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Contributor/Researcher:
Ross Perry
Editors/Designers
David Studham and Trevor Ruddell

MCC Library Level 3, Members' Pavilion Melbourne Cricket Ground Yarra Park, Jolimont Email: library@mcc.org.au Mail to: PO Box 175, East Melbourne, 8002

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AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP 2022

AUSTRALIA, OCTOBER 16 TO NOVEMBER 13 2022

MEN'S T20 CRICKET: THE BEGINNING

The first International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's Twenty20 International (T20I) match was played at Eden Park Auckland on 17 February, 2005 between New Zealand and Australia, some six months after the first women's such match. The attendance of about 29,000 was treated to a rollicking exhibition of 384 runs scored off 40 overs by players wearing retro 1980's ODI uniforms and sporting false facial hair and even wigs. The game seemed to be somewhat of a side-show; Australia eventually winning by 44 runs. Little did those concerned know that this frivolity was but a curtain-raiser and that the 20-over version of the game would become established across the cricket world and some would make their living gracing its playing fields.

After a quiet start the T20I international programme gained momentum. Australia played a match against England as part of its 2005 tour and matches were played in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa in the 2005/6 season. Further matches were played in England, Bangladesh, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia in the 2006 and 2006/7 seasons leading up to the first Men's World T20 (now the Men's T20 World Cup) in South Africa in September 2007.

The 20-over version of the game initially developed at domestic level in England. It grew out of the English Cricket Board's concern at the dwindling crowds at county cricket in the late 1990s. Public consultation showed support for a new shortened version of the game. Some "imaginative" options involving departure from the existing format and rules of cricket were considered but discarded in favour of a shortened orthodox version of the longer game. The first domestic tournament was played in England in 2003 by county teams. Surrey won the first title on 19 July with both semi-finals and the final being played on the same day during an 11-hour marathon at Trent Bridge Nottingham watched by 15,000 satisfied fans. Interest at domestic level grew around the cricket world with tournaments starting in South Africa (2003/04 season), Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh (2004/05), Australia, West Indies and New Zealand (2005/06) and India (2007/08). India may have taken longer than some others to embrace the new version of the game but its Indian Premier League is regarded as one of cricket's prime tournaments.

THE ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP: THE FIRST FOURTEEN YEARS A Brief Walk through the First Seven Tournaments

The tournament (previously known as the ICC World Twenty20) was first staged in South Africa in 2007 with the final being won by India by five runs after a pulsating struggle with sub-continental neighbours Pakistan. The twelve competing nations were those then having Test-playing status plus Scotland and Kenya; the latter two being eliminated after the group stage along with Zimbabwe and the West Indies. Australia finished the Super Eights stage second in its group but succumbed to eventual winners India in a semi-final which was regarded by many as the best 20 over international yet played. Chasing India's 5/188 the Australians ran out of overs at 7/173. It was to be Kenya's last appearance in the Men's World Twenty20. Sadly, the buds of promise in Kenyan cricket which grew in the late 1990s and into the early years after the turn of the century had failed to develop and they were to endure a lasting sentence in cricket's wilderness.

At the 2009 tournament staged in England, Pakistan built on its performance some two years before; winning the final against Sri Lanka by eight wickets. It was some consolation as only about three months before in Lahore a deadly terrorist attack on the Sri Lankan cricketers and match officials rendered further international cricket in Pakistan out of the question. Twelve countries competed with debutants Ireland and Netherlands recording mixed results; the former progressing to the Super Eight stage, while the latter won only one match in the tournament and exited at the end of the group stage. Australia, appearing to be in the most difficult of the four groups, was eliminated at the group stage; joining Bangladesh and Scotland in failing to record a win. The two beaten semi-finalists were South Africa and West Indies.

Less than one year later the caravan had moved to the Caribbean. England lifted its first trophy at a world cup in white ball cricket after some 35 years of competition, defeating Australia in the final. Defeated semi-finalists were Pakistan and Sri Lanka - the former showing its consistency in being in the finals for each World Cup tournament played to date. New countries included in the 2010 tournament were Afghanistan and Zimbabwe while Scotland and Netherlands were excluded. Australia was undefeated during both the group and Super Eight stages. Its march towards the final however

was punctuated by some spectacular escapes from batting disasters – 6/65 against Bangladesh turning into a winning 7/141 and 5/67 against Sri Lanka ending at 5/168, another winning score. In the semi-final the Australians needed 34 from the final two overs and looked beaten but Mike Hussey who had featured strongly in the two earlier revivals led the charge to victory in a flurry of sixes. In the final Australia again faltered early, being 3/8 and 4/45 before a defendable total of 6/147 was reached. England however won with considerable ease by seven wickets with three overs to spare.

Sri Lanka hosted the 2012 tournament and was eventual runner-up to a strong West Indian team. The nations competing were the same as those which took part in 2010. The results, however, differed considerably. Two years after winning the 2010 trophy England failed to make the finals – being eliminated at the Super Eight stage while Australia, (2010 runner-up) having made the semi-finals with only one loss in the qualifying matches, was then well-beaten by the West Indies. Pakistan had proved to be the most consistent performer, making the finals in each of the four tournaments played. Stage progression through the tournaments had to date been generally as predicted with the top-ranked nations reaching the Super Eights stage. There had been, however, two exceptions – West Indies failed to progress in 2007 and Bangladesh effectively took their place while in 2009 Australia missed out and Ireland progressed.

At the 2014 tournament in Bangladesh Sri Lanka equalled Pakistan's feat of four successive finals appearances (2007-2012) and went on to outdo its 2009 and 2012 runner-up performances by winning the trophy, comfortably defeating India by six wickets. The fifth staging of the event featured a changing of the structure with 16 countries competing. All of those who had graced the playing fields of Sri Lanka in 2012 were back and were joined by Netherlands, Hong Kong, Nepal and United Arab Emirates (UAE). Among the Test-playing countries, only Zimbabwe and Bangladesh were required to compete at the Preliminary Group stage from which Bangladesh and Netherlands graduated to the Super Tens. Sadly Nepal, playing in its first such tournament, won two of its three group matches but failed to progress due to a slightly inferior run rate to that of Bangladesh. The other debutant, UAE did not win a group match and has not appeared in the tournament since. South Africa and the West Indies (2012 champions) were defeated at the semi-final stage. It was a poor tournament for the Australians. Having entered at the Super Ten Group stage they won only one of their four matches, defeating Bangladesh and finishing fourth in their group of five.

The 2016 tournament in India marked the West Indies' second win to complement its success in 2012. Near the end of their innings the men from the Caribbean faced defeat but four sixes from the bat of Carlos Braithwaite in the final over sealed victory over England in what was a tempestuous end to the match. The format in 2016 was the same as for 2014 but with two changes to the participants; Scotland returned having last played in 2009, and Oman from the Middle East debuted at World Cup level replacing Nepal and UAE. Zimbabwe and Bangladesh were again required to compete at the Preliminary Group stage from which Bangladesh and Afghanistan graduated to the Super Tens. Among those eliminated at the group stage were Scotland and debutant Oman and Ireland and Hong Kong, the latter two failing to win a match. New Zealand, the outstanding performer at the Super Ten stage, was defeated by England in a semi-final while India was the other defeated semi-finalist. The Australians' performance improved little on that of 2014: winning two matches and finishing third in their group at Super Ten stage, the two wins being against teams which finished beneath them.

The October-November 2020 tournament programmed to be played in Australia was postponed by the ICC in July 2020 as a result of the spreading coronavirus pandemic. It was subsequently moved to the 2022-2023 season with Australia hosting. Whilst India retained the hosting of the 2021-22 tournament it was transferred to the United Arab Emirates and Oman and played in the October-November period in 2021.

The 2021 tournament saw Australia win the trophy for the first time following a resounding win by eight wickets in the final against New Zealand. Australia had previously reached the final at the 2010 tournament, losing to England and had been losing semi-finalists in 2007 and 2012. England and Pakistan had headed the two groups at the end of the Super 12 stage - Pakistan being undefeated and England, despite having one loss from their five matches, had a net run rate more than double other teams in their group. Both countries, however, were comfortably defeated at semi-final stage. The format in 2021 was similar to that in the 2016 event except that the second stage (the Super 12s) included four teams from the preliminary stage; the two winners and the two runners up. Papua New Guinea and Namibia competed for the first time in the final stage of the tournament, taking the places of Zimbabwe and Hong Kong from 2016. The men from south-west Africa debuted with some style winning two of their three first-round matches, and finishing second in their group. They were, however, to find the Super 12 stage more challenging. Papua New Guinea failed to win a match in the first round and did not progress. India, considered to be a likely winner before the start of the tournament, won three of their five matches at Super 12 stage and failed to advance to the semi-finals. Both Scotland and Bangladesh failed to win a match and finished bottom of their respective tables at the Super 12 stage.

Record of each Participating Country at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2007-2021

Country	First	No		Summary	of Matcl	hes Playe	ed	7	Tournamen	t Summary	1
	Comp	WCs	Р	W	L	T	NR	Won	R/Up	WinSF	DefSF
Sri Lanka	2007	7	43	27	15	1	0	1	2	3	1
Pakistan	2007	7	40	24	15	1	0	1	1	2	3
England	2007	7	38	19	18	0	1	1	1	2	1
India	2007	7	38	23	13	1	1	1	1	2	1
New Zealand	2007	7	37	20	15	2	0	0	1	0	2
West Indies	2007	7	36	18	16	1	1	2	0	2	2
Australia	2007	7	36	22	14	0	0	1	1	1	2
South Africa	2007	7	35	22	13	0	0	0	0	0	2
Bangladesh	2007	7	33	7	25	0	1	0	0	0	0
Afghanistan	2010	5	19	7	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ireland	2009	6	18	4	11	0	3	0	0	0	0
Scotland	2007	4	15	4	10	0	1	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	2009	4	15	5	9	0	1	0	0	0	0
Zimbabwe	2007	5	12	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Namibia	2021	1	8	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hong Kong	2014	2	6	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oman	2016	2	6	2	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
Nepal	2014	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
UAE	2014	1	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Papua New Guinea	2021	1	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kenya	2007	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0

The ICC Men's T20 World Cup – Tournament by Tournament 2007-2021

Year	Location	Participating countries	Structure	Win	R/U	Btn SF
2007	South Africa	Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Zimbabwe, Kenya	Four preliminary groups of three teams with each playing the other two in its group. Super Eights: two groups of four teams with each playing the other three in its group, semi-finals and final.	Ind	Pak	Aus NZ
2009	England	Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies	As for 2007 tournament.	Pak	Sri L	S Af WI
2010	West Indies	Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe	As for 2007 tournament.	Eng	Aus	Sri L Pak
2012	Sri Lanka	Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe	As for 2007 tournament	WI	Sri L	Aus Pak
2014	Bangla- desh	Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, Hong Kong, Nepal, UAE	Two preliminary groups of four teams with each team playing the other three in its group. Super Tens (including two prel. grp. winners): two groups of five teams with each playing the other four in its group, semi-finals and final.	Sri L	Ind	WI S Af
2016	India	Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, Hong Kong, Oman	As for 2014 tournament.	WI	Eng	NZ WI
2021	United Arab Emirates and Oman	Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Scotland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Afghanistan, Oman, Namibia, Papua New Guinea	Similar in structure to the 2016 tournament except that the second stage (the Super 12s) included four teams advancing from the two groups of the preliminary stage: the two winners and the two runners up.	Aus	NZ	Pak Eng

The ICC Men's World Cup: Result of each Tournament Final 2007-2021

Year	Bat#1	Inns#1	Overs	Bat#2	Inns#2	Overs	Winner	Margin	Location
2007	India	5/157	20	Pakistan	152	19.3	India	5 runs	South Africa
2009	Sri Lanka	6/138	20	Pakistan	2/139	18.4	Pakistan	8 wickets.	England
2010	Australia	6/147	20	England	3/148	17.0	England	7 wickets	West Indies
2012	West Indies	6/137	20	Sri Lanka	101	18.4	West Indies	36 runs	Sri Lanka
2014	India	4/130	20	Sri Lanka	4/134	17.5	Sri Lanka	6 wickets	Bangladesh
2016	England	9/155	20	West Indies	6/161	19.4	West Indies	4 wickets	India
2021	New Zealand	4/172	20	Australia	2/173	18.5	Australia	8 wickets	UAE/Oman

THE ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP 2022

The Lead Up

The 2022 staging of the event is the eighth occasion that the elite of the cricket world will compete for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup. The tournament will run from Sunday 16 October to Sunday 13 November 2022 and the title will be contested by 16 countries. The final will be at the MCG on Sunday, 13 November 2022.

The structure for the tournament will be as follows:

- First Round Group A and Group B contested by eight teams in total with the four top teams progressing to the Super 12 Round. Each team to play three matches.
- Super 12 Round Group 1 and Group 2 contested by twelve teams in total with the top two teams in each group progressing to the semi-finals. Each team to play five matches.
- Two semi-finals
- Final

The teams from the **16** countries contesting the 2022 World Cup have qualified as follows:

- (a)**Twelve** have automatically qualified as a result of playing at the Super 12 stage of the 2021 tournament and their ICC rankings as at 15 November, 2021. The **eight** countries entering at the Super 12 stage are: **Afghanistan**, **Australia**, **Bangladesh**, **England**, **India**, **Pakistan**, **New Zealand and South Africa**. The **four** countries entering at the preliminary Group stage are: **Namibia**, **Scotland**, **Sri Lanka and West Indies**.
- (b) The remaining **four** countries entering at the First Round Group stage qualified via the two ICC T20 World Cup Global Qualifiers: Group A, played in Oman in February 2022: and Group B played in Zimbabwe in July 2022. The four countries which were the top two teams in each of the two Global Qualifiers are **United Arab Emirates and Ireland** from Global Qualifier Group A and **Zimbabwe and Netherlands** from Global Qualifier Group B.

The Global Qualifiers had a total of 16 teams between them comprising:

- The bottom four teams from the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 (Ireland, Netherlands, Oman, Papua New Guinea)
- The next four highest-ranked T20I teams (Zimbabwe, Nepal, The United Arab Emirates and Singapore) and
- The eight teams which progressed from the Finals of the Regional Qualifiers as follows: (**Uganda, United States, Canada, Bahrain, Hong Kong, Philippines, Jersey, Germany**)

The ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022 – Participating Countries

Afghanistan	TANCETCI E	New Zealand	NEW ZEALAND CRICKET
Australia	CRICKET	Pakistan	N.S.
Bangladesh	वाध्वास्य	Scotland	
England	WEST SECTION OF THE PROPERTY O	South Africa	
India		Sri Lanka	
Ireland		United Arab Emirates	
Namibia	Cricket Namibia	West Indies	
Netherlands	KNCB	Zimbabwe	zimbabwe cricket

Cricket in the United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is a country in Western Asia at the eastern end of the Arabian Peninsula. It borders Oman and Saudi Arabia and has maritime borders in the Persian Gulf with Qatar and Iran. Its capital is Abu Dhabi. The seven emirates making up the union are: Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Ajman, Fujairah and Umm Al Quwain. Cricket was introduced into the area by the British Army in 1892 when Britain took over the Sheikdoms. Independence came in 1971.

The UAE became an Affiliate member of the ICC in 1989 and achieved Associate member status in 1990. Since the mid 1970's the UAE and its cricket grounds have been the stage for local and international cricket. Tournaments in the 20 and 50-over versions of the game have been staged between Test-playing nations, some being played on an annual basis. A number of Pakistan's home Test matches have been played in the UAE as a result of concern for player safety related to terrorist activity. The first was against the West Indies at Sharjah in 2001-02 at the Sharjah Cricket Association Ground - a venue which at that stage had hosted 181 one-day internationals. Matches have also been played between UAE XIs and visiting teams from overseas.

The UAE has been a participant at the stage leading to the finals in previous ICC tournaments. At the 1996 and 2015 ICC World Cups (50 overs) it reached the Group stage - winning one match and losing five in 1996, and losing all its six matches in 2015. In the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2014, the UAE, on the only occasion to date that it has advanced as far as the Group stage before the finals in this tournament; played three matches and lost them all.

THE ICC MEN'S T20I WORLD CUP 2007-2021: STATISTICS

Career Runs

Name	Cntry	Span	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	SR	Avge	4s	6s	50	100
DPMD Jayawardene	Sri Lanka	2007-14	31	31	5	1016	100	134.74	39.07	111	25	6	1
CH Gayle	West Indies	2007-21	33	31	3	965	117	142.75	34.46	78	63	7	1
TM Dilshan	Sri Lanka	2007-16	35	34	5	897	96*	124.06	30.93	101	20	6	0
RG Sharma	India	2007-21	33	30	8	847	79*	131.52	38.50	80	31	8	0
V Kolhi	India	2012-21	21	19	8	845	89*	129.60	76.81	78	20	10	0
DA Warner	Australia	2009-21	30	30	3	762	89*	135.10	27.21	80	31	6	0
AB de Villiers	Sth Africa	2007-16	30	29	5	717	79*	143.40	29.87	51	30	5	0
Shakib Al Hasan	Bangladesh	2007-21	31	31	5	698	84	124.64	26.84	59	23	3	0

Career Wickets

Name	Country	Span	M	0	M	Runs	Wkts	BBI	Econ	Avge	4w/l	5w/l
Shakib Al Hasan	Bangladesh	2007-21	31	110.1	0	709	41	4/9	6.43	17.29	3	0
Shahid Afridi	Pakistan	2007-21	34	135.0	1	907	39	4/11	6.71	23,25	2	0
SL Malinga	Sri Lanka	2007-14	31	102.4	0	763	38	5/31	7.43	20.07	0	1
Saeed Ajmal	Pakistan	2009-14	23	89.2	1	607	36	4/19	6.79	16.86	3	0
BAW Mendis	Sri Lanka	2009-14	21	78.3	3	526	35	6/8	6.70	15.02	1	1
Umar Gul	Pakistan	2007-14	24	82.4	0	604	35	5/6	7.30	17.25	1	1
SCJ Broad	England	2007-14	26	86.5	2	671	30	3/17	7.72	22.36	0	0
DW Steyn	Sth Africa	2009-16	23	83.1	1	579	30	4/17	6.96	19.30	1	0

Highest Innings Scores

Score	Overs	RPO	Team	Opponent	Venue	Date
260/6	20.0	13.00	Sri Lanka	Kenya	Johannesburg	14 September, 2007
230/8	19.4	11.69	England	South Africa	Mumbai	18 March, 2016
229/4	20.0	11.45	South Africa	England	Mumbai	18 March, 2016
218/4	20.0	10.90	India	England	Durban	19 September, 2007
211/5	20.0	10.55	South Africa	Scotland	The Oval	07 June, 2009
210/2	20.0	10.50	India	Afghanistan	Abu Dhabi	03 November, 2021
209/5	20.0	10.45	South Africa	Afghanistan	Mumbai	20 March, 2016
208/2	17.4	11.77	South Africa	West Indies	Johannesburg	11 September, 2007

Lowest Completed Innings Scores

Score	Overs	RPO	Team	Opponent	Venue	Date
39	10.3	3.71	Netherlands	Sri Lanka	Chattogram	24 March, 2014
44	10.0	4.40	Netherlands	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	22 October, 2021
55	14.2	3.83	West Indies	England	Dubai	23 October, 2021
60	10.2	5.80	Scotland	Afghanistan	Sharjah	25 October, 2021
60	15.3	3.87	New Zealand	Sri Lanka	Chattogram	24 March, 2014
68	16.4	4.08	Ireland	West Indies	Providence	30 April, 2010
69	17.0	4.05	Hong Kong	Nepal	Chattogram	16 March, 2014
70	15.4	4.46	Bangladesh	New Zealand	Kolkata	26 March, 2016

Highest Individual Batting Scores

Score	В	4s	6s	Player	Team	Opponent	Venue	Date
123	58	11	7	BB McCullum	New Zealand	Bangladesh	Pallekele	21 September, 2012
117	57	7	10	CH Gayle	West indies	South Africa	Johannesburg	11 September, 2007
116*	64	11	6	AD Hayles	England	Sri Lanka	Chattogram	27 March, 2014
111*	62	10	5	Ahmed Shehzad	Pakistan	Bangladesh	Dhaka	30 March, 2014
103*	63	10	5	Tamim Iqbal	Bangladesh	Oman	Dharamsala	13 March, 2016
101*	67	6	6	JC Butler	England	Sri Lanka	Sharjah	01 November, 2021
101	60	9	5	SK Raina	India	South Africa	Gros Islet	02 May, 2010
100*	48	5	11	CH Gayle	West Indies	England	Mumbai	16 March 2016

Highest Batting Partnerships

Score	Wkt	Players	Team	Opponent	Venue	Date
166	2	DPMD Jayawardene, KC Sangakkara	Sri Lanka	West Indies	Bridgetown	07 May, 2010
152*	1	Barbar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan	Pakistan	India	Dubai	24 October, 2021
152	3	AD Hayles, EJG Morgan	England	Sri Lanka	Chattogram	27 March, 2014
145	1	CH Gayle, DS Smith	West Indies	South Africa	Johannesburg	11 September, 2007
145	2	TM Dilshan, DPMD Jayawardene	Sri Lanka	England	Chattogram	27 March, 2014
142	1	Kamran Akmal, Salman Butt	Pakistan	Bangladesh	Gros Islet	1 May, 2010
140		KL Rahul, RG Sharma	India	Afghanistan	Abu Dhabi	3 November, 2021
136	1	G Gambhir, V Sehwag	India	England	Durban	19 September, 2007

Best Bowling in an Innings

Fig.	0	Player	Team	Opponent	Venue	Date
6/8	4.0	BAW Mendis	Sri Lanka	Zimbabwe	Hambantota	18 September, 2012
5/3	3.3	HMRKB Herath	Sri Lanka	New Zealand	Chattogram	31 March, 2014
5/6	3.0	Umar Gul	Pakistan	New Zealand	The Oval	13 June, 2009
5/19	4.0	Ahsan Malik	Netherlands	South Africa	Chattogram	27 March, 2014
5/19	4.0	A Zampa	Australia	Bangladesh	Dubai	4 November, 2021
5/20	4.0	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	Afghanistan	Scotland	Sharjah	25 October, 2021
5/22	4.0	Mustafizur Rahman	Bangladesh	New Zealand	Kolkata	26 March, 2016
5/27	4.0	JP Faulkner	Australia	Pakistan	Mohali	25 March, 2016



AN AFTERNOON TO REMEMBER:

The Closest Final Yet: India's Triumph at Wanderers, September 2007

The first T20 International (T20I) tournament bringing men's teams together from around the cricket world was played in 2007 in South Africa. It took place some two years after the first men's T20I was played between New Zealand and Australia in 2005 - that event being six months after the first women's such match.

The competing teams at the end of the final group stage before the semi-finals were Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa and Sri Lanka. Pakistan was undefeated in its group while Australia won two matches from three played; both finishing clear of their opposition on points and progressing to the semi-finals. In the other group three teams finished on two wins from three matches played with India (top of the group) and New Zealand progressing to the semi-finals by way of superior run-rate.

Both of the semi-finals were played on 22 September, 2007. In the first match played at Sahara Park, Newlands, Cape Town, New Zealand 8/143 (20 overs) were defeated by Pakistan 4/147 (18.5 overs) by six wickets. In the second semi-final played at Sahara Stadium, Durban, India 5/188 (20 overs) defeated Australia (173) (20 overs) by 15 runs. The scene was then set for a final to be played between the two sub-continental giants of cricket. The final would be played at the Wanderers Stadium, Johannesburg on 24 September, 2007.

Indian Captain MS Dhoni won the toss (his fifth in succession) and India batted on what looked to be a good but somewhat slow wicket. Yusuf Pathan replaced the injured Virender Sehwag and the innings began with aggression; 25 runs being taken from the first 2.4 overs including shots to, and over, the boundaries. Pathan then departed and the second wicket fell at 40 but his partner Gautam Gambier, who would go on to top score (75 runs from 54 balls including eight 4s and two 6s), batted until the eighteenth over playing a series of fine off-side shots and lofted drives and ultimately proved to be the mainstay of the innings. Gambier's partnership of 63 from 47 balls for the third wicket with the tentative Yuvraj Singh (14), who had been dominant earlier in the tournament, gave hope for real recovery. That hope was diminished following Singh's departure and the cheap dismissal of Captain Dhoni, both during a superb spell of pace bowling by Umar Gul. Rohit Sharma, with a stellar career ahead of him, had come to the wicket following Dhoni's demise and his aggressive 30 not out from 16 balls greatly contributed to the competitive total of 5/157 which was ultimately reached. It was, however, considered less than desirable, taking into account the conditions.

Needing 158 to win Pakistan began its reply indifferently; losing opener Mohammad Hafeez (1) and wicket-keeper Kamran Akmal (0), batting at number three, in the first two overs to the bowling of Rudra Pratap Singh. When the other opener Imran Nazir (33 from 14 balls including four 4s and two 6s) was brilliantly run out by Uthappa in the third over with the score on 53 Pakistan was in some trouble. Nazir had taken 21 from Sreesanth's first over and despite the wickets lost the runrate was healthy. Pakistan took the score to 3/65 in the ninth over only to see three further wickets fall for 12 runs including that of the elegant stroke-player Younis Khan (24 from 24 balls including four 4s). In an inspired spell of pace bowling Irfan Pathan had taken two wickets in an over; Captain Shoab Malik (8) and Shahid Afridi (0). He went on to claim 3/16 from his four overs and was awarded *Player of the Match*.

Misbah-ul-Haq who had come to the crease with the score at 4/65 now began to oversee a consolidation of his team's position. With Yasir Arafat (15) he took the score to 104 before Pathan bowled Arafat to claim his third wicket. Fifty-four runs were required from four overs when Sohail Tanveer joined Misbah who was now in full flight; taking three sixes off Harbhajan Singh during a partnership for the eighth wicket which took the score to 138 before Tanveer was dismissed for 12, scored from four balls; his two scoring shots being sixes. Umar Gul (0) became Singh's third victim with seven balls left in the match. Thirteen runs were now needed from the final over with Misbah partnered by Mohammad Asif. Dhoni opted for the pace of Sharma rather than the spin of Harbhajan who had been mauled by Misbah. The final over consisted of a wide (12 needed from 6 balls), a play-and-miss by Misbah (12 from 5), a six down the ground (6 from 4) and Misbah's dismissal for 43 (38 balls, four 6s) - caught attempting a scoop shot over short fine leg with the final three balls never to be bowled. Misbah may have exercised a little more patience had he had his time again. We will never know.

Pakistan failed in their run chase by five runs notwithstanding Misbah's brave rear-guard action. The Indian seamers Pathan, Singh and Sharma had all bowled well during the run-chase and had proved to be a decisive factor in their team's win. The margin remains the closest in a final of a T20 Men's World Cup tournament to date. Perhaps Pakistan could take some solace in the declaration of their all-rounder Shahid Afridi as *Player of the Tournament*.

Match Scores

India Innings		Runs	Balls	4s	6s
G Gambier	c Mohammad Asif b Umar Gul	75	54	8	2
YK Pathan	c Shoab Malik b Mohammad Asif	15	8	1	1
RV Uthappa	c Shahid Afridi b Sohail Tanvir	8	11	1	-
Yuvraj Singh	c and b Umar Gul	14	19	1	-
*+ MS Dhohi	b Umar Gul	6	10	-	-
RG Sharma	not out	30	16	2	1
IK Pathan	not out	3	3	-	-
Extras	(1 lb, 1 nb, 4 w)	6			
Total	5 wickets	157			

Did not bat: Harbhajan Singh, J Shama, S Sreesanth, RP Singh

Fall:1/25, 2/40, 3/103, 4/111, 5/130.

Pakistan Bowling

Mohammad Asif 3 overs-0 maidens-25 runs-1 wicket, Sohail Tanvir 4-0-29-1, Shahid Afridi 4-0-30-0, Mohammad Hafeez 3-0-25-0, Umar Gul: 4-0-28-3, Yasir Arafat 2-0-19-0.

Pakistan Innings		Runs	Balls	4s	6s
Mohammad Hafeez	c Uthappa b RP Singh	1	3	-	_
Imran Nazir	run out (Uthappa)	33	14	4	2
+ Kamran Akmal	b RP Singh	0	3	-	-
Younis Khan	c YK Pathan b J Shama	24	24	4	-
* Shoaib Malik	c RG Sharma b IK Pathan	8	17	-	-
Misbah-ul-Hag	c Sreesanth b J Sharma	43	38	-	4
Shahid Afridi	c Sreesanth b IK Pathan	0	1	_	_
Yasir Arafat	b IK Pathan	15	11	2	-
Sohail Tanvir	b Sreesanth	12	4	-	2
Umar Gul	b RP Singh	0	2	-	-
Mohammad Asif	not out	4	1	1	_
Extras	(1 b, 4 lb, 1 nb, 6 w)	12			
Total	All out (19.3 overs)	152			
E-II. 4/0 0/00 0/E0 4/0E	FIZC CIZZ ZIANA NIANO NIANA ANIAFO				

Fall: 1/2, 2/26, 3/53, 4/65, 5/76, 6/77, 7/104, 8/138, 9/141, 10/152.

India Bowling

RP Singh 4-0-26-3, Sreesanth 4-1-44-1, J Sharma 3.3-0-20-2, YK Pathan 1-0-5-0, IK Pathan 4-0-16-3, Harbhajan Singh 3-0-36-0



Irfan Pathan (Player of the match)



Shahid Afridi (Player of the Tournament)

MEN'S INTERNATIONAL T20 CRICKET

Matches Played on the Melbourne Cricket Ground

Australia played its first home T20I in Brisbane in the 2005/2006 season defeating South Africa by 95 runs. Subsequent matches were played against England in Sydney in the 2006/2007 season and New Zealand in Perth in December 2007 some six weeks before the first MCG match.

To date 15 T20 International matches (T20Is) have been played between Australia and five other countries on the MCG. The first was played against India in February 2008 some two years after T20Is debuted in Australia when the visiting South Africans were defeated by 95 runs in Brisbane. Matches played after the 2009/10 season have generally been part of three to four match series. Australia's record follows:

Australia's	Summary Results for Australia								
Opponent on MCG	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	No Result	Abandoned	% Won		
South Africa	2	2					100.00		
India	4	1	2	-	1	-	25.00		
Pakistan	1	1	-	-	-	-	100.00		
England	3	3	-	-	-	-	100.00		
Sri Lanka	5	2	3	-	-	-	40.00		
Total	15	9	5	-	1	-	60.00		

More Detailed Results for the Above Fifteen Matches on the MCG

Opponent	Date Played	Toss	Aus Batted	Result
India	01/02/2008	India	Second	Australia won by nine wickets with 52 balls to spare.
Sth Africa	11/01/2009	Australia	First	Australia won by 52 runs.
Pakistan	05/02/2010	Australia	First	Australia won by two runs.
England	14/01/2011	Australia	First	Australia won by four runs.
India	03/02/2012	Australia	First	India won by eight wickets with two balls remaining.
Sri Lanka	28/01/2013	Australia	Second	Sri Lanka won by two runs.
England	31/01/2014	England	Second	Australia won by eight wickets.
Sth Africa	07/11/2014	Sth Africa	Second	Australia won by seven wickets with 44 balls remaining.
India	29/01/2016	Australia	Second	India won by 27 runs.
Sri Lanka	17/02/2017	Sri Lanka	First	Sri Lanka won by five wickets with no balls remaining.
England	10/02/2018	Australia	Second	Australia won by seven wickets with 33 balls remaining.
India	23/11/2018	Australia	Australia	No Result (inclement weather)
Sri Lanka	01/11/2019	Australia	Second	Australia won by seven wickets with 14 balls remaining.
Sri Lanka	18/02/2022	Australia	Second	Australia won by six wickets with 11 balls remaining.
Sri Lanka	20/02/2022	Australia	First	Sri Lanka won by five wickets with 1 ball remaining.

Summary Scores from the First and Most Recent of the MCG T20I Matches

1 February, 2008. (One-off match). **INDIA 74** (17.3 overs) (NW Bracken 3/11, AC Voges 2/5) **lost to AUSTRALIA 1/75** (11.2 overs) (MJ Clarke 37*) **by nine wickets**. *Player of the match*: Michael Clarke

20 February 2022. (Final match of a five-match series). **AUSTRALIA 154** (20 overs) (MS Wade 43*; PVD Chameera 2/30, CBLRS Kumara 2/34) **lost to SRI LANKA 5/155** (19.5 overs) (BKG Mendis 69, MD Shanaka 35; KW Richardson 2/28) **by five wickets.** *Player of the Match*: Kusal Mendis.

VICTORY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Australia Triumphs in Dubai 2021 The Super 12 Stage

Australia qualified directly for the ICC Men's T20I World Cup 2021 tournament played in the United Arab Emirates and Oman based on its ICC Men's T20I Team Rankings along with the host nation India and other top-ranked nations Pakistan, England, South Africa, New Zealand, West Indies, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Six other countries which entered via earlier qualifying matches were Netherlands, Papua New Guinea, Ireland, Namibia, Scotland and Oman.

The above six countries then joined Sri Lanka and Bangladesh to stage the First Round of the tournament. At the completion of that stage Namibia and Scotland joined Sri Lanka and Bangladesh and the other top nations in the Super 12 stage. During the Super 12 stage Australia won four of its five group matches, finishing on equal points with England and South Africa. It qualified, however, for the semi-finals with a superior net run-rate (1.216) compared to South Africa (0.739).

Summary scores from Australia's five Group 1 Super 12 Stage tournament matches are set out below:

At Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi, October 23, 2021: **SOUTH AFRICA 9/118** (20 overs) (AK Markram 40; A Zampa 2/12, JR Hazlewood 2/19, MA Starc 2/32) **lost to AUSTRALIA 5/121** (19.4 overs) (SPD Smith 35; AA Nortje 2/21) **by five wickets**. *Player of the match:* Josh Hazlewood.

At Dubai Sports City Stadium, Dubai, October 28, 2021: **SRI LANKA 6/154** (20 overs) (MDKJ Perera 35, KIC Asslanka 35, PBB Rajapaksa 33*; MA Starc 2/27, PJ Cummins 2/34) **lost to AUSTRALIA 3/155** (17 overs) (DA Warner 65, AJ Finch 37; PWH De Silva 2/22) **by seven wickets**. *Player of the match*: Adam Zampa

At Dubai Sports City Stadium, Dubai, October 30, 2021: **AUSTRALIA 125** (20 overs) (AJ Finch 44; CJ Jordan 3/17, CR Woakes 2/23, TS Mills 2/45) **lost to ENGLAND 2/126** (11.4 overs) (JC Butler 71*) **by eight wickets**. *Player of the match*: Chris Jordan

At Dubai Sports City Stadium, Dubai, November 04, 2021: **BANGLADESH 73** (15 overs) (A Zampa 5/19, JR Hazlewood 2/8, MA Starc 2/21) **lost to AUSTRALIA 2/78** (6.2 overs) (AJ Finch 40) **by eight wickets**. *Player of the match:* Adam Zampa.

At Sheikh Zayed Stadium, Abu Dhabi, November 06, 2021: **WEST INDIES 7/157** (20 overs) (KA Pollard 44; JR Hazlewood 4/39) **lost to AUSTRALIA 2/161** (16.2 overs) (DA Warner 89*, MR Marsh 53) **by eight wickets**. *Player of the match*: David Warner.

The Semi-Final Stage

Finishing second in its group at Super 12 stage Australia then faced the favoured Pakistan, undefeated and top of its group, in the semi-finals. The Australian Captain, Aaron Finch won the toss and chose to field. The three Pakistani upper order batters contributed virtually all their team's runs - along the way taking a heavier than usual toll on Australia's pacemen. As the innings progressed the Australian slow bowlers were less expensive and the Pakistani innings closed at a total which could be defended. Unlike their opponents, the Australians, apart from one half-century partnership, lost wickets regularly in the chase; at one point being 5/96 after 12.2 overs in pursuit of 177. However, the depth of the Australian batting came through and a partnership of 81 from 40 balls between Marcus Stoinis and Matthew Wade sealed the victory; the latter hitting four sixes and being awarded *Player of the Match*.

A summary score of the semi-final is set out below:

At Dubai Sports City Stadium, Dubai, November 11, 2021: **PAKISTAN 4/176** (20 overs) (Mohammad Rizwan 67, Fakhar Azam 55*, Babar Ezam 39; MA Starc 2/38) **lost to AUSTRALIA 5/177** (19 overs) (DA Warner 49, MS Wade 41*, MP Stoinis 40*; Shadab Khan 4/26) **by five wickets**. *Player of the match*: Matthew Wade

The Final

The Australians, despite not being among the highly favoured teams in the lead-up to the tournament, had played splendid cricket: winning five of their six matches prior to the final, all by comfortable margins. Their opponents in the final, New Zealand, had defeated the highly favoured England in their semi-final by five wickets. Thus, the stage was set for the two countries on either side of the Tasman to compete, for the first time, for international T20 cricket's finest trophy – the World Cup.

The Australian Captain, Aaron Finch won the toss and chose to field. On a difficult wicket New Zealand lost Mitchell early and run-making was restricted. Williamson was dropped on 21 by Hazelwood, and made the Australians pay; ultimately making an aggressive 85 including 10 fours and three sixes. His innings, however, was the only one of substance.

Hazelwood made amends with the ball taking a miserly 3/16 from his four overs (including the wickets of Phillips and Williamson in the same over) and his performance offset Starc's 0/60 including one over in which Williamson took 22 runs off his bowling. Zampa, the team's leading wicket-taker in the tournament also proved valuable, with a wicket and only 26 off his four overs.

In its reply Australia, despite losing Finch early, reached the required 173 with seven balls to spare. His destroyer, Boult, would prove to be the only wicket-taker in the innings. Marsh who had come to the wicket at 1/15 was undefeated at the end; six fours and four sixes having come from his aggressive batting from only 50 balls.

Warner's aggression (53 from 38 balls) had also worn down the opposition. The performance was rounded off by Maxwell's 28 off 18 balls. Australia's first T20 World Cup title in the end was claimed in style.



Match Scores for the Final

New Zealand Innings		Runs	Balls	4s	6s
MJ Guptill	c Stoinis b Zampa	28	35	3	-
DJ Mitchell	c Wade b Hazlewood	11	8	-	1
*KS Willamson	c Smith b Hazlewood	85	48	10	3
GD Phillips	c Maxwell b Hazlewood	18	17	1	1
JDS Neesham	not out	13	7	-	1
+TL Seifert	not out	8	6	1	-
Extras	(1 b, 3 lb, 1 nb, 4 w)	9			
Total	4 wickets	172			

Did not bat: MJ Santner, IS Sodhi, AF Milne, TG Southee, TA Boult

Fall: 1/28, 2/76, 3/144, 4/148

Australian Bowling

MA Starc 4-0-60-0, JR Hazlewood 4-0-16-3, GJ Maxwell 3-0-28-0, PJ Cummins 4-0-27-0, A Zampa 4-0-26-1, MR Marsh 1-0-11-0

Australian Innings		Runs	Balls	4s	6s
DA Warner	b Boult	53	38	4	3
*AJ Finch	c Mitchell b Boult	5	7	1	-
MR Marsh	not out	77	50	6	4
GJ Maxwell	not out	28	18	4	1
Extras	(4 lb, 6 w)	10			
Total	2 wickets (18.5 overs)	173			

Did not bat: SPD Smith, MP Stoinis, +MS Wade, A Zampa, PJ Cummins, MA Starc, JR Hazlewood

Fall: 1/15, 2/107

New Zealand Bowling

TA Boult 4-0-18-0, TG Southee 3.5-0-43-0, AF Milne 4-0-30-0, IS Sodi 3-0-40-0, MJ Santner 3-0-23-0, JDS Neesham 1-0-15-0

Player of the Match: Mitchell Marsh.

Tournament Statistics - Most Runs

Name	Country	Mat.	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Avge	SRate	100	50
Babar Ezam	Pakistan	6	6	1	303	70	60.60	126.25	-	4
DA Warner	Australia	7	7	1	289	89*	48.16	146.70	-	3
Mohammad Rizwan	Pakistan	6	6	2	281	79*	70.25	127.72	-	3
JC Buttler	England	6	6	3	269	101*	89.66	151.12	1	1
KIC Asalanka	Sri Lanka	6	6	1	231	80*	46.20	147.13	-	2

Most Wickets

Name	Country	Balls	Dots	Runs	Wkts	BB	Avge	SRate	Econ
PWH DeSilva	Sri Lanka	180	80	156	16	3-9	9.75	11.25	5.20
A Zampa	Australia	162	68	157	13	5-19	12.07	12.46	5.81
TA Boult	New Zealand	166	85	173	13	3-17	13.30	12.76	6.25
Shakib Al Hasan	Bangladesh	132	59	123	11	4-9	11.18	12.00	5.59
JR Hazlewood	Australia	144	74	175	11	4-39	15.90	13.09	7.29

Highest Batting Partnerships

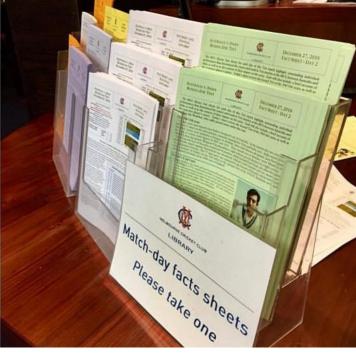
Partners		Wkt	Inngs	Opposition	Location	Date
Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan (Pakistan)	152*	1	2	India	Dubai (DSC)	24 Oct 2021
KL Rahul, RG Sharma (India)	140	1	1	Afghanistan	Abu Dhabi	03 Nov 2021
Aqib Ilyas, Jatinder Singh (Oman)	131*	1	2	P.N.G.	Al Amerat	17 Oct 2021
MR Marsh, DA Warner (Australia)	124	2	2	West Indies	Abu Dhabi	06 Nov 2021
PWH de Silva, P Nissanka (Sri Lanka)	123	4	1	Ireland	Abu Dhabi	20 Oct 2021



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB







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