

‘Team, winning and position’

One of the issues I have with competitive bowls, and bowlers, is the unwillingness of bowlers to accept their playing position in a fours pennant team, and especially to not know their role in a set position.

And I lay the blame a lot on selectors.

We have recently viewed the Commonwealth Games teams from all countries. And my recent club experience reinforces this again. Selectors seem to choose players who are skilled technicians, poor team members.

On the other side of the ledger we have team members racing off to selectors whingeing about the skip, or even the skip complaining about their front-end members, always the front end note.

Well if we bowlers were to be regarded as serious as sports people, let me refer you to two players with the ultimate team attitude - Goetze & Schuerrle.

Goetze & Schuerrle, who are they?

They are not bowlers. They are in the German 2014 football (Soccer) world cup champion winning team.

Both players were emergencies, or for Australians the interchange bench, who came onto the field and played the final 30 minutes and were both involved in that final brilliant passage of play to score the winning goal.

And who did they replace – Klose, the all time world cup goal scorer, and Kroos, the man of the match in the semi final where Germany trounced Brazil. These two icons departed the field and gave wholehearted hugs of support to their replacements in the hope the emergencies could help the team carry the day. Germany did that.

Germany wins. All players rejoice. No player seems or seemed concerned about their position. All play for the team, the shirt, one another.

Get your head around that concept, fellow bowlers.
People who understand sport, and team, do it.

Lachlan Tighe, 2015.