

## ***Silat Tempur* League: The Analysis of Athletes Performance in 2019 Competitions**

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### **Abstract**

**Background and aim.** There are two types of sparring in silat: Silat olahraga and Silat tempur. Silat tempur is a combative sport focused on children, particularly beginners aged 7 to 13. The competition was introduced to prepare young athletes for sparring in Silat olahraga and to improve combative techniques among young silat exponents. The arena, which resembles a fencing platform, facilitates the execution of silat techniques during competition. This study aims to describe the development and implementation of Silat tempur as a preparatory competition for young athletes.

**Methods.** This study employed a secondary data analysis approach using data obtained from the Pertubuhan Seni Gayung Fatani Malaysia website and official competition records. The data focused on the 2019 Silat tempur league, which consisted of four competition series.

**Results** The findings show that the Silat tempur competition has developed into a structured league involving approximately 200 silat exponents from ten active silat clubs in Malaysia. It represents the first silat league established globally and demonstrates a systematic approach to developing young athletes' combat skills.

**Conclusions.** Silat tempur serves as an effective platform for enhancing fundamental combat skills and preparing young exponents for higher-level competitions in Silat olahraga. Its structured format contributes to athlete development and promotes the preservation and global recognition of Malay martial arts.

**Keywords:** *Combat Sports; Gayung Fatani; Malay Martial Arts; Self-Defence; Youth.*

### **1. Introduction**

Silat is a Malay martial art that has been practiced by Malays before the arrival of foreign influences in the Malay Peninsula. Aziz and Chuan Teh Khoo Teck Puat Hospital (2002) reported that it is the official form of self-defence in Malaysia. Numerous foreign martial artists travel to Malaysia to practice silat and become masters of it either in the traditional or modern system. The traditional martial art of Silat may have gone unnoticed for a while, but it is now practiced in nations like Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, Thailand, Singapore,

and the Philippines. Silat is a Malay martial art practiced in the southern part of the Asian continent, stretching from Easter Island in the east to Madagascar Island in the west along the Nusantara (Anuar, 2007). It is a martial art with artistic and contact variation (Anuar, 2007). In Malaysia, it has its own traditional and upgraded training system (Anuar A.W., 2002; Gerald, 2018). It has been recognised as the Malays' original right (Anuar, 2007).

In general, when the term *Silat Melayu* is used, it refers to the Silat practiced by Malays in the Malay Peninsula. It is also recognised for its distinct

movement patterns and self-defence fighting system. This distinct fighting style draws many self-defence experts from Europe and America to Malaysia to learn Silat.

There are numerous works throughout the history of Malay civilisation that demonstrate the importance of competent warriors in Silat, despite the fact that few of these works specifically address Silat (Hulme et al., 2019). Silat developed prior to the arrival of external influences in the Malay realm and later became important in the formation of the government's Traditional Malay defence force, such as Kedah Tua, Bruas, Langkasuka, Campa, Cambodia, and Sriwijaya (Mahmud, 2009). Without military strength and warriors skilled in the science of war, civilization and the institution of the king could not be established. Each conflict and war story in the region is directly related to heroism in the science of war. Thus, almost all traditional Malay governments established at the beginning of AD, such as Cambodia and Langkasuka, had a strong army to maintain security and defend the country from conflict with neighbouring countries and the Chinese empire (Mahmud, 2009).

Silat, as the oldest martial art, has played a role in shaping Malay attitudes toward the Malay race through heroic cultural education (Pawelec et al., 2020). Martial arts are a traditional education that contains a treasure trove of knowledge related to hulubalang knowledge, skills, and practices such as unarmed or armed self-defence, customs, manners, warrior culture, and spirituality (Mahmud, 2009). For example, dagger weapons made of older copper dating back less than 2,500 years have been discovered in the Mekong River region. Warrior culture practices have been revealed to them in order for them to face life's challenges and defend the dignity of self and country (Mahmud, 2009). Heroic customs and culture become the core of Malay culture.

### **Silat Tempur**

Because young exponents are yet to grasp combative skills on a bigger court venue, this competition attempts to improve self-defense techniques emphasizing rapid attacks. Due to the platform-shaped court's straight lines, the Silat tempur combat simply employs the fundamentals of attack and defense (Mahmud, 2009). The Silat tempur tournament focuses on the notion that Silat is a systematic approach to physical confrontation, whether equipped with arms or not (Mahmud,

2009). Silat coaches must provide instruction and prepare exponents with sufficient knowledge of offensive and defensive skills while adhering to competition rules to reduce injury (Mahmud, 2009). This competition aims to develop new athletes and promote unification and optimism among athletes and trainers. It also contributes to leadership development through sport management and helps globally promote Malay Silat heritage.

### **The History of Silat Tempur Competition**

The inaugural national Silat tempur competition took place at the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur from 11th to 13th April 2014 (Pawista & Shapie, 2019). Fifty-six Silat exponents from various clubs participated. Subsequent competitions saw increasing participation, reflecting growing interest in the sport.

To support athlete development, structured Silat tempur tournaments were established to prepare young competitors before transitioning into Silat olahraga competitions, which require strong striking and defensive skills as well as muscular endurance (Mahmud, 2009; Pawelec et al., 2020). Thus, the objectives of this research are: (i) to investigate differences in ranking points between youth and children for male exponents, (ii) between youth and children for female exponents, (iii) between male and female youth exponents, and (iv) between male and female child exponents.

### **Silat Tempur versus Silat Olahraga**

Silat has two combative tournaments: Silat olahraga and Silat tempur (Mahmud, 2009). Olahraga refers to the application of Silat techniques in combat, including offensive and defensive movements such as punches, kicks, and blocks. Tempur refers to direct sparring or combat between athletes (Pappalardo et al., 2019).

The Silat olahraga competition is categorized based on age groups (Mahmud, 2009). Adolescents often transition into higher-level competitions as their skills develop (Pawelec et al., 2020).

Silat tempur focuses on children aged 7 to 13 and serves as a foundational training stage. It enhances basic techniques such as striking, kicking, and defensive movements based on the Seni Silat Malaysia curriculum (Mahmud, 2009). This structured approach allows young athletes to

gradually build competence before entering more advanced competitions (Razak et al., 2022).

### Silat Tempur Competition

This competition aims to develop self-defense skills among young practitioners. Movement is primarily linear, requiring athletes to master forward and backward motion (Shapie, 2020). Competitors fight on a structured platform, and match duration follows standardized rounds (Mahmud, 2009). Two exponents will stand in the red and blue platform respectively as per figure 1 below.

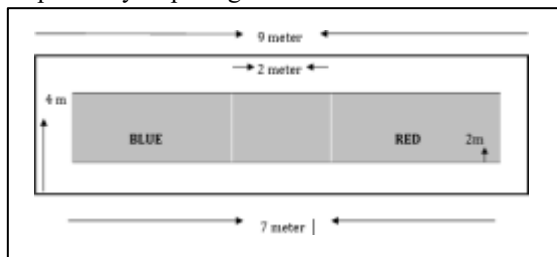


Figure 1. *Silat tempur* platform

### Competition Period

The competition is divided into three rounds, with each scene lasting one minute. The exponent will be given one minute of rest between scenes. In *Silat tempur* competition, this is a standard time. Because referee stoppages are not included in the bout time, the actual duration of each round and thus total match time is usually longer than the 3x2 minutes scheduled (Mahmud, 2009). The competition arose from practical martial arts practitioners who trained in pairs. Thus, young silat exponents' movements were controlled and limited to avoid injury during the *Silat tempur* match.

### Silat Tempur Categories

Silat competition is divided into two categories for children and youth (Shapie, 2021). The first category is for children aged 7 to 12, while the youth category is for teenager aged 13 to 20. The male and female competitors advances from class A (20–22 kg) to free class (50 kg and above), with each class differing by 2 kg. For the youth category, classes range from A (26–30 kg) to free (61 kg above). This category is divided into eight classes, each with a weight of 5 kg (Pawista & Shapie, 2019). The category will change from time to time depending on how many people participate in the competition.

### Techniques in Silat tempur

Silat tempur has special rules in place to ensure that the game is safe for children to improve

the exponent to cultivate a competitive pattern consisting of sikap pasang (Silat posture), pola langkah (step pattern), taking the measurement against the opponent, coordination in conducting a strike and defending, and eventually back to sikap pasang (Shapie & Anuar, 2013).

Silat is distinguished from other martial arts by its step patterns. Each motion in a Silat competition must be performed in Silat posture. The exponent who scores the most points or knocks his opponent out wins the competition (Shapie & Elias, 2014). The wasit or referee gives the instruction. There are two main commands for the referee which is "Sedia, Pasang" that refer to the need for participants to be prepared, whereas "Henti" refers to the need for exponents to stop and begin preparing in each corner.

Unlike Silat olahraga that usually use a lot more skills, there are five common Silat techniques used during sparring in Silat tempur competition: punch, kick, block, catch, and topple with each aspect of these skills contributing to the exponent's success (Shapie & Elias, 2015a). According to Silat tempur competition rules, an opponent is permitted up to four repeated punches and/or kicks during a single strike, after which the referee instantly breaks off the combat. Because this is an interpretive sport, each participant must make a clean attack that the jury members perceive. As a result, several factors such as injury and scoring anomalies will have an impact on the match (Mahmud, 2009).

### Silat Tempur Points System

Every coach and Silat exponent should be familiar of the Silat scoring system since it is crucial to distinguish between Silat competition and other sports combat competition. Silat olahraga's points system is identical to that of Silat tempur (Shapie & Elias, 2015b). To win a Silat match, exponent must be able to score the most points possible in each of the first three rounds of combat. Any valid and clear points such as a punch (1 point), a kick (2 points), or a topple down (3 points), will contribute to raise the final number of points scored.

Additionally, if a clear defensive move is followed by a successful kick to the body-target, a bonus point will be given (Mahmud, 2009). This is equivalent to 1+2 points for each successful blocking or deflection accompanied by a success strike to the body-target. Hence, having a solid understanding of the Silat scoring points is crucial, particularly in assisting coaches in selecting the

attack and defence strategies that will benefit athletes the most and increase their chances of winning. The assessment for each act is detailed below:

- i. A hand attack is evaluated if it is strong, effective, and reaches the target using any technique. When the opponent dodges, this hand attack is not accompanied by grips.
- ii. A leg attack can take any form as long as it gets to the target. When the opponent dodges, this leg attack is not accompanied by grips.
- iii. The act of parrying is evaluated when a Silat exponent successfully aborts his opponent's attack with self-defence techniques, resisting and diverting the direction of the attack, culminating in his attack on the opponent's target. One point will be awarded for each successive parry of an opponent's attack, plus an additional point for landing a strike on the target.
- iv. The act of dodging is evaluated when a Silat exponent successfully defends himself from an attack. An assessed act of dodging is one point that results in a target attack. One point is awarded for dodging, and the attack on the target is graded based on the type of attack used. He gets one point for a hand attack. This, combined with a dodging manoeuvre, earns him two points. The same thing happens during the act of parrying. There is no point, however, for fighters who succeed in parrying or dodging their opponent's strike but fail to make a counter-strike that lands the attack on the target.
- v. The fall technique is evaluated when a part of the opponent's body touches the ground. The opponent does not fall as a result of unfair wrestling or clinching, and the other fighter defends himself and does not fall. Every defence to an attack should make an effort to cause the opponent to fall as well as hold the opponent's body.

## **2. Materials and Method**

### ***Research Design***

Utilizing secondary data in research is known as secondary analysis. It prevents needless duplication of study effort and saves time and money as a research method (Shapie & Elias, 2016). For this study, the researcher used the data from the Pertubuhan Seni Gayung Fatani Malaysia website, which includes the ranking points for the Silat exponents for the years 2018 and 2019. Since there was no Silat tempur competition organized owing to

the movement control order that was imposed in place as a result of the Covid-19 outbreak, no data for the years 2020 and 2021 were recorded. However, the researcher will only utilise the rankings for four series in 2019: Series 1, Series 2, Series 3 and Series 4.

The credibility and evaluation of the data collected from the website were established by comparing it to the original data collected from the organiser of Silat tempur League, Pertubuhan Seni Gayung Fatani Malaysia, to determine the consistency of the data. The organiser of the competition further explained the population and sample of the study, data collection protocols, research instruments and method as well as data analysis that need to be done by the researcher.

### **Population and Sample**

State that population is a component that demonstrates a specific measure of an element or set of people (Shapie et al., 2013a). According to data gathered from the website as well as information provided by the organiser of the Silat tempur competition, Pertubuhan Seni Gayung Fatani Malaysia (PSGFM), since 2014, there have been 130 participants in total who have taken part in the competition. These participants are from various gelanggang located throughout Klang Valley and were registered with PSGFM. The sample for this research is the exponents that participate in the Silat tempur competition for 2019 only. According to the data, the total number of samples collected is 81 exponents, including male and females ranging in age from 7 to 20 years.

### **Data Collection Procedure**

Secondary data is information that has been gathered by someone else and has gone through a statistical procedure based on earlier publications and academic papers (Shapie et al., 2013b). The researcher collected data from two sources: the ranking results on the Pertubuhan Seni Gayung Fatani Malaysia website and the original data from the Silat tempur competition organiser. To achieve the research goal, researchers use data from all four series of the year 2019.

### **Research Instrument and Method**

#### ***Class Level***

The exponent's height and weight were given with the registration form prior to tournament day, but they will be measured again during registration to ensure no major changes in weight that will affect the exponent class level. To keep things fair, the exponent will only compete in their class range. The class level is divided into two sections: youth and

child. The range for each class is further detailed in the table below.

**Table 1.** Class range for Silat tempur Competition (Shapie et al., 2014)

<i>Children</i>			<i>Youth</i>		
Class	Weight (kg)		Class	Weight (kg)	
A	<	20	A	<	40
B	21 -	23	B	41 -	45
C	24 -	26	C	46 -	50
D	27 -	29	D	51 -	55
E	30 -	32	E	56 -	60
F	33 -	35	F	61 -	65
G	36 -	38	G	66 -	70
H	39 -	41	H	71 -	75
I	42 -	44	I	76 -	80
J	45 -	47	J	81 -	85
K	48 -	50	K	86 -	90
L	51 -	53	OPEN	91 -	95
M	54 -	56	OPEN	96 -	100
N	57 -	59	OPEN	101 -	105
OPEN	60 -	62	OPEN	106 -	110
OPEN	63 -	65	OPEN	111 -	115
OPEN	66 -	68	OPEN	116 -	120
OPEN	69 -	71	OPEN	121 -	125
OPEN	72 -	74	OPEN	126 -	130
OPEN	75 -	77	OPEN	131 -	135

*Ranking*

The ranking system is created by Grandmaster Associate Professor Dr Mohamad Nizam Mohamed Shapie to determine the level of exponents in *Silat tempur*. It is also useful to distinguish the level of skills and ability between child and youth exponents competing in *Silat tempur*. For a lost match, the exponent will receive 25 points, for a won match, 50 points, and the tournament champion will receive an additional 30 points. Exponents with points below 2,000 will be regarded as a junior athlete, and any exponent that achieves 10,000 points will be recognized as a Grandmaster in Silat.

**Data Analysis**

The first part of the analysis, the researcher uses descriptive analysis to illustrate demographic data such as gender, category, nationality, gelanggang, and age of the exponents in order to understand more about the sample. Shapie et al (2013a) mention that descriptive method is used to examine the nature of the research data set using basic statistics including such frequency, percentage, distribution, and central tendency. Shapie et al (2013b) also mention that descriptive analysis is used to modify unstructured data into structured of information that is simple to grasp,

decipher, and design in order to describe the attributes of a demographic or circumstance. Descriptive statistics, on the other hand, do not give us a clear finding beyond the statistics we have analysed or draw conclusions about any assumptions we may have formed. They are merely a means of presenting our information.

The second stage of the data analysis, the researcher uses an inferential analysis of independent t-test. The independent t-test, one of the most used statistical techniques, involves comparing a sample's mean to a predetermined value. Whether or not there is a statistically significant difference between the mean scores for the two groups can be determined using the results of an independent sample t-test. It is a method for estimating the likelihood of rejecting the null hypothesis that two means are equal. Two groups whose means are independent of one another are compared using the method (Shapie et al., 2014). If the sample values chosen from one population are not connected to, paired with, or otherwise matched with the sample values chosen from the other group, then the two samples are independent. If there is a statistically significant difference between the mean scores for the two groups, or not, can be determined by the researcher using an independent sample t-test. By analysing the likelihood that the two sets of data

come from the same population, the researcher is attempting to test the hypothesis in statistical terms. In other terms, an independent sample is a sample in which each group's participants are unrelated to one another (Shapie et al., 2014). Both analyses were carried out using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) Version 25.0 software.

**3. Results and Discussion**

**Demographic Profile**

Table 2 below shown that Silat exponents for male category is 67.9% (N=55) followed by female 32.1% (N=26). The total number of exponents that participate in four series of Silat tempur for 2019 is 81 members. However, this finding does not reflect the general views that there are more male than female participants.

**Table 2.** Demographic profile of gender

Gender	Frequency	Percent (%)	Valid Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Male	55	67.9	67.9	67.9
Female	26	32.1	32.1	100.0
Total	81	100.0	100.0	

Table 3 shown the demographic data for Silat category in *Silat tempur* League. For youth category which is from year 13 until 20 were consist of

60.5% (N=49) exponents while for children category for which their age range start from 7 until 12 years old were only 39.5% (N=32)

**Table 3.** Demographic profile of category

Category	Frequency	Percent (%)	Valid Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Youth	49	60.5	60.5	60.5
Children	32	39.5	39.5	100.0
Total	81	100.0	100.0	

Table 4 below shown the age of the participants that were involved during the Silat tempur competition in 2019. There are 81 Silat exponents that involved in the competition and they are divided into a few groups according to their age. There are only 2.5% (N=2) exponent seven years old, 3.7% (N=3.7) exponent eight years old, while nine years old only consist of 1.2% (N=1) exponent

only. There are 12.3% (N=10) exponent ten years old, 7.4% (N=6) for eleven years old, 12.3% (N=10) for thirteen years old, 21% (N=17) fourteen years old, 11.1% (N=9) fourteen years old, 6.2% (N=5) of fifteen years old, only 1.2% (N=1) of sixteen years old exponent, 6.2% (N=5) seventeen years old, 2.5% (N=2) eighteen years old, 7.4% (N=6) nineteen years old and 4.9% (N=4) twenty years old.

**Table 4.** Demographic profile of age

Age (years old)	Frequency	Percent (%)	Valid Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
7	2	2.5	2.5	2.5
8	3	3.7	3.7	6.2
9	1	1.2	1.2	7.4
10	10	12.3	12.3	19.8
11	6	7.4	7.4	27.2
12	10	12.3	12.3	39.5
13	17	21.0	21.0	60.5

14	9	11.1	11.1	71.6
15	5	6.2	6.2	77.8
16	1	1.2	1.2	79.0
17	5	6.2	6.2	85.2
18	2	2.5	2.5	87.7
19	6	7.4	7.4	95.1
<u>20</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4.9</u>	<u>4.9</u>	<u>100.0</u>
Total	81	100.0	100.0	

Table 5 below showed the demographic profile of exponent's nationality. 95.1% of the

exponents are Malaysian while the other 2.5% (N=2) and 2.5% (N=2) are Australian and Syrian.

**Table 5.** Demographic profile of nationality

	Frequency	Percent (%)	Valid Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Malaysian	77	95.1	95.1	95.1
Australian	2	2.5	2.5	97.5
Syrian	2	2.5	2.5	100.0
Total	81	100.0	100.0	

Table 6 shows the gelanggang where the exponents train to improve their skills before participating in the Silat tempur showed that there were 22.2% (N=18) of them form Akademi Silat Malaysia. Another 23.5% (N=19) is from Kelab Silat Olahraga Fatani Bersatu. 8.6% (N=7) were from Kelab Silat Olahraga Sekolah Menengah.

Bandar Baru Bangi (SMK BBB), 6.2% (N=5) from Kelab Silat Tempur Serdang, 9.9% (N=8) were from Kelab Silat tempur Kajang, 25.9% (N=21) from Kelab Silat Sekolah Rendah Agama Integrasi (SRAI), 2.5% (N=2) were from Kelab Silat Belia Al-Hasanah and the remainder 1.2 % (N=1) was from Kelab Belia Silat Olahraga Sepang Belia.

**Table 6.** Demographic profile of gelanggang

Gelanggang	Frequency	Percent (%)	Cumulative Percent (%)
Akademi Silat Malaysia	18	22.2	22.2
Kelab Silat Olahraga Fatani Bersatu	19	23.5	45.7
Kelab Silat Olahraga SMK BBB	7	8.6	54.3
Kelab Silat Tempur Serdang	5	6.2	60.5
Kelab Silat Olahraga Kajang	8	9.9	70.4
Kelab Silat SRAI	21	25.9	96.3
Kelab Silat Belia Al-Hasanah	2	2.5	98.8
Kelab Belia Silat Olahraga Sepang	1	1.2	100.0
Total	81	100.0	

**Analysis Between Gender and Category**

Table 7 shows the ranking points between youth and children category for male exponents that participated in 2019 Silat Tempur League. An independent t-test was run on the data with 95%

confidence interval (CI). For Series 1 and 2, the results indicated a non-significant trend with child (M = 91.07, SD = 41.15) over youth (M = 79.17, SD = 35.20) (t(30) = 0.88, p = .39) for series 1 and (M = 92.50, SD = 29.58) over child (M = 73.18, SD =

24.73) ( $t(29) = 1.84, p = .08$ ) for series 2. Series 3 however showed a slight significant difference with youth ( $M = 97.22, SD = 31.49$ ) over child ( $M = 63.64, SD = 13.01$ ) ( $t(27) = 3.35, p = .01$ ) with a

mean difference of 33.59. Series 4 depicts a non-significant difference with youth ( $M = 86.07, SD = 31.08$ ) over child ( $M = 66.00, SD = 35.78$ ) ( $t(17) = 1.20, p = .25$ ).

**Table 7.** Ranking points between youth and children category for male exponents. Results are shown as mean (sd) for row data

Series of Silat Tempur	Category	N	Mean (sd)	Value <i>t</i>	Value <i>p</i>
Series 1	Youth	18	79.17 (35.20)	-0.88	0.39
	Child	5	91.07 (41.15)		
Series 2	Youth	20	92.50 (29.58)	1.84	0.08
	Child	11	73.18 (24.73)		
Series 3	Youth	18	97.22 (31.49)	4.00	0.01**
	Child	11	63.64 (13.06)		
Series 4	Youth	14	86.07 (31.08)	1.20	
	Child	5	66.00 (35.78)		

Table 8 shows the ranking points between youth and children category for female exponents that participated in 2019 Silat Tempur League. According to the table above, for Series 1, the results indicated a non-significant trend with child ( $M = 91.43, SD = 37.50$ ) over youth ( $M = 90.67, SD = 38.49$ ) ( $t(20) = 0.44, p = .97$ ). Series 2 found that the ranking point was also non-significant with youth

( $M = 96.67, SD = 26.81$ ) over child ( $M = 86.00, SD = 30.29$ ) ( $t(12) = 0.68, p = .51$ ). Series 3 follow the same trend with child ( $M = 84.29, SD = 30.20$ ) over youth ( $M = 83.18, SD = 27.32$ ) ( $t(16) = 0.08, p = .94$ ). Finally, the last Series depicts a non-significant difference as well with child ( $M = 103.75, SD = 37.72$ ) over youth ( $M = 93.13, SD = 35.05$ ) ( $t(10) = 0.48, p = .64$ ).

**Table 8.** Ranking points between youth and children category for female exponents. Results are shown as mean (sd) for row data.

Series of Silat Tempur	Category	N	Mean (sd)	Value <i>t</i>	Value <i>p</i>
Series 1	Youth	15	90.67 (38.50)	-0.04	0.97
	Child	7	91.43 (37.50)		
Series 2	Youth	9	96.67 (26.81)	0.68	0.51
	Child	5	86.00 (30.29)		
Series 3	Youth	11	83.18 (27.32)	-0.08	0.94
	Child	7	84.29 (30.20)		
Series 4	Youth	8	93.13 (35.05)	-0.48	0.64
	Child	4	103.76 (37.72)		

Table 9 shows the ranking points between male and female exponents for youth category that participated in 2019 Silat Tempur League. An independent t-test was run on the data with 95% confidence interval (CI) for the mean difference. For Series 1, the results indicated a non-significant trend with female ( $M = 90.67, SD = 38.49$ ) over male ( $M = 79.17, SD = 35.20$ ) ( $t(31) = 0.90, p = .38$ ). Series 2 found that the ranking point was non-significant

as well with female ( $M = 96.67, SD = 26.81$ ) over male ( $M = 92.50, SD = 29.58$ ) ( $t(27) = 0.36, p = .72$ ). Series 3 also show the same trend with male ( $M = 97.22, SD = 31.49$ ) over female ( $M = 83.18, SD = 27.32$ ) ( $t(27) = 1.22, p = .23$ ). Series 4 depicts a non-significant difference with female ( $M = 93.13, SD = 35.05$ ) over male ( $M = 86.07, SD = 31.08$ ) ( $t(20) = 0.49, p = .63$ ).

**Table 9.** Ranking points between male and female exponents for youth category. Results are shown as mean (sd) for row data.

Series of Silat Tempur	Category	N	Mean (sd)	Value <i>t</i>	Value <i>p</i>
Series 1	Male	18	79.17 (35.20)	-0.90	0.38
	Female	15	90.67 (38.49)		
Series 2	Male	20	92.50 (29.58)	0.36	0.72
	Female	9	96.67 (26.81)		
Series 3	Male	18	97.22 (31.49)	1.22	0.23
	Female	11	83.18 (27.32)		
Series 4	Male	14	86.07 (31.08)	-0.49	0.63
	Female	8	93.13 (35.05)		

Table 10 shows the ranking points between male and female exponents for children category that participated in 2019 Silat Tempur League. Based on table above, series 1 results indicated a non-significant trend with female (M = 91.43, SD = 37.50) over male (M = 91.07, SD = 41.15) ( $t(19) = 0.02, p = .99$ ). Series 2 show the same trend with female (M = 86.00, SD = 30.29) over male (M =

73.18, SD = 24.73) ( $t(14) = 0.90, p = .38$ ). Series 3 found that the ranking point was also non-significant with female (M = 84.29, SD = 30.20) over male (M = 63.64, SD = 13.06) ( $t(7.45) = 1.71, p = .06$ ). Series 4 depicts a non-significant difference with female (M = 103.75, SD = 37.72) over male (M = 66.00, SD = 35.77) ( $t(7) = 17, p = .17$ ).

**Table 10.** Ranking points between male and female exponents for children category. Results are shown as mean (sd) for row data.

Series of Silat Tempur	Category	N	Mean (sd)	Value <i>t</i>	Value <i>p</i>
Series 1	Male	14	91.07 (41.15)	-0.02	0.99
	Female	7	91.43 (37.50)		
Series 2	Male	11	73.18 (24.73)	0.90	0.38
	Female	5	86.00 (30.29)		
Series 3	Male	11	63.64 (13.06)	-2.02	0.06
	Female	7	84.29 (30.20)		
Series 4	Male	5	66.00 (35.77)	-1.54	0.17
	Female	4	103.75 (37.72)		

**Discussion**

For research objective 1, there was no statistically significant difference in ranking points between male youth and children category in Series 1, 2 and 4. However, for Series 3, there was a significant difference between the ranking of youth and children category for male exponents. Even though the rest of the series yield a non-significance result, these data imply the male youth collected more ranking points compare to the children in series 3. One of the reasons for this is due to the small sample size of the participants in the competition. Normally, the third series was held in the third quarter of the year. During this time, some

of the school may be in the exam session. Most parents will not allow their children to participate in the competition as the exam week approaches in order to ensure that their children focus solely on the academic exam. Aside from that, the monsoon season has already begun in the third quarter of the year. Some of the low peak area may experience flooding. This may make it impossible for them to participate in the tournament itself, resulting in a significant decrease in the number of participants during this time. In addition, this substantial result might be the result of a restriction to a certain group, which would explain the non-equal distribution of class levels. The distribution of classes may be

unbalanced assuming fewer participants entered the competition.

In terms of ranking points for research objective 2, there was no statistically significant difference between female children and youth across all series. The same goes to research objective 3 since there was no statistically significant difference in ranking points for male and female youth across all series (Shapie et al., 2019). The same outcome as the prior category for research objective 4 as well. Across all series, there was no statistically significant difference in the ranking points between male and female children. This result indicates that the null hypothesis was failed to be rejected. This finding indicates that the pointing system is effective and could be applied to other combat sports or silat competitions. This could be due to Seni Silat Malaysia's well-structured curriculum (Shapie et al., 2016a). It is recommended to increase the sample size of the participants because most samples are too small for a result to be accurate. The competition itself must be planned appropriately to avoid conflicts with students' exams and the monsoon seasons (Shapie et al., 2016b).

In addition, since some of exponents may have a higher ranking because they participate in each tournament while maintaining a balance result, the ranking point itself was not displaying their ability. For example, the exponents may lose in each game, but because they participated in each competition, they may be ranked better owing to their consistency (Shapie et al., 2019; Razak et al., 2022). While some participants may win most of the competitions in which they compete, when they did not compete in every competition hosted by the organizer, it may cause their ranking point to be lower than others. Hence, it is recommended that any future research to use the points earned during each competition rather than their ranking points to obtain a better outcome.

#### **4. Conclusion**

According to the findings, there is no discernible difference in the ranking points between the youth and children's categories in Silat League, nor in the ranking points for male and female exponents. The study's findings support the detailed explanation of an effective pointing system in the introduction. The points structure is identical to the one used by Silat olahraga. Thus, having a thorough understanding of the Silat scoring points is essential, especially in helping coaches choose the attack and defence tactics that will benefit players the most and improve their chances of winning. It ought to be applied to silat and other various combat sport

tournaments. As a result, the quality of the silat exponents produced by this system will be good since it also enables a seamless transition from the youth category to the children's category.

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