

= Steph Davies =

Stephanie Ann Davies , commonly known as Steph Davies , ( born 21 October 1987 ) is an international cricketer who has represented the England women 's cricket team in four One Day Internationals ( ODIs ) . A right @-@ arm medium @-@ fast bowler and right @-@ handed attacking batsman , she has played for Somerset women since 2001 .

After making her county debut for Somerset at the age of 13 , Davies quickly progressed into the England development and youth sides . She toured Australia with England Under @-@ 19s aged 15 and after two successful European tournaments , she captained the England Under @-@ 21s to victory in the 2006 Under @-@ 21 European Championships . After more matches for the development squad , and a number of tour matches for England , she made her ODI debut during the 2007 ? 08 tour of Australia and New Zealand , playing the fifth and final one @-@ day match against Australia , and three of the five matches against New Zealand . Following this , she continued to be involved in the England Academy , but has not made any further ODI appearances . In 2009 , she took on the captaincy of Somerset .

= = Career = =

= = = Early years = = =

After watching cricket with her father , Davies began playing Kwik cricket , and then played age @-@ group cricket for local boys ' teams , including Mountain Ash and Mid Glamorgan . At the age of 13 , she took part in a women 's trial match , and was selected to play with the older women cricketers in the South West of England . At this time , she began to play women 's cricket for Somerset Wanderers as well as her boys ' matches . She soon progressed into the Somerset county side , making her debut that same year , aged 13 against Lancashire . She played four of Somerset 's five Women 's County Championship matches in 2001 , and claimed her first wicket for the side in the third of these , trapping Derbyshire 's Jane Morris leg before wicket during an economical spell in which she conceded only five runs off four overs .

Davies progressed quickly into the England development squad , representing them in a 2002 match against British Universities Sports Association . She also played a match for Wales , helping her native country defeat Scotland by seven wickets . Although she did not appear for Somerset in the County Championship during the season , she did help Somerset Wanderers reach the semi @-@ final of the ECB Women 's National Knockout . In 2002 , she made her first appearance in the Super Fours ? a competition in which the England selectors place the 48 leading players into four teams ? playing one match for the Knight Riders .

= = = England Under @-@ 19 debut = = =

She was chosen as part of the England Under @-@ 19s squad to tour Australia during the English winter of 2002 ? 03 , in which the England side took part in the Women 's Australian Under @-@ 19 Championships . Davies had little impact in the competition , claiming two wickets from her nine overs , and scoring eleven runs during her two innings . She also played in one of the two matches against the Australia Under @-@ 19s side , bowling six overs in which she claimed one wicket .

In 2003 , Davies was again selected for the Super Fours competition , appearing in three matches for the Braves without standing out . She played five County Championship matches for Somerset , moving up the batting order ; after batting at number four in her first match of the season , she was promoted to open the innings for the remainder of the season . The move proved profitable , she passed her previous highest total during her first match in the new position , scoring 35 against Middlesex , and after a couple of lower totals , she made her highest score in women 's List A cricket when she scored 70 against Hampshire . Despite this move she remained in the lower order on her next international appearance , a 50 @-@ over contest for the England development squad

which served as a warm @-@ up for the touring South Africa national women 's cricket team . She claimed three wickets during her seven overs as the English side won by seven wickets .

Twenty20 cricket was introduced into the English women 's domestic game for the first time in 2004 as part of the Super Fours competition . Playing her first match of this format , Davies took four wickets for Braves , helping them to a 12 run victory in the semi @-@ final of the competition . Davies had some success in the 50 @-@ over tournament ; although she only claimed two wickets in her four matches , she boasted the third lowest economy rate . She continued to open the batting for Somerset , but did not pass 50 runs in a match during her four matches for the county . Upon the conclusion of the English domestic season , Davies travelled to Ireland as part of the England squad to compete in the 2004 Women 's European Under @-@ 21 Championships . Davies played two different roles for England during the tournament ; in the first match she was used purely as an opening batsman , scoring 25 runs off 27 balls to help chase down a small Scotland total of 57 in under 10 overs . In the subsequent two matches , she batted as part of the middle order , and bowled at least five overs in each match . Against the Netherlands , she bowled very economically , finishing with figures of 1 / 5 off her 5 @.@ 3 overs . England won all three of their matches to win the competition .

During 2005 , Davies passed 50 twice , making 65 against Nottinghamshire and 51 against Berkshire in the second half of the season . Due to her improved performances with the bat in the previous season , Davies was promoted to bat slightly higher in the order for the Braves , playing two matches at number five and two at number three . At the close of the season , she played for England A women in a match against the senior England side , scoring 8 runs after opening the batting . She was then selected as part of the England Development Squad to compete in the 2005 Women 's European Championship in Wales . As with her appearances in the Under @-@ 21 European Championship , her role altered from match to match . On the two occasions on which she was asked to bat , she scored 23 at number three against Ireland , and 31 opening the innings against Netherlands . She finished the tournament as the leading bowler in terms of wickets , bowling average and economy . In total she claimed nine wickets in her four matches , coming at an average of 5 @.@ 88 . The highlight of her bowling came in the match against Scotland , when Davies collected four wickets in 6 @.@ 2 overs , conceding just five runs during this time .

Davies had a reasonably quiet 2006 domestic season with both bat and ball . In four 50 @-@ over matches for Somerset she scored 34 runs at an average of 8 @.@ 50 , and took four wickets at an average of 33 @.@ 75 , taking a wicket in each match . Davies was again selected for the Super Fours , this time playing for the Emeralds . She made 74 runs at 14 @.@ 80 in five matches with a highest score of 29 , but was ineffective with the ball , taking 2 wickets at 74 @.@ 00 . Davies performed well for England A during a match against the touring Indian side , restricting the visitors to just fifteen runs off her ten overs , taking two wickets as she did so . Opening both the batting and bowling for England in this match , she then added an unbeaten 27 , albeit off 77 balls , to help England A secure victory via the Duckworth ? Lewis method . She was named as captain of the England Under @-@ 21 side for the 2006 Women 's European Under @-@ 21 Championships , and led her side to three large victories to retain the competition title . She finished the tournament near the top of both the batting and bowling averages charts , boosted by her performance against Ireland , in which she took three wickets for just six runs conceded in her bowling duties , and followed it up with a score of 31 as her side chased a low Irish total of 69 to win .

= = = Full international debut = = =

In June 2007 , Davies made her first appearance for the senior England side , albeit in a non @-@ international match against an England Cricket Board Invitational XI . She was not required to bat or bowl in the match , which England won by five wickets . As the English summer continued , she played three matches for the England development squad , making scores of 34 and 18 in matches against South Africa , and 15 against England . In November 2007 , she was named as part of the England squad which travelled to Australia and New Zealand , her first tour as a member of the senior England side . She was selected to play in two of the three warm @-@ up matches on the

tour , but did not make her ODI debut until the fifth and final match of the series . Coming on to bowl as the first change , Davies claimed four wickets in her first international innings , trapping Lisa Sthalekar , Kate Blackwell and Leonie Coleman leg before wicket , and having Kirsten Pike stumped off the last ball of the innings . Despite her performance , Australia won the match by 41 runs . After playing the only warm @-@ up match in New Zealand , in which she scored 25 from the lower order , Davies missed the first ODI , returning for the second . She bowled six wicket @-@ less overs in this match , and was not required to bat as England chased down the hosts total for the loss of only one wicket . Her bowling was used slightly more in the next match , claiming the wicket of Amy Satterthwaite during her nine overs . As with the previous match , her batting was not required as England reached the required target with six wickets remaining . She added one more wicket the fourth ODI , but there was no result as the match was washed out , leaving Davies without a batting innings during the series .

In September 2007 , Davies started studying Sport and Physical Education at the University of Wales Institute , Cardiff , meaning that she had to juggle her cricket career with her academic studies in 2008 . She represented England sides twice , both in early August , playing for the academy against Ireland and for the development squad the following day against the senior England side . As an MCC Young Cricketer , she was also selected to play in an MCC side against India later in the same month . She played five Somerset 's six County Championship matches , her best performance of the season coming against Warwickshire , when she claimed a wicket and scored 25 runs to help her county to victory . She also made one appearance in the Super Fours for Rubies .

= = = Somerset captain = = =

Davies was named Somerset captain for the 2009 season , taking over from Hannah Lloyd , who continued to play for the side . In her first match as captain ? against Surrey on 10 May 2009 ? she scored a half @-@ century , and shared a 128 @-@ run partnership with fellow opener Sophie Le Marchand , helping her side to a 21 run victory . That score remained her best of the season , and in a rebuilding season for the county , she finished as the leading run @-@ scorer , with 217 . She also finished the season as Somerset 's most economical bowler , and her seven wickets meant that she trailed only Izzy Westbury among wicket @-@ takers . She continued to play for both England Academy and MCC Young Cricketers , and represented the academy in two Twenty20 matches against Pakistan prior to the 2009 ICC Women 's World Twenty20 . She continued as captain in 2010 , and in Somerset 's opening fixture of the season , against Berkshire , she claimed her fourth List A four @-@ wicket haul .