Reviewer's report

Title: The perceptions of professional soccer players on the risk of injury from competition and training on natural grass and 3rd generation artificial turf.

Version: 2 Date: 8 January 2014

Reviewer: Alan McCall

Reviewer's report:

2. Minor essential revisions

Once again please harmonize throughout manuscript ‘players’ there are still some instances where you switch between players and athletes

Abstract

Background
Change ‘affect’ to ‘effect’

Results
Line 2: ‘Players believed injuries non-contact….and injury on FT’ - This sentence does not make sense. I think you mean players believed artificial turf as opposed to natural grass. Please correct

Conclusion
Line 1: delete ‘do’ so it reads ‘Players believe….
Line 1: replace ‘by’ with according to
Line 2, sentence 2: You do not need this sentence. Just specify in previous sentence ‘risk of non-contact injury’.

Introduction
Paragraph 1: Focus the introduction on soccer and not on ‘sporting events in general’.
Line 1: change ‘and’ to ‘an’
Line 2: Change ‘may’ to ‘many’
Line 7: You should provide a reference here. E.g. Van Mechelen, (1992)

Paragraph 2: - You say that the injury rates on both surfaces are comparable... Can you state these injury rates and reference them. Briefly is the distribution and severity higher or lower according to type of surface?

Paragraph 2: last sentence: change to ‘opinions about ....’

Paragraph 3: Line 1: No need to write ‘In a study....' Simply, Movement patterns
.... (Andersson et al., 2008).

Line 9: change ‘from a 90...’ to ‘following a 90...’

Paragraph 4: Line 2: change ‘about’ to ‘regarding’. ‘the affect’ does not make sense, please delete

Paragraph 4: Sentence 1: consider splitting into two separate sentences. It is quite drawn out.

Methods

Line 4: put a comma after ‘teams’ and before ‘compete’

Results

Paragraph 2: Line 1: Change ‘lead to’ to ‘was perceived to cause’

Paragraph 2: Line 2: ‘Further, the majority of players also felt’ – please change to this

Discussion

Paragraph 1: Line 2. Players believed … - I think you mean to specify artificial compared to natural grass contributed ..... Please amend.

Same sentence and next sentence beginning ‘Considering that this is a major....likely to occur on FT. I do not see a link with these two sentences. It does not make sense. Please revise this sentence and your inference from it.

Paragraph 2: Line 9: ‘In a prospective study....player contact to contact injuries accounted for...’ This is an old reference (13 years old). There have been studies since providing details on contact and non-contact injuries in elite football e.g. from the UEFA group (Ekstrand and colleagues). Please use a more recent reference here.

Paragraph 4: Line 13: ‘The player comments...... ‘ please change ‘postulate’ to ‘postulation’

Paragraph 4: Line 19: Please provide a reference ‘fatigue has been associated with an increase in injury’

Paragraph4: Line 25: Clarify ‘surface impact attenuation’

Paragraph 5: Line 10: change postulate to ‘postulation or suggestion

Conclusion

Line 2: Change ‘affect’ to ‘effect’
Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests