

Managing The People On The Bus

To start my 2017 year off in sport and coaching, I took an opportunity to browse through numerous sports book I have in my library to detect and refresh myself of any valuable messages from the books to refer over to bowls, bowls coaching and elite level bowls.

The generic themes I reacted to were these:

- Attitude
- Choose the players of character
- Culture and teams
- Coaching
- Leadership
- Measuring performance, observing and statistics
- Mental skill
- Selection and teams
- Skip skills
- Teamwork
- Team roles and positions
- Winning is a mindset (as is losing)
- Xcellence.

Here then are some précised statements, and my take too, on the specific theme below. Each theme will be on a separate article / column.

The BUS, First who

ON THE BUS

Choose as first action to get the right people on the bus, the wrong people off the bus, the right people in the right seats and THEN they figure out where they can go; the right people are THE asset.

There are going to be times when we can't wait for somebody.

Now you are either on the bus (in time) or you're not.

All players will want to be on the bus because they see who is already on it.

**Website menu- facts, knowledge, measurables
Books on sport, BUS people**

Self motivation is in every seat.

Letting the wrong people hang around on the bus is unfair to all the right people as there is compensation to accommodate their inadequacies.

Worse, it may drive great people away from our bus.

Strong performers expect to expend energy but not to carry extra weight.

Passive people are passengers.

These great people on the bus love their role because they love being around/ surrounded by kindred spirits.

However, instead of firing honest able people who are not performing well, it is worthwhile to move them around in different suitable positions on the team bus. (5)

I have fond memories of the first time I did a parody / role play of this BUS program with the Victorian Group side in 2008 in front of an audience of over one hundred hopefuls (bowlers trying to get selected into the final squad of 16) and the reactions from many of the bowlers, selectors and executive. Since then I used a variation coaching two different national squads vying for Commonwealth Games success.

An addition I had to all of the above was to seat 'passengers' near the exit door so we could unload them easily.

What we should end up with is a team full of people with character because we who chose them had similar attributes in different roles and skill sets.

Sources

- 1 Bryant _ Bryant on Bowls.
- 2 Belliss _ Play better bowls
- 3 Benincasa _ How winning works
- 4 Charlesworth _ Shakespeare the coach; The Coach;
- 5 Collins _ Good to great
- 6 Dwyer _ Full Time
- 7 Matthews _ Accept the challenge
- 8 O'Neill _ Sport leaders and success
- 9 Orlick _ In pursuit of excellence
- 10 Parkin _ Perform or else
- 11 Pyke _ Toward better coaching
- 12 Syer _ Sporting body, sporting mind; Team spirit
- 13 Woodward _ Winning

Lachlan Tighe, 2017