

Van Diemens Volleyball Club – 2015 NCC Report

On the 1st of April 2015 the Van Diemens Volleyball Club – Division 1 Men's team traveled to Queensland to compete at the 2015 National Club Championships, held in Brisbane over Easter from 3rd – 6th of April 2015.

The VDVC had not sent a men's team interstate to compete since Good Neighbour in 2010 and for a team that has won the past 4 Tasmanian State League titles the National Club Championships was the perfect opportunity to test their skills against interstate teams of a similar or higher standard.

As it turned out, after 4 days, 7 matches, 31 sets of volleyball the VDVC were more than a match for some of the best club teams in Australia, as they won Gold with a 15-13 victory in the 5th set of the final against the defending champions, University of Queensland.



(Back L–R): Josh Thorpe (setter – coach), Romet Leopard (middle), John Harding (opposite), Steve Ibbott (pass/hitter)
(Front L–R): Jay Medwin (libero), Nick Jones (pass/hitter – captain), Sam Wardlaw (middle)

The tournament gave the team an opportunity to compete against interstate teams of similar standards and work on several aspects of their game, which are unachievable at times within Tasmania. This included game strategies centered on blocking and quick attack plays, both offensively and defensively. The speed and standard of play, which the boys competed against was another valuable aspect, which can only really be experienced at interstate tournaments such as this one. The tournament was clearly very successful as far as achieving team goals and individual goals set prior to the tournament.

What a fantastic win for Tasmanian volleyball and the Van Diemens Volleyball Club – crowned National Club Champions for 2015 in the men's division. All players conducted themselves with great pride and represented Tasmania admirably. On the court, nobody ever gave up and the number of times the team came back from 5pts down to win the set was too many to recall.

On an individual basis the club would also like to recognize the massive achievement of Joshua Thorpe, being named tournament Most Valuable Player, beating rivals from University of Queensland, Norths and Toowoomba.

Lastly, the team would like to thank Volleyball Tasmania Inc. for their wonderful support, both financially and in person. Without this support the team could not compete with the best teams in the country and represent Tasmanian volleyball on the big stage.

Nick Jones
on behalf of the VDVC Div1 Men.