

World Cup 1983 India v Australia at Chelmsford: Dubious data

Unfortunately, no score for the Chelmsford match has been found; in fact, there is no surviving tour scorebook for the Australian team. (A score for the Zimbabwe/Australia match was found mounted on a wall at the Harare cricket ground!)

The only possibility of getting a score now would be to search archives at Chelmsford or Essex CCC. Note that a score for India's earlier match against Zimbabwe (Kapil 175*) is also missing in spite of searches.

I have long been suspicious of the detail of some online scorecards of his vintage. In 1983, balls faced was of little interest to reporters and rarely published in full for ODIs. Original scores can no longer be found for hundreds of matches, and this seems to have been the case as long ago as the Frindall volume.

The ODI was scored by Eddie Solomon and E. Roger Laws (both now deceased). Laws was the local Chelmsford scorer.

Newspaper reports of the match in question are very sparse in terms of ball faced. However, having accessed more than half a dozen such reports, the over numbers of most falls of wicket can be teased out. From this, rough estimates of balls faced can be made. The over numbers are as follows

India v Australia, Chelmsford 1983

India			Australia		
Wkt	Ov #	OUT	Wkt	Ov #	OUT
1	6	Gavaskar	1	2	Chappell
2	13	Srikkanth	2	16	Wood
3	17	Amarnath	3	18	Hookes
4	30	Patil	4	20	Yallop
5	37	Kapil	5	21	Marsh
6	42	Y Sharma	6	25	MacLeay
7	49	Azad	7	26	Hogan
8	~51	Binny	8	~35	Lawson
9	~53	Kirmani	9	39	Border
10	56	Sandhu	10	39	Thomson

Note that Kapil was out before Sharma.

From this I have estimated balls faced as follows

	Runs	Ovs batted	BF Est
SM Gavaskar	9	6	20
K Srikkanth	24	13	40
M Amarnath	13	11	35
Yashpal Sharma	40	29	90
SM Patil	30	13	40
N Kapil Dev	28	7	29

K Azad	15	12	35
RMH Binny	21	9	27
S Madan Lal	12	7	21
SMH Kirmani	10	2	6
BS Sandhu	8	3	9

	Runs	Ovs batted	BF Est
TM Chappell	2	2	6
GM Wood	21	16	50
GN Yallop	18	18	55
DW Hookes	1	2	6
AR Border	36	21	60
RW Marsh	0	0.1	1
KH Macleay	5	4	12
TG Hogan	8	1	4
GF Lawson	16	9	27
RM Hogg	8	4	12
JR Thomson	0	0.1	1

Four ODIs: Revised Balls Faced (from Surviving scores)

ODI #		R	Revised BF	Old Version		
18	England	B Wood	14	39	30	NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	BW Luckhurst	1	8	8	NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	KWR Fletcher	18	35	22	NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	JH Edrich				NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	MH Denness				NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	AW Greig				NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	CM Old				NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	RW Taylor				NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	FJ Titmus				NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	P Lever				NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England	M Hendrick				NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
18	England					NZ v Eng, Wellington 9-Mar-1975
196	Australia	KC Wessels	6	18	18	SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	GM Wood	2	8	8	SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	GN Yallop	60	51	81	SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	DW Hookes	49	39	40	SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	SB Smith	0	0	0	SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	GS Chappell				SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	AR Border				SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	RD Woolley				SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	B Yardley				SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983

196	Australia	RM Hogg				SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia	JN Maguire				SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
196	Australia					SL v Aus, Colombo 30-Apr-1983
267	India	SC Khanna	13	20	20	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	GAHM Parkar	16	25	25	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	DB Vengsarkar	33	57	86	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	SM Patil	22	18	18	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	SM Gavaskar	25	54	54	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	K Azad	0	2	2	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	N Kapil Dev	39	47	47	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	RJ Shastri	5	17	17	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	S Madan Lal	1	8	8	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	Chetan Sharma	9	8	8	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India	AK Patel	0	3	3	Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
267	India					Ind v Aus, New Delhi 28-Sep-1984
430	WI	RB Richardson	2	19	2	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	TRO Payne	18	39	19	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	AL Logie	31	65	65	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	HA Gomes	19	47	47	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	IVA Richards	1	7	7	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	PJL Dujon	34	57	57	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	RA Harper	4	14	14	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	MD Marshall	27	26	26	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	J Garner	4	10	10	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	AH Gray	0	1	1	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987
430	WI	CA Walsh	1	3	3	Eng v WI, Devonport 3-Feb-1987

There are dozens of ODIs from the 1970s and 80s that have significant conflicts between Balls Faced and Balls Bowled in online scores. Most of them are matches played in India or the West Indies, for which surviving scores cannot be found, and probably never will be.