

### Abstract

Injuries have increased dramatically in recent years with the rising popularity of competitive sports. Therefore, it is important to understand how injuries can affect motivation in competitive athletes. Previous research has examined athletes' perception of injury in relation to its onset (Gayman & Crossman, 2003). Also, other research examined how an athlete may respond to the severity of the injury (Robbins & Rosenfeld, 2002). However, this study explored both factors as they relate to motivation in athletes at Lambuth University. Participants were given a 30-question assessment to determine their injury onset and severity and to measure their motivation. The main effects for injury onset, injury severity, and the interaction between the two were not significant. However, post hoc revealed that non-injured athletes scored significantly lower in motivation than moderately or severely injured athletes. Also, non-injured athletes scored significantly lower than those who were injured in the pre-season.