Pick of the coaching crop

Recently in Victoria an announcement was made on the winner of the state bowls' coach of the year award.

Our pBus squad member, Gavin Bransgrove, came runner up for the award.

I read a ripper article about Craig Bellamy respected successful coach of the Melbourne Storm team in the Australian rugby league football competition.

Titled 'pick of the coaching crop' the article retold the journey, history, experiences, approach of this great and successful iconic coach.

So what was it we can learn from Bellamy?

Why after all these years of outstanding success does he still give nothing but his absolute laser sharp best?

Could I suggest because it motivates him to be as best he can be, even after all these years.

I loved the comment……that coaches are different, obsessed, compulsive, slightly cuckoo (which is why they fascinate). If they are not they don't last long.

I have been told I am obsessive, demanding, weird.

Reading about Bellamy I feel chuffed to be so described (even if I knew it was derogatory then, and now) and I have been coaching (elite) bowls in excess of 20 years.

Back to Bellamy - his ability to maintain an extraordinary high standard since 2002 is historic; though others feel he has mellowed in later life, his approach to maintain non negotiable standards around attitude and preparation never waver.

He is interested only in the preparation and process for the next encounter, not the result of the previous encounter.

Far too many good level bowlers get besotted by recent wins and success, worse older wins and success, without ever appraising what they could better for future events, championships.

Forever and a day we coaches need understand our capacity to influence and energize good bowlers to be successful elite bowlers.

Back to Bellamy - lessons to learn from any Bellamy's among us.

Lachlan Tighe, 2021