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Underarm incident - New Zealand

1981

Underarm bowling incident

Most disgraceful moment in the history of cricket



MCH, 2012r

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The underarm incident, 1981

For many people, all trans-Tasman cricket contests are overshadowed by the unprecedented events of 1 February 1981. With New Zealand needing a six from the final ball to tie the match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (an unlikely prospect on one of the world's largest grounds), the Australian captain, Greg Chappell, ordered his brother Trevor to bowl underarm to New Zealand's number 10 batsman, Brian McKechnie. Such an action was (at the time) within the rules, if not the spirit, of the game.

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