

Net Run Rate explained

Net Run Rate (NRR) has become the preferred method of breaking ties in multi-team one-day international tournaments. It is often misunderstood, but really quite simple to understand. The example and explanation below is excerpted from CricInfo365's World Cup 1999 edition.

As explained in clause 11.6 of the 1999 World Cup playing conditions, "A team's net run rate is calculated by deducting from the average runs per over scored by that team, the average runs per over scored against that team".

Clause 11.6 goes on to say that "In the event of a team being all out in less than its full quota of overs, the calculation of its net run rate shall be based on the full quota of overs to which it would have been entitled and not on the number of overs in which the team was dismissed."

Let's take as an example South Africa's net run-rate in the 1999 World Cup. South Africa's listing in the Group A points table published in the group stages was as follows:

	P	W	L	NR	T	Pts	Net-RR	For	Aga
South Africa	3	3	-	-	-	6	+1.495	678/147.2	466/150

The columns we are looking at here are the last three: "Net-RR", "For" and "Aga". The figure in the "Net-RR" column is achieved by subtracting the answer of the division in the "Aga" column from the answer to the division in the "For" column.

To use this example:

FOR

South Africa had scored, so far in the tournament:

- Against India, 254 runs (for 6 wkts) from 47.2 overs
- Against Sri Lanka, 199 runs (for 9 wkts) from 50 overs
- Against England, 225 runs (for 7 wkts) from 50 overs

Across the three games, South Africa scored 678 runs in a total of 147 overs and 2 balls (actually 147.333 overs), a rate of 678/147.333 or 4.602 rpo.

AGAINST

Teams opposing South Africa scored:

- India, 253 (for 5 wkts) from 50 overs.
- Sri Lanka, 110 all out from 35.2 overs.
- England, 103 all out from 41 overs.

In the case of Sri Lanka and England, because they were all out before their allotted 50 overs expired, the run rate is calculated as if they had scored their runs over the full 50 overs.

Therefore, the run-rate scored against South Africa across the first three games is calculated on the basis of 466 runs in a total of $50 + 50 + 50 = 150$ overs, a rate of $466/150$ or 3.107 rpo.

NET-RR

The net run-rate is, therefore,

4.602	Run-rate for
3.107	Run-rate against
=====	
+ 1.495	ANSWER
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