

Skips Ability To Read Heads

Question

Hi:

Thanks for getting back to me on this matter.

I have noticed that whilst competing in Pennant competition with my club many of our skips and thirds, especially in our lower divisions seem to struggle reading a head, both defending and attacking (for want of a better word) the head.

I have requested that a couple of our club coaches consider addressing this issue and possibly conduct a few clinics on this subject. I was wondering if you could recommend videos that would help out in this area.

I look forward to your response and assistance.

Tom

Response

Hi Tom:

Your email from May 2018 was only brought to my attention this afternoon having gone off to an unused old email address.

What a pertinent query to have for the coaches as I provided a workshop for a premier league club recently, and on Sunday I spent part of our all day 'coach the coaches' program on the topic of reading heads and importantly, game plans.

Last Monday I had two national players from Thailand join me for coaching, specifically about tactics, so I used two local premier level players to talk through their successful pairs game plan taking them to the Victorian state titles in April 2019.

I was bemused by the absence of a game plan by the national visitors, hence your issue at club level is obvious if national players who come up through the ranks of clubs still have no experience in game plans for any competition format, though especially pennant competition.

My input with the premier league club in Brisbane included a priority of the introduction and application of a game plan for their fours pennant.

All of which (the game plan) is the precursor to reading a head.

The skip reads a head with the game plan strategy in mind when opting for calls of the earlier six deliveries from the teammates.

Website menu- ...Q & A
TOPIC skips able to read heads

And the other variable is knowledge of how many options there are for the backhand and forehand delivery, choices available to a skip every delivery. My website (www.lachlantighebowls.com) has numerous sessions on game plans in the menus on the site.

Again, sorry for the delay in responding. Thanks.

Lachlan Tighe, 2018