Reviewer's report

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

Version: 1 Date: 25 November 2013

Reviewer: Del P. WONG

Reviewer's report:

Overall, the paper is very well written. The following clarification are needed to further improve the paper.

Minor Essential Revisions
Line 53: the sentence needs to be clearer
Line 63: I think the words "preventing potential injuries" is too much far from the evidence of the present study.
Line 122: inconsistent citation format
Line 138: are the subjects professional or recreation?
Line 138: a little bit more information about why these players are so old
Line 139: the Introduction is pre-dominantly soccer, but here handball and australian rules football players are involved. explain.
Line 149: pls provide more information if this maximum aerobic speed is same as the vVO2max being used in the literature.
Line 172: inconsistent format in unit of measurement
Line 177: please state if the last completed stage and the speed was considered as vVO2max.
Line 192: in the same sprint?
Line 206: why not also calculate the Reactive Strength Index (RSI)
Line 229: what if the subject cannot complete it within 4s?
Line 251: full name of tHb
Line 260: how the leg dominance was determined?
Line 296: typo

Line 325: may refer to

Wong DP, Chan GS, & Smith AW. (2012). Repeated-sprint and change-of-direction abilities in physically active individuals and soccer players:
training and testing implications. Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research, 26, 2324-2330.

Line 409: please create a figure to show the deoxygenation during every interval
Figure 1: more detail description of this diagram. indicate the distance

Discretionary Revisions
Line 54: "RMS" should be replaced by "electromyography amplitude"
Line 77: what about sparing the glucose within the body?
Line 104: add "repeated" before "straight-line"

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field
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