

# Sports in India

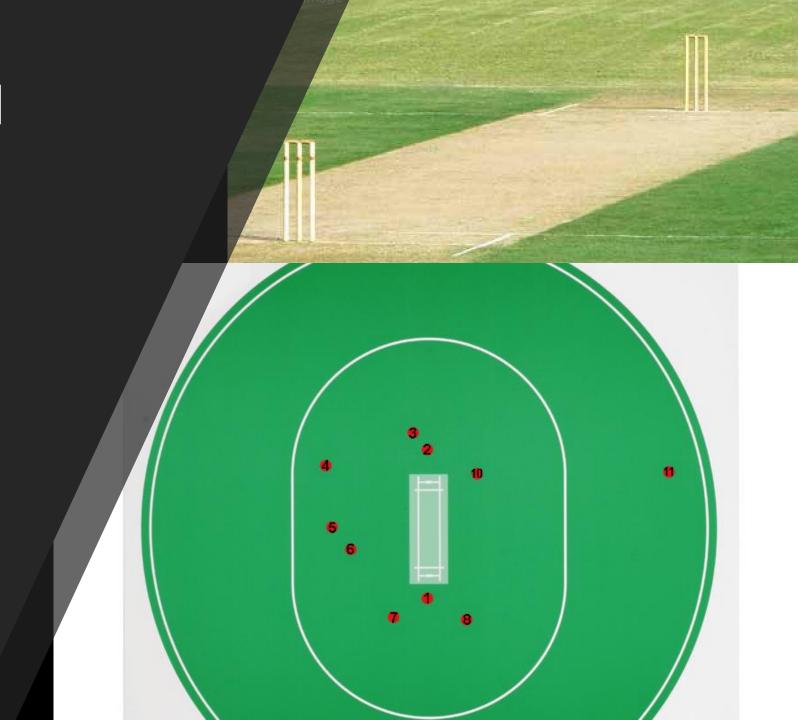
### Cricket

- Cricket was invented in England, and came to India with British traders and colonists.
- Indian people soon became fans of the sport and began to create their own cricket teams.
- In 1932, India was able to form a national team to play against other countries such as England, Australia, and South Africa.
- India won the Cricket World Cup for the first time in 1983 in a match against England.
- They are now the top ranked cricket team in the world.
- Some famous Indian players are Kapil Dev and Virat Kohli.



### The Cricket Field

- Cricket is played on a large oval field.
- In the middle is a rectangular section called the "pitch".
- The pitch is marked at either end with "wickets" three long sticks with a two shorter sticks on top.



How to Play Cricket

- Cricket teams have 11 people.
- Teams take turns to be the "batting" team or the "fielding" team.
- The fielding team have to throw and catch the ball, the fielding team have to hit the ball.
- There are 11 "fielders" but only two batters at a time.
- You get points by hitting the ball and running between the wickets.
- If the fielders throw the ball back to the pitch before the batters can finish a run, the batter is out.
- https://youtu.be/NZGLHdcw2RM?t=107



#### Polo

- Polo is a game played on horseback.
- It has been popular in India for hundreds of years and was played by kings.
- Modern polo was invented in Manipur, India.
- British tea planters discovered the game when they were living in India, and brought the game to Europe in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- The Indian Polo Association was created in 1892 to allow teams to play against each other, and there are 33 clubs.
- It is very popular in the northern part of India.



# How to Play Polo

- Polo is played in teams of four players.
- It is played on a field with two goals at each end.
- Players use a mallet to hit the ball into the goals.
- You win by scoring the most goals.
- It is played in four parts, and each part lasts seven minutes.
- Each time a team scores, they have to swap goals.



## Hockey

- Hockey is the national sport of India.
- Modern hockey was invented in Scotland and became popular among Indians in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- India has won 8 Olympic gold medals in hockey.
- The first professional club in India was created in 1885.
- The Indian team is ranked fourth best in the world.
- Famous players include Dhyan Chand, Manpreet Singh and Rani Rampal.



How to Play Hockey

 The aim of the game is to hit the ball with your hockey stick into the goals at each end of the field.

• Each team has eleven players who each have a different position on the field.

• The game is played in two halves, each one lasting 35 minutes.

• The team that scores the most goals wins.



### Badminton

- Badminton in the second most popular sport in India after cricket.
- Badminton was played in India for hundreds of years, and it was in India that British people first saw badminton.
- The Badminton Association of India was established in 1899 and is one of the oldest badminton organisations in the world.
- Famous players are Nantu Natekar, SV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal.





#### Tennis

- Tennis was introduced to India through British soldiers living in India in the 1800s.
- India hosted its first tennis championship in 1910, called the India Open.
- India has won many titles in tennis, including wins at Wimbledon, the US Open and the Australian Open.
- It is a sport that is mostly played in cities.
- Famous tennis players are Sania Mirza, Mahesh Bhupathi, and Rushmi Chakravarthi.



How to Play Tennis

- Tennis is played on a court divided in half with a net.
- It is played with a racket and a tennis ball.
- It can be played in singles or in doubles.
- Players take turns hitting the ball over the net, and you win a point every time the other player can't hit the ball back.
- Points increase by 15 each time, and the first person to win four turns (45 points) is the winner.

