

SPORTDiscus – Search Help

SPORTDiscus is an international sport database that provides references and full text documents from journals, books, conference proceedings and dissertations. It covers all aspects of sport: sport injuries, physical activity, health, etc.

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About searching

Boolean Operators

Boolean operators combine search terms to narrow or broaden results.

AND combines two or more search terms.

OR combines search terms so that each search result contains at least one of the terms.

NOT excludes terms so that each search result does not contain any of the terms that follow it.

Parenthesis

Parenthesis may be used to control a search query and avoid misunderstanding in larger complexed searches.

Example: hamstring* and (volleyball or basketball).

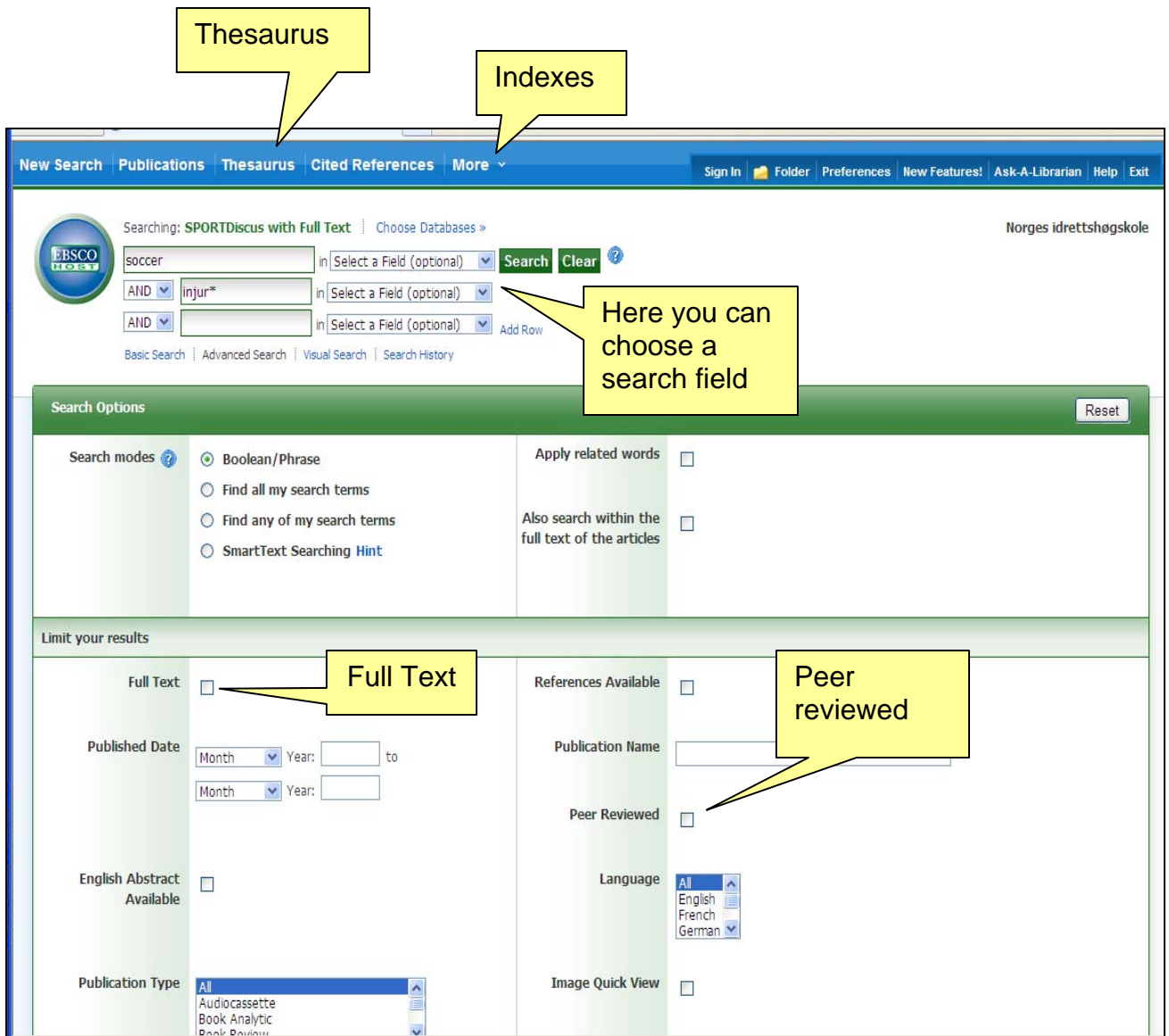
Without parenthesis, the SPORTDiscus will first search hamstring* and volleyball, then basketball alone. That means that the database will carry out two searches instead of one.

Wildcards


You use wildcards if you are not sure how to spell a word.

The wildcard is * and replaces any number of characters.

Example: biomechanic* also finds biomechanics and biomechanical.



Advanced Search

When the Help icon  appears, you can click the icon, and help for the screen you are on will display. For general help, please use the help button to the right on the top of the screen.

Enter your search term in the first search field on the Advanced search screen. If you have more than one search term, you may combine them with Boolean operator AND, OR or NOT in the drop-down list.

You may also choose a search field from the optional "Select a field" drop-down list. For example search for the author (AU), subject term (SU) or abstract (AB).

We recommend you to start with the field SU Subjects (Descriptors) if you want to search for a subject term. These words are the same as in the Thesaurus. On the blue

line on the top of the screen you will find the “Thesaurus” and “Indexes” (Indexes under “More”).

Under Search Options and “Limit your results” you may find limiters that help you narrow the focus of your search.

- “Full text” – you get references in full text (pdf) (from ca. 500 journals)
- “Peer reviewed” – partly in use from 2000
- “Published date” – year of publication

When you search for an author you write second name, first name.

Example: *ommundsen, y**

SPORTDiscus is sometimes inconsistent in the use of initials in the author’s name. Different ways of writing the author’s name are listed in “Index” – where you may choose Author in the “Browse” menu.

The database will suggest to refine your search to help you search more precisely. View the “Refine your results” box to the left of your result list. Among other things you may limit your search with Publication date, Full text, Peer reviewed, Source types or Subject.

Thesaurus

A thesaurus is a hierarcic system of subject terms. Enter your search term in the “Browse”-field. An alphabetical list of subject terms is displayed. By clicking the subject term you will get more information about the “Scope note”, “Broader terms”, “Narrow terms”, synonyms or “Related terms” to that special term you have chosen. Using the thesaurus can make your search better and more specific.

The screenshot displays the SPORTDiscus database interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: "New Search", "Publications", "Thesaurus", "Cited References", and "More". Below these are utility links: "Sign In", "Folder", "Preferences", "New Features!", "Ask-A-Librarian", "Help", and "Exit". The search bar contains the query "soccer" and "injur*" with "AND" operators. A "Search" button and a "Clear" button are visible. A "Search History" callout points to the search bar area. A "Preferences" callout points to the "Preferences" link in the top navigation. The results list shows 2856 results. The first result is "Psychological factors as predictors of injuries among senior soccer players. A prospective study." with a callout "Add to folder" pointing to the "Add to folder" button. Below the result, there is a "PDF Full Text" callout pointing to the "PDF Full Text" link. The interface also includes a "Refine your results" sidebar on the left with options for "Full Text", "References Available", and "Peer Reviewed", and a "Publication Date" range selector from 1967 to 2010.

View /print out / save references

The references are always listed in a standard field format. You can choose the full reference by clicking the title.

If the reference does not have the "PDF Full Text" icon and you still want to read the full text version of the article, you click the BIBSYS x-icon to check if NIH has the journal.



If the library has only the printed version of the journal you go on to BIBSYS Ask. If we do not have the printed version please order your article through BIBSYS.

You may print out or save your references. You can change the defaults for standard field format on the "Preference" screen.

You can also send your references by e-mail or export them to for example Reference Manager. Or you can put your references in the folder by clicking "Add to folder" which will appear at every reference. By clicking "Cite" you will see your references in various citation systems, for example APA.

Citations

In SPORTDiscus you will sometimes see if the article is cited by other authors in this database, "Times cited in this database". You will find which references are used in this particular article by clicking "Cited references".

You may also search for citations by clicking "Cited references" on the blue line on the top of the screen.

Search History

All searches during your session are available from the "Search history" screen.

You can save your search history under "Save searches/Alerts". If you want to save your searches/references for more than the searching session, you have to "Sign in" to establish your own account.

Hints for searching

You can search for alternative ways of spelling by using the wildcard *
Example: biomechanic* also finds biomechanics and biomechanical.

You can search for alternative ways of spelling by using the question mark ?
Example: wom?n search for woman and women.

You can combine one or more searches with AND, OR or NOT.

The field SU means Subject terms. You can also search for subject terms in the Thesaurus. You may save both your references and your search strategy.

Log Out

Important: Please log out by choosing "EXIT" (to the right on the blue line on the top of the screen) when you finish your searching session. We only have access to 4 users at the same time.

06.10.2010