



QBVT 2017/18 Season Review



Overview

At the completion of the 2012/13 QBVT season, VQ Events Coordinator, Damien Searle, was tasked with reviewing the season at the request of the VQ Board, following mixed feedback from QBVT participants. The results of the review led to significant changes in the Tour structure.

This same survey has been completed at the end of each subsequent season, including the 2017/18 season.

This report looks at the various elements of the Tour and makes comments for consideration.

QBVT Dates

2012/13:	9 tournaments across 4 geographic areas, 1 promoter
2013/14:	12 tournaments across 6 geographic areas, 7 promoters
2014/15:	14 tournaments across 8 geographic areas, 9 promoters
2015/16:	15 tournaments (14 QBVT, 1 Special) across 8 geographic areas, 9 promoters
2016/17:	12 tournaments (+QJBVC) across 6 geographic areas, 6 promoters
2017/18:	12 tournaments (+QJBVC & Mixed Pairs) across 6 geographic areas, 7 promoters

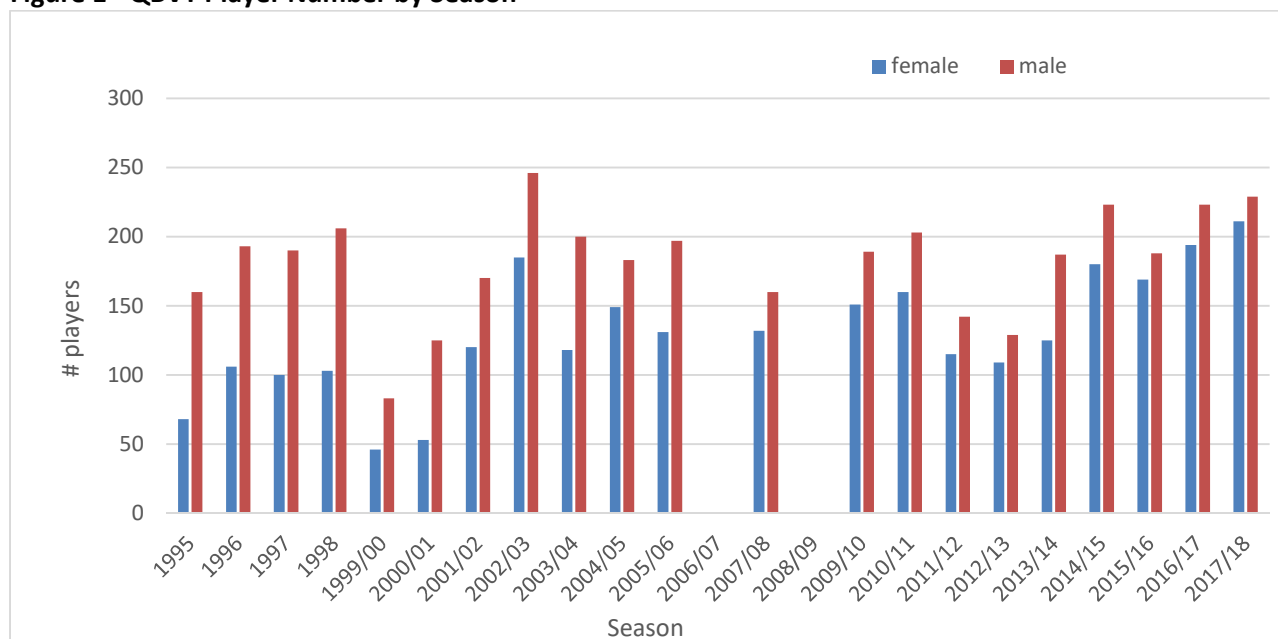
The dates of each tournament and the number of entries are shown in figure #2 (following page).

Participation Numbers

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Total number of tournament entries	438	497	557	571	569
Total number of individual players	312	403	357	417	418

These participation numbers are compared to known previous seasons in figure #2, below.

Figure 1 - QBVT Player Number by Season



Figure#2 QBVT 2017/18 Tournaments and Entries

						Entries - M		Entries - W		Entries - Jnr Boys	Entries - Jnr Girls	
Date	Rnd	Type	Tournament Name	Promoter	Prem	Chall	Prem	Chall	U19	U19	Total	
Sep	2	Special		Mixed Pairs	BVGC	4 (M+W)	4 (M+W)					8
	16	1 Regional	Mooloolaba Regional	VSC/Vball in Paradise	12	12	12	12	4	5	57	
	23-24	2 Major	Rockhampton Major	ISA Rocky	6	6	6				18	
Oct	7-8	3 Major	Coolangatta Major	V'ball in Paradise	16	13	16	13	2	6	66	
	21 -22	4 Major	Cairns Major	Cairns VC	8	9	10	4			31	
Nov	11-12	5 Regional	November Knockout	Sandstorm	16	9	14	10	4	9	62	
Dec	9	6 Regional	Day Night Regional	BVGC	12	6	12	6			36	
	16-17	7 Regional	Bracken Ridge Regional	Bracken Ridge Indoor Sports	9	8	13	9			39	
Jan	13-14	8 Major	Sandstorm Major	Sandstorm	8	11	12	9	4	4	48	
	26-28	9 Open	QLD Open	BVGC	25		27		13	13	78	
Feb	10-11	10 Major	Mooloolaba Major	V'Ball in Paradise	16	17	16	15	8	15	87	
	17-18	Special		QJBVC	BVGC						33	
	24-25	11 Major	Bundaberg Major	V'ball in Paradise	13	8	6	4			31	
Mar	10-11	12 Champs	QLD Championships	V'ball in Paradise	8	8	8	8			32	
						149	107	152	90	35	52	
						Entries						
						U15 M	U17 M	U19 M	U15 W	U17 W	U19 W	
Feb	17-18	Special		QJBVC	BVGC	4	6	3	6	6	8	33

Player Demographics

Male – 229 Players (52%)

Female – 211 players (48%)

Of the known home towns of players participating in the QBVT 2017-18:

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
North Queensland	3%	12%	5%	4%	6%	5%
Central Queensland	10%	9%	10%	13%	7%	8%
Sunshine Coast	6%	9%	12%	9%	5%	10%
Brisbane	62%	57%	37%	50%	47%	46%
Gold Coast	15%	12%	11%	12%	15%	15%
Toowoomba/Ipswich	2%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%
Interstate			11%	11%	14%	9%
International (NZ, PNG, Germany)			13%	1%	4%	2%

VQ Membership

To compete on the QBVT, players must be registered members with VQ. For Premier (AAA) division they must be 'Full' members, and for Challenger (AA) and Junior divisions they must be 'Recreational' members. Players who are not registered with VQ in the current year but wish to participate in one round of QBVT may register with a one-off 'Tournament' membership that can only be utilised at that event.

QBVT 2012-13 - 13% of participants were current VQ members* at the tournament they played

QBVT 2013-14 - 98% of participants were current VQ members* at the tournament they played

QBVT 2014-15 - 100% of participants were current VQ members* at the tournament they played

QBVT 2015-16 - 100% of participants were current VQ members* at the tournament they played

QBVT 2016-17 - 99% of participants were current VQ members* at the tournament they played

QBVT 2017-18 - 99% of participants were current VQ members* at the tournament they played

(* or members of their home State/Country)

Player Feedback

Player's views on the Tour were sought after in order to gather a picture of the 'customers view'. This was achieved via an email to all players from VQ asking them to complete the Player Survey on-line (via Jot Form).

The Questionnaire

The questionnaire was comprised of two sections

- a) 10 closed questions (the same questions have been used since 2012/13) - where responses were provided as one of 5 options, 'strongly disagree' to 'strongly agree'.

In 2017/18, 1 new closed question was added due to the increasing number of junior participants:
"Junior and Senior players were treated equally".

- b) 2 open questions – where respondents were free to answer as they chose.
- c) In the 2014/15, 2 new questions were added.

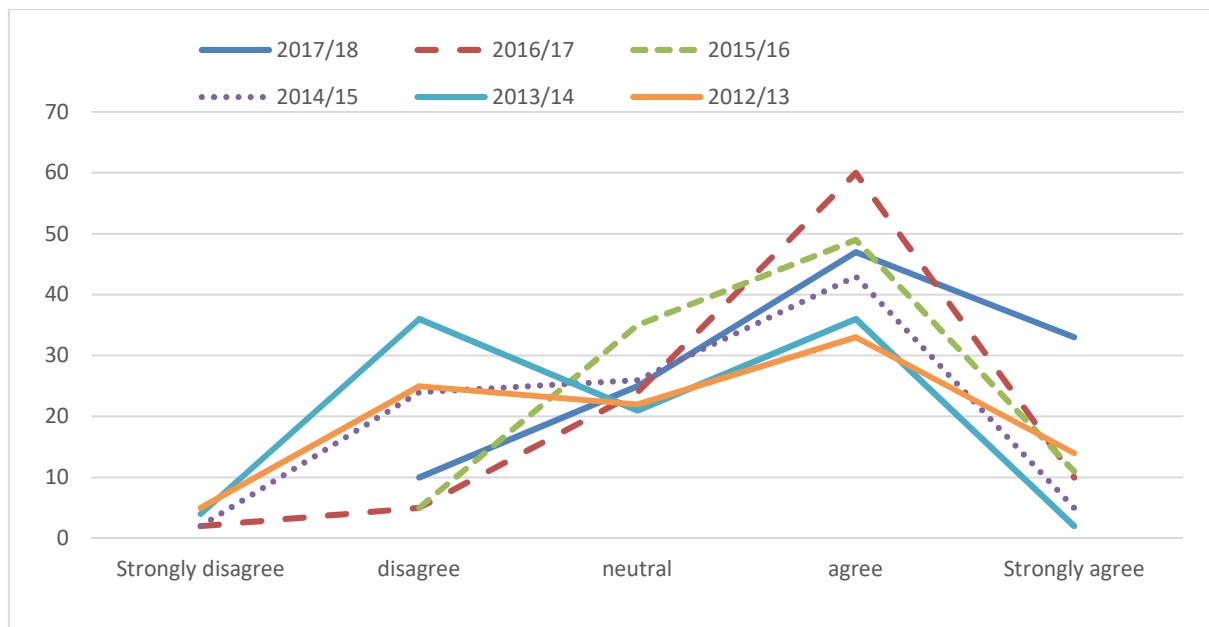
Responses

50 responses were submitted on-line via Jotform

Analysis of Player Feedback

The following graphs compare the feedback gathered at the end of this season (2017/18) with that from the previous seasons.

Q1. Information on tournaments was easily accessible and timely



Analysis:

Strongly agree has shown a significant increase this season, possibly resulting in the decrease in agree.

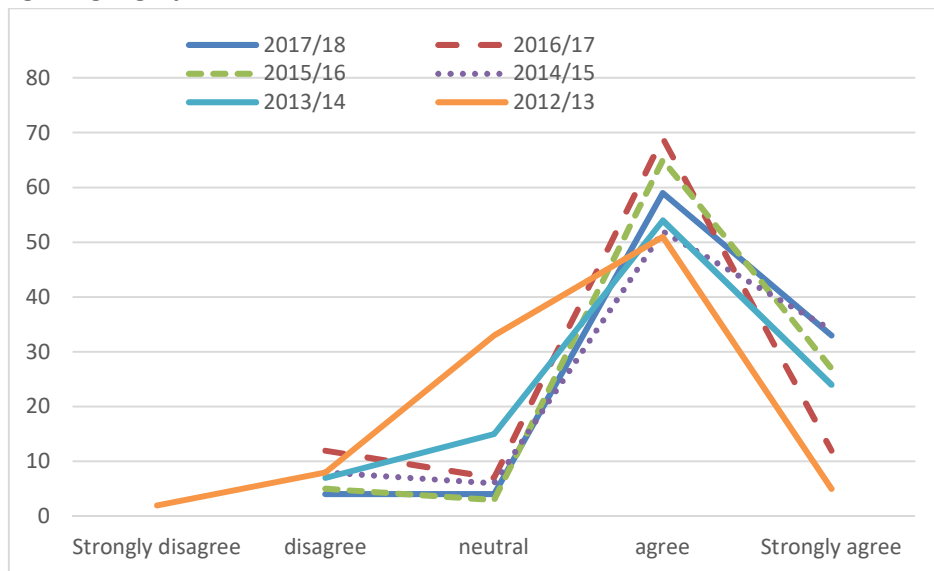
Player Feedback

- Player's Handbook needs updating (x3 responses)
- Release the draw & seedings one day before the competition (x4)
- More clarity around wildcards for Finals needed (x2)
- The dates were not posted for tournaments early enough (x1)
- I disliked when there was a lack of communication regarding the tournament. I found this quite evident at a certain promoters events- it also seemed to go hand in hand with a disorganized event. It was particularly frustrating as players progressing into the finals rounds would have to stay up late just to find out what time games were scheduled for the next day (x1)
- Sometimes it was not clear whether tournaments would be 1 or 2 days (x1)

Recommendation:

- Continue with communication strategies, enhancing where possible.
- Review and update Player's Handbook

Q2. QBVT offered a good geographic distribution of tournaments



Analysis:

Decreases in disagree and agree; Significant increase in strongly agree.

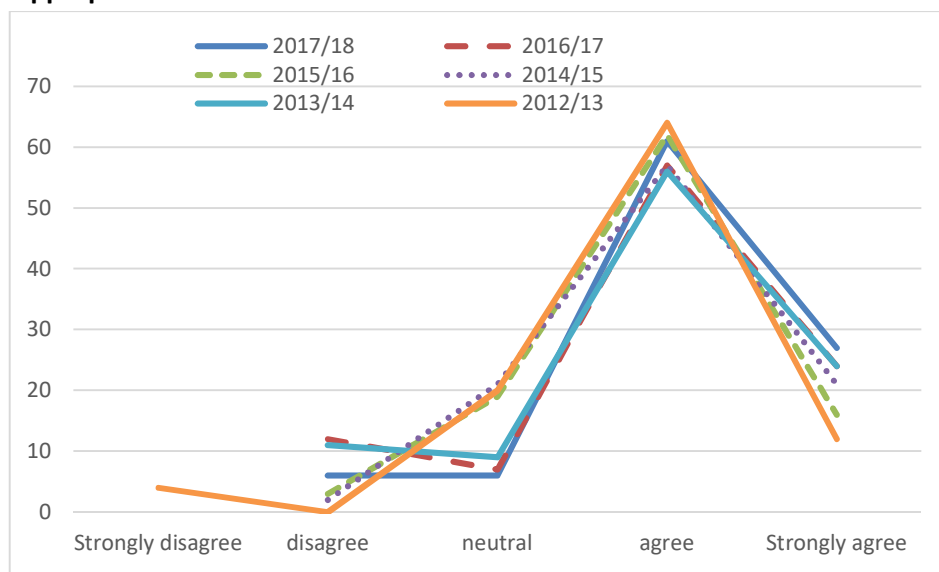
Player Feedback

- More major tournaments in the north (x1)
- more events and some different beaches (x1)
- Spread them out more across the state (x1)

Recommendation:

- Aim to keep wide distribution of tournaments, adding new venues if appropriate

Q3. There were an appropriate number of tournaments



Analysis:

Decreases in disagree and neutral have led to an increase in strongly agree

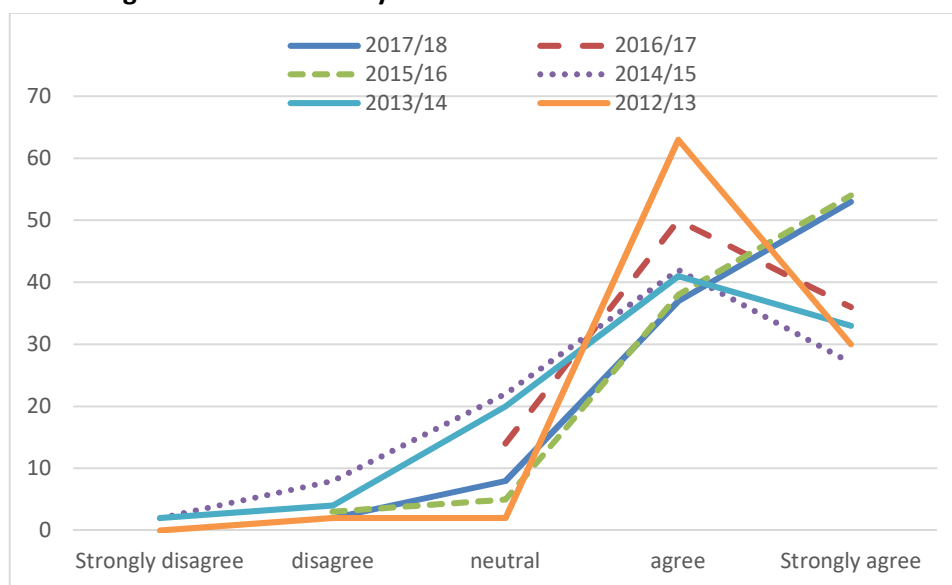
Player Feedback:

- More events (x2)
- More events on the beach (x2)
- Put more tournaments on summer school holidays
- Perfect amount of tour events and was spread more evenly than previous years. Great work
- Increase the length of the season by adding more tournaments so there are more opportunities to play beach volleyball competitively
- 4s comps would be good if they didn't clash with pairs.

Recommendation:

- Aim to keep current number of tournaments

Q4. The process for entering tournaments is easy and accessible



Analysis:

Only a single disagree response received, otherwise all positive and neutral.

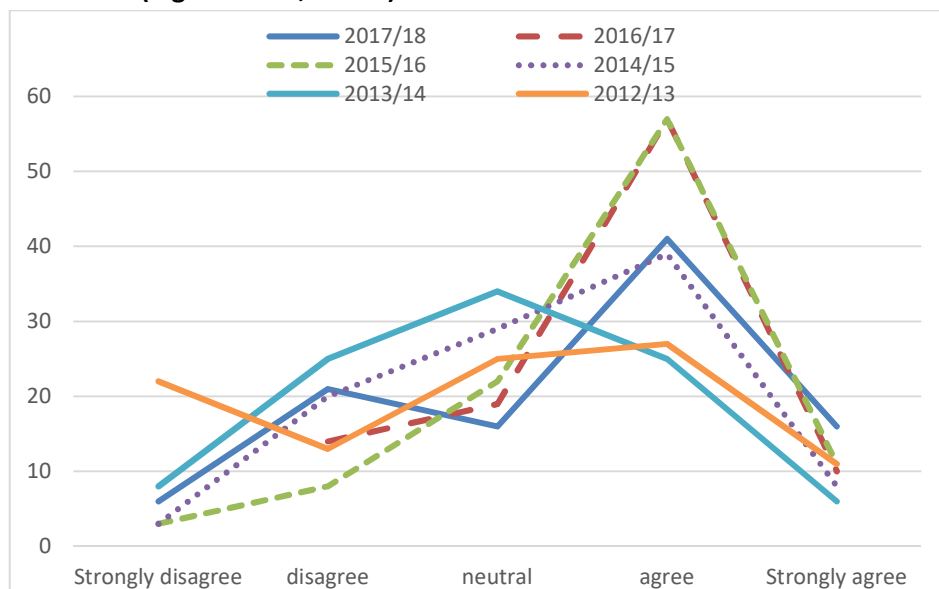
Player Feedback:

- No comments received

Recommendation:

- Continue with online nomination portal

Q5. Changes to tournaments (e.g. location, draws) were well communicated



Analysis:

Slight increase in strongly disagree from previous season, significant drop in agree. Increase in disagree.

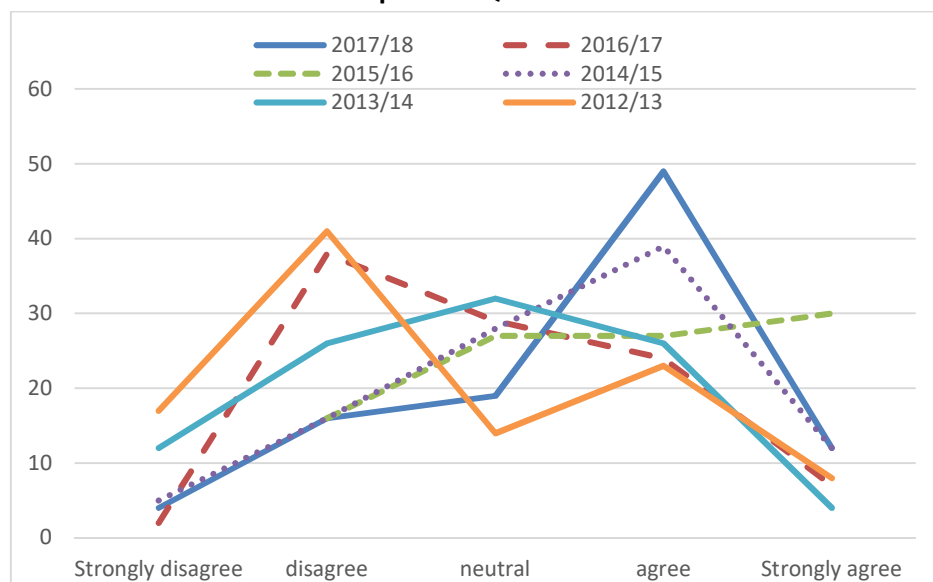
Player Feedback:

- No comments received

Recommendation:

- Keep current communication methods

Q6. I am aware of the mechanism for athletes to provide QBVT feedback



Analysis

Responses show a strong positive shift in opinion; Significant decreases in disagree and neutral have resulted in major increased in agreed, and a slight increase in strongly agree.

Reasons:

Following player feedback last season, Promoters were requested to appoint Player Reps at each tournament, during the Technical meeting, attended by all players. Where available, players were made aware of committee members that were also present.

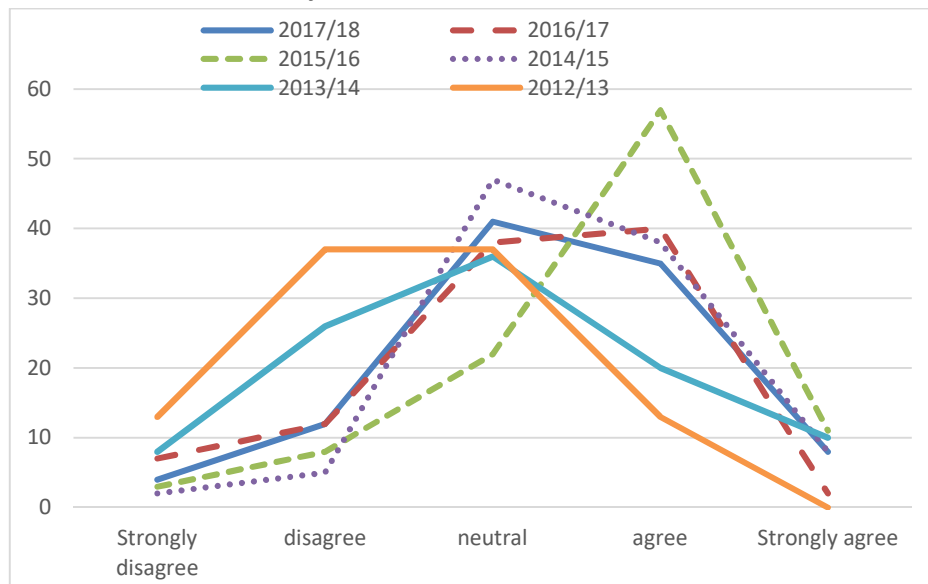
Player Feedback:

- None received

Recommendation:

- Continue to select Player Reps and advertise committee members.

Q7. QBVT provides athletes value for money



Analysis:

Responses were almost identical as last years.

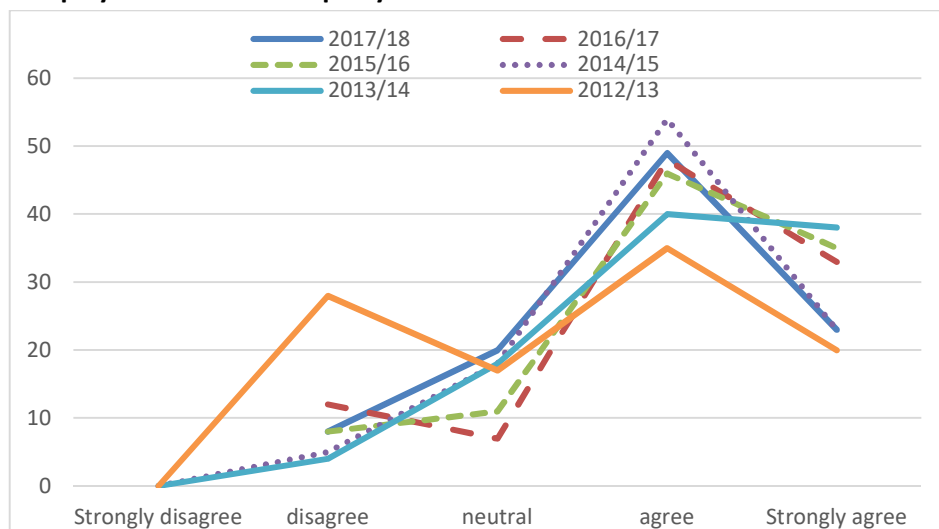
Player Survey Feedback:

- It highly depended on who ran them. Those run by Vball in Paradise, Sandstorm and in Cairns that I attended at least felt like the promoter had gone through some effort to obtain prizes, sponsors, etc to make the money we pay a touch more worth it (x1)
- BVGC charge too much (x4)
- The cost of the bvgc events... more money... usually only 1 day... and not very well organised. We don't care about a flashy tv monitor draw (that didn't work) (x1)
- I do consciously choose not to play some of the surfers ones because they are more expensive (x1)
- certain tour entry's are a little ridiculous priced (x1)
- Another dislike I had was when higher entry fees did not align with larger amounts of prize money? (x1)
- Some were higher in pricing with no obvious reason as to why (x1)

Recommendation:

- 1) Continue policy of providing numerous games per team
- 2) Continue to advertise draw format in advance so expectations are set
- 3) Consider price cap

Q8a. Male and female players are treated equally



Analysis:

Similar to previous season. Most received response – Agree

Player Feedback:

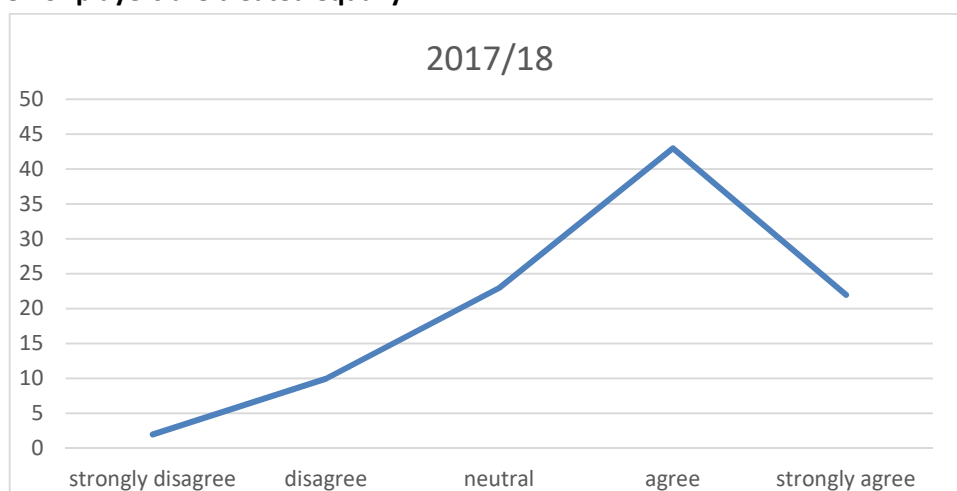
- No comments received

Recommendation:

- Equality levels to be maintained

New Question for this season!

Q8b. Junior and Senior players are treated equally



Analysis:

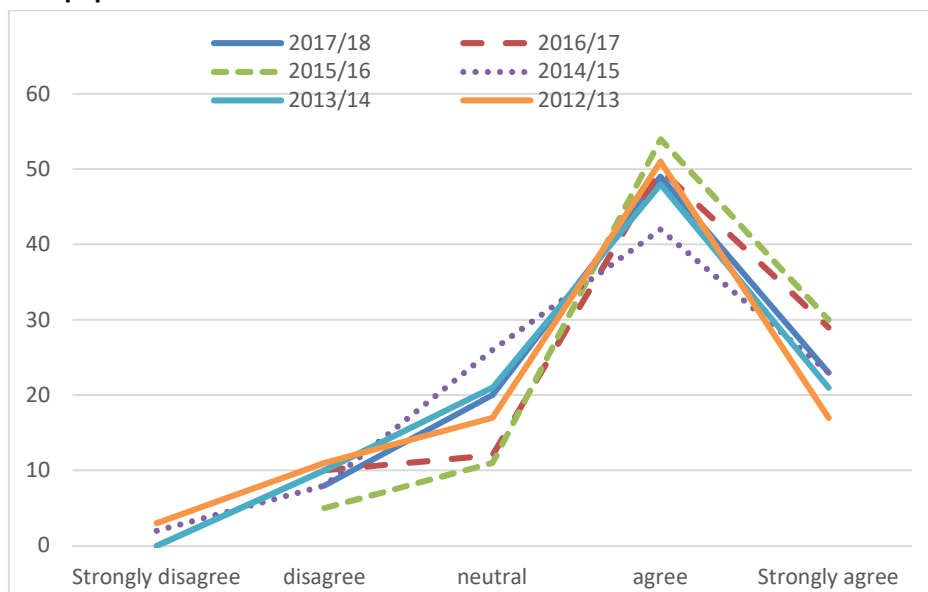
It is interesting to note that the Junior players who responded to this survey felt the same as the vast majority of senior players, that they were treated equally, however those who disagreed were parents of Juniors who attended a large number of the season's tournaments, specifically:

- One (1) strongly disagree response was received – from a parent who attended 10+ events.
- Four (4) disagree responses were received, one from a parent (10+ events), and the other 3 from players who identified themselves as Premier or Challenger (ie not Juniors)
- Of the 5 Juniors who responded to the survey, 1 x neutral, 3 x agree, 1 x strongly agree

Recommendations:

- Further investigation needed over wider sample group.

Q9. The facilities and equipment at the tournaments were suitable for a State-level event



Analysis:

No significant changes from previous seasons.

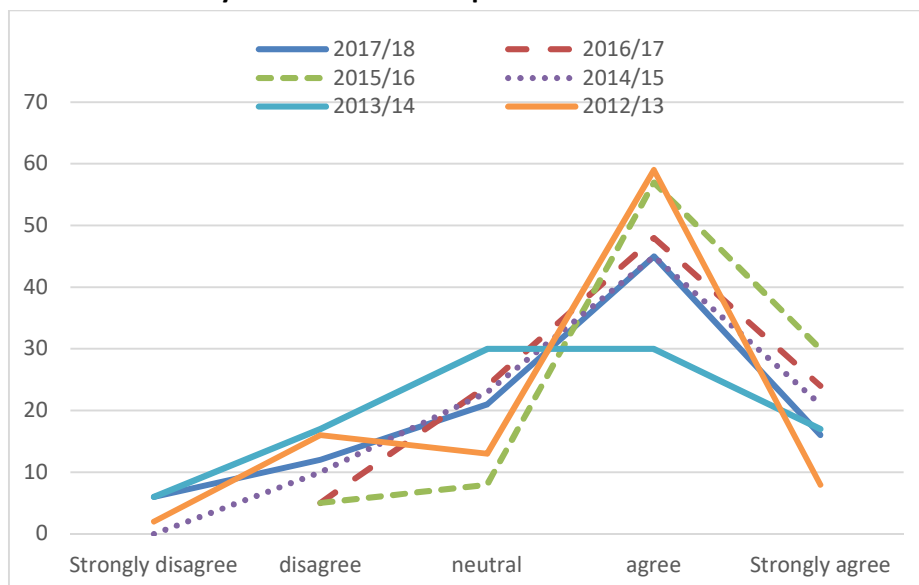
Player Survey Feedback:

- More shade needed (x8)
- have nets right height / courts flat (x7)
- 2 balls per court needed (x3)
- Better scoresheets to keep track of the server (x1)
- Providing more heat management support for athletes (x1)
- Warm up court to move things along quicker (x1)
- The Gold Coast court was shocking huge dip in one corner (x1)
- It would be great if all score boards could be the ones that when teams which ends you just turn the score board around. It would make scoring a lot easier (x1)
- (I like least) No commentary or music. (x1)
- not enough serving room (x1)
- Surfer Paradise- needles on the courts. Very unsafe. (x1)
- One promoter did not provide adequate shade nor did I see evidence of first aid personnel. I did not play more events by this promoter this season (x1)

Recommendation:

- 1) Ensure Promoter Handbook requirements are met
- 2) Inspect new venues prior to acceptance to calendar
- 3) Investigate ways for additional balls and shade to be provided, and/or advise teams beforehand to bring their own.
- 4) Develop standardised scoresheet for QBVT

Q10. Each tournament draw was easy to follow and transparent



Analysis

Most received response - Agree

Reasons:

- VQ produce draws to standard format

Player Survey Feedback:

- Release the draw earlier (ie before the tournament) (x2)
- I liked the no tech meeting option but that was because the draw and rankings was made available well beforehand as well as all the other tournament information. Perhaps we could trial this again for some events? I think it would need to be the smaller ones i.e. not the open or ones with heaps of teams (x1)
- Have earlier start times to beat the heat and elements. (x1)
- More games at a tournament (x1)
- Not advertising a 2 day event if there is a chance you won't play the next day. OR have a game for those that don't make it through to the finals the next day (x1)
- Play weekend nights to avoid heats and clashes with school events. (x1)
- Put Juniors on Sunday only to encourage more juniors (x1)

Recommendation:

- Keep standardised presentation of draws
- Consider releasing draw and/or seedings prior to event
- Review events that have junior divisions, and concentrate these on school holidays and Sundays during term

Additional Questions (Open Ended)

Q1. What did you like best about the tournaments you did play?

The following responses received multiple mentions:

- The players (x16)
 - Camaraderie between teams (x2)
 - The older players were always nice
 - Sense of community, more inclusive & friendly, fun
- Great locations (x12)
- Atmosphere (x10)
 - Fun atmosphere, music improves the vibes, Tournament organisers did their best to make each tournament better than before
 - Great atmosphere, well set up.
- Sponsor products (x9)
 - Promotional giveaways (chobani and h2coco) as well as the prizes for the events (x3)
- Tournaments were well organised & ran on time (x7)
 - Run by friendly people.
 - The organiser worked hard to put on quality events
 - Tournament directors have made a real effort to get to know everyone
- Good draws (x6)
 - Good competition flow
 - how many games we got to play
 - Tournaments were well run, on time.
- Livestreaming (x4)
- Referees - dedicated refs for semis and finals give it a more professional feel (x2)
- Good equipment – nets not sagging, physio, plenty of shade (x3)

Q2. What did you like least about the tournaments you did play?

- Draw
 - Would like it released before the day of the event (x5)
 - Draw errors (x4)
 - Long gap between tech meeting and 1st game (x2)
- Seedings being wrong (x4)
- Equipment
 - Lack of shade (x5)

Q3. What were the reasons for you choosing NOT to play certain tournaments?

The following responses received multiple mentions:

- Distance to travel; time and cost (x26)
- Work/ other commitments (x25)
- Value (lack of) for money (7)
- Clash with other volleyball events (x3)
- No partner (3)
- Late calendar release didn't allow enough time to plan (x2)

Additional Feedback

The following comments from the players were either reoccurring or are noteworthy and not covered above:

- Provide uniforms for players to buy (2)
- Have someone assigned to take care of juniors at each tournament - someone who will be around to ensure matches are on time and umpiring is going well. Too often juniors are left to their own devices. (2)
- Advertise the likelihood of a 2 day tournament becoming a 1 day tournament depending on your placing (2)
- A new seeding and ranking system - similar to Volleyball Australia. Players having a person profile with updated points and events attended. (x1)
- VQ has to hold promoters accountable to the promoters agreement
- Regional events seemed a bit lackluster. Why are we taking incentive away from top teams to play them by having reduced rewards for winning these events in the form of poor ranking points and ratings?
- Fixed entry fee for events (x2)
- divisions - I also think that there were as always, many players in Prem that were weaker than the top of the Challenger pool, and vice-versa. I think that in order to play Prem you should have to acquire an AA rating 1st as a prerequisite. Otherwise, I don't think that there is any quality control over the standard of the players in each division. (x1)
- I experienced several instances of tournament directors (often the promoter business leader) poorly understanding technical aspects of the game. I suggest a hardcopy of the governing rules should be present at each tournament. This will be a combination of the player's handbook and the current FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rules.
- Rule interpretation
 - There is a lack of clarity regarding setting faults amongst all players. My experience is that the players are holding ourselves to higher standards than Level 3 or 4 referees will. This was explained to the players as a result of recent rule changes, which appear not to have filtered to players. (x1)
 - Perhaps a clear explanation (demonstration?) to initiate next seasons tournaments would be beneficial. These are always potentially contentious calls, and demonstration may help. Maybe even record the demo as a video and publish it for posterity on the QBVT page? (x1)
 - Setting ref. standards for all players from the very beginning of the season. Doubles and carry calls where treated so differently and nobody seems to know what is right or wrong. (x1)
- Finals
 - Keep the eligibility criteria but have a qualifier on the day (x4)
 - Premier players should be ineligible for the Championship division at Finals (x2)
 - Greater clarity on awarding of wildcards is needed (x2)