

# Badminton-Sport for generations

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1. What is your name and how old are you?

S: My name is Olaf Schlüter and I am 44 years old.

K: My name is Monique Kahlenberg and I am 14 years old.

2. For how long do you play badminton?

S: I've played it since 1988.

K: I play it for three years.

3. Which aids do you need for this sport?

S: You need a badminton racket, an opponent, a net, a sports hall and good responsiveness.

K: You need shuttlecocks, a badminton racket and rubber shoes.

4. What is important for being successful?

S: You have to try the shuttlecocks to play as quickly and placed as you can so your opponent cannot reach it.

K: It is important to have the will to train and not to give up if you are two points behind.

5. How often do you have training?

S: I have training once a week.

K: Every Monday we have 1 ¾ hours training.

6. Did the rules change since you started playing badminton?

S: Yes, the way of counting points changed. So we use the rally point counting, which means that every player is able to make points. Only the markup is alternately.

In the old way of counting points only the player who made a markup was able to get a point. The consequence is a faster play with more points.

7. What are your previous payoffs?

S: I was second in Men Double in the club championship.

K: I was always piped.

8. What is your goal for the future?

S: I want to play badminton until I reach a high age.

K: I want to train a lot to get better and then to go home after a game with the knowledge that I won.

9. Why do you like badminton?

S: For me it is a lot of fun.

K: My team is really easy-going and we always have lots of fun together, especially in the training and at competitions.

10. What should someone bring along for badminton?

S: You should bring fun and joy. Additional you should be a team player, although badminton is a sport for individuals.

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K: My team is really easy-going and we always have lots of fun together, especially in the training and at competitions.

## **Dancing is my passion**

Dancing is more than just a passion for me, it's my life. Sometimes it's pretty hard but I never would stop dancing, I will like to do it as long as possible. A person whose name is Karin Weiler talks about her passion-dancing.

For how many years have you practiced dancing?

I have danced since I am 9 years old, 39 by now.

How did you start with dancing?

When I was young I have been one of those girls who got a long body very early. That's why I always wanted to be small and slouched my back. Because of that my mother registered me in a balletclass.

There are many different styles of dancing. Which styles do you practise?

I do so many styles of dancing, for example classical ballet, jazzdance, a kind of can-can dance, Latin-American formation, standard dance, musical dance, tap dance, afro dance and showdance.

And which music is used for the individual styles?

Everything, from classic to modern.

Do you take part in competitions? Are you successful? And in which category do you participate?

First with can-can dance when I was a child/teenager to German competitions and later in with the Twisters also to German competitions.

Did you have a role-model or did you have a favourite dancing-or music-style?

I don't have a favourite dancing and music style. I like to do everything but I prefer showdance because this style of dancing implies Latin-American formation and tap dance.

Are there any major differences between some time ago and today?

I don't think so-music and dancing are things that you have to do as a passion. I mean as in every artistic area there are advancements.

You are a teacher of the showdancegroup 'twisters'. How did you advance there? How many groups do you coach?

I am just the co-trainer and support Daniela Scheffner who tries to get boys and girls to be more flexible. I am just a friend of Daniela and because both of us like showdance. Besides we have the same conception about training and how to dance in a perfect way.

Has it been hard to be a coach and not a dancer?

Cause I am dancing too, it wasn't. But it is a great experience to work and deal with the children and teenagers.

Which variations do you mix in your dancing group?

Since we warm up I mixed element from ballet with aerobic for a basic fitness. I also do stretching or some smaller parts from jazzdance. We just mix everything because then the dancing pupils don't have any kind of problems if there will be a special part in a dance.

Are there any positive or negative transformation?

You can see lesson by lesson that the children get more and more flexibility. That's really great.

Do your pupils take part at competitions?

Every year we participate at the competition from the Pfälzer Turnerbund. Mostly 2-3 groups qualify to the 'Rendezvous der Besten' at the Eberthalle in Ludwigshafen. With the adults we were allowed to go twice to the 'Bundesfinale' from the German Turnerbund. But the biggest success we had last year at the Bundesfinale. We are in the top ten of the best German showdance groups we reach the title: Showgroup 2013 des DTB either.

What's the most important thing about dancing?

Having fun and getting more flexibility.

How long would you like to be a coach or do dancing?

As long as possible.

Katharina Weber, Klasse 10b

## **Interview**

It would hardly be an exaggeration to say that over the generations a lot of things changed in our lifestyle. So we picked some standard questions to highlight some fundamental differences between our Generation today with an older one which experienced the second world war.

In our interview we talked to Wilfried Hanke an ... years old man, to then compare his teenage life with Franziska Bahde's, an 18 year old girl.

### **1. Which subject did/do you like and hate the most?**

Wilfried: I liked maths. English, however, wasn't my thing, for I hated learning words.

Franziska : My favorite subject is math because I like abstract things in mathematics. Currently, there is no subject I hate. But I do not really like chemistry.

### **2. When did/do you go to school?**

Wilfried: School started at 7:30 am, and we sometimes had classes in the afternoon too. We also had to go to school on Saturday.

Franziska: Every day, Monday to Friday I go to school at 8 am and normally school finishes at 3 pm .

### **3. What did/do you wanted/want to do after you have passed your exams?**

Wilfried: My dream was to become an architect so I started to work in a building firm. Then I worked in the BASF, which is the biggest chemical industry in Europe. After 4 years there I went to a school of engineering to become an architect.

I've been working in the BASF for 40 years.

Franziska: I am going to study international administration in order to work in cooperation with known automobile producers.

### **4. Did/Do you also have your own car to go to school or work?**

Wilfried: No, I got my drivers license in 1959 but I hadn't enough money to buy my own car. So I had to go by bike or by bus.

Franziska: No, but sometimes I use my mother's or sister's car. But normally I go to school by train.

### **5. Did/Do you have any special talents?**

Wilfried: When I was young, I started to sew. We didn't have much money so I used old materials to sew nightdresses for my family.

Franziska: Well, I am good at some subjects but I don't really know whether this is a special talent.

**6. Do you play an instrument?**

Wilfried: I used to play the flute in elementary school. Later I started playing the contrabass in an orchestra.

Franziska: Yes, I've been playing the flute for eight years now.

**7. How was/is life in school? How many pupils have been/are in one class?**

Wilfried: It was very hard. Normally there were about 30 pupils in one class. The fact that the teacher had a stick, which he didn't hesitate to make use of, got us all extremely frightened.

Franziska: On average we are 20 pupils. The relationship between us and the teacher is very casual but also very respectful.

**8. How important are friends for you?**

Wilfried: I had 2 real friends who I always played with. We used to ride bike, go paddling and play cards together

Franziska: My friends are very important for me. They help me whenever I need them. We go out, go shopping or just meet us for coffee.

**9. What was your worst experience?**

Wilfried: It was an experience during the war. I was 16 and saw a woman being caught by an cannon beside me.

Franziska: I think my worst experience isn't that bad. It was an incidence when I was nine. I was playing with friends, when I fell and bit my lip. I think I'm lucky that this has been the worst experience of my life.

## Parallel interview – Youth With Migrant Background In Germany

My interview partners Maria and Anna-Maria Puri are mother and daughter and they both grew up in Germany. Their parents or one of their parents are Italians. The following text shows what they told me about their youth and their lives.

### **Anna-Maria, 16 years old**

*When and where were you born?*

- I was born in Ludwigshafen on 31 October 1997 .

*Where are your parents from?*

- My father is German, my mom is Italian.

*Do you have brothers or sisters?*

- Yes. I have a little sister.

*Did you grow up multilingually at home?*

- Yes. I learnt both languages from the beginning.

*Do you feel like an Italian or like a German?*

- That's not easy to say. It always depends on where I am. Here at home with my friends or in school I feel like a normal German. When we're in Sicily on vacation to visit our family I feel like an Italian.

*What's your most "Italian" und what's your most "German" characteristic/quality?*

- (laughs) I guess my most Italian one is that I use my hands a lot when I'm talking. Can't say the most German one... Maybe eating so many potatoes? At least that's what my Italian relatives always make fun of. (laughs)

*Have you experienced racism in school?*

- Hmm... not really. Though I'm often seen as "the Italian", for example when it comes to things like the football championship or things like that. It's a bit annoying sometimes.

*Do you think that people with a migrant background are treated differently?*

- I am not, but probably because I speak German and don't seem like a "foreigner". Certainly I have to say that foreigners are often treated differently and deprecatingly.

*What do you do in your leisure time?*

- I meet up with my friends and do sports like yoga, badminton and dancing.

*Are there any differences to your German friends?*

- No.

*Do you think that you're not allowed to do as much as your friends because of the traditions and the upbringing of your mother?*

- I wouldn't say so. When it comes to boys my parents are really strict, but I don't think that is because of my mother's nationality.

*Are there any traditions or special things that the Germans don't have?*

- Maybe you could say that Christian holidays are celebrated more often and differently. None of my friends have heard of abstaining from breakfast on Good Friday or having the gift giving at 12 p.m. at Christmas for example. Another thing is that family is really important, almost "sacred", I think (laughs).

*What's the biggest difference between a typical German family and yours?*

- I can't say that actually. The only thing coming to my mind is the importance of the family. We often meet up with everyone and have a big meal at my grandmother's house to share news or problems. Especially birthdays are always celebrated in a big way, there are at least 30 people and that's not even many. (laughs) But I guess that's something that's different from family to family and also happens in Germany very often.

*Thanks for answering my questions.*



**Maria, 46 years old**

*When and where were you born?*

- I was born on the 7. of January 1968 in Speyer.

*Where are your parents from?*

- They both are from Italy.

*Do you have brothers or sisters?*

- Yes, I have four brothers.

*Did you grow up multilingually at home?*

-No. My parents both don't speak German. I only heard Italian at home. It was really hard because I learned speaking German in kindergarten/nursery school and primary school.

*Do you feel Italian or German?*

- I actually feel Italian.

*What's your most "Italian" und what's your most "German" characteristic/quality?*

- My most Italian one probably is that I'm pretty loud. (laughs) My most German one.. hmm... maybe that I'm decent.

*Have you experienced racism when you went to school?*

- Never. I guess that was because I went to school in Ludwigshafen-Hemshof, a part of the city where many foreigners live.

*Do you think that people with a migration background are treated differently?*

- That depends on how well they assimilated to the culture. If someone doesn't speak the language of this country he isn't treated as well as someone who learned it. I also think that for example Italians don't have as many problems as people of different nationalities or from far away countries.

*What did you do in your leisure when you were a teenager?*

- As a kid or a teenager I spent most of my time at home with my family. Firstly to watch my brothers and help my parents when they had language problems and secondly because I wasn't allowed to do much. The reason for that was that my parents didn't know anyone and often were afraid of many things. When I was out to dance with my friends for the first time I already was a young adult. The only thing I did was taking dancing lessons like everyone else for about two or three months.

*Were there any differences to your German friends?*

- Yes of course. They had the permission to do more and to go out more often.

*So you think that you weren't allowed to do as much as your friends because of the traditions and the upbringing of your parents?*

- I often felt like I couldn't do anything and everyone except me had fun. Today I understand my parents' decisions but as a teenager that was really terrible for me and when I grew up I often discussed with my parents.

*Are there any traditions or special things that the Germans don't have?*

- Oh I couldn't tell anything actually. Of course that we don't drink or eat anything until 12 o'clock on Good Friday to have lunch together afterwards as Anna-Maria already told you. But I have to admit I'm not even sure whether that is typical Italian or just something our family does. There's another thing about Easter coming to my mind now. Where my parents come from or rather in my childhood it's common to have a barbecue on Easter Monday. That's not very easy here because of the weather. I guess most of the things are changing from family to family and many traditions I know from my family are not even typical Italian. Probably that's also like that when it comes to the importance of the family. I just know it like that and it has always been a big deal. For me it still is, even though family often is combined with stress or duty. That's why I'm trying to convey that to my daughters. You never can "break out" of the upbringing you experienced I think. Even if you tell yourself to bring up your children in a different way you can't do that because something always stays in mind. I bet if you ask Anna-Maria she can acknowledge that I often act like my mom did and can't let her go even though I never wanted to be like that. (laughs)

*What's the biggest difference between a typical German family and yours?*

- As I already said you can't generalize that. In both countries those things are different in each family.

*Thanks for answering my questions.*

## Interview

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# Two horseback riders in two different times

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*Andrea Höflich did a lot of horseback-riding when she was a teenager. Now her daughter Alicia also goes horseback riding. An interview about horseback riding in two different times.*

➤ *When did you begin to go horseback riding?*

**Andrea:** Hm, I think when I was twelve years old.

**Alicia:** In 2005 or 2006.

➤ *How often did/do you ride per week?*

**Andrea:** About two or three times.

**Alicia:** About four times; depends on my free time.

➤ *What does horseback riding mean for you?*

**Andrea:** Balance between the everyday-life and the stress in school, and also fun in dealing with horses.

**Alicia:** It's a wonderful hobby. You can get a sense of responsibility. Horseback riding is a very important part of my life!

➤ *Did/do you have your own horse?*

**Andrea:** No, I didn't, but my sister had one and I helped her take care of it.

**Alicia:** No, but I take care of a horse which is owned by the riding stable where I take riding lessons. His name is Olymp, called Oly, and he is just like my own horse.

➤ *How important was/is the relationship with the horse for you?*

**Andrea:** Very important.

**Alicia:** I feel the same. Most riders only see their horses as a piece of sports equipment or as a thing and treat them like this. But horses are more than this; they are beings who need love. They have to be provided for correctly.

In the high-performance sport they are sometimes really overwhelmed. And when they then don't do what the rider wants them to do, they get exchanged. Also many horses have a stable which is too little and too dark and it can't go well with them. But if horses have a good, species-appropriate and loving environment, they get involved with the rider and feel comfortable. They are also only beings with needs like us.

- *How often did/do you have to take care of the horse? What did/do you do with the horse besides riding?*

**Andrea:** My sister and I take turns combing and exercising the horse daily.

**Alicia:** I comb, feed, stroke, ride and provide little injuries.

- *Which kind of riding did/do you practice (dressage/jumping/western riding...)?*

**Andrea:** I practiced dressage and jumping.

**Alicia:** Mainly dressage, but I also practice jumping and western riding (a little bit).

- *Has anything changed over the years, maybe training or rules at tournaments or only for you?*

**Andrea:** Hm, no, I don't think so, but I think Alicia can tell you more about this.

**Alicia:** Yes, I think so. I learned to deal with horses better; I was allowed to go to tournaments with the riding club... And I'm allowed to go out to ride now, also alone with friends. That's a thing I really like! One day we rode to McDonalds that was really funny!

- *Did/do you go to tournaments?*

**Andrea:** No, I didn't. But I went to tournaments with Alicia to help her to saddle up the horses.

**Alicia:** Sometimes. Not very often because Oly doesn't really like the atmosphere of tournaments.

- *Do you care about success at tournaments?*

**Alicia:** Hm, no, I only want to have fun, and I think for me it's more about the valuing of my riding abilities.

- *Did/do you have other hobbies?*

**Andrea:** When I was a teenager I played handball and I often read or was lazy.

**Alicia:** I also like playing the flute, dancing, browsing and listening to music (Metal and Rock).

- *Do you think that anything important has changed? Like „why do people ride horses“?*

**Andrea:** I don't think so. People ride horses because they like them and because they are fascinated by their way.

*Thank you very much for the interview!*

*(by Fiona Scheurer and Katharina Wache)*

For many centuries young people at the age of fourteen to sixteen have attended dancing classes to learn standard ballroom dance. And at the crowning end, there is a prom. I want to show you the differences between the generations of the 1930s and the 1990s by interviewing the 81-year-old Mrs. Schwarz and the 15-year-old Katja Vollweiler.

*My first question: Was or is it normal to attend dancing classes?*

Mrs. Schwarz: "We went there at the age of sixteen, so everybody in our year was there, just a few exceptions were not. For example, one girl was too religious. She was not allowed to attend this course. But I enjoyed dancing class so much because in my generation it was not normal to have hobbies. So it was very special and exciting for everybody."

Katja: "In our times, not everybody attends dancing classes. Many youths have other hobbies, no time or are not even interested in it. Especially, the boys often avoid these courses. But there are enough who do attend, too. For example in my group there are many people at the age of fourteen to sixteen and even many boys."

*You see, there are a few differences between these generations. So, how many times a week did you do you attend the lessons? And how long did or does one lesson last?*

Mrs. Schwarz: "The dancing class took place once a week. It began at 8 o'clock and ended at 10 o'clock."

Katja: "I attend my dance course every Monday from 6 o'clock to 7 o'clock. So it takes place once a week."

*So, the older generation had a bit more time to learn all these steps. Now I am not wondering about why some of the older people can still dance the steps they learned so many years ago. Which different steps did or do you learn?*

Mrs. Schwarz: "We were taught the Waltz and the Viennese Waltz, Slow Fox, Rock n' Roll and Tango. But we only danced as a couple, never alone."

Katja: "I am not at the end of my dancing course so I will learn a few new steps for the prom, but all in all we have learned many steps till now. We have learned the Waltz, Disco Fox, Cha Cha and Jive and a dance for dancing alone, too."

*Good. Can you tell me something about the course of a dancing lesson now?*

Mrs. Schwarz: "First we were taught the steps by standing in a circle around the teacher and watching him. Then the teacher took a girl and danced with her to show the group how these steps work as a couple." She laughs: "Usually the teacher danced with me because I could dance very well. Then we danced all the steps we had learned before as a couple. Of course there was not so often ladies choice."

Katja: "First the teacher tells us something about partiss and other news. Then we are taught the steps in a circle, too. Sometimes the teacher takes a girl and dances with her to show the others how to dance. After that we dance as a couple. Often the boys have to ask for a dance and sometimes we get a partner by chance. But at least one time a lesson there is a ladies choice, too."

*So you see, the dancing lesson in its structure has stayed the same over the years. Let us see, if this is true for the dress code for a dancing lesson, too.*

Mrs. Schwarz: "Oh, for the lesson we were very dressed up. The girls wore their best dresses or at least their nicest blouse with a matching skirt. The boys wore trousers with a jacket and a tie. Everybody wanted to appeared at their best."

Katja: "Most people do not think so much about their clothes for the dancing class so it is not such formal dress. Of course nobody wears jogging pants and everybody wants to be at least a bit of a cool, but, for example, no boy would ever wear a jacket with a tie."

*So there is a wide difference between the generations. Whereas the older generation was dressed in their best clothes, the younger generation wants to look more sporty and cool. Now we will come to another point. Were or are there any dancing parties before the prom? If so, what were or are they like?*

Mrs. Schwarz: "Yes there was one dance party called 'half prom'. It was downright festive and a bit a like a dress rehearsal for the prom and of course there was a dance band. But it was just like an appearance at the beginning. When we had practiced everything, it was like a party with free dancing and being crazy."

Katja: "Every second Saturday there is a party in our dancing school. They play loud music and serve non-alcoholic drinks at a bar. You can dance the steps you learned in the dancing lesson there with a partner, if you dare to ask somebody. But of course you can dance your own dance with friends, too."

*Well, so the younger generation definitely celebrates much more than the older one. Now we come to the most important point of a dancing course: the prom. So, tell me something about the importance of a prom.*

Mrs. Schwarz: "The prom was a very, very important party. Nearly as important as the confirmation. The men organized a carriage and picked the women up with it to go to the ballroom. Of course the men had to present the women bouquets. A thank-you gift from the woman was a home-made tart. Nearly everybody from the village was at the prom."

Katja: "Today the prom is not as important as in the past. Of course, everybody who does the dance course looks forward to the prom, but it is not THAT one big event. But we will get a bouquet from the boy, too."

*What is or was the dress code for the prom?*



Mrs. Schwarz: “You had to wear formal clothes. Everybody spent much money for a dress or a suit.”

Katja: “The dress code today is formal, too. We wear dresses and suits.”

*Well, thank you for this interesting interview, which shows differences, but also many similarities!*

Leonoe Meinhardt