



# DAVISTOWN RSL BOWLING CLUB NEWSLETTER

## It's 2019 Pennants Time

### Season Opener



What a great way to start our 2019 Pennant Season. 54 Bowlers and 3 of our 4 Side Managers met to get our minds around the importance of Pennants Play.

Presenters on the day were Dick Love, Manager of the 2s, Jean Paviour-Smith, Manager of the 3s, and Noel Murphy, Manager of the 6 (1)s.

We are fortunate to have bowlers of their calibre as Side Managers. They number many bowling successes among their achievements – Australian, State and Zone Championships, and Club Titles at all events. Their views on Competitive Bowling are borne of experience and are available to help us as we tackle 2019.

The key theme was the difference between Social and Competitive bowls.

**Social bowls** is getting together with a few mates and having a good time, which may or may not include a few drinks.

**Competitive bowls** is playing in selected sides with the aim of playing well, playing for the Club and winning.



Our Selectors are the key to this success. The Club members elect the Chairman of Selectors (Lawrie Barrett).

He then invites others to help him pick the sides, and together they pick the Side Managers.

All players should note that Managing is a lot more than filling in the forms. The Conditions of Play give the Side Manager the same powers as a Coach, so a Side Manager can interact with the team and offer coaching advice.

Pennant Players, especially Skips, should regard the Side Manager as “**another set of Bowling Eyes**” – someone who can help when needed or when they see things that need attention.

### Key observations of our Side Managers

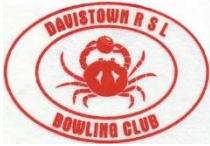


**Dick Love** discussed the basic characteristics of each position:

**Lead** should concentrate on consistency and delivering bowls within a mat length of the jack. Control of the jack equals control of the game.

**Second** should aim to develop the head in his rink's favour either through additional draws to the head or positional bowls as required by the Skip. Should also be able to play an accurate on-shot when required.

**Third** is Director of the Head, must communicate well with the Skip and encourage other players and have the confidence to suggest alternative shots either for himself or the Skip. Should be a confident measurer.



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**Skip** will be able to play all shots and maintain an even temperament. Able to spot potential danger and seize opportunities for multiple shots.

**The team** should all be involved all the time, own the rink, be gracious in victory or defeat and finally evaluate the game what went well, what didn't and where to from here.



**Jean Paviour-Smith** discussed the focus that top competitors bring to their game when the pressure is on.

Roger Federer sees things very clearly under pressure – do you?

She asked **teams** to think about what to do when the game plan is not working – to consider ideas such as Change the length; Change the hand; Visit the head; Have a team meeting; Talk to coach; Change the noise level; Take a break; Change the tempo – slow down or speed up.

When things are going very well – imagine the score the other way round and switch the concentration on – refocus

Asked **individuals** to focus on the task of executing a perfect delivery



**Noel Murphy** made the point that Competitive Bowlers are moderate in their drinking and gave the good example – that only a former copper could – 1

drink = 0.2%, 2 drinks = 0.4% and 3 drinks is over the legal limit for driving and also over the limit for competitive bowling.

### Opportunities for team building

We have further trials coming up – 9 February against the State RSL Side, 16 Feb against Avoca and a final home trial on 23 Feb – all good opportunities to build the team skills necessary to win at Pennants.

Remember – all good teams have a game plan. The Lachlan Tighe Game plan was given out on the day, but it is just one example. Lachlan Tighe has a very impressive record with Club teams in Victoria and with the Malaysian National side. If you have ever watched them on TV you will notice that each player is responsible for recording their own shot success – part of their ongoing team development.

Whatever you do – have a game plan – it provides direction.

