

**Elbows**  
**Website column**

## Observations of bowlers behaviours, globally

**(Random anecdotes, observations and lessons gleaned from numerous experiences in bowls worldwide, most of which apply equally for us anywhere.)**

Heeding the lessons from any bowls event:

- Wins still hide sins. Learn the lessons whether you win (and your debrief meeting should go longer expanding on what it is we do well) or lose if wanting to have ultimate success.
- Winning is easy to handle. Losing requires a sense of persistence out in the battle.
- 76.8% of all bowls are draw shots.
- Losing Skip resorted to 43.5% weighted shots. Winning Skip had 7% weighted shots.
- BOG: Skip best on grounds for managing the emotions of his guys when 1-11 down early, though his own game was not its usual brilliant self, final 24/22, says it all.
- Skipping again is a value judgement, when we evaluate that player. The spirit of a rink team is apparently affected by three factors:
  - either the demeanour of the Skip,
  - tactics chosen by the Skip or
  - the playing performance of the Skip.

When it is all three factors, or even two, then the Skip stands real tall in my view.

- Knowledge- won when 12 of 13 jacks thrown were the full maximum length distance;
- Knowledge- won when 12/17 ends, the front end team had 2 bowls within ML after 4 bowls;
- Knowledge- won when 14/17 ends had 2 bowls within ML after 6 bowls;
- Knowledge- never lost a pennant game when front end team had 2/4 effective ML deliveries 18/25 ends;
- Reviews: the change occurred in the game when we changed the length to bring our worst bowler back into the game. He was vindicated when he bowled 10 consecutive effective deliveries, thus helping our team minimise the loss as his contribution kept us from being thrashed;
- Use the stats to discuss and honestly appraise for future bowls improvement;
- Jack delivery precision, a strong indicator of concentration;
- Live to fight another day, new goals new challenges.....'enjoy'

Lachlan Tighe, 2015