

= Lauren Ebsary =

Lauren Kaye Ebsary (born 15 March 1983) is an Australian cricketer . Primarily a batsman , she is a former member of the Australia national women 's cricket team .

Ebsary made her senior debut for South Australia in the Women 's National Cricket League (WNCL) during the 2000 ? 01 season at the age of 18 . Although she played in every match in her first season , she was shielded from much of the action and made only six runs . Ebsary was selected in every match in her first three seasons , but in that time , scored only 136 runs at a batting average of 8 @.@ 50 and took 13 wickets from 24 matches . The following year , Ebsary raised her career average above 10 for the first time and was selected in the Australian Under @-@ 23 team . In 2004 ? 05 she made more than 100 runs in a season for the first time , and the following year she made 149 runs at 29 @.@ 80 . In 2006 ? 07 , she struggled and totalled only 101 runs at 14 @.@ 42 and took three wickets , and after the season she transferred to Western Australia . The change of state yielded dividends in the 2007 ? 08 season , as she made 236 runs and took eight wickets , her highest aggregate of runs and wickets in one tournament .

At the start of the 2008 ? 09 season , Ebsary gained selection to the Australian national team and made her One Day International (ODI) debut in the home series against India . She made 37 runs at 18 @.@ 50 , and after scoring 207 runs in the WNCL season , was retained in the national team . After making her ODI top @-@ score of 86 in the Rose Bowl series against New Zealand , she was selected for the 2009 World Cup , but was in and out of the team , making 106 runs at 35 @.@ 33 . In June 2009 , she played in all of Australia 's matches at the 2009 World Twenty20 and made her Test debut against England in a bilateral series after the World Twenty20 . Ebsary scored 211 runs during the 2009 ? 10 WNCL season to retain her position in the national squad for the Rose Bowl series , but after a series of poor performances , she spent the latter half of the campaign watching from the sidelines .

= = Early years = =

Born in Snowtown , South Australia , Lauren Ebsary was one of four children ? two boys and two girls ? of Peter and Kaye Ebsary . While pursuing her secondary education at Snowtown Area School , attended a cricket coaching clinic organised by her school in 1996 . It was there that her talent was noticed by Australian Test player and development officer for the South Australian Cricket Association (SACA) Joanne Broadbent , who said that Ebsary " had a lot of potential from the start " . After Ebsary made her debut for Australia , Broadbent said " I ? ve always believed Lauren had the capacity to represent her country . " Ebsary was initially a tall and gangly pace bowler who mixed testing deliveries with erratic ones , including many wides .

During her teenage years before she acquired a driver 's licence , Ebsary 's mother drove her to the state capital , Adelaide ? more than 100 km away ? to play for the Flinders University Cricket Club in SACA 's district women 's competition on weekends . Back in Snowtown , she practised against her father and one of her brothers .

= = Cricket career = =

= = = Junior selection = = =

In 1997 ? 98 she attended the state under @-@ 17s trials and was successful in gaining selection at the age of 14 . Due to the lack of opportunities to females to play cricket at local youth level , she played her first competitive game at the national championships in Brisbane . In January 2000 , at the age of 16 , Ebsary was chosen for the South Australian team for the Under @-@ 19 interstate championships . Playing as a specialist batsman ? she bowled a solitary wicketless over in six matches ? she did not failed to pass five in her first five matches , before scoring an unbeaten 34 in the final match against Tasmania . Nevertheless , it was not a successful tournament , yielding 45

runs at a batting average of 9 @. @ 00 .

= = = Senior debut = = =

Despite the lack of success at youth interstate level , Ebsary was promoted into the senior South Australian team in the 2000 ? 01 season at the age of 17 , playing in all of her state 's eight matches in the Women 's National Cricket League (WNCL) . She made her debut against reigning champions New South Wales , and after not batting , took one wicket for the loss of six runs (1 / 6) from two overs as South Australia lost by seven wickets . In the next match of the double @-@ header the next day , she took 0 / 15 from two overs and was run out for a duck in her maiden senior innings in a 22 @-@ run loss . During the season , Ebsary often batted at the bottom of the order in a specialist bowler 's position and thus rarely batted , but she hardly bowled , delivering only six overs in total in her first seven matches . In effect , she was shielded from taking on a meaningful workload and not trusted to contribute with either bat or ball . In the last match of the season , she was finally given a substantial opportunity against Queensland , taking 3 / 21 from seven overs , as South Australia proceeded to a six @-@ wicket victory . Nevertheless , in eight matches she scored only six runs at 2 @. @ 00 in three innings , and took five wickets at a bowling average of 9 @. @ 40 and an economy rate of 3 @. @ 61 . South Australia won only three matches and did not make the finals .

During the 2001 ? 02 WNCL , Ebsary played in all eight matches , and was given more responsibility . This season , she batted in seven innings and bowled 51 of a maximum possible 80 overs . In the first match of the season , she took 3 / 29 from 10 overs against the titleholders New South Wales , and she scored 51 in the fifth match against Victoria . Ebsary did not have a significant impact in the other matches , never taking more than one wicket per match or reaching double figures with the bat . She ended the season with 67 runs at 9 @. @ 57 and six wickets at 30 @. @ 83 at an economy rate of 3 @. @ 62 . South Australia won four of their eight matches and did not make the final .

Ebsary was 18 during the season and still eligible for the Under @-@ 19s and she represented her state during the tournament , which was held in the middle of a break in the WNCL . She scored 119 runs at 19 @. @ 83 and took nine wickets at 15 @. @ 55 with a best of 4 / 27 against the Australian Capital Territory . At the end of the season , Ebsary was chosen in the Australia Youth team to play New Zealand A and New Zealand . In four matches she took two wickets at 32 @. @ 00 at an economy rate of 2 @. @ 66 but had no impact with the bat , scoring five runs at 1 @. @ 66 .

In the 2002 ? 03 WNCL , Ebsary played in all eight matches , but was given less responsibility with the ball and had little success . She bowled only 23 overs and took two wickets at 34 @. @ 00 . She also had little effect with the bat , scoring 63 runs at 11 @. @ 50 with a best score of 18 . South Australia won five of their matches , narrowly missing the finals . Up to this point her batting average in 16 completed innings was 8 @. @ 37 .

At the start of the 2003 ? 04 season , Ebsary was chosen in an Australian Under @-@ 23 team that played a two @-@ innings match against the touring England team . Ebsary scored nine not out and took 4 / 35 and 0 / 4 from a total of 20 overs . She was somewhat more successful in the WNCL than in previous years , bowling 28 overs and taking five wickets at 17 @. @ 00 at an economy rate of 3 @. @ 03 with a best of 2 / 19 in the last match of the season with Victoria . She scored 91 runs at 15 @. @ 16 , her highest season aggregate and average to date , with a best of 26 . This brought Ebsary 's career average above 10 for the first time . South Australia won four of their matches and another was washed out , failing to make the final . She played in three matches for Australia Youth against New Zealand A at the end of the season , scoring 29 runs at 29 @. @ 00 and taking three wickets at 16 @. @ 66 at an economy rate of 4 @. @ 54 .

In 2004 ? 05 , Ebsary scored more than 100 runs in a WNCL season for the first time . She scored 125 runs at 20 @. @ 83 , averaging more than 20 for the first time in a season . Her best score of 36 not out came in a ten @-@ wicket win over Western Australia , and in the other match against the state the preceding day , she scored 28 and took 2 / 26 in a 29 @-@ run win . Her best bowling performance came in the first match of the season as she took 3 / 32 and scored 25 in a six @-@

wicket win over Queensland . Ebsary ended the season with six wickets at 26 @. @ 83 . She bowled 37 overs and conceded 4 @. @ 35 runs per over .

In the 2005 ? 06 WNCL season , Ebsary struggled to make an impact with the ball , taking four wickets at 43 @. @ 00 at the relatively high economy rate of 4 @. @ 91 . Her figures were flattered by a haul of 3 / 32 in the final match of the season against Western Australia , in which she also made 26 to help seal a three @-@ wicket win . Her batting continued to progress ; she scored 149 runs at 29 @. @ 80 , including a best of 43 against Victoria . South Australia won five of their eight matches , again missing the finals .

Ebsary had more difficult times in the 2006 ? 07 WNCL season . She took only three wickets at 60 @. @ 33 and an economy rate of 5 @. @ 14 , the worst average and economy rate she had recorded for a WNCL season . She never took more than one wicket in any match . Her batting also regressed , making 101 runs at 14 @. @ 42 , more than half coming in a 51 against New South Wales in the last match of the season . This was Ebsary 's last season for her native state as she moved to Western Australia for the 2007 ? 08 season .

= = = Move to Western Australia = = =

The transfer , in 2007 , coincided with an upturn in Ebsary 's career . After a slow start in the new WNCL season ? Western Australia lost their first five matches ? Ebsary became more productive . She scored 30 of 141 and took 1 / 16 in a low @-@ scoring win over New South Wales in the sixth match . In the last double @-@ header of the season , against Queensland , she made consecutive half @-@ centuries for the first time in her career . In the first match she made 72 before taking 4 / 46 to help secure a 104 @-@ run win , before scoring 62 the next day to lay the foundation for a five @-@ wicket win . Ebsary scored 236 runs at 29 @. @ 50 ; her previous best WNCL aggregate was 149 . However , she did have trouble in running between the wickets ; three of her eight dismissals were run outs . She took eight wickets at 33 @. @ 87 at an economy rate of 4 @. @ 43 and had a workload more than 50 % heavier than in previous seasons . Ebsary was not as successful in the fledgling Twenty20 format ; in two matches for the season , her first in the most abbreviated form of cricket , she scored 33 runs at 16 @. @ 50 and conceded 51 runs at an economy rate of 7 @. @ 46 without taking a wicket . Ebsary later said " Looking back , the move to the West has been the best thing for my cricket ... After settling our line @-@ up , it gave me a chance to let loose at the top of the order and helped my confidence to be aggressive at the batting crease ... Under the leadership of Avril Fahey , the West Aussies were very welcoming and I found my groove at the top of the order . "

= = = International debut = = =

Ebsary was rewarded with international selection for the five @-@ match One Day International ODI series against India at the start of the 2008 ? 09 Australian season . Nerve damage in her toe ruled Ebsary out of contention for the first match at Hurstville Oval , which the hosts won by eight wickets with more than 12 overs to spare . The next day , she was given her debut in the second match of the series , at the Sydney Cricket Ground . Ebsary made five not out as the hosts made 6 / 215 batting first . Ebsary came in at 6 / 194 with 14 balls remaining in the Australia innings . She took a single off each of the five balls she faced , rotating the strike as her partner Lisa Sthalekar completed an unbeaten century . In the seventh over of India 's reply , Ebsary 's throw from the boundary ran out Jaya Sharma as the opener attempted to take a third run , leaving the tourists at 2 / 9 .

Bowling in the middle of the innings , she then took 1 / 17 from five overs , her maiden wicket being Thirush Kamini caught behind by wicket @-@ keeper Jodie Fields for one run , leaving India at 5 / 71 in the 26th over . She then claimed two catches to complete the eighth and ninth wickets ? those of tail @-@ enders Amita Sharma and Nooshin Al Khadeer ? as Australia won by 86 runs . Ebsary went on to play in the last four matches of the series . She was promoted to the No. 4 position in the next match , but failed to capitalise on her opportunity , making a duck . She bowled five overs

without taking a wicket in a 54 @-@ run win . She then made 32 from 43 balls as an opener , hitting six boundaries in the fourth ODI at Manuka Oval in Canberra , helping to set up a 118 @-@ run win . In the final match , she took 1 / 13 from four overs , taking the wicket of leading Indian batsman Mithali Raj and was not required to bat in a seven @-@ wicket win . She ended her debut series with 37 runs at 18 @.@ 50 and two wickets at 34 @.@ 50 at an economy rate of 3 @.@ 83 . Australia took the series 5 ? 0 in a dominant display ; all their wins were by at least seven wickets or 54 runs .

In the WNCL , Ebsary went wicketless for the entire season for the first time , conceding 127 runs at an economy rate of 4 @.@ 70 . She remained productive with the bat , scoring 207 runs at 25 @.@ 87 , making 43 and 57 , her two highest scores of the season , in the double @-@ header against Victoria . Western Australia won three of eight matches and did not make the final . Ebsary made 34 and 25 in her two T20 matches for the season , but had no success with the ball , conceding a total of 36 runs from three overs without taking a wicket .

= = = ODI and T20 World Cups in 2009 = = =

Despite her inability to take a wicket in the WNCL , Ebsary was retained in the national team and in the next five months of international cricket , she did not bowl a ball . Ahead of the 2009 World Cup , the Australians headed to New Zealand for a Rose Bowl series , Ebsary was left out of the first two ODIs against New Zealand , but was recalled for the next two matches at Seddon Park in Hamilton . She scored 30 from 47 balls in the first match before making her ODI top @-@ score of 86 the next day . Batting at No. 3 , she struck nine boundaries and faced only 76 balls , scoring at faster than a run @-@ a @-@ ball . This helped set up Australia 's 4 / 307 and they went on to win by 44 runs , their second consecutive victory . The teams returned to Australia where Ebsary made her T20 international debut at the Sydney Cricket Ground . She did not bat or bowl in a rain @-@ affected Australian win .

In two warm @-@ up matches ahead of the World Cup in Australia , Ebsary made 18 and 8 against England and Sri Lanka respectively . Nevertheless , Ebsary was retained for the match against New Zealand , scoring one at No. 7 as Australia failed in their run @-@ chase . It was the start of a tournament in which Ebsary was moved around in the Australian team structure . Ebsary was dropped for the second match against South Africa , which Australia won , and recalled for the last group match against the West Indies . She made 15 from 28 balls at No. 5 , in a 47 @-@ run win to reach the next round . In the first Super Six match , Ebsary made 39 not out from 36 balls at No. 7 in the closing stages of the game , attempting to hold together the Australian lower @-@ order as they fell 16 runs short of India 's 5 / 234 . She was then promoted to No. 3 in the following match , making 51 from 71 balls against Pakistan after Leah Poulton and Shelley Nitschke had put on a century opening stand , as the Australians completed a 107 @-@ run win . Ebsary was left out of the final Super Six match against England , which Australia won , which was not enough for them to reach the final . She missed the third @-@ place playoff against India , which was lost . She ended with 106 runs at 35 @.@ 33 from her four matches .

Ebsary was selected for Australia 's team for the inaugural Women 's World Twenty20 held in England in 2009 . The Australians hosted New Zealand for a three @-@ match series in tropical Darwin at the beginning of June before the World Cup , and Ebsary made 17 @.@ 00 at 8 @.@ 50 in her three innings . She then made 13 in the team 's warm @-@ up match on English soil , against the hosts , but was nevertheless retained for all the matches . She made a duck as Australia lost their opening match against New Zealand , and was not required to bat in the win over the West Indies . Ebsary made 23 run out in the final group match as Australia defeated South Africa to reach the semi @-@ finals . There she scored eight not out before England overhauled Australia 's score to reach the final , which they won . She ended the tournament with 44 runs at 22 @.@ 00 .

= = = Test debut = = =

After the World Twenty20 ended in June 2009 , Ebsary stayed in England for a bilateral series

against the hosts , who were the reigning world champions in both ODIs and T20s . She scored 24 not out as Australia upset England in the only T20 by 34 runs . She played in all of the five ODIs , and after making 23 , 38 and 40 , her form tapered away in the last two matches , making single @-@ figure scores to end with 112 runs at 22 @.@ 40 . Batting in a variety of positions from No. 5 to 8 , she scored quickly at a strike rate of 88 @.@ 18 . In the fourth match , she took 1 / 16 , the first time she had bowled in 19 international matches , removing Claire Taylor . England won all the matches except the last , which was washed out .

Ebsary made her Test debut against England in a one @-@ off match at County Road in Worcestershire . Australia batted first and Ebsary came to the crease at No. 9 with the total on 7 / 271 . She scored 3 from 15 balls before being trapped leg before wicket by Katherine Brunt , as Australia were dismissed for 309 . She then took 2 / 35 . She claimed her maiden Test wicket by having Taylor caught by Poulton for 10 and then had Jenny Gunn caught behind by Jodie Fields for 41 . This ended a 77 @-@ run partnership with Beth Morgan and left the hosts at 6 / 136 but they recovered to reach 268 , still enough for Australia to take a 41 @-@ run lead . Ebsary was then promoted to No. 4 and made 21 as Australia set the hosts a target of 273 before the match was drawn .

= = = 2009 @-@ 2010 season = = =

The WNCL was expanded in 2009 ? 10 with the addition of the Australian Capital Territory , so ten round @-@ robin matches were scheduled , and Ebsary played in all , scoring 211 runs at 21 @.@ 10 . After being wicketless the previous season , she took seven wickets at 31 @.@ 28 , although opposition batsmen did attack her bowling , scoring 5 @.@ 17 runs per over . Her best batting and bowling performances came in the same match against her native state , taking 3 / 37 from nine overs to help dismiss them for 191 before scoring 48 to help secure a two @-@ wicket win . In the last two matches of the season , she scored 43 and 42 in consecutive wins over Queensland .

Ebsary had a successful time in the domestic T20s , now part of a full interstate tournament instead of a series of one @-@ off matches , scoring 137 runs at 22 @.@ 83 and taking four wickets at 26 @.@ 25 at an economy rate of 7 @.@ 50 . Her best score of 41 came in a win over Tasmania on 11 November 2009 . She also scored 29 and took 2 / 14 in a win over the Australian Capital Territory on 11 December 2009 .

Ebsary was retained for the Rose Bowl series against New Zealand and played in the first four ODIs in Australia in February 2010 . She made 31 runs at 15 @.@ 50 in the first two matches and , after Poulton had made a century in the fourth match , was dropped for the fifth and final match as the hosts took a clean sweep . The ODIs were followed by three T20 matches at Bellerive Oval in Hobart and two more in New Zealand . Ebsary played in the first four T20 games , scoring 39 runs at 9 @.@ 75 before being left out of the final match as New Zealand took a clean sweep . She was overlooked for the three ODIs in New Zealand , which the tourists swept .

= = = Post 2010 = = =

From October 2010 until November 2015 , Ebsary played domestic cricket in the South Australia Women 's team . She also played in the New Zealand Women 's One @-@ Day Competition in the 2013 / 14 season for the Wellington Women 's team .

Ebsary played in the Women 's Big Bash League in the 2015 / 2016 season for the Adelaide Strikers Women 's team .