Another chapter for Sports Engineering

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Volume 17 marks another milestone for the *Sports Engineering Journal*. Martin Strangwood's term as Editor-in-Chief has come to an end. On behalf of the many contributors and users of the journal, I would like to thank Martin for his diligent efforts over the past 6 years. Martin has left the journal in excellent condition; the quality of accepted papers is high, with a growing number of submissions. The journal is the recognized outlet for Sports Engineering research and has contributed significantly to the acceptance of Sports Engineering as an academic discipline. This, in turn, has helped strengthen technology, reduced injury, improved safety and accessibility in sport, making it more enjoyable for participants and spectators alike.

For more than a decade, Sports Engineering was the exclusive outlet for engineering sport research. During Martin's tenure, two new journals in this field were introduced—tremendous growth for a discipline that did not formally exist 20 years ago. Sports Engineering remains an exciting field of research, where even slight improvements in performance can make the difference between gold and silver.

Much of the recent success of Sports Engineering is due to a strategic decision by the Executive Committee of the International Sports Engineering Association to appoint two Associate Editors. Tom Allen is responsible for special editions and invited papers, while Simon Choppin is

responsible for marketing and the editorial board. Both have done a fantastic job in drawing new contributions and users to the journal. They are also working to clarify the submission process and acknowledge outstanding contributions. Their help in my transition to Editor-in-Chief has been invaluable.

Looking forward, I see many more positives for Sports Engineering. Our application for ISI indexing will likely be awarded by the end of this year. This will enhance the recognition of the journal, and encourage more contributions. Readers can also look forward to annual special issues. The first special issue, on Winter Sport and coinciding with the Winter Olympics, was published last year. The annual special issues, along with invited papers, focus research topics and highlight novel and significant contributions. This year's special issue is on Helmets, while next year's special issue is on association football (for which manuscripts are being accepted).

It is an honor for me to serve as Editor-in-Chief of Sports Engineering. My work has been made easier by the efforts of the previous editors and editorial board. I look forward to identifying and streamlining the submission and review process. I will work to provide productive feedback and timely dissemination of Sports Engineering research. Working together, we can continue to strengthen and grow Sports Engineering as a journal and as a discipline.

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