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Effects of Plyometric Training on Explosive Strength, Speed and Kicking Speed in Female Soccer Players

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ABSTRACT The aim of the present study was to examine how to speed, explosive strength, and kicking speed are affected by a 10-week plyometric training (PT) program in elite female soccer players. Twenty adult players from Women First League (age= 19.3 ± 1.6 year, height= 163.3 ± 4.7 cm, body mass= 56.6 ± 6.1 kg) were divided into plyometric group (PG) and control group (CG). Both the groups performed technical and tactical training and matches together. PG performed PT 2 times per week for 10 weeks. No significant difference was found between the groups at pretest variable (p>0.05). The significant improvement was found in the posttest of both groups (p<0.05), except for 10-20-m sprint test in the CG (p>0.05). Sprint, counter movement jump, standing broad jump, peak power and kicking speed test values were all significantly improved in the PG, as compared with the CG (p<0.05). The results indicated that safe and effective PT can be useful to strength and conditioning coaches for explosive strength.