Date of birth: 20th of February 2007

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2018** (5 Grand Slam title) – 14th Olive Tree **XXIII** SB generation

Niels MCDONALD – 2018 SB runner up
• junior ROLAND GARROS 2025 winner
Date of birth: 26th of January 2008

Dimitar KISIMOV – 2018 SB player
• junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2026 doubles winner

Date of birth: 11th of April 2008

Ziga SESKO – 2018 SB semifinalist
• junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2026 winner
• junior WIMBLEDON 2026 doubles winner
Date of birth: 27th of July 2008

Alisa OKTIABREVA – 2018 SB winner
• junior ROLAND GARROS 2026 winner
Date of birth: 26th of July 2008

SMRIKVE MALVAZIJA **2019** (1 Grand Slam title) – 15th Olive Tree **XXIV** SB generation

Ksenia EFREMOVA – 2019 SB winner
• junior AUSTRALIAN OPEN 2026 winner
• #1 ITF in 2026
Date of birth: 28th of April 2008

I am pleased to share in the following another significant data... how many Top 100 ATP/WTA players names holds each olive tree so far... and also how many Grand Slam titles holds each olive tree so far...



Smrikva Bowl **Top 100 ATP/WTA** Club can count so far on **57 players** and **47** players planted our olive legendary trees...

There are 10 players who reached in their career Top 100 ATP/WTA and played Smrikva Bowl before we started to plant our olive trees back in 2005 and their names are:

Dominic **Thiem**, Petra **Martic**, Martina **Trevisan**, Ajla **Tomljanovic**, Ivana **Lisjak**, Dino **Marcan**, Ivan **Sabanov**, Matej **Sabanov**, Angelica **Moratelli**, Marin **Draganja**,...

...and the following 47 players have their generations trees growing in Smrikve.

I am pleased to split the names by the year when they planted their olive trees:

2005 (7 players) – 1st Olive Tree **X** generation

Borna **Coric**, Donna **Vekic**, Laslo **Djere**, Jana **Fett**, Irina Maria **Bara**, Camilla **Rosatello**, Nino **Serdarusic**

2006 (3 players) – 2nd Olive Tree **XI** generation

Belinda **Bencic**, Katie **Boulter**, Nina **Stojanovic**

2007 (5 players) – 3rd Olive Tree **XII** generation

Tommy **Paul**, Ana **Konjuh**, Lloyd **Harris**, Ivana **Jorovic**, Maia **Lumsden**

2008 (8 players) – 4th Olive Tree **XIII** generation

Alexei **Popyrin**, Miomir **Kecmanovic**, Viktoria **Kuzmova**, Ingrid **Neel**, Tereza **Mihalikova**, Maia **Lumsden**, William **Blumberg**, Patrik **Rikl**

2009 (6 players) – 5th Olive Tree **XIV** generation

Alex **De Minaur**, Alejandro **Davidovich Fokina**, Alexei **Popyrin**, Tomaš **Machač**, Miomir **Kecmanovic**, Patrik **Rikl**

2010 (4 players) – 6th Olive Tree **XV** generation

Tomaš **Machač**, Mattia **Bellucci,** Claire **Liu**, Olga **Danilovic**

2011 (2 players) – 7th Olive Tree **XVI** generation

Olga **Danilovic**, Filip **Misolic**

2012 (4 players) – 8th Olive Tree **XVII** generation

Lorenzo **Musetti**, Flavio **Cobolli**, Luciano **Darderi,** Maria **Timfoeeva**

2013 (6 players) – 9th Olive Tree **XVIII** generation

Carlos **Alcaraz**, Holger **Rune**, Hamad **Medjedovic**, Luca **Nardi**, Jaime **Faria**, Antonia **Ruzic**

2014 (3 players) – 10th Olive Tree **XIX** generation

Linda **Fruhvirtova**, Daniel **Merida**, Lucija **Ciric Bagaric**

2015 (4 players) – 11th Olive Tree **XX** generation

Linda **Fruhvirtova**, Alexandra **Eala**, Petra **Marcinko**, Dino **Prizmic**

2016 (1 player) – 12th Olive Tree **XXI** generation

Martin **Landaluce**

2017 (1 player) – 13th Olive Tree **XXII** generation

Tereza **Valentova**



Smrikva Bowl **Grand Slam** Club can count so far on **42 players** and **35** players planted our legendary olive trees... the same as for the ATP/WTA Club there are 7 players who conquered a Grand Slam title and played Smrikva Bowl before we started to plant our olive trees back in 2005 and their names are:

Dominic **Thiem**, Ajla **Tomljanovic**, Marin **Draganja**, Dino **Marcan**, George **Morgan**, Robin **Kern**, Daniel **Berta**...

...while the following 35 players have their generations trees growing in Smrikve... and I am pleased to split the names again by the year when they planted their olive trees:

2005 (2 players) – 1st Olive Tree **X** SB generation

Borna **Coric**, Gianluigi **Quinzi**

2006 (2 players) – 2nd Olive Tree **XI** SB generation

Belinda **Bencic**, Gianluigi **Quinzi**

2007 (2 players) – 3rd Olive Tree **XII** SB generation

Tommy **Paul**, Ana **Konjuh**

2008 (4 players) – 4th Olive Tree **XIII** SB generation

Alexei **Popyrin,** Viktoria **Kuzmova**,Tereza **Mihalikova**, Patrik **Rikl**

2009 (4 players) – 5th Olive Tree **XIV** SB generation

Alex **De Minaur,** Alejandro **Davidovich Fokina,** Alexei **Popyrin,** Patrik **Rikl**

2010 (5 players) – 6th Olive Tree **XV** SB generation

Claire **Liu,** Olga **Danilovic**, Nicola **Kuhn**, Yshai **Oliel**, Paula **Arias Manjon**

2011 (1 player) – 7th Olive Tree **XVI** SB generation Olga **Danilovic**
2012 (2 players) – 8th Olive Tree **XVII** SB generation Lorenzo **Musetti,** Flavio **Cobolli**
2013 (3 players) – 9th Olive Tree **XVIII** SB generation Carlos **Alcaraz**, Holger **Rune,** Daniel **Rincon**
2014 (1 player) – 10th Olive Tree **XIX** SB generation Mili **Poljicak**
2015 (4 players) – 11th Olive Tree **XX** SB generation Petra **Marcinko**, Alexandra **Eala**, Dino **Prizmic,** Mara **Gae**
2016 (3 players) – 12th Olive Tree **XXI** SB generation Martin **Landaluce**, Kylan **Bigun**, Rose Marie **Nijkamp**
2017 (1 player) – 13th Olive Tree **XXII** SB generation Tereza **Valentova**
2018 (4 players) – 14th Olive Tree **XXIII** SB generation Niels **McDonald**, Dimitar **Kisimov**, Ziga **Sesko**, Alisa **Oktiabreva**
2019 (1 player) – 15th Olive Tree **XXIV** SB generation Ksenia **Efremova**

... after this introduction, it is time to return to our **Smrikva Bowl Olive Harvest Family Week** plan and program...

When do we usually harvest our olives?

Most of the time, the harvest period depends on when our olives ripen, which is influenced by the overall weather conditions during that particular year.

The earliest harvest we have ever started was around October 10th, and the latest was around November 10th. Traditionally, however, the peak of the olive harvest falls in the last week of October.

That's why our 2027 Olive Harvest Family Week will be scheduled around that week and will include at least two weekends.



How many families can we welcome for the Smrikva Bowl Tennis Talents Olive Harvest Family Week 2027?

At this stage, we can welcome a maximum of eight families for this special holiday experience.



How many days do we need to harvest our olives?

It depends on the year and the size of the harvest... In the past, our shortest harvest took two full days, while the longest lasted seven full days... Of course, these harvests were carried out with larger teams...

For the Smrikva Bowl Olive Harvest Family Week 2027, however, we are planning just ONE olive-picking day... dedicated to harvesting the olives from our 23 Smrikva Bowl seed trees...



I am pleased to share with you what we usually do during our harvest day... This will help you understand what to expect in terms of physical outdoor activity and the different tasks involved in the olive harvest...

Please remember to dress appropriately... Think farming clothes! Although it can be quite hot on sunny days, our mornings during this time of the year can be dewy and chilly... Proper working clothes and shoes are therefore essential...

How is a typical harvest day organized?



We usually prepare our olive groves several days or even weeks in advance... We keep the grass shorter to prevent the morning dew from becoming an obstacle during the harvest preparation...

If there is morning dew, we cannot start picking the olives until the leaves of the trees are completely dry... However, we can still spread the harvesting nets while the grass is wet, provided we wear proper waterproof shoes...

Placing the nets (7:00 AM – 8:30 AM)

We usually start placing and positioning our harvesting nets very early in the morning... around sunrise, between 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM... If there is morning dew, thanks to having the grass cut short, we can still carry out this activity... but proper waterproof shoes are always required...



Placing the nets is a very important part of the harvesting method we follow...

We have different shapes and sizes of nets, and since our olive groves are not all perfectly shaped, a bit of creativity and playfulness is always required to cover the entire ground area... This is particularly true because some of our olive trees are also decorative garden trees...

This work can be compared to putting together a patchwork... And considering the size of some of our nets, the best results are achieved when at least four people work together during this important preparation stage...

By holding the four corners of each net, it becomes much easier to handle, position and spread it properly... especially when dealing with some of our particularly large nets, which can be quite long...



Harvesting process (8:30 AM - 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM)

We usually start harvesting our olives around 8:30 AM... The main tools we use to remove the olives from the trees in our olive groves are electric harvesting poles... These devices are specifically designed for this type of work...



During our usual harvesting days, we use between five and six electric harvesting poles... but when working with larger teams, we can have more than ten in operation...

These tools are designed to help us remove the olives from the trees efficiently... Before starting, each family member who wishes to try this activity will receive a short introduction and practical training... We will show you the most efficient techniques to help you avoid unnecessary fatigue and excessive strain on your shoulder muscles... Proper technique will also help prevent accidental damage to the harvesting poles...

It is important to wear a cap and protective glasses to protect your head and eyes while the olives are falling from the trees...

And if you like playing computer games, you can use your imagination and think of this activity as playing a game... Your objective is to take down all the olives you can spot, regardless of their colour...

Another important element of this activity is balance and patience...

Once you find a comfortable working position, you should be able to maintain it for several minutes... Your head will usually be tilted upwards as you concentrate on the upper parts of the tree... It is important not to move your feet while looking upwards because many of the olives you have already brought down will be lying on the nets below... and you don't want to crush them under your shoes...

So, once you have finished working on a particular section of the tree, look down, carefully reposition your feet on the harvesting nets, making sure you avoid stepping on the olives, and then start again...

As I mentioned earlier, you usually start by harvesting one branch of the olive tree at a time... and then you play around with the different angles... Everything you do should be gentle and controlled, never forced... If you cannot reach certain olives from one position, there is usually another angle from which you can reach them more easily...

The weather is usually beautiful during our harvesting days... but sometimes you might find yourself looking directly towards the sun and having difficulty seeing what you are doing... In that situation, simply move around and change your working angle so you can clearly see where you are directing the harvesting pole...

There is also an interesting detail about the colour of olive tree leaves... The upper, outer side of the leaves is darker green, while their inner side is a lighter shade of green...

After finishing the harvesting work on the outside of the tree, one of the team members can carefully step towards the centre of the tree... From there, it becomes easier to spot the olives that might still be hidden among the branches, helped by the lighter green colour of the inner side of the leaves...

One important tip for protecting your shoulder muscles is to keep the harvesting pole as close to your body as possible... This helps keep its weight close to your centre of gravity, reducing the effort required from your arms and shoulder muscles...

You can also rest the lower part of the pole on the ground and direct its upper part towards the tree... Our harvesting poles come in different sizes and can be extended to approximately 2.2 metres or even 2.8 metres...

Electric harvesting poles weigh less than 3 kg... which is not particularly heavy... However, holding one incorrectly for an extended period can make you feel its weight quite quickly... This is another reason why learning the proper technique is so important...

Every person who will be involved in this part of the harvest will receive the necessary instructions... We will organize a short practical training session to make it easier for new team members to get familiar with this activity...

So far, we have used batteries to power our electric harvesting poles... When connecting the poles to the batteries, it is important to follow the instructions and respect the correct cable polarity to avoid electrical problems or blown fuses...

Also, when more than one harvesting pole is connected to the same battery, everyone needs to pay attention to their cables and movements... We must avoid pulling the cables too hard, as this could damage the connections or the battery equipment...

This part of the activity, which involves taking the olives down from the trees, is usually completed by around 2:00 PM... This allows us enough time to carry out the other important activities involved in the harvesting process and, most importantly, to get our olives to the olive mill before sunset...

At that time of the year, the days are already getting shorter, and sunset comes quite early... usually around 5:00 PM...



... Every time we harvest olives in Smrikve, we usually take a break around 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM for what we call "marenda"... It is a traditional local mid-morning meal, something between breakfast and lunch, which we enjoy together as a whole harvesting team...

After the major harvesting work is completed, usually around 2:30 PM, we sit down for our team lunch...



... But let me now return to the other tasks that the harvesting teams take care of before lunchtime...

Collecting the olives from the nets

By around 2:00 PM, another important part of the harvesting process should be completed... This activity usually starts about one hour after we begin harvesting the trees and is carried out by a second team, whose main responsibility is to collect the olives from the harvesting nets...



This part of the process is quite similar to the traditional way of fishing with nets... The olives are gathered from the nets and placed into plastic crates, each with a capacity of approximately 25 kg...

Once collected, the crates are brought together for preliminary cleaning, during which we remove most of the leaves and other small pieces of vegetation before taking the olives to the olive mill...



Folding the nets

The same team responsible for collecting the olives from the nets is also in charge of folding and tying them... This activity is best performed by teams of two or, ideally, four people... Once again, the process is quite similar to folding a large blanket...



After the nets have been folded and tied, we transport them to our storage area... It is important that the nets are not left outdoors overnight because, during this period of the year, there is usually dew during the night... Keeping them dry and properly stored helps us take good care of our harvesting equipment...

The plastic crates, each containing approximately 25 kg of olives, are transported to the area where our cleaning team takes over... Their task is to separate any remaining leaves and other small pieces of vegetation from the olives before they are taken to the olive mill...



Another part of the team is dedicated to keeping our olive groves tidy... They make sure that any branches that might have been cut or fallen during the harvesting process are collected and removed from the groves...

Cleaning the leaves (2:30 PM – 4:30 PM)

Cleaning the leaves is usually carried out by a team of at least four to five people, with the help of a dedicated cleaning machine... The machine helps separate the remaining leaves and small pieces of vegetation from the olives...

Once cleaned, the olives are placed back into plastic crates, each with a capacity of approximately 25 kg... The filled crates are then loaded onto the trailer or truck that we use to transport our olives to the olive mill...



Bring olives to the mill before sunset (4:30 PM and 5:00 PM)

We usually finish our harvesting day by bringing the collected olives to the olive mill... This is an important final step because we make sure that all our harvested olives are delivered to the mill before sunset...

Once they arrive at the mill, the olives are processed as soon as possible and always within a maximum of 24 hours...





We have always carried out our olive harvest within our own family circle, together with close relatives and family friends... Now, the eight families selected to spend their autumn holidays with us will have the opportunity to experience this tradition in exactly the same way we have always enjoyed it... sharing the work, the fun and the special atmosphere of our olive harvest during our dedicated harvesting day...



I almost forgot to mention that there is always a place for someone in our kitchen team as well... During our harvesting days, we always have our traditional "marenda" (brunch) and lunch prepared for the whole team...

As you can read above, harvest days are long days... They start as early as 7:00 AM for one part of the team and finish late in the evening for another part of the team...

Even with large and well-trained teams, we need at least seven full harvesting days in a good harvest year...

Your experience during the Smrikva Bowl Olive Harvest Family Week (SBTTOHFW) will be tailored to your physical abilities, interests and skills... Everyone will be able to find a way to participate and contribute to the experience...

During your stay, we will make sure to harvest the olives from the 23 Smrikva Bowl generation trees... With a good team, collecting the olives from these 23 mature trees takes approximately one full day...

The remaining part of the Olive Harvest Family Week will be structured as our traditional SMRIKVA BOWL TENNIS TALENTS FAMILY WEEK (SBTTFW).

SBTTFW is a unique, long-term development-oriented holiday experience for Smrikva Bowl players and their families. It was initiated in 2015 by Mio, founder of Smrikva Bowl – "La Bottega" di Smrikve, and Luca Appino, founder of Tennis Talents.

Mio and Luca have been friends for more than 20 years, sharing a deep passion for tennis and a common curiosity about the continuous evolution of the game. They enjoy studying its development, observing what happens on and off the court, and exchanging their findings, insights and experiences on a regular basis.

Their shared vision of the ever-evolving game of tennis, together with their understanding of the importance of family in a young player's development, inspired them to create this unique holiday experience.

Smrikva Bowl traditionally brings together highly motivated young players with a strong orientation towards tennis development. SBTTFW offers selected players and their families an opportunity to discover the Tennis Talents methodology and meet its founder, Luca Appino.

At the same time, it offers an opportunity to explore, together with Smrikva Bowl founder Mio, the less visible forces present in every tennis match – the elements that influence and often determine the flow of a match.

For more experienced players and families who have already attended previous Family Weeks, there is also an opportunity to explore the foundations of stable peak performance, particularly the balance and mutual respect between body and mind.

LUCA APPINO – TENNIS TALENTS

Luca Appino has extensive experience in identifying and developing tennis talent.

During an eight-year period of talent scouting, he selected players between the ages of 11 and 15, five of whom subsequently reached the No. 1 position in the ATP/WTA rankings: Rafael Nadal, Andy Roddick, Kim Clijsters, Dinara Safina and Caroline Wozniacki.

In addition, more than 20 players he identified reached the ATP/WTA Top 50.

He has coached several ATP/WTA players and won junior Grand Slam titles with two different players.

Today, he dedicates his time to helping players, coaches and families around the world discover, develop and fulfil their potential.

MIO – SMRIKVA BOWL

Mio's tennis experience has developed through the creation and continuous development of Smrikva Bowl, an event that has influenced the journeys of many players who have become internationally recognised tennis stars.

“La Bottega” di Smrikve has also become a place that positively influences the tennis experiences of players and families who spend their holidays in Smrikve.

Mio is a PTR Certified Professional Tennis Coach. Over the years, he has studied more than 430 books on tennis and sports, using this knowledge to support and complement the empirical insights he continuously develops through everyday observation and practice.

He follows the evolution of the game through Smrikva Bowl players, his own coaching experiences and participation in international tennis symposiums.

Over the years, he has also spent more than 950 hours, both on and off the court, discussing with Luca Appino a wide range of different elements that influence the game of tennis and the development of players.

Mio's formal education includes studies in Mathematics and Information Science, Conservatory of Music, a degree in Business Administration (Finance and Financial Institutions), a Master's degree in Common European Management Science (CEMS), and a degree in Political Science.

His additional education includes the Citicorp Associate Development Program, the European House-Ambrosetti Young Leaders Program and Van der Meer Tennis University Europe.

In addition to his PTR Professional title, he was a certified member of the International Sport Mental Coach Association (ISMCA), a certified Chair and Line Umpire by the Association of Croatian Tennis Umpires, and a member of the Croatian Tennis Coaches Association.

THE STORY BEHIND SBTTFW

In 2014, Mio and Luca agreed to create this special holiday experience, giving selected Smrikva Bowl players and their families an opportunity to combine quality family time with high-quality tennis-related experiences.

Over the years, our Family Weeks have evolved into a unique holiday experience for families who wish to increase the opportunities for their children to discover, develop and fulfil their potential.

And this potential can take many different forms. It is not limited to becoming a professional tennis player. It is about helping young people become the best version of themselves, both on and off the court.

So far, around 100 players and their families have experienced SBTTFW.

Jovana Vuković (Srb) – **USA**; Tamara Dlačić (Srb); Alexa Butera (Usa) - **USA**; Claire Liu (Usa) – **WTA**; Kosta Petrov (Srb); Kiro Paul Barra (Ger); Kiran Dhull (Uk); Andreja Petrović (Nor) - **USA/ATP**; Max Motlagh (Usa) – **USA**; June Bjork (Swe) – **USA**; Vardhan Karkal (Ind); Anđela Skrobonja (Srb) - **USA**; Leah Gonzales Edwards (Uk) - **USA**; Ivan Sabanov (Cro) - **ATP**; Matej Sabanov (Cro) – **ATP**; Tadej Mihajlović (Srb) – **USA**; Tara Sladaković (Cro) - ITF ; Matthias Uwe Kask (Can) – **USA**; Ana Tara Praček (Slo); Lorenzo Sciahbasi (Ita) – **ATP**; Maria Timofeeva (Rus) - **WTA**; Yannick Ngantcha (Esp,Ita,C); Ayline Ngantcha (Esp,Ita,C); Roben Gavani (Bul) – ITF; Malwina Rowinska (Pol) – **USA**; Edit Cosmo (Swe) – **USA**; Sofia S. Edmundson (Esp,UK) – **USA**; Stefan Sladaković (Cro); Žiga Šeško (Svn) – **ATP**; Staša Bulatović (Mne) – ITF; Trian Lakha (UK); Uxue Azurza Frade (Esp) – ITF; Rares Golescu (Rou) – **USA**; Paolina Pieragostini (Sv,Ita) – ITF; Jaša Cvek (Svn); Manuella Persson (Cro,Swe) – **USA**; Jacob Shen (Hkg) – ITF; Hannah Shen (Hkg) – **USA**; Michele Mecarelli (Ita) – **ATP**; Karlo Brkić (Cro); Fabian Đitko (Cro); Alessia Beatrice Chiriac (Rom); Angelica Sara (Ita) – ITF; Annathea Sara (Ita) – **USA** ; Kaaviyan Pradhaban (UK); Kayleigh Busuttil Fitzpatrick (Mlt) – ETA; Korana Barišić (Cro); Timothy Putinja (Cro) - ETA; Benjamin Rehor (Cze) – ETA; Kan Ahić (BiH) – ETA; Berke Bozkurt (Tur); Aran Selvaraasan (UK) – ITF; Sofia Ferraris (Ita) – ITF; Max Šenjug (Cro) – ETA; Jayden Olimadeji (UK) – ETA; Eric Sebastian Sandu (Rom) – ETA; Lea Šegota (Cro) - ETA; Camilla Cecchia (Ita) – ITF; Luca Godaux (Bel) – ETA; Roman Andreev Ferraris (Ita); Katsiaryna Unuchka (Blr) – ETA; Aliaksandra Unuchka (Blr) - ETA; Bianca Fagerlund (Swe) – ETA; Viktor Damyanov (Ger,Bgr) - ETA; Margherita Losco (Ita) – ETA; Sebastiene Safar (USA, Fr) - ETA; Louis Taylor (UK) - ETA ; Tia Sladakovic (Cro) ; George Minkov (Bgr) - ETA; Zoé Aknin (Fr-Twi-USA-Den) - ETA; Andrej Borcic (Cro – Rus); Serena Meggiolaro (Pol-Ita) - ETA; Hugo Lagerlof (Fin) – ETA; Osasumwen Paschal Osagie (UK); Michael Chow Chik Yuen (Hkg); Izenosa Paschal Osagie (UK) - ETA; Kerem Emral (Tur) – ETA; Tobias Nestler (Aut) - ETA ; Andreas Gregoriu (Cyp) - ETA; Vito Bede (Cro) - ETA; Antonio Stanic (Cro) - ETA; Ivano Zic (Cro); Leyla Soysal (Tur); Ira Pupovac (Cro) – ETA; Lucian Pupovac (Cro) - ETA; Danica Adamovic (Srb) - ETA; Laura Adamovic (Srb) - ETA; Sebastian Gori (Cro, Ita) - ETA; Christos Myron Christoudias (Cyp) - ETA, Relja Mandal (Srb), Petar Nikolov (Srb), Arick Ka Wai Cheung (Hkg), Edward Spiteri Paris (Mlt – Can), Christian Farrugia (Mlt), Ekaterina Abramova (Rus), Leonid Abramov (Rus), Aleksander Kolarczyk (Pol)

... and the following 8 players with their families lived so far the new SBTTOHFW experience: Tia Sladakovic (Cro), Adriana Fischer (Ger,Svn), Devlet Rahmani (Tur), Medina Rahmani (Tur) – ETA; Tobias Nestler (Aut) – ETA; Tara Bjelos (Srb), Martin Ganchev (Bgr), Ronak Galaiya (UK)

MORE ABOUT 2nd SBTTOHFW 2027:

- Family week will be as per tradition limited to **maximum 7-8 families**
- The 2nd Smrikva Bowl Olive Harvest Family Week 2027 will take place from Saturday 9th of October – Sunday 17th of October
- **The families** during their **stay** are based **in Smrikve**
- **Deadline** for the candidacy is **10th of August 2027**... (we reserve the right to bring forward the deadline date once the number of invited families equal the number of players-families we can invite)

WHO CAN PARTICIPATED?

SBTTFW is primarily dedicated to:

- Players who have successfully completed their Smrikva Bowl candidacy process.
- Players who have been selected to participate in Smrikva Bowl.
- Players who have already participated in Smrikva Bowl.
- Brothers and sisters of Smrikva Bowl players.
- Players who have previously stayed and trained in Smrikve.
- Players recommended by families of previous Smrikva Bowl Tennis Talents Family Week participants. Such players may also be considered for this holiday experience following an individual evaluation.

As an experimental extension, the 2nd Smrikva Bowl Tennis Talents Olive Harvest Family Week (SBTTOHFW) 2027 will also take into consideration the applications from:

- Players who dream of presenting their candidacy for the 33rd edition of Smrikva Bowl in 2028.

AGE GROUPS AND INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCES

The 2nd SBTTOHFW 2027 will welcome players born in different age groups.

As we have already experienced during previous SBTTFW editions, each player personally experiences and explores the different elements introduced and shared throughout the day.

Although players participate in the same daily activities, the experience is individual. Each player interprets, discovers and develops an understanding of the shared elements according to their own age, experience, personality and stage of development.

As anticipated above, during Smrikva Bowl Olive Harvest Family Week we will incorporate the SBTTFW program that counts on over 40+ quality hours of experiences with each family and player.

PROGRAM

2nd Smrikva Bowl Olive Harvest Family Week (SBTTOHFW) 2027

9th of October – 17th of October 2027

SBTTOHFW Arrival: Saturday, October 9

7:00 - 8:30 PM Introductory Presentation: human individual - sport development and TT System (Formula and Method) overview

First Day SBTTOHFW: Sunday, October 10

- 10:00 -10:30 AM Introduction and Activation
- 10:30 – 11:00 AM SIGMA Test
- 11:00 AM - 13:00 PM work on the courts with focus on Reversed-Outcome based Pedagogy/Effectiveness (task-constraint-environment approach) **"Play with margin to *stay* in the point"** (main sense: thinking + ball feel)
- 3:00-5:00 PM work on the courts - Tactics (situation A: neutral)
- 7:00 -8:30 PM classroom: Momentum – the hidden force in tennis (introduction movie)

Second Day SBTTOHFW: Monday, October 11

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM Activation time
- 9:00 – 11:00 AM work on the courts with focus on: Efficiency - Fluidity of movements and acceleration (individual style and key technical elements of the strokes to achieve desired outcomes) **"Speed of spin"** (main senses: balance + proprioception + ball feel)
- 11:00 AM -12:30 PM Players' on court assessment
- 2:00 - 4:00 PM work on the courts - Tactics (situation B: offensive & defensive)
- 4:15 -5:15 PM individual interview with the parents of a player
- 5:15 -6:15 PM individual interview with the parents of a player
- 7:00 -8:30 PM classroom: Management of the hidden force in tennis

Third Day SBTTOHFW: Wednesday, October 12

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM Activation time
- 9:00 – 11:00 AM work on the courts with focus on: : Footwork, timing and rhythm (overall movement) **"Move the opponent"** (main sense: vision + ball feel)
- 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Players on court assessment
- 2:00 - 4:00 PM work on the courts - Tactics (situation C: playing at the net)
- 4:15 -5:15 PM individual interview with the parents of a player

- 5:15 -6:15 PM individual interview with the parents of a player
- 7:00 -8:30 PM classroom: Game management when the Momentum is in different stages (second revealing movie)

Fourth Day SBTTOHFW: Wednesday, October 13

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM Activation time
- 9:00 – 11:00 AM work on the courts with focus on: Ideal hitting zone **"Take time away from the opponent"** (main sense: hearing + ball feel)
- 11:00 AM-12:30 PM Players on court assessment
- 2:00 - 4:00 PM work on the courts - Tactics (situation D: speed & relevant targets)
- 4:15 -5:15 PM individual interview with the parents of a player
- 5:15 -6:15 PM individual interview with the parents of a player
- 7:00 -8:30 PM classroom: Momentum individual experience

Fifth Day SBTTOHFW: Thursday, October 14

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM Activation time
- 9:00 – 11:00 AM work on the courts : overall review from previous topics
- 11:00 -12:30 PM Players on court assessment
- 2:00 - 4:00 PM matches
- 4:15 -5:15 PM individual interview with the parents of a player
- 5:15 -6:15 PM individual interview with the parents of a player
- 7:00 -8:30 PM classroom: Momentum and emotions (third revealing movie)

Sixth Day SBTTOHFW: Friday, October 15

- 8:30 – 9:00 AM Activation time
- 9:00 – 12:00 AM matches
- 2:00 - 4:00 PM matches
- 6:00 -7:30 PM classroom: Graduation

Seventh Day SBTTOHFW: Saturday, October 16

- Collection Day (collection day might be moved in any of the previous days)

Eigth Day - departure home SBTTOHFW: Sunday, October 17

- Each alumni will receive a brief written report

MOMENTUM:

There is an invisible energy present in every tennis match. It can be sensed not only by the players themselves but also by those watching and understanding the game.

Learning more about this invisible energy and the way it influences the flow of a match can help players become more aware of it and develop the ability to manage it.

Players who are able to understand and manage momentum are often described by others as mentally tough players.

Tennis matches are not necessarily won by players with the most beautiful strokes, but by those who manage to avoid beating themselves.

For many players, the toughest competition does not come from the opponent standing on the other side of the net, but rather from the opponent located between their ears.

We can call this opponent the DARK SIDE OF TENNIS.

When things do not go our way, the Dark Side of Tennis comes to life and starts using its weapons – impatience, anger and fear – to take control of our minds and disrupt our game.

Understanding these forces is the first step towards learning how not to let them take control.

PEAK PERFORMANCE:

Spontaneous performance occurs when the mind is calm and seems to be at one with the body.

This process does not necessarily have to be learned. In a sense, we already know how to do it.

It is similar to the natural process through which we learned to walk and talk. We did not learn these abilities by consciously controlling every movement. We developed them by allowing the natural learning process to unfold.

The challenge is therefore not simply to learn more, but also to unlearn the habits and mental patterns that interfere with our natural ability to perform.

Once these unnecessary interferences are removed, we can allow performance to happen more spontaneously.

Developing inner skills is essential for learning how to direct our attention, maintain focus and trust ourselves.

The ability to master the art of effortless concentration is invaluable, not only in tennis but in anything we truly set our minds to.

MORE ABOUT LUCA's TENNIS TALENTS PROJECT

At Tennis-Talents (TT) you will find focus on young, high level oriented players. TT guide a player and his/her family on the path to professional tennis helping to define the best possible individual project.

Many years of success in scouting, coaching and advising are the guarantee of TT's way of working, based on TT Formula and TT Method. It is matter of fact that a lot of players, who have a good potential, do not succeed, mainly for not having an appropriate career project. Families without expertise are trying to "walk" and very often fail.

To assess an individual player Luca follow the TT Formula that represents knowledge distilled from years of succesful experience in the world of tennis. With it he establish the parameters for understanding the present situation of a player and the family, he identify the priorities to work on and help to set up the best possible project to achieve the goals agreed together.

With the TT Method, a philosophy and set of principled guidelines (Mental, Physical, Technical and Tactical) once identified the priorities to work on with the TT Formula, he guide the player to improve in the best possible way in order to express his/her potential.

„A player can be only as good as the team working with.“



MORE ABOUT LUCA APPINO PAST EXPERIENCES

Luca Appino is Maestro of The Italian Tennis Federation and PTR Professional for over 30 years. He is a tennis related science researcher. In particular his interest is focused on the application of the Reversed Pedagogy on which he developed the “Tennis Talents Method”, a holistic teaching and coaching approach that starts from tactics, vs. imposing standard movements.

Luca started his carrier in Italy and for over 10 years was dedicated to the development of tennis schools in various clubs. He has experience in management and marketing working for famous companies in the tennis industry such as: Alto, Maxima, Dunlop and Babolat. The evoluation of Babolat from stringing to a racket company was possible thanks Luca Appino's ability in talent scouting.

For Babolat he selected various young and, at the time, unknown players, from 11 to 15 years old; five of them reached the #1 position in the ATP and WTA: Rafael Nadal, Andy Roddick, Kim Clijsters, Dinara Safina and Caroline Wozniacki.

After Babolat experience he was director for a year of Mouratoglou Tennis Academy in Paris.

In 2007, Luca received the PTR Industry Award for the results obtained in talent scouting and for the development of the tennis industry in general. In 2009, his first book : "The world of Rafael Nadal, secrets of his success“, written in collaboration with Toni Nadal, was published in English, French and Spanish.

In 2008 Luca founded Tennis-Talents and implemented the TT Formula and TT Method; he led seminars and workshops around the world. During his coaching experience, Luca guided the Estonian player Kaia Kanepi from #60 WTA to #18 WTA ranking.

From August 2010 to July 2011, he was the Executive Tennis Director of the Tunisian Tennis Federation and coach of Ons Jabeur, the Roland Garros Junior 2011 winner.

In 2013 and 2014 worked with Ante Pavic (CRO). In less than one year his ranking went from #495 to #130 in the ATP World Singles Ranking. Later on he coached Tadeja Majerić and Donna Vekić.

Over the last years Luca is helping several Smrikva Bowl players and families who attended Smrikva Bowl Tennis Talents Family Weeks around the world to develop and fully express their potential.

At the same time he is also helping various tennis talents and coaches around the world in their development, and in 2021 he published his second book „A journey to discover talent“.

MORE ABOUT MIO

Mio's formal education background includes different fields (maths information science, music, finance, political science & phyolosphy, art, history & tennis):

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.
    - 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 Europen Management Science (CEMS) – top International Management Master
    - 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 at 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
    - International Sport Mental Coach Association (ISMCA) member;
    - Certified Chair and Line Umpire (Croatian Tennis Association);
    - 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, 114 countries & six continents story)
- Smrikve limited editions of wine making started in 2004 (114 countries & six continents story)
- Olive oil limited editions making started in 2005 (114 countries & 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 3700+ books out of which over 430+ 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 individualy in 2014 (top National player U10,U12,U14,U16 & U18) and his second niece individually in 2023
- started Smrikva Bowl Tennis Talents Family Week (SBTTFW) holiday program in 2015 (around 100 past Smrikva Bowl families attended)
- started Smrikva Bowl Olive Harvest Family Week (SBTTOHFW) in 2026



As of November 2nd, 2026 SB „seeds of the Legends“ track record includes the following:

- *167 professional ATP/WTA titles (6 Grand Slams) conquered by 39 players*
- *60 Grand Slam titles (including junior titles) conquered by 42 players*
- *7 Olympic medals*
- *2 NEXT GEN ATP Finals titles*
- *4 Davis Cup & 2 Billie Jean King Cup*
- *112 players reached TOP 200 ATP/WTA ranking => 57 players reached TOP 100 ATP/WTA ranking => 19 players reached TOP 20 ATP/WTA => 8 players reached TOP 10 ATP/WTA ranking=> 1 player reached#1 ATP*
- *16 players reached #1 ITF ranking*
- *407+ SB players received scholarships to study & play tennis for the US Universities.*

https://www.smrikve.com/smrikva-bowl/la-bottega-di-smrikve/

During SBTTOHFW we will enjoy the harvest day... and a lot of quality tennis time... but the subject of the classes will be tailored on the elements which always make a big difference at high level tennis...



There is an invisible energy present in every tennis match. Can be sensed by the player but also by people attending and watching the match and knowing a bit more about it can help us to manage this invisible energy. The players able to manage what is called momentum are usually named by others mentally tough players.





Peak performance is another important subject to be shared... spontaneous performance occurs only when the mind is calm and seems to be at one with the body. This process does not have to be learned; we already know it.

Development of inner skills is required to learn how to focus your attention and how to trust in yourself. The skill of mastering the art of effortless concentration is invaluable in whatever you set your mind to.

I WOULD LIKE TO BE PART OF THE

2nd Smrikva Bowl Olive Harvest Family Week 2027 (SBTTOHFW)

NAME: _____ SURNAME: _____

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

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

LIST THE NAME OF PEOPLE WISHING TO COME WITH YOU:

Name	Age	Preferred harvest activity team		
		Managing electric olive harvesting pole	Managing nets	Cleaning leaves

Does any family member have any kind of olives harvest experience? _____

_____

Does any family member have any kind of agricultural family experience? _____

_____

My level of English: _____ very good _____ basic _____ very poor

Other Languages I am fluent in: _____

Family e-mail: _____

Current ranking: _____ (national) _____ (international)

Best ranking: _____

Most important result: _____

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

Name of my current coach: _____

I started to play tennis when I was _____ years old

Currently I practice: _____ hours per week, of WHICH:

_____ hours individually

_____ hours with other players (or sparing)

_____ hours I dedicate to coordination-footwork exercises

_____ hours I spend in massage and body streching

_____ hours to improve mental part of my game

_____ hours parcticing other sports. Such as: _____

MY STRENGTHS ARE: _____

AREAS THAT I WISH TO IMPROVE ARE: _____

ACCOMMODATION PREFERRED:

SMRIKVE LOUNGE Villa:

EARTH _____

CLOUD _____

SUN _____

WIND _____

Villa SMRIKVE:

Villa SMRIKVA Charme _____

TRS Apartment _____

ULIKA Apartment _____

