

The Power Is In The Message

Nowadays we have all forms of media to get the message out and to get the message across if that is what we want to do.

Just recently I was in on a webinar using Zoom - webinars and zoom were unheard of till recently and where we are now with various media being fortunate to be able to view / listen and learn from others anytime, anywhere.

For instance, I once used some computer / video analysis technology which was especially illuminating as the player was one I coach and I had not previously noticed where she placed her left hand, fixed high on her thigh when delivering, and how that particular hand positioning can alter the alignment of her shoulders when in the delivery phase. The other facet of the video was to see her 20 times and acknowledge that the length of her forward step is just slightly short given her height and how that affects delivery and ideal weight transfer and the final position of her right knee, as she is a right hand bowler. What we then did was place that video on a computer and copy a CD of her filmed action for her to take home and play for her own viewing to reinforce what we have seen together.

Even when the ABC Bowls show was at its prime in popularity, Ian Schuback in commentary who has world titles to his name, was a font of knowledge yet too few bowlers listen to what he was saying re the tactics / decision making as they are too busy simply watching the televised game as entertainment. Watching and listening to take what you see / hear out into your next series of training is the value of the bowls viewed.

And even radio and podcasts are useful sources for knowledge is power. Benjamin Zander, a Boston Symphony Orchestra conductor apparently is renowned as a world famous conductor and a speaker on the international speaking circuit.

Buoyed by his exuberant oral presentation on radio, I was fascinated by his comment on failure, which in his view has to be seen as a thrilling experience as it gives your success a better side of the story; that failure is the spectrum for greater learning.

*Website menu- coaches corner
column- the power is in the message*

Zander also spoke about leadership being exemplified by inspiration not pressure.

How often in our sport and sport generally we see pressure exerted on the field where leadership could have capably contended with the supposed pressure. Skips, selectors, coaches etc. are all in senior positions and may unintentionally exert pressure on players. We can train for pressure, pity is though not to be able to find it abounding within coaching and clubs in competitive bowls.

Zander also talked about power and said it (power) is even more successful and more pronounced and recognized if it is shared and not conducted via autocracy – I loved it when he said it should be spread like manure.

Teams win most events when the members are all given equal responsibility and thus share the power.

Coaching bowlers needs to go down that track.

Lachlan Tighe, 2020.