

WORKOUT DURATION ALTERS RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE PREDICTIVE TRAITS OF PERFORMANCE DURING A HIGH-INTENSITY FUNCTIONAL TRAINING WORKOUT

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INTRODUCTION

Daily high-intensity functional training (HIFT) workouts are highly diverse, and each may differentially challenge a unique combination of strength, skill, and endurance across one or more movement patterns (2, 6, 7). Though it may be expected that a different set of skills and physiological traits will be relevant to completely different workouts (1, 3 – 6), it remains unexplored how altering only a single programming variable might affect relevant characteristics.

PURPOSE

To examine the effect of altering workout duration on relationships between predictive traits and workout performance.

METHODS

Resistance training (RT), gymnastics, and HIFT background history collected from twelve men and women with HIFT experience (≥ 2 years; 29.3 ± 7 years-old) during enrollment.

Baseline testing: body composition (BC; via 4-compartment model), vertical jump (VJ) height, 3 – repetitions maximum (RM) thruster, and 2K rowing sprint.

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5- or 15-minute circuit (see Figure 1) for ‘as many repetitions as possible’ (AMRAP). Repetitions and workload were recorded for the overall workout and for each exercise.

Pearson correlations between measured and estimated predictive traits and workout performance (overall and individual exercises) → Fisher's r-to-z transformation compared relationship differences between workout durations.

Figure 1. AMRAP workout design (men / women)

Both circuits repeated
(A.) rowing calories (9 / 7
calories),
(B) six barbell thrusters
(THR; 95 lbs. [43.1 kg] /
65 lbs. [29.5 kg]), and
(C) three box jumps (BJ;
24 in [0.61 m] / in [0.51
m]) using adopted

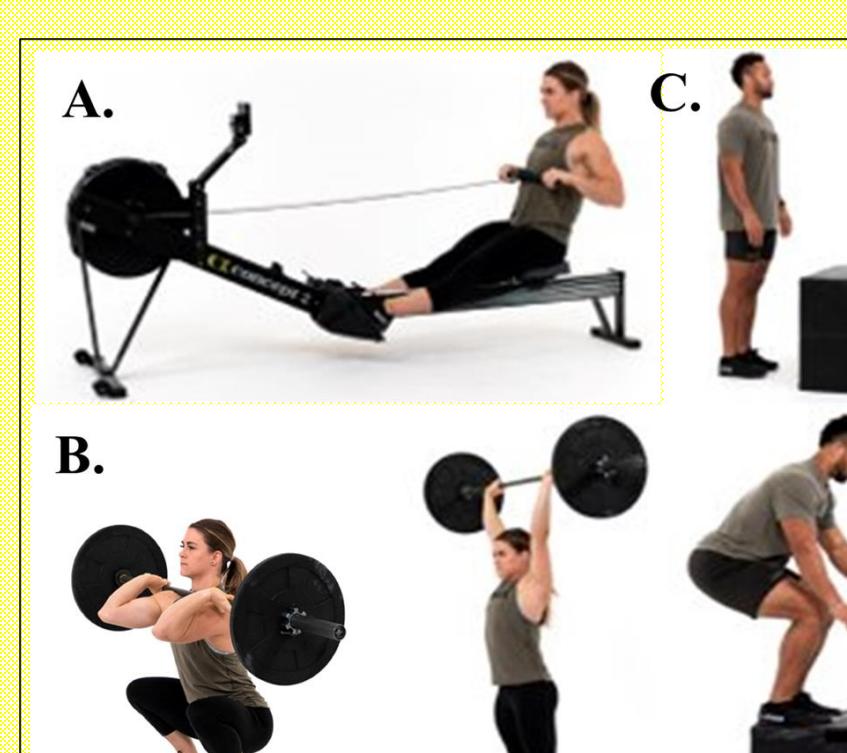


Table 1. Measured and reported predictive characteristics and their relationships to 5- and 15-minute AMRAP performance.

| Table 1. Measured and reported predictive characteristics and their relationships to 5- and 15-minute AMRAP performance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------|-------------|--------|---------------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|-----------------|--------|--------------|--------|----------------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|
| | Rounds | | Repetitions | | Total workload (kg) | | ROW calories | | ROW workload | | THR repetitions | | THR workload | | BJ repetitions | | BJ workload | | |
| | mean ± SD | 5-min | 15-min | 5-min | 15-min | 5-min | 15-min | 5-min | 15-min | 5-min | 15-min | 5-min | 15-min | 5-min | 15-min | 5-min | 15-min | | |
| Sex (men = 0, women = 1) | | -0.28 | 0.06 | -0.60* | -0.32 | -0.55* | -0.42* | -0.78* | -0.62* | -0.60* | -0.66* | -0.34 | 0.08 | -0.85* | -0.75* | -0.21 | 0.04 | -0.37 | -0.26 |
| BC measures | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Height (cm) | 171 ± 7 | 0.37 | 0.26 | 0.51* | 0.45* | 0.53* | 0.61* | 0.58* | 0.60* | 0.69* | 0.63* | 0.46* | 0.21 | 0.62* | 0.58* | 0.13 | 0.24 | 0.45* | 0.57* |
| Body mass (kg) | 80.5 ± 15.6 | 0.40 | 0.21 | 0.55* | 0.42 | 0.66* | 0.67* | 0.57* | 0.56* | 0.69* | 0.67* | 0.51* | 0.18 | 0.67* | 0.59* | 0.28 | 0.21 | 0.60* | 0.64* |
| Body fat (%) | 18.1 ± 6.5 | -0.33 | -0.23 | -0.43* | -0.37 | -0.32 | -0.30 | -0.48* | -0.46* | -0.34 | -0.37 | -0.32 | -0.21 | -0.46* | -0.48* | -0.25 | -0.22 | -0.24 | -0.20 |
| Lean mass (kg) | 65.9 ± 13.5 | 0.51* | 0.29 | 0.69* | 0.55* | 0.75* | 0.75* | 0.73* | 0.72* | 0.78* | 0.77* | 0.61* | 0.26 | 0.82* | 0.75* | 0.37 | 0.29 | 0.66* | 0.69* |
| THR strength | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated 1-RM (kg) | 75.1 ± 21.9 | 0.59* | 0.28 | 0.77* | 0.55* | 0.83* | 0.73* | 0.78* | 0.72* | 0.73* | 0.79* | 0.67* | 0.26 | 0.88* | 0.78* | 0.56* | 0.30 | 0.74* | 0.64* |
| Relative (kg / body mass) | 2.04 ± 0.37 | 0.51* | 0.23 | 0.66* | 0.46* | 0.63* | 0.48* | 0.66* | 0.58* | 0.48* | 0.58* | 0.55* | 0.23 | 0.73* | 0.66* | 0.56* | 0.27 | 0.54* | 0.37 |
| ROW performance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2K Time (min) | 7.95 ± 0.71 | -0.74* | -0.41 | -0.89* | -0.67* | -0.86* | -0.79* | -0.91* | -0.81* | -0.89* | -0.82* | -0.77* | -0.39 | -0.92* | -0.85* | -0.60* | -0.44* | -0.76* | -0.70* |
| Average power (W) | 216 ± 56 | 0.74* | 0.45* | 0.89* | 0.71* | 0.86* | 0.81* | 0.91* | 0.85* | 0.89* | 0.86* | 0.76* | 0.42 | 0.92* | 0.87* | 0.61* | 0.48* | 0.77* | 0.72* |
| SD of power (W) | 29.9 ± 17.4 | 0.16 | 0.23 | 0.19 | 0.28 | 0.14 | 0.28 | 0.19 | 0.30 | 0.34 | -0.01 | 0.23 | 0.19 | 0.22 | 0.24 | 0.00 | 0.23 | 0.09 | 0.28 |
| Power index (W / 500m) | -0.01 ± 0.03 | 0.15 | -0.06 | 0.16 | -0.01 | 0.26 | 0.13 | 0.07 | 0.01 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.22 | -0.06 | 0.19 | 0.06 | 0.30 | -0.01 | 0.28 | 0.14 |
| VJ performance | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Height (cm) | 49.4 ± 15.3 | 0.05 | -0.06 | 0.14 | 0.05 | 0.27 | 0.15 | 0.10 | 0.14 | 0.05 | 0.11 | 0.10 | -0.06 | 0.23 | 0.18 | 0.24 | -0.07 | 0.28 | 0.12 |
| Peak power (W) | 7781 ± 1207 | 0.22 | 0.05 | 0.36 | 0.23 | 0.52* | 0.43* | 0.35 | 0.38 | 0.36 | 0.40 | 0.32 | 0.03 | 0.50* | 0.42 | 0.32 | 0.04 | 0.50* | 0.40 |
| Mean power (W) | 1507 ± 536 | 0.30 | 0.10 | 0.45* | 0.31 | 0.61* | 0.54* | 0.45* | 0.47* | 0.49* | 0.51* | 0.40 | 0.08 | 0.59* | 0.50* | 0.33 | 0.10 | 0.57* | 0.50* |
| RT history | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Experience (y) | 11.1 ± 5.8 | 0.05 | -0.02 | 0.12 | 0.07 | 0.20 | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.12 | 0.04 | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.02 | 0.21 | 0.19 | 0.17 | -0.06 | 0.19 | 0.05 |
| Back squat (kg) | 142 ± 51 | 0.50* | 0.21 | 0.66* | 0.47* | 0.75* | 0.68* | 0.67* | 0.64* | 0.70* | 0.63* | 0.60* | 0.20 | 0.79* | 0.71* | 0.48* | 0.22 | 0.68* | 0.63* |
| Front squat (kg) | 113 ± 39 | 0.58* | 0.38 | 0.73* | 0.62* | 0.81* | 0.78* | 0.71* | 0.77* | 0.73* | 0.73* | 0.68* | 0.37 | 0.82* | 0.80* | 0.56* | 0.36 | 0.75* | 0.72* |
| Deadlift (kg) | 161 ± 50 | 0.43 | 0.14 | 0.62* | 0.40 | 0.68* | 0.56* | 0.65* | 0.58* | 0.69* | 0.56* | 0.52* | 0.16 | 0.76* | 0.69* | 0.45* | 0.16 | 0.60* | 0.47* |
| Overhead press (kg) | 61.8 ± 24.5 | 0.44 | 0.14 | 0.65* | 0.44 | 0.70* | 0.63* | 0.72* | 0.66* | 0.69* | 0.74* | 0.53* | 0.13 | 0.82* | 0.74* | 0.39 | 0.16 | 0.60* | 0.53* |
| Push Press (kg) | 81.2 ± 27.8 | 0.53* | 0.35 | 0.68* | 0.59* | 0.76* | 0.74* | 0.68* | 0.74* | 0.67* | 0.77* | 0.61* | 0.35 | 0.79* | 0.78* | 0.52* | 0.34 | 0.69* | 0.66* |
| Jerk (kg) | 95.0 ± 28.8 | 0.66* | 0.33 | 0.80* | 0.58* | 0.88* | 0.76* | 0.78* | 0.72* | 0.75* | 0.81* | 0.74* | 0.33 | 0.87* | 0.79* | 0.66* | 0.34 | 0.82* | 0.69* |
| Power clean (kg) | 92.5 ± 30.4 | 0.61* | 0.39 | 0.78* | 0.63* | 0.87* | 0.80* | 0.77* | 0.79* | 0.76* | 0.80* | 0.72* | 0.37 | 0.89* | 0.83* | 0.61* | 0.39 | 0.79* | 0.73* |
| Clean (kg) | 95.4 ± 31.8 | 0.50* | 0.20 | 0.70* | 0.49* | 0.80* | 0.72* | 0.69* | 0.70* | 0.69* | 0.82* | 0.64* | 0.17 | 0.85* | 0.76* | 0.53* | 0.22 | 0.72* | 0.65* |
| Power snatch (kg) | 67.8 ± 22.3 | 0.64* | 0.36 | 0.78* | 0.61* | 0.86* | 0.79* | 0.76* | 0.76* | 0.72* | 0.71* | 0.71* | 0.38 | 0.83* | 0.84* | 0.70* | 0.36 | 0.82* | 0.71* |
| Snatch (kg) | 75.8 ± 19.9 | 0.68* | 0.38 | 0.79* | 0.64* | 0.88* | 0.79* | 0.73* | 0.79* | 0.74* | 0.71* | 0.73* | 0.38 | 0.81* | 0.81* | 0.74* | 0.33 | 0.84* | 0.69* |
| Clean-and-jerk (CNJ; kg) | 93.5 ± 27.0 | 0.63* | 0.25 | 0.79* | 0.54* | 0.87* | 0.77* | 0.79* | 0.75* | 0.78* | 0.81* | 0.70* | 0.25 | 0.88* | 0.81* | 0.63* | 0.25 | 0.80* | 0.68* |
| Power CNJ (kg) | 89.5 ± 26.8 | 0.63* | 0.31 | 0.78* | 0.58* | 0.86* | 0.78* | 0.77* | 0.75* | 0.76* | 0.79* | 0.71* | 0.32 | 0.87* | 0.82* | 0.64* | 0.32 | 0.80* | 0.70* |
| Gymnastics history | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Experience (y) | 1.6 ± 2.5 | -0.12 | 0.31 | -0.16 | 0.20 | -0.20 | -0.02 | -0.20 | 0.09 | -0.23 | -0.14 | -0.11 | 0.34 | -0.18 | 0.05 | -0.07 | 0.28 | -0.20 | -0.04 |
| Competition experience (y) | 0.6 ± 1.3 | -0.33 | -0.04 | -0.26 | -0.03 | -0.35 | -0.27 | -0.19 | -0.03 | -0.34 | -0.19 | -0.30 | -0.01 | -0.16 | 0.00 | -0.30 | -0.08 | -0.42 | -0.36 |
| Push-ups | 44.8 ± 26.4 | 0.31 | 0.00 | 0.57* | 0.31 | 0.60* | 0.47 | 0.64* | 0.56* | 0.47 | 0.54* | 0.40 | 0.01 | 0.78* | 0.70* | 0.32 | 0.02 | 0.46 | 0.34 |
| Strict pull-ups | 13.7 ± 11.9 | 0.14 | -0.05 | 0.30 | 0.15 | 0.34 | 0.21 | 0.33 | 0.31 | 0.16 | 0.34 | 0.20 | -0.03 | 0.46 | 0.40 | 0.26 | -0.05 | 0.27 | 0.12 |
| Kipping pull-ups | 24.9 ± 11.1 | 0.50* | 0.50* | 0.51* | 0.58* | 0.57* | 0.54* | 0.43 | 0.59* | 0.38 | 0.66* | 0.51* | 0.50* | 0.45 | 0.56* | 0.59* | 0.46 | 0.58* | 0.49 |
| Bar muscle-ups | 9.0 ± 8.1 | 0.51 | 0.26 | 0.63* | 0.47 | 0.65* | 0.52* | 0.62* | 0.61* | 0.50 | 0.53* | 0.57* | 0.25 | 0.70* | 0.66* | | | | |

RESULTS

Table 2. Participant workout performances.

| Performance Variable | 5-minutes | 15-minutes |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Endurance | 4.5 ± 0.6 | 10.8 ± 1.6 |
| Repetitions | 77.6 ± 12.5 | 185 ± 29.4 |
| Total workout load (kg) | 6885 ± 1860 | 6905 ± 1776 |
| Burning calories | 38.6 ± 7.3 | 89 ± 16.8 |
| Burned total load (kg) | 28.7 ± 7.5 | 62.9 ± 19.8 |
| Ruster repetitions | 26.4 ± 4.1 | 64.4 ± 10 |
| Ruster total load (kg) | 984 ± 274 | 2370 ± 557 |
| Box Jump repetitions | 12.6 ± 2.2 | 31.7 ± 5 |
| Box jump total load (kg) | 4452 ± 1399 | 4458 ± 1327 |

CONCLUSIONS

While years of training experience (RT, gymnastics and competition experience), and HIFT) was not significantly related to any performance metric, differences were noted between workout durations. Training experience (in HIFT and gymnastics) more positively affected 15-minute workout performance than when duration was limited to five minutes. Though years of participation does not adequately capture the quality of these experiences (5), it may partially describe aptitude in selecting a suitable pace in longer-duration AMRAE workouts (6).

ore variables were related to 5-minute workout performance ($n = 229$, average $r^2 = 0.34$) compared to 15-minute workout ($n = 158$, average $r^2 = 0.25$). Only a few were indicative of effort, sustained for longer than 5 minutes, and even less were biomechanically relevant to ROW, THR, or BJ. Indeed, neither 5K run time nor “MURPH” performance were related to any performance metric, whereas 2K rowing time and power were related to all performance measures except THR repetitions. Conversely, nearly all RT exercises, complex gymnastics (i.e., muscle-ups and HSPUs), 400-m run, and “RAN” (i.e., 3 – 7-minute workout containing THR) were related to almost all aspects about the 5-minute workout.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

relevance of demographic and performance measured and reported) characteristics differed when HIFT AMRAP duration was extended by 10 minutes. Duration primarily altered their relevance to overall and HR performance, and to a smaller degree, B.
performance. Athletes and coaches should carefully consider how even small changes to HIFT workout design may impact their strategic approach to pacing and the emphasis they place on targeted adaptations.

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