

SPORT

HUGHES THE 12TH MAN

11. DARRYN RANDALL (SOUTH AFRICA, 32) – SOUTH AFRICA, 2013
Randall was hit on the side of the head when attempting a pull shot. The batsman collapsed and was immediately rushed to hospital, but could not be revived.

10. ZULFIQAR BHATTI (PAKISTAN, 22) – PAKISTAN, 2013
Bhatti was struck in the chest by the ball while batting and collapsed to the ground. Bhatti was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital.

9. RICHARD BEAUMONT (ENGLAND, 33) – ENGLAND, 2012
Beaumont celebrated a five-wicket haul earlier in the day, but collapsed on the field after suffering a suspected heart attack. The bowler was airlifted to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth hospital but was pronounced dead shortly after arrival.

8. ALCWYN JENKINS (ENGLAND, 72) – ENGLAND, 2009
Jenkins was umpiring when he was struck on the head by the ball after a fielder had thrown it in Jenkins's direction accidentally. Jenkins was airlifted to hospital but did not recover from his injuries.

7. WASIM RAJA (PAKISTAN, 54) – ENGLAND, 2006
The former Pakistan batsman died while playing for Surrey Over-50s at Marlow in Buckinghamshire after he suffered a heart attack and collapsed on the field.

6. RAMAN LAMBA (INDIA, 38) – DHAKA, 1998
Lamba was hit on the head while fielding during a club match in Dhaka. Standing at short-leg close to the batsman, the opener sustained serious brain injuries and went into a coma three days after the incident before being pronounced dead.

5. IAN FOLLEY (ENGLAND, 30) – ENGLAND, 1993
Folley's returned from retirement in 1991, but was hit below the eye in a freak accident while batting in a domestic match. While under anaesthetic in hospital, Folley suffered a heart attack and was pronounced dead.

4. WILF SLACK (ENGLAND, 34) – GAMBIA, 1989
Slack suddenly collapsed and died during a match in Banjul, the capital of Gambia. Slack had suffered four blackouts while out in the field in previous matches, but doctors they were unable to diagnose the cause of his death.

3. ABDUL AZIZ (PAKISTAN, 18) – PAKISTAN, 1959
Aziz was playing as a wicketkeeper in a domestic match in Karachi, Pakistan. He was hit in the chest while batting, and was declared dead on arrival when he reached a nearby hospital.

2. ANDY DUCAT (ENGLAND, 56) – ENGLAND, 1942
Ducat made a single appearance for England during his career, but the batsman suffered a heart attack during a game at Lord's, where he collapsed and died.

1. GEORGE SUMMERS (ENGLAND, 25) – ENGLAND, 1870



This picture taken on December 11, 2011 shows Phil Hughes ducking a bouncer during the second Test against New Zealand at Bellerive Oval in Hobart. Wish he evaded another short delivery on that ill-fated Tuesday in the Sheffield Shield.

PHOTO: REUTERS FILE

Phillip Hughes is a tough, pesky 20-year-old lefty from the sticks who bats and lives by his own lights. Australia's new opening batsman scores an awful lot of runs in any company, but in every other respect he is an ordinary lad, with a short haircut, a slight earring, a fondness for clothes, plenty of mates, no tickets on himself and a love for rugby league so strong that he spent his youth crash-tackling boys twice his size. Armed with a willow, though, he enters another world, becomes astute, bold, confident, tenacious and resilient.

Late cricket columnist Peter Roebuck, after Hughes hit

FACTFILE

Name: Phillip Joel Hughes

Birthdate: November 30, 1988

Birthplace: Macksville, New South Wales

Batting	M	Inns	R	HS	Avg	100s	50s
Tests	26	49	1535	160	32.65	3	7
ODIs	25	24	826	138*	35.91	2	4
T20Is	1	1	6	6	6.00	0	0

Played for: Australia, Australia A, Australia Under-19s, East Torrens, Hampshire, Middlesex, Mumbai Indians, New South Wales, New South Wales Under-19s, South Australia, Western Suburbs, Worcestershire.

Test debut: against South Africa at Johannesburg on February 26, 2009.

Last Test: against England at Lord's in July 2013.

ODI debut: against Sri Lanka at Melbourne on January 11, 2013.

Play and remember PHILLIP HUGHES



As ever, in the face of terrible tragedies, the questions overwhelm: Why ... how ... why ... why ... WHY? And as ever, the answers don't remotely satisfy. How can a healthy young man, engaged in the passion of his life, among the world's best at his craft, while wearing protective equipment ... still be mortally felled by what seemed a relatively innocuous ball?

It defies explanation, for there are no answers worthy of the name. As I wrote on Thursday

morning, it seems more a matter of mathematics than mayhem. That is, if players engage in an activity where there is a one-in-10 million chance of mortal injury ... 10 million times ... then it stands to reason that every few decades someone will be the victim of colossal catastrophe through the fault of no one.

I further noted that while optimism is in the very nature of sport -- the ingrained belief that out of every loss some good must come -- in the case of Phillip Hughes this is proved wrong, as from such a thing as this there is only tragedy

from which there is no comeback. But maybe I was wrong.

Right now, amid the devastation, there is strong discussion among the Australian cricket community about whether next week's Test against India should go ahead. Would it be disrespectful to play it? Would the players even be capable of concentrating on a mere game in the face of losing such a cherished teammate in such circumstances? The last part is for them to decide.

But I believe the Test match should go ahead, with one caveat. That is that the proceeds go to Australian charities that devote

themselves to brain injuries -- their prevention, their cure and learning how best to live with them. Phillip Hughes's legacy in cricket is secure. He will be long remembered for his achievements -- including being the youngest Australian cricketer to hit a Test century in each innings -- his engaging and self-effacing personality, his style. But what a wonderful thing if out of this tragedy came something else for others who have been afflicted by all but equal misfortune, but who have lived?

How strong if people that Hughes never met could benefit by money raised in his honour, by

an Australian population that turns out in force to support the match, honour his memory and achieve one enduring positive amid the blackness.

Cricket Australia should set up a fund into which the money could go, together with donations from the Australian cricket community. And then have a panel, including members of Phillip Hughes's family, to decide which brain injury charities might most benefit from it.

Famed Australian cricket columnist Peter FitzSimons wrote this article for Sydney Morning Herald on Thursday

'I have lost a good friend'

NAIMUL KARIM



"The ball must have gone through the gap here," a concerned-looking Mushfiqur Rahim told Shakib Al Hasan while the duo were analysing one of their helmets, just before they began training at Mirpur yesterday.

Shakib then took the two helmets and compared them for a minute, before keeping the one he liked for his batting session. It was a scenario that is generally not seen during training; these were after all, the same helmets that they have been batting with throughout the series.

And yet, yesterday's short discussion depicted the concern, if not fear, that has spread following the death of the Australian cricketer, Phil Hughes.

A similar wave was witnessed at Mirpur yesterday. The players did not seem like a team that had just won their first ODI series this year.

Shakib, who had played under Hughes in the Big Bash, tweeted an emotional message yesterday evening: "I cannot explain enough how traumatic this for me, especially because I knew him personally as we played in the same team for Adelaide strikers. Not only [have] I lost a teammate; [but] also a good friend! My prayers are with him and his family, rest in peace mate!"

Mushfiqur expressed his respect for the player through a press release from the BCB. "Phillip Hughes was an embodiment of the fighting spirit and the world of cricket will miss him. The news has come as a terrible shock. Our thoughts are with Phillip's family, friends and the Australian cricket fraternity. May his soul rest in peace," stated the release.

Hathurusingha, who had coached Hughes for two years while working for New South Wales, was, according to the BCB's media manager, not in the 'right frame of mind' to speak to the media.

Zimbabwean top order batsman, Hamilton Masakadza, expressed his condolences as well and described the Australian's death as 'really sad'.

In a mark of respect to Phillip Hughes, the Bangladesh and Zimbabwe teams will observe a minute's silence prior to the start of the fourth ODI at Mirpur today and will wear black arm bands.

Elsewhere, the cricket boards of both Pakistan and New Zealand, yesterday, decided to suspend the second day of the third Test. Pakistan manager, Moin Khan, who had met Hughes during a bilateral series last month, described the Australian as a 'cheerful cricketer', who was 'always ready to talk cricket.'

Falsifying security!



Bangladesh all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan (R) demonstrates to his teammates how the ball struck Phil Hughes on the head just behind the helmet.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED

REUTERS, London



Helmets have given a false sense of security to batsmen, who no longer have the necessary technique to deal with fast bowling, according to former England opener Geoff Boycott.

The death of Australian Phillip Hughes on Thursday after being struck on the head by a short-pitched delivery has fuelled debate about safety in cricket.

"Most of my career I batted on

uncovered pitches without a helmet," Boycott wrote in the Daily Telegraph.

"This taught me how important it was to have a good technique against fast bowling.

"You required judgement of what to leave, when to duck and when to play the ball."

Boycott believes batsmen now feel impregnable at the crease, rather than playing with a genuine fear factor as used to be the case.

"Helmets have unfortunately taken away a lot of that fear and have given every batsman a false sense of security," he said.

"Even tail-enders come in and bat like millionaires, flailing away and having a go at short balls with poor technique and lack of footwork.

"Helmets have made batsmen feel safe in the belief that they cannot be hurt and made batsmen more care-free and careless."

Boycott believes that injuries are inevitable, whatever improvements are made in the standard of helmets and safety equipment.

"There are no guarantees," he said. "Unless we batsmen wear a suit of armour there are always going to be injuries in cricket."

'No no no ...'

AFP, Sydney



Players and politicians expressed shock and grounds fell silent on Thursday as the cricket world plunged into mourning after the death of Australian batsman Phillip Hughes.

Ripples from the demise of Hughes, two days after he was knocked unconscious by a cricket ball, quickly spread across the planet as the sport reeled from a rare death in competition.

At the Adelaide Oval, home ground of Hughes's South Australia team, the heart-wrenching message "Vale Phillip Hughes 1988-2014" was posted on an otherwise empty scoreboard.

Australian legend Adam Gilchrist summed up the shock at Hughes's death with a tweet that read: "No no no no. RIP Phillip Hughes."

Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott said Hughes "was a young man living out his dreams. His death is a very sad day for cricket and a heartbreaking day for his family."

Shane Warne and Glenn McGrath were among the Australian greats to send condolences along with national coach Darren Lehmann, who tweeted: "RIP you little champ, we are all going to miss you!"

And Indian superstar Sachin Tendulkar led a wave of sympathy from abroad as he saluted Hughes, his former teammate in the Indian Premier League.

"Shocked to hear about Phil. Sad day for cricket," Tendulkar said.

Former South African wicketkeeper Mark Boucher, who was forced to retire in 2012 after being hit in the eye by a ball while wicketkeeping, tweeted that he was "lost for words".

International Cricket Council chief executive David Richardson said: "All those who play, have played or are in any way connected to the game are devastated by the news."

There was also sympathy for New South Wales paceman Sean Abbott, who bowled the ball that felled Hughes.

"How will he continue? He is dealt a blow to his career and he needs counselling, which I am sure must have started, and needs to stay calm," former Pakistan fast bowler Waqar Younis told AFP.

Former England captain Andrew Strauss, who played alongside Hughes at Middlesex, led British tributes, describing the news as "sickening".

Middlesex Cricket Club announced that flags at Lord's would be lowered in Hughes's memory, while fans left flowers at the ground's Grace Gates.

The MCC president, David Morgan, said: "Phillip was a fine cricketer and one who we will tragically never have the chance to see batting again here at the home of cricket."