

Acknowledgments

I express my sincere appreciation to Dr. George M. Graham, Professor of Physical Education Pedagogy and Committee Chairman, for his guidance and direction in my research, as well as his enduring patience and advice in the structure and format of my material and data. His expertise was a key element in the success of this thesis.

.....

I respectfully thank Dr. Richard K. Stratton and Dr. Jon Poole for their willingness to serve on my thesis committee. Their advise, comments, and suggestions provided significant support and impact on the overall effectiveness of this work.

.....

Special appreciation is conveyed my parents, Dr. Boyd and Sharon Mullholand for their continuous love and positive support throughout my lifetime and especially these past few years in completing this thesis.

.....

Words fail to express my deep gratitude to my loving husband, David Teske, for his patience, understanding, love and persistence in encouraging me to complete this thesis.

.....

Kelly Mullholand Behm, my only sister, provided her words of encouragement, and special assistance in the organization of my thesis.

.....

Wendy Mustain, Doctoral Candidate, and a very special friend, provided her positive encouragement, "words of wisdom," and special assistance in the organization of my thesis and in rating details.

.....

Dr. Dawn McCrumb, a very special friend, provided her encouragement and suggestions as well as assistance in rating details.

.....

Final thanks to my colleagues who graduated from Virginia Tech: Venisha Bowler, Dr. Dave Carr, Dr. Ron Cregar, Angie Edwards, Dr. Steve Sanders, and Courtney Tompkins for their support and friendship.

.....

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 - Introduction.....	1
Purpose Statement	
Research Questions	
Operational Definitions	
Assumptions	
Limitations	
Delimitations	
Research Hypotheses	
Significance	
Summary	
Chapter 2 - Review of Literature.....	8
Tennis in schools	
Assessment in physical education	
Limitations of traditional education assessment	
New face of assessment	
Characteristics of alternative assessment	
Alternative assessment in physical education	
Summary	
Chapter 3 - Methodology.....	16
Setting	
Subjects	
Instruments	
Determining Reliability	
Determining Validity	
Procedures	
Data Analysis	
Summary	
Chapter 4 - Results and Discussion.....	32
Results	
Inter-rater Reliability	
Intra-rater Reliability	
Subject-Reliability	
Construct Validity	
Content Validity	
Discussion	
Inter-rater Reliability	
Intra-rater Reliability	
Researcher's Observations	
Summary	
Chapter 5 - Summary and Conclusion.....	41
Review of Study	
Summary of Conclusions	
Significance of Research	
Applications of Research to PE	

Recommendations for Further Research	
References	46
Vita	67

List of Multimedia Objects

Figure 1: Subject Reliability - Task Two	33
Figure 2: Construct Validity - Task One	34
Figure 3: Construct Validity - Task Two	35
Figure 4: Percent of Students Reaching Performance..... Standards	44
Figure 5: Distribution of Scores.....	45

List of Tables

Table 1:	Task One Description	19
Table 2:	Task Two Description	21

Appendices

Appendix A: Informed Consent	49
Appendix B: Tennis Questionnaire	51
Appendix C: Task One	52
Appendix D: Task Two	53
Appendix E: Task One Scoring Rubric	54
Appendix F: Task Two Scoring Rubric	55
Appendix G: Task One - Chart of Basic Tennis Skills & Critical Components	57
Appendix H: Rater Training: Method for Reporting Scores for Task One	58
Appendix I: Rater Training: Inter-rater Reliability for Task One.....	59
Appendix J: Rater Training: Intra-rater Reliability for Task One.....	60
Appendix K: Task Two - Chart of Basic Tennis Skills, Grips, Critical Components, & Ways to Practice	61
Appendix L: Rater Training: Method for Reporting Scores for Task Two	62
Appendix M: Rater Training: Inter-rater Reliability for Task Two.....	63
Appendix N: Rater Training: Intra-rater Reliability for Task Two.....	64
Appendix O: Data Collection Schedule.....	65
Appendix P: Content Validity Questions.....	66