The Upright style may be seen to have an advantage by having the potential to

produce a higher ball velocity than the Low style through the longer stick

displacement of the Upright style drag flick. However, this is perhaps not always

the case as in many instances the Low style appears to achieve an overall

advantage over the Upright style through achieving similar ball speeds but with a

lesser stick displacement providing less opportunity for the defenders to read the

shot direction.

There was a large variation in the techniques used by the five drag flickers to

execute the drag flick.([Anderson and Ratzan 2011](#_ENREF_4), [Arnold, Rademaker et al. 2012](#_ENREF_5), [Anderson and Bresnahan 2013](#_ENREF_3)) [[1]](#endnote-1)The success or failure of a drag flick and the variability of a

drag flicker depends largely on the speed and accuracy with which the ball is

delivered to the flicker by their pusher and stopper. Hence the variability exhibited

by the five drag flickers may be a function of both the pusher’s and the stopper’s

ability. The variability of the drag flicker over several shots may also be due to the

offensive and or defensive strategies used for each particular shot. For example,

in attempting to deceive the keeper and the defensive players the drag flicker may

delay the release or, may open the shoulders to feint a shot to the left side of the

goal while delivering a shot to the right of the goal. A left side defensive player

running hard at the drag flicker for one shot may force the drag flick to be made to

the right side of the goal which gives the goalie a defensive advantage.

A limitation of this study was the small number of drag flickers analysed.

Further work is needed to confirm that there are indeed two distinct styles of drag

flick shot or whether the shot styles we have proposed are two extremes of a

continuum of the technique. Following this, to determine which style achieves the

best shot success rates will require further analysis of results of many drag flick

shots of both styles during games. Such a study must take account of the factors

contributing to variability both within and bet(Airhihenbuwa 2012, Adame and Miller 2015)

1. [↑](#endnote-ref-1)