

**Date** 19 May 2012  
**Subject** **Greg Bird wins nib Reaction Challenge**

Greg Bird from the NSW VB Blues came up trumps in the nib Reaction Challenge today where one player from the Geelong Cats and two from the NSW VB Blues were pitted against each other at Southern Cross Station in Melbourne.

The nib Reaction Challenge involved players testing the speed of their hand-eye co-ordination using a Batak Machine – a piece of equipment that is specifically designed to test reaction and reflexes. Many top sports people across the world regularly use Batak as part of their training regimes.

The players were required to react to 12 different flashing lights on the Batak Machine – getting a point each time they hit the correct target. The aim is to get as many points as possible in a minute.

“There was nothing easy about the nib Reaction Challenge. The Batak machine really tests your speed and anticipation,” Bird said.

“It’s great fun though and I’m stoked to win the contest. I’m not sure if we’ll ever know which code is actually the quickest or most agile, but hopefully I’ve done enough to seal the argument for today at least” he added.

While there could only be one champion, Bird, Jamie Buhner and Matthew Stokes all boasted impressive scores of 58, 54 and 46, respectively.

Members of the public also had the opportunity to try their hand at the Batak Machine with Graham from Port Melbourne outscoring everyone and taking home the inaugural nib Reaction Challenge trophy.

nib health funds Chief Marketing Officer, Mr Rhod McKensy, said nib is proud to be able to highlight the importance of health and wellness through our partnerships with the Geelong Cats and NSW VB Blues.

“Congratulations to Greg and Graham – both showcased some serious reaction speed! Today was a real celebration of what nib is all about – keeping fit and maintaining a healthy lifestyle,” Mr McKensy said.

The NSW Blues will take on Queensland in game one of the 2012 State of Origin series at Melbourne’s Etihad Stadium next Wednesday 23 May.

**- END -**



Greg Bird (left) and Mathew Stokes swap team jerseys.



NSW Blues rookie Jamie Buhner takes the nib Reaction Challenge.