

**Australia's  
Only Hotel  
Sports Paper**

# Miller's<sup>©</sup> Sports News

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Australia faces Sri Lanka in the first Test on Wednesday and the good news for the touring squad is that left-arm orthodox spinner Matt Kuhnemann will be there, after dislocating his thumb in the Big Bash a few weeks ago. He was passed fit to go yesterday and given the nature of the pitches over there, will almost be a certain starter for the First Test. He performed well in India in 2023 where he took nine wickets, including 5-16 in the Third Test at Indore, which Australia won and will do well there.

So with spinners Nathan Lyon, Matt Kuhnemann and Todd Murphy all available, it will be fascinating to see how the final XI shapes up for the Aussies next week. Conditions are likely to going with extra spin options, I wonder if they might go for Lyon and Kuhnemann, plus Mitchell Starc and Scott Boland with Beau Webster there to both seamers and off-spin. Playing Murphy instead of Boland would be a risk even if the pitch looks like it will be a raging turner.

There's plenty of talk about Travis Head opening with Sam Konstas, whilst leaving Usman Khawaja out. The side does need some renewal and with Khawaja now 38 years of age it may be the chance to make a change. Young left-hand batsman Cooper Connolly may get a chance as well, while Nathan McSweeney ideally could slot into the team as well, having played three Tests this summer versus India.

Sri Lanka will be hard to beat at home, having come off a two-nil series win over New Zealand back in September. Batting wise they have an in-form Kamindu Mendis who averaged 74 in 2024, the experienced Dinesh Chandimal and Angelo Matthews, plus left-arm spinner Prabath Jayasuriya who snared 48 Test wickets last year and 12 and 14.75 when the teams last met in Sri Lanka in 2022.

Tests on spinning decks are always fascinating to watch, and with two Tests over there, the World Test Final in June versus South Africa at Lord's and the three-Test tour in the West Indies during June/July, there is a heap of Test cricket to look forward to over the next six months.

**The Alex de Minaur Vs Jannik Sinner AO Quarter Final clash was the fizzer of the this summer's sports !!**

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R1 : 2 , 5 , 3 , 7	1: 8 , 4 , 7 , 1	1 : 7 , 2 , 6 , 12	1: 1 , 5 , 8 , 9
R2 : 3 , 7 , 2 , 4	2: 7 , 1 , 11 , 6	2 : 9 , 1 , 2 , 6	2: 6 , 7 , 1 , 8
R3 : 1 , 2 , 5 , 4	3: 1 , 5 , 3 , 2	3 : 1 , 9 , 8 , 10	3: 4 , 1 , 10 , 15
R4: 1 , 4 , 7 , 9	4: 13 , 5 , 2 , 17	4 : 6 , 5 , 4 , 8	4 : 8 , 5 , 1 , 7
R5: 4 , 9 , 2 , 1	5: 4 , 6 , 2 , 1	5 : 2 , 4 , 8 , 7	5: 3 , 4 , 1 , 5
R6: 10 , 7 , 11 , 5	6: 10 , 3 , 4 , 8	6 : 8 , 11 , 12 , 9	6: 14 , 10 , 3 , 2
R7: 10 , 9 , 3 , 1	7: 6 , 5 , 4 , 10	7 : 12 , 1 , 2 , 4	7: 12 , 10 , 7 , 1
R8: 1 , 2 , 7 , 12	8 : 4 , 2 , 3 , 1	8 : 3 , 6 , 1 , 7	8: 12 , 9 , 13 , 8
R9: 6 , 4 , 5 , 10	9: 10 , 7 , 6 , 1	9 : 6 , 5 , 11 , 10	9: 6 , 7 , 9 , 1
	10: 12 , 13 , 8 , 7		10: 19 , 18 , 13 , 21

<b>Jimmy Olsen</b>	<b>The Mailman</b>	<b>Tower Of Knowledge</b>
BR 2 # 8 Zaher	BR 1 # 8 Boomshanka	AR 1 # 2 Mostly For Show
MR 4 # 17 Melrose	BR 5 # 3 Blitzum	AR 3 # 8 Teardrop Rotation
MR 9 # 4 Tropicus	BR 9 # 6 Metalart	AR 8 # 12 Stay Focussed

### **At The Barriers Podcast by Gary Newton is available Tuesday and Friday Nights**

**Back to Headquarters Morphettville the listed Sportsbet Durbridge Stakes the main race on the Program.**

**Race 1:** Is for 2-year-olds I like MOSTLY FOR SHOW who won a jumpout here on Tuesday and from the Richard & Chantell Jolly yard is the top pick. GIN SPIRIT trained by the Hayes boys was an eye-catcher at a jumpout at Werribee. # 2 to win from 3

**Race 2:** DIVINE FIRE has been in good form. It led throughout at Murray Bridge two starts ago and finished in the placings when back on the trip last week. PEARL ADIOS has been around the mark and has Jason Holder and has got to be a danger.

Selections: # 4 to beat 3

**Race 3:** TAKING OMAHA won two in a row when able to lead throughout good chance again. Stablemate JUSTA STAR was runner-up to Royal Trapeze over this trip at his second run last campaign. After the claim, he'll carry 56kg. # 3 to win from 5

**Race 4:** GREENIDGE is up in grade but drops 4kgs and has Manoel Nunes at each way odds is the top selection. RUNAWAY STATEMENT the step up to 1500m here looks ideal. Selections: 9 to beat 1.

**Race 5:** BULLS ON PARADE was a forgive run last week when raced wide at Murray Bridge and stuck on gamely to finish third. SAN LUCIDO missed the start at Murray Bridge and was never in contention is down in grade. Selections: 5 from 1

**Race 6:** THE GREAT BABY has his hoof on the till after close finishes at his past two runs. KINETIC JEWEL has won two in a row and a chance again. Selections: 1 from 10.

**Race 7:** EVERYTHING COUNTS has been racing consistently but has a lot of weight but gets Manoel Nunes on board. LOMAX steps up to 1800m and must be a danger. Selections: 1 from 3

**Race 8:** TAUNTING had a tough run at Caulfield first up and wasn't disgraced in finishing fourth. Remains unbeaten second up. GOLDRUSH GURU is first up since winning the Victorian Derby. Selections: 1 is a nice race from 11.

**Race 9:** CLARENCE has changed stables from David Jolly to Clarken/O'Shea stable and showed good ability when last in work. KALASEC finished second at Murray Bridge when resuming. # 9 from 6.