



ICC WORLD TEST
CHAMPIONSHIP
FINAL 2025

ICC World Test Championship Final 2025

Media Guide

Lord's Cricket Ground
11-15 June 2025



ICC WORLD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL 2025

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Welcome

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE
TO WELCOME YOU ALL TO
LORD'S FOR THE ICC WORLD
TEST CHAMPIONSHIP (WTC) FINAL,
THE CULMINATION OF A FIERCELY
WCOMPETITIVE TWO-YEAR CYCLE.

Jay Shah Chairman, International Cricket Council

This match is rightly called 'The Ultimate Test'. It represents the pinnacle of the classical form of the game, which continues to be a core priority for all of us at the International Cricket Council (ICC).

Test cricket demands a unique combination of skill, endurance and mental resilience, qualities that set it apart not only from other formats of the game but from many sports globally. Time and again, Test cricket has proven its enduring appeal, and the introduction of the WTC has brought renewed energy and purpose to the longest format, helping to boost global interest and engagement.

We are set for a week-long celebration of Test cricket, and I am confident that fans at this iconic venue will be treated to a memorable contest. Australia, the defending champions, will look to retain their title, while South Africa will be determined to seize the moment and secure a long-awaited ICC crown. Both teams have shown strong form in the league stage and will be eager to peak on 11 June.

The anticipation is palpable, with encouraging ticket sales and global interest building steadily. This final follows two captivating title clashes, New Zealand's triumph over India at Southampton in 2021 and Australia's victory over India at The Oval in 2023, both of which have added to the rich narrative of modern Test rivalries.

I extend my best wishes to both Australia and South Africa, and also to the seven other teams whose commitment and performances made this championship cycle so compelling.

On behalf of the ICC, I extend my sincere thanks to the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) and Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) for graciously hosting this event. I also acknowledge the hard work of the ground staff, the volunteers and the dedicated teams at the ICC, ECB, and MCC, whose behind-the-scenes efforts are instrumental in delivering this tournament.

Our gratitude also goes to our broadcast partners and sponsors, whose support continues to be invaluable.

The media remains one of the game's strongest pillars, and your contributions are deeply appreciated. The ICC is committed to supporting the media, whether through on-ground facilities or editorial resources. Should you need any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to our Media and Communications team at the venue.

I wish you all the very best for your coverage of the WTC Final and hope you enjoy being part of this marquee event.

Warm regards,

Jay Shah
Chairman, International Cricket Council



There is something uniquely special about Test cricket. It is the purest expression of our sport and continues to capture the hearts of fans across generations. We truly value the media's support in covering this great format, capturing every aspect of this ultimate test of patience, skill and drama played out over five enthralling days.

This final brings together two proud cricketing nations – South Africa and Australia – for what promises to be a contest of the very highest calibre. To welcome them to London, one of the world's most diverse and vibrant cities, allows

us to celebrate the truly global nature of our game.

Thank you for all that you do to cover our great sport and take it into the lives of people around the world, whether online, in print or over the airwaves. By sharing the best of what cricket has to offer, we can strengthen its long-term future for fans, new and old, across the globe.

Richard Thompson
Chair, England and Wales
Cricket Board

Welcome

ON BEHALF OF THE ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD (ECB), IT GIVES ME ENORMOUS PRIDE AND PLEASURE TO WELCOME THE WORLD'S MEDIA TO LORD'S FOR THE ICC WORLD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL 2025.

Richard Thompson Chair, England and Wales Cricket Board



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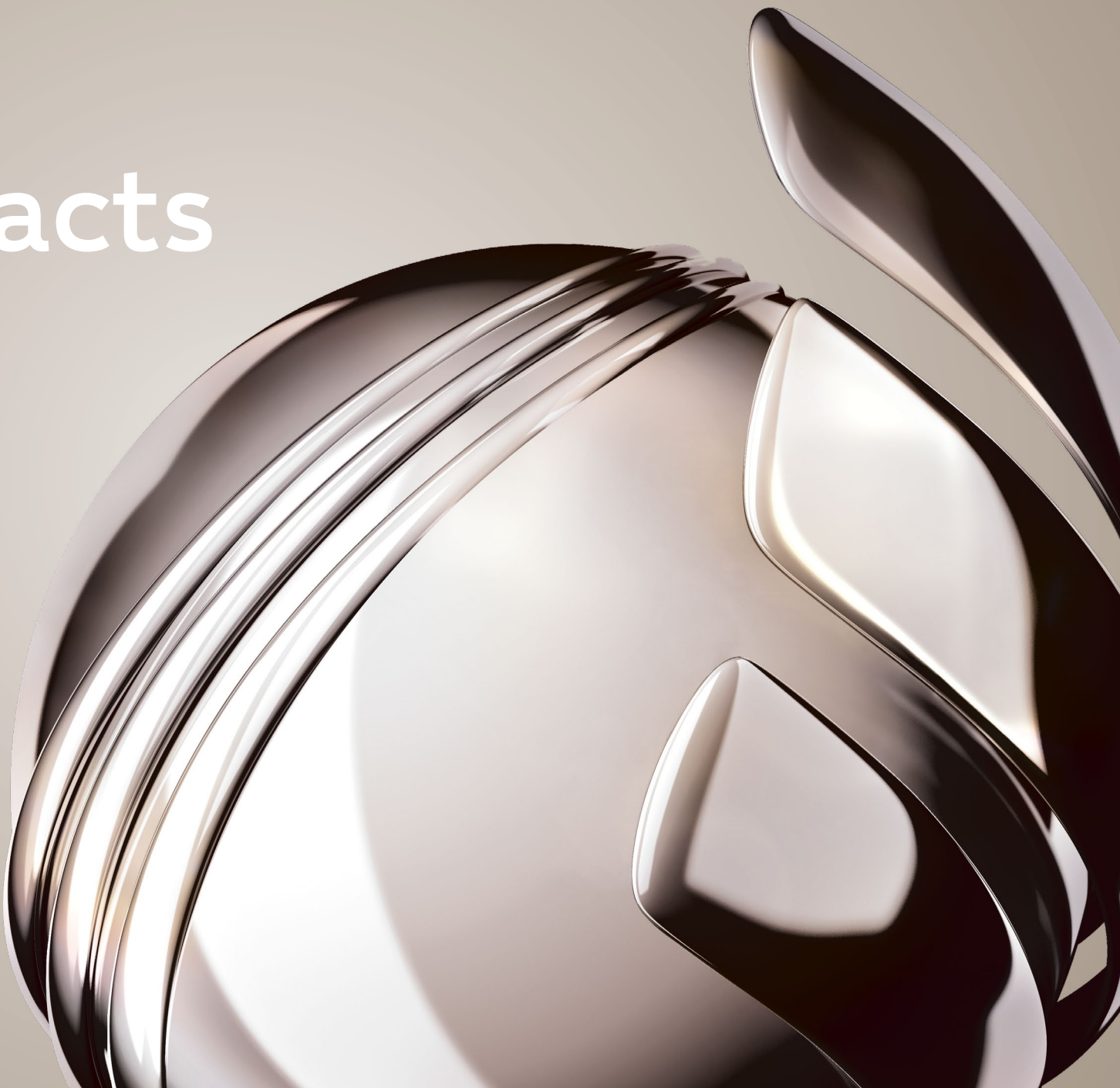
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SECTION 1

Key Contacts





Key Contacts

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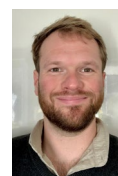
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SECTION 2

Media Information



Media Accreditation

The ICC has accredited media from all over the world for the ICC World Test Championship Final 2025. The final will be operating under a high-trust model, and therefore all accredited media and participants are requested to practice safe behaviour for the duration of the event.

As at previous events, the ICC will follow its priority order in allotting match-day seats. This is done in tandem by the ICC Media and Accreditation teams, keeping in mind the teams playing. We follow the general principles outlined in the media advisory and FAQs document on accreditation, which we shared at the start of the accreditation process.

Media accreditation passes may be collected from the Venue Accreditation Centre in the Thomas Lord Suite – next to the Grace Gate entry, off St John’s Wood Road.

Reporters will be allotted seats and photographers will be allotted photo positions. The Media Centre is located at the Nursery End of the ground, and the Photographers’ Work Area is on the top floor of the Media Centre.

Updates through the match will be sent out either individually or to the tournament media email list that we maintain. Please remember to read our advisories: there may be changes in protocols, safety measures or the way the media interactions are conducted.

What if my accreditation is lost?

If your tournament accreditation pass is lost or stolen, please report it to the accreditation team and make a formal complaint at the nearest police station. Upon completion of the lost/stolen declaration form, the tournament accreditation will be replaced providing the individual

has appropriate ID. If the original tournament accreditation is found, it should be surrendered, and the police should be informed.

Please note that no additional temporary or match day passes will be provided.

Venue Accreditation Centre opening hours	
Tuesday 10 June	08:00–16:00
Wednesday 11 June	04:30–14:00
Thursday 12 – Monday 16 June	06:00–14:00

Code of Conduct for Media

Please note that all accredited Non-Rights Holders (NRH) media must adhere to the code of conduct for the tournament as well as the tournament media terms and conditions agreed to while signing the accreditation form.

Accreditation cards of journalists will be cancelled if they are found to behave in an inappropriate manner at any of the venues.

The ICC has a zero-tolerance policy towards racism and sexual harassment, and action will be taken immediately in any such case, which could include suspension of the accreditation card and blacklisting from all ICC events.

Journalists could also face suspension from future matches or have their accreditation revoked if they are found to be in violation of other terms and conditions, including those of video and audio recordings at venues.

No shows

Journalists who have changed their plans – those withdrawing from the Final and/or those who become unavailable to attend a particular day – must please send

details in an email to the media accreditation email address.

Failure to do so could affect their chances of attending future ICC events.



Playing Regulations

Playing Conditions

The full Playing Conditions for the ICC World Test Championship Final 2025 are available in the Resources section of the [Online Media Zone](#), and at icc-cricket.com.

ICC Code of Conduct

The ICC Code of Conduct is part of the ICC's continuing efforts to maintain the public image, popularity and integrity of cricket by providing: (a) an effective means to deter any participant from conducting themselves improperly on and off the field of play, or in a manner that is contrary to the 'spirit of cricket'; and (b) a robust disciplinary procedure pursuant to which all matters of improper conduct can be dealt with fairly, with certainty and in an expeditious manner.

More information is available in the Resources section of the [Online Media Zone](#), and at icc-cricket.com.

Illegal bowling

An Illegal Bowling Action is where a player is throwing rather than bowling the ball. This is defined by the ICC as being where the player's elbow extends by an amount of more than 15 degrees between their arm reaching the horizontal and the ball being released. Match officials in international cricket use the naked eye and their cricketing experience to decide whether they believe a player may be using an Illegal Bowling Action and, if so, they will submit a report. More information is available in the Resources section of the [Online Media Zone](#), and at icc-cricket.com.

Anti-doping

The ICC has a zero-tolerance approach to doping and is a signatory to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) since July 2006. The ICC Anti-Doping Code, compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code, ensures cricket plays its part in the global fight against drugs in sport. Information on the ICC's Anti-Doping Code can be found at icc-cricket.com.

Anti-discrimination

The ICC has a strict Anti-Discrimination Code that confirms a level of commitment from the ICC and its Members to promote and encourage participation at all levels, regardless of race, religion, culture, colour, descent, national or ethnic origin and to ensure that there is no discrimination in the sport.

The diverse history and culture of the game draws people together. There is a strong tradition of fans from rival teams enjoying matches alongside each other, while cricket players too are known to mingle with each other and often help each other out with the technicalities of the game. Information on the ICC's Anti-Discrimination Policy can be found at icc-cricket.com.

Anti-corruption

Cricket is considered by many to be a world leader in the fight against corruption in sport and strives to do its best to work towards the vision to 'Keep Cricket Clean'. All players and officials who take part in the top level of international cricket pass through the Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU)'s education programme.

The ICC's Anti-Corruption Managers coordinate the ACU's prevention measures and are present at tournaments and international series to ensure that strict anti-corruption protocols are enforced at all venues, particularly around the dressing room areas. Information on the ICC's Anti-Corruption Code can be found at icc-cricket.com.



Event Administration



Event Technical Committee (ETC)

The Event Technical Committee consists of the following members:

1. **Wasim Khan**, ETC Chair
ICC General Manager – Cricket
(ICC Representative)
2. **Gaurav Saxena**, ICC General
Manager – Events and
Communications
(ICC Representative)
3. **Rob Hillman**, ECB Director of
Major Events (Host Representative)
4. **Ian Bishop**, Independent Nominee

Replacement players

All applications for the replacement of players must be made in writing to the Event Technical Committee. All submissions must be accompanied by a medical diagnosis from a certified medical practitioner who is not a member of the team support staff.

Match officials and appointments

The ICC has announced the officials for the Final. Since the match will be televised, two on-field umpires, a third (TV) umpire and a fourth umpire has been appointed.

Media complaints

Complaints about the content of any media report or the behaviour of any journalist should be referred in the first instance to Sipokazi Sokanyile from the ICC.

Complaints about (a) content of the live world feed produced by ICC TV and any ICC digital content; and (b) the behaviour of any rights holder, should be referred in the first instance to Ajesh Ramachandran of the ICC.



SECTION 3

The Story So Far



ICC World Test Championship: The Story So Far



The third instalment of the ICC World Test Championship (WTC) is set to come to a thrilling conclusion as defending champions Australia take on South Africa at Lord's in the final, which begins on June 11.

The Proteas finished top of the league table during the 2023-25 WTC cycle, having won 69.44 per cent of the points on offer to them during the six series they contested – winning eight of their

12 Test matches, drawing one and losing three.

Meanwhile, Andrew McDonald's side finished second with 67.54 per cent of points won, and were the only nation to go unbeaten across the six series of which they were a part. Australia won 13 of their 19 Tests, drawing two, losing four and having 10 points deducted for a slow over-rate infringement, booking their place in the final as they bid to retain a trophy they lifted for the first time in 2023.

With the next showpiece looming into view, we look back at the story of the competition so far.

The idea

The motivation behind the introduction of the ICC World Test Championship was to add context to bilateral Test cricket. With every game during a series worth points in the final standings, all matches

therefore have something riding on them, even if a Test match is a 'dead rubber' in terms of the series it is a part of.

By creating a dedicated Test cricket competition, the WTC honours the importance of the longest form of the game and ensures a pinnacle event for the format – just as the World Cups are for men and women in the ODI and T20I formats.

The format

The top nine sides in the ICC Men's Test Team Rankings take part in the WTC. Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the West Indies have all been ever-present in the WTC and they will all feature in the upcoming 2025–27 cycle too.

All nine countries participating play three home and three away series over a two-year period, with the opponents decided by mutual



agreement, often within existing frameworks of Member rights agreements. The number of matches in each series can differ between a minimum of two matches to a maximum of five.

Since the 2021-23 WTC, each Test match contested has been worth 12 points, with the winner taking home all of them, a tie earning each team six points, a draw giving both sides four points and a loss resulting in no points. Points can be deducted for slow over rates.

The league table is based upon the percentage of points won by each team, with the top two teams in the standings progressing to the final.

The launch

A competition to decide the world's best Test team had long been mooted, with the West Indies legend Clive Lloyd suggesting the idea back in 1996.

Further talks took place between relevant stakeholders throughout the 2010s and after many years of careful discussions – which considered things such as the international calendar, other ICC tournaments and existing commitments to broadcasters

and sponsors – and meticulous preparations, it was announced on 29 July 2019 that the first WTC would take place over the next two years, with that summer's Ashes series acting as the competition's curtain raiser.

During the launch, England's all-time leading Test wicket taker James Anderson said: "Test cricket is the pinnacle of our sport. It is the very essence of cricket, and the majority of players want to strive to play the purest form of the game.

"The ICC World Test Championship is another brilliant initiative for the sport, adding context and relevance to every Test series. Every Test matters, but even more so now."

Previous finals

New Zealand triumphed in the inaugural showpiece of the World Test Championship in 2021 at the Rose Bowl (pictured left).

The Kiwis travelled to Southampton to take on India and won the rain-affected contest by eight wickets – with the reserve day being required due to a washed-out opening day. After bowling India out for 217, with Kyle Jamieson the pick of the bowlers with five for 31,

New Zealand responded with 249 in their first innings.

Facing a deficit of 32 runs, India could only muster 170 in their second innings leaving Kane Williamson and his men needing 139 for victory. The captain was there unbeaten on 52 alongside Ross Taylor, who hit the winning runs to deliver New Zealand's men their first ICC tournament win since 2000.

Speaking post-match, Williamson said: "It is the pinnacle, isn't it, being involved in the final. For us it is a very proud moment in our history and a proud moment, just as a team really, to stick to what we do well and come away with the win, which is a really great feeling."

Two years later, it was Australia who took the spoils at The Oval (pictured right). They beat India by 209 runs, and in doing so, became the first men's team to win every ICC competition on offer to them.

Travis Head starred with the bat – hitting a majestic 163 – to help his side compile 469 in their first innings. India responded with 296 and, after Australia's second innings effort of 270 for eight declared, were



faced with a target of 444 for victory. Rohit Sharma's side could only make 234 as Australia added another major ICC trophy to their cabinet.

"Everyone played really well, and we will savour this for a few days," said captain Pat Cummins after the

match. "This is our favourite format; we grew up watching Test cricket. It challenges you. When you win, it is the format you get most satisfaction with."

With two enthralling finals already part of the WTC's burgeoning

history, all eyes will be on Lord's as the next chapter is set to be written in north London.

CRUZ IN COMFORT

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Emirates

How They Qualified

South Africa will make their first appearance in the ICC World Test Championship Final at Lord's when they take on reigning champions Australia. The Proteas were first to secure their place in the showpiece event, with Australia then joining them in what will be the holders' second consecutive final.

This is how they did it.

South Africa break new ground

South Africa hit the ground running with an innings victory over India at Centurion in December 2023, although they ended up splitting the series as India won a low-scoring second Test in Cape Town.

Following a 2-0 series defeat in New Zealand, the Proteas' hopes were helped by a 1-0 series victory in the West Indies, Keshav Maharaj the hero with 13 wickets over the two Tests in the Caribbean.

From there, South Africa did not look back. A 2-0 series victory in Bangladesh featured a star turn from Tony de Zorzi, who scored a





superb 177 in Chittagong as one of three first-time Test centurions alongside Wiaan Mulder and Tristan Stubbs, before Temba Bavuma shone in a home series win over Sri Lanka by the same scoreline.

They rounded out their campaign by beating Pakistan in two Tests on home soil either side of the new year, Ryan Rickelton shining in the second of those with a double century in a 10-wicket success that clinched a top-two spot.

Australia back to defend their crown

The reigning champions kicked off the cycle with a drawn 2-2 Ashes series in England, although they would have hoped for an even better outcome after winning the first two Tests.

A 3-0 whitewash against Pakistan was followed by a 1-1 draw at home to the West Indies, Shamar Joseph taking seven for 68 in the second innings in Brisbane as the Windies prevailed by eight runs and won a

Test in Australia for the first time since 1997.

By beating the Kiwis 2-0 in New Zealand, Australia kept their fate in their own hands ahead of a five-Test series against India.

A defeat in Perth piled on the pressure but Australia responded with three wins in the next four Tests to take the series 3-1, Scott Boland delivering a masterclass in the final Test at the SCG to clinch

his side's spot in the ICC World Test Championship Final.

They closed out the cycle with a 2-0 win over Sri Lanka, finishing on a points percentage of 67.54, good enough for second behind South Africa's 69.44, with previous finalists India in third on exactly 50 per cent.



ICC World Test Championship 2023–25: Results & Statistics

RESULTS

Jun–Jul 2023	England 2–2 Australia	5 Tests
Jul 2023	West Indies 0–1 India	2 Tests
Jul 2023	Sri Lanka 0–2 Pakistan	2 Tests
Nov–Dec 2023	Bangladesh 1–1 New Zealand	2 Tests
Dec 2023 – Jan 2024	Australia 3–0 Pakistan	3 Tests
Dec 2023 – Jan 2024	South Africa 1–1 India	2 Tests
Jan 2024	Australia 1–1 West Indies	2 Tests
Jan–Mar 2024	India 4–1 England	5 Tests
Feb 2024	New Zealand 2–0 South Africa	2 Tests
Feb–Mar 2024	New Zealand 0–2 Australia	2 Tests
Mar–Apr 2024	Bangladesh 0–2 Sri Lanka	2 Tests
Jul 2024	England 3–0 West Indies	3 Tests
Aug 2024	West Indies 0–1 South Africa	2 Tests
Aug–Sep 2024	Pakistan 0–2 Bangladesh	2 Tests

Aug–Sep 2024	England 2–1 Sri Lanka	3 Tests
Sep 2024	Sri Lanka 2–0 New Zealand	2 Tests
Sep–Oct 2024	India 2–0 Bangladesh	2 Tests
Oct 2024	Pakistan 2–1 England	3 Tests
Oct–Nov 2024	India 0–3 New Zealand	3 Tests
Oct 2024	Bangladesh 0–2 South Africa	2 Tests
Nov 2024 – Jan 2025	Australia 3–1 India	5 Tests
Nov–Dec 2024	West Indies 1–1 Bangladesh	2 Tests
Nov–Dec 2024	South Africa 2–0 Sri Lanka	2 Tests
Nov–Dec 2024	New Zealand 1–2 England	3 Tests
Dec 2024 – Jan 2025	South Africa 2–0 Pakistan	2 Tests
Jan 2025	Pakistan 1–1 West Indies	2 Tests
Jan–Feb 2025	Sri Lanka 0–2 Australia	2 Tests

ICC WORLD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP TABLE

POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	PEN	PTS	PCT
1	South Africa	12	8	3	1	0	100	69.44
2	Australia	19	13	4	2	-10	154	67.54
3	India	19	9	8	2	-2	114	50.00
4	New Zealand	14	7	7	0	-3	81	48.21
5	England	22	11	10	1	-22	114	43.18
6	Sri Lanka	13	5	8	0	0	60	38.46
7	Bangladesh	12	4	8	0	-3	45	31.25
8	West Indies	13	3	8	2	0	44	28.21
9	Pakistan	14	5	9	0	-13	47	27.98





LEADING RUN-SCORERS

Player	Mat	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50
JE Root (Eng)	22	40	4	1968	262	54.66	7	7
YBK Jaiswal (Ind)	19	36	2	1798	214*	52.88	4	10
BM Duckett (Eng)	22	41	1	1470	153	36.75	2	8
HC Brook (Eng)	17	29	0	1463	317	50.44	4	7
UT Khawaja (Aus)	19	37	3	1422	232	41.82	2	6
SPD Smith (Aus)	19	35	3	1324	141	41.37	5	4
TM Head (Aus)	19	34	1	1177	152	35.66	3	5
Z Crawley (Eng)	19	34	0	1175	189	34.55	1	8
KS Williamson (NZ)	11	22	1	1152	156	54.85	5	4
PHKD Mendis (SL)	11	20	2	1123	182*	62.38	5	3

LEADING WICKET-TAKERS

Player	Mat	Wkts	BBI	Ave	Econ	SR	5	10
JJ Bumrah (Ind)	15	77	6/45	15.09	2.95	30.67	5	0
PJ Cummins (Aus)	17	73	6/91	24.54	3.38	43.45	5	1
MA Starc (Aus)	18	72	6/48	27.27	3.84	42.52	2	0
NM Lyon (Aus)	16	66	6/65	24.00	3.08	46.62	1	1
R Ashwin (Ind)	14	63	7/71	24.55	3.47	42.42	5	1
NGRP Jayasuriya (SL)	12	58	6/42	36.74	3.48	63.29	4	0
JR Hazlewood (Aus)	13	57	5/31	19.68	3.12	37.82	3	0
RA Jadeja (Ind)	15	55	5/41	23.43	3.08	45.61	3	1
AAP Atkinson (Eng)	11	52	7/45	22.15	3.73	35.61	3	1
CR Woakes (Eng)	12	51	5/62	21.88	2.98	44.00	1	0



ICC World Test Championship Mace

The ICC World Test Championship Mace's original design dates back to the year 2000, when it was crafted by Trevor Brown of M/s. Thomas Lyte – the gold and silversmiths of the United Kingdom's Royal Family.

The Mace is made from sterling silver and gold plates, with a hardwood base. Its design features a handle resembling a cricket stump, wrapped in a silver-gilt laurel band. The top of the Mace is notable for its depiction of a gold-plated cricket ball within a global map, inspired by the sight of a cricketer holding a stump as a souvenir after a match.

The design incorporates longitude lines similar to those on a globe, creating reflections against the golden cricket ball. These lines were shaped using hot forging at over 700 degrees Celsius and soldered together to form the globe shape. Around this globe is a belt displaying the insignia of the 12 Test nations

participating, with space to include additional nations in the future.

Prior to the introduction of the World Test Championship (WTC) Final, the Mace was awarded to the team at the top of the ICC Men's Test Team Rankings.

PRIZE MONEY

Position	Team	Prize money (USD)
Winner	Australia/South Africa	3,600,000
Runners-up	Australia/South Africa	2,160,000
Third	India	1,440,000
Fourth	New Zealand	1,200,000
Fifth	England	960,000
Sixth	Sri Lanka	840,000
Seventh	Bangladesh	720,000
Eighth	West Indies	600,000
Ninth	Pakistan	480,000



MATCH TIMINGS

First session: 10:30–12:30
Second session: 13:10–15:10
Third session: 15:30–17:30

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Squad Profiles: Australia

Australia have named a 15-man squad who will bid to retain their ICC World Test Championship crown at Lord's. From seasoned campaigners to exciting new faces, here are the players in contention to make the final XI...



PAT CUMMINS

Now 32, skipper Pat Cummins (above) has established himself as one of the great fast bowlers in his country's storied history. It has been 14 years since he made his Test debut as an 18-year-old and his 294 Test wickets put him eighth all time among

Australians, with Glenn McGrath the only player with a better bowling average than Cummins' 22.43 of the top 10.

SCOTT BOLAND

A late bloomer, Scott Boland has made up for lost time since making his Test debut at the age of 32, taking six for seven on debut against England at the MCG. Now 13 Tests into his Australia career, his bowling average of 17.66 is third in the all-time list for the Baggy Green.

ALEX CAREY

Another one who had to bide his time, Alex Carey was a talented Australian rules footballer before turning his focus to cricket. Since breaking into the white-ball team in 2018, the wicket-keeper batter has helped Australia to ICC Men's Cricket World Cup glory, as well as cementing his position in the Test side.

CAMERON GREEN

First capped aged just 21, Cameron Green is back for the World Test Championship Final after a back surgery kept him sidelined for six months. An all-rounder, he is currently just available as a batter but scored an unbeaten 174 the last time he played Test cricket to



steer Australia to victory in New Zealand in 2024.

JOSH HAZLEWOOD

Along with Pat Cummins and Mitchell Starc, Josh Hazlewood (left) has been a mainstay of the Australian fast-bowling attack for a decade. A double ICC Men's Cricket World Cup winner, his 279 Test wickets put him inside Australia's all-time top 10, 11 years on from his first appearance with the Baggy Green.

TRAVIS HEAD

Australia's Mr Everything, Travis Head has been a key contributor for his country in every format of the game. A handy offspinner as well as a top order batter, Head was the hero as Australia won the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup in 2023 with a century in the final, while he also made a sparkling 163 in the World Test Championship final the same year as India were beaten at The Oval.

JOSH INGLIS

Born in Leeds, Josh Inglis will return to the country of his birth for the World Test Championship final. The wicketkeeper enjoyed a fine start to his Test career against Sri Lanka earlier this year, scoring a century in the 2-0 series victory.

USMAN KHAWAJA

The oldest player in the Australia squad, 38-year-old Usman Khawaja (below) is now firmly established as an opener, having started his career batting at No.3. The first player of Pakistani origin to represent Australia, he returns to Lord's two



years on from a crucial half-century in an Ashes victory over England.

SAM KONSTAS

At 19, Sam Konstas is half the age of his opening partner Usman Khawaja but showed no signs of youthful nerves when making his Test debut in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy last December. An attacking batter by nature, his half-century in that MCG encounter was the third fastest ever by an Australian debutant.

MATT KUHNEMANN

Left-arm spinner Matt Kuhnemann has enjoyed plenty of success with the ball in his relatively short Test career, taking 25 wickets at an average of just over 22. He has played all five of his Tests in sub-continental conditions as he stakes a claim to be Nathan Lyon's long-term successor.

MARNUS LABUSCHAGNE

Born in South Africa, Marnus Labuschagne moved to Australia at the age of 10 and has been a firm fixture in the No.3 spot for more than half a decade. He is familiar with conditions in the UK, having played club cricket in England when he first broke through and more recently enjoying several stints with Glamorgan, including a two-match

spell in the build-up to this year's WTC Final.

NATHAN LYON

One of just nine players in history to have taken 500 Test wickets, Nathan Lyon is closing in on Glenn McGrath as Australia's second most prolific Test bowler. Now 37, Lyon has not looked back since removing Kumar Sangakkara with his very first ball in Test cricket back in 2011.

STEVE SMITH

From leg-spinning all-rounder to one of the greatest batters ever to represent Australia, Steve Smith (right) has had quite a journey over the past decade and a half. Only Ricky Ponting has more Test centuries for Australia, while Smith's batting average of 56.74 is second among players with 10,000 Test runs.

MITCHELL STARC

Completing the trio of fast-bowling greats in the current Australia squad, Mitchell Starc is one of the most accomplished bowlers across all formats. He holds the record for the fastest ball bowled in Test cricket, a 160.4kph rocket a decade ago, while he is fast approaching the 400-wicket club in Tests, good enough for third in the all-time Australian list.

**BEAU WEBSTER**

A handy all-rounder, Beau Webster has made a fast start to his international career, averaging 50 with the bat and 24 with the ball after three Tests. He enjoyed a stellar debut against India in Sydney in January, scoring 57 and 39 not out in a six-wicket win.

Squad Profiles: South Africa

South Africa's 15-man squad for their first-ever appearance in an ICC World Test Championship final contains a mixture of youth and experience. Here's a rundown of the Proteas players gunning for glory at Lord's...

TEMBA BAVUMA

Temba Bavuma (below) arrives at Lord's fresh from an excellent home summer, scoring centuries against Sri Lanka and Pakistan during series victories which booked his side's place at Lord's. The 35-year-old made his Test debut on Boxing Day



of 2014 against the West Indies and is currently listed sixth in the ICC's men's Test batting rankings.

DAVID BEDINGHAM

Another player to have excelled in English domestic cricket, David Bedingham scored nearly 200 runs more than anyone else in Division One of the County Championship last season, and his 279 against Lancashire was the highest score in Durham's first-class history. The 31-year-old right-hander, who can also keep wicket, scored his first and so far, only Test century against New Zealand in February 2024.

CORBIN BOSCH

Corbin Bosch took to Test cricket like a duck to water on his debut against Pakistan in last year's Boxing Day Test, grabbing a wicket with his first ball – and going on to take four for 63 – before striking an unbeaten 81 from number nine. The son of

former Proteas Test player Tertius, Bosch's brother Eathan is also a full international, having made his ODI debut in February.

TONY DE ZORZI

Tony de Zorzi captained South Africa at the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2016 but has had to be patient to make his mark on the senior international stage. His first Test century was in Chittagong in October 2024, a sparkling 177, and his command of the pull shot makes the left-hander an attractive player to watch. The 27-year-old is also a fine short leg fielder.

MARCO JANSEN

Standing 2.06m tall, giant left-armer Marco Jansen averages under 22 with the ball after 17 Tests, with the highlight coming in Durban last year when he ripped through Sri Lanka with seven for 13 as the Proteas skittled their opponents for just 42.



Jansen is also handy with the bat and blasted a 16-ball half century against India in November 2024. His twin brother, Duan, is also a professional cricketer.

KESHAV MAHARAJ

Keshav Maharaj (above), South Africa's most successful ever spinner

in Test cricket, is two shy of reaching 200 wickets and his average is on the right side of 30. The slow left-armed made his Test debut in Perth in 2016 but will be looking to improve on a modest record against the final opponents – he has taken 22 scalps at 45 in nine Tests against Australia.

AIDEN MARKRAM

Another to have led South Africa at the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup, lifting the trophy in 2014, Aiden Markram (right) is closing in on 3,000 Test runs and has seven centuries to his name in the longest format. The top-order batter captains the Proteas in T20 cricket and guided them to the final of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup last year, in which they were beaten by India.

WIAAN MULDER

A seam bowling all-rounder, Wiaan Mulder is no stranger to English conditions having represented Kent and Leicestershire in recent years – scoring a career best 235 not out for the latter in 2022. The 27-year-old was still at school when he made his first-class debut in 2016 and was promoted up the order in South Africa's most recent Test against Pakistan, batting at number three having never previously come in higher than six.

SENURAN MUTHUSAMY

A very useful player with bat and ball, left-arm spinner Senuran Muthusamy claimed a memorable scalp for his first Test wicket when he held on to a return catch to dismiss Virat Kohli in October 2019. He has played just three more Tests since but is a reliable operator for Dolphins, with eight first-class centuries and more than 250 wickets to his name.

LUNGI NGIDI

Lungi Ngidi is making a well-timed return from injury, having sat out the home summer in South Africa with a groin problem. The 29-year-old seamer announced his arrival on the



Test scene in style with six for 39 against India in 2018 and currently averages a shade over 23 after 19 appearances.

DANE PATERSON

No-one has had a closer view of Lord's in the build-up to the ICC World Test Championship final than Dane Paterson, who has started the season with Middlesex in England's County Championship. Appearances have been sporadic over his eight-year international career, but the 36-year-old impressed in last year's Boxing Day Test against Pakistan, taking five for 61 – his best figures in the format.

KAGISO RABADA

An elite pace bowler, Kagiso Rabada is fifth on South Africa's all-time list of Test wicket takers and arrives at Lord's three shy of levelling Allan Donald's tally of 330. He is ranked second in the world in Tests – with only Jasprit Bumrah ahead of him – and he is already on the honours board at the Home of Cricket after taking five for 52 against England in 2022.

RYAN RICKELTON

Stylish left-hander Ryan Rickelton made a dream start to 2025, scoring 259 against Pakistan at Newlands

during his first innings as a Test opener before winning the SA20 with MI Cape Town. An all-round sportsman growing up, Rickelton has been in and out of the Test side since his debut in 2022 but will hope that New Year's knock – the joint-seventh highest Test score by a South African – will cement his place for Lord's.

TRISTAN STUBBS

The only way was up for Tristan Stubbs after his Test bow, which saw him become just the second player in history to be dismissed twice on the first day of his debut. The aggressive, inventive batter now has two Test tons to his name and an average of 33.33, while he has excelled in South Africa's domestic red ball competition and remains a key part of his nation's limited overs sides.

KYLE VERREYNNE

Wicketkeeper-batter Kyle Verreynne announced himself in Test cricket in February 2022 with a sparkling unbeaten 136 which helped the Proteas level a series in New Zealand. He has become acclimatised to English conditions in the past two summers during spells with Nottinghamshire and began his latest stint with a ton against Essex at Trent Bridge in April.



SECTION 4

Lord's: The Home of Cricket



A Brief History of Lord's

The first-ever match played at Lord's Cricket Ground was in 1787, when businessman Thomas Lord staged a game between Middlesex and Essex at a newly built ground in what was then known as Dorset Fields.

By 1811, the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) had moved to a new ground on the Eyre Estate in St John's Wood. This ground proved unpopular – but when plans emerged for the Regent's

Canal to be built straight through it, Thomas Lord gratefully accepted compensation and moved the Ground to its current location in 1814. The current Lord's Ground has resided in St John's Wood for over 200 years.

As well as hosting some of the most memorable international matches in history, Lord's has recently hosted the finals of both the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup and the ICC

Women's Cricket World Cup. In 2017, England's women defeated India in a thrilling final, while 2019 saw England's men claim victory over New Zealand in a dramatic super over, creating sporting history as 'the greatest cricket match ever played'.

Lord's is home to Middlesex County Cricket Club, as it has been since 1877, and also hosts many smaller matches over the course of each season.

The stands at Lord's, clockwise from the Media Centre, are as follows:

- Edrich Stand
- Mound Stand
- Tavern Stand
- Allen Stand
- Pavilion
- Warner Stand
- Grand Stand
- Compton Stand





A History of ICC Finals at Lord's

Lord's will host its first ICC Test World Championship Final this year, the latest in a storied list of showpiece occasions to be staged at the 'Home of Cricket'. Here's a look back at the nine ICC World Cup showpieces that have taken place at the venue so far...

1975 – WEST INDIES v Australia
The first-ever ICC Men's Cricket World Cup concluded at Lord's and the West Indies became the inaugural champions by beating Australia in the final. Clive Lloyd top-scored with 102 as the Windies set Ian Chappell's side 292 to win, before five run outs saw Australia bowled

out 17 runs short with eight balls remaining of their 60 overs.

1979 – England v WEST INDIES

The Windies defended their title in 1979 and stretched their unbeaten run in ICC Men's Cricket World Cups to two tournaments as they beat hosts England in the final. Viv Richards' 138 helped rescue the Windies from a wobble as they posted 286, before a five-fer for Joel Garner helped bowl England out for 194.

1983 – INDIA v West Indies

The trend of batting first and winning the final continued for the 1983 final at Lord's, but this time the West Indies' grip on the trophy ended. India successfully defended their total of 183, with Mohinder Amarnath taking the final wicket as the West Indies were dismissed for 140.

1993 – ENGLAND v New Zealand

The first ICC Women's Cricket World Cup final held at Lord's came 20



years after the first edition of the tournament – and just like in 1973 at Edgbaston, the hosts triumphed. England beat New Zealand in this showpiece, Jan Brittin top-scoring with 48 to guide her side to 195 for five before Gillian Smith took three wickets as the Kiwis were bowled out 67 runs short.

1999 – Pakistan v AUSTRALIA

Shane Warne spun Australia to their second ICC Men's Cricket World Cup victory with an imperious eight-wicket win over Pakistan in the final in 1999. Warne took four for 33 as Pakistan were bowled out for only

132, with Australia needing just 20.1 overs to chase the total down as Adam Gilchrist scored a 36-ball 54.

2009 – ENGLAND v New Zealand

The first-ever ICC Women's T20 World Cup final (above) was hosted at Lord's as part of a double-header with the men's final. England continued their run of triumphing on home soil as they beat New Zealand, with Katherine Brunt posting three for six as the Kiwis were bowled out for just 85. Claire Taylor steered the ship for England, who took 17 overs to chase down their total, making an unbeaten 39 as her side became the



SEAGRAM'S

ROYAL
STAG

PACKAGED
DRINKING WATER

IT'S OUR LIFE.
WE LIVE IT LARGE.

HAR AIM LARGE, HAR GAME LARGE.
**WE ARE GENERATION
LARGE.**



first simultaneous holders of both the T20 and ODI World Cups.

2009 – Sri Lanka v PAKISTAN

Pakistan claimed their first ICC Men's T20 World Cup title (above) as they defeated Sri Lanka by eight wickets in the 2009 final at Lord's. Kumar Sangakkara and Angelo Mathews were required to rescue Sri Lanka from 70 for six, with Sangakkara scoring 64 not out to help his side set Pakistan 139 to win. Shahid Afridi ensured his side made light work of the chase, making an unbeaten 54 from 40 balls as Pakistan got home with eight balls remaining.

2017 – ENGLAND v India

Anya Shrubsole delivered one of the great World Cup performances as England defeated India in a dramatic ICC Women's Cricket World Cup final. Chasing 229, Punam Raut's 86 put India in a strong position, but her dismissal was the beginning of a collapse orchestrated by Shrubsole, whose figures of six for 46 remain the best in a World Cup final and saw England win by just nine runs.

2019 – New Zealand v ENGLAND

Another extraordinary final followed two years later as England finally broke their ICC Men's Cricket World Cup hoodoo in the most dramatic of circumstances. After both sides were tied on 241 after their 50 overs, the match went to a Super Over and boundary countback was needed to split the two teams after both scored 15 – England lifting the trophy by virtue of scoring 26 boundaries to the Kiwis' 17. Jason Roy and Jos Buttler combined to run out Martin Guptill from the final ball of the Super Over, leading to jubilant scenes inside the Home of Cricket as the hosts won, in the immortal words of Ian Smith, 'by the barest of margins'.



Test Matches at Lord's

AUSTRALIA

Test record at Lord's: P 40 • W 18 • D 15 • L 7

Start date			Result
21/07/1884	Australia 229 & 145	England 379	England won by an innings & 5 runs
19/07/1886	England 353	Australia 121 & 126	England won by an innings & 106 runs
16/07/1888	Australia 116 & 60	England 53 & 62	Australia won by 61 runs
21/07/1890	Australia 132 & 176	England 173 & 137-3	England won by 7 wickets
17/07/1893	England 334 & 234-8	Australia 269	Drawn
22/06/1896	Australia 53 & 347	England 292 & 111-4	England won by 6 wickets
15/06/1999	England 206 & 240	Australia 421 & 28-0	Australia won by 10 wickets
12/06/1902	England 102-2	Australia did not bat	Drawn
15/06/1905	England 282 & 151-5	Australia 181	Drawn
14/06/1909	England 269 & 121	Australia 350 & 41-1	Australia won by 9 wickets
24/06/1912	England 310-7*	Australia 282-7	Drawn
15/07/1912	South Africa 263 & 173	Australia 390 & 48-0	Australia won by 10 wickets
11/06/1921	England 187 & 283	Australia 342 & 131-2	Australia won by 8 wickets
26/06/1926	Australia 383 & 194-5	England 475-3*	Drawn
27/06/1930	England 425 & 375	Australia 729-6* & 72-3	Australia won by 7 wickets
22/06/1934	England 440	Australia 284 & 118	England won by an innings & 38 runs
24/06/1938	England 494 & 242-8*	Australia 422 & 204-6	Drawn
24/06/1948	Australia 350 & 460-7*	England 215 & 186	Australia won by 409 runs
25/06/1953	Australia 346 & 368	England 372 & 282-7	Drawn



Start date			Result
21/06/1956	Australia 285 & 257	England 171 & 186	Australia won by 185 runs
22/06/1961	England 206 & 202	Australia 340 & 71-5	Australia won by 5 wickets
18/06/1964	Australia 176 & 168-4	England 246	Drawn
20/06/1968	England 351-7*	Australia 78 & 127-4	Drawn
22/06/1972	England 272 & 116	Australia 308 & 81-2	Australia won by 8 wickets
31/07/1975	England 315 & 436-7*	Australia 268 & 329-3	Drawn
16/06/1977	England 216 & 305	Australia 296 & 114-6	Drawn
28/08/1980	Australia 385-5* & 189-4*	England 205 & 244-3	Drawn
02/07/1981	England 311 & 265-8*	Australia 345 & 90-4	Drawn
27/06/1985	England 290 & 261	Australia 425 & 127-6	Australia won by 4 wickets
22/06/1989	England 286 & 359	Australia 528 & 119-4	Australia won by 6 wickets
17/06/1993	Australia 632-4*	England 205 & 365	Australia won by an innings & 62 runs
19/06/1997	England 77 & 266-4*	Australia 213-7*	Drawn
19/07/2001	England 187 & 227	Australia 401 & 14-2	Australia won by 8 wickets
21/07/2005	Australia 190 & 384	England 155 & 180	Australia won by 239 runs
16/07/2009	England 425 & 311-6*	Australia 215 & 406	England won by 115 runs
13/07/2010	Australia 253 & 334	Pakistan 148 & 289	Australia won by 150 runs
18/07/2013	England 361 & 349-7*	Australia 128 & 235	England won by 347 runs
16/07/2015	Australia 566-8* & 254-2*	England 312 & 103	Australia won by 405 runs
14/08/2019	England 258 & 258-5*	Australia 250 & 154-6	Drawn
28/06/2023	Australia 416 & 279	England 325 & 327	Australia won by 43 runs



SOUTH AFRICA

Test record at Lord's: P 18 • W 6 • D 4 • L 8

Start date			Result
01/07/1907	England 428	South Africa 140 & 185-3	Drawn
10/06/1912	South Africa 58 & 217	England 337	England won by an innings & 62 runs
15/07/1912	South Africa 263 & 173	Australia 390 & 48-0	Australia won by 10 wickets
28/06/1924	South Africa 273 & 240	England 531-2*	England won by an innings & 18 runs
29/06/1929	England 302 & 312-8*	South Africa 322 & 90-5	Drawn
29/06/1935	South Africa 228 & 278-7*	England 198 & 151	South Africa won by 157 runs
21/06/1947	England 554-8* & 26-0	South Africa 327 & 252	England won by 10 wickets
21/06/1951	England 311 & 16-0	South Africa 115 & 211	England won by 10 wickets
23/06/1955	England 133 & 353	South Africa 304 & 111	England won by 71 runs
23/06/1960	England 362-8*	South Africa 152 & 137	England won by an innings & 73 runs
22/07/1965	South Africa 280 & 248	England 338 & 145-7	Drawn
21/07/1994	South Africa 357 & 278-8*	England 180 & 99	South Africa won by 356 runs
18/06/1998	South Africa 360 & 15-0	England 110 & 264	South Africa won by 10 wickets
31/07/2003	England 173 & 417	South Africa 682-6*	South Africa won by an innings & 92 runs
10/07/2008	England 593-8*	South Africa 247 & 393-3*	Drawn
16/08/2012	South Africa 309 & 351	England 315 & 294	South Africa won by 51 runs
06/07/2017	England 458 & 233	South Africa 361 & 119	England won by 211 runs
17/08/2022	England 165 & 149	South Africa 326	South Africa won by an innings & 12 runs

Australia v South Africa at Lord's in 1912

The two sides in the ICC World Test Championship Final 2025 have actually met once before at Lord's – in the Triangular Tournament played between Australia, England and South Africa, then the world's only three Test-playing nations, back in July 1912...

South Africa (below right) won the toss and batted first on a quick wicket. After losing their first five wickets for 74, they recovered to post a total of 263, but during the innings Australia (below left) missed nine chances in the field. Herbie Taylor and Louis Stricker saved the situation for the South Africans, putting on 97 runs for the sixth wicket in little more than an hour.

The Australians started disastrously. In the first over, Dave Nourse bowled Claude Jennings, and when 14 runs had been scored the same bowler dismissed Charlie Macartney with a ball which rose very quickly from the

pitch. Charles Kelleway and Warren Bardsley started cautiously but on the second day they practically sealed the match for Australia. Playing wonderfully well on a wicket, which, though fast, was far indeed from being at all easy, they took the score from the overnight 86-2 to 256 in under two hours. In all, they put on 242 runs for the third wicket in three and a quarter. Eventually dismissed LBW by Aubrey Faulkner,

Kelleway hit seven fours in his 102. Bardsley, badly let off by Gordon White at third man when 131, was out fifth wicket down at 316. His 164 was the highest innings hit in the nine Test matches of the triangular series. Some late-order striking from Ernie Mayne and Roy Minnett propelled Australia's final total to 390. Sid Pegler took four of the last five wickets at a cost of only 16 runs.

With South Africa needing 127 to avoid an innings defeat, Charlie Llewellyn played splendidly and the arrears were chalked off with six wickets in hand. However, he was bowled by Macartney for 59, and then Faulkner, Frank Mitchell and Reggie Schwarz failed in such quick succession – and at the end of the second day, South Africa were 146-8, a lead of just 19.

On the third day, the South Africans' innings was soon finished off for 173, with Jimmy Matthews taking four wickets for 29 runs and Macartney three at the same cost. Needing only 47, the Australians won the match by 10 wickets, Mayne and Jennings hitting off the runs in less than half an hour.





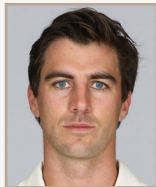
SECTION 5

Teams & Players



Australia

PAT CUMMINS (C)



DOB: 8 May 1993
BORN: Westmead, NSW
STYLE: RHB/RF

Made his Test debut against South Africa at Johannesburg in 2011

He enjoyed a sensational Test debut, taking a match-winning 6-79 before injuries laid him low for several years and threatened to end his international career

He roared back in 2017 and rose to be ranked the number 1 Test bowler in the world, as well as leading his team to victory in the ICC World Test Championship Final 2023

He followed up by captaining Australia to the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 crown, and the following year he took hat-tricks in successive matches in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024

SCOTT BOLAND



DOB: 11 Apr 1989
BORN: Melbourne, Vic
STYLE: RHB/RFM

Made his Test debut against England at Melbourne in 2021

Having waited 10 years after his domestic debut for his baggy green, he made up for lost time with 6-7 in the 2021 Boxing Day Test against England on his debut

He played a key role in Australia's victory in the ICC World Test Championship Final 2023 at The Oval, taking the prized scalps of Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, and Ravindra Jadeja

He starred in the 2024/25 Border-Gavaskar Trophy, taking 4-31 and 6-45 at Sydney and ending the series with 21 wickets at just 13.02 apiece

ALEX CAREY (WK)



DOB: 27 Aug 1991
BORN: Loxton, SA
STYLE: LHB/WK

Made his Test debut against England at Brisbane in 2021

Having given up an AFL career to return to cricket, he replaced Tim Paine in the ODI team and struck 375 runs in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019 at an average of 62.50 and a strike rate of 104.16

He also replaced Paine in the Test team, and helped Australia to a Test series win in Pakistan before striking a maiden century against South Africa in the 2022 Boxing Day Test at Melbourne

He helped Australia win the ICC World Test Championship Final and the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup in 2023, and struck a Test-best 156 against Sri Lanka in Galle in February 2025

CAMERON GREEN



DOB: 3 Jun 1999
BORN: Perth, WA
STYLE: RHB/RFM

Made his Test debut against India at Adelaide in 2020

He was the leading run-scorer in the 2020/21 Sheffield Shield, and performed well with both bat and ball in the 2021/22 Ashes

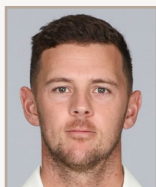
He struck half-centuries in each of his first four Test series and took a maiden five-wicket haul in the 2022 Boxing Day Test against South Africa

He played three matches as Australia won the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, then struck an imperious unbeaten 174 in the Wellington Test victory over New Zealand in early 2024 before a back injury laid him low



Australia

JOSH HAZLEWOOD



DOB: 8 Jan 1991
BORN: Tamworth, NSW
STYLE: LHB/RFM

Made his Test debut against India at Brisbane in 2014

After growing up idolising Glenn McGrath, he was picked to make an ODI debut against England at the tender age of just 19, with a Test debut coming four years later

He took the wicket that retained the Ashes for Australia in 2019, adding 11 wickets as Australia won the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021, and took 16 wickets in the 2023 Ashes in England

He was ever-present as Australia won the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, and was bowling superbly in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy before a right calf strain limited him to just two Tests

TRAVIS HEAD



DOB: 29 Dec 1993
BORN: Adelaide, SA
STYLE: LHB/OB

Made his Test debut against Pakistan at Dubai in 2018

After an initial lean time in Test cricket, he enjoyed a prolific 2021/22 Ashes, striking an 85-ball century at Brisbane and adding 101 at Hobart

He added 175 against the West Indies on his home ground of Adelaide in December 2022, and 163 as Australia defeated India in the ICC World Test Championship Final the following year

He struck 137 against India as Australia won the final of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 and added 255 runs in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 to help propel himself to the number 1 spot in the ICC Men's T20I Batting Rankings

JOSH INGLIS (WK)



DOB: 4 Mar 1995
BORN: Leeds, England
STYLE: RHB/WK

Made his Test debut against Sri Lanka at Galle in 2025

Having moved to Australia as a 14-year-old, he scored three centuries in the 2021/21 Sheffield Shield and followed up with 531 runs for Leicestershire in the 2021 T20 competition

He scored 159 runs in his 10 matches at the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, adding 16 dismissals behind the stumps as Australia won the trophy

He made a maiden T20I century against India later the same month, and marked his Test debut against Sri Lanka at Galle in January 2025 with an innings of 102

USMAN KHAWAJA



DOB: 18 Dec 1986
BORN: Islamabad, Pakistan
STYLE: LHB/RM

Made his Test debut against England at Sydney in 2011

He emigrated with his family to Australia when he was a young boy and had several Test opportunities before establishing himself in the Test team in the 2015/16 season

He forced his way into the Australian squad for the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019 but struggled in the Ashes, and found himself out of the side for another two and a half years

Replacing the COVID-stricken Travis Head in the Sydney Test in January 2022, he struck twin centuries, and was named Player of the Series on the triumphant tour of Pakistan

Australia

SAM KONSTAS



DOB: 2 Oct 2005
BORN: Kogarah, NSW
STYLE: RHB/OB

Made his Test debut against India at Melbourne in 2024

He played his junior cricket for Kingsgrove Cricket Club and earned a spot in the Australia team for the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2024, where he scored a century against the West Indies

He scored twin centuries against South Australia in the 2024/25 Sheffield Shield, becoming the youngest player since Ricky Ponting in 1993 to achieve this feat and earning an Australia A spot

He made 57 off 26 balls on his Sydney Thunder debut and struck 60 on his Test debut, which unsettled the Indian bowling attack

MATT KUHNEMANN



DOB: 20 Sep 1996
BORN: Brisbane, QLD
STYLE: LHB/SLA

Made his Test debut against India at Delhi in 2023

He rose to prominence in 2019 for the Brisbane Heat, and was a crucial member of their BBL|13 championship as their most economical bowler along with 10 wickets for the season

He toured Sri Lanka with the ODI squad in 2022, and took 5-13 in India's first innings in just his second Test as Australia won in Indore in March 2023

He signed a three-year deal to join Tasmania ahead of the 2024/25 season, and celebrated by bowling Australia to a series win in Sri Lanka with 16 wickets in the two-Test series

MARNUS LABUSCHAGNE



DOB: 22 Jun 1994
BORN: Klerksdorp, SA
STYLE: RHB/LB

Made his Test debut against Pakistan at Dubai in 2018

He moved to Australia with his family at the age of 10, and his first taste of Test cricket came after he scored 795 runs for Queensland in the 2017/18 Sheffield Shield

He reached the number 1 spot in the ICC Men's Test Batting Rankings in late 2021, and the following December he struck 204 and 104 not out against the West Indies at Perth

He scored 362 runs as Australia won the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, which included an unbeaten innings of 58 in the final victory over hosts India, but found subsequent Test runs more difficult to come by

NATHAN LYON



DOB: 20 Nov 1987
BORN: Young, NSW
STYLE: RHB/OB

Made his Test debut against Sri Lanka at Galle in 2011

He moved up from a job on the Adelaide Oval ground staff to an international debut in just a year, and took the wicket of Kumar Sangakkara with his first delivery in Test cricket

Having played four matches in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2019, he bowled Australia to their first Test victory at Edgbaston for 18 years with 6-49 in England's second innings

He helped Australia win the ICC World Test Championship Final 2023 before injuring himself at Lord's, but returned to pass 500 Test wickets later in the year



Australia

STEVE SMITH



DOB: 2 Jun 1989
BORN: Sydney, NSW
STYLE: RHB/LB

Made his ODI debut against Pakistan at Lord's in 2010

He was his side's leading run-scorer as they won the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2015 on home soil, and was also part of the victorious Australia teams at the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 and the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023

He recovered from the 2018 Newlands controversy to strike 774 runs in the following year's Ashes series and later served as Pat Cummins' vice-captain

With a Test batting average hovering around 60 for much of his career, he passed the 10,000-run barrier in the series against Sri Lanka in early 2025

MITCHELL STARC



DOB: 30 Jan 1990
BORN: Baulkham Hills, NSW
STYLE: LHB/LF

Made his Test debut against New Zealand at Brisbane in 2011

Named Player of the Tournament in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2015, he added 27 more wickets four years later and continued his love affair in 2023, taking 16 wickets as Australia won the title in India

He became the first player to take a hat-trick in each innings of a Sheffield Shield match, and was part of the Australian side who won the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021

He played a key part in the 2021/22 Ashes win, and ended the 2023 series as Australia's leading wicket-taker

BEAU WEBSTER



DOB: 1 Dec 1993
BORN: Snug, TAS
STYLE: RHB/RM/OB

Made his Test debut against India at Sydney in 2025

After impressing with 494 runs including two centuries in his first full Sheffield Shield season in 2015/16, in 2020 he shifted from a part-time off-spinner to a pace-bowling all-rounder

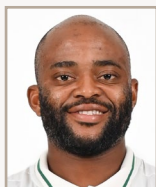
His 938 runs, 30 wickets and 24 catches in 2023/24 saw him called up for his Test debut in the fifth and final Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series

He has experience of English conditions, having represented Essex in 2023, Gloucestershire in 2024 and Warwickshire in 2025



South Africa

TEMBA BAVUMA (C)



DOB: 17 May 1990
BORN: Cape Town
STYLE: RHB/RM

Made his Test debut against the West Indies at Gqeberha in 2014

He was the first black African cricketer to make a Test century for South Africa and the first to captain the side

He also became only the second South African cricketer to score a century on ODI debut, scoring 113 against Ireland at Benoni in September 2016

He struggled in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, but had a producing ICC World Test Championship 2023–25, averaging more than 60 and striking centuries against Sri Lanka and Pakistan

DAVID BEDINGHAM



DOB: 22 Apr 1994
BORN: George
STYLE: RHB

Made his Test debut against India at Centurion in 2023

Having played for South Africa at U19 level, he moved to England and became a prolific batter for Durham, striking 257 against Derbyshire in 2021

A maiden Test century came against New Zealand in just his fourth Test in early 2024, and later that year he made a county-record 279 for Durham against Lancashire

He signed for Sunrisers Eastern Cape in the SA20, and ended the initial phase of the ICC World Test Championship 2023–25 as South Africa's leading run-scorer

CORBIN BOSCH



DOB: 10 Sep 1994
BORN: Durban
STYLE: RHB/RFM

Made his Test debut against Pakistan at Centurion in 2024

The son of former South African paceman Tertius Bosch, he was part of the victorious South African side at the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2014 in the UAE, taking nine wickets in five matches

He was called into the Rajasthan Royals squad for the 2022 IPL but didn't feature in the final XI, then represented Barbados Royals in the CPL that followed

Making his Test debut against Pakistan in the 2024 Centurion Boxing Day Test, he dismissed Shan Masood with his first delivery, and struck an unbeaten 81 batting at number nine

TONY DE ZORZI



DOB: 28 Aug 1997
BORN: Johannesburg
STYLE: LHB/OB

Made his Test debut against the West Indies at Centurion in 2023

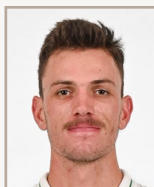
He captained South Africa at the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2016, and struck an unbeaten triple-hundred in the CSA 4-Day Series for Western Province against Knights in November 2022

He started his international career well, with 85 in just his third Test innings and an unbeaten 119 against India in his fourth ODI

A maiden Test century followed at Chittagong in October 2024, when he struck 177 to help South Africa to an innings victory

South Africa

MARCO JANSEN



DOB: 1 May 2000
BORN: Klerksdorp
STYLE: RHB/LFM

Made his Test debut against India at Centurion in 2020

He earned himself an IPL deal in 2021 and toured England the following year, playing some useful lower-order innings and taking 5-35 in the Oval Test

He contributed 157 runs and 17 wickets at the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, and he was ever-present as South Africa reached the final of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024

He struck a 16-ball half-century in T20I cricket against India in November 2024 before taking 7-13 to bowl Sri Lanka out for just 42 in the Durban Test later the same month

KESHAV MAHARAJ



DOB: 7 Feb 1990
BORN: Durban
STYLE: RHB/SLA

Made his Test debut against Australia at Perth in 2016

He took 9-129 against Sri Lanka at Colombo in 2018, South Africa's best Test bowling figures since re-admission in 1991

In June 2021, he took South Africa's second Test hat-trick with three West Indies wickets in three balls at St Lucia

He took 15 wickets at the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, conceding just 4.15 runs per over, and carried that form into the following year's ICC Men's T20 World Cup, in which he took 11 wickets

AIDEN MARKRAM



DOB: 4 Oct 1994
BORN: Centurion
STYLE: RHB/OB

Made his Test debut against Bangladesh at Potchefstroom in 2017

He led South Africa to ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup glory in 2014, and scored 97 on his Test debut, following up with 143 and 125 in his next two matches

He guided Sunrisers Eastern Cape to the inaugural SA20 championship, and he was named South Africa's T20I captain ahead of their 2023 home series against the West Indies

He struck a 49-ball century against Sri Lanka in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 and captained South Africa to their first ICC Men's T20 World Cup final the following year

WIAAN MULDER



DOB: 19 Feb 1998
BORN: Johannesburg
STYLE: RHB/RM

Made his Test debut against Sri Lanka at Gqeberha in 2019

South Africa's leading wicket-taker at the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2016 in Bangladesh, he made an ODI debut at the age of 19

He has enjoyed a productive time with Leicestershire, scoring a maiden double-century against Sussex in 2022 and taking 26 wickets at 17.96 apiece the following year

He struck a maiden Test century against Bangladesh at Chittagong in late 2024 and chipped in with useful wickets in South Africa's march to the ICC World Test Championship Final



South Africa

SENURAN MUTHUSAMY



DOB: 22 Feb 1994
BORN: Durban
STYLE: LHB/SLA

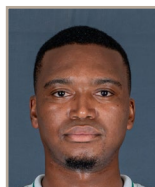
Made his Test debut against India at Visakhapatnam in 2019

After a breakout 2017/18 domestic season, he was included for the 2019 tour of India, where Virat Kohli became his first Test wicket

Out of the international side for several years, he developed his batting, and struck a maiden one-day century for North West against Western Province in March 2022

Earning a recall to the Test side at Chattogram in October 2024, he responded with 68 not out and 4-45 in Bangladesh's second innings

LUNGI NGIDI



DOB: 29 Mar 1996
BORN: Durban
STYLE: RHB/RF

Made his Test debut against India at Centurion in 2018

He took six wickets on his Test debut and enjoyed a productive ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2022, taking 4-29 in the win against India at Perth

He took ten wickets in his eight matches in the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, but struggled the following year, suffering with back and groin injuries

He recovered to be part of South Africa's squad for the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, where he took six wickets in his three games

DANE PATERSON



DOB: 4 Apr 1989
BORN: Cape Town
STYLE: RHB/RFM

Made his Test debut against England at Gqeberha in 2020

After making his domestic debut in 2009, he made his international T20I debut in 2017 before Test recognition finally came three years later

He fell out of favour after his initial two matches against England, but superb performances for Nottinghamshire forced him back into the Test squad after a four-year absence

In December 2024 he took his first five-wicket haul in Test cricket with 5-71 against Sri Lanka at Gqeberha, then added 5-61 against Pakistan at Centurion three weeks later

KAGISO RABADA



DOB: 25 May 1995
BORN: Johannesburg
STYLE: RHB/RF

Made his Test debut against India at Mohali in 2015

He ended the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2014 as South Africa's highest wicket-taker as they won the title, and went on to take a record 6-16, including a hat-trick, on his ODI debut

Regularly ranked at number one in the ICC Men's Test Bowling Rankings, he took 13 wickets at both the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 and the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024

He took his 300th Test wicket in October 2024 and helped South Africa to the semi-finals of the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, bowling well with both new and old ball



South Africa

RYAN RICKELTON (WK)



DOB: 11 Jul 1996
BORN: Johannesburg
STYLE: LHB/WK

Made his Test debut against Bangladesh at Durban in 2022

He finished as the leading run-scorer in the 2024 SA20, hitting 530 runs at an average of 58.88 for MI Cape Town to earn a spot in the South African squad for the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024

Having failed to pass 50 in any of his first seven Tests, his breakthrough came against Sri Lanka at Gqeberha in December 2024, when he struck 101

He started 2025 with an innings of 259 against Pakistan in the Cape Town Test before striking a maiden ODI century against Afghanistan in the ICC Champions Trophy

TRISTAN STUBBS



DOB: 14 Aug 2000
BORN: Cape Town
STYLE: RHB/OB

Made his Test debut against India at Cape Town in 2024

He marked his first innings in T20I cricket by striking 72 from just 28 balls against England at Bristol in July 2022

He became the first player to ever be dismissed twice on his first day of Test cricket, but bounced back to contribute 165 runs as South Africa reached the final of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024

He struck a maiden Test century against Bangladesh in October 2024, then added a second in his next match against Sri Lanka at Durban

KYLE VERREYNNE (WK)



DOB: 12 May 1997
BORN: Pretoria
STYLE: RHB/WK

Made his Test debut against the West Indies at Gros Islet in 2021

A former student of Wynberg Boys' High School, he struck 158 runs at the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2016 and averaged over 50 in first-class cricket for four of his first five seasons

He scored a second-innings unbeaten 136 at Christchurch in just his sixth Test to level the 2022 series in New Zealand

After striking a century in the 2024 SA20, he enjoyed a prolific Test season, scoring centuries against Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Pakistan



SECTION 6

Match Officials



Match Officials

RICHARD ILLINGWORTH



On-Field Umpire

DOB: 23 Aug 1963
BORN: Bradford, England

Played 9 Tests (1991-1995)

Umpired his first Test in 2012

Umpiring his 77th Test

Umpired ICC World Test Championship Finals 2021 and 2023

CHRIS GAFFANEY



On-Field Umpire

DOB: 30 Nov 1975
BORN: Dunedin, New Zealand

Umpired his first Test in 2014

Umpiring his 62nd Test

Umpired ICC World Test Championship Final 2023

JAVAGAL SRINATH



Match Referee

DOB: 31 Aug 1969
BORN: Mysore, India

Played 67 Tests (1991-2002)

Refereed his first Test in 2006

Refereeing his 80th Test

RICHARD KETTLEBOROUGH



TV Umpire

DOB: 15 Mar 1973
BORN: Sheffield, England

Umpired his first Test in 2010

Umpired 91 Tests

NITIN MENON



Fourth Umpire

DOB: 2 Nov 1983
BORN: Indore, India

Umpired his first Test in 2019

Umpired 30 Tests



