

Answering reviewers

The authors would like to thank the reviewers for their kind and constructive comments. We have addressed the remarks as follows.

Reviewer #1

“This is a study on the incidence and epidemiology of kitesurfing injuries in a Dutch cohort (N=194) during a kitesurfing season. This study is very well designed and provides novel (and interesting) data on this sport. The relevance of the results is also high. For all the above I advise publication after minor modifications/clarifications. I believe there are a few recent (2017-2019) studies on kitesurfing injuries that could be helpful in adding to the introduction for a more robust explanation on the topic “

→ Two recent studies have been added to the Introduction and Discussion (p. 4, 9 and 10)

“Please define the start and end of the kitesurfing season “

→ The season has now been defined in the Materials and Methods section (p. 5)

“On results authors describe “The majority of the injuries were sustained in wind speeds of 4-6 Beaufort and flat to small wave (choppy) conditions, which are typical Dutch conditions.”. I believe this is the first opportunity for the reader to observe that all kitesurfing was done on the Netherlands and not abroad. Is this true?”

→ In the study we asked the participants about the water and weather conditions, not about the geographic locations. The far majority of kitesurfing was done in the Netherlands but there might have been some abroad on holiday.

“ I advise clarification in Material and Methods I am not a statistician but ORs were calculated with a chi-square? Are these adjusted or crudes?”

→ The p-value of 0.052 as described on p. 8 was calculated with chi-square (as described on p. 6). The OR are crudes.

Reviewer #2

“A prospective, cohort study. Little is published on this subject. The paper follows an established methodology for reporting sports related injury such as a paper published by myself. (S. Gartland, M. H. A. Malik, M. E. Lovell. Injuries and injury rates in Muay Thai Kickboxing. Br J Sports Med 2001; 35: 308 – 318.) It would be of benefit to list the fracture types and treatment (operative or conservative) and also if any soft tissue injuries required operation.”

→ Thank you for your kind comments. According to your suggestion, we have added the fracture types and the required treatment (p. 7)

We feel these changes have further improved the paper and look forward to the final decision.

On behalf of all authors,

Christiaan van Bergen, MD PhD