



Brydon Carse celebrates a wicket for England Lions against Australia A (Getty Sport)

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## Bowlers push England Lions closer to victory over Australia A at MCG

England Lions moved closer to victory against Australia A at the MCG, enforcing the follow on and taking five second-innings wickets before rain brought a premature close to day three.

The hosts still trail by 72 runs, having been dismissed for 176 in the first innings and finishing the day 180 for five.

Resuming their first innings on 103 for five, Josh Inglis and Jack Wildermuth

added 31 more runs to their partnership before Ollie Robinson bowled Inglis for 40.

Wildermuth and Michael Nesar put on 23 but Nesar's dismissal – caught behind off Tom Abell – prompted a collapse, with Australia A losing their final four wickets for seven runs in three overs.

Abell got Jackson Bird two balls after Nesar, also caught behind by Bracey, while Brydon Carse wrapped up the innings by dismissing Mark Steketee and Mitchell Swepson in consecutive overs. Queensland's Wildermuth reached his 50 in the penultimate over and remained unbeaten.

Lions captain Keaton Jennings invited his counterpart Moises Henriques to bat again, with Australia 252 behind England's first-innings total of 428. Australia's second innings started in much the same way as their first, with an early wicket falling.

Usman Khawaja hit a four and was then trapped in front by Craig Overton in the first over. Number three Nic Maddinson made up for his first innings failure to hit 52 off 55 balls, adding 77 with Marcus Harris, but both men fell within the space of four balls with the score on 81.

Sam Northeast took the catch of Maddinson off Overton, with Dom Bess bowling Marcus Harris in the next over for his first wicket of the match.

Bess took his second in his next over, with Henriques offering a catch to Overton for four to leave the hosts 81 for four. Inglis joined Kurtis Patterson to add 65 before being dismissed by Ollie Robinson for 35.

Wildermuth (16no) and Patterson (43no) put on 30 more before the rain set in to curtail proceedings and take the game into the final day.

## **QUOTES**

Keaton Jennings said: "We've had another good day in the field but we know there's still work to be done tomorrow if we're to win the game.

"Patterson and Wildermuth are good batsmen and I'm sure they'll do

everything they can to frustrate us and take the game as deep as possible.

“Our bowling throughout the day was generally good and even when decent partnerships started to form we held our nerve to take advantage of any breakthrough and put the Australian batsmen under pressure.

“Winning any game in Australia is difficult, so hopefully we can push on to victory tomorrow.”

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## Contacts

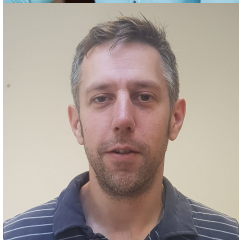


**Kate Miller**

Press Contact

Director of Communications

[media@ecb.co.uk](mailto:media@ecb.co.uk)



**Jonathan Reed**

Press Contact

Head of Media & Publications

[media@ecb.co.uk](mailto:media@ecb.co.uk)

+44 (0) 7525 596 621





**Danny Reuben**

Press Contact  
Head of Team Communications  
England Men's team  
danny.reuben@ecb.co.uk  
+44 (0)7825 723 620



**Matt Somerford**

Press Contact  
Communications Manager - Domestic Cricket  
media@ecb.co.uk  
+44 (0)7551 134 716



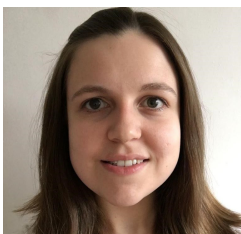
**Hen Cowen**

Press Contact  
Senior Communications Manager (they/them)  
hen.cowen@ecb.co.uk  
+44 (0)7585 987 302



**Chris Tuttlebee**

Press Contact  
Corporate Communications Lead  
chris.tuttlebee@ecb.co.uk  
+44 (0)7824 551713



**Emily Liles**

Press Contact  
Communications Manager - Performance (England Women)  
emily.liles@ecb.co.uk

**Accreditation Team**

Press Contact  
Accreditation  
accreditation@ecb.co.uk



**ECB Press Office**  
Press Contact  
[media@ecb.co.uk](mailto:media@ecb.co.uk)