Author's response to reviews

Title: Will the age of peak ultra-marathon performance increase with increasing race duration?

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BMC Sports Science, Medicine and Rehabilitation
Editor
Prof. Stuart Goodall

Dear Prof. Goodall

MS: 2057619642134205-Revision 2
Will the age of peak ultra-marathon performance increase with increasing race duration?

We thank you for your e-mail from September 15, 2014.

Find below the answers to the questions raised by the reviewer.

All changes are marked in red in the revised manuscript.

We hope the revised manuscript will be suitable for publication in BMC Sports Science, Medicine and Rehabilitation.
Yours sincerely,
Beat Knechtle

Enclosure: Manuscript via central website

EDITORIAL REQUIREMENTS (2ND REQUEST):

*Acknowledgements: We strongly encourage you to include an Acknowledgements section between the Authors’ contributions section and Reference list. Please acknowledge anyone who contributed towards the study by making substantial contributions to conception, design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, or who was involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content, but who does not meet the criteria for authorship. Please also include their source(s) of funding. Please also acknowledge anyone who contributed materials essential for the study.

Authors should obtain permission to acknowledge from all those mentioned in the Acknowledgements. Please list the source(s) of funding for the study, for each author, and for the manuscript preparation in the acknowledgements section. Authors must describe the role of the funding body, if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript; and in the decision to submit the manuscript for publication.

Answer: We have no acknowledgements for this study

Reviewer’s report

Title: Will the age of peak ultra-marathon performance increase with increasing race duration?

Version: 3

Date: 12 September 2014

Reviewer: Jonathon Senefeld

Reviewer’s report:

Comments to Authors

The manuscript has improved with the acknowledgement and comparison to previous work upon which the authors are building (Zing et al. 2014 Clinics). Further, the authors have done well to highlight the novelty of the current manuscript in comparison to previous work. Below is a comment to improve clarity of the manuscript.
Minor Essential Revisions:
The authors state that time-limited races offer more possibilities and list 7 race durations, and then compare this to distance-limited events specific to mile limited events. This comparison is misleading because the authors have not failed to mention very common ultra-marathon distances (50K and 100K). When kilometer-limited events are included, it seems that there are not more possibilities in time-limited events.

Answer: We agree with the expert reviewer and changed that section by inserting ‘However, there is a difference in the number of the most often offered time- and distance-limited races. While there are eight different race durations in the time-limited races (i.e. 6 hrs, 12 hrs, 24 hrs, 48 hrs, 72 hrs, 6 d and 10 d, there are nine different race distances in the distance-limited races (i.e. 50 km, 100 km, 200 km, 1,000 km, 50 miles, 100 miles, 200 miles, 1,000 miles and 3,100 miles)’

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