

Subject: Week 111 learnings- superstitious numbers
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Dear All

I Have completed 111 weeks in ABG. For many 111 is a suspect number !

111 is a number that inauspicious in cricket.

I had written this note and it was in my archive folder. Here's my learning about 111.

1. 111 is regarded as inauspicious in cricket, an English game. Umpire David shepherd made it popular when he would stand on one leg while umpiring if the score were 111 or 222 or 333 or 444.
2. This comes from a superstition around Lord Nelson who was a flag officer in the Royal navy. It was rumored that he fought with one hand, one leg and with one eye. Like all superstitions, nothing is farther than the truth. Lord Nelson was killed in the battle of Trafalgar and he had both his legs fully intact when he died. So I dug deeper to check about this superstition.
3. There was a new Zealand first class team which was called Nelson and played between 1874 and 1891. This team scored 111 in their first match and last match, sheer coincidence.
4. If you look at the facts, the number around which most dismissals happen in cricket is ZERO and not 111 or 222 or 333.
5. Australians have 87 as a superstition number and funnily facts match the evidence here. Many Australian test batsmen get out around the number 87. The original theory was it was 87, because e it was derived by subtracting 13 an unlucky number form 100. In many lifts, in many buildings, in many aircraft, the number 13 is not there to respect the superstition of citizens. No 13 came from Judas who was the 13 th guest at the last supper and we all know how that went.
6. 12 and 3 are seen as lucky numbers. 12 because it is divisible by anything and three because it is seen as one plus one leads to three in marriage and life. 3 is also counted lucky because of the holy trinity.
7. The number 8 is seen as auspicious in china and 4 is seen as unlucky because the pronunciation of 4 rhymes with death in Chinese. In many building elevators, the Chinese eliminate any floor with 4 in it, i.e. 4,14,24,34,40,44 etc.
8. No 7 is considered unlucky in most of Asia, however, it is a lucky number in japan. 9 is a bad number in japan since it sounds similar to the word for torture in Japanese.
9. 666 is a sign of the devil from the bible
10. In Afghanistan 39 is a bad number because it translated to dead cow!

So much for number superstitions !!

Am sure you have many more stories around these

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