

TONY DE ZORZI

Batter



Name	Tony de Zorzi
DOB	28-08-1997
Nationality	South African
Player Status	Available
Playing Role	Batter
Batting Style	LH Top Order Bat
Bowling Style	RA Off Spin
Entry Route	

Tony de Zorzi is the kind of batter who leaves a mark not just with the bat, but with his presence and personality on the field. Eccentric, fearless, and fiercely competitive, he has been earmarked as a future leader of South African cricket from a young age. Schooled at Johannesburg’s King Edward VII—alma mater of legends like Graeme Smith, Neil McKenzie, and Quinton de Kock—de Zorzi captained the school’s first team and later led South Africa at the 2016 Under-19 World Cup, showing early glimpses of his leadership potential.

His journey to the top, however, was not linear. South Africa’s disappointing 11th-place finish at the U19 World Cup, coupled with modest personal returns, could have derailed a lesser player. De Zorzi returned to club and university cricket, honing his craft under former New Zealand international Kruger van Wyk at the University of Pretoria. It was only after moving to the Western Cape in 2020 that his career truly began to blossom, with stellar first-class seasons averaging 48.33 in 2021-22 and 69.00 in 2022-23—including a rare triple century—that forced him into national contention.

An attacking left-handed batter, de Zorzi combines elegance with power. Known for his commanding pull shot and ability to adapt to challenging conditions, he has already made significant contributions at the international level. He debuted for South Africa in both Tests and ODIs in 2023 against the West Indies, making an immediate impression with a score of 85 in just his third Test innings, followed by an unbeaten 119 in his fourth ODI against India under testing conditions. In October 2024, he registered his first Test century (177) against Bangladesh and added another against Pakistan (104), cementing his status as a dependable middle-order batter.

De Zorzi is more than just a batter—he is a leader and a role model. He captained the South Africa A side against Sri Lanka in 2023 and has embraced the responsibility of being one of the few black African batters in the national setup, often dedicating his performances to his mother, Natasha, who raised him as a single parent. His domestic career is equally impressive, with 83 first-class matches producing over 4,600 runs at an average of 36.17, including ten centuries, and 106 List A appearances yielding more than 3,500 runs at 38.07. He has also shown flair in T20 cricket, scoring a century in 78 matches, demonstrating adaptability across formats.

Beyond the statistics, Tony de Zorzi represents resilience, ambition, and flair. From early setbacks to international stardom, his journey illustrates that talent paired with perseverance can overcome any obstacle. With his attacking mindset, leadership qualities, and ability to perform under pressure, de Zorzi is not just shaping his own legacy—he is helping define the future of South African cricket.

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