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*2015 NCC report – Stephen Ibbott (referee)*

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A core requirement of entry into the 2015 National Club Championships (Brisbane) was the provision by each team of a referee, state badge level or higher. When Van Diemens confirmed their entry into the competition, I offered to attend as referee given their club had none at this level.



The usual approach to “new” referees by many players is to test their control of the match and question their consistency. I was expecting this to a degree, especially being Tasmanian, but quickly identified the players to watch and maintained good control of all matches throughout the tournament.

Over the long weekend I refereed 4 untimed matches, including the bronze medal playoff (Norths v Toowoomba, pictured) and received very good feedback from each team captain and coaches.

Assessment of my refereeing was also provided by two international referees; the written assessment sheets provided to me by Chris Kelly support this feedback and recommend upgrading to National A standard. Her own words: “Great refereeing. Good luck with future upgrades.”

Of course, I was ably assisted by the Van Diemens squad, with competent second refereeing and mostly confident line judges. However, even this requires some management as first referee and the team were very gracious in accepting my feedback to them.

I relished the opportunity to officiate at a national competition and the Volleyball Tasmania committee has my gratitude for assisting financially; without your help I may not have been able to make the trip. Hopefully I can continue attending some major tournaments as referee, including AJVC in September.

Steve Ibbott

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