

# DEUTSCHE ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR SPORTMEDIZIN

*German Journal of Sports Medicine*

OFFIZIELLES ORGAN DER DEUTSCHEN GESELLSCHAFT FÜR SPORTMEDIZIN UND PRÄVENTION  
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## EDITORIAL POLICIES

### Scope and Coverage

The *Deutsche Zeitschrift fuer Sportmedizin - German Journal of Sports Medicine* has been founded in 1951 and is dedicated to the biomedical science and clinical practice of Sports Medicine and its border fields which investigate the influence of exercise, physical training and sports as well as lack of exercise to healthy and sick people of all age-groups, related to prevention, diagnosis, therapy, rehabilitation and physical training.

Manuscripts which deal with actual scientific and medical findings, new hypotheses, actual controversies and problems in real life will be published. Possible Topics are physiology and pathophysiology of exercise, medical and biological findings, the medical therapy of exercise-related medical problems, epidemiology of sedentary lifestyle and related disorders, therapy of sports injuries - especially the conservative postoperative treatment of injuries -, medical training and rehabilitation medicine, as well as special social, cultural, psychological and special science-related aspects of the entire scientific field.

The journal is a printed journal with 11 issues per year, with electronic versions of all articles online (PDF and html) and full text retrieval.

### Quality of Content: Principles of Good Scientific Practice in Sports Medicine

The *German Journal of Sports Medicine* principles are in good accordance with statements of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors and the standards as "*Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals* " published and updated by December 2017 (<http://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf>).

The Journal admits to the general principles of scientific and medical practice which are in particular: to work lege artis, to protocol, to work out experiments to document and save the data in a structured way, to doubt consequently self-critically data and to protect strictly trueness with regard to the manuscripts of partners, competitors and previous scientists.

This includes that the manuscript will be written in a way that it is verifiable, that the relevant preliminary work of other authors is taken into consideration and acknowledged and that all authors share responsibility of the complete manuscript. The authors assure that, on request, they will provide their original data to the Editors or the reviewers.

The Journal strongly disagrees with all forms of scientific misconduct as are neglect of intellectual property, plagiarism or the demand to be co-author without the agreement of the other real authors, sabotage of other colleagues` research as well as the support and toleration of active and passive incorrect behaviour. An academic position never justifies an independent authorship.

The ethical principles of being a physician and the ethical principles of sports, especially the general rules for research in sports will be accepted. This includes particularly the principles for a doping-free sport according to the actual respective versions of the guidelines of the *German Olympic Association for Sports (DOSB)*, the *World-Anti-Doping-Agency (WADA)*, and *International Olympic Committee (IOC)*. All authors assure that they will take care of these principles and accept them. This does not exclude scientific discussions of such guidelines and rules.

A main principle of work in Sports Medicine is to observe the rights of patients, athletes and subjects respectively their parents according to the declaration of Helsinki, especially the respect of their rights of self-determination and the free and forceless agreement to participate in scientific examinations. Similarly, the ethical principles for the treatment of experimental animals must also be observed as established in the relevant laws.

The authors must provide a statement of disclosure of conflict of interest, e.g. regarding financial relationship or payment in connection with publication in the *German Journal of Sports Medicine*.

All authors must sign a form that these principles are accepted before publication of the manuscript.

### **Quality of Editorial Work – Editorial Process**

The Editorial process ensures that manuscripts for the *German Journal of Sports Medicine* are of highest quality, deal with latest and important findings of scientific interest and that they are relevant for practical work according to the objectives of the journal, e.g. scientific based and comprehensible medicine and science.

All manuscripts of the *German Journal of Sports Medicine* will be peer reviewed. This process of peer review is subject to certain principles and rules.

The journal demonstrates all necessary features that contribute to the objectivity, credibility, and quality of its contents. The journal demonstrates the evidence that authors have disclosed financial conflicts of interest.

#### Principles – peer review

Peer review ensures the quality of the journal. Manuscripts are evaluated regarding the relevance to the objectives of the journal, scientific creditability and editorial aspects like completeness, style and comprehensibility. The peer review serves to support the authors by giving advices for changes, shortening or inclusion of non-observed aspects. The process of peer review requires the principle of fairness and scientific care.

The peer review is strictly confidential. The reviewer must keep all documents and information to the manuscript strictly confidential and is not allowed to share them with other persons.

The reviewer's decision must be objective and the Editors must be informed immediately of any conflicts of interest. This is especially valid for manuscripts of personal friends, close colleagues or competitors if there are personal differences. In such cases the final decision about the reviewer lies within the Editors. With submission of a manuscript, authors may provide names of possible reviewers from whom they may assume a possible personal conflict of interest. The Editors are certainly not bound to these suggestions.

### Process of Peer Review

- 1 Correspondence is electronically for all manuscripts. Printed manuscripts will not be returned to the authors.
- 2 After receiving a manuscript, it will be reviewed by the Editor-in Chief or a member of the Editorial Board. A manuscript can be rejected at this stage of the review process, if it does not fulfil formal criteria or if two members of the Editorial Board conclude that it does not have sufficient merit to warrant publication.
- 3 The manuscript will then be sent to two other members of the Scientific Board of the Journal or to other scientific experts. The names of reviewers are blinded to the authors. The peer review includes a confidential judgement and an open part with general and especial indications and should be finished within 4 weeks.
- 4 The names of the reviewers will be blinded to the authors
- 5 The open part of peer review will be submitted to the authors together with the final decision of the Editorial Board concerning acceptance, revision with conditions or rejection of the manuscript.
- 6 If revision of a manuscript is requested, the authors must respond accordingly to the reviews, and have to indicate clearly any changes that have been made in the manuscript or explain differences of opinion.
- 7 The peer review process will be continued until a final decision about acceptance or rejection is made by the Editors.
- 8 The peer review process is managed and documented online via Editorial Manager.
- 9 Reviews and correspondence concerning the manuscripts will be kept on file for a reasonable period of time together with the manuscripts.

### **Management of Comments and Opinions, Errata and Retractions**

The journal welcomes critical colleagues and encourage all readers for letter to the editor. Letters to the editor will be sent to the responsible author and printed with answer into one of the coming issues. The Facebook-Account of the journal counts nearly 3000 follower and is also a medium to share comments and opinions to all articles of the journal.

If there is any scientific or other errors in a scientific article, the author will be informed and an erratum will be published in a coming issue. The erratum will be added to the PDF of the article.

Reasonable doubts of an article´s content lead to serious consultations with the author and with all Editors and the possible retraction of the manuscript by the author or the Editorial Office. The retraction will be declared in a coming issue, the online version will be updated.

### **Submission of Manuscripts in the *German Journal of Sports Medicine***

#### Language

The language of the Journal is American English. All manuscripts are published with summaries in German and English and keywords in both languages. All English articles include an Extended Abstract in German language of one page, published with same information and DOI of the original article. An "Extended Abstract" with practical information is submitted in German language.

All submissions for international authors should be submitted via Editorial Manager, a system for online manuscript submission and peer review (<http://dzsm.edmgr.com>).

### Special Issues

For special issues of the Journal, guest-editors may be invited by the Editorial Board, who will revise these papers and may organize peer review in accordance with the Editorial Board.

### Style of Manuscripts

The manuscripts should be concise, sentences should be short. Manuscripts that are accepted for publication will be editorially revised for use of language.

The use of photographs should maintain the personal rights of the subjects and should be used only when necessary. Concerning the photographs of patients or athletes, even if they are persons of contemporary life, the authors must submit a personal written consent from the person in question. This is particularly valid for photographs of patients or experimental subjects.

### **Additional Guidelines for Authors**

Lots of information regarding the journal can be obtained from the homepage of the DZSM: <http://www.germanjournalsportsmedicine.com> → download. Guidelines for authors in English and previous issues and article in both html and PDF document can be downloaded for free.

### **Open-access Policy**

This journal's policy is to publish online as an open-access journal to provide free dissemination as widely as possible according to the aims of the "Budapest Open Access Initiative" <http://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/read>  
There is no fee for submission and handling of submissions.

### **Licensing information**

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## **Publisher and Production Quality**

Since February 2015, the publisher of the journal is *Dynamic Media Sales Verlag*, Karlstraße 2, 86150 Augsburg, Germany. *Ms Nicola Lutz* is the responsible publisher. They guarantee the quality of layout, printing, graphics and illustrations. The layout is provided by *grape.media.design*, Schleissheimerstraße 6, 80333 Munich, Germany.

The Publication Committee is a Registered Non-Profit Association for Promotion of Sports Medicine (*Verein zur Förderung der Sportmedizin Hannover e.V.*). Executive ist *Professor Dieter Böning*, Schütte-Lanz-Str. 93B, 12209 Berlin, Germany.

The journal is printed on acid-free paper by *Creo Druck Bamberg*, Gutenbergstraße 1, 96050 Bamberg, Germany.

## **Audience**

The *German Journal of Sports Medicine* is directed to translational science and clinical practice of Sports Medicine and its adjacent fields, which investigate the influence of physical activity, exercise, training and sports, as well as a lack of exercise affecting healthy people and patients of all age-groups. It addresses implications for prevention, diagnosis, therapy, rehabilitation and physical training as well as the entire Sports Medicine and research in sports science, physiology and biomechanics.

The journal is the leading and most widely read German journal in the field of Sports Medicine. Readers are physicians, physiologists and sports scientists as well as physiotherapists, coaches, sport managers, and athletes. The journal offers to the scientific community online open access to its scientific content and online communication platform.

## **Listing in Databases**

Each scientific article is uniquely identified by a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). XML-structured data are available of bibliographic data, abstracts and text. The journal is listed in:

- Research Alert
- Focus On: Sports Science & Medicine
- SciVerse Scopus
- CrossRef
- EBSCO SPORTDiscus
- Google Scholar
- Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS)

## **Types of Manuscripts**

Reviews should provide latest scientific data or relevant information for medical or training practice to the readership from a general point of view. Therefore all relevant literature shall be quoted. The manuscript should not exceed 7 printed pages. Facts, which are discussed, must be clearly defined as such to the readers.

Original manuscripts should describe important facts in the field of experimental and practical sports medicine. They must be short and should not exceed 4 printed pages.

Clinical cases and short reports should not exceed more than 3 printed pages. They should present a certain case and discuss it with the relevant medical literature. As a rule, they

contain about 10 essential references, which will help the readers to inform themselves about the theme.

Letters to the Editor are of particular interest. They should focus a point of view and express critically to published papers or to general problems of Sports Medicine. They may not offend one's personality. In individual cases, the Editorial Board reserves the right not to publish or to shorten letters to the Editor. If letters to the Editors refer to published articles, authors of the article have the opportunity to respond within 3 weeks. Then, the reply will be published together with the letter to Editor.

Guidelines for Sports Medicine can be submitted only by authorized committees of the *German Society of Sports Medicine*. Additionally, the Editorial Board may ask certain authors or working groups to write articles for special themes which may serve as guidelines.

Reports from literature may be submitted independently and are requested by the Editorial Board. Essential and important manuscripts for the medical or sports medical progress should be reviewed, in general they should not exceed more than 1/2 printed page.

Personal news regard important events like presentation of awards, appointments, honours and special birthdays. They should not exceed more than 2 printed sentences or 1 paragraph. At special occasions, as at outstanding events or obituaries of important personalities of Sports Medicine, which rendered exceptional outstanding services to the German Society of Sports Medicine, respectively to the German Journal of Sports Medicine, appreciations may be published up to half a printed page. Such articles have to be approved before from the Editor-in-Chief.