



Validity and reliability of the V-cut dribbling test in young basketball players

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1 ABSTRACT

2 PURPOSE: Change-of-direction (COD) while dribbling appears to be of interest for on-
3 court performance in basketball. The study aim was to assess the validity and reliability
4 of the V-cut dribbling test (VcutBk) in young basketball players.

5 METHODS: Ninety-two young basketball players from 8 to 21 years old (74% male)
6 were classified in relation to Peak High Velocity (PHV) offset. To examine validity and
7 test-retest reliability, VcutBk test was performed in two identical sessions separated by
8 one week. Participants also performed Vcut test and lineal sprint test with and without
9 dribbling to analyse correlations between tests in different somatic maturity stages.

10 RESULTS: The relationships between the VcutBk with the other tests and skill-time-
11 related deficits were interpreted from large ($r>0.51$) to very large ($r>0.71$). The
12 comparisons between pre-PHV and post-PHV groups of basketball players show
13 significant and large effect in the VcutBk ($d=2.04$, mean difference=2.59, 95%
14 confidence interval [1.86, 3.32]). Also, significant main effects when comparing PHV
15 groups were reported in all skill-time-related deficits ($p<0.001$, $\eta^2_p=0.13$ to 0.28,
16 moderate-to-large effect size). Test-retest reliability and signal to noise ratio analysis do
17 not show substantial between-trial differences in VcutBk. Reliability scores showed high
18 intraclass correlation coefficient (ICC=0.95) and low coefficient of variation
19 (CV=0.23%).

20 CONCLUSIONS: The VcutBk seems to be a valid and reliable test to assess COD while
21 dribbling performance. VcutBk performance and skill-time-related deficits seems to be
22 sensitive to somatic maturity. Basketball coaches should consider the VcutBk test to
23 assess young basketball players.

24 Keywords

25 Testing, Technical Skill, Performance, Somatic maturity, Team sports

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36 INTRODUCTION

37 Change-of-direction (COD) speed skill appears to be of interest for on-court physical
38 performance in basketball players¹⁻³. It has been observed that in some basketball
39 situations COD skill constitutes 20.7% of sprinting activity⁴. Thus, Sugiyama² reported
40 several studies that have assessed the reliability and validity of basketball-specific COD
41 tests, and showed three categorized test types to assess specific COD performances:
42 defensive, 180°-turn, and cutting. However, these tests do not consider other basketball-
43 specific skills like dribbling, passing, shooting, or defending.

44 In the offensive phase of the game, dribbling performance has been considered as an
45 important skill in basketball, particularly at key game stages⁵. During the basketball
46 match, semi-professional backcourt players spend 9–11% of their playing time dribbling
47 or in the possession of the ball^{6,7}. Nevertheless, limited previous literature exists regarding
48 basketball dribbling activities. Previous basketball research found that dribbling skill is
49 strongly influenced by linear running and sprinting ability^{8,9}. Similar findings were
50 observed for sprints with COD in a test with slalom manoeuvres⁵. As V-cut manoeuvre
51 is frequently involved in offensive techniques in basketball, it may be interesting to assess
52 the COD skill while dribbling in a V-cutting situation in order to train and improve
53 performance in this phase of the game. Furthermore, identifying COD deficit¹⁰ and
54 dribbling deficit⁵ during COD skill while dribbling, may be a good strategy to better
55 understand some specific features of the basketball-players' behaviour in the offensive
56 phase of the game.

57 In team sport setting, it is common to assess associations between physical aspects and
58 motor skill performance¹¹. Somatic maturity is a concept used to describe the degree of
59 biological maturation¹² which indicates the growth rate of body dimensions (height is
60 commonly used) expressed by the age at peak height velocity (PHV)¹³. **COD performance
61 while dribbling may be influenced** by somatic maturation through the hormone changes
62 related to power in change of direction, and neuromuscular control of skills implied in
63 change of direction and dribbling¹⁴.

64 To consider these aspects, a new basketball specific test able to evaluate change of
65 direction while dribbling was created: V-cut dribbling test (VcutBk). Therefore, the main
66 objective of this study was to assess the validity and reliability of the VcutBk test in young
67 basketball players.

68

69 MATERIALS AND METHODS

70 *Subjects*

71 The original sample included 104 young basketball players from 8 to 21 years of age.
72 Twelve participants were dropped from analysis because of missing data. The final
73 sample consisted of 92 players (53 males and 39 females) recruited from an amateur
74 basketball club (Foment Deportiu Cassanenc). The sample was divided in relation to
75 PHVoffset as an individual somatic maturity indicator according to Moore et al.¹³ (Table
76 1). All players carried out 2-3 90-min training sessions and a game per week. Exclusion
77 criteria were being injured or recovering from an injury.

78 The Institutional Review Board of Consell Català de l'Esport approved the research,
79 which conformed to the recommendations of the Declaration of Helsinki. Informed
80 consent and assent were obtained from all subjects and their parents.

81 INSERT Table 1. Subject characteristics.

82 ***Study design***

83 This observational research was developed in an amateur basketball club from Girona
84 (Spain). VcutBk test design was based on the Vcut test protocol³. Dribbling was added to
85 the execution of the test to assess basketball dribbling while changing direction.

86 For the validation purpose, the **relationships** between the VcutBk test and other basketball
87 specific tests were determined. Participants also completed the Vcut³, 25m linear Sprint
88 and 25m Sprint while dribbling (SprintBk) tests. Test-derived scores were used for the
89 analysis and the following variables were calculated: dribbling deficit, SprintBK –
90 Sprint⁵; COD deficit, Vcut – Sprint¹⁰; dribbling while COD deficit, VcutBk – Vcut; and
91 COD while dribbling deficit, VcutBk – SprintBk.

92 To examine test-retest reliability, VcutBk test was performed in two identical sessions
93 separated by 6±1 days. Test reliability was assessed through absolute (typical error of
94 measurement [TEM] calculated as coefficients of variation in percentage) and relative
95 (intra-class correlation coefficient [ICC]) reliability.

96 ***Procedures***

97 A week before the commencement of the study, anthropometric data were collected and
98 familiarization with test procedures was developed. Subjects were allowed to perform
99 only two trials of each test to avoid any learning effect. Prior to each testing session
100 players were informed not to take any stimulant substance (e.g., caffeine), to maintain
101 their nutritional habits and to avoid any vigorous exercise 24h before the testing session.

102 Anthropometric examinations were performed in the afternoon, four hours after eating.
103 Body mass was measured with bioelectric impedance (Portable TANITA; 240MA),
104 height was measured with a Harpenden stadiometer (SECA SE206) and sitting height was
105 measured with the same stadiometer adopting the short-sitting position on an
106 anthropometric box (40 cm x 50 cm x 30 cm) with feet supported on the floor.

107 Birth date and sex were self-reported. Maturity offset was estimated using the equation
108 created by Moore et al.¹³ to predict PHV for basketball players under 18 years old. Early
109 maturing (pre-PHV) was defined as preceding the average age of PHV by 1 year; average
110 maturing (PHV), ±1 year from PHV; and late maturing, greater than 1 year after PHV
111 (post-PHV). Players older than 18 years-old were considered post-PHV.

112 All tests were performed on the same indoor basketball court. Before testing, the subjects
113 completed a warm-up consisting of jogging (3 min), jogging while dribbling (3 min),
114 lower limb dynamic stretches (3 min) and 4x20m sprint progressions (2 trials with
115 dribbling). Additionally, before each test, two submaximal effort trials of the test were
116 performed. Subjects completed each test twice with at least 3 min of rest between trials
117 and 5 min between tests. Vcut, VcutBk, Sprint and SprintBk **were randomly performed,**
118 **with the same player performing the tests in the same order during the two testing**
119 **sessions.** The time of each test was recorded with timing gates (Microgate Witty Wireless
120 Training Timer, Bolzano, Italy). Timing sensors were placed facing each other at the start

121 and finish line; 0.75m in height and 1.5m apart. Players started each test 0.5m behind the
122 starting line. The time of the fastest trial was retained.

123 *Vcut test.* In the Vcut test, the Gonzalo-Skok et al., (2015) protocol was applied³. Players
124 performed a 25m sprint with 4 COD of 45° each 5 m. For the trial to be valid, players had
125 to pass the line, drawn on the floor, with one foot completely at every turn. If the trial was
126 considered as failed, a new trial was allowed. The distance between each pair of cones
127 was 0.7 m.

128 *VcutBk test.* The same procedures of the Vcut test were applied but dribbling was added
129 to the execution of the test. Subjects had to start the test holding the ball with both hands
130 and dribbling hand was not determined. Travelling or double dribbling violations were
131 not allowed. Players had to execute a crossover dribble during COD, when player did not
132 accomplish these criteria or lost the ball, a new trial was allowed.

133 INSERT Figure 1. Schematic Illustration of VcutBk test

134 *Sprint.* All players were assessed in a 25-m linear sprint. The starting position was
135 standardized with the non-dominant toe 1 m back from the start.

136 *SprintBk.* Same procedure as Sprint was applied but dribbling was added to the execution
137 of the test. Subjects had to start the test holding the ball with both hands and dribbling
138 hand was not determined. Travelling, double dribbling violations were not allowed.
139 Players had to control the ball during the test.

140 **Statistical Analysis**

141 Data are presented as mean \pm standard deviation (SD). Construct validity and
142 relationships between VcutBk test and the other tests and score test-related were assessed
143 using a Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient (r). The correlation coefficients
144 were interpreted as follows: $r = 0.0$ – 0.1 trivial; 0.11 – 0.3 small; 0.31 – 0.5 moderate; 0.51 –
145 0.7 large; 0.71 – 0.9 very large and 0.91 – 1.00 nearly perfect¹⁷. To compare the tests scores
146 and test-derivate scores of somatic maturity status (pre-PHV, PHV and post-HPV groups)
147 a one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used. The assumption of normality was
148 verified exploring the Q-Q plots and histogram of residuals. The mean, SD, and 95%
149 confidence intervals (CIs) were used after data normality was **verified**. Assumptions of
150 homogeneity were evaluated using Levene's test. Where homogeneity was violated ($p \leq$
151 0.05), the Welch correction factor was applied. When significant between-groups effects
152 were reported, post-hoc comparisons were performed with the Bonferroni correction.
153 Effect sizes (ES) were evaluated using a partial eta squared (η^2_p), with 0.06 , 0.06 – 0.14 ,
154 and $.0.14$ indicating a small, moderate, and large effect, respectively. Mean difference
155 (MD) and between-group difference Cohen's d were calculated for each pairwise group
156 comparison¹⁸. The Cohen's d result was qualitatively interpreted as follows: $ES < 0.2$
157 trivial; **0.20 – 0.59 small; 0.60 – 1.19 moderate; ≥ 1.2 large**¹⁷.

158 Relative reliability analysis was examined by the ICC. The ICC was interpreted as
159 follows: $ICC < 0.50$ poor, 0.5 – 0.74 moderate, 0.75 – 0.9 good and, >0.9 excellent¹⁶. To
160 examine absolute reliability, pairwise comparisons were first applied. The magnitude of
161 between-session differences was also expressed as standardized mean difference ES. The
162 criteria to interpret the magnitude of the ES were as follows: $ES < 0.2$ trivial, **0.20 – 0.59**
163 **small; 0.60 – 1.19 moderate; ≥ 1.2 large**¹⁷. The Hopkins spreadsheet (Consecutive pairwise
164 analysis of trials for reliability, in Internet: www.sportsci.org) was also used to determine
165 the change in the mean between trials and the TEM, expressed as a coefficient of variation
166 (CV) calculated as percentage. A CV of less than 5% was set as the a priori criterion for

167 reliability¹⁷. The signal to noise ratio of the test was determined by comparing TEM and
168 smallest worthwhile change (SWC). In team sports, it has been suggested that the SWC
169 can be calculated as 0.2 multiplied by the between-subject SD (SWC_{0.2}) of the particular
170 test, based on Cohen's ES principle¹⁷. Furthermore, the SWC to detect a moderate or large
171 effect was determined by multiplying the between-subject standard deviation by 0.6
172 (SWC_{0.6}) and 1.2 (SWC_{1.2}), respectively [TEM<SWC good; TEM similar to SWC Ok;
173 TEM>SWC marginal]¹⁷.

174 All statistical analyses were performed using JASP (version 0.11.2; JASP Team (2019),
175 University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands). Level of significance was set at 0.05 for all
176 tests.

177

178 RESULTS

179 *Validity of the test*

180 Related to construct validity, the relationship between the VcutBk and the Vcut was very
181 large [r (90% CL) = 0.85]. The relationships between the VcutBk with the other tests and
182 test-derivate scores (skill-time-related deficits) were interpreted from large to very large
183 (r range: 0.51-0.71), see Table 2. VcutBk performance was highly correlated with skills-
184 time-related deficits, as COD while dribbling deficit ($r = 0.88$) and dribbling while COD
185 deficit ($r = 0.83$).

186

187 INSERT Table 2. Measures of relationships between VcutBK test and the other tests and test-
188 derivate scores (skill-time-related deficits)

189

190 The scores of the different variables analyzed divided by the different PHV groups are
191 shown in Table 3. Significant main effects between groups were reported in all variables
192 ($p < 0.001$): VcutBk, dribbling deficit, dribbling while COD deficit and COD while
193 dribbling deficit showed large effects ($\eta^2_p > 0.14$) whereas COD deficit variable showed
194 moderate effects ($\eta^2_p = 0.13$).

195 The post-hoc comparisons of the VcutBK variable revealed significant differences
196 between all pairwise comparisons (pre-PHV vs. PHV: $d = 1.16$ 'large', $MD = 1.39$ 95%
197 CI [0.60, 2.19]; pre-PHV vs. post-PHV: $d = 2.15$ 'large', $MD = 2.59$ 95% CI [1.86, 3.32];
198 PHV vs. post-PHV: $d = 0.99$ 'moderate', $MD = 1.20$ 95% CI [0.34, 2.05]). See Table 3.

199 The post-hoc comparisons of the dribbling deficit variable revealed significant
200 differences between pre-PHV and PHV ($d = 0.91$ 'moderate', $MD = 0.30$ 95% CI [0.08,
201 0.52]) and between pre-PHV and post-PHV ($d = 1.24$ 'large', $MD = 0.41$ 95% CI [0.21,
202 0.61]). See Table 3.

203 The post-hoc comparisons of the COD deficit variable revealed significant differences
204 between pre-PHV and post-PHV ($d = 0.81$ 'moderate', $MD = 0.39$ 95% CI [0.10, 0.69])
205 and between PHV and post-PHV ($d = 0.80$ 'moderate', $MD = 0.39$ 95% CI [0.04, 0.74]).
206 See Table 3.

207 The post-hoc comparisons of the dribbling while COD deficit variable revealed
208 significant differences between pre-PHV and PHV ($d = 1.04$ 'moderate', $MD = 0.85$ 95%

209 CI [0.31, 1.38]) and between pre-PHV and post-PHV ($d = 1.33$ 'large', $MD = 1.08$ 95%
210 CI [0.59, 1.58]. See Table 3.

211 The post-hoc comparisons of the COD while dribbling deficit variable revealed
212 significant differences between pre-PHV and post-PHV ($d = 1.30$ 'large', $MD = 0.98$
213 95% CI [0.52, 1.44]) and between PHV and post-PHV ($d = 0.72$ 'moderate', $MD = 0.55$
214 95% CI [0.00, 1.09]. See Table 3.

215

216 INSERT Table 3. Test-derived scores (skill-time-related deficits) of the different PHV groups.

217

218 *Reliability of the test*

219 Test-retest reliability and the signal to noise ratio analysis do not show substantial
220 between-trial differences in VcutBk (i. e., $ES = -0.14$). All the other measures of reliability
221 of VcutBk tests are considered small, moderate and large (Table 4). The signal to noise
222 ratio is ok [TEM (0.35) < SWC_{0.6} (0.94)], see Table 4.

223 INSERT Table 4. Measures of reliability of the VcutBK test.

224

225 **DISCUSSION**

226 The purpose of this study was to assess the validity and reliability of the VcutBk test in
227 young basketball players. The test showed construct validity since test results
228 demonstrated large to very large relationship with the other tests and skill-time-related
229 deficits included in this study. Moreover, VcutBk test results were representative of
230 somatic maturation. Finally, high level of test-retest reliability was found for the VcutBk
231 test. Therefore, the present study is the first to report the VcutBk as a reliable and valid
232 test to assess change of direction while dribbling in basketball players.

233 Owing to the importance of dribbling skill on basketball performance, previous research
234 has examined the influencing factors of linear running speed with dribbling. Dribbling
235 has demonstrated a negative effect on the sprint in soccer and hockey players^{9,19}.
236 Nevertheless, some studies with basketball players found that dribbling does not reduce
237 sprint speed^{20,21}. The differences in dribbling deficit may depend on the sport-specific
238 dribbling skill⁵. All these studies measured only the running linear sprint or the COD skill
239 in slalom manoeuvres with and without dribbling, and there is a paucity of studies that
240 examined how dribbling can affect performance on COD performance in V-cut
241 manoeuvres. For this reason, VcutBk test, a novel basketball specific test able to evaluate
242 change of direction while dribbling, was created. Also, change of direction with dribbling
243 in the time-related situations is a determinant skill in offensive basketball key stages⁵, in
244 this line, our results seem to indicate that VcutBk is a good test to assess skill-time-related
245 deficits as dribbling deficit and COD deficit.

246 As there is no gold standard for COD tests, Vcut test was used to construct validity. The
247 large correlation coefficients between Vcut test and VcutBk test indicate that both tests
248 have a predominant skill in common: COD, even if they include different constraints like
249 dribbling. Additionally, VcutBk correlated larger when skill-time-related deficits were
250 shown in a COD while dribbling situation as it has been indicated in COD while dribbling
251 deficit and dribbling while COD deficit results. The influence of biological maturity

252 status on specific-skills basketball performance such as dribbling, passing, shooting, and
253 defensive movements is not conclusive²². More evidence is needed during adolescence
254 when the influence of hormonal changes on neuromuscular, anthropometric and
255 metabolic adaptations is relevant to increased motor performance¹⁴, and change of
256 direction while dribbling. In this regard, the study analyses VcutBk test performance
257 relative to somatic maturity which is categorized in three groups: pre-PHV, PHV and
258 post-PHV¹³. Although the Moore et al.¹³ formula has a weakness in predicting biological
259 maturity, specifically in early and late maturing boys and girls²³, it is the most currently
260 used by coaches and physical education teachers because of the non-invasive, low-cost
261 and easy-to-use characteristics, in contrast to other indicators like: skeletal bone age
262 measured by X-ray, sexual maturity determinates by genitals, breasts and pubic hair, and
263 percentage of adult height related to average height of biological parents. Our results
264 show that performance in the VcutBK and in skill-time-related deficits seems to be
265 sensitive to somatic maturation. It is worth noting that for basketball players between pre-
266 PHV and post-PHV, the dribbling while COD deficit is the skill-time-related deficit with
267 the largest ES. Also, dribbling deficit and COD while dribbling deficit have shown a large
268 ES. Losing running speed **during** COD with dribbling was previously reported only in
269 pre-adolescents²⁵ and under-15-year-old players⁸. In this line, increased dribbling deficit
270 **during** COD tasks compared to the dribbling deficit in linear sprint were found in semi-
271 professional basketball players⁵. Analysing these differences between PHV groups,
272 results possibly display that COD while dribbling performance is influenced by dribbling
273 mastery in specific and simultaneous skills situation (COD simultaneous with change of
274 direction and time constraint). The influence of dribbling performance in COD and linear
275 speed seems to be most strongly related to less experience in practice²⁶⁻²⁸, because
276 dribbling deficit during change of direction is the most determinant skill-time-related
277 deficit in VcutBk. In the post-PHV group, COD during dribbling performance could also
278 be influenced by large anthropometry^{29,30} and power^{14,31} in lower-body limbs to execute
279 sprint COD skill. These results are similar in other studies with young soccer³², tennis³³
280 and basketball¹⁴ players. In contrast to previous studies in adolescent basketball players²⁴,
281 our findings revealed that change of direction while dribbling in basketball players is
282 sensitive to somatic maturity status. The use of a heterogeneous sample of different ages
283 and experience in basketball training may explain the opposite findings from the studies
284 which used homogeneous samples²².

285 The results of the test-retest reliability of the VcutBk test showed that there were no
286 differences in between-trial differences. The ICC was 0.95, indicating a high level of
287 reliability. Also, a CV of 0.23% supported this result. The CV value for the VcutBk was
288 slightly lower than those reported in young team sport players for the Vcut test without
289 dribbling (1.4%)³. This was also the case for COD slalom manoeuvres with dribbling in
290 semi-professional (2.7%)⁵ and preadolescent (2.4%)²⁵ male basketball players.
291 Differences in sample sizes, subjects' ages or test characteristics might explain these
292 differences between studies in test-retest reliability.

293

294 PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

295 Basketball coaches should consider the VcutBk test when assessing skills involved in the
296 COD while dribbling in young basketball players. VcutBk test used and analysed with
297 the results of Vcut and 25m sprint test with and without dribbling would be useful to
298 calculate different skill-time-related deficits such as dribbling deficit, COD deficit,
299 dribbling while COD deficit and COD while dribbling deficit. Identifying those deficits

300 during COD skill while dribbling, could be a good strategy to better understand some
301 specific features of the basketball-players' skill development. Finally, status of somatic
302 maturity must be taken into consideration as it seems to influence COD while dribbling
303 performance and skill-time-related deficits. Therefore, the effect of maturity in the
304 deficits should be considered for planning the longitudinal learning process to achieve
305 mastery of this skill. Even though, somatic maturity influence should be further explored.

306

307 **CONCLUSION**

308 In conclusion, the present study demonstrates that VcutBk test is a reliable and valid test
309 to assess change of direction while dribbling in basketball players. Furthermore, findings
310 revealed that VcutBk correlated more strongly with skill-time-related deficits in a COD
311 while dribbling tests compared to linear sprinting or COD without dribbling tests. Finally,
312 VcutBk performance and skill-time-related deficits seems to be sensitive to somatic
313 maturity.

314

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321 out experiments, AJ-P, JVB-G and RF-LL conceived experiments and analysed data. AJ-
322 P, MM-P, DR-R, and RF-LL carried out experiments. AJ-P, MM-P and RF-LL acquired
323 data. GS reviewed the English-language. All authors were involved in writing the paper
324 and had final approval of the submitted and published versions.

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327

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432 **FIGURES AND TABLES LEGEND**

433

434 *Figures:*

435 **Figure 1.** Schematic Illustration of VcutBK test

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437 *Tables:*

438 **Table 1.** Subject characteristics.

439 **Table 2.** Measures of relationships between VcutBK test and the other tests and test-
440 derivate scores (skill-time-related deficits)

441 **Table 3.** Test-derived scores (skill-time-related deficits) of the different PHV groups.

442 **Table 4.** Measures of reliability of the VcutBK test.

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Table 1. Subject characteristics.

	Pre-PHV	PHV	Post-PHV
n	41	20	31
Sex (M/F)	24 / 17	10 / 10	19 / 12
Age (y)	9.7 ± 1.8	12.8 ± 1.3	18.5 ± 3.6
Stature (cm)	138 ± 10	161 ± 9	174 ± 11
Body mass (kg)	32.8 ± 7.2	51.5 ± 11.6	64 ± 10
Federated years (y)	1.8 ± 1.5	3.2 ± 1.4	8.8 ± 5.7
Dominance (R/L)	36 / 5	19 / 1	28 / 3
Wingspan (cm)	136.5 ± 11.3	162.2 ± 10.2	167.9 ± 18
Values of n, sex and dominance are presented as absolute frequencies. Values of age, federated years and wingspan are presented as mean ± SD. M: male; F: female; R: right-handed; L: left-handed. Pre-PHV: greater than 1 year before the PHV; PHV: ±1 year from PHV; Post-PHV: greater than 1 year after PHV.			

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Table 2. Measures of relationships between VcutBK test and the other tests and test-derivate scores (skill-time-related deficits)

Pairwise comparison	Pearson's r (90% CL)
Tests	
VcutBk – Vcut	0.85 (0.79, 0.89) ^{VL}
VcutBk – Sprint	0.84 (0.77, 0.88) ^{VL}
VcutBk – SprintBk	0.87 (0.81, 0.91) ^{VL}
Test-derived scores: Skill-time-related deficits	
VcutBk – Dribbling deficit	0.72 (0.62, 0.80) ^{VL}
VcutBk – COD deficit	0.59 (0.46, 0.70) ^L
VcutBk – Dribbling while COD deficit	0.83 (0.76, 0.88) ^{VL}
VcutBk – COD while dribbling deficit	0.88 (0.83, 0.91) ^{VL}
CL: confidence limits; Vcut: traditional Vcut test; VcutBk: Vcut test performed with a basketball; Sprint: 25 m linear sprint test; SprintBk: 25 m linear sprint test performed with a basketball. Dribbling deficit=SprintBk–Sprint; COD deficit =Vcut–Sprint; Dribbling while COD deficit =VcutBK–Vcut; COD while dribbling deficit =VcutBK– SprintBK ^{VL} : very large effect size; ^L : large effect size;	

Table 3. Test-derived scores (skill-time-related deficits) of the different PHV groups.

	Pre-PHV	PHV	Post-PHV	ANOVA 3x1 (p-value)	η^2_p
VcutBK	10.58 ± 1.57 * _L # _L	9.19 ± 0.95 # _M	7.99 ± 0.59	< 0.001	0.47 ^L
Skill-time-related deficits					
Dribbling deficit	0.64 ± 0.43 * _M # _L	0.34 ± 0.25	0.23 ± 0.17	< 0.001	0.25 ^L
COD deficit	4.00 ± 0.45 # _M	3.99 ± 0.69 # _M	3.60 ± 0.35	< 0.001	0.13 ^M
Dribbling while COD deficit	1.50 ± 1.04 * _M # _L	0.65 ± 0.75	0.41 ± 0.34	< 0.001	0.28 ^L
COD while dribbling deficit	4.72 ± 1.01 # _L	4.28 ± 0.55 # _M	3.73 ± 0.32	< 0.001	0.25 ^L
<p>Values are presented as mean ± SD. Dribbling deficit = SprintBK – Sprint; COD deficit = Vcut – Sprint; Dribbling while COD deficit = VcutBK – Vcut; COD while dribbling deficit = VcutBK – SprintBK *Statistically significant to PHV ($p_{\text{Bonferroni}} \leq 0.05$). # Statistically significant to Post-PHV ($p_{\text{Bonferroni}} \leq 0.05$); η^2_p: partial eta squared effect size. ^L: large effect size; ^M: moderate effect size.</p>					

Table 4. Measures of reliability of the VcutBK test.

Test-retest reliability						
Baseline	Retest	TEM (90% CL)	CV (%) (90% CL)	ICC (90% CL)	Difference (90% CL)	ES (90% CL)
9.46 ± 1.64	9.38 ± 1.47	0.35 (0.31, 0.42)	0.23 (0.20, 0.27)	0.95 (0.93, 0.97) (Excellent)	-0.21 (-0.32, -0.11)	-0.14 (-0.21 - 0.07) (Trivial)
Signal to noise ratio						
SWC_{0.2} (%) (signal to noise ratio)		SWC_{0.6} (%) (signal to noise ratio)		SWC_{1.2} (%) (signal to noise ratio)		
0.31 (0.28, 0.36) (Ok)		0.94 (0.84, 1.07) (Good)		1.88 (1.68, 2.15) (Good)		
TEM: typical error of measurement; CL: confidence limits; CV: coefficient of variation expressed as percentage of TEM; ICC: Intraclass correlation coefficient; Difference: difference in mean between the 2 trials; ES: effect size and ES rating (see Methods); SWC: smallest worthwhile change (0.2 x standard deviation = SWC _{0.2} ; 0.6 x standard deviation = SWC _{0.6} ; 1.2 x standard deviation = SWC _{1.2}) and signal to noise ratio						

