

AUSTRALIA V PAKISTAN BOXING DAY TEST



DECEMBER 28, 2016
FACT SHEET - DAY 3

Beginning with the inaugural Test match in March 1877, 108 Tests have been staged at the MCG. One Test, in 1970/71, was abandoned without a ball bowled and is not counted in the records. Nine of the matches have involved Pakistan, Australia winning five of those contests, Pakistan two, with the other two drawn. The other sides to play Tests at the MCG are England (55), West Indies (15), India (12), South Africa (12), New Zealand (3) and Sri Lanka (2).

Only Lord's Cricket Ground (133) has hosted more Test matches than the MCG (108). As Lord's currently has two Test matches per summer (it hosted three in 2010), it will extend its lead as the MCG has not hosted two Test matches in the same season since 1981/82. Of the 60 Tests between Australia and Pakistan to date, Australia has won 29, Pakistan 14 and the remaining 17 drawn.

The current Test is Australia's 796th and Pakistan's 406th. Of its 795 Tests to date, Australia has won 374 (47.04 per cent), lost 213 (26.79 per cent) and tied two. The remaining 206 have been drawn.

The fact sheets for today's game will review five Tests from the nine played at the MCG between the two countries. A summary of each match will appear during the course of this game, followed by each of the remaining games on the sheets for subsequent days.

2009/10: PAKISTAN'S 11th TOUR OF AUSTRALIA

As with a number of its previous visits down under, Pakistan included a New Zealand leg in the tour, arranging a three-Test series there prior to the Australian itinerary, which was to consist of a three-day game against Tasmania, followed by three Tests, five Limited-Overs Internationals and an International Twenty20.

Chastened by the 2-1 loss of a closely-fought Ashes series in mid-year, Australia regained some confidence from its subsequent 2-0 defeat of the West Indies in the three-match series that immediately preceded Pakistan's arrival. The latter were brim full of confidence from their time in New Zealand, having come from one Test down to square the series and then salvage a draw in the final match. As a result, a hard-fought contest was anticipated.

Pakistan was without leading batsman Younis Khan, who had stepped down as captain during a home one-day series against New Zealand earlier in the year. Mohammad Yousuf assumed the leadership and the rest of the touring party comprised Abdur Rauf, Danish Kaneria, Faisal Iqbal, Fawad Alam, Imran Farhat, Kamran Akmal, Khurram Manzoor, Misbah-ul-Haq, Mohammad Amir, Mohammad Asif, Mohammad Sami, Saeed Ajmal, Salman Butt, Shoaib Malik, Umar Akmal and Umar Gul. The team management requested that Younis Khan join the tour before the First Test but he did not arrive until after the Third. Abdur Rauf and Fawad Alam were sent home after the First Test to reduce squad numbers and Sarfraz Ahmed arrived as an additional wicketkeeping option just in time for the Third.

After losing at the MCG by 170 runs, Pakistan came back strongly at Sydney in the Second Test, dismissing the home side for 127 on the opening day and establishing a lead of 206 on the first innings. It continued to hold the whip hand at stumps on the third day, having the Australians 8/286 and only 80 runs to the good. Overnight not outs, Mike Hussey and Peter Siddle, however, extended their ninth wicket partnership to 123 with considerable help from Pakistan keeper Kamran Akmal, who missed Hussey (134 not out) three times and Siddle (38) once. Set 178 to win, Pakistan presented the home side with an unlikely victory, collapsing to 139 all out. The match result was one of a number subsequently investigated by the International Cricket Council's integrity unit, but no action came of it. Australia convincingly won the last Test, at Hobart, by 231 runs, set up by a fourth-wicket stand of 352 from Ricky Ponting (200) and Michael Clarke (166), after the former had been dropped at fine leg by Mohammad Amir before scoring. The 3-0 series result was Australia's fourth in succession against Pakistan. *Wisden* expressed the thoughts of many in its tour summary: "The visitors were as puzzling at the end of the series as they were at the beginning."

THE CAPTAINS

One of his country's greatest batsmen, Ricky Ponting began the series with the most runs in Tests for Australia (11,345), having exceeded Allan Border's 11,174 earlier in the year. Having assumed the Test captaincy following the retirement of Steve Waugh in 2004, he went on to lead Australia on 77 occasions, a figure exceeded only by Border's 93. By the end of his career eight years later, Ponting had increased his record Australian runs aggregate to 13,378 at an average of 51.85, including 41 centuries, from 168 matches, equalling Steve Waugh's record number of Test appearances. Ponting also compiled 13,589 runs at 41.81, with 29 hundreds, in 374 Limited-Overs Internationals and 401 at 28.64 in 17 International Twenty20s. In all first-class cricket, he scored 24,150 runs at 55.90, including 82 centuries, to which he added 16,363 List A one-day runs at 41.74, with 34 hundreds, and 909 Twenty20 runs at 22.72.



Mohammad Yousuf appeared in his initial 59 Tests as Yousuf Youhana, amending his name in 2005 on converting to Islam. By the end of his career, only Javed Miandad (8832) and Inzamam-ul-Haq (8829) had scored more runs for Pakistan than his 7530 at 52.29, including 24 centuries. He also made 9554 runs at 42.08, with 15 hundreds, in 281 Limited-Overs Internationals and 50 at 16.66 in three International Twenty20s. Overall, he amassed 10,505 first-class runs at 47.96, including 30 centuries, 11,026 at 40.09 in List A one-day games and 367 at 19.31 in T20 games.



FIRST TEST at the MCG, December 26, 27, 28, 29 & 30, 2009

Both countries entered the match having completed a Test series only a fortnight before, Australia at home against the West Indies and Pakistan in New Zealand. Australia made one change, substituting Peter Siddle for Clint McKay, while the visitors replaced leg-spinner Danish Kaneria (injured hand) with off-spinner Saeed Ajmal and omitted out-of-form paceman Umar Gul in favour of Abdur Rauf..

Australia won the toss and took full advantage of the excellent conditions after a cautious start. Shane Watson (93 from 191 balls in 244 minutes, 11 fours) and Simon Katich (98 from 225 balls in 305 minutes, five fours), missed on 43 and 8 respectively, combined in an opening stand of 182 before Watson was the unfortunate batsman to be adjudged run out, after a misunderstanding stranded both openers at the same end. Ricky Ponting (57 from 60 balls in 102 minutes, seven fours) chimed in with an attractive half-century and the home side finished the day at 3/303, with Michael Hussey on 37 and nightwatchman Nathan Hauritz 5.

The overnight pair extended their fourth-wicket association to 91 next day before Hussey (82 from 113 balls in 169 minutes, 10 fours) was dismissed, but Hauritz (75 from 152 balls in 191 minutes, one six, eight fours) exceeded all expectations in a disciplined display. Ponting declared the innings closed at Hauritz's dismissal and the visitors led by a determined Salman Butt (45 from 113 balls in 171 minutes, one four) limped to 4/109 at stumps, with Umar Akmal on 10 and nightwatchman Mohammad Amir yet to score.

After ducking into a Peter Siddle bouncer next morning, Umar Akmal (51 from 80 balls in 103 minutes, one six, nine fours) defiantly hit 19 off a later over from the paceman, but after his dismissal only Misbah-ul-Haq (65 not out from 120 balls in 172 minutes, one six, eight fours) offered any serious resistance. With a first-innings lead of 196, the Australians lost Katich, Ponting and Hussey in rapid succession before Watson (64) and Michael Clarke (21) steadied proceedings to remain not out at stumps, having increased the total to 3/111.

Next day, Pakistan's 17-year-old left-arm paceman Mohammad Amir, who finished with 5/79, dismissed Clarke, Marcus North and Brad Haddin in quick succession. Dropped on 99, man of the match Watson (120 not out from 220 balls in 337 minutes, one six, 10 fours) survived a torrid time in the 90s to record his maiden Test hundred at his 15th appearance, having been dismissed for 96, 89 and 93 in his three previous Test innings. Set 422 to win, Pakistan by stumps had reduced its target by 170 for the loss of three wickets, led by Faisal Iqbal (48 from 75 balls in 109 minutes, one six, four fours) and skipper Mohammad Yousuf, who was unbeaten on 45.

Next morning, Mitchell Johnson virtually extinguished the visitors' hopes of victory in the opening over by having first-innings top-scorers Umar Akmal and Misbah-ul-Haq caught behind the wicket from successive deliveries. Thereafter, apart from a brief flurry from wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal (30 from 48 balls in 77 minutes, one six, four fours), only Mohammad Yousuf (61 from 140 balls in 230 minutes, seven fours) delayed the Australian victory, which was achieved immediately after the luncheon adjournment. Off-spinner Hauritz took the bowling honours with 5/101, his first five-wicket haul not only in Tests but also in first-class cricket.

AUSTRALIA v. PAKISTAN

First Test Match

Played at Melbourne Cricket Ground on December 26, 27, 28, 29 & 30, 2009.

Australia won by 170 runs. Toss: Australia.

Australia

S. R. Watson run out	93	- not out	120
S. M. Katich c Salman Butt b Mohammad Asif	98	- c Kamran Akmal b Mohammad Asif	2
* R. T. Ponting c Misbah-ul-Haq			
		b Mohammad Asif.. .. .	57
M. E. K. Hussey lbw b Saeed Ajmal.	82	- lbw b Mohammad Amir	4
N. M. Hauritz lbw b Abdur Rauf..	75	- (9) st Kamran Akmal b Saeed Ajmal	8
M. J. Clarke not out..	28	- (5) c Kamran Akmal	
		b Mohammad Amir..	37
M. J. North (did not bat)		- (6) b Mohammad Amir	8
+ B. J. Haddin (did not bat)		- (7) c Kamran Akmal	
		b Mohammad Amir..	0
M. G. Johnson (did not bat)		- (8) run out	22
B 2, lb 12, nb 7..	21	Lb 2, w 3, nb 7..	12
1/182 2/233 3/291 4/382 (5 wkts, dec.)	454	1/15 2/32 3/40 (8 wkts, dec.)	225
5/454		4/143 5/161 6/161 7/198 8/225	

P. M. Siddle and D. E. Bollinger did not bat.

Bowling: *First Innings* — Mohammad Asif 27-5-86-2; Mohammad Amir 27-7-101-0; Abdur Rauf 23-4-86-1; Saeed Ajmal 46-3-150-1; Imran Farhat 5-0-17-0. *Second Innings* — Mohammad Asif 16-3-38-1; Mohammad Amir 24-6-79-5; Saeed Ajmal 23.1-1-73-1; Abdur Rauf 10-3-33-0.

Pakistan

Imran Farhat lbw b Johnson	9	- lbw b Bollinger.	12
Salman Butt lbw b Watson..	45	- lbw b Johnson	33
Faisal Iqbal c Clarke b Hauritz	15	- b Hauritz	48
* Mohammad Yousuf c Haddin b Siddle	22	- c Katich b Hauritz	61
Umar Akmal c Ponting b Johnson	51	- c Haddin b Johnson	27
Mohammad Amir c North b Bollinger	15	- (8) c Katich b Hauritz	0
Misbah-ul-Haq not out	65	- (6) c Haddin b Johnson	0
+ Kamran Akmal c Haddin b Bollinger	12	- (7) st Haddin b Hauritz	30
Abdur Rauf c North b Bollinger	3	- b Bollinger	5
Mohammad Asif c Watson b Siddle.	0	- (11) not out.	1
Saeed Ajmal b Johnson	4	- (10) c Watson b Hauritz	10
B 4, lb 3, w 1, nb 9	17	B 13, lb 4, w 2, nb 5	24
1/26 2/59 3/84 4/109 5/159 6/203	258	1/18 2/80 3/116 4/171 5/171	251
7/215 8/219 9/220 10/258		6/214 7/214 8/221 9/250 10/251	

Bowling: *First Innings* — Bollinger 20-6-50-3; Siddle 24-7-77-2; Hauritz 20-3-58-1; Johnson 22-10-36-3; Watson 13-3-30-1. *Second Innings* — Bollinger 15-5-42-2; Siddle 13-5-32-0; Hauritz 24-4-101-5; Johnson 18-6-46-3; Katich 2-0-13-0.

Close of play scores: *1st day* — Aust (1) 3/305 (Hussey 37, Hauritz 5); *2nd day* — Pak (1) 4/109 (Umar Akmal 10, Mohammad Amir 0); *3rd day* — Aust (2) 3/111 (Watson 64, Clarke 21); *4th day* — Pak (2) 3/170 (Mohammad Yousuf 45, Umar Akmal 27). Six-ball overs.

Umpires: B. R. Doctrove (WI) & R. E. Koertzen (SA).



ABDUR RAUF

Abdur Rauf no doubt entered the MCG Test excited at being given a further opportunity to establish himself in the Test arena. The 23-year-old fast-medium bowler had been in and out of the side since his international debut two years before, but had only modest returns in the two Tests (five wickets) and four Limited-Overs Internationals (eight wickets) in which he had appeared thus far.

In the first innings of this match, his sole reward was the wicket of Nathan Hauritz (75). As a result, Australian spectators are much more likely to remember him in the second innings, as the fieldsman who missed a straight forward catch at backward point offered by Shane Watson when the opener was on 99. To compound this embarrassment, after the match team officials deemed him surplus to requirements for the remaining tour games and sent him home.

He never received another international call-up despite an ongoing first-class career that has so far produced 697 wickets at 23.88.

Top: Abdur Rauf bowls at the MCG during the first Test of the 2009/10 Australia vs Pakistan series

Bottom: Mohammad Yousuf chatting to Abdur Rauf during the 2009 Boxing Day Test at the MCG.



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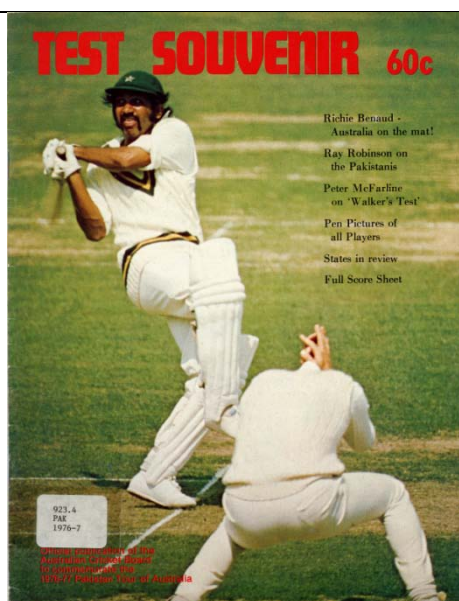
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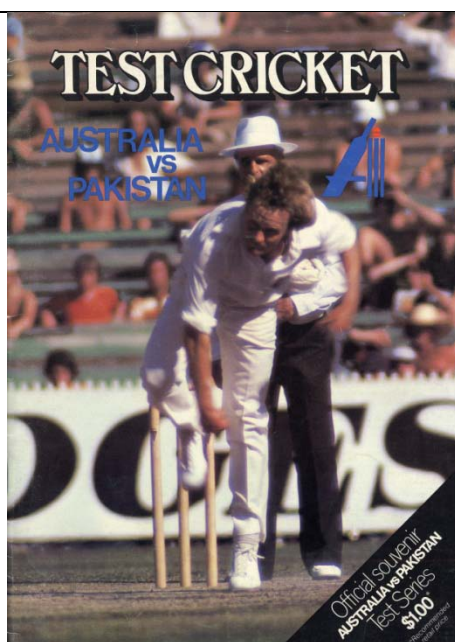
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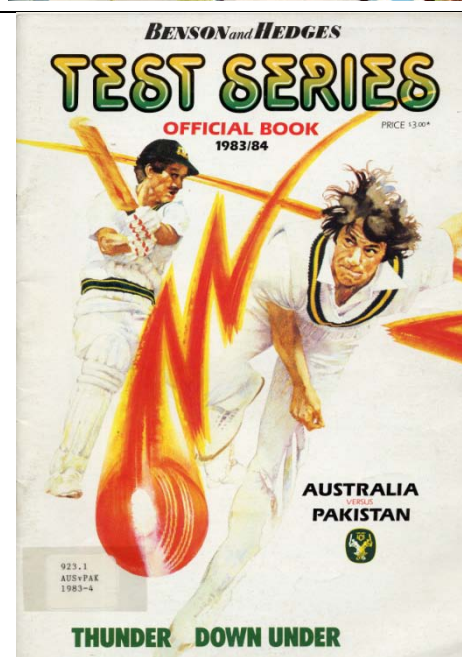
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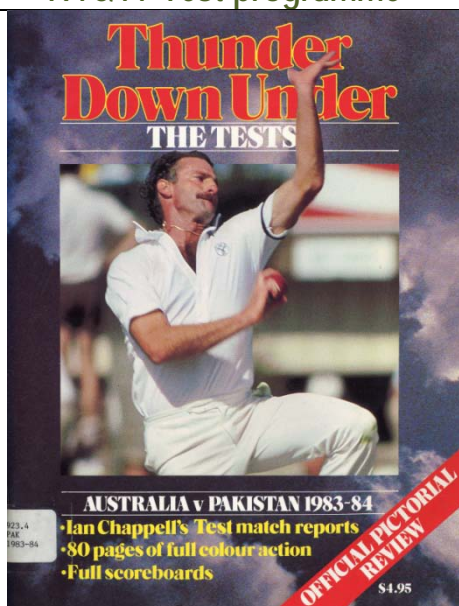
1976/77 Test programme



1978/79 Test programme



1983/84 Test programme



1983/83 post Test tour review



2003/04 Test programme



2009/10 Test programme