**Reviewer 1 Comments and Responses**

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| **Comment** | **Response** |
| There are a few direct statements in the  introduction that perhaps need references (e.g., sentences 1 and 2). | Amended as requested. Both sentence 1 and 2 in paragraph 1 in the introduction have now both been referenced (29), the appropriate reference by Nasher included in the amended reference list and reference citation in text amended to include this additional reference. |
| It is recommended that the authors try to  reduce the length of the introduction and to include information that is  pertinent to the “introduction” of the investigation. | Amended as requested. Introduction has been shortened with the second paragraph being removed. |
| How was the number of  years since athletic participant factored into the analysis? For example,  someone who is 60 years versus 70 years, if they both stopped participating at  30 years, one has 30 vs 40 years since participating. However, previous research  indicates that the 60s may represent a critical age period for declines in  neuromuscular and physical function. | Unfortunately, the age at commencement and cessation of sport participation was not captured in our retired athlete group during their initial questionnaire. In an attempt to ascertain if there was an independent effect of age in either of the retired groups (RA and RC) regression analysis of balance data across age was performed to compute coefficient of determination, standard error of the estimate (Sy.x) and significance of the slope of the regression line from zero. |
| Is there any reliability data available  from the current analyses? | The design of the current study was a single session observational study, therefore, a within session reliability assessment was beyond the scope of the study. |
| Do potential “ceiling effects” of the included  measures influence the authors results? | The testing time of 30 seconds for each stance is a standard time of measurement across the literature. A longer time frame of testing may have identified small differences within groups most likely only to be evident in the older group given the younger group were successful at nearly all stances. |
| What variable was used for the power  analysis? | A-Priori power analysis was conducted in advance of the study based on a projected effect-size of 0.4. No outcome variable is required to perform such a test. |
| Additionally, since this number was not achieved, did the authors  perform a post-hoc power analysis? | A *post-hoc* power analysis was preformed based on the enlisted sample to estimate statistical power and has been included in paragraph 1 in the results section. |
| The paragraph above Figure 1, about halfway  “25.3 +/- 8.0 s” is missing the “-s” in compared to the remaining labels. | Amended as requested. |
| However, the used of caps for the y axis is  different as well as the use of bolding for the titles appears to be different-  please adjust for consistency. | Amended as requested. |

**Reviewer 2 Comments and Responses**

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| **Comment** | **Response** |
| Could the author provide references for these two following sentences if available? | Amended as requested. Both sentence 1 and 2 in paragraph 1 in the introduction have now both been referenced (29), the appropriate reference by Nasher included in the amended reference list and reference citation in text amended to include this additional reference. |
| The second paragraph of the introduction seems somewhat disjointed. Could the authors add additional transitional phrases between the sentences or link the data on fall risk and prevention strategies to the current study? | In order to reduce length and improve clarity of the introduction, paragraph 2 was removed. |
| Another potential limitation to the study not stated is possible selection bias as the sample was not stratified based on age group or sex. | Amended as requested. Selection bias is now listed as a potential limitation as group and gender were not stratified. |
| Suggest revising the last sentence regarding “future research” to be less general. | Amended as requested. |
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