

Selection Too Hot To Handle

Everyone of us in bowls worldwide has experienced, or witnessed, deplorable decisions by selectors, at all competition levels.

To players I coach I say ignore selectors - embarrass the bastards if they overlook your current record of success. Not all selectors are B's, thank god. In fact the B's are in the minority but exert undue influence.

Selection is meant to be tough.

Selection is easier if it is measurable and objective with stated criteria.

Selection of teams (fours) means an understanding or description of the role, objective, suitability of each player of each position.

Selection is meant to ensure integrity.

Selection should also account for the dignity and feelings of those not chosen.

Selection impacts on morale.

Selection is the tool to meet the bowls season, or event, stated target objective.

If selectors don't take account of the above, get out, you do us a disservice.

And if they won't leave, you management people have a role to perform, get rid of them. Your credibility is in the spotlight, not the selectors, as you steer the bowls organization.

And at all levels recruiting too is meant to be tough, because when selection / recruitment is measured, objective and tough, it eliminates the need for those perceived tough decisions as good selection is a requirement from coaches for good coaching.

At both state and national levels, I have first hand experience of the outcome of the selectors lacklustre decisions and inherited players not nearly suitable at the particular level of elite performance.

So be it, life goes on.

Lachlan Tighe, 2020