

Instructions to Authors

Sports Psychiatry

Journal of Sports and Exercise Psychiatry

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Aims and scope

Sports Psychiatry – Journal of Sports and Exercise Psychiatry is an international, fully open access, peer-reviewed journal providing a platform for advances in all aspects of sports psychiatry, including but not limited to the diagnosis, management, therapy, and prevention of mental disorders in competitive and popular sports, as well as to physical activity in the prevention and treatment of mental disorders.

The journal aims to publish high-quality articles for a wide audience of professionals and researchers interested in the field of sports psychiatry.

Sports Psychiatry is the first journal in this field. It is the official organ of the [International Society for Sports Psychiatry \(ISSP\)](#) and the [Swiss Society for Sports Psychiatry and Psychotherapy \(SSSPP\)](#).

The Editors invite all authors to publish their work in **Sports Psychiatry**. Manuscripts submitted will undergo a full peer review. Accepted manuscripts will be published continuously and online only.

Publication ethics

It is important to the Hogrefe Publishing Group that our scientific journals and all the people involved adhere to the highest ethical standards. Please take a moment to review our guidelines on what this means for authors, editors, reviewers, and us as a publisher. More information:

<https://www.hogrefe.com/eu/service/for-journal-authors/publication-ethics>

Article types

Sports Psychiatry publishes high-quality articles in various categories including original research, case reports, reviews, meta-analyses, consensus statements, as well as commentaries, practical reports, society news, congress articles, and other contributions.

Types and length of manuscripts (maximum lengths / totals)

	Original research article	Review / Meta-analysis	Consensus statement / Position paper / Perspectives	Brief report / Case report / Practical report	Letter to the Editor / Commentary
Main text	3,000 words	4,000 words	4,000 words	1,500 words	1,000 words
Abstract	250 words	250 words	250 words	250 words	n/a
References	60	80	80	30	10
Tables & Figures	6	6	6	3	1

Original research articles should not be longer than 3,000 words, including main text plus notes, acknowledgments, and appendices but excluding cover page, references, tables, and figures.

Reviews and **Meta-analysis** should not be longer than 4,000 words (including main text plus notes, acknowledgments, and appendices but excluding cover page, references, tables, and figures).

Consensus statements, Position papers, and Perspectives should not be longer than 4,000 words including main text plus notes, acknowledgments, and appendices but excluding cover page, references, tables, and figures. **More extensive articles may be accepted after consulting with the Editor-in-Chief.**

(“Perspectives” is a scholarly piece offering a critical, interpretive analysis of a topic, providing expert insight and potential future directions.)

Brief reports, Case reports, and Practical reports (“Real world sports psychiatry”) should not be longer than 1,500 words, including main text plus notes, acknowledgments, and appendices but excluding cover page, references, tables, and figures.

(Practical reports “Real world sports psychiatry” are clinical contributions that address important aspects of sports psychiatry and provide a professional insight into the work of sports psychiatrists, for example important observations, and/or critical reflections of existing recommendations in the real world of sports psychiatry.)

Letters to the Editor and Commentaries should not be longer than 1,000 words including main text plus notes, acknowledgments, and appendices but excluding cover page, references, tables, and figures.

All papers (except Letters to the Editor and Commentaries) must be structured according to the following sections:

- Abstract (not exceeding 250 words). **Abstracts must be structured by the sections:** “Introduction”, “Methods”, “Results”, “Discussion”, and “Conclusion” (where applicable)
- Keywords (up to five)
- Main text: Background/Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Limitations, Conclusion
- References
- Conflict of interest statement
- Optional: Acknowledgments, Authorship, Funding, Electronic supplementary material (ESM)

Please refer to the table above for the maximum numbers of Tables and Figures. Papers exceeding any of the stated limits will be rejected. Please note that Electronic supplementary material (ESM) (see below) is not included in the word count.

Society news (“Sports psychiatry news”) and **Congress reports/abstracts**: Please consult with the Editor-in-Chief.

Manuscript preparation

Language

All contributions must be in English. It is recommended that authors who are not native speakers of English have their manuscripts checked by a native-speaker colleague or a professional language editing service* before submission.

*Hogrefe has negotiated a 20% discount for authors who wish to have their manuscript professionally edited or translated into English by the experts at [Enago](#) before submission. Please note that the service is independent of Hogrefe and use of it has no bearing on acceptance decisions made by individual journals.

Manuscripts

Please note that your submission will undergo a plagiarism check during the peer review process. Any use of artificial intelligence by the authors to generate content must be disclosed. Manuscripts must be prepared according to the **Vancouver reference style** with in-text citations using **Arabic numerals in square brackets, e.g. [1]**. Examples can be found below. Nonstandard abbreviations should be defined in the text upon first use. Footnotes should be generally avoided. Do not put any references in footnotes and section headings.

The **main text** should be written double-spaced with a margin of 2.5 cm (1 inch) on all sides and **with continuous line numbering throughout**.

The **cover page** should, in addition to the title, contain the name and complete address of the corresponding author, the names and full affiliations of all authors, as well as a running title exceeding no more than 60 letters and spaces.

All manuscripts must be submitted online at <https://www.editorialmanager.com/spp>. Please follow the online instructions for submission. Should you have any technical queries regarding this process, and for any editorial questions, please contact the Editor-in-Chief.

Figures and tables

Figures and tables must be numbered using Arabic numerals. The number of figures and tables should be kept to a minimum and only be included to facilitate understanding of the text. The same information should not appear in both a figure and a table. Each table and figure must be cited in the text and must be accompanied by a table heading or a figure caption respectively. Please note that the journal's online submission system allows text, figures, and tables to be submitted as separate files. Figures must be supplied in a form suitable for reproduction: preferably high-resolution

bitmaps (e.g., .JPG, .TIF, with a minimal resolution of 300 dpi), as vector graphics files or in original file formats such as .PPT or .XLS, but not as a Word file (.DOCX).

Reviewing process

Manuscripts are all subject to single-blinded peer review. A minimum of two reviewers will be requested to review the manuscript (except for Letters to the Editor and Commentaries). Upon receipt of the reviews, the responsible Editor will make his editorial decision and notify the corresponding author of the result. There are four kinds of decisions: Accept, resubmit after minor revision, resubmit after major revision, and reject. Rejected manuscripts cannot be resubmitted.

The entire review process is completely reliant on electronic communication in order to ensure speedy processing. A request by the Editor for revision of a manuscript does not constitute a decision to publish. All revised manuscripts will be reevaluated, and the editors reserve the right to reject a paper at any point during the revision process.

Revisions

Revised manuscripts must be accompanied by a detailed response to the reviewers (unless stated otherwise by the handling editor) which addresses all points raised by the reviewers and editor and needs to be submitted separately. This letter should also outline major changes made to the manuscript and indicate where these changes can be found. Ideally, the revised manuscript should clearly mark any changes/new insertions by, for example, highlighting text or using a different color, which helps reviewers to identify changes and speeds up the review process.

Authors should adhere to word count limits (see section “Types and length of manuscripts”) and update the word count in the submission portal when submitting a revised manuscript. While word count limits should normally still apply for revised versions and resubmissions, we acknowledge that it can sometimes be difficult to adhere to them and address all reviewer comments, and so, if appropriate and necessary, we allow up to an additional 10%. Authors are advised to contact the journal office prior to submission if they think even higher word count is required.

References

References must include all and only works cited in the text and must follow the **Vancouver reference style**. References are numbered consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned. In-text citations must be **written in Arabic numerals and in square brackets, e.g. [1]**. Multiple in-text citations within the same square brackets must all be listed, separated by a comma,

e.g. [1,2] or [3,4,5]. In the reference list, each reference is listed once only, with the according in-text citation number in square brackets. Only up to six authors of each reference must be listed, all other authors must be abbreviated by “et al.”. The journal names should be abbreviated in accordance with the List of Journals in the Index Medicus. DOIs (digital object identifier) of the cited journal articles must be provided whenever possible and in the format of a full URL address (“<https://doi.org/XY>”).

Remember to **check the consecutive numbering again** whenever you add or delete references during manuscript preparation or revisions.

Examples for reference list entries

Journal articles

Garner PW. Emotional competence and its influences on teaching. *Educ Psychol Rev.* 2010;22:297–321. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10648-010-9129-4>

Hinnant JB, Nelson JA, O'Brien M, Keane SP, Calkins SD, Cribbie R, et al. The interactive roles of parenting, emotion regulation and executive functioning in moral reasoning during middle childhood. *Cogn Emot.* 2013;27(8):1460-8. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02699931.2013.7897922013>

Benoit E, O'Donnell TF, Iafrati MD, Asher E, Bandyk DF, Hallett JW, et al. The role of amputation as an outcome measure in cellular therapy for critical limb ischemia: implications for clinical trial design. *J Transl Med.* 2011;9:165. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1479-5876-9-165>

Books

LeDoux, JE. *The emotional brain.* New York: Simon and Schuster; 1996.

Book Chapters

Eccles JS, Adler TF, Futterman R, Goff SB, Kaczala CM, Meece JL, et al. Expectancies, values, and academic behaviors. In: Spence JT, editor. *Achievement and achievement motives.* San Francisco: Freeman; 1983. 75-146.

Websites

European Space Agency. Rosetta: rendezvous with a comet. Available from: <http://rosetta.esa.int> [Accessed 15th June 2015].

Electronic Supplementary Material (ESM)

Authors may submit study data, analysis scripts, and other study materials for manuscripts that involve new data as ESM. In general, ESM may include relevant items that may consist of material used to carry out the research (e.g., data sets, participant instructions, audiovisual stimuli, video

footage of the experimental setup) or additional items that are not essential for inclusion in the full text but would nevertheless benefit the reader. ESM is not included in the article word count. The maximum of ESM files published per article is limited to 5 and the total data volume is limited to 10 MB. ESM files will be published online as received from the author(s) without any conversion, testing, or reformatting. They will not be checked for typographical errors or functionality. The responsibility for the content and functionality remains entirely with the author(s). Hogrefe does not provide technical support for the creation or viewing of the supplementary files. If necessary, authors should seek the assistance of their local IT department. Like the manuscript, ESM should be original and not previously published. If previously published, it must be submitted with the necessary permissions. Note that the ESM files, just like the article itself, are permanent records and may not be altered once they have been published online. Please ensure that any ESM submitted with the article is in compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

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