

Who are the semi-finalists?

Here are the possible scenarios:

Y – Yes; N-No; NRR – Net Run Rate

| SA vs Eng | | Afghanistan vs Aus | | Semifinalist(Y/N) | | | |
|-----------|---------|--------------------|-------------|-------------------|-----|------|------|
| Win | Lose | Win | Lose | SA | Eng | Afg | Aus |
| SA | England | Australia | Afghanistan | Y | N | N | Y |
| SA | England | Afghanistan | Australia | Y | N | Y | N |
| England | SA | Australia | Afghanistan | Y | N | N | Y |
| England | SA | Afghanistan | Australia | NRR* | N | Y | NRR* |
| England | SA | Washout | Washout | NRR* | N | NRR* | Y |
| SA | England | Washout | Washout | Y | N | N | Y |
| Washout | Washout | Australia | Afghanistan | Y | N | N | Y |
| Washout | Washout | Afghanistan | Australia | Y | N | Y | N |
| Washout | Washout | Washout | Washout | Y | N | N | Y |

*Team with greater NRR will become the semi-finalist

Solution:

- What do you think are the total possible outcomes?

Let us count the total number of possibilities. **It is 9**

- What is the probability that both Aus and SA are semi-finalists?

Let us take a tally of 'Y' value occurring for both Aus and SA. We will have to include NRR* also, as it is one of the chances that they become a semi-finalist. So, there are 6 chances for both the teams to become a semi-finalist.

$$\text{Probability (SA and Aus)} = \frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3}$$

- What is the probability of Afghanistan becoming a semi-finalist?

Count the number of 'Y' and 'NRR' (as a positive chance) for Afghanistan. There are 4 chances.

$$\text{Hence, Probability(Afg)} = \frac{4}{9}$$

- What is the probability Australia doesn't enter the semi-finals?

Count the number of 'N' and 'NRR' (as a negative chance) for Australia.

$$\text{Hence, Probability(Not Aus)} = \frac{3}{9} = \frac{1}{3}$$