

Pennant Players Newsletter

Players Marks

All players are given a markers card at the start of every game. They are asked to score each member of their team and themselves. These scores are used by the selectors as one of their ways to select teams each week. As we do not have independent observers to watch each rink each week, we rely on each player to mark their team members in order to give us the tools to pick the best team we can each week.

Remember: Mark each player in your rink including yourself to reflect their input into your team's result.

Selection Decisions

The selectors regularly get comments on the back of the marker's cards and this provides valuable information in our decision making. We are often requested to not change a rink or to not change teams. We try to make the least number of changes that we can but when players are away for whatever reason then a change is inevitable. If the player goes missing from a one of the top sides then this leads to multiple changes. If a player is missing from Division 1 for example, then it can potentially lead to 6 changes across all divisions.

We have a couple of people who for various reasons were not available to play regularly this season. This gives us the opportunity to minimize the flow on effect of a missing player. But more commonly we need to make more changes than we'd like, of course some of our changes are based on lack of form or exceptional form from a player in a lower division. Sometimes as a result of a change, we have players make themselves unavailable after selection or are genuinely sick or injured which means we need to make changes late in the week. There was not a round last season where we didn't have to make changes after selecting the teams with some as late as Saturday morning. This makes the life of selectors very difficult, so changes are sometimes out of the selector's control.

Some players are making themselves unavailable because they don't like where they've been selected to play, usually with the comment that they are Division 'x' players. In a lot of cases this may well be true, that they can play successfully at that division, but unfortunately for them they are not in the best 16 available that week, or if they don't have the experience to play 3rd or skip in the team where they think they should be. There may just be 8 players better than them. It's unfortunate for the individual but the club has to come before the individual and selection is made to have the greatest chance of the side winning.

Thanks to all for your support, it's not an easy role being a selector but by and large we get positive comments.

Good luck for the coming season and the selectors hope that it is a successful one for all teams.

Selectors, (City of Geelong Bowls Club)