

# **Malta Volleyball Referees Association**

## **Mid-Season Report 2015-2016**

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Nello Calleja**

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The Malta Volleyball Referees' Association was founded in September 2015 to prepare, organise and grade all the technical officials so that they can take part in the competitions organised by the Malta Volleyball Association. Membership is open to all referees, scorekeepers, line judges and other technical officials.

### ***Administration***

The administration of the MVRA's day to day work is in the hands of Nello Calleja and Frankie Tanti. The idea is that by the end of the season, the MVRA's will have its first AGM during which, as per Statute, an Administrative Team is elected.

### ***Agreement with MVA***

The Agreement between the MVA and MVRA is that the MVRA will provide the following number of referees for each match:

Men Seniors: 2 referees per match

Women Seniors: 1 Ref per match for 1<sup>st</sup> Round; 2 referees per match for Super League and 1<sup>st</sup> Division

U/18 and U/16: 1 Ref per match

The MVA is to pay the MVRA 15 Euro for every Seniors' match refereed by 2 referees, 12 Euro for every Seniors' match refereed by 1 referee and 10 Euro for every U/18 and U/16 referee.

### ***Current Referees Set up***

The MVRA started the season with 15 referees (3 Advanced, 1 Intermediate and 11 Beginners). Out of these one referee had to stop for personal reasons and was replaced by another referee.

Moreover, following a grading course done in January 2016, the current Referees' set up sees 3 Advanced, 5 Intermediate and 7 Beginner Referees.

### ***Provision of Referees for Competitions***

Until the end of January, there has been the following number of matches (total number of matches from different competitions has been grouped by category):

Men Seniors: 16 matches 27 appointments

Women Seniors: 63 matches 88 appointments

Ladies U/18: 9 matches 9 appointments

Ladies U/16: 11 matches 11 appointments

(U/14 matches are not being considered since these are officiated by the coaches themselves).

Total Number of matches (Sep to Jan): 99

Total Number of Referee Appointments (Sep to Jan): 135

The total cost for the provision of these Referees has been 1235.00€ out of which 630.00€ have already been paid. This was one of the targets for this season and the MVRA has managed to pay 50% of the dues to the referees for the current season.

### ***Distribution of Matches***

Out of the 135 appointments done until end of January, one has to note the following:

3 Advanced Referees have done 54 appointments (40% of total appts., average 18 appts. per ref)

4 Intermediate Referees have done 25 appts (18.5% of total appts., average 6.25% appts. per ref)

8 Beginner Referees have done 53 appts (40% of total appts., 6.6 appts. per ref)

Whilst it is expected that Advanced Referees carry the larger burden, it would be better if the Intermediate Referees had to officiate more matches so as to gain more experience.

### ***International Appointments***

During the first half of this season, the two International Referees have been appointed for the following CEV Cup Matches:

Frankie Tanti

11/11/15 - CEV Volleyball Challenge Cup Women – SVS Post Schwechat – OK Porec in Austria

02/12/15 - CEV Volleyball Challenge Cup Men – Ethnikos Alexandroupolis – VK Prievidza in Greece

Nello Calleja

09/12/15 - CEV Volleyball Challenge Cup Women – Trabzon Idman Ocagi – C.S.M. Targoviste in Turkey

20/01/16 - CEV Cup Women – Stiinta Bacau – Dinamo Krasnodar in Romania

Moreover, the MVRA has decided to list the following referees on the list of International, Candidate and National referees submitted to the F.I.V.B. every year:

Cinzia Fenech

Luca Randazzo

Mark Soler

Alex Spiteri

### ***Scorekeepers***

There are currently 65 scorekeepers registered with the MVRA. These scorekeepers have either been trained by the MVRA in the course organised at the beginning of this season, or else they have been trained by the clubs or the MVA during this or the past seasons. We are currently pushing the scorekeepers to improve their work when they are score keeping since unfortunately most score keepers do not understand the importance of their job during a match. This is mainly done through emails by informing scorekeepers how they can improve their work based on practical issues found in score sheets.

The intention of the MVRA is that all the scorekeepers registered with it will be tested at the beginning of season 16-17 so that any necessary training is given to make sure that all scorekeepers can do their job in a better way.

### ***Courses***

From September until end of January, the MVRA has organised the following courses:

19<sup>th</sup> September 2015 – Refereeing Course for Beginners/Refreshers Course – this course was attended

by 34 persons. Out of these only 11 continued to ref during the first part of this season, whilst the others attended either to improve their knowledge of the game or else as club delegates for the second part of the Course.

17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015 – Scorekeeping Courses – two courses were organised for scorekeepers. 17 persons attended for these two courses.

26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 – An Intermediate Grading Refereeing Course was organised for the Beginner Referees who had shown proficiency and officiated in enough matches to qualify for this course. Four referees were invited, mainly Darren Bugeja, Cinzia Fenech, Luca Randazzo and Alex Spiteri. Alex Spiteri had to renounce due to other personal commitments. The other three referees all passed the Intermediate Test and were promoted to Intermediate Referees.

### ***Challenges until end of season***

The main challenge until the end of this season will be to make sure that the MVRA is able to provide enough referees for all the matches. Considering that from now onwards every match can decide who wins the honours, the MVRA will try to appoint the right referees for the right match, however this is not always possible considering that most referees either play or coach, besides having other personal commitments like studies and family matters.

Another aspect which needs to be taken into consideration is the issue of postponed matches, or better the new scheduled dates for postponed matches. It is not always possible for the MVRA to find suitable referees when a postponed match is rescheduled for a short term postponement. It would be much better if at least two weeks' time is given until the re-scheduled match so that the MVRA could find the best referees for that particular match.

### ***Targets Feb – June 2016***

MVRA AGM

End of year activity for referees and scorekeepers including Awards

Intermediate and Advanced Courses for Referees

### ***Targets Summer 2016***

Refereeing Course for Beginner Referees

### ***Targets 2016-2017***

September – Testing of all Scorekeepers

New Uniforms and Badges for Referees and maybe for Scorekeepers

Seminar for all those involved in the game re certain aspects of the rules

Licence Cards for Referees

Assessments of Referees