

Effective Coaching: View From Kelvin Giles

Kelvin Giles was the Athletics Australia head coach for two Olympic games and director of performance at Brisbane Broncos NRL side for six years. A credible voice.

In light of recent columns on the need for coach development PD, I found his Facebook comments pertinent.

Efficient is doing things right (suits the administration requirements), effectiveness he says is doing the right things (in coaching).

National bowls associations would seem to be efficient: they provide our accreditation courses and certification. Then, these associations leave coaches out on a limb with no further support as nothing else is offered ongoing.

Giles felt our national sporting associations, so bowls is not alone, all need to find out what coaches need for them to be effective:

What knowledge do they need?

What training and mentoring do they need?

What tools as coaches do they need to keep athletes (bowlers) engaged?

What encouragement do they need to keep contributing as coaches?

I completed a survey for bowls coaches from BA's NCAG who oversee coaching earlier this year: I don't recall any of Giles' questions being posed to we coaches.

Help! In my case, here in Australia, BA.

Render service to us as coaches beyond the formal accreditation system, for us to foster player development, foster our own aspirations as coaches of the future.

Lachlan Tighe, 2020