

POLO +10 WORLD

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WORLD CLASS

France – Buenos Aires – Chile: between the September just gone and March 2015, one polo event follows hot on the heels of another. POLO+10 is there at the heart of the action.



After England became European Champions in the French town of Chantilly in September, all eyes now turn to the south west. Everyone is eagerly awaiting the Triple Crown and its highlight, the Argentine Open. The European polo contingent is currently packing its suitcases and heading off to South America, and POLO+10 is looking forward to enjoying four exciting weeks in the Cathedral of Polo in Palermo/Buenos Aires once again this year. As international polo magazine, we'll be represented with our own stand at the Argentine Open.

The World Championships in Chile then take place at the end of March; the qualification matches for this tournament are still underway in the individual country zones. In an interview with POLO+10, Dr Piero Dillier (European delegate to the FIP) suggests that the structural framework of the World and European Championships should be discussed in greater detail. The issue at stake is the costs that must be borne and justified by the respective event organiser and participating teams. Decentralised qualification rounds and a final that takes place in an international centre that is close to potential sponsors and is able to attract spectators are just one suggestion that the FIP could consider for the future.

It was a huge honour and joy for us to talk to the wonderful Claire Tomlinson. She is the first woman ever to have achieved a +5 handicap. As chairman of the world-famous Beaufort Polo Club, she is a force to be reckoned with in international sport and is truly dedicated to training young horses. We're also proud to have been able to get one of the world's best polo coaches, Rege Ludwig, to share his experiences and tricks on the polo field with our readers and active polo players.

We hope you enjoy reading this new edition of POLO+10 World. All the best and we'll see you in spring 2015. Until then, you can follow all our news on www.poloplus10.com •

STEFANIE STÜTING
Chief Editor POLO+10 World

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Dr Piero Dillier.

POLO+10 interviewed the European delegate to the Federation of International Polo, Dr Piero Dillier, about 2014 and the important decisions that will shortly be discussed in Argentina.

INTERVIEW BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY SINJE SYBERT/POLO+10

WHAT ARE THE MAIN THEMES THAT WILL BE ON THE AGENDA AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIP IN BUENOS AIRES AT THE END OF NOVEMBER?

Voting in a new board is the primary item on the agenda. Right from the start, Richard Caleel stated that he would only serve as FIP President for two years. Nicholas Colquhoun-Denvers, who is the former president of the Hurlingham Polo Association and who has been Chairman of the oldest polo club in England for the past 20 years, the Ham Polo Club, is due to be sworn in as his replacement. I think it's a good thing for an Englishman to be at the top of the FIP. It would be extremely welcome if the two associations FIP and HPA started to work even more closely together.

WHAT FEEDBACK HAVE YOU HAD ABOUT THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP IN CHANTILLY?

The participating countries were very enthusiastic about the European Championships. The feedback about this major FIP polo event in Europe was generally very positive. Chantilly is also of course an excellent host for such an event, but there are some things we have to think about and discuss. A European Championship should also lend a platform to up-and-coming talents in the different countries. This means that countries need to be given greater financial support. We need to make sure that FIP and the event organiser generate enough income for us to have a pot of money that we can use to support countries and teams.

WHAT IS THE FIP EXPECTING FROM THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE CHILEAN TOWN OF SANTIAGO AT THE END OF MARCH 2015?

A total of six teams will play at the World Championships in Chile. England has already been declared the winner of Zone C, and Pakistan qualified in Zone D in October. The next qualification rounds will take place at

the end of November for FIP Zone B (South America). In contrast to a European Championship tournament, hosts must also provide all the horses for a World Championship. This means that we also have to discuss financial solutions and strategies in this respect. One possibility for the future would be to carry out the qualification matches in several subgroups in the respective zones in order to enable as many teams as possible to take part and save them travel costs. The final could then take place in centres where there are plenty of potential donors and sponsors. It is impossible for a World Championship that takes place in very remote locations to enjoy a high profile. In my opinion, we have to be more active in approaching sponsors.

WHAT HAVE BEEN THE MOST IMPORTANT DECISIONS MADE BY THE FIP IN 2014, AND WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS?

The FIP has finally a permanent CEO in the form of Alexander Taylor from 2014 onwards. This is really important for the work we do. We will evaluate this at the end of the year. Another positive thing for the FIP was that we were able to extend our contract with China for the next three years. This gives us some financial flexibility. In 2014, we also continued to attempt to better network and link the individual country associations.

WHAT WILL BE THE FOCAL POINTS OF THE WORK DONE BY THE FIP IN 2015?

The emphasis will of course be on installing the new president. I have high expectations of his presidency. This office has never been held by an Englishman, so maybe Nicholas Colquhoun-Denvers will manage to bring together the two poles in polo: England and Argentina. This is something that the sport would greatly benefit from. We look forward to seeing what he will achieve as FIP president. ●



UK Polo 44



80 Sylvester Stallone



Pablo Mac Donough 90



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SINGAPORE OPEN 2014

From exhibition match to highlight of the season: the Singapore Open is one of the highlights of the social scene in Singapore. The club hopes that in the future teams from overseas will join the tournament. But this is not as easy as it seems.

In 2012, the Singapore Polo Club changed the concept of the Singapore Open: the exhibition match became a competitive tournament and members were allowed to form their own teams – a paradigm shift for both the tournament and the club. Stijn Welkers: “Since the change in format in 2012, there has been a significant jump in level and quality of horses and players active at the Club”. Today the Singapore Open is the most important tournament in the city-state. This year’s edition once again received very positive feedback. Spectators were unanimously excited about the fast level of play and the players certainly enjoyed the build-up to the Singapore Open as part of the Triple Crown, which also includes the Diplomats’ Cup and the International ProAm. Team TATA Communications Asia in particular played amazingly well. They had a bad start, but Horatio Llorente (+5), Bautista Arrastua (+3), Jonathan Gabler (+1) and Vinod Kumar (0) managed to improve significantly and eventually played a cracking final. The

club hopes that at least one team from overseas will join the 2015 Singapore Open, which is due to take place from 19th to 24th May. But there is one problem: horses from outside Singapore require quarantine and/or isolation. It takes time to get horses both in and out of Singapore and that makes it practically difficult, although not impossible. Over the last few years, the Singapore Polo Club has undergone notable developments: the number of members, the horse population of the club and the interest in polo, as well as riding, are growing. “But there are still not many Singaporeans who know that you can become a member of the Singapore Polo Club without being a rider or polo player”, says Stijn Welkers, “and research has suggested our existing members actually like the fact that our facilities are rarely overcrowded. We sometimes like to joke that the Singapore Polo Club is one of Singapore’s best kept public secrets: we know it exists and that we can become a member, but please don’t tell anyone as we like it the way it is!”

Image: Singapore Polo Club

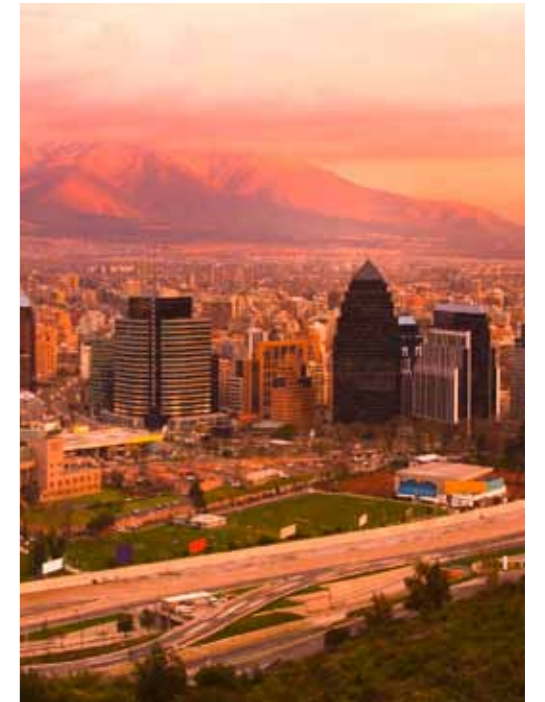


THE BEST POLO IN THE USA

The International Polo Club Palm Beach in Wellington, Florida is one of the most important and renowned polo clubs in the USA.

When the high goal season kicks off at the International Polo Club Palm Beach, Wellington will once again be at the centre of international polo. The club in sunny Florida is not just one of the most important polo clubs in the USA, but is also one of the most renowned and popular polo destinations in the world. Seven high goal tournaments with team handicaps from +20 to +26 goals are on the calendar from January to April 2015, and the best polo players and teams have confirmed their attendance once again this year. The season is traditionally launched with the Herbie Pennell Cup (20-goal) from 1st to 4th January 2015. Three more twenty-goal tournaments then follow, with the Joe Barry Cup from 4th to 25th January, the Ylvisaker Cup from 28th January to 22nd February and the Iglehart Cup from 28th February to 8th March. The final of the high goal season at the International Polo Club Palm Beach is formed by three 26-goal tournaments: the C.V. Whitney Cup (15th February to 1st March), the Piaget USPA Gold Cup (4th to 22nd March) and the coveted Maserati U.S. Open Polo Championship (25th March to 19th April), which are also referred to as the “American Triple Crown”. Additional information about the tournaments, as well as the offers and ticket prices, can be found on the Internet at www.internationalpoloclub.com

Images: LILA PHOTOS, Tifonimages – Fotolia.com



WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Santiago de Chile will host the 10th FIP World Polo Championship in 2015.

The 10th FIP World Polo Championship will be held from 20th to 30th March 2015 at Club de Polo y Equitación San Cristóbal, located at the gates of Santiago de Chile, the capital of Chile. San Cristóbal Polo Club is an outstanding polo location that has seen many triumphs during its 67-year history, which makes it a recognized place not only in Chile but also internationally. It has seven polo fields with a stretching track, 800 stables and several yards. Six teams will participate in the World Championship in Chile. Argentina is most successful in the history of the Championship by winning it four times, followed by Brazil with three victories. Chile and the USA have each won the Polo World Championship once.



LIVING LEGEND

Symbol of Polo: The Calcutta Polo Club in India is the oldest polo club in the world.

The two British soldiers Robert Stewart and Gen Joe Sherer (also recognised as the father of polo) were so captivated by the experience of witnessing a game called “Sagol Kangjei” being played by locals of Manipur, that in the years 1861-62 they established the “Calcutta Polo Club”. The club created an organized format of the game and set “The first rule book for Modern Polo”. The name “Polo” also was coined here for the first time. Today the club still hosts the Ezra Cup, the first ever polo trophy in the world (instituted by Lord David Ezra in the year 1880). One of the most exciting future plans is the “Ezra Cup Tour”, in which the club wants to carry the oldest polo cup to various polo centres in different countries across the globe. ●



5 YEARS OF POLO IN TIANJIN

Since its opening in 2010, the Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club has developed rapidly and turned into one of the most popular polo locations in China.

By recruiting a team of internationally renowned managers, trainers as well as providing an exceptional stable of ponies selected from the finest bloodlines and several successful tournaments to its members, the Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club turned into one of the most popular polo locations in China in recent years. The Club, located in Tianjin, is the crown jewel of the Goldin Metropolitan project, that also includes Goldin Finance 117, the future booming Central Business District in Tianjin, and Fortune Heights, a low density luxury residence.

Domenico Palumbo, General Manager – Club, comments on the Club's successful season: “This year's Club events have proved to be a resounding success with our members and guests as we have organized various festive celebrations, prestigious gala dinners, renowned French chateau wine dinners, fun loving kids carnivals and unique theme events. We are certain that 2015 will provide more experience that our members and guests will long cherish and remember.” One of the highlights of the next year will once again be the FIP Snow Polo World Cup, the largest snow polo tournament of its kind in the world. From 28th January to 8th February, twelve teams will fight for victory. ●

Images: Calcutta Polo Club, Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club – the grand opening ceremony of Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cup 2014



POLO CLEAT TOOLBOX

Robust hoof cleats by Hermann Stollentechnik: ideal for every surface and available in every thread size.

The innovative Hermann horse cleat comprises a corrosion-resistant, anti-microbial, lead-free and recyclable alloy. These characteristics mean that it is suitable for every surface and any problems with rust on the thread or body of the cleat are a thing of the past. Hermann cleats are available in all current thread sizes and are produced using geometries that are specially tailored to various surfaces. In order to minimise the stress and time taken to screw in cleats, Hermann Cleat Toolboxes are supplied with innovative tools that have been produced in-house and are developed and made from rust-free materials. The easy handling makes screwing in cleats child's play. The cleaning and screw components are used as part of a socket system. Owner Guido Hermann: “We worked with tournament riders and horse specialists to ensure that the tools meet the requirements of equestrian sport, and the Cleat Toolbox was developed in cooperation with the Hamburg polo player Heinrich Dumrath. Our tools are optimised and put together in such a way so as to ensure that cleaning and screwing in the components has been made as easy as possible for users.” Further information about the horse cleat toolbox is available at www.hermann-pferdestollen.de ●

Images: Hermann Drehtechnik GmbH, GENTILEZA ASOCIACIÓN ARGENTINA DE POLO



HALL OF FAME

National Museum of Polo announces six inductees to Hall of Fame.

Each year, outstanding polo personalities and magnificent polo ponies are chosen to become members of the “Hall of Fame” of the National Museum of Polo as representatives of the sport of polo. Four men and two polo ponies will be inducted to the “Polo Hall of Fame” during the annual Induction Dinner, held at the Museum of Polo in Florida on 13th February 2015. In addition to Juan Carlos Harriott Jr, a 10-goal player for 20 years and very successful with his polo team Coronel Suárez (see picture), the inductees are Stephen “Laddie” Sanford, who won the U.S. Open Championship five times, as well as the Canadians Frederick Mannix, Sr. and Michael Sifton. Furthermore, the polo ponies Katrina and Sue Ellen will be honoured. ●



ARGENTINE OPEN

THE PLACE TO BE

POLO+10 will of course be there at the most important tournament in the world, reporting live from Buenos Aires and presenting the latest edition of POLO+10 WORLD hot off the press at its own stand.

BY KATRIN LANGEMANN PHOTOGRAPHY POLO+10



If there's one date on the calendar that any self-respecting polo fan should never miss, it's the final of the Argentine Open at the start of December, the most important and biggest polo tournament in the world. When the two best teams in the world file out onto the pitch in the "Cathedral of Polo" on the final Saturday to battle it out for the most coveted title in polo, everyone who's anyone is there: players, fans, sponsors, horse breeders, spectators and fans of the fast-paced sport, who come to watch polo, talk shop, chat and meet & greet. Polo enthusiasts travel from across the world to Palermo in order to experience the unique atmosphere at the Argentine Open. They meet with each other for cocktails or Mate tea – or at POLO+10.

Once again this year, POLO+10 will be there with its own team reporting live from Buenos Aires: we'll take a look behind the scenes, talk to the players, meet insiders and present the best images, moments and emotions. But we're not just present on the web and social networks – POLO+10 will also be represented with its own stand for the third time. We've not only packed the brand-new edition of POLO+10 WORLD in our suitcases, but also a huge amount of anticipation and enthusiasm for the action-packed matches and interesting encounters. We look forward to meeting old acquaintances and forging new friendships. And we're excited to see whether we'll see our old friends La Dolfina and Ellerstina in the final, or whether the battle between the final two has a surprise in store like it did last year. In 2013, Alegría managed to make it to the final for the first time, but was eventually beaten by La Dolfina. The team around Adolfo Cambiasso (+10) had already won the Tortugas and Hurlingham Open and, with its triumph in Palermo, secured the Argentine Triple Crown 2013. This year, if anything is certain, it is that La Dolfina will put their all into defending their title. The first step has already been made: In mid-October, La Dolfina beat Ellerstina with a score of 14-8 in the final of the Tortugas Open and was also successful in Hurlingham, winning against Ellerstina by 18-15.

Which teams will end up in the final of the Argentine Open 2014 will undoubtedly be a hotly discussed topic at the POLO+10 stand. You are all extremely welcome to pop by and visit us. We look forward to seeing you there!

NEW RULES

Three new rules have been put in place for the Argentine Triple Crown tournaments in 2014:

The Tortugas Open, Hurlingham Open and Argentine Open are three of the most important polo tournaments in the world and together they form the Argentine Triple Crown. Those who play here are the crème de la crème of polo and both the media and spectators show a huge interest in it. In order to make the matches even more dynamic and entertaining, the Argentine Polo Association (AAP) has introduced three new rules this year: **1** Goals scored as part of a move within a team are counted as double scores; **2** Only four players (two from each team) can be present for the throw-in and the remaining players must stay 10 yards away; **3** The distance for a penalty is a maximum of 50 yards.



SOTOGRADE'S BEST SEASON

At the end of August, the best polo players in the world battled it out at the 43rd edition of the renowned Land Rover International Polo Tournament at the Santa María Polo Club in Spain for the coveted Bulgari Gold Cup. POLO+10 accepted the club's invitation and was there to see the triumph of team Valiente at close hand.

BY HALINA SCHMIDT PHOTOGRAPHY GONZALO ETCHEVERRY / SMPC

Adolfo Cambiasso (+10) won the Bulgari Gold Cup with his team Valiente.



LAND ROVER INTERNATIONAL POLO TOURNAMENT

The Land Rover International Polo Tournament is the most important tournament in continental Europe. The tournament begins with the battle for the Bronze Cup, followed by the Silver Cup. The Gold Cup forms the conclusion. In all three Cups, teams from the high, medium and low goal categories compete against each other.

- High Goal:**
12 teams with 48 players
- Medium Goal:**
14 teams with 56 players
- Low Goal:**
6 teams with 24 players



1 Triple Crown: In addition to winning the Bulgari Gold Cup, Valiente also won the Isolas Bronze Cup and the Silex Silver Cup in the high goal division 2 The spectator stands at Santa María Polo Club were completely packed during the final match 3 Gonzalito Pieres (+10) played for team Ellerston.

Every year, the best players in the world come to Sotogrande in Spain and the Santa María Polo Club to compete against each other in the Land Rover International Polo Tournament from the end of July to the end of August. The 43rd edition of the tournament saw five of the best players in the world compete: Adolfo Cambiaso (+10), Gonzalo (+10) and Facundo Pieres (+10), Juan Martín Nero (+10) and David Stirling (+10). A total of 32 teams with 128 players took part and 150 games were played, more than there has ever been in the history of the tournament.

“This is the best season in the history of the club” was the refrain most often heard on the final day of play. Juan Luis Gil, Director of the Santa María Polo Club, was hugely enthusiastic: “The number of players from different countries, the quantity of matches, sometimes even played simultaneously, and the feedback we received

from spectators and players smashed all the records this season. We have achieved our best season ever and once again, the Santa María Polo Club is globally recognized as one of the best polo destinations.”

The battle for the Gold Cup finished with a triumph for team Valiente. In the final game, team Valiente with Adolfo Cambiaso (+10), patron Bob Jornayvaz (+1), Santiago Laborde (+5) and Santiago Torres (+6) met Ellerston, comprising Thomas Brodie (+1), Gonzalo Pieres (+10), Facundo Pieres (+10) and James Packer (+1). The spectator stands were completely packed and the crowds followed the final with loud cheers and calls while the sun beat down on everyone’s heads. Valiente defended themselves excellently throughout the match, with Adolfo Cambiaso playing a starring role. Santiago Torres also ensured he was always in the right



In team Ellerston, Facundo Pieres (+10) gave it his all and attacked Cambiaso (+10) repeatedly to try and get the ball and shoot goals for his team.

place at the right time. In team Ellerston, Facundo Pieres gave it his all and attacked Cambiaso repeatedly to try and get the ball and shoot goals for his team.

Both teams played with breath-taking speed and thrilled the public with the highest-calibre polo playing. The teams proved so equally matched over long periods that it was impossible to predict who would win right up until the end. At the start, Valiente took the lead when Adolfo Cambiaso scored a goal, but Facundo Pieres managed to equalise for Ellerston shortly after. The match followed this trajectory right until just before the end. Only in the sixth and last chukka was Valiente able to break away from Ellerston when Adolfo Cambiaso shot two goals in quick succession. With an end result of 14-11, Valiente was the worthy winner of the Bulgari Gold Cup. Valiente has thus been able to win all three trophies in the

Spanish Triple Crown: in addition to the Bulgari Gold Cup, the team had already won the Isolas Bronze Cup and the Silex Silver Cup in the high goal division.

The Land Rover International Polo Tournament not only inspired with action-packed and exciting polo matches, but also offered guests a varied entertainment programme. Visitors to the shopping village were able to enjoy a wide range of shops, as well as the Palenque restaurant for all their nutritional needs. Guests also enjoyed the After Polo Tent, where they celebrated with cocktails long into the night. Little ones were also well catered for in the Kids Area. All in all, the team at the Santa María Polo Club provided an all-round entertaining tournament with excellent polo matches.



EC CHANTILLY

In September, England became European champions in the French town of Chantilly. With a total of six wins, the Britons became the most successful nation in an European Polo Championship to date.

BY KATRIN LANGEMANN PHOTOGRAPHY R&B PRESSE / C. CARNOT DERRIEN

Netherlands against Germany.



1 International audience attended the chukkas in Chantilly and supported the teams 2 The Polo Club Chantilly and its founder Patrick Guerrand-Hermès held the World Championship in 2004. Since then, the EC is the first big FIP event in Chantilly 3 Victory for the English team with Patrick Guerrand-Hermès (in the middle) 4+5 In the final the Irish team led before England could win the game.

6 Germany finally finished 7th 7 France was European Champion 2012 8 The Netherlands finished 8th.

With a score of 6-3, England triumphed against Ireland at the European Polo Championships in 2014 and became the new European Polo Champions. The Irish had already proven that they could beat the English team in the preliminary rounds, but on the final Sunday, it didn't go so well for the foursome from the Emerald Isle. Ireland certainly dominated part of the match, but in the end England won by 6-3 and Max Dear (0), Olly Tuthill (+4), Jack Mesquita (+1) and Freddy Dear (+3) left the pitch as European Polo Champions. For the Irish team, who had to deal with lots of changes in the team in the last few games, this meant relegation to second place. Winner of the bronze medal was France. In the short final, Julien Reynes (+2), Florent Garaud (+2), Corentin Lepape (+2) and Adrien Le Gallo (+2) beat the team from Italy with a score of 6-4.

The German national polo team sponsored by POLO+10 won against the Dutch team on Saturday with a score of 6-3. Moritz Gädeke said: "Everything that we were unable to achieve against

Spain seemed to come together for the game against the Netherlands. We played very well as a team and were also ahead of the Dutch in terms of horsemanship. The Dutch did not ride very well and reached their limits in the last game. We played extremely well, but our horses were the ones who helped us to break away score-wise."

All the teams were very equally matched: any one of the teams could have found themselves in 3rd to 8th place.

With their success over the Dutch, Moritz Gädeke (+3), Sven Schneider (+3), Caesar Crasemann (+1) and Peter Kienast (+1) finished the tournament with a victory and achieved seventh place overall. Moritz Gädeke gave a positive summary: "We played extremely well. Not many expected that from Germany at the outset. Mainly because it was well known that I joined the team at the last minute due to Christopher Kirsch's injury. All in all, we

were able to hold our own and we didn't let it get the better of us. This was also honoured by the other teams, who congratulated us on our performance. All the teams were very closely matched, and any one of the teams could have found themselves in 3rd to 8th place."

In the penultimate game of the European Championships against Spain, the German national polo team sponsored by POLO+10 experienced difficulties working as a team after a good start and initial lead and were beaten by Spain with a score of 3-5 in the end. Moritz Gädeke: "At the start, we had great fun and played amazingly. But if we're honest, we deserved to lose. I would like to highlight the excellent performance of our horses and the fantastic work done by our grooms here. We would all like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our grooms for their tireless efforts and for preparing our horses perfectly every time!" The Gädeke family and the Prussian Polo & Country Club Berlin-Brandenburg have just applied to run the European Championships 2016.

WINNER AND TEAMS EC 2014

<p>1st England (+8) Max Dear (0) Olly Tuthill (+4) Jack Mesquita (+1) Freddy Dear (+3)</p>	<p>5th Spain (+8) Mario Gomez Duran (+4) Nicolas Alvarez Cervera (+3) Yago Espinosa De Los Monteros (+2) Luis Aznar Oriol (0)</p>
<p>2nd Ireland (+8) Richard Fagan (+1) Sebastian Dawnay (+4) Max Hutchinson (+2) Stephen Hutchinson (+1)</p>	<p>6th Austria (+8) Walter Scherb (+1) Martin Bleier (+2) Diego Braun (+4) Robert Kofler (+1)</p>
<p>3rd France (+8) Julien Reynes (+2) Florent Garaud (+2) Corentin Lepape (+2) Adrien Le Gallo (+2)</p>	<p>7th Germany (+8) Moritz Gädeke (+3) Sven Schneider (+3) Caesar Crasemann (+1) Peter Kienast (+1)</p>
<p>4th Italy (+8) Edoardo Ferrari (+2) Giacomo Galantino (+1) Matias Bertola (+1) Julio Coria (+4)</p>	<p>8th Netherlands (+8) Jim Souren (+1) Pablo Van Den Brink (+2) Alexander Van An del (+2) Nick Grooss (+3)</p>

BRAVO TEAM FIPA GROUP!

The sixth edition of the Polo Beach Cup Versilia Tuscany in Lido di Camaiore offered a Mediterranean atmosphere and lots of adrenaline. POLO+10 was present.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY POLO+10





Most of the players at the Polo Beach Cup Versilia Tuscany 2014 came from Roma Polo Club.



The event moved this year from Viareggio to Versilia which is just a few minutes north. A good choice.

Head sponsor Fipa Group, an international expert in exclusive yachts, and its team consisting of Matteo Beffa (-1), Cedric Schweri (0) from Switzerland and the Argentine professional player Martin Riglos (+4) won by 7-4 against team Coci. From the beginning, the Swiss/Argentine team took the lead over team Coci including Luca Evangelista d'Orazio (+1), Fabrizio Bulgarini (+2) and Filippo Breccia (0) of Roma Polo Club.

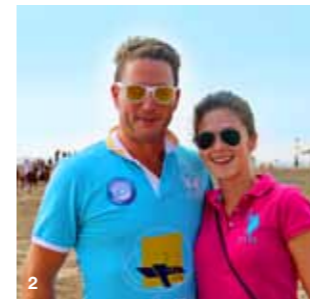
In the second chukka, team Coci kept up with Bulgarini, scoring 4-5. But Fipa Group made it clear that they wanted to be the winners and the final score was a definite 7-4, something known as

“Vittoria schiacciante” in Italy. Team captain Matteo Beffa said, ‘This was the first time we have played here and we are totally thrilled about this fantastic location. We have met many great people who we want to invite to our tournaments at the Legacy Polo Club in Switzerland. We already look forward to coming back next year to defend our title and to help turn this tournament into one of the major exciting events on the European polo calendar’.

Team Park Hotel Villa Ariston, including Stefano Pisa di Monterosa (+1), Therence Cusmano (+2) and Davide Nanni (+1), shared third place with team Dr. Vranjes, consisting of team captain Massimo Elser (+1), his German wife Tessa Fahlbusch (-1) and the great Argentinian player Marcos Antinori (+4). Massimo is currently establishing a new polo club close to Rome.

Polo Beach Cup Versilia Tuscany 2014 – a spectacular beach polo event in front of the historic and picturesque backdrop of Tuscany at Park Hotel Villa Ariston. This traditional hotel, which has huge premises including a large garden, and its friendly manager Paolo Ferrero made this tournament a fantastic experience for the spectators.

For this edition, Rudolph Bergelehner of head sponsor Fipa Group decided to change the location from Viareggio to Lido di Camaiore and the Park Hotel Villa Ariston. The accommodation for guests was first class, as was the lodging for the horses, which were accommodated in the estate stables. The beach polo field was built with meticulous precision by the company Coci and located directly across the street from the expansive beach at Lido di Camaiore.



1 Fipa Group AB116 – with a top speed of 55 knots 2 Matteo Beffa, captain of team Fipa Group with his girlfriend Carolin 3 Gianluca Magini, speaker and polo player from Roma Polo Club 4 Edy and Adelheid Bernasconi (polo sponsors) with Francesco Guidetti (founder and president Fipa Group) and Rudolph Bergelehner from Fipa Group.

Fipa Group presented its exclusive yachts in the background – a most impressive panorama. The event manager Dr Patrizia Lencioni and her team were the ones who made it possible to bring the sixth edition of the Polo Beach Cup Versilia Tuscany to Lido di Camaiore at short notice. Dr Patrizia Lencioni feels certain that this location is more elegant, relaxed and friendly. The commentator Gianluca Magini of Roma Polo Club also agrees with this. He played at the tournament during its first three years in Viareggio and after that took over the presenting of the event. Magini has been playing polo for several decades and his sixteen-year-old son now also plays polo. ‘We experienced some very exciting chukkas here, especially on Sunday. Fantastic polo, the new field is much better, and the relocation has really paid off’. The umpire of the Beach Polo Cup is also no stranger to the Italian polo scene. Franco Paizze was the first polo player in Italy and had a handicap of +5 in his day. Even today he is an active player in Rome. The official supplier to the tournament was La Martina, international market leader in the sport of polo, and whose European headquarters are located in Chiasso, Switzerland.

The Fipa Group invited guests to visit and ride on two of their yachts anchored in the port of Viareggio. The production facilities of the Fipa Group, which is with Maiora, Ab Yachts and Cbi Navi one of the most exclusive manufacturers of luxury yachts, can also be found here. Rudolph Bergelehner from the Fipa Group said, ‘We are very pleased about the victory of our team with the two Swiss players Matteo and Cedric and our professional Martin Riglos and also about the highly successful polo event. The feedback was fantastic and we can see that the new location is perfect’.



Perfect beach polo day: Competitive chukkas in front of a mediterranean view with Fipa Yachts Maiora 39 and AB116 cruising close to the beach.

WINNER AND TEAMS:

1st Team Fipa Group (+3)
Matteo Beffa (-1)
Cedric Schweri (0)
Martin Riglos (+4)

2nd Team Coci (+3)
Luca Evangelista D'Orazio (+1)
Fabrizio Bulgarini (+2)
Filippo Breccia (0)

3rd Team Park Hotel Villa Ariston (+4)
Stefano Pisa di Monterosa (+1)
Therence Cusmano (+2)
Davide Nanni (+1)

3rd Team Dr. Vranjes (+4)
Massimo Elser (+1)
Tessa Fahlbusch (-1)
Marcos Antinori (+4)



FIPA

GROUP Since he was a child, he developed a strong passion for everything that's water, sea or lake, river or stream, no matter the size. Today the Fipa Group of Francesco Guidetti is one of the most exclusive producers of motoryachts in the world.

PHOTOGRAPHY FIPA GROUP



Francesco Guidetti, founder of Fipa Group, was born in the middle of the forties, a few months before the end of the Second World War. He is the youngest of six brothers. Since he was a child, he developed a strong passion for everything that's water, sea or lake, river or stream, no matter the size. A passion derived both from his older brothers and from the beautiful things of the place where he grew up, where the primordial and free nature was the only master. His first games aimed right at this direction, improving more and more in the course of his youth. The scale models were his favourite pastime. Reproductions of airplanes, of boats of any kind, or of simple toy cars accompanied his emotional development and then influenced also his professional career.

In his youth, Guidetti joined the most important Italian state-owned electric power distribution company of the postwar period. The chance that seduced Guidetti and that would be the lucky intuition which laid the foundations of Fipa Group occurred in the early seventies. The market, as a matter of fact, was searching for laminated GRP hulls: in the early seventies GRP was still an unknown material, but also the perfect bet that gave Guidetti the possibility to know the real nautical world. In the eighties, also thanks to the constant support of his wife Mirna Santucci, faithful mainstay of the administrative area, the successful culmination of the efforts made so far finally took place: Guidetti succeeded in taking over the brand Maiora, that had already been from decades a synonym of style and elegance and that fits perfectly with the excellence of Fipa products, and he began to commercialize them and to invest in new models. The new memorable lines Maiora came out. Guidetti was able to create an unmistakable family feeling that makes them unique and recognizable. He has always been interacting with his departments, launching ideas and lines that made and keep on making the history of the international yachting world. He has been following directly each department of his company: the design department and the strategies of the sales department as well as production, and soon he created one of the greatest yachting empire. The shining example of these achievements is surely the latest AB116 which was built in record time and launched last May. With a top speed of 53 knots, she is one of the fastest 35m yachts ever built. In fact in 2015 the new AB 145, with more than 45 knots speed and the new Maiora 33FB with space and comfort never seen before, will both go out to sea.

Fipa Group proves to be one of the key players of the international yachting panorama, and renews its wide products range with charming models with innovative performances. Francesco Guidetti, President and Founder of Fipa Group, is extremely confident about the recovery of the yachting industry of Viareggio, and he returned with an optimistic feeling from the latest events that fascinated the audience of Cannes, Monaco and Genoa. The Maiora range makes its wide spaces onboard even more liveable, and it presents the new Maiora 33FB: planing hull with soft and sinuous lines, characterized by the family feeling that is typical of each Maiora model. The interiors fill up with natural light to reduce the distance between inside and outdoors life. CBI Navi is building the futuristic CBI 777, a 77 meters vessel that will become the flagship of the group and will be launched in 2017. The general purpose of this project made of steel and aluminium is to give a series of suggestive feelings to the guests in a continuous alternation of spaces and structures. The resulting identity is certainly aggressive and definitely charming.



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On all three days, the matches were heralded by a spectacular opening show comprising Azerbaijani riders.

POLO IN BAKU

Azerbaijan is the birthplace of polo. Following a successful debut event last year, the Grass Arena Polo World Cup Azerbaijan took place for the second time in Baku, Azerbaijan at the start of September. POLO+10 was present.

BY HALINA SCHMIDT PHOTOGRAPHY WORLD POLO/POLO+10

The second edition of the Grass Arena Polo World Cup Azerbaijan in Baku at the start of September was once again a complete success: the event was sold out every single day, with more than 15,000 spectators attending the matches. This year again saw the Equestrian Federation of Azerbaijan Republic (ARAF), World Polo and the Elite Horse and Polo Club Bina presenting several exciting polo matches across three days. Four professional polo teams from Argentina, the USA, Europe and Azerbaijan battled it out for the coveted trophy, variously representing the brands and sponsors Chopard, Maserati, Baltika 7 and Embawood.

The tournament began with a surprise: for the first time, an Azerbaijani team took part, marking the first time an Azerbaijani team has participated in an international tournament. The national team comprised a number of former chovgan players, who of course are masters of the centuries-old original form of polo, but who had no experience of modern polo until a year ago. To prepare for the World Cup 2014, they were professionally trained by polo coaches Adrian sen. and his brother Raul Laplacette sen. of the Alegría Polo Farm (Buenos Aires) and Thomas Winter from Hamburg. Raul sen. remained in Azerbaijan throughout the five months of training in order to impart the rules of polo to the players and observe the team's progress.

Image: POLO+10



1



Image: POLO+10

3



4

Image: POLO+10



5



6

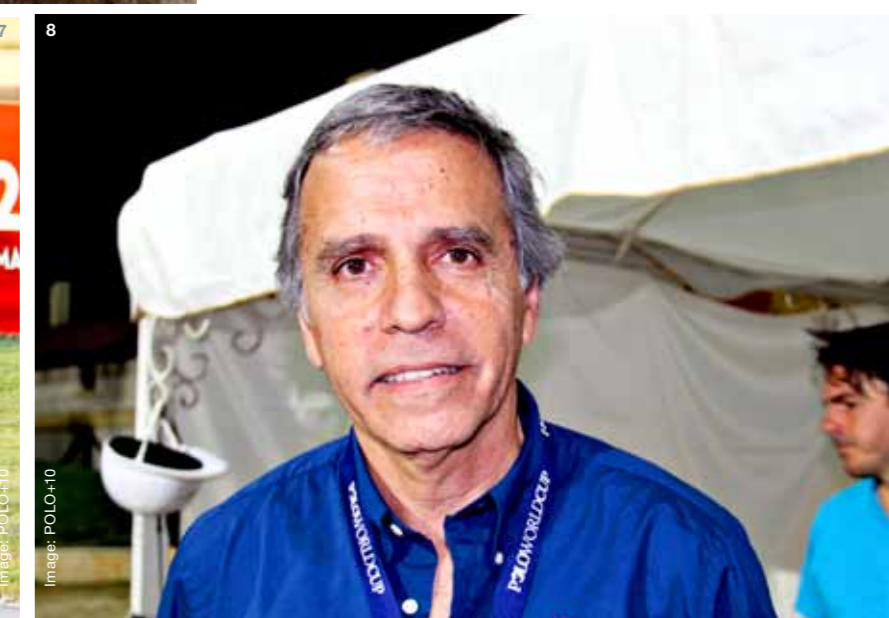
Image: World Polo



2



7



8

Image: POLO+10

1 From left to right: Polo player Thomas Winter, commentator Jan-Erik Franck and Reto Gaudenzi, President of World Polo GmbH 2 The Azerbaijani national team Embawood was placed third and performed very well 3 Tatyana Sulzenbacher from Aztexnika Baku presented the award Most Valuable Player to Raul Laplacette Jr. of team Embawood 4 From left to right: Irina Gaudenzi, Ruth Reinger as well as Kristina and Dr Piero Dillier, European delegate to the Federation of International Polo, attended the matches at the second Grass Arena Polo World Cup Azerbaijan 5 Argentinian Andres Laplacette played for winning team Chopard 6 M. Ahadpur Khangah, Vice-President of the ARAF, welcomed the polo players during the team presentation at Kempinski Hotel Badamdar 7 Elçin Quliyev, President of the Equestrian Federation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, inaugurated the event 8 Polo coach Adrian Laplacette sen. was responsible for the training of the Azerbaijani national team.



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9 Last year's winner team Baltika 7 ended up in second place 10 Simon Crotto played for winning team Chopard
11 The Azerbaijani team (light blue shirts) fighting against team Maserati.

On all three days, the matches played during Grass Arena Polo World Cup Azerbaijan were heralded by a spectacular opening show comprising Azerbaijani riders, who impressed the spectators with their acrobatic shows on horseback. Team Chopard started the tournament with a victory, remaining unbeaten until the end. After three days of exciting polo matches, the winner was clear: the Argentinian team Chopard, for which Andres Laplacette, Simon Crotto and Andres Laplacette jr. kicked off proceedings, was able to achieve a score of 9-4 in the final game against European team Baltika 7 to come first. Last year's winners were unable to repeat their success and ended up in second place.

The Azerbaijani national team Embawood came third. The team was supported by Argentinian player Raul Laplacette jr. and performed very well. Throughout all the team's matches, the audience cheered the team on loudly and followed the chukkas with great enthusiasm. After they achieved third place, head trainer Adrian Laplacette sen. said, "It was a very good game; they showed that they can really play and proved that they have the will and passion to play polo. I would never have thought a year ago that they could be as successful as they are now. They are very good riders and with Raul Laplacette jr. as captain, they acquitted themselves very well." Following the successful debut of the Azerbaijani team, Bahruz Nabiyev, General Secretary of the Equestrian Federation of Azerbaijan Republic, said that the entire team would travel to Argentina to be trained further and improve their polo game. Prize money totalling 100,000 euros was awarded to the participating teams. Reto Gaudenzi, President of World Polo GmbH, has already confirmed that another edition of the tournament will take place next year. The second Grass Arena World Polo Cup Azerbaijan was a great success and once again proved that POLO IS HOME!

RANKINGS IN THE GRASS ARENA POLO WORLD CUP AZERBAIJAN 2014

1st Team Chopard (Argentina)
Andres Laplacette (ARG)
Simon Crotto (ARG)
Adrian Laplacette Jr. (ARG)

2nd Team Baltika 7 (Europe)
Heinrich Dumrath (GER)
Agustin Kronhaus (ARG)
Thomas Winter (GER)

3rd Team Embawood (Azerbaijan)
Seyidov Vugar Gasim (AZ)
Jamalli Elchin Shahin (AZ)
Hasanov Rashad Khosrov (AZ)
Raul Laplacette Jr. (ARG)
Abdurahmanov Khayal Shamil (AZ)
Abdurahmanov Tahir Shamil (AZ)
Atayev Sameddin Nuraddin (AZ)
(Different members of the team played in each game)

4th Team Maserati (USA)
Pablo Miguens (ARG)
Tito Gaudenzi (USA)
Satnam Dhillon (GB)



GERMANTOUR POLO

In its fifth anniversary year, the German Polo Tour (GPT) is sitting tight in its saddle and has finally established itself as a firm fixture on the German polo calendar.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY MATTHIAS GRUBER,
VALERIA CETRARO, SINJE SYBERT



Left: The Argentinean polo professional Pablo Jaureche (+7) played 2014 for team Land Rover. Right: Team Sowiniec (Land Rover) won the German Polo Tour as overall leader 2014. From left: Jacinto Crotto, Marcin Świtalski, Mateusz Świtalski and father Mariusz Świtalski.

Major national companies are now on board as sponsors of the entire tour and accompany the league throughout the season and across the country. As initiator Christopher Kirsch says, "We are now in the situation where the sponsors come to us both with a desire to establish more locations and also apply with fully-functioning tournaments that they want integrated into the tour." Kirsch and his team from Pegasus Events are in the process of checking out the new locations that have applied for the German Polo Tour 2015. The playing fields and infrastructure need to meet the requirements of the tour, especially given that the GPT acts as a representative of quality in German polo and needs to keep its promises. "This standard of quality is very important to us. The sport needs flagship locations where high-class sport can be played in a good atmosphere." It is important to him to build up the tour in a slow and steady way.

A total of 17 teams took part in the seven tournaments of Germany's first polo league in 2012. In 2014, 46 took part. 184 polo players from over 15 nations with a total of 1,000 horses competed in the German Polo Tour this year. "We played a total of 276 chukkas during the German Polo Tour this season," explains Christopher Kirsch. He wants to get the general public more involved and offer sponsors a long-term presence with the constancy and continuity that the tour brings to the sport. "For sponsors, the German Polo Tour is of course highly interesting, because it offers a continuous presence in various cities and across the whole polo season. This means that in this area, we work less with regional partners than we do with national and international brands. The concept of the German Polo Tour has proven itself completely. Berenberg, the oldest private bank in Germany, and the traditional Swiss company Bucherer have agreed to be title sponsor of three tournaments on the tour each. Teams with the same members who are known to the public and cheered on by their fans, an exciting points system and the continuous presence of sponsors bring spectators closer to the sport – and vice versa." Munich, Hamburg, Gut Aspern, Düsseldorf, Oberursel and Berlin once again awarded the important points in 2014. The modus

operandi of the tour remained basically the same. Each team is evaluated based on their three best results in the tournaments they have played in and their other results are ignored. The winner at the end of the season is the team with the highest number of points. Team Sowiniec (Land Rover) with Jacinto Crotto, Marcin, Mateusz Świtalski and father Mariusz Świtalski won the German Polo Tour as overall leader 2014.

The German Polo Tour is played strictly according to HPA rules. In addition to several other experienced umpires, the lead referee, English professional Jason Dixon, has followed the tour since 2012. Jason: "I enjoyed accompanying the whole German Polo Tour this year for the first time. In March, I hosted an Umpire Master course in Düsseldorf. The participants then passed on their new knowledge to regional referee committees which then reported back to their polo clubs. This meant we could penetrate the entire DPV structure." Currently the preparations for the tournaments in the German Polo Tour 2015 are well underway. Kirsch: "The quality standard is very high and we are constantly striving to optimise playing fields. In particular, we have been able to considerably improve the relatively new locations of Oberursel and Berlin-Hoppegarten over the past year." As in past years, the winners will be awarded an original of the valuable polo watch by Bucherer. Carl F. Bucherer has issued a limited number of Polo Edition 100 Patravi ChronoDate watches in honour of the German Polo Tour. The polo watch with stainless steel casing, screwed down crown and a silver-coloured dial pays tribute to the centuries-old team sport in several ways. The movement used in the timekeeper is a CFB 1956.1 which Carl F. Bucherer has developed especially for his Patravi ChronoDate Polo Edition. It can run for 42 hours. The Polo watch by Bucherer has numerous functions, such as a large date display and chronograph, and its display is completely in keeping with polo. It displays the three quarters of a polo game, each lasting seven-and-a-half minutes. This makes the watch by Carl F. Bucherer a true fit for polo enthusiasts.

You can find further information at www.polo-tour.de

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ASCONA GOES BRAZIL

It will be exotic, tropical and spirited in idyllic Ascona when Brazil becomes the partner country of the Hublot Polo Cup Ascona in 2015. Anticipation guaranteed.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY KRISZTINA ZIMMERMANN

Over the past five years, enchanting Ascona has gradually become the new polo paradise on Lago Maggiore. Thanks to its love of detail, the Polo Club Ascona has made the three-day polo event in Ticino an elegant meeting place for international friends and somewhere where high-quality polo is guaranteed. This year, they intend once again to make their excellent parties another unforgettable experience. A partner country sets the tone every year: in 2014, it was Russia's turn. Folklore, bearskin caps, mountains of caviar and 60 litres of vodka not only inspired the Russian ambassadors to Switzerland, but also ensured that the guests once again donated generously to a social project in Russia. Donations to the "Peace & Harmony" foundation that looks after disadvantaged children in the rural areas of the huge country were handed over to the foundation's founder Elmira Shcherbakova and the head ambassador from the Russian Embassy in Switzerland, Konstantin Nefedov. The Players' Party took place on the beach of Lago Maggiore at the "Lido" with 350 guests, where superb lighting effects and first-class catering inspired the international guests. Both the entertainment programme and the sporting part of the tournament met the highest expectations. In the playing category of 6 to 8 goals, the

four teams delivered exciting chukkas that were well worth seeing. The winners of the Hublot Polo Cup Ascona 2014 were Piero Dillier (0), Uwe Zimmermann (+1) and Lucas Labat (+6) from team Engel & Völkers. Second place went to Cedric Schweri (0), Thomas Wolfensberger (+1) and Martin Riglos (+4) from team Podium Swiss & Loris Kessel Lugano. More teams have already applied to take part in the Polo Cup Ascona 2015 than the organiser can cater for. "We want to leave it at four teams. That's the perfect dose of polo every day." Four teams with 12 players, 60 horses and around 3,000 spectators are the kind of size that can be well managed. Ascona will once again invite a partner country to participate in 2015, when Brazil will be the face of the Polo Cup. A Brazilian team from São Paulo with whom the Tour has links has already agreed to take part. From 17th to 19th July 2015, it will be all about the tropic and exotic in Ascona. A special highlight will be the Players' Party, which will take place in the Botanic Gardens on Brissago island. Isole di Brissago is situated on Lago Maggiore around 3.5 km away from Ascona.

www.poloclubascona.ch

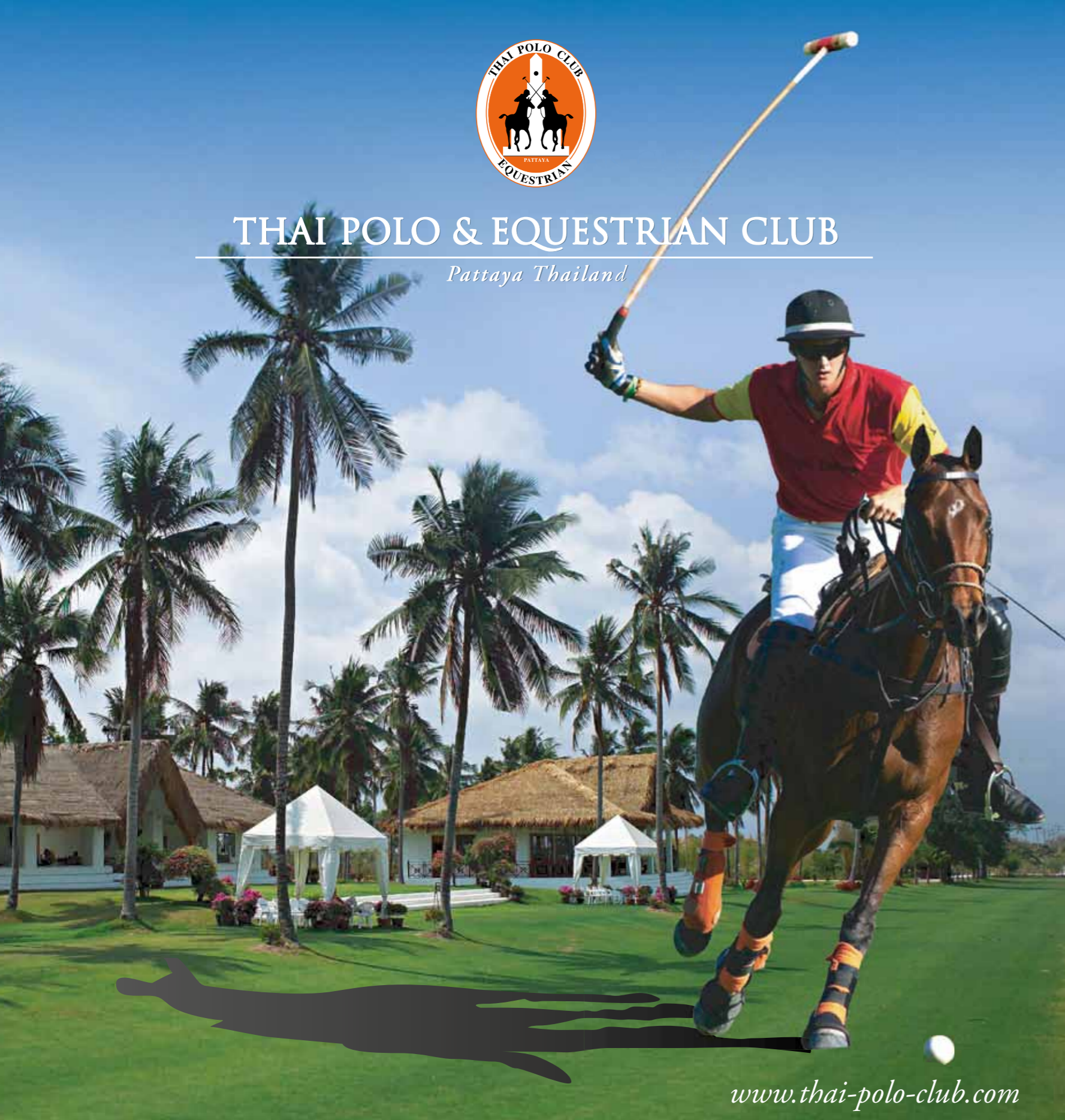


The Polo Cup Ascona is very popular. More teams have already applied to take part in the tournament in 2015 than the organiser can cater for.



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www.thai-polo-club.com



1 In 2015 the Players' Party will be held in the Botanic Gardens of Isole di Brissago. The guests will be brought to the island by ship 2 Award ceremony with the sponsors mit den Sponsoren. Centre in the front: Claudia Tresch of winning team Engel & Völkers 3 President Uwe Zimmermann and Krisztina with Nicole Pandiscia and Margit and Jürgen Sauer 4 + 5 In 2014 partner country Russia set the tone of the event.



RANKING:

1st Engel & Völkers (+7)
 Piero Dillier (0)
 Uwe Zimmermann (+1)
 Lucas Labat (+6)

2nd Podium Swiss & Loris Kessel Lugano (+5)
 Cedric Schweri (0)
 Thomas Wolfensberger (+1)
 Martin Riglos (+4)

3rd Ecovis SA & FIPA GROUP (+4)
 Michael Husted (0)
 Matteo Beffa (-1)
 Pedro Llorente (+5)

4th Styger & Partner (+4)
 Anastasia Huaco (0)
 Victor Huaco (0)
 Horacio Llorente (+4)



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THE WORLD OF UJK POLO

Great Britain has a special position in the history of the sport of polo: Due to British officers the sport of kings spread all over the world. Today England ranks among the three biggest polo nations, in addition to Argentina and the United States of America.

BY VICKY FENNER PHOTOGRAPHY VICKY FENNER, IMAGES OF POLO



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34 Lytchett Heath
www.lytchettpolo.co.uk

35 New Forest
www.newforestpoloclub.co.uk

36 Druids Lodge
www.druidspolo.co.uk

37 CSPA
www.cspa.org.uk

38 Tidworth
www.tidworthpolo.com

39 Pony Club Polo
theresa.c.hodges@ask.com

40 Tidworth Arena
www.tidwortharenapolo.com

41 Royal Navy Polo Association
jockiewilson@hotmail.co.uk

42 Cowdray
www.cowdraypolo.co.uk

43 Burningfold
www.burningfoldpolo.co.uk

44 Hurtwood
www.hurtwoodpark.com

45 Knepp Castle
www.aspectpolo.co.uk

46 FHM Polo
www.fhmpolo.co.uk

47 AEPC – Hickstead
polo@hickstead.co.uk

48 Sussex Polo
www.sussexpolo.co.uk

49 Epsom
www.epsompoloclub.co.uk

50 Ham
www.hampoloclub.com

51 Ash Farm
www.ashfarmpolo.com

52 Ascot Park
www.polo.co.uk

53 RMA Sandhurst
rmas-stables-polo-oic@mod.uk

54 Guards
www.guardspoloclub.com

55 RCBPC
www.rcbpoloclub.com

56 Ranelagh Farm
www.ranelaghfarm.com

57 Fifield
www.fifieldpoloclub.com

58 White Waltham
www.playpolo.co.uk

59 Blueys Farm
www.blueyspolo.co.uk

60 Binfield Heath
www.binfieldheathpoloclub.co.uk

61 Lacey Green
www.laceygreenpoloclub.com

62 Eastwood
www.eastwoodpolo.co.uk

63 SUPA
www.SUPA.org.uk

64 St Albans
www.stalbanspoloclub.co.uk

65 Luton Hoo
www.lutonhoopoloclub.com

66 Apsley End
peter.pollak@btopenworld.com

67 Hertfordshire
www.hertspolo.co.uk

68 Moor Hall Farm
alec@mhfpolo.co.uk

69 Silver Leys
www.silverleypolo.co.uk

70 Cambridge
www.haggisfarmpolo.com

71 Cambridge County
www.cambridgecountypoloclub.co.uk

72 Suffolk
www.SuffolkPoloClub.org.uk

73 Higham
www.highampoloclub.com

74 Little Bentley
www.littlebentleypark.co.uk

75 Norfolk
www.norfolkpolo.co.uk



The Gold Cup, one of the most important tournaments of the British polo season, is held at Cowdray Park Polo Club.

THE HPA TODAY

To demonstrate the popularity of the sport in the UK, the HPA counted just under 3,000 members who were registered with and handicapped by the HPA in 2013.

Clubs and Associations

59 outdoor clubs in the UK
7 outdoor clubs in Ireland
28 arena clubs in the UK & Ireland
6 associations in the UK & Ireland
32 overseas clubs and associations

www.hpa-polo.co.uk

Polo is believed to be the oldest team sport in the world and its origins lie in Persia (Iran) where the first recorded polo match is said to have taken place in 600 BC between the Persians and the Turkomans. The Moguls were largely responsible for the introduction of polo into India in the 13th Century, however this form of the sport was very different to the one many know and love today. The British tea planters and British Army cavalry regiments later discovered the game in the 1850s in Manipur, on the Burmese border with India and the first polo club was formed at Silchar in 1862. The Calcutta Polo Club was also founded in 1862 and is known today as the oldest polo club in the world. The British Army regiments adopted the sport and adapted the rules before importing it to the Western world.

It was in 1869 that Edward “Chicken” Hartopp of the 10th Hussars, first read an account of the sport in “The Field” magazine and organised the very first game in England with the help of some of his fellow officers who were stationed at Aldershot. This inaugural match took place between a team of officers from the 10th Hussars and another team from the 9th Lancers on a very hastily rolled Hounslow Heath. Then known as “hockey on horseback” and despite having very little knowledge of the rules of polo, others were quick to follow suit and the 1st Life Guards and the Royal Horse Guards also staged a polo match on grounds at Hounslow in Richmond Park. The officers were mounted on cavalry horses and used walking sticks and a cricket ball for their first attempts at the sport. Others are also believed to have used golf clubs and a billiard ball. It soon became evident that cavalry horses were not suited to polo, so Captain William Chaine of the 10th Hussars was sent to Ireland to buy more suitable ponies. He returned with seventeen ponies and the Hussars began to practice in earnest. A ground was rolled and marked and the 10th Hussars challenged the 9th Lancers to a second match, a challenge that was eagerly accepted.

This resulted in the first properly organised polo match taking place on Hounslow Heath on 28th June 1870. 1872 saw the first polo club in England founded in Monmouthshire by Capt. Francis “Tip” Herbert of the 7th Lancers. Three years after the game had been brought over to the UK, it was still known as “hockey on horseback” and was played mostly at a walk with a long hockey stick and various different types of balls, a cricket ball painted white being the most popular option. The equipment needed improving and eventually long handled sticks and wooden white balls the sizes of a cricket ball were introduced. Another prominent polo ground at the time could be found in the Lillie Bridge area in West Brompton. Here matches would take place between the Household Cavalry and the Light Cavalry. In 1874 the Hurlingham Club in Fulham, London began to cater for polo players and under the leadership of the Hon. Debonair John Monson it quickly became the central hub for the sport of polo. Oxford and Cambridge University also founded polo clubs in 1874 and 1873 respectively. The very first inter-university match (later known as the Varsity Match) took place in 1878, with Oxford securing the win.

The sport at this time was very much dominated by army officers, with the majority of cavalry regiments in Britain and India having their own polo clubs. After the success and popularity of the game in the UK, others followed suit such as Australia and the United States of America. In 1883 the Hurlingham Polo Committee made a very important decision to limit the number of players in a team to four a side, which greatly increased the speed of the game. Similar to the game of golf, which introduced handicaps in 1842, polo also used handicaps to reflect a player’s level of ability, but these were not introduced in India and England until 1910. Handicaps ranged from 0 to 10, 10 signalling the best players in the world. Polo ponies are known for being relatively small, but it wasn’t until 1919 when the height restriction rules on polo ponies were lifted.

The Hurlingham Polo Association (HPA)

The Hurlingham Polo Association, more commonly known as the HPA, is the governing body for the sport of polo in the UK, Ireland and a variety of other countries worldwide. The HPA is responsible for the rules and regulations of the sport and these are to be followed whenever polo is played. The ultimate aim of the HPA is to further the interests of polo and support the polo clubs and associations that they are affiliated to in any way that they can.

Hurlingham became the headquarters of polo in 1875. The Hurlingham Polo Committee also drew up the very first set of English rules for polo in that same year. In 1903, the committee was re-named The Hurlingham Club Polo Committee and expansion meant that representatives of the Services, the County Polo Association, the three London polo clubs – Hurlingham, Ranelagh and Roehampton, as well as associations throughout the Empire, were included on the Council. It wasn’t until 1925 that The Hurlingham Club Polo Committee became the Hurlingham Polo Association (HPA), the name it still holds today. In 1949, the County Polo Association, which had been set up in 1898 to look after the interests of the country polo clubs and the running of the County Cup tournaments, was incorporated into the HPA.

The Second World War meant that polo once again came to a halt in England, with many of the pitches being used to help the war effort. It was not until 1952 that polo was officially restarted and the HPA worked from their new base at Cowdray. Since then the HPA has moved to Kirtlington in 1989 and to its current location of Little Coxwell, Farringdon near Cirencester in 2000. In 1999 David Woodd became Chief Executive of the HPA, taking over from Buff Crisp. The directors of the company are known as the Stewards and they form the executive committee, which usually meets four

times throughout the year. The HPA is divided into sub committees in order to deal with the many different aspects of the sport. An important part of the HPA’s work includes promoting the development of the sport amongst the next generation of polo players. As well as working with the Pony Club and running the Junior HPA Polo scheme, the HPA also runs a scholarship scheme that enables young polo players to travel abroad to improve their polo skills and knowledge and to help them learn to look after polo ponies. Today, the HPA consists of the following number of clubs and associations: 59 outdoor clubs in the UK, 7 outdoor clubs in Ireland, 28 arena clubs in the UK & Ireland, 6 associations in the UK & Ireland and 32 overseas clubs and associations.

Main Tournaments

With so many clubs across the UK offering polo, there are a huge variety of tournaments on offer to polo players every season and at all different levels of ability. However, the UK is known for its extremely prestigious high goal season, which for many starts with the Prince of Wales Trophy at The Royal County of Berkshire Polo Club at the end of May. Similarly to Argentina, England also has a British Triple Crown for Polo consisting of the Warwickshire Cup, The Queen’s Cup and The Gold Cup. Only one team has managed to win all three consecutively, Sam Vestey’s Stowell Park team, who achieved this feat in 1973 and again in 1978.

The Queen’s Cup was inaugurated in 1960 when Her Majesty The Queen presented the Cup to Guards Polo Club. Since then, it has become a tradition that The Queen attends Finals Day and presents the winning patron with the cup. Played annually in June at Guards, The Queen’s Cup is the first of the British Triple Crown Series and is played as a 22-goal tournament. Every year it attracts leading players and patrons from all over the world and has been sponsored by Cartier for the past three years.



The winners of the 2014 Gold Cup: Adolfo Cambiaso (+10), Rashid Albwardy (+2), Diego Cavanagh (+7) and Alastair Paterson (+3).

The Warwickshire Cup is the oldest high goal trophy in England, with the cup itself dating back to 1894 when the trophy was presented to the newly founded Warwickshire Polo Club. The cup was played for here until 1913, when the club closed. The Warwickshire Cup then moved to Roehampton, one of the three major London clubs at that time, before that also closed in 1956. The HPA then decided to give the trophy to Cirencester Park Polo Club and it has remained there ever since. Initially played for as an exhibition match during the County Cup week, it later became a prize for a Gold Cup quarter final qualifier match until 1970. It was only after this that it became a high goal tournament in its own right and now has teams of handicaps of between 17 to 22 goals competing to win this historic trophy. Urs & Guy Schwarzenbach's Black Bears team have been the most successful, winning the cup a total of six times between 1988 and 2005. The finals are traditionally played in June, but from 2009 onwards, they were moved to the beginning of August, causing the English high goal season to be extended by two weeks and meaning fewer teams entered as players chose to move on to play in Deauville or Sotogrande. 2012 saw Bledisloe House take over as the title sponsor of the tournament and in 2014 the finals returned to their original place in the fixture list, between the Queen's Cup and the Gold Cup.

The Gold Cup for the British Open Polo Championships is one of the most important tournaments of the British polo season and completes the British Triple Crown series. Since its creation in 1956, the tournament has gained in popularity and year by year it sees patrons and professional players from all over the world gather in Midhurst, West Sussex to compete for the coveted title of British Open Polo Champions. The tournament is played annually over a two-week period in July at Cowdray Park Polo Club with teams of 22 goals competing and has for the past twenty years been sponsored by the champagne company Veuve Clicquot. From 2015 onwards, Jaeger-LeCoultre will be the title sponsor of the tournament. The list of players and teams who have competed for this prestigious trophy over the years reads like a Who's Who of polo and includes teams such as Black Bears, Lechuza Caracas, Zacara and Dubai. The 2014 edition of the tournament saw Rashid Albwardy's Dubai team take on newcomers to the tournament, King Power, with Dubai securing their victory with a final score of 13-11.

The International series, sponsored by Audi since 2012, comprises three international test matches during the course of the UK polo season. The first of these takes place at Beaufort Polo Club in June

and this year saw England take on and win against the Goldin Hong Kong team. The second of the test matches is easily the most well known of the three, as it traditionally takes place the weekend after the Gold Cup final and is one of the highlights of the social calendar. Hosted at Guards Polo Club, England and its opponents traditionally play for the Coronation Cup. The Coronation Cup was first presented in 1911 on the coronation of King George V and was won by the Indian Polo Association in that year. 1951 marked the first year that the Coronation Cup was contested as an international match and it has continued as such since 1953. 2014's International Day at Guards saw England face their toughest opponents, Argentina. Despite a fantastic effort from the England team, Argentina with the unstoppable combination of Adolfo Cambiaso and Facundo Pieres, managed to win the match and the Coronation Cup with a final score of 13-8. The third test match of the series took place at the beginning of September at Chester Racecourse Polo Club, with England securing their second win of the series against the Rest of the World team.

The County Cup is the second longest running polo trophy in the world and is the prize for England's 15-goal Championships. The County Cup was inaugurated in 1885 as a tournament for provincial British teams. Records show that the Gloucestershire were the first team to ever win the County Cup. In its early years, the cup was rotated between various polo clubs, but since 1951 it has been played for at the Cirencester Park Polo Club. Today it forms a part of the Victor Ludorum – a league that is played nationally at all of the key levels in polo, 18, 15, 12, 8 and 6 goals. The County Cup is played for today as a qualifier in the 15-goal division and therefore promises a high and exciting level of polo.

The Westchester Cup is undoubtedly polo's oldest and most prestigious international trophy. Also known as the International Polo Cup, it was created in 1886 when a team from the United States played against an English team to win the cup. Originally the match was played as a best of three games but it was later decided that it would be played for as a single match. It was also made into a continuing competition between the two countries and a total of 12 matches were played between 1886 and 1939. The tournament then saw a long break before being revived in 1992. The most recent match for the Westchester Cup was held at Guards Polo Club at the Audi International Day on 28th July 2013. This was the first UK staging of the cup in 16 years and saw the England side come out victorious. The US currently holds the record for the most wins since the cup's inception with ten victories to England's seven.



Before the final match of the Queen's Cup, El Remanso and Lucchese competed against each other and fought for the Cartier Trophy. El Remanso won by a narrow margin, 12-11.

The Varsity Polo Match is an annual polo match played between Oxford University and Cambridge University. It counts as one of the oldest continuous polo fixtures and is also known as the Inter-University Challenge Cup. The teams are also known as the "Blues", owing to the colours that they play in; Oxford in their dark blue shirts and Cambridge in their light blue shirts. The teams compete to win the Challenge Cup, a cup that was presented by the Hurlingham Club in 1920. Since 1994, the Varsity Match has taken place at the prestigious Guards Polo Club in early June, but prior to this it had been held in a number of different locations including the Hurlingham Club and Cowdray Park. A number of notable polo figures have taken part in this match over the years, including Prince Charles, Prince Harry and Claire Tomlinson.

Youth Development

Polo is continuously growing and developing as a sport and it is therefore of crucial importance that the next generation of players have access to the sport as well as support and coaching to develop them as players. The set up of youth polo in the UK is very good with a number of different options available to youngsters keen to give the sport a go.

Pony Club Polo: The first of these is the Pony Club, which has members ranging from as young as 4 or 5 years old all the way up to the age of 21. The Pony Club is an international voluntary youth organisation for young people who are interested in ponies and riding. Founded in 1929 in the UK, there are now around 345 branches, 600 centres and 50,000 members in the UK alone. The Pony Club also has a worldwide presence working in 27 different countries. Pony Club Polo has been on offer since 1933 but it was not until 1959 when Brigadier Jack Gannon and Major Claude Davenport organised five branch teams to play at Mons Officer Cadet School, Aldershot, on 8th September, 1959 that the current form of Pony Club Polo was established. The aims of Pony Club Polo are to offer children an introduction to the sport and help them to understand the principles of polo whilst having fun and learning to work together as a team. It also aids in spotting the upcoming talents of the next generation of players and training them to make the most of their skills. Pony Club Polo provides a useful bridge to the adult game of polo and allows children to play with others their own age before going on to play with adults. Pony Club Polo is available all year round, with an arena tournament at Easter as well as training courses throughout the UK in the Easter and summer holidays. The summer season is undoubtedly the

PONY CLUB POLO

Founded in 1929 in the UK, there are now around 345 branches, 600 centres and 50,000 members in the UK alone. The Pony Club also has a worldwide presence working in 27 different countries.

There are 5 different sections in Pony Club Polo:

- Jorrocks: 1 chukka matches for children aged 6-11
- Handley Cross: 1 chukka matches for children aged 9-14
- Surtees: 1 chukka matches for children aged 9-14
- Loriner: 1 chukka matches for ages 12-16
- Rendell: 1 chukka matches for ages 16-20

As of 2008 Junior HPA Polo was incorporated into the Pony Club, including these three sections:

- Hipwood: 3 chukka matches for under 15s
- Langford: 2 or 4 chukka matches dependent on horses for under 17s
- Gannon: 4 chukka matches dependent on horses for under 21s
- However a decision has been made that as of 2014, these three sections will once again be run solely by the HPA but will cooperate with the Pony Club.

www.pcuk.org



Queen Elisabeth II. congratulates Zacara's team captain Lyndon Lea (+1) on winning the 2014 Cartier Queen's Cup. On the right side: Arnaud Bamberger (Cartier).

SUPA – SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES POLO ASSOCIATION

SUPA enables young players to play together with others their own age and to continue doing so for a number of years before moving on to the realm of adult polo.

SUPA has well over 2,000 members of varying ages and abilities and works with four different sector.

www.supa.org.uk

busiest, starting off with the branch organised training sessions. These are followed by friendly tournaments and then the qualifying tournaments, which take place all over the UK in the month preceding the Championships. The Pony Club Polo Championships then take place at the beginning of August at Cowdray Park Polo Club, with the best teams in each section competing against each other, as they have done every year since 1977. Another highlight of the Pony Club Polo calendar is the annual pony club parade that takes place at the International Day in July at Guards Polo Club. The parade usually includes the winners at each level of the previous year, around 40 players and their ponies. The incredible popularity of Pony Club Polo is clearly evident with the steadily increasing number of teams taking part every year, and with teams often coming all the way from Scotland and Ireland to participate. A staggering 77 teams from 30 different branches competed in the Championships in 2013, a large increase in the few years since 56 teams took part in the 50th Anniversary Championships in 2009. The Gannon section is the flagship competition of Pony Club Polo. The Pony Club has been the starting point for many of today's well-known British polo players, highlighted by the fact that three of the four members of the England team that played in the Westchester Cup in 2013 had previously been participants of Pony Club Polo. Other well known Pony Club participants include George and Charlie Hanbury, Ollie Cudmore, Alastair Patterson and Matt Perry, who all started their polo careers with the Pony Club and have gone on to play professionally.

British Junior Polo: 2014 saw the introduction of the British Junior Polo Championships for the first time, a series of matches run in conjunction with the Pony Club Polo Championships and organised by the HPA. HPA-approved team managers enter teams for the three different sections of the championships. No player may play in more than one of the sections. These championships start at the beginning of July with the finals also taking place the weekend of the Pony Club Polo Championships. Players are also able to take part in the Pony Club Championships, as long as they are members of the Pony Club.

Under 21 Domestic: there are a variety of further matches run separately by the HPA that provide an opportunity to showcase up-and-coming talented young polo players. These teams are made up of players under the age of 21 who have been selected based on their individual performance and sportsmanship throughout a season playing in the HPA, Junior HPA or Pony Club.

SUPA – Schools and Universities Polo Association: the Schools and Universities Polo Association was founded in 1991 to promote the development and organisation of the sport of polo to many different teaching institutions throughout the UK. SUPA promotes and organises matches as well as promoting safety around horses and the importance of developing teamwork from a young age. It also lays the foundations for the future of polo as SUPA helps to bring on young and talented players who will become the next generation of polo players. SUPA has well over 2,000 members of varying ages and abilities and works with four different sectors; the first of these being the Junior Schools sector for children under the age of 13, which was inaugurated into SUPA in 1997. The next sector is Senior Schools, comprising of over 25 schools – both state and public. The Universities sector includes over 45 universities across the UK who regularly provide teams or players at matches and tournaments. The last of the four sectors is the Alumni sector. This is also known as SAPA (Schools Alumni Polo Association) and is an amateur polo association designed for those who have left full time education but wish to continue playing polo. SAPA also organises a range of tournaments and matches.

Many players start their polo careers with SUPA and this directly supports the UK polo industry through coaching, pony hire and umpiring. Schools with polo clubs nearby will often organise for groups of students to go down to the club and practice at least once a week. This will either be as an extra curricular activity or some schools even offer polo as part of the sports curriculum, allowing students to play at least twice a week. Universities also organise for groups to practice with weekly lessons or chukkas and an incredible 1,500 regularly attend these and make the most of the



Team Zacara (black shirt) and Talandracas met in a thrilling final at this year's Queen's Cup at Guards Polo Club, with Facundo Pieres (+10), Lyndon Lea (+1), Gonzalo Deltour (+7) and Matt Perry (+4) of team Zacara emerging as clear winners. By winning the 2014 Queen's Cup, Zacara repeated its success of the previous year.

discounted prices. SUPA uses the HPA Coaching scheme to instruct players at all levels, from complete beginners to those who wish to improve their skills. The association has therefore accredited various coaches throughout the UK, who provide good instruction and management of teams and enable students to learn in a safe environment. SUPA is also beneficial to polo clubs as many students continue to play after they have left full time education, often coming back to the clubs they learnt to play at and becoming members there.

The association supports its members throughout the year by offering a range of tournaments and matches, both in the arena and outdoors on grass. All levels of experience are catered for with a packed fixture list in both winter and summer. SUPA also organises a number of other events throughout the summer season, which give SUPA the chance to showcase some of its best players. These are invitational matches and teams are chosen through the attendance of Trial Days. One player is selected by their coach from each school or university and attends a trial day where SUPA committee members select up to 16 players to form part of the national representative teams. These players will then be chosen to play in a number of exhibition matches throughout the season or at the International Festival, which takes place in July. Over the years, visiting teams have come from countries such as New Zealand, Kenya, Nigeria, UAE and Argentina.

NICHOLAS COLQUHOUN-DENVERS, CHAIRMAN OF HAM POLO CLUB AND PRESIDENT-DESIGNATE OF FIP:

WHAT MAKES UK POLO DIFFERENT FROM THE SPORT IN OTHER COUNTRIES?

I believe that the efficient administration of the national association, the HPA and of the clubs has a lot to do with it. It seems to be a magnet for many ex-army players and administrators and they seem to ensure an efficient, well run and a well organised framework which along with the national body controlling the season's calendar seems to be a good formula. They also provide member clubs with coaching, horse welfare and umpiring courses which benefits everyone.

HAM POLO CLUB IS AN INSTITUTION THAT HAS BEEN STANDING SINCE 1926, AND IT OBVIOUSLY INSPIRES THE AFFECTION OF MANY. PLEASE GIVE US YOUR PERSONAL OPINION ABOUT THE CLUB, AND ABOUT BEING ITS CHAIRMAN.

I often look around the club's estate and think how lucky we are, as members, to be associated with both the club and the sport and it is our responsibility as current members to ensure that we are guardians of the club for future generations. Being the last of some 12 or so clubs in London's Greater Metropolitan area we are all extremely proud of having been able to preserve this.

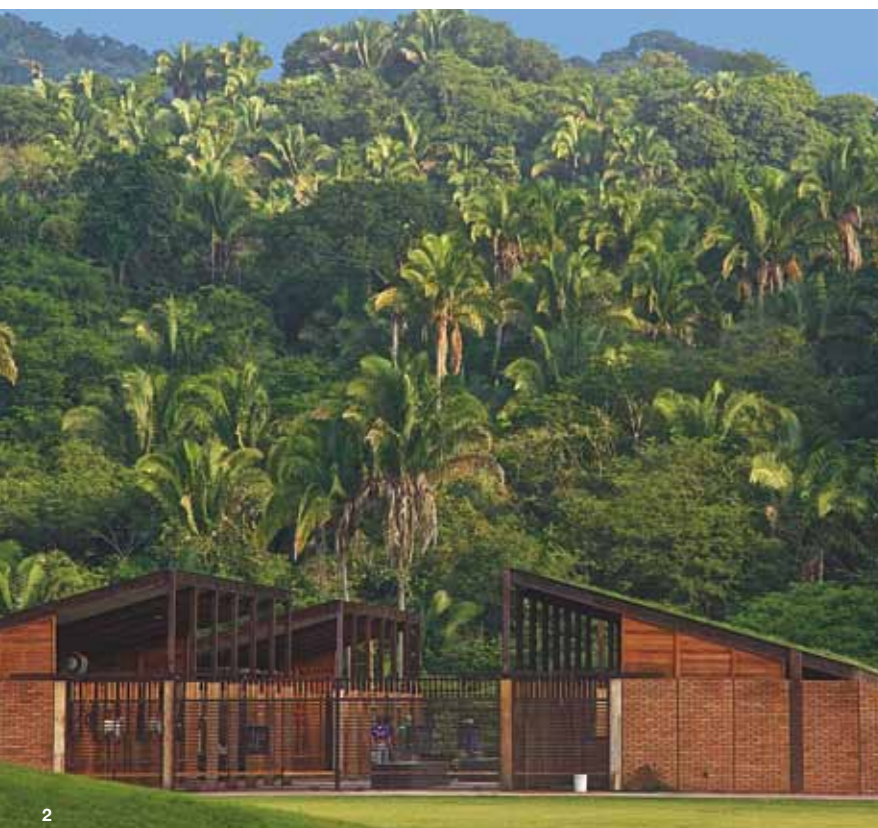
TIERRA TROPICAL

POLO AND NATURE IN HARMONY

Polo, local community, cultural heritage and nature come together in this new destination, located in the town of San Pancho in Mexico's Riviera Nayarit. La Patrona Polo Club will open in February 2015.

BY TIERRA TROPICAL PHOTOGRAPHY GABRIELLE WEBER





1 Tierra Tropical located on the southern coast of Riviera Nayarit, on the north side of Bahía de Banderas. San Francisco is a small town that has not been commercialised and stays true to its cultural heritage 2 Stables of La Patrona, completely surrounded by the tropical jungle 3 Players in the Jaguar field of La Patrona 4 & 5 La Patrona's staff, conformed by local San Francisco residents and top notch professionals 6 Sunset on the beaches of San Francisco.

The Riviera Nayarit, on Mexico's Pacific coast, is currently being developed into a world-class tourist destination. Tierra Tropical, located in the town of San Pancho (San Francisco) on the Riviera Nayarit, aims to promote conservation through the proper management of natural resources and by raising awareness of the importance of having a balanced relationship with nature.

Tierra Tropical's polo club, La Patrona, is based in the equestrian world, with a special focus on the game of polo. Its polo fields and equestrian infrastructure have been developed in harmony with its tropical surroundings, with an emphasis on the conservation of the Los Izotes stream that flows throughout the area.

Hidden between the Sierra Madre mountain range and the Pacific Ocean, the beach town of San Pancho is a world of its own: no cruise ships, high-rise condos or package hotels are to be seen here. Surfing, birdwatching, fishing, mountain biking, swimming and

horseback riding bring in tourists from around the world. The small scale of these attractions ensures that they enrich the lives of local entrepreneurs instead of corporations.

Attracted by its bountiful nature and healthy lifestyle, people from several continents have decided to establish themselves in San Pancho and, along with local inhabitants, have implemented progressive social services that few other towns in Mexico enjoy. Sitting on the white sand of San Pancho's beach, watching the ocean waves gently crash as seagulls and pelicans glide overhead, it feels like nothing has changed over the centuries and that time here stands still.

The strategic location of San Pancho on the Riviera Nayarit and just 45 minutes away from Puerto Vallarta's international airport makes this town easy to access. In contrast with Mexico's more famous tourist destinations, San Pancho's beaches have not been

privatized or commercialized. The community's main goal is to preserve the town as it is, allowing it to develop and evolve without compromising its local community.

La Patrona Polo Club, founded ten years ago, works closely with the town and its people to provide a completely different experience that brings polo together with the community and its cultural heritage.

La Patrona Polo Club is growing in harmony with its surroundings at a site that had been previously used for environmentally-destructive farming practices. Tierra Tropical took over this land and, by following stringent sustainability guidelines, is increasing its environmental value. The polo club is located on the grounds of Tierra Tropical, in a small green valley in the midst of magnificent hills covered by palm groves and forests, an ideal setting for equestrian activities.

La Patrona Polo Club has state-of-the-art facilities for equestrian training and tournaments, as well as top-notch clinics staffed by the club's professionals and renowned guests. The club also has an equine spa with a horse infirmary, 120 comfortable stables, an outdoor polo arena, a junior field for beginners and three meadows and a professional field for tournaments and jumping, the Jaguar Field. This field was designed with Alejandro Battro as an advisor and meets international polo standards, allowing riders to enjoy the sport to the fullest.

Professionalism is the word for all the club's activities. Local workers go through continuous training sessions to stay up-to-date and provide the best service to visitors. Polo professionals from around the world will be hired to ensure that the club meets the strictest international standards.

La Patrona also has a Cultural Centre with a terrace that will be used for cultural events associated with the Riviera Nayarit region, taking the club to a new level where culture and polo come together.

It is time to unveil Tierra Tropical and introduce the town of San Pancho to polo aficionados and their families. La Patrona Polo Club will open its doors in February 2015, with the rest of the premises following by the end of the year. It will also host its first international tournament in December 2015. You can be sure that you will feel at home at Tierra Tropical, while also exploring a whole new world in perfect balance with nature and the town of San Francisco.

NICHOLAS COLQUHOUN-DENVERS

In our last edition, we portrayed Marcos Uranga, the first president and founder of the FIP, who gave us great insights into the world of polo and the ruling organisation that he founded. Now we look to the future by interviewing Nicholas Colquhoun-Denvers, who in December is due to be elected as the new President of the International Federation.

INTERVIEW MARÍA PAULA FERNÁNDEZ PHOTOGRAPHY NICHOLAS COLQUHOUN-DENVERS



WHAT WERE YOUR BEGINNINGS IN THE SPORT OF POLO AND HOW DID YOUR PERSONAL AFFECTION TOWARDS IT DEVELOP?

I have been passionate about the sport since my early teens when I first saw it being played at the Royal Show in Western Australia where I grew up. Later I was lucky enough to be able to “stick & ball” my girlfriend’s father’s ponies in Canberra and the addiction took hold. I actually learned to play in the British Army in Fallingbosten and Hohne in Germany in the early 70s, and I was then posted to Hong Kong where I played in Sek Kong on the 12–13 hand Borneo ponies.

YOUR ROLE IN THE SPORT OF POLO IS KEY FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT. AS CHAIRMAN OF HAM POLO CLUB, FORMER CHAIRMAN AND CURRENT STEWARD OF HURLINGHAM POLO ASSOCIATION AND MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FIP, WHAT IS THE MAIN DRIVE THAT LEADS YOU TO BE SO ACTIVE IN THE SPORT?

I have been Chairman at HPC, the London Polo Club, for around 20 years and am proud to have been associated with such a historic and successful members’ club. My four-year role as Chairman of the HPA was one of the highlights of my polo career and I believe I was the first Australian to be accorded the honour of chairing the oldest of the national associations, which is steeped in the history of the sport I love. I have been an HPA Steward for 16 years and enjoy the many and varied tasks that it involves. In December the biggest challenge will come when I am due to be elected as President of FIP, another exciting role and another challenge.

“MONEY COMING INTO POLO HAS CHANGED THE GAME DRAMATICALLY.”

NICHOLAS COLQUHOUN-DENVERSE Chairman of Ham Polo Club

AS A MEMBER OF THE FIP, WHAT ARE YOUR VISIONS FOR THE FEDERATION AND ITS WORK IN PROMOTING THE SPORT OF POLO?

Whilst a National Association is a confederation of national clubs, the International Federation was set up over 30 years ago by Marcos Uranga to be the confederation of National Associations around the world, with the aim of encouraging more interaction between playing nations and friendship between all those who love the sport. It has grown gradually over the years but it has taken several decades to get the full attention of the major nations. Recently under the presidency of Dr Richard Caleel and with Alejandro Taylor as the interim CEO it has been streamlined and new guidelines have been encouraged to ensure that national representatives are also on the governing bodies of their respective nations. This ensures better communication and also prevents FIP running in parallel or conflicting with the major stakeholders’ interests.

WHICH ISSUES DO YOU THINK NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS OF THE FIP?

One of the major requirements is to introduce FIP tournaments at levels that the majority of nations can actually achieve. Many



Nicholas Colquhoun-Denvers.

of our nation members cannot field an 8-goal national side let alone one at the 14-goal level. To encourage these nations to improve their levels to the point where they can participate in the World Championships, FIP needs to provide them with lower goal international tournaments, which should stimulate progress. Also Zone D, which stretches from New Zealand, through Asia and the Middle East and then down to South Africa, needs to be reviewed and split into more manageable sub-zones, both for ease of administration and also to able to concentrate more on their individual requirements and development in each area. We need to encourage the bigger nations to take an active interest in the developing polo nations and assist them by means of umpiring and coaching clinics and the like.

WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL GOALS, AIMS AND TARGETS REGARDING POLO?

At almost 66 years of age it is just to keep in the saddle for as long as possible and enjoy my ponies and playing low goal polo. I am often asked what would be my “dream team” and, despite the remarkable talents of the high goal players we see, such as Cambiaso & the Pieres to name but a few, my response is still that my dream team would be myself and three friends enjoying the sport we love!

POLO IS A LEGACY FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS, HOW DO YOU SEE THE FUTURE OF THE SPORT, THE JUNIOR LEAGUES AND THE INCREASING POPULARITY OF THE SPORT?

Money coming into polo has changed the game dramatically and not always for the better. One must remember that over 80 per cent of the sport is still played and enjoyed by amateur players and they must also be catered for. Getting children to participate in the sport at the earliest opportunity has to be one of the major aims. The success of “pony club polo” in the UK and similar initiatives in other nations have shown that this is the best way to nurture future talent. One of the biggest growth areas in low goal polo at present is the dramatic increase in female players and this should be encouraged. ●



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'The Golden Gallop', acrylic on canvas, 110 x 110 cm.

POLO ART

Michael F Rumsby is an emerging artist from the UK who is rapidly gaining a reputation as an exciting new part of the British art world. POLO+10 interviewed Michael F Rumsby to find out more about his career as an artist.

BY VICKY FENNER

Brought up in Suffolk in the UK, and having worked for many years in the world of corporate communications and media, Michael has now dedicated his time to work on his career as an artist – a choice that is proving to be rather successful. A collaboration with British Polo Day, two exhibitions opening towards the end of this year in the UK and Dubai, as well as being on the Board of Trustees of an art charity called the Charlotte Miller Art Project are just some of the things that he has achieved over the past few years. Having worked on a number of different collections, what really caught our eye were his fantastic polo scenes and POLO+10 had the opportunity to chat to Michael to find out how this all started.

WHAT INTERESTS YOU ABOUT PAINTING?

I have always painted, ever since I was very young. I was a very creative child and studied art at school and carried it on all the way through to university. I like to use painting as a way of relaxing and can easily lose track of time completely whilst doing so.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

My style has developed over the years, but I am always consistent in the way I paint. I like to use a free flow technique and let the paint do its own thing. I tend to leave spaces empty or just fill them with block colour. This allows the viewer to interpret

the painting in their own way and to let them see what could be there. In that sense, I'm not much of a realist painter – I paint in the recognisable objects, for example the horse and the player in the polo scenes, but otherwise I leave it abstract. I work relatively quickly; I don't spend months and months on a particular piece as I express my mood and my emotions in my work. I usually work on a fairly large scale, which suits my expressive style. I am very interested in the aesthetics and the way that space and paint can be combined on a two dimensional space. I use light as the inspiration for my colour palette and am very much influenced by my surroundings. When working in the Algarve in Portugal, the light was incredible and resulted in a very bright and rich colour palette, whereas more recently my work has been fairly muted in this respect. I think it would be interesting to see what would happen if they had a polo match in the Algarve – maybe we would end up with pink and orange polo players and horses!

WHAT MADE YOU GIVE UP YOUR CAREER IN CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA RELATIONS AND DEDICATE YOUR TIME FULLY TO BEING AN ARTIST?

Well, I didn't just suddenly give up my career; it was rather more of an evolution. The circumstances that I grew up in had led me to feel that I should do what I ought to do and what others expected of me. I continued to paint whilst working in my corporate job, but found that ultimately it was important to be doing something that made you truly happy. I had been encouraging others to have a happy work-life balance but hadn't been following this advice in my own life. I decided to take some time out and do something else. Everything then just seemed to develop over time, I hadn't initially intended to become an artist full time, but I am now much happier for it.

WHAT KIND OF CLIENTS DO YOU HAVE?

I currently work more with private collectors than with corporate clients and my client base consists of a relatively eclectic mix of people. They tend to be professional bankers or lawyers and I have also worked with a number of high-end interior designers. My first big commission was in the Algarve and more recently I have worked in Dubai, both of which have resulted in my client base increasing in these locations.

HOW DID YOU FIRST GET INTO PAINTING POLO SCENES?

I didn't grow up with any polo connections. Whilst I was working for L'Oreal in Paris, I was based about 50km outside the city in a small village; Apremont near Chantilly. The World Polo Championship was held in Chantilly in 2004 and I had a couple of weeks off work at that time. A good friend of mine, a Times Newspaper photographer, was working at the event and I went too and ended up spending hours and hours just watching polo. I did a great deal of sketching, then painted a large 3m x 3m canvas, which I sold to someone living in Paris, but did no further work on the polo scenes.

WHAT INTERESTS YOU ABOUT POLO?

I remember being completely fascinated by it when I first saw it; by the beauty of the sport and the fact that it is almost like an art form in itself. Polo is incredibly action orientated, but I watched the movement of the horse and the player throughout the game. That is what I really enjoy capturing.



1 Michael F Rumsby in his studio 2 'The Shot', acrylic on canvas, 100 x 100 cm 3 'The Marquee', mixed media on canvas, 110 x 110 cm.



Left: 'Fresh Fish', acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 110 x 110 cm. Right: 'Bleeding Gums', acrylic on canvas, 110 x 110 cm.

DO YOU RIDE OR PLAY YOURSELF?

I rode a little when I was younger; I know how to get on and stay on a horse, but I have never played polo. Maybe I should give it a go – pick up a stick that is slightly longer than my paintbrush! However, I do think that if an artist is trying to interpret something, such as polo, it is often useful to be removed from it to retain an outside perspective. I would like my polo paintings to appeal to a broader audience than just to those connected to the sport. I find it is not so much about the technicalities and making sure that everything is painted in the correct place, rather it is about the aesthetics of the sport.

WHERE DO YOU GET THE INSPIRATION FOR YOUR POLO SCENES?

My inspiration comes from the travelling I do, meaning my collections are often very different depending on my surroundings. I work a lot from memory – I take things in as I see them, then bring them back to the canvas. In addition, I work from photographs that I have often taken myself, which may not always be in focus – allowing me to get the shapes of the horse and the player correct. I use my sketchbook to work out the composition then merge this with my mood and emotions to create the piece.

HOW DID YOU COME TO WORK WITH BRITISH POLO DAY?

As I mentioned earlier, my first polo painting was sold to someone living in Paris. Around the end of 2012, a friend of mine was at a dinner and saw my painting hanging on the wall. They

told me about it and this prompted me to start working on more polo scenes. A similar scenario led to my work with British Polo Day. Another old friend of mine went to a dinner where the topic of BPD must have been discussed and my name came up. A polo painting on my website, "The Chase", had been receiving a fair amount of attention and eventually BPD called me in for a meeting last year to discuss a potential collaboration. It went extremely well and I had a real connection with them, and I recently had my first exhibition with them at their event in Dubai, where I exhibited a couple of the polo scenes, as well as some other pieces that I had been working on in the three months prior to the event. The work that BPD does in promoting artists, and not just those connected to polo and to horses, is brilliant and really provides a fantastic platform for emerging artists at a worldwide level.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST MILESTONE IN YOUR CAREER SO FAR?

There have been a number of big moments for me over the past 20 or so years, but ultimately getting the call from British Polo Day has been one of the biggest things for me. I have exhibited with them in Dubai and the UK and will be going out to Mexico with them in November and India in December. This collaboration has been so helpful for my career as an artist and has provided me with so many useful contacts and connections in the past 6 months. This creation of a good network of contacts is absolutely crucial – it is not always about selling your work.



'Dancing in the Rain', acrylic on canvas, 110 x 110 cm.

Exhibiting in Dubai has led to me discovering a new client base, as well as working with an international art agent, which is another big step for me. I was also lucky enough to exhibit with Hackett in Dubai and Abu Dhabi at their global exhibition of artists in May/June of this year.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS GOING FORWARD?

I have two big exhibitions this year. The first opened on 27th September in a new modern art gallery, the Chapel Place Gallery in Tunbridge Wells in the UK. This exhibition was shown for five weeks and focused solely on the polo collection. The second is an exhibition in Dubai, which opened at the beginning

of November. This is a very different collection of pieces, focusing on the old parts of Dubai such as the souks and the trading history of Dubai. I am also exhibiting in Mexico and India with British Polo Day again so I am being kept relatively busy! The ultimate accolade would be to have one of my polo pieces hanging on the wall of a renowned international polo player or a polo-playing Prince! ●

POLO+10 thanks Michael F Rumsby for his time and wishes him all the best with his future plans and exhibitions. To see more of Michael F Rumsby's paintings visit: www.michaelfrumsby.com Michael can also be found on Facebook at Michael F Rumsby.

CLAIRE TOMLINSON

She was the first woman in the world to achieve a handicap of +5 and has helped to establish one of the most important polo locations in the world: the Beaufort Polo Club. In an interview with POLO +10, Claire Tomlinson (70) explains why she spends a lot of her time training young horses today and why she feels that umpiring could be improved in many respects.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY CLAIRE TOMLINSON



CLAIRE, YOU ARE AN ICON IN INTERNATIONAL POLO AND REACHED AS FIRST FEMALE PLAYER AN HANDICAP OF +5.

I was really more than lucky to reach the +5 handicap. When I was young I did a lot of riding and had the best instructors. I used to ride show ponies for these people. In a way I was their jockey, that started me using a horse properly. My parents, who were deeply involved in polo, supported that and so I grew up with good standards. You have to respect that a horse works very hard in a chukka. I am fanatic about that the horse feels well. When I got to +5, most of the horses I played, were homebred.

TODAY YOU FOCUS ON TRAINING YOUNG HORSES. WHAT IS IT THAT INSPIRES YOU IN THIS RESPECT?

Yes, I do not actively play any competition polo. I am 70 now and feel quite fit. If there is a team in need for support, I would probably help out and play. Working with young horses is fantastic and is just unbelievably enjoyable. I start working with them when they are weaned. Then they are first ridden when they are about three-and-a-half years old. We take our time and do not rush into it. To get a horse ready for top-flight polo, we normally have to train them for between three and four years. It's important not to overstretch or overburden the horses. If you do that and expect too much too quickly, they'll either be driven mad or lame.

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT THING WHEN TRAINING A HORSE?

The most important thing is patience to give the horse confidence. A firm trust that you won't injure him or involve hitting him or spoiling him. Once a horse has this trust, it will follow you everywhere. I talk to my horses a lot and touch them – this is how you get a close connection to them.

YOU ARE ONE OF THE BEST POLO COACHES IN THE WORLD AND YOU WERE THE TEAM CAPTAIN OF THE ENGLISH NATIONAL TEAM FOR A LONG TIME, PLUS YOU CREATED A TRAINING SCHEME FOR THE HPA. WHAT IS THE FUNDAMENTAL THING THAT CHARACTERISES A GOOD POLO PLAYER?

Everything in polo is about the right balance and the relationship between horse and rider. If the balance is right, so will the energy be. A lot of players don't understand that: to be able to hit a ball precisely, I don't need to hit it with a lot of force and brutality. Strength doesn't come from the arm finally, but from the legs and the feet through the whole body.

AS AN AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER, YOU ALREADY WENT TO ARGENTINA FOR WORK WHEN YOU WERE VERY YOUNG...

Yes and that's where I got really involved in polo. My brother John was already playing with a +6 handicap. I was very lucky that my father knew a lot of top players including Indians and Argentines and so did my brother John. Luckily I got to know all of them and learned a lot about polo from them. I still travel twice a year to Argentina as I have got a lot of friends there.

A LITTLE WHILE AGO, YOU HAD SOME HARSH WORDS TO SAY ABOUT UMPIRING. WHAT EXACTLY IS THE PROBLEM?

If I want to go out on the road, I'm required to obey traffic laws. That's how simple it is. There are a lot of umpires in polo who don't implement the correct rules. People who are new to the sport often aren't correctly trained. It is very important when people are new to the sport, to teach them how to help their team and how to keep to the rules. Even hooking a stick correctly can help your team. ●

www.beaufortpoloclub.co.uk



Claire (with green helmet) was team captain of the English national team for many years.



Patience is the most important attitude towards young horses.

“IT'S ALL ABOUT FINDING THE RIGHT BALANCE AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE HORSE AND RIDER.”

CLAIRE TOMLINSON Chairman Beaufort Polo Club



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CHAMPNEYS FOREST MERE

The secluded and peaceful Champneys Forest Mere Health & Spa Resort in Hampshire (UK), provides the perfect get away spot to enjoy the English countryside and the latest spa facilities.

PHOTOGRAPHY CHAMPNEYS FOREST MERE HEALTH & SPA RESORT

Set in the middle of the beautiful South Downs National Park near Liphook, Hampshire, Champneys Forest Mere lies next to a secluded lake and at the end of a wonderful winding drive, providing guests with the true luxuries of peace and privacy.

Guests look out of their rooms onto truly breathtaking surroundings. Some of the rooms have a view onto the enchanting forest lake and its wildlife, whilst others look out onto the outdoor swimming pool or the courtyard. All of the ground floor rooms also have their own patios. All 87 bedrooms at Champneys Forest Mere are en-suite and have a flat screen television and DVD player, hairdryer and telephone to make sure guests are completely comfortable and relaxed throughout the duration of their stay.

At Champneys Forest Mere, guests are also treated to fantastically nutritious gourmet cuisine. The portion sizes are moderated, beautifully presented and made using fresh and local produce, including vegetables grown in their very own vegetable garden. Nutritionists are also on site, should guests like to discuss aspects of their diet or receive any advice.

With over 90 different treatments on offer and the use of 43 individual treatment rooms, guests are spoilt for choice. The finest beauty products, such as Elemis and Decleor are used as well as the hotel's own exclusive Champneys Collection. The spa therapists are trained to world-class standards and are available to provide personalised help for guests to really make the most of the spa therapies and the facilities.

With a huge variety of treatments on offer, including the possibility of experiencing healing therapies like Reiki and Graphology and the Alternative Health Clinic, guests can really feel pampered and relaxed. The hotel has its own gym, two fitness studios offering up to 20 classes a day, a Thalassotherapy Pool, a Rasul Mud Chamber and a tennis court. And if this is still not enough, then guests can take time out to enjoy the 25 m indoor swimming pool or relax in the sauna or the steam room.

For more information, visit Champneys Forest Mere Resort at www.champneys.com/spa-resorts/champneys-forest-mere For reservations / Booking enquiries: +44 843 316 2222 or email reservations@champneys.com

POLO DEBUT IN MOROCCO

Patrick Guerrand-Hermès is creating a wonderful breeding centre near Tangier in Morocco. Now polo teams from the french Chantilly Polo Club came over to play for the first time.

TEXT & PHOTOGRAPHY RABII BENADADA





In Oued Nakhla between Asilah and Larache, a few kilometres from the fabled city of Tangier, Morocco, sits the PGH La Palmeraie Polo Club. It's a wonderful spot to discover the Moroccan polo tradition, popularized in recent decades by aristocrat and sports mogul Patrick Guerrand-Hermès. In 1899, Tangier was the sport's first site in Morocco, where a diplomatic country club was later created in 1910. Spaniards and Englishmen paid one hundred pesetas a month for the privilege of a polo game. This iconic site was followed by others, including a location in Casablanca, creating a great following for the sport that, unfortunately, had waned as time went by.

This is why this spectacular project was born. It is a fruit of the passion of Patrick Guerrand-Hermès for the sport, his link to the game in Morocco and France, and his love of horses. It is a fantastic place where, in addition to its polo pitches, a luxurious hotel is planned as part of the Six Senses Hotel Resorts and Spas chain and a cozy estate designed to provide guests with a unique stay. In addition, an eight-hectare area will be added for playing golf. This will be an oasis dedicated to sport and relaxation surrounded by virgin beaches and dunes.

It is a spectacular one hundred-hectare space where there are currently three top-quality hand-sown tifton pitches that are designed to cope with salinity levels due to their proximity to the sea. The facilities also have a pool for collecting water for periods of drought, as well as everything required for the daily training of horses and polo professionals, such as an exercise ring, a stick and ball field and a club house for grooms and workers. This club was born through the hands of a lover of polo and horses. Guerrand-Hermès is creating in Morocco a wonderful breeding centre – the fruit of his search for a place to put the horses and players to work

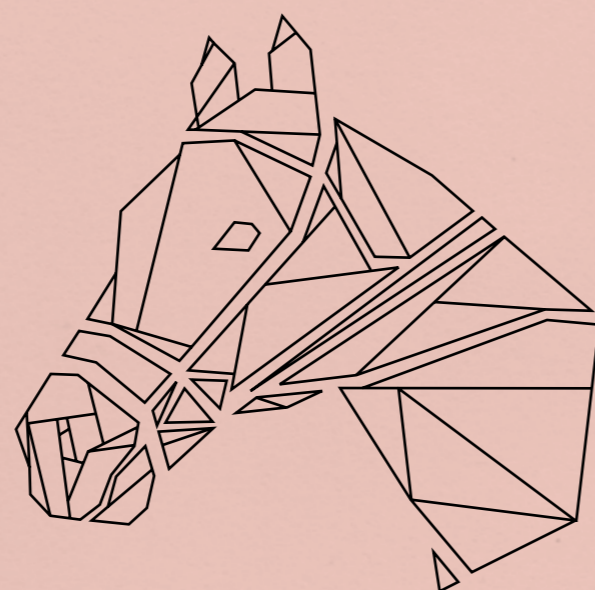
through love of the sport. Despite these luxurious surroundings, he has always emphasized that polo should be a popular sport and not just for aristocrats. The sport fits well with the Moroccan tradition of mata, which is a competition on horseback that is organized yearly in northern Morocco and involves communities in a joyous celebration of love and marriage. PGH La Palmeraie is a polo club in an idyllic family setting. It's a place to relax, far from the hubbub of civilization, but with all the commodities of the twenty-first century. It is a luxury complex with a rustic and cosy style where tourism, exotic tasting food, incredible colours, endless beaches and of course polo and golf can all be enjoyed in unique surroundings.



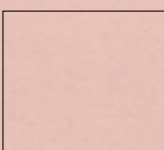
1 PGH La Palmeraie is a polo club in an idyllic family setting based in the north of Morocco 2 Throw-in by Patrick Guerrand-Hermès 3 For the first time teams from Chantilly came to the La Palmeraie Polo Club 4 Patrick Guerrand-Hermès is also founder of the Chantilly Polo Club and was president of the FIP for many years 4 Spectators and grooms 5 Prize giving ceremony for the teams.

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A ROYAL TRADITION

The Prince of Wales Cup celebrates the heritage of South African Polo.

BY TRIBALFISH PHOTOGRAPHY MR. CONCIERGE

In 1925 His Royal Highness Prince Edward of Wales toured South Africa and played in a series of polo matches as he experienced the magic of Africa through the sport of kings, polo. This marked the moment South African polo had truly become a royal affair.

At the end of his visit, Prince Edward himself donated the cup that has become the centrepiece of the entire event, giving the tournament its name and starting a long history of polo at its best. As one of the prime events on the polo calendar, the Prince of Wales Cup has a lot riding on it for the South African polo community. The best players in the country compete in their provincial teams for the prestigious cup and the honour of being chosen for the South African national team.

Previously held in KwaZulu-Natal, the event found its way to Johannesburg in 2014. Needless to say, it takes a great deal of prestige to make the event live up to its royal roots. Taking place in August of every year this celebrated three-day tournament attracts polo fans, seasoned aficionados of the polo lifestyle and newcomers looking to experience this royal sport for the first time. And, of course, there needs to be a little bit of 'Jozi' in the day. By embracing the unique style and vibrant energy of the city of gold, Johannesburg,



the Prince of Wales Polo Cup has added a sophisticated new layer to polo. Whether guests prefer to book a private box for business or pleasure, or enjoy a picnic basket in the sun with friends or family, there's a little bit of decadence for everyone.

The 2014 107th Prince of Wales Polo Cup was hosted at the pristine Waterfall Polo Estate, a well-known location in South African polo, and was a roaring success. Both the east and west banks of the venue were packed to capacity and spectators were treated to culinary delights from award winning caterers, a venue setup for comfort and luxury and some of the most intense polo matches seen that year.

Brought to Johannesburg by Mr Concierge, the Prince of Wales Polo Cup burst onto the Gauteng polo scene in a big way and sets the bar even higher for 2015. Mr Concierge makes The Prince of Wales Polo Cup a real tribute to the art of polo, and worthy of the title 'the sport of kings'. •

LA TARDE

“AS MUCH POLO AS YOU CAN TAKE”

Argentina, the heart of polo, seems to be the best place to learn and play this fast sport. Just one hour from Buenos Aires and 30 minutes from Pilar is located one of the most beautiful polo locations in the country: the La Tarde Polo Club.

BY KATRIN LANGEMANN PHOTOGRAPHY LA TARDE POLO CLUB



“As much polo as you can take” – this is the slogan of the La Tarde Polo Club. The guests at La Tarde Polo Club can take as much time as they want to practice polo. Juan Martin Sarli says, ‘It is very important for us to give our guests the opportunity to improve their playing skills and to make sure they are satisfied. We try to find the personal strengths and weaknesses of each of our guests and then adapt their training programme to what they individually need’. Juan Martin Sarli is 33 years old and an enthusiastic polo player (+4). At La Tarde Polo Club he works as a coach, horse breeder, veterinarian and director. His father Alfredo, who is 66 years old and a former polo player and horse breeder himself, founded the club in 1991. Today Alfredo runs the club with his son Juan Martin and his wife Monica, who is 64 years old. He also has three daughters, all currently living in Buenos Aires. Family is of great importance at the La Tarde Polo Club. ‘A family business is not about quick profit, but about building something up for the next generation. Horse breeding is also a long-term investment. The two go well together’, Juan Martin Sarli explains.

The team at La Tarde Polo Club does everything imaginable to make their guests feel totally comfortable and attend to all their wishes. The guests really feel at home in the club due to its warm and honest atmosphere. At La Tarde, guests are not strangers, they are part of the family. And the family environment at the club makes it really easy to get into conversation with the other guests and socialise – the club is sometimes even the starting point for lasting friendships.

The slogan “As much polo as you can take” is not an empty phrase. Juan Martin Sarli tries to offer as much polo as possible to his guests through training, tournaments and modern assistive equipment. At La Tarde Polo Club, the day begins with two hours of Stick & Ball. Juan Martin Sarli (+4) and two more coaches (+1 and +2) accompany the training lessons. Following a group lunch, in the afternoon four to six chukkas are played with the Argentine club members and professional players. Once all this is over, a meeting takes place to talk about the line of attack during the match. Most guests are rather tired after a day like this on horseback. Those who still want to play more polo can get some extra polo training. Each weekend the club organises a tournament that includes players and clubs from the immediate vicinity. During these tournaments the latest technical devices are used. Lately, the club has been filming its guests using GoPro cameras and drones. After the match, the coaches and the guests come together to watch the videos and discuss mistakes, as well as ways to improve play. And a movie is provided to each guest to be taken home in memory of their polo holidays at La Tarde Polo Club.

In addition to providing the best polo holidays and the most effective polo training, the Sarli family also likes to offer its guests the best polo ponies. For many years, Juan Martin and his father Alfredo have been breeding polo ponies. Guests can also benefit from this breeding programme, inasmuch that they have the opportunity to buy embryos, which are educated and trained at La Tarde Polo Club from birth. Guests can transfer their horses home or accommodate them at La Tarde later on.

The whole Sarli family is famous for its hospitality and making sure all its guests are totally satisfied. Juan Martin: ‘I love to see the guests having a good time and to see them improving their polo skills. This always makes me very proud and happy, especially when the guests recommend our club. Because this means that they’ve had a good time here’. The family environment, the many opportunities for practising polo and the fantastic location are the reasons for La Tarde Polo Club being a special polo location. The Sarli family manages the club with loving care and also with much blood, sweat and tears – and guests can sense that. If you go to La Tarde Polo Club, you’ll want to go back. Not just to play polo, but also to meet friends.

www.latardepolo.com



Picture right: Juan Martin, Monica and Alfredo Sarli.

LA TARDE POLO CLUB

The La Tarde Polo Club is located about one hour from Buenos Aires and 30 minutes from Pilar. The estate covers 180 hectares and includes three first class polo fields, 120 polo ponies, 60 horseboxes and two sticking cages. The club also offers its guests a luxury clubhouse, 12 private cottages, two swimming pools, a sauna, gym and spa, as well as a bar and a gift shop.

POLO IN PARADISE

On a string of lush, verdant island surrounded by thousands of miles of Pacific Ocean on all sides, the 2014 polo season unfolded in spectacular fashion across Hawaii. Growth in the youth participants—who are learning the “Sport of Kings” on the islands of Maui, Oahu and Hawaii Island—are spurring interest in all age groups to support events all year long.

BY BRIAN BERUSCH PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL VOORHEES



1 Polo field at the base of the majestic Ko'olau Mountain range, and less than a few hundred yards from the shimmering waters 2 The teams Army and Navy at the Honolulu Polo Club 3 Hawaiian team Kimo Huddleston, Christopher Dawson, Ka'aina DeCoite, and Herman Louis DeCoite getting ready for the last match of the historic season.

Formerly functioning as 5 separate clubs operating on 4 different islands, the Hawaiian Islands U.S. Circuit Governor Christopher Dawson has united players, ranchers and sports enthusiasts who attend signature events in record numbers, as well as the land-owners who lease (or loan) their fields for various types of polo play. From the storied Baldwin family on Maui's Hale'a'kala volcano, the Ka'ono'ulo, to the Dillingham and Waiki'i ranches and the State of Hawaii, support for the sport has never been higher throughout the islands.

Dawson has gone so far as to ramp up a media outfit that boasts an upscale, annual lifestyle magazine (which is distributed beyond Hawaiian shores, to Asia, South America and all over the U.S. mainland), an event planning team, social media outlets, an apparel and a content capture/creation team that is working with some of the biggest fashion, automotive and real estate companies operating in the islands. This is allowing polo to reach new audiences, as well as tap into new avenues for growth. His separately launched Hawaii International Polo Association (HIPA) is able to fund youth polo and horses statewide.

Three signature events orchestrated by the Dawson Media team include:

ALL-HAWAIIAN TEAM, Hawaii Polo Club, Mokuleia, O'ahu, 27th July, 2014: On the closing weekend for USPA play, a historic day unfolded when two father-son pairs teamed up to compete against one another, as well as a day that featured an all-Hawaiian team. The “Hawaiian Hurricane” Herman Louis DeCoite teamed up with son Ka'aina DeCoite (who plays competitively on the U.S. East Coast); they saddled up with Christopher Dawson and Kimo Huddleston, becoming the first all-Hawaiian lineup in the last 25 years. They played against Hawaii Club president Mike Dailey and his son, Devon and other Mokuleia Club members. “We're all here for the same reason,” said Ka'aina DeCoite. “We're on the field sharing, helping, giving to each other. It's the same as the Hawaiian philosophy: To give when you don't necessarily have anything to give,” added Huddleston. “Today we play for everyone. For all of Hawaii,” says Dawson. The day's prize included the United States Polo Association (USPA) Intra-Circuit Cup as well as the Fred Dailey Trophy.

ARMY vs. NAVY, Honolulu Polo Club, Waimanalo, O'ahu, 20th September, 2014: Celebrating the spirited competition between Army and Navy, this good-natured rivalry dates back 200 years. This private event was given in honour of both active military and the families that support their heroes. The day was sponsored by the Army Polo Hawaii program and Hawaii Polo Life magazine, as well as local businesses that included Morgan Stanley Financial Advisors, InTech, Ocean Vodka and more. Team Navy consisted of legendary Hawaiian players Ronnie Tongg, Beau Broughton, Sarah Agnew-Miller and Greg McIntosh; Team Army boasted Allen Hoe (Honolulu Polo Club president and decorated veteran), Christopher Dawson, Arthur Morgenstern (New Zealand player) and Tiare Paty, Hawaii's leading female player. The field sits at the base of the majestic Ko'olau Mountain range, and less than a few hundred yards from the shimmering waters of Windward Oahu.

Ward Village GOLD vs. Ward Village BLACK, Honolulu Polo Club, Waimanalo – Hawaii Polo Life magazine with Howard Hughes Corporation, “Encore Polo”, 15th November, 2014: Developers of downtown Honolulu, The Howard Hughes Corporation, tapped Dawson Media to partner with Hawaii Polo Life magazine in order to offer their clientele a glimpse into the “International Meets Island” lifestyle with an Encore Polo presentation following the regular season on O'ahu. This private, invitation-only VIP event featured award-winning catered cuisine, live music & DJ, a high-ticket silent auction (a weekend's stay at Kathy Ireland's estate; custom Naish stand-up paddleboard, etc.), wine and spirits during the afternoon gala. Helicopters landing and fashion were an aspect to the day, as the featured match highlighted Hawaii's dedication to polo play.

2015 will bring a wider array of international players who will set foot on the islands for the whole season. The success of the events during the 2013 and 2014 seasons throughout the islands, secured a higher commitment and support from sponsors and followers alike. Thus, allowing Hawaii's polo to strive and guarantee the vitality of the sport. Hawaii International Polo Association's core value to perpetuate polo on the islands and beyond is already paying off. •

www.dawsonhawaii.com



THE ITALIAN STALLION

Sylvester Stallone might be best known for beating people up on screen, but the Hollywood legend has a long association with the elegant and refined polo lifestyle.

BY JAMES EVANS / POLO+10

The name Sylvester Stallone has immediate connotations of explosive Hollywood blockbusters, testosterone-fuelled heroism and of course, muscles. Starring in films like *Rocky*, *Rambo* and *The Expendables* means the action star has made a career out of high-intensity cinematic moments.

However, this isn't the case when Stallone is off-duty. Away from the big screen, the actor's pursuits are altogether more tranquil. You won't find the 68-year-old American in the boxing ring or at the shooting range; instead, polo (and other equestrian endeavours) are how Stallone and his young daughters, Sophia Rose (*1996), Sistine Rose (*1998) and Scarlet Rose (*2002), get their outdoor kicks.

Such a sophisticated pastime is at odds with his self-constructed meathead image, but his interest in polo was in fact inevitable, given the rich equestrian history of his family. Stallone's father, the late Frank Stallone, was a professional polo player who rode horses in Italy before emigrating to New York in the 1940s, where he served briefly in the U.S. Army Cavalry before relocating to Washington.

'The name Stallone translates as stallion, or horse', Stallone says. 'So my family were horse people to begin with, going right back. But they weren't rich people, they were peasants. He moved to America to get more money but also to get away from horses, to do something else that the Stallones hadn't done. But he carried on playing polo. He couldn't give it up, no matter how hard he tried!' Stallone admits to a 'very tough relationship' with his father; one that he recognises 'made me very combative and resilient', with polo often acting as the thread that kept their fraught bond together.

Stallone first picked up a mallet when he was 11 years old, and the pair famously both took part in an exhibition match at Palm Beach Polo and Country Club in Florida in 1990, which Stallone Snr said at the time was 'the thrill of his life'. 'I was playing with pros that day', Stallone said, 'and they were a hell of a lot better than I was, trust me'.

Stallone once stated that 'playing polo is like trying to play golf during an earthquake' and he stands by that description. 'It's weird, when you are on the horse you think you look like Rambo and you should charge around, but that's not what the game is about. It's about being patient. I have to remember that a lot of the time', he says with a smile.

Not one to do anything by half-measures, Stallone enjoys buying polo paraphernalia. Recently, he was spotted at the flagship London store of Polistas, the prominent authentic polowear shop, buying quilted leather jackets, gilets and a number of Polistas polo shirts, as well as the trademark Polistas baseball cap. He also remains determined to pass his equestrian love onto his three daughters, Sophia, Sistene, and Scarlet, too: last year, he and other equine-loving celebrities attended William Shatner's Hollywood Charity Horse Show in Burbank, California. 'My girls were starting to show an interest in reining, which is great, so I went along', he says. 'It was an enjoyable day. I'd go for anything that helps them enjoy horses'. This behaviour might come as surprise to those whose association with Stallone ends with the films he makes. Those people can hardly be blamed: Stallone, along with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jean-Claude Van Damme, was at the forefront of the action hero movie golden age of the 1980s, and few films from that era remain as iconic as Stallone's Rambo or Rocky.

Furthermore, Stallone has always been adamant about performing his own stunts - the 11 operations he has endured over the years thanks to on-set accidents are testament to that. He still insists on doing them now, even in his late sixties. Stallone's latest film, *The Expendables 3* (which also stars Schwarzenegger) left him with a metal plate in his back after one stunt went slightly wrong. He appears nonplussed about the risks he takes to make films like the \$600m *Expendables* franchise successful.

'You always try to be as safe as you can because you don't want to take unnecessary risks', Stallone explains. 'But at the same time, the public doesn't want to see stunt doubles beating each other or diving on the ground with explosions going off all around you. They expect you to deliver and I'm never going to make a film where I don't give it everything I have. Everyone was game to do the physical work involved and I'm really proud of the work they put in. You just keep throwing yourself into the fight and

getting back in the ring for another round. I've stayed in good shape, though - I'll be doing this as long as my body holds out'.

But what about his own personal health? Time catches up with everyone eventually, even someone in Stallone's prime physical condition. 'It gets harder', he says, 'you get hurt a lot more, and you have a hard time getting out of bed the next day. I've had my share of broken bones and torn tendons and my body has been black and blue and every colour you can imagine'.

'But you also know that you're playing characters and telling stories about people who have dealt with much worse in life and you're not willing to take a little physical pain as part of your job? You tell yourself that this is one of the best jobs anyone could ever ask for. You know you're going to get your shoulders banged up and take some shots to the face and your ribs. That's just how it is when you're doing this kind of a movie'.

Stallone symbolises a dying breed, and he recognises the dearth of contemporary action movie heroes. 'There are few of us left and there aren't that many coming up. The problem is that they're not making a lot of those movies anymore and you can't develop those kind of stars unless they have those kinds of stories to tell. Jason Statham is about as tough as they come, though'.

Even approaching his 70th birthday, there are still few actors harder than Stallone. It's guaranteed that when he's not out on a hack, he'll be staying to true to the art form that made him a Hollywood legend.

'I believe in giving audiences what they want. I've been in this business a long time and I've seen all kinds of genres come and go. But people still want to see men behaving heroically, seeing the good guys defeat the bad guys, and having some fun in the process. If you tell a good story and create interesting characters, the public will respond'.

So could we propose a polo-themed project to truly celebrate one of the pursuits that has existed throughout the actor's professional career? 'It's an interesting idea, but it would have to be one amazing storyline! Polo is such a purist sport - a fantastic sport that is appreciated by a select few. I'm not sure it will ever be box office! ●

“PLAYING POLO
IS LIKE TRYING
TO PLAY GOLF
DURING AN
EARTHQUAKE.”

SYLVESTER STALLONE



ARGENTINA'S



POLO DYNASTIES

The best polo players in the world come from Argentina. POLO+10 takes a look into the history books and presents famous Argentine polo dynasties.

BY CHRIS ASHTON

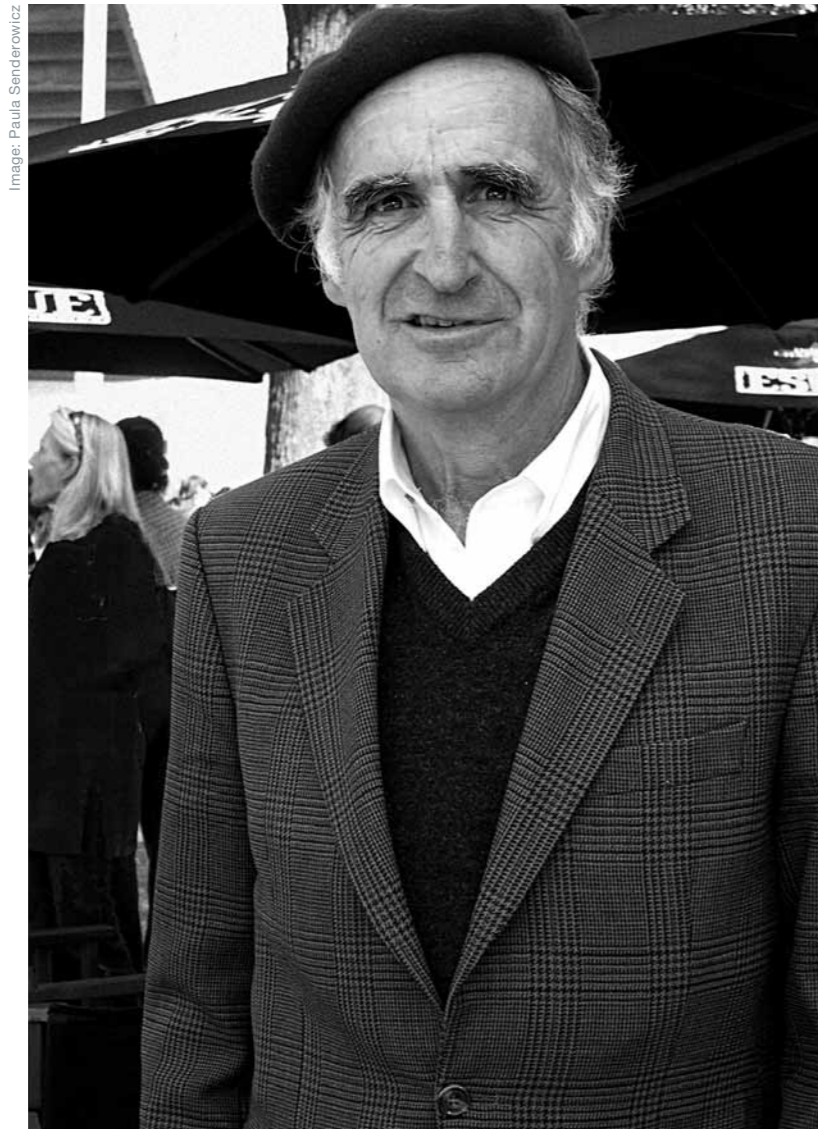


Image: Paula Senderovicz
Alberto Pedro Heguy won the Argentine Open 17 times, playing for the team Coronel Suárez.

To name all the “gladiators” in the coliseum of Argentine polo, that is to say, each of those who cut a dash in his own time, would be a daunting task. Who to include and who to cast aside? But what of Argentina’s polo dynasties, defined as “a succession of rulers of the same line or family”? When I sought advice from the world’s foremost polo historian, Dr Horacio Laffaye, he provided a list of more than twenty families. The limited space afforded me here to write about so many families could not possibly do them justice. My solution was to focus on a handful of such families since elevated to legendary status in the Argentine polo world.

Let us go back 140 years to when Argentina first embraced the game, courtesy of its Anglo-Argentine settlers. From the late 19th century to the 1920s, Argentines of British descent (in 1914 numbering 28,000 in a total population of 7.8 million) enjoyed respect out of all proportion to their number, whether socially, commercially or in introducing hitherto unknown sports.

No public record survives of the date or venue of the first game of polo in Argentina but in 1875 the English-language newspaper “The Standard” reported two polo events in the Province of Buenos Aires:

the first in January comprising three matches at Estancia La Buena Suerte, and the second in August, a six-game polo carnival hosted by a Scottish cattle baron, David Shennan, at Estancia Negrete.

In that same era another cattle baron of Scottish descent was Hugh Scott Robson, arguably Argentina’s first polo patriarch, supported by his three brothers, also gifted players, and his only son, Hugh Noel. Born in 1891, following schooling in England, Hugh Noel Robson enlisted in the Royal Scots Greys, which led to a polo career that saw him playing at home and abroad with an 8-goal handicap at his peak.

Laffaye draws a clear distinction between Argentine settlers of English or Scottish descent and their Irish counterparts, who fled Ireland in their tens of thousands in the 1840s to escape its infamous famine, and sought throughout the 19th century to improve their lot in New World countries. Without the family trusts which so many English and Scottish settlers enjoyed, but with their undoubted farming skills, Irish immigrants to Argentina established working partnerships with Latino ranchers, managing their livestock until they accumulated sufficient capital to buy their own land.

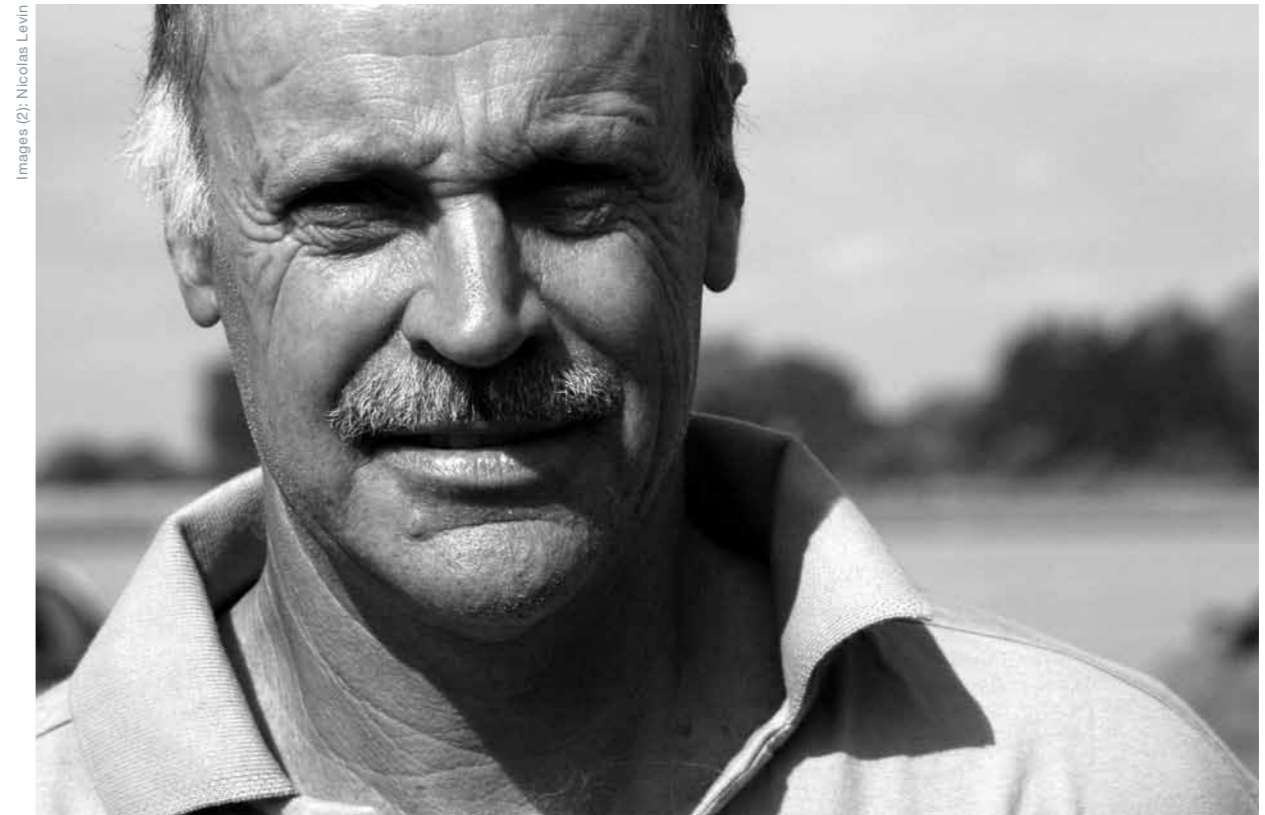
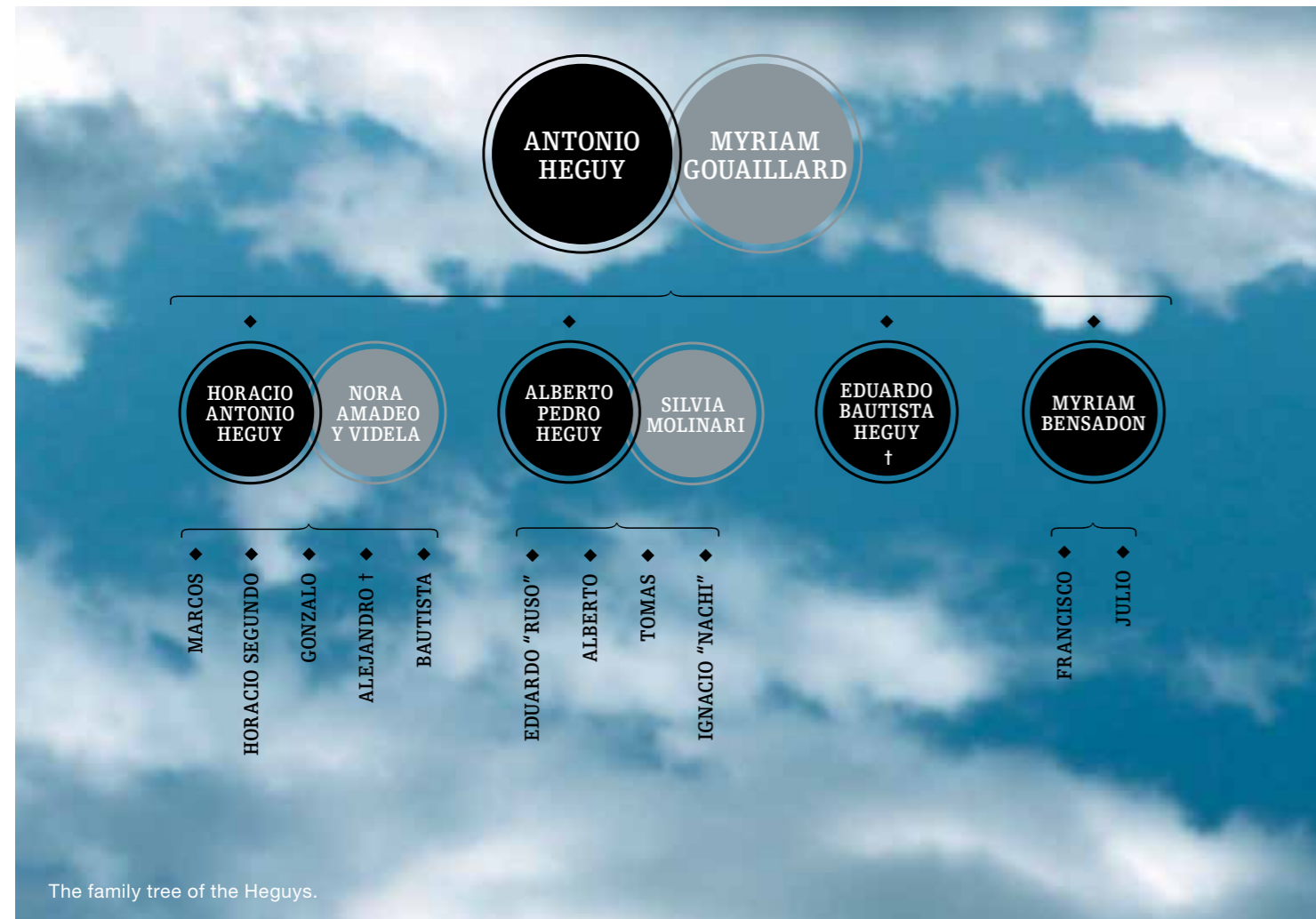


Image (2): Nicolas Levin
Top: Today Gonzalo Pieres manages team Ellerstina, composed of his sons, Facundo, Gonzalito and Nicolás Pieres, as well as their cousin Pablo and assorted other team-mates. Bottom: Jorge Mac Donough is the founder-owner of the polo-pony stud La Irenita Embriones.



In *The Evolution of Polo* (2009) Dr Laffaye writes that “the overwhelming majority of Irish immigrants were Roman Catholics which made assimilation through marriage into Argentine society much easier...if the Scots boasted good polo players, the Irish claimed many more”, and he cites Argentine polo families of Irish descent like Cavanagh, Duggan, Garrahan, Kearney, Kenny, Lawler, Mac Donough, Nelson and O’Farrell, all of whom became “...large landholders and polo players around the turn of the [20th] century, and remain so into present times”.

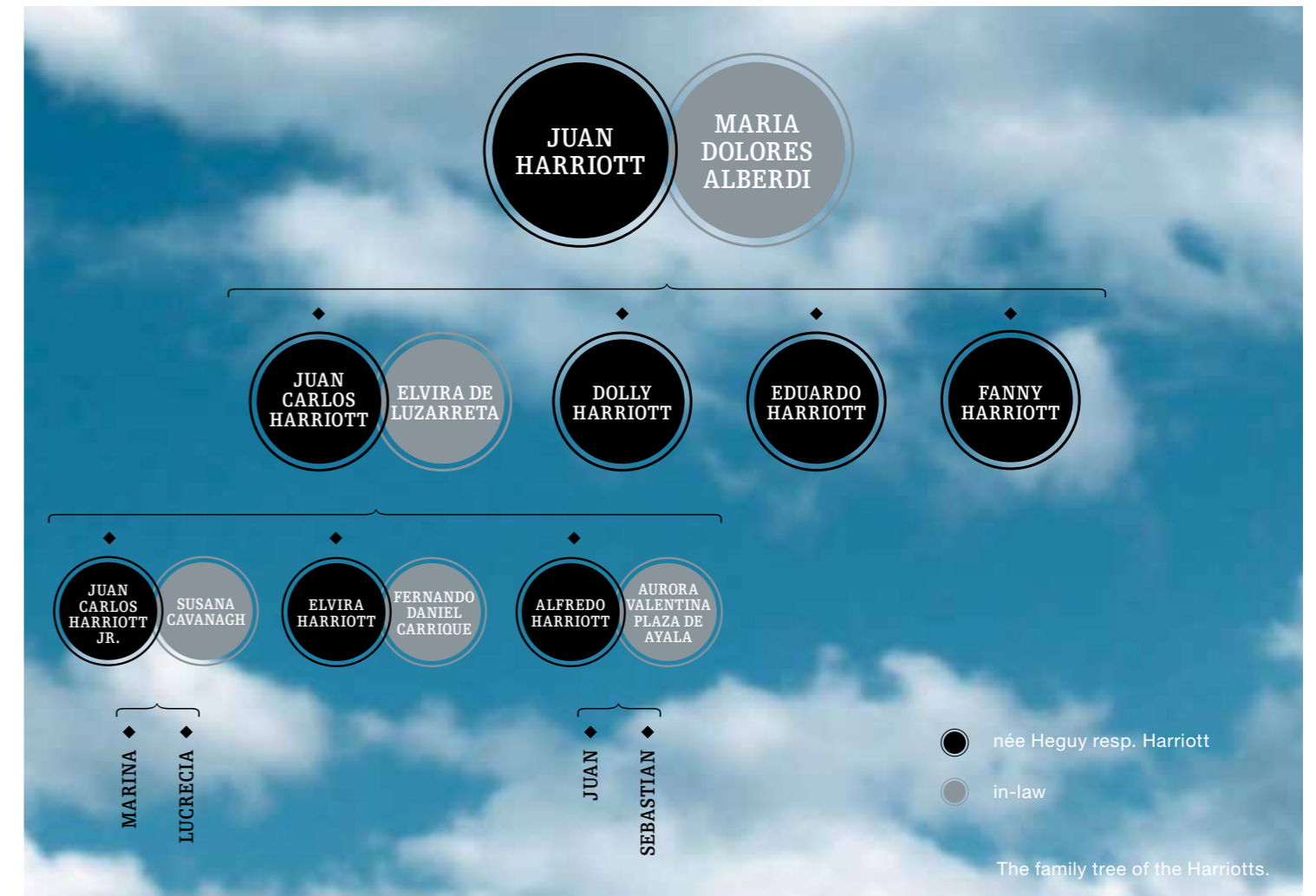
He singles out one family in particular, the Lalors (the Latino abbreviation of Lawler), as arguably Argentina’s most eminent polo dynasty. And not only for players (he lists 16 Lalors in his *Polo Encyclopaedia* (2004) of whom five have played with handicaps of between 7 and 10 goals, but equally for what they gave to polo administration, contributing three presidents of the Argentine Polo Association, Alfredo (1969–1972) and his brother Luis Alberto (1975–1981) and from the next generation, Luis Eduardo Lalor (2009–2013).

More than 500 kilometres south-west of Buenos Aires in the vast Argentine pampas, the small market town of Coronel Suárez had a polo club bearing its name and boasting some of Argentina’s most illustrious polo dynasties. At the very apex of the club was Juan Carlos Harriott Jnr., (Juancarlitos) supported by his younger brother Alfredo, both 10-goalers at their peak.

In the early 20th century their grandfather, a doctor indifferent to polo, had settled there, and his son, also Juan Carlos (Snr.), playing at 9 goals at his peak, won the Argentine Open nine times, while he and his brother Eduardo bred superb polo mounts to support Juancarlitos and Alfredo.

The other local family elevated to Argentine polo folklore was descended from an early French Basque immigrant, Bautista Heguy, who fathered ten children, some of whose descendants would be central to the fortunes of Coronel Suárez Polo Club. One of his sons was called Antonio Heguy (1907–88) and he fathered two sons, Horacio Antonio and Alberto Pedro. The two Heguy brothers were each father to four sons, Horacio Segundo, Gonzalo, Marcos and Bautista in Horacio Antonio’s case, while Alberto Pedro was the father of Eduardo, Alberto, Tomas and Ignacio, almost all of whom rose to achieve 10-goal handicaps.

Between 1957 and 1981, with Juancarlitos Harriott as captain, and with varying combinations of players, Coronel Suárez won the Argentine Open 20 times, a record unlikely ever to be equalled, while also winning other Argentina high goal tournaments such as the Jockey Club Open, Tortugas Open and Hurlingham Open. Playing different combinations with various teams, leading Coronel Suárez players in other teams also won high goal tournaments in England and the USA. Eventually the sons of Horacio Antonio and Alberto Pedro Heguy forged their own teams, Los



Indios Chapaleufú I and II, which would compete in – and equally make a mark on – Argentine high goal polo in later years.

Born in 1941, Alberto Pedro Heguy was 13 when he won his first polo trophy, a high-school tournament. Aged 22 and with a degree in equine veterinary science, he won his first Argentine Open in 1963, the first of 17 he would eventually claim. In his words, “My father and uncles, my cousins and sons were all raised in an environment of superlative polo. They were all good horsemen, and unless you’re a good horseman, you cannot hope to compete at the top”.

A more recent Argentine polo dynasty is the Pieres family. Four sons, Alfonso, Pablo, Alvaro and Gonzalo, were born to Alvaro Cesar (“Bary”), a lawyer, amateur player and respected umpire, based in Lobos near La Espadana Polo Club, founded in 1938 by two other polo-playing families, Louis and Tomas Garrahan and their cousin, Carlos Buchanan. When “Bary” Pieres retired from his law practice he bequeathed his eight polo ponies to his sons, all of whom had set their hearts on playing as professionals.

The youngest, Gonzalo, born in 1956, served his polo apprenticeship with two of Argentina’s greatest polo mentors, Eduardo Moore and Hector Barrantes. Thereafter he played professionally, first with White Birch in the USA, then with the Australian media magnate Kerry Packer, whose team Ellerston Pieres led and managed for many seasons of English high goal polo. Such was the personal

rapport which Gonzalo Pieres established with Kerry Packer, that Packer founded Ellerstina and which Pieres managed and eventually acquired. Nowadays it is also a stud farm that breeds polo ponies, whether naturally or using embryo transfer, and these ponies command some of the world’s highest prices. Pieres combines this with managing a new Ellerstina team composed of his sons, Facundo and Gonzalito (both +10), Nicolás (+9) and their cousin Pablo (“Polito”, son of Pablo “Paul” Pieres), and assorted other team-mates.

In 2007 Facundo and Gonzalito invited their Mac Donough cousins, Matias and Pablo, also high goal players, to join Ellerstina to compete in Argentina’s three most prestigious high goal tournaments, the Tortugas, Hurlingham and Argentine Opens, the so-called “Triple Crown”. Ellerstina won the first and second but lost the third and most important to La Dolfina. The following year Facundo, Gonzalito, Nicolás and their brother-in-law, 40-year old former 10-goaler Mariano Aguerre, playing off 9 goals, won the Argentine Open. The Pieres and Mac Donough brothers are second cousins thanks to their grandmothers, sisters Ines and Laura Garrahan, the mothers, respectively, of Gonzalo Pieres and of Jorge Mac Donough, the founder-owner of another leading polo-pony stud farm, La Irenita Embriones. All the Argentine Garrahan associated with polo, Ines and Laura included, are descended from one Patrick Garrahan who migrated from Ireland to Argentina in 1829 at the age of 24.



10
GOALER
SERIES

PABLO MAC DONOUGH

The 10-goaler – a continuation of the 10-goal Handicap Player Portrait series in POLO+10 World: In this edition we present the Argentinian Pablo Mac Donough.

BY JOHN JACKSON PHOTOGRAPHY EMILIANO LASALVIA

Unlike other sports, except perhaps horse racing, champion polo players don't just appear from nowhere. They are usually a product of a long chain of events. A top polo player requires not only talent and dedication, but also horses of commensurate quality in order to bring him to the pinnacle of the game. He needs mentors and opportunities to play at continually higher levels. It helps to have family backing. Above all, he needs an organisation. Pablo Mac Donough has had the good fortune to have had them all.

Like most top polo players, Pablo is an Argentine. Born a Pisces on 21st February 1982 in Pehuajo, Buenos Aires Province, he can trace his Irish heritage back four generations. His great-grandfather, James Mac Donough, hailed from County Sligo, arriving in Argentina in 1865. James married Jane Watson from County Clare. They settled out on the Pampas where James became known as "Don Santiago" and was considered a very capable gaucho. Starting out by managing estancias, he eventually accumulated large landholdings and was active in equine husbandry.

Pablo's grandmother, Laura Garrahan, married into the Mac Donough clan. In doing so, she united the Mac Donoughs with a family that had a very strong polo background. Laura's brother was the famous Tomás Antonio Garrahan, better known as Tommy. A successful polo player in his own right, attaining a 7-goal handicap, Tommy was one of the founder members of the polo club La Espadaña, established in 1938 near Abbott at the estancia "New Home". Tommy's family and descendants have been influential

in polo ever since. His sister's sons, Gonzalo and Alphonso, both 10-goal handicap players, played for La Espadaña, the premier polo team of the 1980s. Tommy's son, Alex, was a winner of the Argentine Open with Indios Chapaleufú, and an accomplished 9-goal player. The Garrahan legacy is so pervasive that, in a family tournament a few years ago, called the Garrahan Cup (Copa Garrahan), 10 teams of 17 goals each were entered consisting only of blood relatives. Pablo took part in this tournament, as did his older brother Matías.

Pablo began his polo experience playing in his hometown of Pehuajo at the training centre Nueva Escocia (in English "New Scotland"), under the auspices of former 10-goaler Eduardo "Gordo" Moore, renowned for his playing skills in England and also as a trainer and horse breeder. Success came early. As part of the Nueva Escocia team, Pablo won the coveted Potrillos Cup. This tournament, which takes place every December in the Club de Polo Los Indios de San Miguel in Buenos Aires, is the most prestigious worldwide tournament for under-14s.

Pablo's career continued to take off. He won the Chamber of Deputies Cup with his team "La Irenita" in 2001. He was joined on this team by his brother Matías, Martín Garrahan (Alex's son and Tommy's grandson) and Gonzalo Von Wernich. In the year 2003, the Mac Donough brothers and their cousins, Gonzalito and Facundo (sons of Gonzalo), formed the new Ellerstina team. The original Ellerstina was created by Gonzalo Pieres in the 1990s with



“AT AGE 32, PABLO IS STILL PLAYING AT HIS PEAK. HE HAS WON ALMOST EVERY MAJOR POLO CHAMPIONSHIP.”

JOHN JACKSON POLO+10



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newcomers Mariano Aguerre and Adolfo Cambiaso. This team won the Argentine Open in 1994, 1997 and 1998. Now, with two sets of brothers, a young and bold power emerged, challenging perennial favourite La Dolfina. By 2005, Ellerstina had reached the finals of the Argentine Open. They repeated this again in the year 2007. Pablo’s handicap was raised to 10 goals in that year, making this team a 39-goal team (Gonzalo and Facundo had both received their 10 goal status in 2005). In 2008, Ellerstina, having exchanged Matías Mac Donough for 9-goal handicap Juan Martín Nero, finally captured the elusive Argentine Open. They repeated this again in 2010 as a 40-goal team after Juan Martín Nero advanced to the 10-goal level.

In 2011 the polo world saw a major change. Adolfo Cambiaso released Lucas Monteverde and brother-in-law Bartolomé Castignolo and invited Pablo Mac Donough and Juan Martín Nero to play on the La Dolfina team. Ellerstina was moving towards incorporating the third Pieres brother, Nicolás, into their line-up. In doing so, Cambiaso created a 39-goal handicap team, with David Sterling rated as a 9-goaler, and they proved to be worth their rankings. La Dolfina won the 2011 Argentine Open. Ellerstina surprised them the following year in the Argentine Open final, but 2013 belonged completely to La Dolfina as they swept the three major Argentine tournaments, winning the Triple Crown.

At age 32, Pablo is still playing at his peak. He has won almost every major polo championship. In Argentina, he has been on the

winning team at the Argentine Open four times, twice with Ellerstina and twice with La Dolfina. He has won at Tortugas and at Hurlingham. He has also won the Camara de Diputados and the Jockey Club Open in Argentina. In England, he has won the British Open and the Queen’s Cup. In Spain, at Sotogrande, he has won the Gold and Silver Cups. In the USA, he has won the C.V. Whitney Cup.

But those awards do not show the work and support behind the scenes. In a sport in which horses play such a vital part, Pablo is supported by his father’s breeding programme at La Irenita. His father, Jorge, was a former player and is a veterinary surgeon. This estancia is known for its top quality polo ponies and its embryo implant programme. In Argentina, the family is the most important priority in life. Pablo’s brother, Matías, is still competing at the highest level and Pablo’s wife is often seen at his side during polo tournaments. The game of polo is the lifeblood of the Mac Donough family and Pablo has been their brightest star. It goes to prove that, with a few exceptions, pedigree is an essential part of the success of a top polo player.

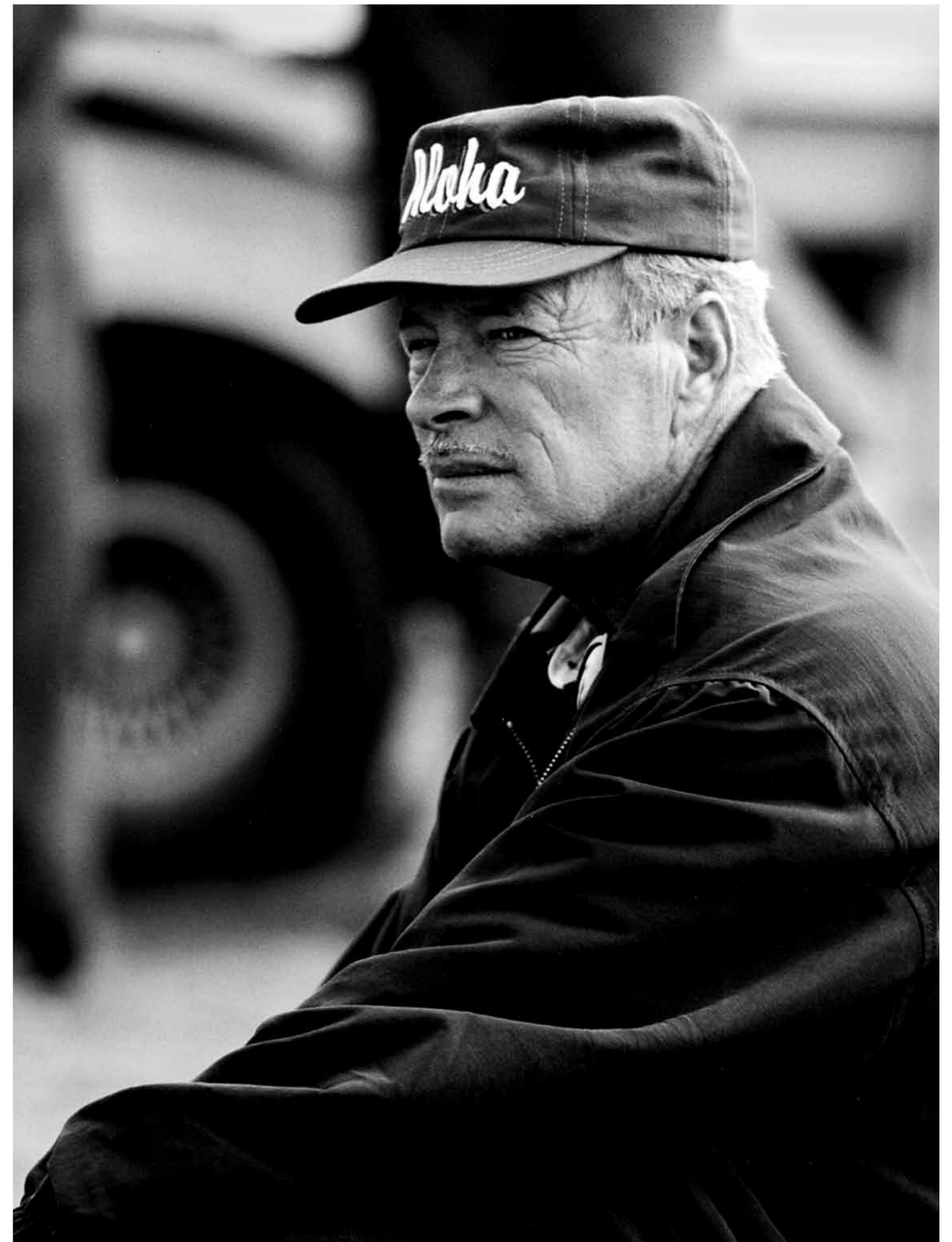
About the author:

The author, John Francis Jackson, is an American living in Argentina. Although he works as a business advisor, his passion is polo, a game he both plays and writes about. He also raises and sells polo ponies. You can find out more about him at LinkedIn or at maltesecatpolo.wordpress.com

THE COACH

Rege Ludwig is known as one of the best coaches in the sport of polo. In his polo school in the Thai Polo Club of Harald Link and Nunthinee Tanner he is teaching players from all over the world. POLO+10 is proud, that Rege shares some of the most important basics in learning polo with our readers.

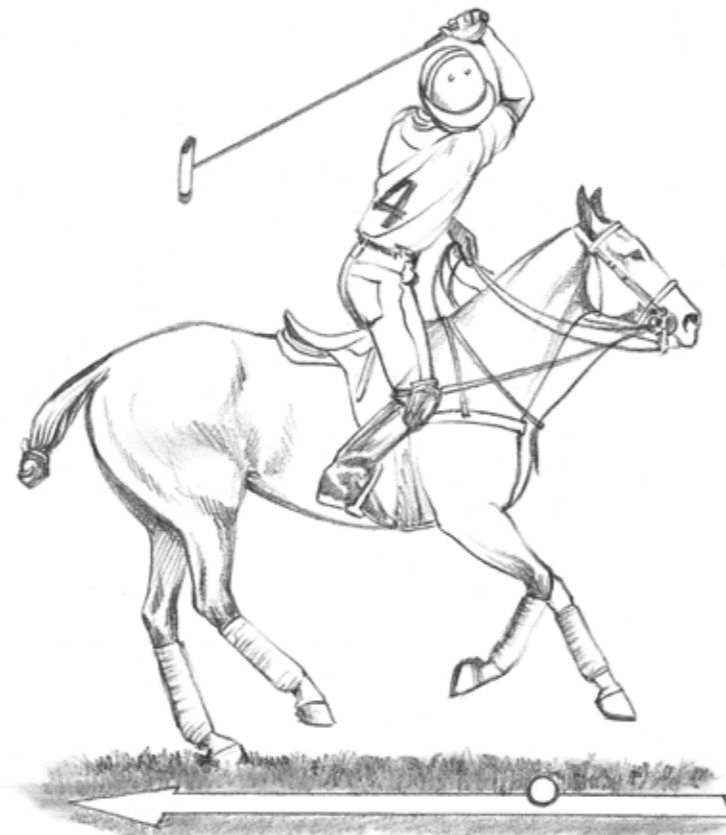
BY REGE LUDWIG ILLUSTRATION REGE LUDWIG



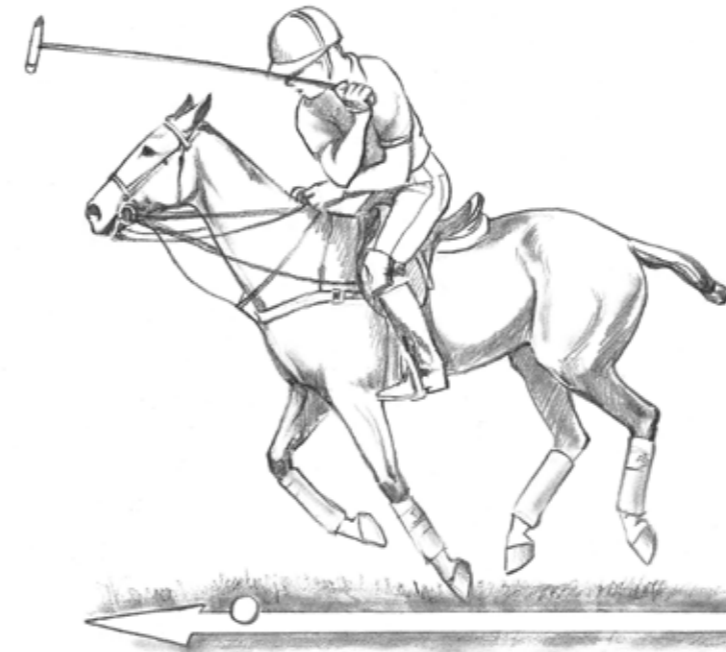
Known as one of the best polo coaches in the world: Rege Ludwig.



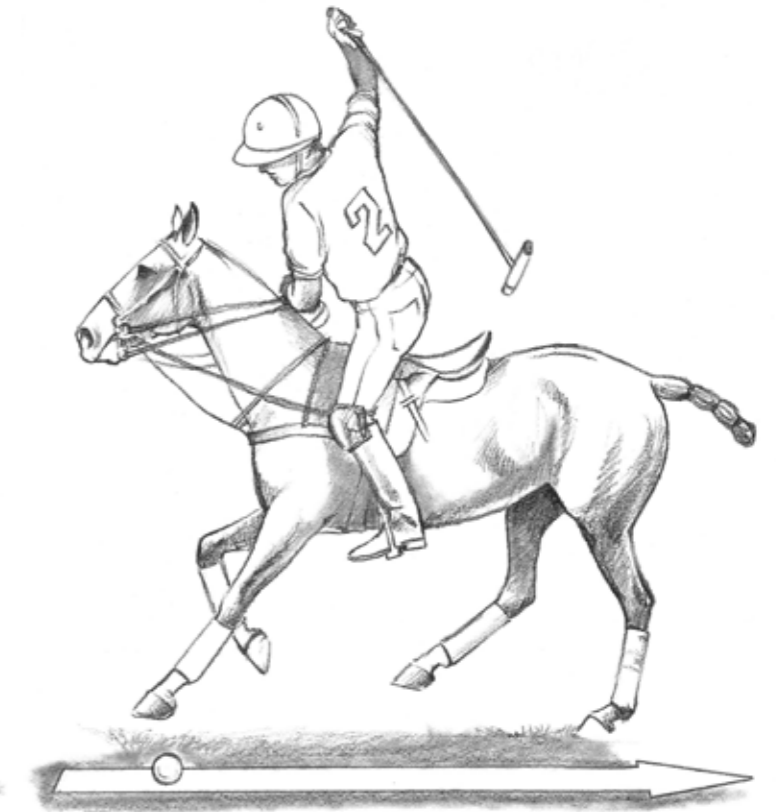
Offside Forehand.



Offside Backhand.



Nearside Forehand.



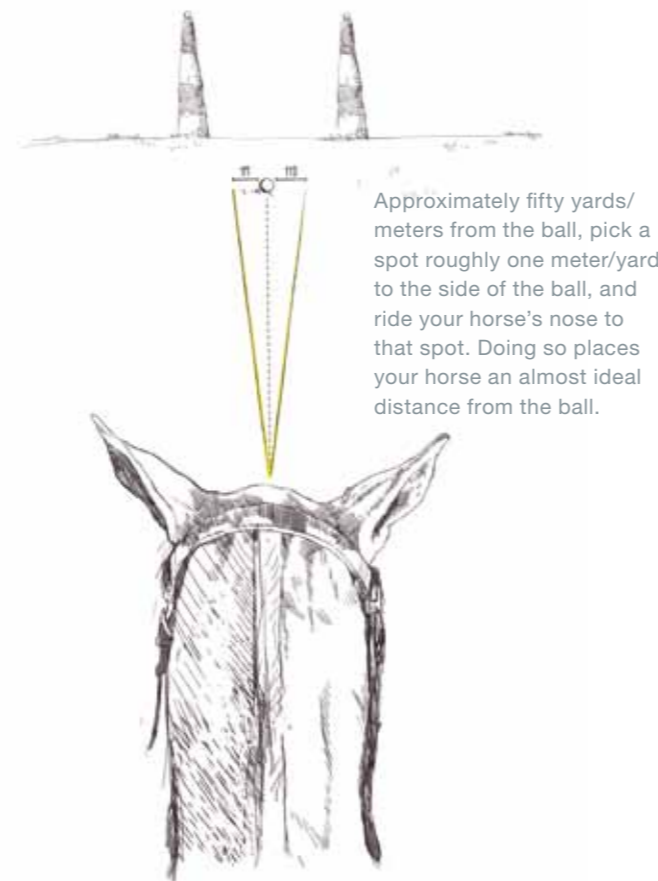
Nearside Backhand.

The Polo Hitting Checklist

There are twelve different hits of the polo ball, consisting of: (Offside/Nearside, Forward/Backward, Neck/Tail, Open Forward/Backward); as well as, there is a distinctly different hit positioning in the saddle for each. One of the more critical aspects of hitting the ball effectively is correct positioning in the saddle. Your position in the saddle for each of the twelve hits should be securely, correctly and completely established before arriving at the ball and initiating the down swing. That is true because any degree of instability, i.e. uncontrolled movement, in your hitting position, or swing procedure will be negatively manifested in the effect placed on how you hit the ball. To address that aspect of the hitting process, I created, "The Hitting Checklist". The design of "The Hitting Checklist" is intended to have you correctly positioned in the saddle by the time you arrive at the ball, and before the down swing has been initiated. By way of accurate preparation, the intention of "The Hitting Checklist" is to have you hitting the polo ball with greater efficiency and effectiveness. I am hopeful that through improved hitting technique, you will discover that it is happening for you.

Step One:

Approximately fifty yards/meters from the ball, pick a spot roughly one meter/yard to the side of the ball, and ride your horse's nose to that spot, (offside shot one meter to the left/nearside shot one yard to the right). Doing so places your horse an almost ideal distance from the ball, which will allow you to hit effectively on either side, forward or backward.



Approximately fifty yards/meters from the ball, pick a spot roughly one meter/yard to the side of the ball, and ride your horse's nose to that spot. Doing so places your horse an almost ideal distance from the ball.

Step Two:

Approximately 40 yards/meters from the ball, establish a solid Half Seat position to ensure having your upper legs securely attached to your horse's shoulders. From that secure attachment, you can create a secure and stable hitting platform.

Step Three:

Approximately 30 meters/yards from the ball, without rotating your body, lean your torso to the side on which the ball is to be hit (right for Offside; left for Nearside). One of the major objectives of leaning to the hitting side is to establish solid contact with your opposite upper leg, so as to hold tightly with it onto your horse's shoulder and the pommel of the saddle. Doing so helps support your torso as it is leaning out, down and over the ball.

Step Four:

Approximately 20 yards/meters from the ball, rotate your shoulders to the side on which the ball is to be hit so they are approximately 30 degrees from perpendicular to your horse's midline.

Step Five:

Approximately 10 meters/yards from the ball, establish your upper body elevation over the ball. To accomplish this, lean your rotated upper body sufficiently down and over the ball so if your arm and mallet were hanging straight down, the mallet head would be ever so close to touching the ground. Lift mallet head to hitting position.

Maintaining this upper body elevation over the ball will allow your mallet head to make contact with the ball well under the equator, without your mallet hitting the ground. Pay particular attention that once the downward movement of the mallet head is initiated, there is only rotation of the upper body; there should be no downward or upward movement until well after contact with the ball.

Step Six:

Within approximately 5 yards/meters from the ball, you should have successfully achieved the previous five steps, and can maintain them until well after contact with the ball.

Step Seven:

Within 5 to 2 meters/yards from the ball, begin the down swing early enough so as to cause and allow your swinging effort to be appropriately slow and easily controlled. Here I want to offer a couple of notifications:

1. The efficient and effective swinging effort should seldom, if ever, be executed quickly, or rushed.

2. As you gain in experience and confidence, you will find that the distance at which you initiate these steps can be adjusted so as to begin each closer to the ball. However, in closing, I reiterate that the most important aspect of hitting to be mindful of is the necessity of being correctly and securely established in your hitting position over the ball before the down swing is initiated.

MEXICAN CHUKKAS

POLO+10 has already reported on the increase of the popularity of polo in Mexico and now we take you on a trip through the highlighted events of the season: utopic locations, original celebrations, all the national polo stars and more.

BY MARÍA PAULA FERNÁNDEZ

The Celebration of the Year of the Horse at the Careyes Polo Club.



Image: Gabriel Roux

One year ago, POLO+10 and the Federación Mexicana de Polo agreed to be media partners. Since then, the collaboration and the friendship has grown. Guillermo Steta Mondragón, the President of the Federación Mexicana de Polo, prepared a special letter for all polo fans about the news in the northamerican country:

An eventful year for Mexican Polo

2014 has been a very important year for our polo, unfortunately, two great friends have passed away: the enthusiastic and elegant Alejandro Gómez de Parada and the legendary Carlos Gracida, who held a +10 handicap for 20 years. We will forever thank Carlos for his legacy and his years spent in Mexico, which were crucial for the development of the sport in the country.

In 2014, the Year of the Horse, according to the Chinese was celebrated, the animal we love the most, that gives us so much strenght and velocity. And for us, it has brought great developments in the sport: polo is developing in all its aspects of a country with great landscape diversification, cultures and climate, growing steadily and transforming year by year.

This year Mexico participated in the Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cup, and made us all proud with the debut of the national team. In December, at Casa de Campo in the Dominican Republic, our team will play the preliminary matches of the Zone A of the FIP (Federation of International Polo), in which the winning teams will qualify for the 10th FIP Polo World Championship, to take place in March 2015, in Santiago de Chile.

Regarding our local tournaments, great ones have been played, as the Mexican Polo Open, played in the Campo Deportivo Militar Marte, the most important polo venue in the country. At Costa Careyes, the first Gold Cup with an 18-goal handicap took place, as part of the Equestrian Festival that includes the renowned Copa Agua Alta, where more than 20 teams participated in this edition. We also had our own British Polo Day in Querétaro, the 8th Copa del Rey in Cancún Quintana Roo, the Torneo el Marqués in Querétaro and more. We have also had the pleasure of inaugurating the stunning facilities of the new polo club "La Santísima Trinidad" in San Miguel de Allende, a magnificent colonial city with high quality vineyards.

Mexico, with its 6,000 km coastline in three different seas offered great beach polo tournaments, including the Copa Tucane in Puerto Vallarta, and the Triángulo del Sol polo cup in the city of Acapulco in September. Moreover, several junior league tournaments were promoted, and there are two polo schools in Mexico for the little beginners, "Academia de Polo en México" and "Escuela de Polo Rancho San Juan".

Finally, on behalf of the Mexican Polo community, I would like to express our happiness about the fact that Memo Gracida has moved back to Mexico, in order to keep promoting the sport. All these great news bring good omens to the future of the Mexican polo. Come join us, we are waiting for you!

Guillermo Steta Mondragón
President of the Federación Mexicana de Polo



Memo and Carlos Gracida playing together in 2013, at the Audi Polo Cup.



Guillermo Steta Mondragón, the President of the Federación Mexicana de Polo during the III International Beach Polo Cup in Rivera Nayarit.



Mexico vs. Brazil during the Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cup 2014.



Exciting beach polo at Puerto Vallarta, Rivera Nayarit.



Polo action at the Mexican Polo Open in the Campo Deportivo Militar Marte.

Outstanding Performance at Snow Polo World Cup

From 8th to 19th January, the national polo team of Mexico participated in the Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cup 2014, at the Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club in Tianjin, China. For the third time, the green pastures of the club were covered with snow for this great event to take place. Twelve nations competed in this tournament, with a 14 to 16-goal handicap: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Spain, USA, France, Hong Kong-China, Mexico, New Zealand, England and South Africa. The Mexican team, in spite of being its first time competing for the coveted trophy, had a great performance, reaching quarter finals.

THE YEAR OF THE HORSE

According to the Chinese Horoscope, 2014 is the year of the Horse of Wood. The year of self-renovation and re-emergence. Freedom is key in Horse year. So if you don't like the road ahead, you can quickly change direction. Like a Horse, suddenly turn and not look back. Improvise the rules because Horse is a free spirit who refuses to be tamed or corralled: do what pleases you the most, play polo!

La Santísima Trinidad Opened its Doors

La Santísima Trinidad is a real estate development located just 15 minutes away from San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico, voted last year as “Best City of the World” by the readers of Conde Nast Traveller. This development is comprised by 44 private estates dedicated to grape and wine-growing, olive trees and lavender fields, with the advantage of the southern european-like climate of the area, this is a peculiar “Tuscan” oasis in Mexico.

Besides the aromatic vineyards, the development owns a polo club of the same name, with a field of 270 x 150m, where you can play polo all year round, due to the mild winter and the few rains during the summer. La Santísima Trinidad has also inaugurated a boutique hotel and a world class restaurant, to complement their high quality offer.



Barriles de la cosecha en La Santísima Trinidad.



Polo students and professionals at La Santísima Trinidad Polo Club.



Left: The winning team at the Triangulo del Sol Polo Cup in Acapulco: Guillermo “Billy” Steta, Carlos Gracida Jr. and Nic Roldán. Right: Guillermo Steta galloping away with the ball in Puerto Vallarta.



Sun, Sand and Polo

For the third time the International Beach Polo Cup in Puerto Vallarta at Riviera Nayarit took place from 1st to 4th May. The International Beach Polo Cup 2014 was opened by a traditional horse parade and a fashion show of the brand Tucane. A total of eight international teams competed on this sandy tournament very passionately. Finally, the teams E! Entertainment and Elite Residences made it to the final, the first one being the champion of the event.

This past September, the Federación Mexicana de Polo together with the tournament organizers Lux Socia, brought polo to the beach of Acapulco. Four teams up to 14 goals of international and national polo players enjoyed polo on the beach of the famous city at the shore of the Pacific Ocean. The Cup “Triángulo del Sol” was won by the team called as the the Cup, coincidentally. The champion team Triángulo del Sol was formed by Nic Roldán, Carlos Gracida Jr. and Guillermo Steta. The tournament, in its first edition, was an utter success.



Triángulo del Sol team leading the match on the beaches of Acapulco.



Abierto de Polo Mexicano 2013, the champions: Mariano Gracida, Miguel Gómez de Parada, Guillermo Steta and Carlos Gracida Sr.

Upcoming Polo Action

The Mexican polo season is not yet finished: one of its biggest tournaments, the Nacional de Polo Scappino Tecamac, is set to take place from the 12th to 22nd November, organized by the Federación de Polo Mexicana and the Club de Polo Tecamac, the club with most members in the country. Last year, the predecessor of this tournament, the Abierto Mexicano de Polo, gathered 3,000 polo fans in the famous Campo Militar Deportivo Marte, in the heart of Mexico City, showing a great polo performance by the champions, team St. Regis formed by Guillermo Steta, Mariano Gracida, Miguel Gómez de Parada and the late Carlos Gracida.

In addition in December the national polo team will play at Casa de Campo in the Dominican Republic for the qualifying tournament of the Zone A of the FIP 10th World Polo Championship, which will finally take place in March 2015, in Chile. From 8th to 16th December, the teams participating will try to secure a place in the World Championships. Zone A is formed by Dominican Republic, Guatemala, USA, Canada, and Mexico.

December will pass by, and in the land of never ending summer, will be time again for a new polo season: spirits renewed and empowered, a joyful atmosphere and the best game quality one could ever ask for runs almost all year long on Mexican lands.



Team E! Entertainment (Chicco Casanova, Nito Uranga and Maxine Mulenshausen) about to be champions of the III International Beach Polo Cup at Puerto Vallarta.



1 The winning team Careyes at the Copa de Oro: Juan José de Alba, Alfredo Cappella, Memo Gracida and the young Giancarlo Brignone receiving the medal in name of Rodrigo Fernández 2 The polo fields at Careyes 3 Celebrations of the Year of the Horse 4 Memo Gracida, the renowned polo player who recently has moved back to Mexico 5 The Careyes team in the Copa Agua Alta: Giorgio Brignone, Valerio Aguilar, Rodolfo Ramos and Pancho Aguilar getting ready for the match 6 Cedric Schweri and Andrea Vianini enjoying the Copa Agua Alta 7 Pepe Valdez relaxed between matches 8 Rodolfo Ramos changing horses 9 Andrea Vianini waits for a high ball 10 Rodrigo Fernández from team Porsche vs Valerio Aguilar from team Careyes.

Polo Action at Careyes

This year the XV edition of the Costa Careyes Polo Festival presented by Porsche was held from 12th to 26th April. The event was created in 2000 by Alberto Ardisson and by Giorgio Brignone, the owner of Costa Carereyes Polo Club. The intention was to create a 10-day competitive 8 to 10 goals event with patrons from all countries and unique social and cultural events in the balmy weather of the Pacific coast. Another incredible event was the celebration of the Year of the Horse and the polo tournament that took place during these celebrations, leaving all the attendants astonished by the Mexican creativity!

The Copa Agua Alta has three different categories: juniors, 4 goals and 8 to 10 goals. This year more than 20 teams participated in the event with 10 different nationalities making it the most important polo tournament in Mexico.

After the Copa Agua Alta and during the festival, Costa Careyes hosted the Copa de Oro from 24th to 26th April. The two-day tournament had a team handicap of 18 goals and it is the tournament with the highest handicap in Mexico. This year the best polo players from Mexico, Peru and Argentina took part at the Copa de Oro. In addition to the legendary Mexican polo player Guillermo "Memo" Gracida, also the Mexican Valerio Aguilar, the Argentinians Andrea Vianini and Alfredo Capella, and Guillermo Li from Peru, did not miss their chance of participating in this exciting tournament. The patrons were the Fernández family from Monterrey, Juan Jose de Alba from Balvanera and Giorgio Brignone, they all showed off their skills in the first edition of the prestigious cup, that now will be played yearly.

The Costa Careyes Polo Club is part of the private resort of Costa Careyes, located at the south coast of the state of Jalisco between Puerto Vallarta and Manzanillo, and offers beautiful facilities for luxury polo tournaments and provides the opportunity to spend beautiful holidays all year round, surrounded by a unique coastal architecture mix of mediterranean/mexican style, a 13,000 ha forest and animal reserve and world class golf facilities.



Images ©: Gabriel Roux

Images: Adrian Cores



EDEN ISLAND

Among the many islands in Seychelles, Eden Island graces the east coast shoreline with an enticing array of upmarket residences and amenities. This 56ha man-made luxury marina property development has over 40ha of prime residential land and 16ha of private waterways.

PHOTOGRAPHY EDEN ISLAND



An exclusive private island lifestyle that appeals to the sophisticated buyer looking for excellent investment value, Eden Island has three product offerings available. Spacious Apartments, deluxe Maisons and top of the range Villas which are the epitome of opulence and sophistication – all with ocean frontage.

Each home on Eden Island is sold on freehold title and offers owners the option to apply for Seychelles residency. A broad range of recreational facilities are also on offer such as a fitness centre, tennis court, swimming pools and 4 private beaches. Each home comes with its own mooring for a boat, allowing you the opportunity to leisurely spend your days exploring the neighbouring islands. Eden Island is fast becoming an all-in-one destination within the island destination of Seychelles. With a world-class shopping complex “Eden Plaza” and a tech-savvy business hotel “Eden Bleu” on your doorstep – there is no need to travel far. Amongst all of this, is a range of restaurants and bars serving international cuisine, an exquisite spa with a dramatic mountainous backdrop and a commercial marina with an array of charter offerings. If its diving, snorkelling, fishing, sailing or day tripping you are after – there are people just waiting to whisk you away out into the Indian Ocean. Over 470 of the 567 units have been sold to date. There are currently only 6 villas left for sale and a range of new apartments have just been released. Whether it’s a lifestyle or investment that you are looking for, or your next travel destination – Eden Island definitely ticks all the boxes. •

For more information please visit www.edenisland.sc or contact info@edenisland.sc

FACTS

Prices start at
\$ 450 000 for an Apartment
\$ 1,300 000 for a Maison
\$ 2,500 000 for a Villa

The island is centrally located between the international airport and the town of Victoria

Eden Island provides a perfect base for island hopping, fishing, snorkelling, diving, sailing and more.

Daily flights into Seychelles with Air Seychelles and Emirates

Seychelles experiences an all-round temperate climate with the yearly average temperature of 28 °C, making it a perfect destination throughout the year.

WHERE -to- BUY

Christmas is just around the corner, and December calls for shopping, and for imagination as well. Getting the perfect Christmas gift is no easy task, specially when it is destined to someone special. In this edition of Where to Buy, we have selected a few products we love, that are related to the cosmopolitan polo lifestyle that gets us polo fans together.

BY MARÍA PAULA FERNÁNDEZ

STRAIGHT FROM THE ARGENTINIAN FIELDS: LA MARTINA BOOTS



La Martina "Cortos", a revised version of the stiff and heavy polo boots, are shortened to the ankle and feature a lighter structure, making it easier to walk. Still they preserve the distinctive qualities of original riding boots, as they come from the same workshop that makes professional footwear for polo players: same type of leather, same zip, which allows for even easier fitting in this shorter version, same rubber sole that makes Cortos flexible and lightweight. While professional boots are by no means versatile, La Martina short boots are also perfect for riding, walking and driving.

www.cortos.lamartina.eu

HOME IS WHERE THE POLO IS: THE LUXURY OF POLO BY BABEL MALLET TRAY

BABEL is a brand from Florida USA dedicated to fabricating high end objects for decoration. Now they have launched an exclusive collection called "The Luxury of Polo by Babel" with the mission of introducing the lifestyle and aesthetics of polo into family homes. Their work is so remarkable, that some of their pieces have been used as trophies and prizes for the best polo players in the world, such as Adolfo Cambiasso and Mark Tomlinson. From their broad collection, we have picked this original tray, whose handles are shaped as polo mallets.

www.babelcorp.com



FOR THE CIGAR AFICIONADOS, DAVIDOFF LEATHER ACCESSORIES: STYLE AND REFINEMENT MAKE A PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT



Davidoff has created a superb Leather Accessories Collection to delight aficionados around the world and to celebrate the festive season. In the spirit of Davidoff's commitment to craftsmanship and quality, this eclectic collection allows connoisseurs to discover its broad array of surprising cigar accessories, including state of the art humidors, lighters, cutters, ashtrays,

and cigar cases, and are made from the finest buffalo leather, chosen for its gloss, strength and durability. Any item from the Davidoff Leather Accessories Collection 2014 would make an ideal gift for a discerning cigar connoisseur and guarantees to add a touch of contemporary flair to any home.

www.davidoff.com

THE MAJESTIC PEACOCK WRAPPED AROUND A LADY'S WRIST: A PERFECT PIECE ABLE TO SURPRISE AND LEAVE A LASTING IMPRESSION



This magnificent timepiece was an easy choice for this section. Its perfection, beauty and craftsmanship make the Corum Feather Watch an object of desire, that can dazzle all. Much in vogue during the 19th century, plumasserie, or feather art, remains an enduring symbol of elegance. Displaying infinite patience, meticulous

care and dexterity, the feather artist expresses whimsical poetry, raising this precious handcraft to the ultimate level of perfection: an encounter between watchmaking, feather art and jewelry with its 120 diamonds totaling 0.71 carats framing the feathers on the dial.

www.corum.ch

SAVELLI: LUXURY SMARTPHONES HANDCRAFTED IN SWITZERLAND

Emerald Night is the name of this exquisite piece of jewelry... or smartphone? Savelli Geneve, in collaboration with Gemfields, has designed this exclusive phone in 18-carat rose gold with heart set in 400 brilliant-cut emeralds. All the smartphones from Savelli are assembled entirely by hand, and are the perfect accessory for the cosmopolitan woman.

www.savelli-geneve.com



CHASE POLO TOURNAMENTS AROUND THE WORLD: RIMOWA LUGGAGE KEEPS YOUR BELONGINGS SAFE AND ALLOWS YOU ABSOLUTE COMFORT

As a company that has found the balance between tradition and innovation, today RIMOWA is considered an international pioneer in the field of premium-class luggage. The ultralight RIMOWA luggage made of polycarbonate is a groundbreaking innovation: It uses every bit of the enormous potential of this high-tech material. With its light weight and indestructible properties, it is no accident that polycarbonate is used extensively in modern-day aircraft and vehicle construction. Another distinctive feature of this innovative material is its tremendous flexibility. For our luggage, this means: The suitcase shells yield to pressure but immediately return to their original form when pressure subsides. The exclusive RIMOWA luggage ranges made of polycarbonate have revolutionized travel once again; it is not by chance that they are so successful worldwide today. The combination of durability, extreme lightness and outstanding design makes SALSA, the model chosen here and the other luggage models irresistible. Now you just need to pick the next polo destination you will travel to.

www.rimowa.com



A TRUE HORSEWOMAN CAN BE SPOTTED EVEN IF SHE IS NOT SADDLED UP

Gucci has been developing pieces and getting inspiration from the beautiful equestrian world for a long time. The high-end brand continues to deepen its relationship with the equestrian world in the year that sees the House celebrate its 90th anniversary and a heritage long characterized by the glamour of horse riding. The Horsebit Bracelet in gold is an exquisite and classic piece that matches every social occasion and outfit. Hand-assembled by Florentine artisans in 18-carat yellow gold, featuring the iconic Gucci horsebit.

www.gucci.com



“I LOVE BEAUTY, THE HIGHEST-QUALITY MATERIALS AND SEXY ICONIC DESIGNS. THIS, IN COMBINATION WITH SUSTAINABILITY, IS THE VERY EMBODIMENT OF MODERNITY FOR ME.”

DOROTHEE INGWERSEN Designer

Image: Magnus Reed



Images: adp photostudios



BETTER WORLD COUTURE

The newly founded green luxury fashion label Better World Couture launched its first collection in September 2014.

PHOTOGRAPHY MAGNUS REED, MICHAEL DEFFERT, ADP PHOTOSTUDIOS



With Better World Couture, the Hamburg designer Dorothee Ingwersen, who has long been known on the German fashion scene in her capacity as Art Director and International Marketing Director of the Olsen brand, has realised her vision of creating iconic designs in the highest-quality cashmere; the collection combines very feminine sexy chic with sustainability and high ethical standards. Her long-standing work in Asia, Europe and South America, including for GIZ on behalf of the German government and with the international NGO “Plan”, has given her the experience she required for this project. The “Double Happiness” collection conceived by her has been awarded a number of prizes, including the Canadian Prize for Sustainability. All products by Better World Couture are manufactured by hand in handpicked factories in the Himalaya region. The cashmere used, also known as the “jewel” of raw textiles, has been sourced and processed in a resource-saving manner and in accordance with the principles of sustainability and female empowerment. Production conditions are subject to strict ethical standards. All the pieces in the collection are inspired by classics in the style of, e.g. the legendary American designer Roy Halston and are made on site by traditional cashmere manufacturers.

Together with her partner, the specialist in international art and charity events Simone Bruns, Dorothee Ingwersen has made her collection available to German and European customers since autumn 2014. The product range consists exclusively of the highest-quality hundred per cent cashmere and includes scarves, pullovers and ponchos in a casual unfinished design, as well as sexy catsuits and evening dresses in the style of the Hollywood film “American Hustle”, as worn by Hollywood stars Amy Adams and Jennifer Lawrence. The work of American photographer Ron Galella with his portraits of Jerry Hall also inspired Dorothee Ingwersen in the creation of her first collection. There are also cool biker jackets,

triangular scarves and knit jackets with suede fringes, low cut wrap pullovers and oversized luxury cashmere plaids measuring 240x250 cm in the range. A casual “boyfriend pullover” completes the offer.

The colour palette comprises mainly the on-trend colours nude, sophisticated mud tones, elegant off-whites and gaudy dahlia pink. “In line with my commitment to the highest standards and quality, the label Better World Couture is targeted at modern women in society who want to combine their uncompromising standards in terms of extravagant design and ultimate quality with their awareness of sustainability and female empowerment. Better World Couture is pure green luxury.”

www.betterworldcouture.com

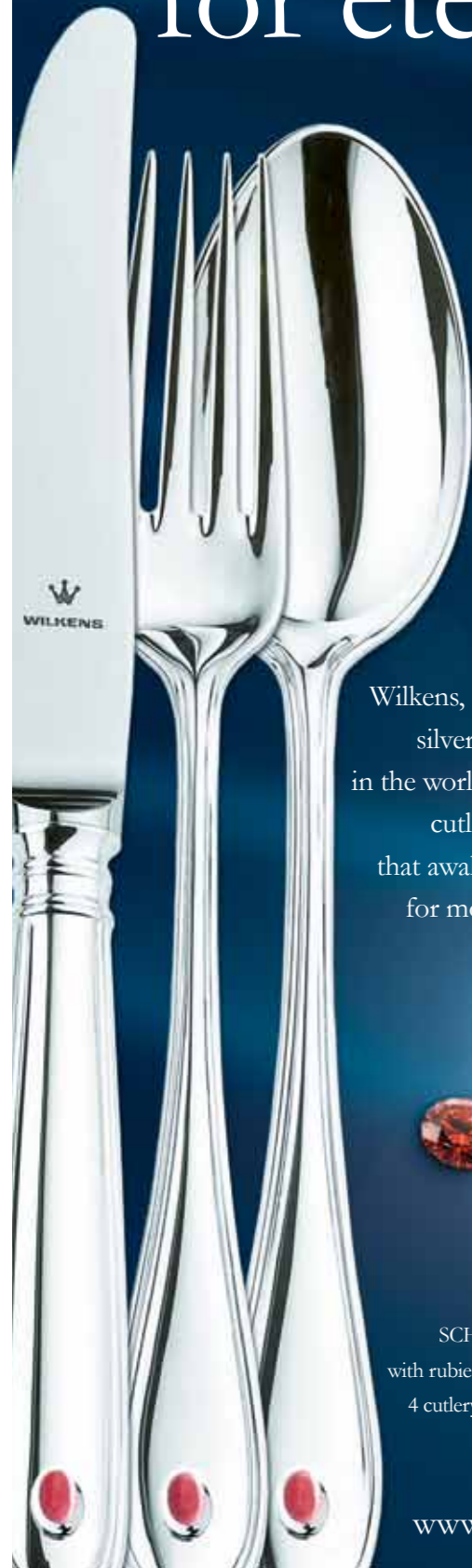


Image: Michael Deffert

After an eight hour offroad ride in the mountains: Dorothee Ingwersen with a herd of cashmere goats in the nepalese Himalaya.

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HOTEL
MADERO

MADERO NEW DIPLOMAT SUITE

This modern hotel is improving constantly to ensure its guests their comfort and best services, and with its pledge to grow presents the renewed Suite designed to meet the highest standards.

PHOTOGRAPHY HOTEL MADERO

This hotel in the exclusive district of Puerto Madero has both the "porteño" charm that every visitor of Buenos Aires searches for, and state-of-the-art facilities that take you on a trip of true comfort and style. Close to the financial district, or as porteños call the Microcentro, Hotel Madero offers easy access to both domestic and international airport. This December, the Hotel will be celebrating its 10th anniversary and wishes to celebrate, so, in aim to show the thrive for excellence that is characteristic on it, they designed and inaugurated the renewed Diplomat Suite, capable to meet the highest expectations regarding accommodation.

The new Diplomat Suite is really one of a kind. Besides from the comfortable and modern room, the private terrace has a wooden deck with a jacuzzi where guests are able to get a great view from Puerto Madero and the pier. The sunset seen from this terrace is magnificent! The star feature of this new Suite, is definitely the bathroom. Full of natural light and exquisitely designed, it is conceived to transform your morning start in a pleasurable experience.

In addition, the other 196 spacious and modern rooms, have everything to please their guests: The rooms are chic and sophisticated – most with private balcony – equipped with everything you need to enjoy your stay including an inroom safe that fits your laptop, WiFi, minibar, LCD TV, work desk, and complimentary breakfast buffet served daily.

There are 11 meeting rooms that accommodate 400 people. Service excellence is guaranteed through a staff of professionals dedicated to your corporate, cultural or social event. Hotel Madero offers 1,867 total squarefeet of event space – including La Cave boardroom space Des Arts Salon.

When time to relax comes you have a wide variety of options inside the premises to experience. The White Bar features an exclusive terrace with a chic ambience and great music. The Executive Chef of the award winning Rêd Resto & Lounge has created an inventive menu of Argentinian Author Cuisine with a french touch complemented by an impressive wine cellar featuring the most prestigious Argentine wines.

Enhance your wellness at Madero Spa, located on the top floor, where pampering and relaxation will exceed your expectations. Indulge in our sauna or take a dip in our swimming pool. It is also the perfect place to enjoy a massage or facial.



1 Private terrace with a Jacuzzi, where you can get an outstanding view of Puerto Madero 2 One of a kind bathroom, the perfect morning start 3 Spacious meeting room ideal for business 4 The bedroom, a perfect mix of style and comfort.

POLO+10^{WORLD}



N° 7

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My match starts before I walk onto the field.

Facundo Pieres

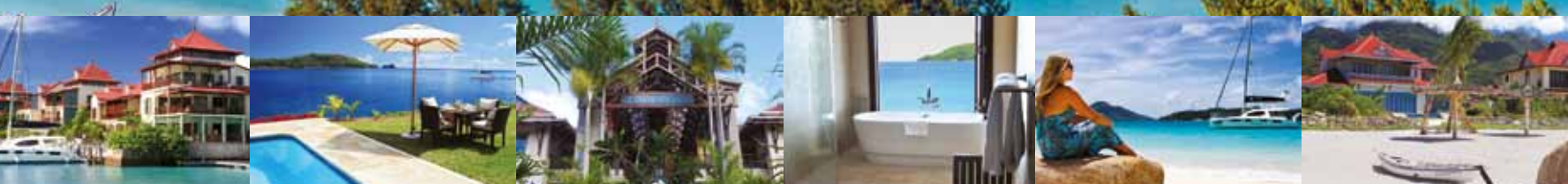
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