

COACHES FORUM

FOR THE EXCHANGE OF COACHING NEWS AND VIEWS

(FROM BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA COACHES STANDING COMMITTEE)

No. 22

JUNE 2009

WHY COACHES ARE CRUCIAL

We start this Forum with a quote from an article written by Professor Tim Noakes in a recent issue of Sports Illustrated as we feel it has relevance to one of our underlying problems “Recognition of Coaching”.

The full title of the article is “Why Coaches are the crucial ingredient in success” and starts :

“A recent study of American football confirms what most probably know – that the coach contributes more to a teams success than do the players. Indeed the strength of U. S. sport lies in the presence of two tiers of coaches operating beyond the school system – those working in the Universities, and those in professional sports. These coaches produce the international-class athletes that compete in the big US sports like gridiron, baseball and basketball, and the Olympic sports like athletics and swimming.

This too is the reason why South African Olympic sports make such a small global impression – we simply lack an equivalent depth of coaching expertise. The only South African sports that are internationally competitive are those that provide our best young players with world-class coaching expertise in a management structure that focuses exclusively on the attainment of sporting perfection. Anything less is no longer good enough’.

The article goes on to explain and elaborate on these opening remarks.

Were the medals we won at the recent Atlantic Championships and previous Commonwealth Games anything to do with coaching ?

We appeal to all bowlers to use the coaches we have to improve the standard of bowls throughout South Africa and to regain our number one spot in the world ranking.

REFRESHER COURSES

A recent Circular highlighted the need for all those coaches who qualified more than four years ago, and have not done an upgrade course in that time, to undertake a recognised Refresher Course. All Districts have now been given the current Refresher Course and the District Standing Committees empowered to run the course as required. Those coaches who do not refresh by the end of this year will be removed from our annual report to SASCOC.

Coaching is never static and there are modifications and small changes occurring all the time so we appeal to all coaches to make sure they are up to date.

Part of this procedure is ensuring that all coaches have Logbooks and that these are kept up to date. These are essential for submitting your annual return for our own Database. Despite numerous appeals the information being reported is either incomplete or not in the correct format.

Old Wave Coaches who qualified prior to 1996 will need to undertake the full Club Coach course to gain recognition, but the current Refresher Course for the current coaches takes only one day of your time – so come on coaches, let’s do it !

AREA COACHES

Another recent Circular called for nominations from all Districts for the position of Area Coach.

The main part of this job is to ensure that the current National Talent Identification and Assessment Program that was recently completed in all Districts is continued and new talent identified for our squads.

The training of those coaches nominated will take place in Johannesburg on July 17th and 18th and successful candidates will be working with their respective district standing committees under the watchful eye of their liaison coach from the National Standing Committee.

In the initial exercises a lot of new talent has been identified and we need to carry on the momentum.

DVD WALK THE LINE

The initial batch of this DVD was “sold out” very quickly and has resulted in more being ordered. These are available through your District Office who should obtain from Bowls South Africa. It is a useful “aide memoire” for all bowlers and hopefully will become an established part of the Club Coach Course.

SOME QUOTES TO CLOSE

(by Terry Orlick Ph D)

“You don’t lose your performance skills because of distractions, you let yourself lose the focus that allows you to execute your skills effectively”.

“Recognise that it is OK not to be perfect, because no one is perfect. Focus on putting yourself up instead of putting yourself down”.

“At the high performance level, almost all coaches are competent with respect to technical and tactical skills. What separates great coaches from the rest are people skills. Outstanding coaches are masters at communicating and building respectful, trusting relationships”.

And finally :

“A mediocre coach *tells*,
A good coach *explains*
A superior coach *demonstrates*
But the great coach *inspires*”.

TALEPIECE

A story which is reputed to be true concerns another sport and was told by Chris Waddle and concerned his friend “Gazza”.

Apparently, on a pre season tour of New Zealand, when the two were colleagues at Newcastle United, Gazza came down late for breakfast at the teams hotel. “What can I get you ?” asked the waitress. “I’ll have the full English breakfast” replied Gazza. “I’m sorry,” said the waitress, “but I’m afraid we’ve run out of bacon.” “What ?” exclaimed Gazza, 40 million sheep and no bacon ?!”

REMEMBER

**LETS WEAR OUR BADGE AND
PLAY THE GAME WITH PRIDE.**