GETTING A GRIP ON CLASSIFICATION IN JUDO

DEVELOPING EVIDENCE BASED CLASSIFICATION FOR JUDO ATHLETES WITH VISION IMPAIRMENT

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STARTING POSITION

Able-sighted judo

VI judo
CURRENT CLASSIFICATION IN VI SPORTS

B3  B2  B1
CURRENT CLASSIFICATION IN VI JUDO

Effectively, VI judo has only one sports class

B3 + B2 + B1 combined
IS THE CURRENT SYSTEM LEGITIMATE?

Odds ratio (likelihood of winning a medal)

- B3
- B2
- B1

Winning percentage

- B1 vs B2
- B1 vs B3
- B2 vs B3

Krabben, Van der Kamp & Mann (2019)

Mashkovskiy, Magomedova & Achkasov (2018)
BACKGROUND SUMMARY

- In the current system functionally blind athletes are less successful than their partially sighted opponents
- Need to develop new, evidence-based classification criteria for VI judo
- Evidence-based classification needs to be based on research examining the relationship between direct measures of impairment and sport performance
Aim: establish relationship between impairment and performance in VI judo
VISUAL FUNCTION

- Which visual functions best predict judo performance?
- Vision test battery developed to test all visual functions of interest
Performance data gathered from all major competitions two years prior – two years after time of vision testing

Outcome measures:
- Win ratio: nr of wins / total nr of fights
- Score ratio: nr of scores / nr of matches
- Match time: average match time in winning / losing matches
- Technical variation: number of different scoring techniques
RESULTS: PARTIALLY SIGHTED VS. FUNCTIONALLY BLIND

Win ratio

Partially sighted

Functionally blind
No correlation between visual function and performance in partially sighted athletes.
CONCLUSIONS

- Results confirm that functionally blind athletes perform worse than partially sighted athletes

- No impact of impairment on performance for partially sighted athletes

→ Recommendation for a two-class system in VI judo
ADDITIONAL WORK (ONGOING)

- Exploration of additional measures of performance (Kons et al., 2019)
- Determine optimal cut-off point between “blind” and “partially sighted”
- Minimum impairment criteria > simulation studies
ADDITIONAL WORK (ONGOING)
THANK YOU

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