

The first National League home game of the season saw a young Tooting Phoenix team come to town. Phoenix arrived pumped up and ready to avenge a loss to Newmarket just two weeks prior. They came out of the blocks quickly and Newmarket lacked intensity in the opening stages. The visitors took an early lead and looked comfortable against a near full strength Newmarket side. The home team used the first technical time out to gain some composure and overturned the five point deficit with some good passing, particularly by libero Krystof Wodecki . Having taken the lead, Newmarket looked more comfortable and pressed on to take the first set 25-17 with some solid outside hitting from Dan Rice.

Some changes were made for the second set with Ken Novak coming in at setter and Fabio Stabile at outside hitter. Tooting still had their minds on some missed opportunities in the first set and some effective play throughout the whole side allowed Newmarket to establish a lead and really stamp their authority on the match. Novak's setting was accurate and the Newmarket hitters could often hit against a single blocker. Paul Day had his best game to date in a dominant display of middle hitting. Tooting put together some good defensive plays, chasing down every ball, however they couldn't put together any consistent attacks to trouble Newmarket's defence and the home side took the set 25-14.

The third set quickly became a formality as the youthful Tooting side had their heads down and couldn't channel the frustration into competitive volleyball. Fabio Stabile showed some flashes of brilliance but the Italian outside hitter is still finding his game again after an extended absence due to injury. Newmarket's experience became more and more apparent, even without calling upon veteran setter Ben Child, as they put together a clinical series of attacks and coasted to a 25-14 third set win and a straight sets match victory.