**Dr Neil Bezodis**

**Swansea University**

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**Research specialisation:** Sports Biomechanics and Performance

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**Experience:** Dr Neil Bezodis is an Associate Professor in Biomechanics & Technology at Swansea University, UK. He previously worked at St Mary’s University, Twickenham, where he led a project working with the RFU to provide biomechanical support and research for their Development Pathway and Elite kickers. Since moving to Swansea, he has continued his kicking work with Scarlets Rugby and broadened the focus to injury as well as performance, whilst also working with colleagues on wider performance science and data analytics research in Rugby Union. He is currently the sports science PI for a Welsh Government funded interdisciplinary project which is developing novel smart technologies for use by elite and professional athletes. He is the lead of the Elite and Professional Sport (EPS) Research Group (<https://www.swansea.ac.uk/sports-science/astem/eps/>) within the Applied Sports, Technology, Exercise and Medicine (A-STEM) Research Centre at Swansea University, the Biomechanics Lead for the Welsh Institute of Performance Science (WIPS; <https://www.swansea.ac.uk/sports-science/astem/wips/>), and the current Vice-President (Awards) of the International Society of Biomechanics in Sports (ISBS; <https://isbs.org/>).

**Research overview:** Dr Bezodis has worked with domestic and international rugby organisations for over 10 years. The research undertaken as part of these collaborations primarily focusses on the biomechanics of kicking and training for speed, and has resulted in numerous publications, PhD completions and funding.

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**Neil Bezodis (Ph.D.)**

Associate Professor of Biomechanics & Technology

Lead of the Elite and Professional Sport (EPS) Research Group, Swansea University (<https://www.swansea.ac.uk/sports-science/astem/eps/>)

Biomechanics Lead for the Welsh Institute of Performance Science (<https://www.swansea.ac.uk/sports-science/astem/wips/>)

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**Postgraduate supervision:** 6 Masters by research and 5 PhD research students to completion. Currently supervising 1 Masters by research, 4 PhD (all funded by and/or embedded in elite and professional sports organisations) and 1 EngD student.

**Research publications:** >40 peer reviewed publications (<https://www.webofscience.com/wos/woscc/summary/d039ecb9-72be-405b-befc-28827625270b-0419ebee/relevance/1>) and 2 invited book chapters. Editorial board member of *Sports Biomechanics.*

Example publications:

Bennett, M., **Bezodis, N. E.**, Shearer, D. A., & Kilduff, L. P. (2021). Predicting performance at the group-phase and knockout-phase of the 2015 Rugby World Cup. *European Journal of Sport Science*, *21*(3), 312-320.

Pocock, C., **Bezodis, N. E.**, Davids, K., & North, J. S. (2021). Effects of manipulating specific individual constraints on performance outcomes, emotions, and movement phase durations in Rugby Union place kicking. *Human Movement Science*, *79*, 102848.

Lazarczuk, S. L., Love, T., Cross, M. J., Stokes, K. A., Williams, S., Taylor, A. E., Fuller, C. W., Brooks, J. H. M. Kemp, S. P. T., & **Bezodis, N. E.** (2020). The epidemiology of kicking injuries in professional Rugby Union: a 15-season prospective study. Scandinavian Journal of Medicine of Medicine and Science in Sports, 30(9), 1739-1747.

Atack, A., Trewartha, G., & **Bezodis, N.E.** (2019). A joint kinetic analysis of rugby place kicking technique to understand why kickers achieve different performance outcomes. Journal of Biomechanics, 87, 114-119.

Wild, J.J., Bezodis, I.N., North, J.S., & **Bezodis, N.E.** (2018). Differences in step characteristics and linear kinematics between rugby players and sprinters during initial sprint acceleration. European Journal of Sport Science, 18(10), 1327-1337.