

Panel Topic: Coaching Skips

YouTube video series, 2018

We produced eight (8) video clips featuring a panel of 9 credentialed players /coaches. To my surprise, numerous people have since told me they could hardly hear the audio of the clips. Why I am surprised is because I simply put on my earphones and the sound was normal. These panel discussions were informative, yet compared to the practical clips, were poorly viewed. Therefore I summarize the panels Q & A in written form as follows:

Q: I never cease to be amazed by poor decision making and pathetic communication from skips in team games especially pennant competition. Can you explain how you coach these skills - skipping, tactical, communication?

A: Answers offered from the panel:

- Have skips call a mat length through rather than draw, especially on slow greens.
- Need a capacity to learn as a part of the training.
- Select on basis of necessary attributes required of skips.
- Coach them off the green about people management in readiness for team training.
- Have them realize as skip it is not about them, it is about them as team leader.
- Train to decide quickly, read the game earlier.
- Influence the skip to lead the team with respect, trust, inclusion.
- Have skip understand the issues with their bowlers and as leader train accordingly.
- As coach, intrude in behavior that is outdated or poor even at training so as to challenge a better approach in competition.
- Get skip to understand your team makes you, support them.
- Reminder skip, your team does not choose to bowl poorly, support them.
- Have skips train with intensity.
- Have skip and team train together for future cohesion.
- Note that everyone is relaxed at training, ensure that mood / language is taken into competition.

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TOPIC from YouTube videos**

- Implementing a change process, in this case skip behavior, requires overall support from club management, selection, players.

Lachlan Tighe, 2019