

Newmarket volleyball club started their return to the National volleyball league with a trip to Kent. In their first match they faced a confident Warwick side that had early beaten the hosts Dartford . Newmarket made a steady start although their passing game was under par, but when good ball was passed to the new setter Ken Novak he set excellent wide ball to Dan Rice who scored regular points. The score board steadily ticked over in Newmarkets favor and a 19:14 lead was established . In sight of the first set finishing line the team let unforced errors into their game and allowed Warwick to take 11 of the next 14 rallies to nick the set 25:23.

The Local side looked flat, and the first set collapse effected confidence and Warwick took an early lead in the second set. Pete Gale and Nik Mezanov hit a couple of unstoppable thunderous hits each but were few and far between . Marius Opalanski was brought on halfway through the set but not even his defensive skills could stop Warwick from taking the set by an easy 7 points. Tactical changes were made for the third set moving Gale to middle hitter and bringing on player coach Pete Saunders. This weakened the teams fire power in attack but gave a better defense balance and Newmarket team held the advantage in the closing stages. However a service error whilst leading 21:20 gave Warwick an easy point and A Physiological boost and they quickly finished the set 25:22 and a 3:0 sets victory .

Newmarkets second match quickly followed, against Dartford and the hosts found form to take an 18:10 lead despite a serious ankle injury to their influential outside hitter. However Newmarket kept their composure and slowly clawed their way into the match eventually winning 25:22. The team changed to a two setter system and this appeared to be a winning formula and allowed new signing Simon Holroyd to hit regular middle attacks and offsetter Dovaston to kill quick reverse balls . The set was closed out confidently 25:19 and the player line up was kept the same for the third set. But as often seen in the Newmarket players, confidence became complacency and Dartford won easy points to get themselves back in the match with a 25:23 win.

Changes were made yet again for the fourth set and setter Ken Novak controlled the attack options with accuracy, and the whole team defense improved with good commitment stopping anything from Dartford hitting the ground, leading to a 25:20 set win and 3:1 match victory .

Newmarket 0 : Warwick 3 23:25, 18:25, 22:25

Newmarket 3 : Dartford 1 25:22, 25:19, 23:25, 25:20