Volleyball England Referee Strategy
2015 – 2024: Executive Summary

Overview

Refereeing is a critical enabler to the growth and success of the sport at all levels. Teams, coaches and players expect high-quality officiating and this can only be achieved with good training and development.

Improved refereeing is also reliant on more support across the sport – Regional Committees, clubs, teams, players and coaches – to help to provide new referees and an environment of support for their long-term development.

This strategy examines the current issues and key areas for development. Information has been taken from the ‘Referee Commission Development Plan 2014 / 15 for Volleyball, beach and sitting Volleyball’, from interviews with people across the sport and from a referee survey which was sent to referees at all levels – from Grade 4 all the way up to international.

Vision for Refereeing

To have a well-trained, highly-qualified body of referees that support and enhance the delivery of the sport.

Objectives

1. Increase quality & quantity of active, appropriately qualified & skilled referees and referee observers & mentors
2. Produce and promote the referee pathway to illustrate continuous development and opportunities - from local to international
3. Increase the profile and perception of refereeing across the sport

The key components

1. Clear referee pathway showing how to progress
2. Continual Professional Development (CPD) / mentoring support for all referees
3. Increase in the number of people to deliver; observers, mentors, regional teams, Commission support
4. Support at local and regional level
Summary of key areas for delivery

1. Increase the quality & quantity of active, appropriately qualified and skilled referees and referee observers & mentors

   a. Focus on developing referees at the lower end of the pathway through observing, mentoring and regional development
   b. Training the trainers: Development of the existing & new workforce of observers, mentors and RRAs in order to train and enhance the skill level of the referees on a local & regional basis.
   c. Working with the regions to provide annual CPD events for referees
   d. Succession plan to make sure there is always a Commission with the skills and knowledge to drive the sport

2. Provide and promote the referee pathway that provides continuous development and refereeing opportunities - from local to international

   a. Pathway that shows how a referee can progress and develop
   b. Pathway & communications that set expectation of progression
   c. Competitions to develop junior referees

3. Increase the profile and perception of refereeing across the sport

   a. Communications plan that promotes refereeing as a vibrant part of the game with highly skilled referees
   b. Clubs to own refereeing – to have registered, qualified referees when they register teams.
   c. Refereeing seen as a career choice for players once they retire in the same way as coaching