

Key Performance Indicators

So you want to be a volleyball referee...

The subsequent pages lay out a developmental progression for all who wish to referee the game of volleyball. For each key aspect of the game there is a corresponding series of descriptors outlining what you, as the referee, should be capable of in order to rise through the referee grades. While this will be a valuable help to aspiring referees and those tasked to guide them, there are other vital considerations that should not be forgotten.

- A referee is not a robot mechanically reacting to certain visual and auditory cues but someone who thinks about what is happening before making a decision.
- Refereeing is a life-long learning process and that requires the referee to be willing and ready to learn; to be capable of self-analysis and reflection about games; and, on occasions, to accept critical input in a mature fashion.
- Referees should recognise the priceless asset of experience that is only gained initially by being prepared to attend tournaments and generally 'whistle' at every opportunity presented. The incidents and situations that arise in such matches and how they were handled, are an invaluable reference bank for referees as they increasingly officiate at National Volleyball League (NVL) games. Remember it is on these NVL matches that upgrading assessments ultimately depend.
- Refereeing can be a stressful business where emotions run high; we must, however, endeavor to remain in control whatever the provocation and whatever our innermost feelings.
- As referees we should strive to maintain certain standards of behaviour, efficiency and professionalism as listed in our Code of Conduct.
- What personal attributes are required to referee? Some have already been stated above such as being thoughtful, controlled, and professional. That said, there is no dominant personality type – though our most successful referees do share certain traits. They seem fairly intelligent, self-reliant, at ease with isolation – whether 'loners' or 'party animals', prepared to give commitment and have supportive home environments. Refereeing also demands a reasonably high level of physical fitness – standing and concentrating for five sets is fatiguing. The fitter you are, the greater the delay in onset of fatigue – and as a consequence the more alert and fresh you are to make refereeing decisions.

The path to the goal of Grade 1 has been set out, suggestions have been offered as to what you will require to proceed along it. It is now up to you to take the first steps: whether you are just starting out or joining along the way, the level of achievement you can reach is largely up to you

