

## **Abstract**

**Title:** Anticipation sources and interaction during the softball hitting.

**Objectives:** The objectives of this diploma thesis are to explore what kinds of anticipatory resources elite softball players perceive and which ones they take into consideration when hitting against a pitcher.

**Methods:** The data used in this diploma thesis were obtained by qualitative type of research specifically a case study. The sources of information for this case study are personal interviews between me and group of eight elite Czech softball players. The interviews had eight open questions and take from 25 to 40 minutes. The interviews were analysed with aim to gain some new knowledge that could be applied to similar cases. All of eight requested players are members of the Czech national team or Czech national team under 23. They are active players in age  $25,5 \pm 3,5$  years. This information is valid as of 2021.

**Results:** In this diploma thesis were selected and described anticipation information sources, that provide a valuable information leading to anticipation of further pitch. The players were considering which anticipatory source is the most important for them. In addition to the sources of anticipation, contextual information sources that affect the batsman's tactics in the box and his reasoning were also described during the interviews. The thoughts of eight elite Czech players could be inspiring to less experienced or skilled players and could be also useful to the softball coaches.

**Key words:** visual perception, review, training, tactical awareness, consciousness, contextual and kinematic information sources