## Elbows bowls columns

## What is mental toughness

An expression we hear in all sport and again in our sport. Selectors or critics of bowlers will often pass judgement on a player saying they lack ....mental toughness. Asked what that means and there is no sensible response.

Well, what is mental toughness?

My reading and application of mental toughness is your capacity to remain in control of what you can control

NOT the score

The result

Winning

The opposition

Or external factors (green, wind, bowl)

BUT it is any or all of these

Emotional reactions you have to distractions, unwarranted outcomes

Recall of your intense and relevant training in preparation for this event

Rehearsal of actual situations you now come across

**Effort** 

Attitude

Levity

Challenge

Fun

Self talk

Confidence

Objectivity

Pride & appearance (perception of self)

Personal responsibility

The process to execute, to compete

You do many of these and you are mentally tough.

P.S....my book "Winning becomes you, in lawn bowls' is now available from December, 2013. If interested in purchase, contact me direct on email <a href="mailto:la.tighe@bigpond.com">la.tighe@bigpond.com</a> or check the Henselite website for details of availability. Or refer to my own website <a href="https://www.lachlantighebowls.com">www.lachlantighebowls.com</a>

Lachlan Tighe, 2014