

Club Online Questionnaire- The impact of colour vision deficiency on participation and progression in sport

Dr Adam Bibbey, Daisy Lee
(abibbey@brookes.ac.uk, daisylee@brookes.ac.uk)

Introduction

Colour-blindness or colour vision deficiency (CVD) affects approximately 1 in 12 men and 1 in 200 women, making it more difficult for those with CVD to differentiate between colours. Considering the world is now heavily reliant on colour this must pose problems for individuals with CVD in their day-to-day life, education, work and hobbies. As such, a questionnaire was sent out to sports clubs and associations.

Method

A questionnaire was shared with sports clubs and associations in various sports in Portugal, Iceland, Denmark, Romania and France, to gain an insight into awareness of colour blindness, guideline provision and what participants think could and has to be done to support those with colour blindness.

Table 1 shows the sample size and valid responses across countries.

Country	Sample
Portugal	99
Iceland	6
Denmark	10
Romania	27
France	1

Do you follow the UEFA guidance on colour blindness in football? - No (if so, why is this? Are there any potential barriers to implementing this?)

All participants identified that they do not follow UEFA guidance on supporting those with CVD, mainly because they were unaware that CVD was a problem, so identified that training and awareness of CVD would be helpful. However, a Portuguese participant was aware of guidance from the FA but was unaware if any players had CVD, so did not give the topic much thought.

"I was aware of the article FA Colour Blindness in Football. I never thought much about the subject because I never had direct contact with anyone with this problem."

Do you provide any specific provision for colour blindness in football?

No clubs or associations identified that they provided any specific provisions for those with CVD, even when sharing that they were colour blind themselves. In most cases, participants identified that they would benefit from training specific to CVD.

Romania: “Yes, programmes established by those who know the problem!”

Conclusion

Some participants were aware that CVD is a problem for athletes but lacked knowledge and awareness of how best to support them and importantly did not know who had CVD. The general consensus was that more needs to be done to raise awareness of CVD, with training courses delivered by specialists in CVD.