



the
Twenty20
ROCKSTARS
of cricket



NEW ZEALAND
BLACKCAPS® v **INDIA**

TWENTY20 - BLACKCAPS v INDIA - AMI STADIUM WED 25 FEB - WESTPAC STADIUM FRI 27 FEB

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SERIES PREVIEW

Australia may have done the BLACKCAPS a big favour when they pipped the New Zealanders by just one run in their Twenty20 International in Sydney ten days ago.

The gutted look on vice-captain Brendon McCullum's face as he fell to a brilliantly-juggled outfield catch by Adam Voges needed no translation. Having blasted 61 off 47 balls with less than two overs to go, McCullum knew he literally had a match-win in his hands - a match that had informally been labelled 'the decider' after a frustratingly even Chappell-Hadlee ODI Series.

McCullum had just reached his highest Twenty20 International score - hot on the heels of his previous best, a pyrotechnic 59 against the West Indies in the last National Bank Series match, which made full use of Hamilton's short boundaries. He wanted that win against Australia badly for the team's sake, and to be unbeaten in the process. Those foes from across the Tasman denied him both wishes. Frustration? The word barely covers the bruises to McCullum's ultra-competitive hide.

So now India will feel his wrath. He's due, and with just two chances to dominate the Indians, the pivotal wicketkeeper-batsman won't hold back as he seeks to show just why he's one of the most dangerous Twenty20 blasters on the planet. Add this to the eager enthusiasm

of new players like Guptill and Broom and the Twenty20 matches are set to be an explosive start to the India series.

Despite the impressive fire-power of the likes of Oram and Ryder, the BLACKCAPS have won just six of the 19 Twenty20 matches they've played since 2005, including two ties - which only exacerbates their sense of Twenty20 frustration. We know we're a better side than those bald statistics indicate.

India has met the BLACKCAPS just once before in the shortest form of the game - at the Twenty20 World Championships two years ago, when the New Zealanders trumped them by a tight 10 runs. It was a rare loss for the Indians, who by contrast have won most of the Twenty20 matches they've played: seven victories from 11 games, one with no result, one tie and just two losses. They lifted the inaugural ICC World Twenty20 trophy at the end of a thrilling final against Pakistan two years ago, spearheaded by opening batsman Ghambir's 75.

With their title defence coming up in June (two weeks of non-stop action in England), cool-headed captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni is keenly aware of the need to get in some early psychological dominance over the BLACKCAPS while he's got the chance.

Likewise, Vettori wants to gain a mental advantage over the Indians, not only in

the context of the ICC Twenty20 World Championships, but more immediately in the extensive National Bank Series.

The two National Bank Twenty20 Internationals - in Christchurch and Wellington - should prove just the first of fiery fracas between two sides with so much to play for. If you remain in any doubt as to their significance, just train your binoculars on Brendon McCullum's face as he walks out to bat. This time it's personal.



> HOW TWENTY20 IS DIFFERENT

- 20 overs per side
- A maximum four overs allowed per bowler
- Maximum innings time is 1 hour 20 minutes. Penalties apply for slow play
- Each no ball from a foot fault results in a "free hit" from the next delivery, where the batsman is immune from getting out
- Each new batsman has just 90 seconds to take guard. If he is not ready he will be given out - Timed Out
- Maximum of five fielders on the leg side at any time
- Maximum two fielders outside the inner circle for the first six overs and then up to five players for the rest on the innings
- If the scores are level at the end of the game, a one over "eliminator" will be played to decide the winner. Each team selects three batsmen and one bowler to take part, and one over is bowled per side. The team with the highest score from their eliminator over is declared the winner.
- If the scores are still tied at the end of the eliminator, the team which hit the most sixes during the whole game is declared the winner.



NEW ZEALAND
BLACKCAPS® v **INDIA**



**DANIEL
VETTORI**
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM ORTHODOX



**IAIN
O'BRIEN**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



**NEIL
BROOM**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM



**JESSE
RYDER**
LEFT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM



**IAN
BUTLER**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST



**TIM
SOUTHEE**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



**GRANT
ELLIOTT**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



**ROSS
TAYLOR**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK





**MARTIN
GUPTILL**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



**EWEN
THOMPSON**
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM MEDIUM-FAST



**BRENDON
McCULLUM**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
WICKETKEEPER



**NATHAN
McCULLUM**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



**JACOB
ORAM**
LEFT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



NEW ZEALAND
BLACKCAPS v **INDIA**

INDIA'S TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND
2 TWENTY20'S - 5 ONE-DAYERS - 3 TESTS





**M S
DHONI**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM



**YUSUF
PATHAN**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



**GAUTAM
GAMBHIR**
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEGBREAK



**SURESH
RAINA**
LEFT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



**RAVINDRA
JADEJA**
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM ORTHODOX



**VIRENDER
SEHWAG**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



**DINESH
KARTHIK**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
WICKETKEEPER



**ISHANT
SHARMA**
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM FAST





ZAHEER KHAN
RIGHT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM FAST-MEDIUM



ROHIT SHARMA
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



PRAVEEN KUMAR
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM



HARBHAJAN SINGH
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM OFFBREAK



PRAGYAN OJHA
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM SLOW



YUVRAJ SINGH
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM ORTHODOX



MUNAF PATEL
RIGHT-HAND BAT
RIGHT-ARM MEDIUM-FAST



IRFAN PATHAN
LEFT-HAND BAT
LEFT-ARM MEDIUM-FAST



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ROCKSTARS
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