Risk of bias assessment

Study	Item 1: Study setting and study period	Item 2: Eligibility criteria and player selection	Item 3: Exposure definition and measurement	Item 4: Injury definition, measurement and reporting	Cumulative number of items with bias
Best et al, 2005[20]	0	0	0	0	**0**
Bird et al, 1998[21]	0	0	1	1	**2**
Brooks et al, 2005[3]	0	0	0	0	**0**
Brooks et al, 2005[22]	0	0	0	0	**0**
Brooks et al, 2005[23]	0	0	0	0	**0**
Fuller et al, 2008[24]	0	0	0	0	**0**
Fuller et al, 2009[25]	0	0	0	1	**1**
Fuller & Molloy, 2011[26]	0	0	0	1	**1**
Fuller et al, 2013[27]	0	0	0	0	**0**
Jakoet & Noakes 1998[28]	0	0	0	1	**1**
Kerr (2008)[29]	0	1	1	0	**2**
Schwellnus et al, 2014[30]	0	0	0	0	**0**

The four items were adapted from Walden et al,[17] originally based on the "Strengthening the reporting of observational studies in epidemiology" (STROBE) statement[18]. Studies were assessed on each item for low risk (0) or high risk (1) of bias. High risk of bias could be caused by, but is not limited to, item 1: unclear reporting on the amateur or elite level of players, unclear reporting of number of seasons; item 2: large dropout (>25%) during study, unclear or biased selection of teams; item 3: approximate or unclear registration and calculation of exposure hours; item 4: unclear (skin) injury definition, retrospective reporting of injuries (e.g. telephone interviews). Studies with a cumulative score of 0 were defined as low risk of bias, studies with a score of 1-2 were defined as a medium risk of bias and studies with a score >3 were defined as high risk of bias.