

# Bowls Club Coaches

Every bowls club committee has a duty to ensure that **ALL MEMBERS** have access to proper coaching. This responsibility is a continuing one for all club members who wish to improve the standard and develop the full potential of their players.

Surely this rank as a club priority, one where every care should be taken to ensure the selection of the right coaches for the clubs. If this important, essential activity is not functioning smoothly then the performance of members must suffer.

Regrettably in many clubs the coach is not always accepted as one of the more important club officers. Club executives should either be empowered to appoint or recommend to the Annual General Meetings those considered most qualified to handle this important responsibility. The standard of club play is in the coach's hands and they should be the members most qualified for coaching. However it is most important the appointee is one who is dedicated and aware of a coach's responsibility.

It may be necessary to appoint several coaches whose area of responsibility would cover:

- (1) The instruction of new members in the fundamental principles of the draw shot and identification of errors in bowls and how to correct errors
- (2) The instruction of new members in the fundamental principles of the draw shot, the identification of errors in more advanced bowlers and how to correct errors. The supervision of coaching, how to play advance bowls and tactics.

All coaches should be regular attenders at the club and should be bowlers who are respected by their fellow bowlers.

Qualified coaches should have a playing standard and bowling achievement as set down by the bowls Australia National Coaches Committee.

When teaching established bowlers it is always good idea to give the player a sheet describing the faults which need to be fixed. It is recommended that several copies off this sheet be made to enable you to give each bowler a copy

after the lesson, remind each bowler to bring this copy when returning for the next lesson. The sheet has a heavy black stripe under the most common faults and small circle in front of each fault so that the coach can mark any circle with coloured ink to point out the bowlers faults.

If coaching four players at the same time, place the sheets in order on a clip board. Since each bowler will deliver three or four bowls one after the other the coach will have time to record the faults. When the players have a re-run of their practice the coach can mark the appropriate sheet with any faults missed in the first run though.

Coaches should realise that if the most obvious fault is corrected first it occasionally also fixes one or two other faults. The heavily underlined faults on the printed sheet are the most common. The more lightly underlined faults are the next, while the faults which are not underlined are the least common.