Author’s response to reviews

Title: Influence of typical handball characteristics on upper body posture and postural control in male handball players

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Editor Comments:
Authors need to submit revision with highlighted changes and a point-by-point response to individual authors.

Roland van den Tillaar (Reviewer 2): I see in the comments that the authors have changed the table, but I could not see that they have changed the rest of the manuscript. I still think that there is not much new with the findings of the present study even if they have used expensive equipment. The impact of the findings are low to my opinion. Sorry

We have left all changes (of the last comments) marked in tracking mode and the latest changes are also highlighted in yellow (last paragraph in the discussion). The yellow paragraph refers to the new findings of the article (Reviewer 2): “The present study confirms the results of previous investigations (with a lower number of test persons)
with regard to the constitutional differences of the players in the various play positions and with regard to a symmetrical upper body posture. The present data therefore confirm and complete the already existing data, because the upper body posture and the postural control have not been analysed simultaneously on the same collective to date. This verifies that the dynamic, variable sport of handball causes a balanced upper body posture of the athletes, which is also reflected in a balanced postural control. 

Thus, the present data could be used as reference values for upper body posture or postural control for active handball players. Since the risk of injury in handball is very high, especially in the shoulder or lower extremity area, data of inactive handball players due to injury could be compared with the available data in the context of therapy induction or follow-up of (sports) rehabilitation.”