

## **Head Coach Performance**

### **QUESTION:**

How well did the club head coach perform?

### **ANSWER:**

I found many reactions to the question and much of it shows a lack of communication from committees about stated performance criteria versus the expectations from many within the club. Here is a list of some of those reactions:

Too many players at clubs are somewhat critical of the head coach. This would be due to player expectations of what they perceive the coach doing. Some members perceive the coach being solely there to coach the club top side, others in the club actually expect personalized coaching.

None of the coaches in attendance ever had a committee prescribe their role (in fact sounded as if the coach spelt it out as they experienced the role) and certainly nothing ever went public within the club to say this is what our head coach will do as their responsibility to the club members.

The reaction from the room on their experience as a player with regard to their head coach was generally quite favourable.

It was felt that coaches and selectors need to build a relationship together. Comments flowed on the dual role of coach and selector in striving to get players to commit to training. Most club players feel they are training by being in social matches on other days hence no need to attend, say, Thursday training. One idea was to organize pennant practice on Thursday training. Or, make it more specific to the pennant game. One view was that training requirement need only really apply to the top side and maybe the second side if you are at a large club with numerous pennant sides. Perhaps the role of the coach is to guide players to train with a better approach, which is transferred at pennant.

One coach shared his pre-season practice approach that had players compete in positions different from their previous season to see how they performed in new roles.

*Website article*  
*Head coaches performance*

One coach felt it important to keep a record of what they did with individual players so as to be able to offer continuity of service when the player returned for more assistance.

The coaches in the room valued the support from their own top side players who could and would assist in training.

**Lachlan Tighe, 2018**