

Fluid game plans

Chris Scott speaking as head coach of AFL football team Geelong said of his game plan, “We assess our player strength and our player deficiencies, then we prepare, train, play according to those factors.”

The sport of lawn bowls seems to be one that has not moved forward in the strategic playing of the sport.

So much for wanting to be an Olympic sport at Gold Coast in 2032.

Our best bowlers are really superb technicians, very good individually, very good at singles.

Not so when they get into (fours) team formats.

At club level in Australia we have a premier league (of elite) bowlers in every state.

As I keep my ear close to the ground I continue to get the impression the teams lack game plans and game plan preparation and training.

All I ever hear and get told is get it close.

Wowee! So profound. But with 16 bowls in the mix, the other mob can get their eight bowls close too.

What to do to offset that!!!

Every fours team is invariably selected by someone else.

Are the selectors accounting for Chris Scott’s insights. If we have two players who love maximum length contests and two who love minimum length contests in their decision about a team and its game plan?

And did we train to work through which of the two lengths, or which two players, will give us the favoured prospect of winning over the required number of ends.

State titles loom soon in Victoria and how many of the combatants get together to prepare to gauge the strengths and weaknesses of all team members and assess the length best suited to winning and how each of the four will contribute.

I guess we ask the victors afterwards and discover their formula.

Website column www.lachlantighebowls.com

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Then again if no one else has done the Chris Scott approach yet wins, I am still unconvinced.

Please troops, move forward in your approach to elite level preparation.

We all gain subsequently.

Lachlan Tighe, 2021