

Observations of bowlers behaviours, globally

(Random anecdotes, observations and lessons from numerous experiences in bowls worldwide which apply equally for us anywhere in the bowls world.)

TACTICAL SKILL

- Game plans win in majority of contests.
- Revising the game score to account for multi-shot losses highlights the decision making factor in the game. Where the revised score is significant, then the strategy is in question.
- Teams win 16/25 ends and loses 21 -24 because the SKIP dropped 4 ends with 17 shots; which ignores the base game plan; review seriously and question him/team about the circumstances and whether the Skip ought to be replaced.
- Rink loses, skip heads straight to selectors to complain about 'his' lead: I would seriously consider removing the skip as he displays his inability to 'general' his troops and employ his game plan (Hello is it in existence!).
- Are our elite players playing to their optimum (asks then national coach of me once) and the answer is NO, while they are not even developing tactical and mental skills.
- Drawing second shot when four down is great for the team (and the scorecard).
- Normally it is best to attack with the Second and/or the Third, leaving the Skip to draw to "save" or draw to "add."
- Defending options are a major part of the play by the Second and Third.
- In playing to score - play to the jack.
- In playing to save - play to the counting bowls.
- Remember, there is always consideration for both backhand AND forehand for every delivery.
- Tactics – experiment at training; apply training in lesser level games as often as possible; set out to apply in games not to 'win' games with old approaches.

Lachlan Tighe.2015