

Have Purpose In Your Bowls

Why do you bowl?

Why coach, do you coach?

On the 24 June 2019 I emailed 20 bowls people around the world inviting them to join me in a bowls squad I then called pBus.

Why?

Because I had done the same with the creation of Elbows in 1998, I knew I could help bowlers, coaches and teams go further in their quest to be better.

That was my prime purpose.

My secondary purpose is maybe to have a vehicle (pBus) that constantly stretches me in my capacity as a coach. I cannot afford to slacken now as my credibility is on the line in the eyes of the invitees.

With the type of people I was inviting I felt that I might be around one of these who might be regarded future greats. Greatness unfound maybe, underdeveloped perhaps.

I, or we, never, never know who may become great and it could be someone in pBus, so I want to treat all of these members as if it is one of them.

How cool would that be!!!

So when I invited these kindred spirits I had a view on how we would operate as pBus.

Pbus?

Where did I get that funny name to call a squad?

For me to explain to the invitees this is how the acronym ***pBUS*** can be defined:

pb of course refers to personal best;

BUS my concept of the right people, right positions and wanting to be on the BUS, knowing who is already active on the BUS;

U universal as we will be from three countries and three states within Australia

S squad

Why did I invite specific people onto the pBUS?

I chose to invite each of them because I reckon they epitomized the attitude of doing your best whilst leading a balanced life - home, business, family, friends, other interests, bowls.

I also feel they are persons willing to share, to enjoy the success of others in ***pBUS***.

All are decent human beings, or I hope they are.

Who are their fellow Bus member invitees

I extended invites to 20 people in NZ, Australia and Canada.
There are 5 coaches and 15 players.
People invited come from Canada = 2, NZ = 5, Qld. = 2, WA = 1,
Vic. = 10.

The accumulated record is thus:
National coach, provincial / state coach, national champion, state
champion, national representative, state representative, regional / provincial
champion, premier league player.

A few are recent players to bowls with real potential and work ethic.
What I offered was they could invest in one another to further their own
ambition, skills either as player or coach.

Elbows members living in Victoria will be invited to train with **pBUS**
members whenever practicable to enhance the experience and attitude
toward being (far) better.

Their obligation in accepting pBUS invite:

I wanted to ensure the invitees got it in their heads this is a collective
yet personal thing with implied obligations such as these:

- To be credible by dint of your commitment to raise the pb.
- To retain that attitude I see in you to join us kindred spirits in the
Stable we call **pBUS**.
- To extend the pathway of the pioneers we refer to as **Elbows**.
- To maintain the standards of commitment and extend those standard
levels
- To challenge yourself, ourselves starting with the completion of the
forms mentioned
- To adhere to the squad motto of 'no limits' in their quest for pb
- Expect your input over the year whenever I or anyone in **pBUS** share
information or seek responses to questions they ask.

And if they are tardy in meeting, or not even meeting, the obligations?
Bye, bye, they are out.

And what will I do?

As coach and squad director it was important these people felt I had a
direction that was going to be attractive to each one of them. With half being
from overseas / interstate I saw myself as the conduit sharing **pBUS** stuff to
enhance our knowledge, our skills. To continue advising as requested, to
ensure they are in the loop on everything done here at home. To regularly
reinforce the 'no limits' mantra in all we do in pursuing our respective goals.
The 10 Victorian members received a proposed training calendar for the 12

*Website menu: coaches corner
Have purpose in your bowls*

months to next years AO, 2020. I shall schedule 3 training sessions per week from July whereupon the Victorians may find time to attend one per week to take advantage of supervised squad training.

And what do they need to do now!

The invitees had to respond to the invite within a fortnight and as of today all have done so.

These are the seven (7) information forms I expected them to complete by mid August:

Goals statement	Self appraisal form	game plan	singles
Debrief recent event	event stats. collected	skills audit	
Player profile			

Conclusion

I formed a squad because as a coach I have purpose in why I am planning and conducting my coaching. I have commitment to service these squad members to my utmost as I have devised a motto 'no limits', which I need to behold to as coach as I expect the squad members to do likewise. I am excited by this concept, excited by these squad members, excited by what I can do further with my coaching.

I hope that out there somewhere in our wide bowls world someone else is doing a similar venture to take their group of bowlers further too. Enjoy the journey in bowls everyone.

Lachlan Tighe, 2019