

Team Strength: Game Planned Around It

AFL Geelong Club Coach Chris Scott, interviewed after a resounding win by his team talked generally about game plans.

He said Geelong did not have a set game plan wherein players had to subscribe.

The game plan evolved as a result of the collective skills set of the players in the team. They approach the strengths and weaknesses of the player group and develop their team game plan around them, the selected players.

How does this apply to fours team in bowls.

Here in Australia, we have club pennant competition in every state; maybe you readers overseas have something similar.

Clubs, associations, state bodies, national bodies all put fours teams out on the green to compete as their representatives.

Selectors and coaches, to my mind, seem to have little / minimal / no contribution toward a game plan, especially one that fits in with Chris Scott's recognition of player attributes.

A team of four is selected.

A skip takes control.

Or do they!!!

Question to be asked.

Especially as the team moves up the skill ladder to be in the elite level competitions.

A skip can have a game plan based on length.

Who is being considered?

When the lead loves minimum length, the skip loves maximum length.

Or if we want bowls in the head.

When do we have one (delivery) behind the head?

The skip wants to be able to convert.

Hence he makes no calls to teammates to create an obstacle for him to play a particular hand, to deprive the opposition gaining access.

One, worse two, players are floundering.

Team strength

What are we doing skip to adjust the game plan?
Did you in fact work and agree with the team members to anticipate such a situation and have an agreed alternative plan in place.

Selectors and skips have to recognize the strengths and weaknesses of every member of the team knowing domestic pennant teams comprise from 12-16 players and to plan accordingly.

Coach, you take over from here and conduct training to assess the player skills and then the team can train a game plan accordingly best suited to the team.

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