

## Letters to the Editorial Board

### *Dear members of the Editorial Board!*

In the issue of KINESIOLOGY, 34 (2002) 1, pp. 61-72, the article was published under the title "Influence of training of rhythmic gymnastics fundamentals on certain motor abilities in girls 8-9 years of age", written by Wolf-Cvitak, Grčić-Zubčević and Marić. In it the test TWISTED JUMP, measuring coordination, was presented. Afterwards Włodzimierz Starosta, the author of the applied variation of the test, expressed his dissatisfaction to the first author claiming that the authors of the article had failed to interpret and present correctly the origins and performance of the test. Therefore, the authors of the article, for the sake of scientific truth, wish to publish this letter to acquaint the readership with the following corrections and explanations:

Matorin (1965) indeed constructed the first draft of the test "twisted jump" or "jump with turn in the air", but he tested one jump only and measured the degree of rotation around the longitudinal axis by a compass. In the test performance a subject was allowed to start (take-off) in one place and finish (land) on quite a different spot. In this way the maximal rotation of the twist could not be measured precisely enough.

Włodzimierz Starosta took over the principles of the method for assessing coordination, but he prescribed a different performance procedure. His

method or variation of the test can be also named "the seal method" because a measurer uses chalk to mark three points on each foot of a subject (the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> toe and the centre of the heel). These markers "seal" the landing scores on the coordinationmeter 80cm in diameter.

A subject must perform three maximal twists to one side and three more to the other side. The two best-scored twists, properly performed to either of the sides, were taken into account as the test results. The proper performance means here the maintained balance upon landing on both feet within the black circle area of the coordinationmeter. The measurement accuracy was one degree.

The test can be performed in nine different ways, including all kinds of the one-leg push-off into jumps with landing on both feet, accompanied by various arm holds and swings, which altogether produces variable levels of performance difficulty. The test has been utilized many times over many years now by W. Starosta alone and his associates and demonstrated a high level of validity (the Pearson coefficient 0.83).

As opposed to the test elaborated and improved by Starosta, no verified validity was demonstrated for the Matorin's test. Therefore, we can hardly refer to it as to a test.

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