Reviewer's report

Title: Changes of direction during high-intensity intermittent runs: neuromuscular and metabolic responses

Version: 1 Date: 22 June 2013

Reviewer: Goran Sporis

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

Abstract
Line 37: The authors state: "(HIE) is meant to be a major attribute for performance in soccer." However, participants were from 3 different sports and according to my opinion this sentence should be rewritten.

Line 41: Provide more descriptive data in the brackets (body weight, body height)

Introduction
The authors start introduction part with basic information regarding soccer demands and characteristics. According to study design, I think that description of team sport is more appropriate for the beginning of this manuscript.

Line 72 and 122: reference (Bloomfield et al., 2007) is not according to authors guidelines. Please, rewrite it.

Methods
Line 138: Include Mean±SD and what these numbers in the brackets mean. I know that this is well known but this is typically to present it.

Line 139: You should provide number of participants per sport. How many players were involved in soccer, handball and Australian Rules football? What is about their level of training? Were they professional, semi-professional or amateur players? Generally, description of study sample is very poor. We do not know anything about criteria for the selection of the participants.

Statistical analysis
Which software was used for statistical analysis of the data???

Results
One sentence one paragraph style of writing should be avoided at the beginning of the result part. Please, rewrite it.

Discussion
Line 383: the authors’ state: “The main results were as follows…” this sentence is not proper for the beginning of the discussion. It looks like key points of your study so you should move it at the end as a part of conclusion.

What about study limitations? Every study has limitations?

Minor Essential Revision

Please, check reference list and rewrite some references according to authors guidelines

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests