



MELBOURNE CRICKET CLUB

BBL FINALS - THE KNOCK-OUT
JANUARY 23, 2022

SYDNEY THUNDER V ADELAIDE STRIKERS
LIBRARY FACT SHEET

Today's Match: The Squads



Sydney Thunder

Usman Khawaja (captain), Sam Billings (England, Oval Invincibles Men, Chennai Super Kings, Delhi Daredevils), Jonathon Cook, Ben Cutting, Brendan Doggett, Matthew Gilkes, Chris Green, Alex Hales (England, Nottinghamshire, Islamabad United, Karachi Kings, Trent Rockets Men), Baxter Holt, Nathan McAndrew, Alex Ross, Daniel Sams, Gurinder Sandhu, Jason Sangha, Tanveer Sangha, Chris Tremain.



Adelaide Strikers

Travis Head (captain), Wes Agar, Alex Carey, Harry Conway, Rashid Khan, (Afghanistan, Sunrisers, Sussex, Barbados Tridents, Lahore Qalandars, Trent Rockets Men), Michael Nesar, Harry Nielsen, Liam O'Connor, Phil Salt (Sussex, Islamabad United, Barbados Tridents, Manchester Originals Men), Matt Short, Peter Siddle, Cameron Valente, Jake Weatherald, Jonathon Wells, Daniel Worrall, Matthew Renshaw, Liam Scott, Spenser Johnson, Danny Briggs (Warwickshire, Southern Brave Men), Ryan Gibson.

Between the Teams

	Played	Thunder	Strikers	Ties	No Result	NRR
Overall	18	9	7	-	2	-0.043
Adelaide Oval	9	5	3	-	1	-0.109
Manuka Oval	1	-	-	-	1	+1.181
Stadium Australia	3	1	2	-	-	-0.579
Sydney Showground	5	3	2	-	-	+0.387

Final Team Placings at end of BBL11 (Season 2021/22)

Team	P	W	L	T	NR/A	BP
Perth Scorchers Men	14	11	3	0	40	0.926
Sydney Sixers Men	14	9	4	1	35	1.027
Sydney Thunder Men	14	9	5	0	35	0.725
Adelaide Strikers Men	14	6	8	0	28	0.237
Hobart Hurricanes Men	14	7	7	0	27	-0.332
Melbourne Stars Men	14	7	7	0	26	-0.222
Brisbane Heat Men	14	3	11	0	16	-0.91
Melbourne Renegades Men	14	3	10	1	16	-1.477

Notes: Points allocation – Win 3, Tie 1.5 each team, No Result or Abandoned 1.5 each team. A bonus point is awarded halfway through the second innings of a match. The team chasing is awarded the point if its score is above the equivalent 10-over score of the opposition. If the chaser is trailing the fielding side will be awarded the point. Net run rate is calculated by deducting from the average runs per over scored by a team in the tournament, the average runs per over scored against it.

Past BBL Knock-Out Finals: A Retrospective

When the BBL was established in 2011/12 it concluded with the top four teams contesting a two Semi-Finals and the two winners playing the Final. A new five-team finals series was introduced in the 2019/20 season. The Eliminator is played between the fourth and fifth placed teams with the loser eliminated, The Qualifier is between first and second, The Knock-Out is between third and the winner of the Eliminator. The Challenger is between the winner of the Knock-out and the loser of the Qualifier, leading to The Final between the winner of The Qualifier and the winner of The Challenger. A review of the first two of the Knock-Out finals is set out below.

Adelaide Strikers v Sydney Thunder

At Adelaide Oval, 1 February, 2020: The Knock-Out of BBL09. **SYDNEY THUNDER 7/151** (20 overs) (AD Hales, 59; PM Siddle 2/21) **defeated ADELAIDE STRIKERS 9/143** (20 overs) (JW Wells 34, TM Head 32; DR Sams 3/26, JD Cook 2/16, CH Morris 2/22) **by eight runs**. *Player of match: Alex Hales.*

The Strikers went through the season winning eight of their 14 matches and finishing third on the table. The Thunder, however, had won only six of their matches, losing seven with one no-result and finished fourth. In The Eliminator, the Thunder beat the Hobart Hurricanes by 57 runs to set up their Knock-Out clash with the Strikers. Adelaide Strikers won the toss and decided to field. The Thunder were consistent with their run-scoring, and when Alex Hales was dismissed for 59 (off 35 balls) they were 3/89 of 11.1 overs. They kept the score ticking over and finished their 20 overs at 7/151, about 20-30 runs short of what was considered a good score. Peter Siddle (2/21) had the best return of the Strikers' bowlers.

The Strikers started slowly and finished their 20 overs still 8 runs behind the Thunder, having lost nine wickets along the way. The openers never really established a partnership, with Salt caught by Hales of the bowling of Sams for 5, when the score was 7. They lost their second wicket at 35, then their third at 65. Carey and Wells steadied and took the score on to 115 where they needed 37 off 31 balls. However, Alex Carey ran himself out off the final ball of the 14th over and in ten balls they lost three wickets for two runs, and scoring dried up. Wells and Nesar scored 18 runs in the next two overs, before the Thunder bowlers struck back with three wickets for four runs. Wells was the ninth wicket falling on the first ball of the final over. Morris only conceded 4 runs of the final over, and the Thunder won by eight runs. Adelaide lost 6 for 28 after Carey ran himself out, and their season was over. It was the third final of the series and in all three the team batting first successfully defended their total. In their next match, the Challenger, the Thunder lost to the Melbourne stars by 28 runs and were eliminated from the finals.

Brisbane Heat v Sydney Thunder

At Manuka Oval, Canberra, 31 January, 2021: The Knock-Out of BBL10. **SYDNEY THUNDER 8/158** (20 overs) (BJC Cutting 34*, SW Billings 34; MT Steketee 2/22, MJ Swepson 2/28) **lost to BRISBANE HEAT 3/162** (19.1 overs) (SD Heazlett 74, JJ Peirson 43, M Labuschagne 32) **by seven wickets**. *Player of the match: Sam Heazlett*

The Thunder had finished the home and away season third on the ladder; winning seven matches and losing six. They had the highest net run rate in the competition, however they were separated from the Scorchers (second) by half a point, mainly due to the Perth team's "No Result" match. The Heat finished the season fourth with seven wins and seven losses. They qualified for the Knock-Out by beating the Strikers by 8 wickets in the Eliminator two days earlier. Adelaide Strikers won the toss and decided to bat. Xavier Bartlett opened the bowling for the Heat and his only over for the match resulted in that rarest of T20 achievements, the maiden. He was extremely unlucky to not have had Usman Khawaja out lbw. The Scorchers lost their first wicket at 22, when Gregory caught Hales. They lost their second on 62 when Usman Khawaja was stumped by Peirson off Labuschagne. The captain Callum Ferguson fell soon after when the Strikers were 3/74. The Thunder were unable to build much momentum through the middle overs, with a trio of wickets taking them from 4/107 to 5/109, and then 6/110. Cutting and Green took the score to 134 at the start of the 18th over, where Green and Milne were dismissed in the first two balls. In the final ten balls Cutting and Doggett moved their score to 8/158 – largely thanks to two 6s by Cutting of Morkel in the final over. Mark Steketee and Mitchell Swepson each took two wickets for the Heat.

In reply Brisbane fell to 1/2 in the second over after Daniel Sams bowled Joe Denly for a duck. In the next over they were 2/14 when their captain, Chris Lynn, was caught by Hales at mid-off from the bowling of Doggett. However, from there on the Heat cruised to victory with five balls to spare, due to the superb batting from Sam Heazlett (74* off 49 balls including six 4s and three 6s), ably assisted by Marnus Labuschagne (32 off 30, three 4s) and Jimmy Peirson (43* off 24, including two 4s and three 6s). In their commentary on the match, Cricinfo praised the, "Sensational partnership from Sam Heazlett and Jimmy Peirson. Heazlett was 19 off 25 balls without a boundary and the Heat needed 89 from 48 balls when Marnus Labuschagne was run out. But Heazlett unleashed with the help of Peirson and they guided the Heat home. Heazlett finishes with a career-best 74 not out. Peirson was phenomenal again." In the Challenger, the Heat lost to the Scorchers by 49 runs (D/L method).

Fact sheet research by MCC Library volunteers Ross Perry. Edited by David Studham and Trevor Ruddell

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Other Sources: Australian Cricket Digest, Ed. L Colliver, various issues.