

## Kerry O'Keeffe

## CRICKET

Kerry James "Skull" O'Keeffe (born November 25, 1949, Hurstville, New South Wales) is a former Australian cricketer and now a commentator for ABC Radio.

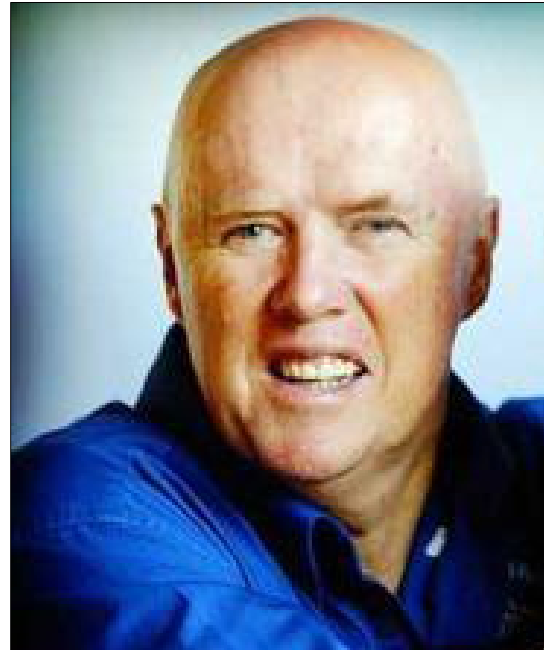
O'Keeffe debuted for Australia against England in Melbourne in 1971. Hailed as the new leg spinning wonder of world cricket he claimed 53 wickets over 24 tests. He also had success with the bat averaging 25.76 and being called upon to open the batting in the second innings of the Centenary Test, giving him virtual all-rounder status.

Always self-deprecating, one statistic that O'Keeffe himself uses to demonstrate his lack of penetration with the ball is that he is the bowler with the highest percentage of wickets out 'caught' in the history of Test match cricket (44 out of 53 wickets, 84%).

His first class record for New South Wales was superb. He took 476 wickets over 169 matches with an average of 28.11. His batting nearly matched his bowling, scoring 4169 runs at an average of 26.01 with a highest score of 99 not out!

After his retirement, O'Keeffe tried his hand in various occupations before becoming one of Australia's favourite cricket commentators. Working for ABC radio, he is well known for his humorous anecdotes and distinctive laugh.

As of 2008 O'Keeffe remains one of the reasons why so many Australians prefer to listen to the ABC cricket coverage.



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