

Early History

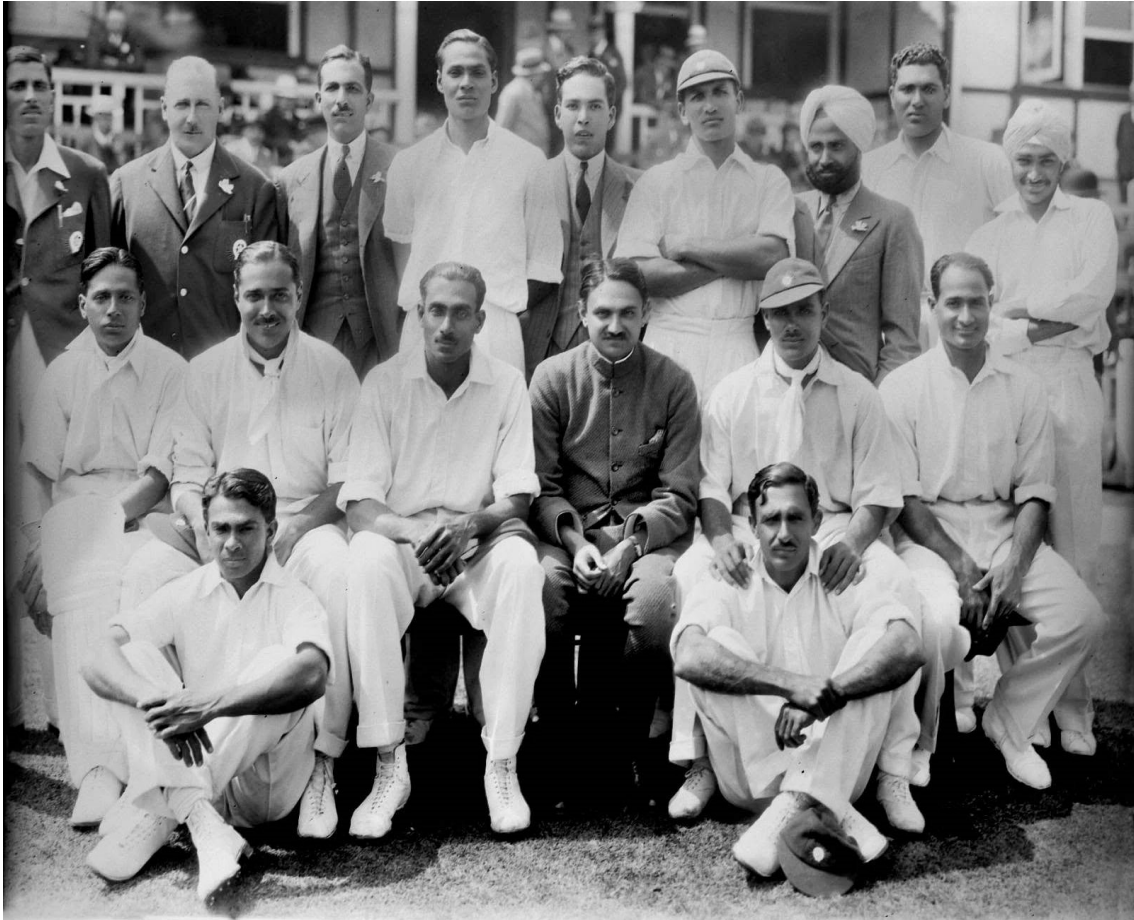
Cricket is a sport with a history which started in late 16th century. It started in England and has evolved and established as a sport in 19th and 20th centuries globally. International matches have been played since the 19th century and Test cricket matches are played from 1877. Laws Committee of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) in London owns and maintains the Laws of Cricket, with consultation with ICC.



The Royal Academy Club in Marylebone Fields

Early Indian Cricket

Cricket was introduced to India by British in the early 1700s, with the first cricket match played in 1721. The first cricket club was established in 1792. India's national cricket team played its first Test match on 25 June 1932 at Lord's, becoming the sixth team to be granted test cricket status and won its first Test victory in 1952. Few early players recognized by the British were Ranjit sinhji and KS Duleep sinhji and their names went on to be used for the Ranji Trophy and Duleep Trophy and are the two major first class tournaments in India.



Indian Cricket Team 1932

Indian Cricket in the Last 100 Years

Indian Cricket from 1920 - 1970

India entered International Cricket in 1932 led by CK Nayudu and was the best batsman during that time. India was invited to The Imperial Cricket Council in 1926. India hosted its first test series in 1933 and was won by England. India got Independence in 1947 and later during that year, India played with Australia and lost the series 4-0. In the year 1948, India played against West Indies and India lost the series. In the year 1952, India won the first Test Victory against England in Madras. Later in 1952, India won a Test series against Pakistan. In the year 1956, India won against New Zealand and lost matches with Australia and England during the decade.

In 1961 and 1962, India won their first Test series against England and also won test series against New Zealand. Also, India managed to draw against Pakistan, Australia and England. India also won against New Zealand in 1967-1968 outside India. In this decade India had improved considerably and making their mark in Cricket.

In 1970s, Indian bowling had improved with spin quartet, Bishen Vedi, EAS Prasanna, BS Chandrasekhar and Srinivas Venkataraman. On the batting side, Sunil Gavaskar and Gundappa

Viswanath made India shine. In 1971, India won West Indies and England and under the Indian Captain Ajit Wadekar. Gavaskar scored 774 runs in the West Indian series while Dilip Sardesai's 112 played a big part in their one Test win. In 1970s, India continued to grow in Cricket and gaining strength in batting and spin bowling.



Indian Cricket Team First Test Win 1952

Indian Cricket from 1971 – 1985

One Day International (ODI) cricket started in 1971 and thus created a new dimension to the cricket world. India did not qualify for Cricket World Cup in the early days of One Day International. Though weak in ODI, India had a strong team in Test matches and had a good batting and bowling line up and won many matches. In November 1976, the team set another record by scoring 524 for 9 declared against New Zealand at Kanpur without any individual batsman scoring a century. There were six fifties, the highest being 70 by Mohinder Amarnath. This innings was only the eighth instance in Test cricket where all eleven batsmen reached double figures.

During the 1980s, India developed a more attack-minded batting line-up with stroke makers such as the wristy Mohammed Azharuddin, Dilip Vengsarkar and all-rounders Kapil Dev and Ravi Shastri. India won the Cricket World Cup in 1983, defeating the favourites and the two-time defending champions West Indies in the final at Lord's, owing to a strong bowling performance. In 1984, India won the Asia

Cup and in 1985, won the World Championship of Cricket in Australia. In 1986, India won the Test series victory against England. Sunil Gavaskar made a record of 34 centuries in Test matches and became the first batsman to score 10,000 runs. Kapil Dev became the highest wicket taker in Test cricket with 434 wickets.



Indian Cricket Team 1971



Indian Cricket Team 1983

Indian Cricket from 1985 – 2000

In the year 1989 and 1990, Sachin Tendulkar and Anil Kumble were added to the Indian Cricket Team which strengthened the batting and bowling of the team. The following year, Javagal Srinath, India's fastest bowler since Amar Singh made his debut. India won 17 of the 30 test matches played in India during that time. The Indian cricket team went on a mega change and approach during the 1990s. Sourav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid joined the team and later were also captains. Tendulkar was made captain in 1996 and relinquished his captaincy after couple of years, Azharuddin became captain again in 1998. With the captaincy burden removed, Tendulkar was the world's leading run-scorer in both Tests and ODIs, as India enjoyed a home Test series win over Australia, the best-ranked team in the world. After failing to reach the semi-finals at the 1999 Cricket World Cup, Tendulkar was again made captain, and had another poor run, losing 3–0 on a tour of Australia and then 2–0 at home to South Africa. Tendulkar resigned, vowing never to captain the team again. Ganguly was appointed the new captain of the Indian team. Tendulkar, Dravid, Kumble and Ganguly pulled the team from dark times and the first three worked as a team under Ganguly to make Indian team great again.

Indian Cricket from 2001 – 2006

The Indian team underwent major improvements under the captaincy of Sourav Ganguly and guidance of John Wright, India's first foreign coach. India maintained their unbeaten home record against Australia in Test series after victory in 2001. The series was famous for the Kolkata Test match, in which India became only the third team in the history of Test cricket to win a Test match after following on. Australian captain Steve Waugh labelled India as the "Final Frontier" because of his side's inability to win a Test series in India. India marked the beginning of a dream run under their captain Sourav Ganguly, winning Test matches in Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka, West Indies and England. The England series is also known for India's highest ODI run chase of 325 runs at Lord's, which came in the Natwest ODI Series final against England. In the same year, India were joint winners of the ICC Champions Trophy with Sri Lanka and then went to the 2003 Cricket World Cup in South Africa, where they reached the final, only to be beaten by Australia. The 2003–04 season also saw India play out a Test series in Australia, where they drew 1–1 with the world champions, and then win a Test and ODI series in Pakistan.

Greg Chappell took over from John Wright as the coach of the Indian cricket team and Rahul Dravid was made captain. This triggered a revival in the team's fortunes with the emergence of such players as MS Dhoni and Suresh Raina, and the coming of age of Irfan Pathan and Yuvraj Singh. A thumping home series victory over Sri Lanka in 2005 and a drawn series with South Africa put India at second place in the ICC ODI rankings. Dravid, Tendulkar and Virender Sehwag were selected to play for the ICC World XI in the 2005 "SuperTest" against Australia. A convincing ODI series win in Pakistan in early 2006, following a loss in the Test series, gave India the world record of 17 successive ODI victories while batting second.[32]

In December 2006, India played and won its first Twenty20 international in South Africa, becoming the most recent Test team to play Twenty20 cricket. Series victories against the West Indies and Sri Lanka, marked by the comeback of Ganguly and strong form by Tendulkar, as well as the emergence of young players like Robin Uthappa.



Indian Cricket Team 2005

Indian Cricket from 2007 – 2012

After winning the Test series against England in August 2007, Dravid stepped down as captain and Dhoni was made captain of the Twenty20 and ODI team. In September 2007, India won the first-ever Twenty20 World Cup held in South Africa, beating Pakistan by 5 runs in the final. In 2007–08, they toured Australia where India lost the home Test series 2–1 but managed to win the Commonwealth Bank Series the following month with Australia. Also, Ganguly retired in the year 2008.

In April 2009, India secured their first Test series win in New Zealand. After beating Sri Lanka 2–0 in December 2009, India became the No. 1 Test team in the world. They retained the ranking by drawing series against South Africa and Sri Lanka. In October 2010, India won Australia 2–0 in the home test series, giving them back-to-back series wins against them. Later that year, India managed to draw the Test series in South Africa at 1–1. On 2 April 2011, India won the 2011 Cricket World Cup by defeating Sri Lanka in the final, thus becoming the third team after West Indies and Australia to win the World Cup twice. India also became the first team to win the World Cup on home soil.

In 2012, India faced a transition period as they were beaten 2–1 in a home Test series by England. This was the first time India had been beaten by England at home series since 1984–85. This was followed by a 2–1 loss in the ODI series against Pakistan at home. India was knocked out in the second round of the 2012 ICC World Twenty20. India also failed to qualify for the 2012 Asia Cup final, which was a disappointing year for India.



Indian Cricket Team 2011

Indian Cricket from 2013 – 2022

In early 2013, India won Australia and bashed them 4–0 at home in a Test series. India then beat the Aussies 3–2 in the seven-match ODI series and won the one-off T20. Tendulkar retired in November 2013 after his 200th Test match. India defeated England in the 2013 ICC Champions Trophy final and Dhoni became the first captain in history to win the three major ICC trophies, namely the ICC Cricket World Cup, ICC World Twenty20 and ICC Champions Trophy. This was followed by a victory in the West Indies Triangular Series in 2013 consisting of India, West Indies, and Sri Lanka. In 2014, India toured Bangladesh and England. Although they beat the former 2–0 in three ODIs, India was beaten 3–1 in five Test matches by England. This series included a famous win for the Indian team in the second match of the series at Lord's. The Test series was followed by a 3–1 win for the Indians in a five-match ODI series and a loss in a one-off T20 against England.

In 2014, India's Virat Kohli became the best limited overs batsman in the world and was the man of the series. India beat Sri Lanka and West Indies in the ODI series to cement their position at the top of the ODI rankings. India toured Australia towards the end of 2014 for a 4-match Test series, which is remembered for MS Dhoni's sudden retirement from Test cricket after the end of the second Test. Virat Kohli was appointed as the captain of Team India in Test matches but he was unable to turn the series around and India lost 2–0. Kohli's first series win as captain came away from home in a three-match Test series vs Sri Lanka, which signalled the beginning of an unbeaten Test series run for India.

India began to dominate at home in Test matches under new captain Virat Kohli after they comprehensively beat South Africa in 2015. This series also saw the emergence of Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja as two of the best spinners and all-rounders. India also won Australia and Sri Lanka in overseas grounds. India began 2016 by winning the 2016 Asia Cup, remaining unbeaten throughout the tournament. India were favourites to win the 2016 ICC World Twenty20, which was being held at home, but lost in the semi-final to eventual champions West Indies. In 2016, "The Grand Home Season" began for India, including series at home against New Zealand, England, Bangladesh,

and Australia. India won New Zealand and regained number one position in Test cricket. MS Dhoni resigned as captain in limited-overs, thus handing the captaincy to Virat Kohli across all formats. India beat England across all three formats, with a notable 4–0 win in the Test series. This was followed by Test series wins against Bangladesh and Australia, which meant India reclaimed the Border Gavaskar Trophy. India became the third team (after South Africa and Australia) to have won their most recent Test series against all the other Test playing nations. India holds an unbeaten streak of 8 consecutive Test series wins as of 19 August 2017. India defeated Pakistan in their first game of the 2017 ICC Champions Trophy but lost to the same opponents in the final, the first time they had met at this stage of a tournament since 2007. India beat the West Indies 3–1 in a five-match ODI series in the Caribbean in July 2017, but lost to the same opposition in a one-off T20I. India then toured Sri Lanka and won a three match Test series with 3–0. India for the first time won a team away from home in a Test series with three games or more.

In 2018, India lost test series in South Africa and England but won against Australia. In home tests, India defeated West Indies. India won the ODI leg of the South African tour, followed by the tri-series with Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. They lost 2–1 in the ODI series in England, followed by a win at home to West Indies and away to both Australia and New Zealand. At the start of 2019, Australia won a T20I series 2–0, marking Virat Kohli's first home defeat in a T20I series. Australia also won the ODI series 3–2. The Indian team next played 2019 Cricket World Cup where the team finished first in the group stage with 7 wins and only 1 loss which came against host nation England. They made the semis but lost to New Zealand by 18 runs. Rohit Sharma was the highest run scorer for the team with 648 runs. India next toured West Indies, and won them in T20I, one day Internationals and Test with a record 3–0,2–0 in both ODIS and Tests.

Then, India played their matches at home: the first one against South Africa in September–October 2019. The T20I series was drawn and the Test series was won by India. The next home series was against Bangladesh. India played three T20IS and won against Bangladesh 2–1. The third T20I saw Deepak Chahar taking the best bowling figures in T20 internationals and the best bowling figures by an Indian. Next, India played two tests and won easily. The second test was a grand one, hosting India's first Day Night Test with Pink Ball in Eden Gardens in Kolkata, and India won the match by 46 runs and the series. This win also made India the first team to get consecutive four victories by an innings. They played their last series of 2019 against West Indies and they won the T20I and ODI and series by 2–1 and 3–1.

India played its first T20I series of 2020 against Sri Lanka and won easily by a margin of 2–0, next they played three ODIS against Australia and won by 2–0. After Australia, India played its first away series against New Zealand and won a T20I series in New Zealand for the first time by 5–0, but they lost the 3 ODIS by 3–0. They played the Tests as well but lost the series by 2–0. India was supposed to play South Africa at home in March 2020, but the tour got cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic in India. After eight months, India played against Australia in late 2020. They started the tour by playing 3 ODIS, but lost the series 2–1. Next, they played the T20I series, but this time India won. They also played the Border-Gavaskar Trophy which witnessed one of the most memorable comebacks in Indian cricket. India was 36 all out in the first Test which Australia won by 8 wickets. India won the second Test in Melbourne by 8 wickets, drew out the third Test in Sydney and won the fourth Test in Brisbane by 3 wickets. By winning the Test series in Australia, India became one of the teams alongside South Africa to win two Test series in Australia. India played its first home series of 2021 against England. The matches were played in Chennai, Ahmedabad and Pune. India started the series by losing the first test in Chennai by 227 runs. But India won the next three Test matches by winning the Test series 3–1. Not

only we won the Test series, India also qualified for the 2021 ICC World Test Championship Final. India also played the T20I series which India won 3–2 and the ODI series which they won 2–1. Then, India played the 2021 ICC World Test Championship Final against New Zealand in Southampton in which India lost by 8 wickets. India went on to play an away series against England for five tests. In that, India lead the series 2-1 since the fifth test was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Indian Cricket Team 2015



Indian Cricket Team 2021