

Team Dysfunction

QUESTION:

As a coach I also skip in our club top side. I have a number of players who refuse to play in the rink team with me and refuse to explain why. What advice fellow coaches can you give me?

ANSWERS:

What a challenging position to find yourself in. And the audience was honest in providing these responses:

- This is not a bowls issue – this is a human interaction, communication;
- Work place, and a need for mediation;
- Have a mate watch them in pennant and seek the mate's feedback;
- May be a team crisis meeting to resolve;
- For the future sort this out pre-season;
- Good skip would have sorted this before it became quite a personal issue;
- Shows the need for positive behaviour at all times;
- Can we suggest the person look in the mirror first;
- Question on the character of the selectors in allowing players to override their choice;
- Bring the issue out in the open for honest input;
- Is this player intimidating by nature;
- Are the other players simply jealous he has the role;
- Seems it may be the player lacks good communication skill reflected in body language;
- Player may be too stubborn to accept team mates angst;
- Raises a question of the level of trust now and also for the future;
- Has the coach some input in this issue;
- Selectors should demote the players refusing to join in a selected team;
- How can we get all this team to appreciate one another more;
- Try doing a role play with all concerned or even video a pennant game to sight the behaviours of the team.

Lachlan Tighe, 2018