

Promises Are Not Actions

In a separate article for this website, I wrote 'I am going to learn as much from your questions as you are from my responses'.

I go to the next and important step.

I am going to learn as much from your actions as I am from your words, your responses.

In coaching, I place total credibility on the actions from bowlers and coaches than their words, responses, promises.

Promise and delivery. Don't promise if you cannot or do not deliver. God I hate experiencing that (no delivery on a promise) from bowlers.

Walk the talk is an oft used expression that says it all.

Action requires effort. Words are the lights along the road to your outcome. Words guide you, but actions drive you forward on your journey.

Too often in bowls I have met / heard of fellow bowlers who are going to (gunna) do various things to advance their cause, their bowls, etc. Never saw anything beyond that utterance of future promise.

Why place your credibility on the line?

If I promise to do something (in bowls) well I do what I promised on time and with utmost diligence and do so more because I made a promise to someone else. That person has an expectation I shall do what was heard by them. And I value my credibility.

I had a recent example in bowls where I made a promise to an organization and an initiative came up from another party who could do the service even better than I and I handed the 'promise' over to them to deliver to that organization and it did not eventuate despite assurances.

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My credibility might be on the line here.

One of our squad members said I was a polarizing figure. I agree though it is unintentional. I don't flinch from that description because despite my advancing years it means a lot to me to be credible in my standing as a coach and in my perceived integrity as a reliable human being. I care that I am seen as utterly reliable. I don't care what others think of me in other aspects of who I am as a person or as a coach.

To you bowlers reading this, my own squad included, why not ensure your actions speak volumes about you as a character and as a bowler.

Lachlan Tighe, 2021.