

Title: The impact of notational analysis, analyst and feedback on performance enhancement in elite wheelchair basketball

Funder: The Institute of Sport & Exercise Science & British Wheelchair Basketball

Closing date: 17th February 2014

Interview date: To be confirmed

Supervisors

Director of Studies: Professor Derek M Peters, Professor of Sport, Health & Exercise Science, University of Worcester, UK. **Other Supervisors:** Mick Donovan, Head of the Institute of Sport & Exercise Science University of Worcester, UK & Professor Nic James, Head of Research for the London Sport Institute, Middlesex University, UK. **External funding partner:** Paul Davies, Performance Director, British Wheelchair Basketball.

Context

Working as performance analyst for the British Wheelchair Basketball senior teams the successful applicant will be required to collaborate closely with the team coaches and players and travel to collect data at competitions including the 2014 World Championships, the 2015 European Championships and culminating at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Based at the University of Worcester, the analyst will also be required to support the teams where necessary in other competitions, training events and meetings with coaches, teams and individual players.

As the student, the successful applicant will be required to develop and evaluate a valid and reliable performance analysis system for elite wheelchair basketball that is able to discriminate between successful and unsuccessful individual and team performance in international competition; design, employ and evaluate from multiple perspectives appropriate performance analysis feedback materials for players, teams and coaches integrating the most appropriate learning theories to explore the role and impact of performance analysis feedback on performance; and throughout the studentship, to reflect upon their role and 'place' as the performance analyst in the performance enhancement process in elite wheelchair basketball. You will be expected to disseminate your research findings internationally.

The studentship will be based at the University of Worcester and data collection will take place at Worcester's University Arena, at national events/competitions and at international events/competitions abroad.

Qualifications needed

Essential: Applicants should be able to evidence:

- (or expect to receive) An MSc in performance analysis, sports science, sports coaching or other relevant discipline;
- Excellent oral and written English;
- Computer literacy including word processing, spreadsheet creation & data handling;
- Experience in using SportsCode (or other recognised performance analysis software) for analysing individual and player performance in team sports;
- Ability to undertake and understand common statistical analyses used in performance analysis research using SPSS;
- Good time management skills and the ability to meet deadlines;
- Good interpersonal and team working skills;
- Ability to work in an applied performance analysis setting;
- Ability to work independently and contribute to a team to achieve both individual and team goals;
- Commitment and an enthusiastic approach to completing a higher research degree;
- Commitment and an enthusiastic approach to being part of the research and teaching environment of the Institute of Sport & Exercise Science;
- Ability and willingness to travel nationally and internationally as required.

Desirable:

- Experience of working as a performance analyst in elite team sport;
- Experience of working as a performance analyst in disability sport;
- Experience of working as a performance analyst in wheelchair basketball (elite or otherwise);
- ISPAS accreditation;
- Ability to use and understand advanced statistical analyses used in performance analysis research;
- Evidence of national/international dissemination of their research in performance analysis;
- Full UK Driving License.

It is an expectation that the successful candidate will participate fully in the activities of the Institute of Sport & Exercise Science and gain additional experience in the teaching and research environment of the University under the guidance of their director of studies.

Facilities: This research studentship is co-funded between the University of Worcester and British Wheelchair Basketball. During your time at Worcester, you will be provided with your own computer (with appropriate performance analysis software included) and an office space, which you will normally share with other full-time research students. Your office will normally be located in the Graduate Research School or your Institute.

The successful candidate will join the thriving and growing Institute of Sport & Exercise Science which is actively engaged in applied and disability sport focused research. Whilst the successful candidate will be expected to have suitable academic qualifications and experience as outlined in the person specification, additional specialist training will be available if required and deemed appropriate by the director of studies.

For more information on members of supervisory team and the Institute of Sport & Exercise Science, please visit <http://www.worcester.ac.uk/discover/institute-of-sport-and-exercise-science.html> and <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/aboutus/staffdirectory/nic-james.aspx> and for British Wheelchair basketball please visit <http://www.gbwba.org.uk/gbwba/index.cfm>.

Bursary: The successful candidate will receive a tax free bursary of £12,300 for a period of 3 years plus a limited budget to support their research. Fees will be paid in full at the UK/EU rate for home and EU citizens. Applicants from outside the EU are welcome but will need to pay the balance of registration fees for non-EU students. If you are applying and not eligible as an EU student you should make a statement on your application form to confirm that you will fund the additional fees of approximately £6000 per year.

The Interview: All successful applicants will be interviewed. The interview normally lasts around 3 hours in total. It will include a 15 minute presentation; the chance to talk to full-time postgraduate research students; and a tour of the University and Institute facilities. The topic for the presentation will be provided in the invitation to interview and successful applicants will be required to provide an example of written work (e.g. MSc dissertation) in advance of the interview.

Widening Participation: As part of its mission statement the University is committed to widening participation for its higher degrees. Although most candidates will have a MSc/MA degree, the University is happy to accept applications from candidates with relevant professional qualifications and work related experience.

Application forms are available at:

<http://www.worcester.ac.uk/researchstudentships>

For further information or an informal discussion on this project, please contact Professor Derek M Peters (+44 1905 855 352 or by email: d.peters@worc.ac.uk)

If you have any questions regarding the application process, please contact Mrs Helen Tabinor, Graduate Research School Manager (tel: 01905 855012, email: h.tabinor@worc.ac.uk).

Completed application forms should be sent by email to: research@worc.ac.uk or sent to: Graduate Research School, University of Worcester, Henwick Grove, Worcester, WR2 6AJ, UK