



### Analysis of Volleyball Referee Classification On Referee Performance In Sumedang Regency

Diki Saepuloh<sup>1A-E</sup>, Adang Sudrazat<sup>2B-D\*</sup>, Dinar Dinangsit<sup>3B-D</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Physical Education of Elementary Teacher Study Program, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, Bandung, West Java, Indonesia

[dikisaepuloh@upi.edu](mailto:dikisaepuloh@upi.edu)<sup>1</sup>, [adang.sudrazat@upi.edu](mailto:adang.sudrazat@upi.edu)<sup>2</sup>, [dinardinangsit@upi.edu](mailto:dinardinangsit@upi.edu)<sup>3</sup>

#### ABSTRACT

Referees have an important role in ensuring that volleyball matches are conducted fairly and following applicable rules. In Sumedang Regency, the quality of referee performance is still a debate, especially regarding the influence of referee classification based on certification and experience on their performance on the field. This study aims to explore the relationship between referee classification and their performance in leading volleyball matches. This study uses a qualitative method with a case study approach. Data was collected through interviews with various related parties, including referees, referees, coaches, and players, as well as through field observations and documentation. The data triangulation technique is used to increase the validity and reliability of research results. The results of the study showed that referee performance was classified based on understanding of rules, consistency in decision-making, communication skills, and physical and mental readiness. Referees with higher experience and certifications tend to show better performance in those aspects compared to less experienced referees. In addition, the training and continuous development factor has been proven to contribute to improving the quality of refereeing. The conclusions of this study confirm that the classification of referees plays an important role in determining their performance in leading volleyball matches. Therefore, it is necessary to increase referee capacity through continuous training and periodic evaluations to ensure high referee standards. This research contributes to the understanding of factors that affect referee performance and can be a reference for the development of a more effective certification system and referee coaching.

#### ARTICLE HISTORY

Received: 2025/02/21

Accepted: 2025/02/25

Published: 2025/02/28

#### KEYWORDS

Volleyball Referee;  
Classification;  
Performance;  
Certification;  
Training.

#### AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

- A. Conception and design of the study;
- B. Acquisition of data;
- C. Analysis and interpretation of data;
- D. Manuscript preparation;
- E. Obtaining funding

**Cites this Article** : Saepuloh, Diki; Sudrazat, Adang; Dinangsit, Dinar. (2025). Analysis of Volleyball Referee Classification On Referee Performance In Sumedang Regency. **Competitor: Jurnal Pendidikan Kepeleatihan Olahraga**. 17 ( 1 ), p.365-373

#### INTRODUCTION

Referees have a crucial role in every sporting match, including volleyball, to ensure that the rules of the game are followed fairly and the match runs smoothly. In this context, the referee's competence is the main factor that determines the quality of the match. In Sumedang Regency, volleyball is one of the popular sports, both at the school, community, and local tournament levels. However, issues related to the quality of referee



performance are often a concern, especially in terms of decision-making that can affect the outcome of matches (Sanusi et al., 2022)

The classification of referees based on their certification and experience is an important aspect in determining their competence. Referees who have national or international certifications are usually considered more competent than local referees without formal training. However, in Sumedang Regency, many volleyball matches are still led by referees with limited certification or experience. This raises questions about the extent to which referee classification affects the quality of their performance on the pitch (Hiskya et al., 2022).

The experience of being a referee is also an important factor that affects their performance. Referees who often lead matches tend to have a better ability to make quick and accurate decisions. On the other hand, inexperienced referees often face difficulties in complex match situations. Research by Sanusi et al., (2022) Reveals that continuous experience and training can improve referees' ability to understand and apply the rules of the game consistently.

The need for competent referees is increasing as volleyball tournaments at the local level increase. These tournaments are not only a competition but also a means of coaching young athletes. Thus, the presence of qualified referees is indispensable to create a fair match environment and support the development of athletes. However, the lack of training and development programs for referees in Sumedang Regency is a significant challenge (Arif & Novian, 2020)

In addition to the technical aspect, non-technical aspects such as communication and conflict management are also important competencies that referees must have. In many cases, protests from athletes and coaches against referee decisions reflect the referee's lack of skills in communicating and handling tense situations. This shows the need for training that focuses not only on the rules of the game but also on the development of interpersonal skills (Supriatna et al., 2022).

The phenomenon of protests against referees' decisions is increasingly occurring in volleyball matches in Sumedang Regency. This protest not only harms the course of the match but can also reduce public trust in the refereeing system. One of the main causes of these protests is the lack of understanding of the rules of the game among the referees themselves. Therefore, it is important to improve the knowledge and understanding of referees through a comprehensive training program (Sahudi et al., 2021).

Previous research has shown that referee classification has a significant relationship with their performance. Referees who have national certification tend to be more confident and competent in making decisions compared to referees who only have local experience. However, there has been no study that specifically analyzes the impact of referee classification on the quality of volleyball matches in Sumedang Regency (Sanusi et al., 2022).

Training programs for referees also need to be designed around their specific needs. For example, training on the use of technology such as scoring applications and digitization of match systems can assist referees in carrying out their duties more efficiently. The study of Priambodo et al., (2022) shows that technology-based training

can significantly improve referee competence.

The local context in Sumedang Regency shows that referee training is often sporadic and not well organized. This leads to an imbalance in the level of referee competence, which in turn affects the quality of the match. Therefore, a systematic approach is needed to improve the quality of referees through structured and continuous training (Arif & Novian, 2020).

In addition, the role of sports organizations such as PBVSI (Indonesian Volleyball Association) is very important in supporting the development of referees. PBVSI can work with local governments and educational institutions to provide periodic certification and training programs for referees. This collaboration can help create better refereeing standards at the local level (Natal et al., 2022).

Research also shows that referees' skills in managing pressure during matches are essential. A high level of anxiety can affect the referee's ability to make objective decisions. Therefore, training that includes psychological aspects is also needed to improve referee performance (Nova et al., 2021).

In addition to technical training, an introduction to refereeing philosophy can also help referees understand their role as guardians of justice in matches. This introduction can include values such as integrity, honesty, and professionalism. A study by Sujarwo & Margono (2023) shows that referees who understand refereeing philosophy tend to perform better.

The availability of resources is also an important factor in referee development. In Sumedang Regency, limited facilities and funds are often an obstacle to the implementation of referee training. Therefore, support from various parties, including sponsors and local governments, is needed to overcome this challenge (Hardika et al., 2022).

Overall, this study aims to analyze how the classification of referees affects their performance in volleyball matches in Sumedang Regency. By understanding this relationship, it is hoped that more effective training programs can be developed to improve the quality of referees. This research is also expected to make a positive contribution to the development of volleyball in the area.

## METHODS

This study uses a qualitative method that aims to understand the phenomenon in depth based on the perspective of the individual or group that is the subject of the research. This method was chosen because of its ability to dig into detailed and in-depth information about the issue being studied, taking into account the subject's social, cultural, and experiential context. The qualitative approach provides significant flexibility in the exploration of dynamic and complex data. For example, in case studies, techniques such as in-depth interviews and participatory observations are used to collect data that is holistic and contextual (Audulv et al., 2022). The research design used in this study is a case study. This design was chosen to intensively and in-depth study one or more cases in a real-life context. This research was carried out at PBVSI

Sumedang Regency, this location was chosen because previously a survey had been conducted at the location and the researcher found a case that would be a problem for the researcher. The implementation time for this research is from December 9 to 11, 2024. The population in this study is all volleyball referees in Sumedang Regency. Samples were taken using purposive sampling techniques, which are by selecting samples that are considered most relevant and representative of the research population. The sample criteria to be selected are:

1. Referees who have an official license from the volleyball federation.
2. Referees who actively lead volleyball matches at various levels of competition in Sumedang.
3. The number of samples to be taken is 3 referees with national licenses and 3 referees with regional licenses.

The research instruments include a variety of data collection techniques, including observation, interviews, and documentation. All of them utilize the FIVB Official Form R-4 Referee Evaluation to test referee performance and document data for referee classification and referee experience. The data analysis techniques used in this study are designed to process and understand qualitative data systematically. Thematic analysis was chosen because it follows the objectives of qualitative research, which focuses on an in-depth understanding of the phenomenon being studied. This technique allows researchers to unravel the meaning of the data collected through interviews, observations, and documentation. Next, the coding process is carried out by dividing the data into small units based on a specific theme or category. This code serves as the basis for grouping similar information. The encoding process can be done manually or with the help of qualitative analysis software, such as NVivo, which makes it easier for researchers to manage and group data.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Result

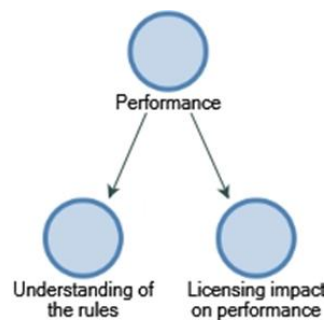
The results of this research were obtained after conducting interviews with the head of refereeing, referees, coaches, and players. In addition, there are results of field observations and documentation to support the interview statements that have been conducted with the informant. The research that has been carried out using the qualitative method of this case study aims to explore or find out more about the classification of referees on the performance of volleyball referees in Sumedang Regency. The findings of this study will be used as answers to research questions including:

### Classification of volleyball referee performance in the district of Sumedang

The classification of referee performance in volleyball matches is greatly influenced by the understanding of the rules and the impact of licensing on performance. A good understanding of the rules allows referees to make quick and appropriate decisions, as well as ensuring that the latest rules are socialized to athletes and officials

before the match. Although in general the understanding of the rules is quite good, there are still several aspects that need to be improved, such as ball possession, position exchange, and card issuing system.

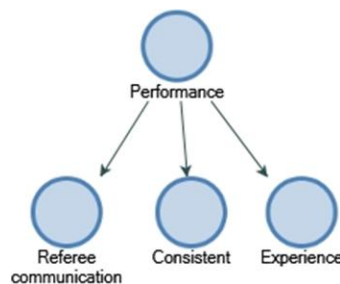
In addition, licensing plays an important role in the classification of referee performance as well as in the division of tasks during matches. Observations show that the assignment of referees is carried out based on the level of licence and experience, with a clear division of duties according to the level of the match being led. This confirms that the license is one of the indicators of the referee's professionalism in carrying out his duties on the field. With an increased understanding of regulations and better licensing standards, it is hoped that referee performance can be more optimal in creating fair and professional matches.



**Figure 1.**

Project Map classification of volleyball referee performance in the district of Sumedang  
 (Source: Researcher Processing, 2025)

### **Factors that affect the performance of volleyball referees in Sumedang in carrying out their duties during matches**



**Figure 2.**

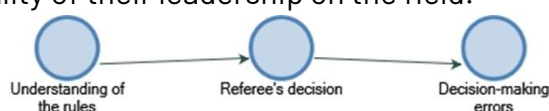
Project Map Factors that affect the performance of volleyball referees in Sumedang in carrying out their duties during matches  
 (Source: Researcher Processing, 2025)

Performance evaluation is conducted to assess the referee's ability to make decisions and carry out their duties according to applicable standards. Referee communication plays a role in conveying decisions clearly to players, coaches, and officials, thereby reducing the potential for conflict. Consistency in decision-making is essential so that every decision made remains fair and does not change in similar situations. In addition, understanding the rules is the main basis for referees to enforce the rules during the match, ensuring that every decision is based on applicable

provisions. These findings are supported by statements from referees, coaches, players, and the head of refereeing.

### The level of understanding of volleyball referees in Sumedang to the rules and regulations of the match

Based on the statements of the coaches and players, it can be concluded that the referee's performance in volleyball matches has been quite good, especially in maintaining the consistency of decisions. Although there are some shortcomings in the accuracy of decision-making, it can still be tolerated in the context of the match that is taking place. However, overall, the referee's decision is still respected by players and coaches as part of the rules of the game. This shows that the role of referees as match leaders is crucial, and the increased experience and understanding of the rules will further improve the quality of their leadership on the field.

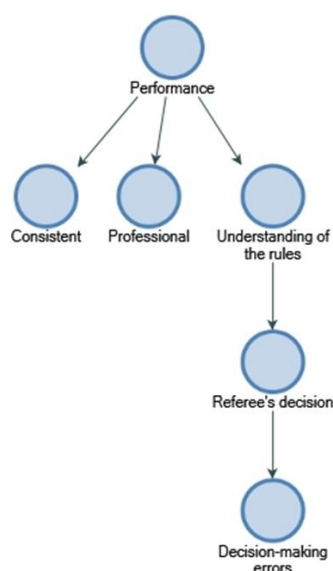


**Figure 3.**

Project Map The level of understanding of volleyball referees in Sumedang of the rules and regulations of the match

(Source: Researcher Processing, 2025)

### Challenges faced by volleyball referees in Sumedang in carrying out their duties during matches



**Figure 4.**

Project Map: Challenges faced by volleyball referees in Sumedang in carrying out their duties during matches

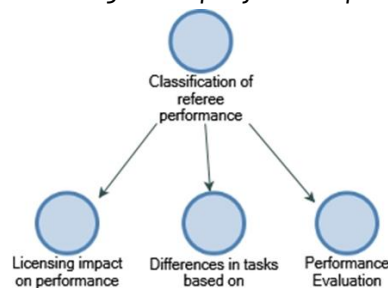
(Source: Researcher Processing, 2025)

This image shows that understanding the rules directly affects the decisions taken by the referee. If the understanding of the rules is not good, then the likelihood of

errors in decision-making will increase. These mistakes can have an impact on the course of the match, such as unfair decisions or harm one of the teams. Therefore, an improved understanding of the rules through training and experience is necessary so that referees can carry out their duties better, reduce errors, and maintain the integrity of the match.

### **Efforts can be made to improve the quality of performance of volleyball referees in Sumedang based on the results of the classification.**

The findings of this study found that the classification of referee performance is influenced by three main factors, namely the relationship between licensing and performance, performance evaluation, and differences in duties based on license. The relationship between licensing and performance shows that the level of license possessed by a referee affects the quality of his leadership in the game. Referees with higher licenses tend to have a better understanding of the rules as well as a broader experience in officiating matches at different levels. Findings related to efforts that can be made to improve the quality of referee performance based on the results of the classification can be explained through *the project map* below:



**Figure 5.**

Project Map: Efforts that can be made to improve the quality of performance of volleyball referees in Sumedang, based on the results of the classification  
 (Source: Researcher Processing, 2025)

## **Discussion**

Referees play a crucial role in ensuring fair and rule-compliant volleyball matches. In Sumedang Regency, the increasing number of matches demands a high standard of refereeing leadership. However, various challenges persist, such as differences in performance quality based on licensing, lack of experience, and inconsistencies in decision-making. Field observations indicate that licensing is not always the primary indicator of a referee's performance, as experience and frequency of officiating often have a greater impact (Suryani & Laksemini, 2020).

Apart from experience, effective communication between referees, players, and coaches is essential to maintaining the smooth flow of matches. Miscommunication often leads to misunderstandings regarding referee decisions, which can affect the game dynamics (Habsy, 2021). Additionally, mental and physical pressure due to a limited number of referees can lead to decreased concentration and potential errors (Andriani, Komaludin, & Hanapia, 2023).



Previous studies have emphasized the importance of training and certification in improving referee quality. However, there is still a research gap in comparing the influence of licensing and experience in local officiating (Yudiana, 2022). In Sumedang, the limited number of referees also poses a challenge in maintaining optimal match quality.

To address these issues, more intensive training, increased opportunities for young referees to gain experience, and a more effective performance evaluation system are necessary. Additionally, the dissemination of updated rules is crucial to ensure referees can perform their duties with greater confidence and professionalism (Yudiana, 2022).

This study aims to analyze the factors influencing volleyball referees' performance in Sumedang, focusing on licensing, experience, communication, and decision-making consistency. Using a qualitative approach, this research will explore the perspectives of referees, coaches, and players regarding the challenges and solutions for improving refereeing quality.

The findings of this study are expected to contribute to the development of sports science, particularly in volleyball officiating. Moreover, the results can serve as a foundation for referee organizations to design more effective training programs, ultimately enhancing referee professionalism and overall match quality.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings, the performance of volleyball referees in Sumedang Regency is significantly influenced by several key factors: licensing level, experience, communication skills, and consistency in decision-making. While a national license is often considered an indicator of competence, this study reveals that referees with regional licenses but higher experience tend to perform better in complex match situations. Additionally, effective communication between referees, players, and coaches plays a crucial role in ensuring smooth matches and reducing potential misunderstandings on the court. Consistency in decision-making remains a challenge, particularly in high-pressure matches, which are influenced by fatigue and psychological stress.

These findings have both theoretical and practical implications. Theoretically, this study enriches the literature on factors influencing referee performance in volleyball, particularly in the context of local officiating. The study supports the theory that experience has a greater impact than formal licensing in determining the quality of refereeing leadership. Practically, this research provides insights for officiating organizations and tournament organizers to consider experience and communication skills when assigning referees. It also emphasizes the need for more structured, practice-based training programs to enhance decision-making consistency.

For future research, a broader study using a quantitative approach is recommended to objectively measure the extent to which licensing and experience influence referee performance. Additionally, further research could explore the impact of psychological factors and technology on improving referee decision accuracy. Regular evaluations using video-based analysis or performance assessment systems could also



be recommended for officiating federations to enhance the competency standards of volleyball referees in the future.

## REFERENCES

- Arif, Y., & Novian, D. R. (2020). Pelatihan Perwasitan Bola Voli Indoor Tingkat Cabang Pengurus Pbvsi Kota Kupang. *Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat Membangun Negeri*. <https://doi.org/10.35326/pkm.v4i1.460>
- Hardika, N., Suhairi, M., Arifin, Z., Dewi, U., Sabransyah, M., Fuzita, M., Maksum, H., Rustanto, H., & Asmutiar, A. (2022). Sosialisasi Sistem Pertandingan Dan Pelatih Perwasitan Bola Voli Se-Kecamatan Teluk Pakedai. *Gervasi Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat*. <https://doi.org/10.31571/gervasi.v6i1.2463>
- Hiskya, H. J., Tambaip, B., Lahinda, J., Lewar, E., & Marlisa, D. (2022). Pendampingan Pelatihan Scoorsheet Dan Wasit Bola Voli Pada Mahasiswa Boven Digoel. *Kreatif Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat Nusantara*. <https://doi.org/10.55606/kreatif.v2i4.693>
- Muhamad Sazeli Rifki1, Arif Rahmat2, W. W. (2017). Somatotype Pemain Bolavoli Indoor Putra Pekan Olaraga. *Journal of Chemical Information and Modeling*, 110(9), 1689–1699.
- Natal, Y. R., Wani, B., Jun, H. J., Jehadun, F., Meo, A., & Walu, F. C. (2022). Pendampingan Perwasitan Bola Voli Pada Turnamen Tante Nela Paris (Tnp) Cup I Tahun 2022. *Jurnal Abdimas Ilmiah Citra Bakti*. <https://doi.org/10.38048/jailcb.v3i2.972>
- Nova, A., Hamzah, M., Sinulingga, A. R., & Firmansyah, G. (2021). The Level of Anxiety of Referees of Langsa (Football Association of Indonesia) When Enforcing the Laws of the Game During a Match. *Jp Jok (Jurnal Pendidikan Jasmani Olahraga Dan Kesehatan)*. <https://doi.org/10.33503/jp.jok.v4i2.1688>
- Priambodo, E. N., Nasuka, N., Wicaksono, A., Romadhoni, W. N., & Yudhistira, D. (2022). Pelatihan Digitalisasi Sistem Pertandingan Bola Voli Untuk Meningkatkan Kompetensi Wasit. *Medikora*. <https://doi.org/10.21831/medikora.v21i2.51984>
- Sahudi, U., Priyono, A., & Supriatna, N. S. (2021). Sosialisasi Instructions for Completing the Volleyball Scoresheet Untuk Meningkatkan Kompetensi Wasit Bola Voli Di Kabupaten Majalengka. *Bernas Jurnal Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat*. <https://doi.org/10.31949/jb.v2i3.1322>
- Sanusi, A., Sobarna, A., & M Rizal, R. (2022). Hubungan Klasifikasi Wasit Dan Pengalaman Menjadi Wasit Dengan Kinerja Wasit Bola Voli Di Jawa Barat. *Jurnal Master Penjas & Olahraga*, 3(1), 178–185. <https://doi.org/10.37742/jmpo.v3i1.51>
- Sujarwo, S., & Margono, M. (2023). Tingkat Pengetahuan Wasit Bolavoli Tentang Filosofi Dan Perannya Dalam Suatu Pertandingan. *Jurnal Porkes*. <https://doi.org/10.29408/porkes.v6i1.12276>
- Supriatna, N. S., Indrayogi, I., & Sahudi, U. (2022). Survei Tingkat Pemahaman Peraturan Permainan Bola Voli Pada Atlet Kelompok Usia 16 Tahun. *Journal Respects*. <https://doi.org/10.31949/respects.v4i2.2585>