

POLO +10 WORLD

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MEETING THE CHAMPIONS

The squad from Chile won the World Championships trophy and delivered exciting games and some surprises. In this new issue of POLO+10 World, we focus on the people and horses behind the victories and awesome chukkas.



The World Championships in Chile once again showed that it's not always the favourites that automatically have the advantage. There are too many factors in play for the sport ever to be predictable. Polo is always good for surprises, given that victory and defeat are so closely intertwined.

Reports on the World Championships in Chile and highlights of the Argentine Open can be found at the start of this edition of POLO+10 World. In Argentina, there were many people questioning the playing system, number of teams and the implementation of the qualifying matches of the most important tournament in the world and giving it new impetus. A certain amount of new territory was also covered in St. Moritz. Here, the founder of snow polo, Reto Gaudenzi, who first organised chukkas on the frozen Lake St. Moritz 30 years ago, once again took over organising the event.

We congratulate one of the most traditional and important polo clubs in Europe on its 60th birthday. The Guards Polo Club was founded six decades ago by Prince Philip and is still one of the top polo locations in England. We chatted about the activities and current aims of the Hurlingham Polo Association with the chairman of the Hurlingham Polo Association John Wright.

We also met a major polo enthusiast in the USA at Greenwich Polo Club north of New York. Peter Brant has rendered outstanding services to the sport over the past 30 years and is also one of the most successful publishers and patrons in the United States.

We would like to invite you to join us on an international polo tour with this issue of POLO+10 World. All the best, we'll see you again in autumn 2015. Until then, you can follow all our news on www.poloplus10.com •

STEFANIE STÜTING

Chief Editor POLO+10 World

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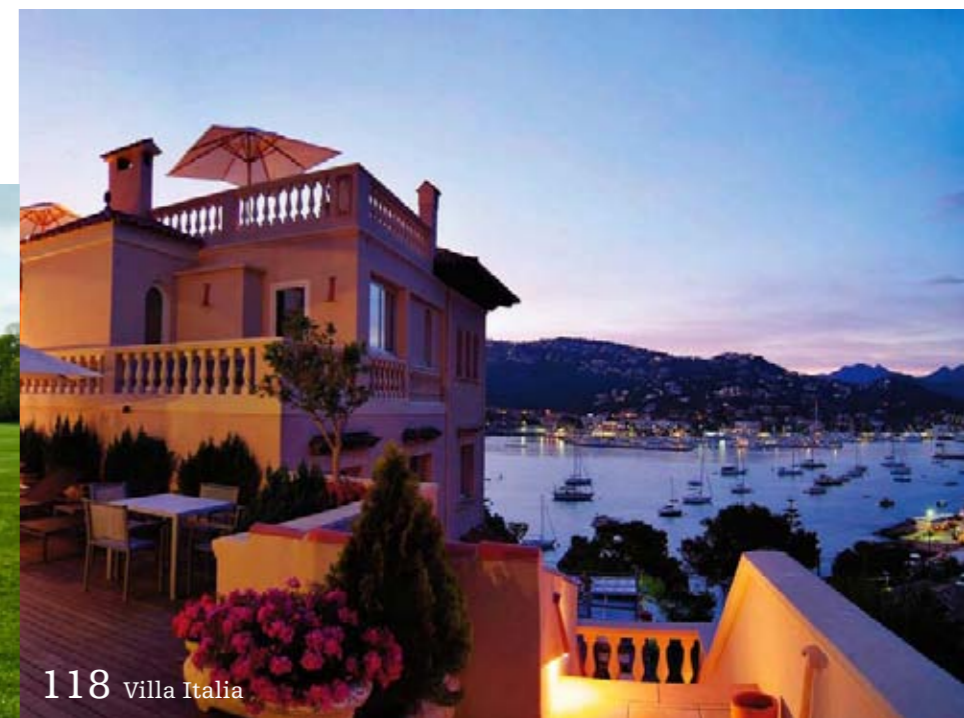
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NEWS

Current news and facts from the world of European and international polo.



POLO DEBUT IN VIETNAM

Polo was showcased for the first time ever in Vietnam in March 2015 at the inaugural Charity Polo Cup. The polo ground was built on a six-hectare site located within the grounds of the golf club.

The 2015 Vietnam Charity Polo Cup was staged at the newly instated polo field at the award-winning Long Thành Golf Club & Residential Estate, south of Ho Chi Minh City. Some 400 VIP guests descended upon the beautiful polo field, for the inaugural Charity Polo Cup Vietnam. Guests were treated to an afternoon of sporting entertainment and exclusive hospitality. Hosts Thu Minh and Otto De Jager conceptualised to bring polo to Vietnam following their attendance at a Royal Charity Polo event in the United Kingdom in 2014. With the support of a portfolio of luxury partners, history was made in Vietnam as the Royal Pahang Team lifted the trophy, narrowly beating Viet Thai International Thai Polo by 10-9 to win the game.

The event was delighted to welcome honoured guests, Her Majesty the Queen's eldest grandson, Peter Phillips, to Vietnam, to present the Charity Polo Cup prize giving ceremony.

The inaugural match was played between the Long Thành Golf Royal Pahang Polo Team which featured players from Malaysia, including HH Prince Amir Nasser Ibrahim, and the Viet Thai International Thai Polo with Thai Polo Club owner, Harald Link. The polo ground was built on a six-hectare site located within the grounds of the golf club which occupies about 1,000 hectares of land outside of Ho Chi Minh City.

With a series of luxury experiences on offer, such as Mercedes-Benz's Singapore Formula 1 Grand Prix package, a week on a super yacht, Amanoi Resort and Six Senses holidays and bespoke limited edition jewellery pieces from Celin Italy and Hoang Gia Pearl, the room raised a staggering pledged amount of \$189,000 for the charities – Stop Ivory, Save Vietnam's Wildlife and well known Vietnamese charity, The Business Association of Vietnam Veterans.

Image: Thomas Alexander Photography



BMW INTERNATIONAL POLO SERIES

The BMW International Polo Series is a unique event offering excellent client entertainment, networking opportunities and is a wonderful family experience.

South Africa will face its long standing rival New Zealand in the 2015 BMW International Polo Series. The first test will take place on the 13th September at the Shongweni Club in Durban, followed by the second test on 20th September at the Waterfall Polo Club in Johannesburg. South Africa managed to beat USA in the 2014 series but the hosts will have everything to play for this year as New Zealand has been victorious in four of the five previous tours. New Zealand will be sending a 23-goal team, captained by the well-known John Paul Clarkin (hdc 8). SA Polo Association's Bridget Macduff says they expect a good turnout. "We look forward to the same sellout crowds and spectators that we've had for the past few years. At 23 goals, the standard of polo should be as good as last year's exciting series especially given the quality of the world-class Johannesburg venue." This year marks one of the longest running consecutive sports sponsorships in South Africa, with the partnership between BMW South Africa and the SA Polo Association entering its 26th year. Macduff says, "We are grateful for BMW's long-standing support of South African Polo. Through the BMW sponsorship, the SA Polo Association is able to invite leading polo nations to play in South Africa and test our local high-goal players and National side in the International arena."

Images: Shane Doyle, Cable Beach Polo Pty Ltd.



CABLE BEACH POLO

POLO+10 has produced the tournament magazine for the Cable Beach Polo 2015.

On 30 and 31 May 2015, the beach of Broome was transformed into a beach polo arena as the venue of the Pinctada Cable Beach Polo once again. Every year the two-day polo spectacle attracts spectators from all over the world with thrilling polo, lifestyle & fashion, a dinner under the stars and a fantastic location. Once Broome was known as the "pearl capital of the southern hemisphere", today the city on the Indian Ocean is especially a popular tourist destination. Without doubt, the Pinctada Cable Beach Polo organised by Marilynne Paspaley, owner of Pinctada Hotels & Resorts, is one of the highlights of the event calendar. For the first time POLO+10 brings out the tournament magazine for this top-class event.



POLO IN CHANTILLY

Numerous tournaments are once again planned for 2015 at Chantilly.

The Polo Club du Domaine de Chantilly, media partner of POLO+10, has once again planned numerous tournaments for 2015. There are 50 dates in the calendar for all levels of players from April to October. The highlight is the 15th edition of the Open de France, which will take place from 5-20 September 2015. The women's equivalent, the Open de France Féminin, will be held from 16-20 September 2015. The Polo Club du Domaine de Chantilly north of Paris was founded by Patrick Guerrand-Hermès in 1996 and is today one of Europe's biggest polo clubs. The complex comprises 220 hectares, of which 150 hectares is grazing land. In the high season the club welcomes 320 players and over 700 horses. www.poloclubchantilly.com



BRITISH POLO DAY GLOBAL SERIES

In 2015 the global tournament series British Polo Day visits 10 countries all over the world to celebrate the sport of polo.

Abu Dhabi (21 March), Dubai (27 March), Morocco (25 April), USA (30 May), Great Britain (20 June), China (13 September), Singapore (31 October), Sumba Island (3-10 November), Mexico (28 November), India (11-13 December) – in 2015 the British Polo Day once again boasts ten exciting venues all over the world. Founded in 2009 by Edward Olver and his friend Tom Hudson, the British Polo Day Global Series has grown to encapsulate 10 annual events, which build a bridge between cultures and bring people together in an international network. Ever since, British Polo Day has expanded year-on-year, growing in status and stature. Tom Hudson, Co-Founder of British Polo Day: "The British Polo Day vision has been to create a global platform that celebrates polo, history, heritage, culture and trade between Great Britain and our host nations, and that acts as a conduit for the exchange of opportunities, ideas and experiences." In 2015 the global tournament series will add a new location to its program: On 7 November 2015 the British Polo Day comes to Sumba Island in Indonesia. Since its inception, the British Polo Day enjoys great popularity worldwide and becomes bigger each year. For 2016 and 2017, new destinations, including Brazil, South Africa and South Korea, are being planned. www.britishpoloday.com



USPA CELEBRATES 125TH ANNIVERSARY

The United States Polo Association celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2015. Today, it comprises over 270 member clubs and has nearly 5,000 members.

Enthusiasm for polo in the USA started towards the end of the 19th century, when the fast-paced sport made its way over from the United Kingdom to North America. James Gordon Bennett is credited with bringing polo to the U.S. from England in 1876. Over dinner one March evening in 1890 a few sporting gentlemen, including H.L. Herbert, John Cowdin and Thomas Hitchcock, form The Polo Association, now the United States Polo Association (USPA). Seven clubs join the association, headquartered in New York, which has been the national association for polo in the USA and Canada ever since. Today the USPA's governs polo handicaps (nationally), tournament rules and safety regulations, to ensure the welfare and being of both horse and player. Funded by sales from the officially licensed consumer brand, U.S. Polo Assn., the USPA purposefully re-invests revenue by underwriting numerous development programs to expand and sustain the sport of polo. The USPA organises 40 national renowned tournaments every year, including the US Open at the International Polo Club in Palm Beach, Florida and the East Coast Open at Greenwich Polo Club in Greenwich, Connecticut. Today, the United States Polo Association comprises over 270 member clubs, has nearly 5,000 members and is still growing. www.uspolo.org



SANTA BARBARA

The 20-goal USPA Maserati Silver Cup will be top polo at Santa Barbara 2015.

In September the 20-goal Maserati Silver Cup will mark the season's peak at the Santa Barbara Polo & Racquet Club. During summer several 16-goal tournaments such as the Gulfstream Pacific Coast Open will attract California's polo community and numerous of the best polo players in the world. The Santa Barbara Polo Club, founded in 1911, is the third oldest U.S.P.A. Club still in existence in the United States. During the late 1920's and mid 30's the Santa Barbara Polo Club lived to see its golden era. Teams, horses, and players would arrive by train, unload from the stock cars, and walk through downtown Santa Barbara all the way to the Club. Today the Club is reputed worldwide for its excellent polo and elegant parties. www.sbpolo.com

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FRANCESCO MITRANO: ELEGANT RESET AT MONTE-CARLO

New location for Francesco Mitrano, Founder and President of the Monaco Polo Federation: From 2-5 July 2015 the Monte-Carlo Polo Cup will be held at Saint-Martin de Peille up in the beautiful hills of Monaco.

"To me it seemed obvious that Monaco was the perfect place to host the glamorous and prestigious sport of polo. We will be bringing a very high-end sport and supporters to the Principality which will benefit everyone". When Francesco Mitrano, Founder and President of the Monaco Polo Federation, started thinking about hosting Monaco's first polo tournament he probably did not expect it to be such a long way. After two years he now found a new location at Saint-Martin de Peille only a 20 minutes car drive away from Monte-Carlo. You walk through an iron gate into the huge British style park of this private domain in the hills of Monaco. "The place is perfect for polo. We are very glad to fix a contract for a few years. That gives us and the sponsors the possibility of proper and safe planning". Again the tournament stays under the high-patronage of Prince Albert of Monaco and will be inaugurated with the traditional parade of riders and horses in front of the Casino Square, in the heart of Monte-Carlo. This polo parade is the only event after

the worldwide known Formular-1 races, which is allowed to use the place of the Monaco Casino. Three days of sport and glamour with cocktail parties at the bay of Monaco, the traditional hat competition, a Haute Couture Designer's catwalk and exciting polo chukkas will follow. International polo players from all over the world are announced as well as celebrities who will attend the venue. Francesco Mitrano is glad to present the Monte-Carlo Polo Cup as one of the most exclusive venues of the year. "This is the third year for the Polo Cup and I am very much looking forward to exciting chukkas and elegant evening events. Being approved through the Federation of International Polo, the Monaco Polo Federation will establish an incomparable destination for the sport of polo here at Monaco". Highlight is the charity gala dinner for the benefit of the "Princess Charlene of Monaco Foundation" on Saturday.

www.montecarlopoloclub.mc

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP



CHILE

A breath-taking final at the World Championships: thanks to the golden goal scored by 16-year-old player Mario Silva (2), Chile is World Polo Champion 2015. Six teams fought for the trophy at Santiago de Chile. Second place went to the United States.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING
PHOTOGRAPHY FELIPE POGA





Chile hosted the FIP World Championships for the second time. Their win in 2015 is the second world title for the Chilean squad.

The final of the 10th FIP World Polo Championship saw Chile defeating the USA 12-11 and becoming World Polo Champion 2015. The beginning of the match was anything but easy for the host team. The USA started to lead the match from the very first chukka (1-0) and they continued to do so up until half-time, with a result of 5-2. In the fourth chukka, Chile managed to tie the match 6-6, but during the fifth chukka, the USA took the lead once again with a score of 9-7. In the sixth and last chukka, the USA maintained its position until the last 30 seconds of the match, when Chile tied the score 11-11. This led to an extra chukka to decide the final result. Luckily for the Chilean team, the 16-year-old player Mario Silva (2) led his team to victory thanks to his golden goal. This meant four matches and four wins at the fourth consecutive appearance for Chile in World Championships. It was a truly exciting final! It is the second time that Chile has won a World Polo Championship. In 2008, the team won its first World title in Mexico. It is also the second time Chile has hosted a FIP World Championship, since they hosted the 1992 edition.

Felipe Vercellino was named Most Valuable Player, Remy Miller from the US won the Fair Play Award.

Felipe Vercellino, the game's top scorer with 7 goals, received the MVP of the match award. Remy Miller, from the USA team, won the Fair Play Award of the game. The horse Pajarita, owned by Alejandro Vial and ridden by Felipe Viana, was awarded best horse of the final match. After the bestowing of bronze and silver medals,

Ignácio Vial, Chile's team captain, received the FIP World Championship trophy. The third position was taken by Brazil, who beat England 14-12 during their match for third place. Brazil has taken part in the World Championships seven times and was Champion in 1995, 2001 and 2004. The Brazilian team has enjoyed excellent results against England before, winning all previous six matches during past Championships. The 2015 season had already started brilliantly for the players from South America as they won the Snow Polo World Cup in China. Coach Ubajara Andrade was understandably aiming at winning the fourth trophy for his Brazil squad at the World Championships.

Argentina has won the title four times before – more often than any other country.

Given its past performance, England's result with only a two goal loss (14-12) is rather impressive. It was the ninth English appearance in a FIP World Championship, but the English team has never been able to take the trophy. William Emerson and Peter Webb playing a 5-goal handicap were the highest ranked players in the team. Argentina and Pakistan did not qualify for the podium but did play enthusiastically and bravely. Argentina has won the title four times before (1987, 1992, 1998 and 2011, more often than any other country) and has defeated all five recent participants in past tournaments. Pakistan's best result in Polo World Championships, which they have now attended for the third time, was a seventh place in 2004. Pakistan and India are the only representatives from Asia to take part in FIP World Championships.



The breath-taking final between Chile and the USA was completed by the golden goal of Mario Silva (2) from Chile.

	YEAR	LOCATION	WORLD CHAMPION
I	1987	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Argentina
II	11-20/8/1989	Berlin, Germany	United States
III	4-12/4/1992	Santiago de Chile, Chile	Argentina
IV	22-30/7/1995	St. Moritz, Switzerland	Brazil
V	21-30/8/1998	Santa Barbara, United States	Argentina
VI	28/3-8/4/2001	Melbourne, Australia	Brazil
VII	9-19/9/2004	Chantilly, France	Brazil
VIII	21/4-3/5/2008	Mexico-City, Mexico	Chile
IX	10-21/10/2011	San Luis, Argentina	Argentina
X	27/3-1/4/2015	Santiago de Chile, Chile	Chile

RANKING OF THE TEAMS

- | | |
|--|---|
| #1 Chile (14)
Mario Silva (2)
Ignacio Vial (4)
Felipe Vercellino (4)
José Miguel Pereira (4) | #4 England (14)
George Pearson (2)
Jack Hyde (2)
William Emerson (5)
Peter Webb (5) |
| #2 USA (14)
Remy de Celle Muller (2)
Jesse Bray (5)
Felipe Viana (4)
Patrick Uretz (3) | #5 Argentina (14)
Pablo Ávalos (2)
Marcos Panelo (4)
Bautista Bayugar (5)
Salvador Jauretche (3) |
| #3 Brazil (14)
Eduardo Parise (2)
Gustavo García (4)
Joao Novais (4)
Gabriel Villela Rosa (4) | #6 Pakistan (14)
Ahmed Ali Tiwana (4)
Bilal Haye (2)
Saquib Khakwani (4)
Rqaya Sami Ullah (4) |



ARGENTINE OPEN

Historic success: La Dolfina wins the Argentine Triple Crown for the second time in a row, a feat that only one other team has managed.

BY HALINA SCHMIDT PHOTOGRAPHY NACHO CORBALAN

Pablo Mac Donough (left) of winning team La Dolfina fighting against Gonzalo Pieres of team Ellerstina in the final of the Argentine Open.



In the preliminary round of the Argentine Open, Ellerstina defeated La Aguada Las Monjitas by 16-12. In the picture: Ignatius Du Plessis (8) fighting against Eduardo Novillo Astrada (9).



Polo action at the Argentine Open, the most important polo tournament in the world: 1 Alegria (pink shirts) defeated La Aguada Las Monjitas by a narrow margin, 12-11 2 10-goaler Miguel Novillo Astrada, team La Aguada (white shirts), being chased by Valerio Zubiaurre (7), team Miramar 3 Polito Pieres (9) played for team Alegria at the Argentine Open 4 Team La Aguada, wearing yellow shirts, fought against Magual on the first day of the 2014 Argentine Open 5 In the final of the Argentine Open team Ellerstina was defeated by La Dolfina by 14-12.



Award ceremony at the 2014 Argentine Open with winning team La Dolfina.

Last December, the 121st HSBC Argentine Open, the most important polo tournament in the world, marked the high point of a successful season for La Dolfina. In the final, the team, which comprises the four 10-goalers Adolfo Cambiaso, Pablo Mac Donough, Juan Martín Nero and David Stirling, met their longstanding rivals Ellerstina, made up by Facundo Pieres (10), Gonzalo Pieres (10), Nicolás Pieres (9) and Ignatius Du Plessis (8). In the hotly contested match that took place in the famous “Cathedral of Polo” in Palermo, both teams competed fiercely for victory and both sides were guilty of fouls. The spectators cheered them on and followed each goal with excitement. At the end of the last chukka, La Dolfina was ahead of Ellerstina by two goals and left the pitch as the glorious winner with a final result of 14-12.

The team had already won the Tortugas Open and Hurlingham Open and with the victory at the Argentine Open, La Dolfina once again secured the Argentine Triple Crown. The team has written history in this regard: after Coronel Suárez, La Dolfina is only the second team to have managed to win the Triple Crown twice in a row. The legendary team under Juan Carlos Harriott achieved this same feat with their victories in 1974 and 1975.

This was, however, just the highlight in a long line of successes for the team under polo superstar Cambiaso. For all those who have followed the tournaments in the Argentine Triple Crown avidly over the past few years, the La Dolfina victory hardly came as a surprise. The team seems to be unbeatable at the moment and can now look back on an impressive run of 22 successes in a row in the Triple Crown tournaments, not to mention the fact that it remained unbeaten in all its matches in the Triple Crown 2013 and 2014.

At the Argentine Open, the third leg of the Triple Crown and annual highlight of the Argentinian polo season, La Dolfina has enjoyed a similar success story: out of the 15 times it has taken part in the tournament, the team has achieved a place in the final 14 times. The team currently has eight wins under its belt. For Adolfo Cambiaso, currently the best polo player in the world and at the top of the World Polo Tour rankings, this was his eleventh victory at the Argentine Open in Palermo. In addition to his eight victories with La Dolfina (2002, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2014), he also achieved the title with Ellerstina in 1994,



The victory of La Dolfina in the final of the Argentine Open was celebrated enthusiastically.

1997 and 1998. He is thus currently sixth on the winners' list in the Argentine Open history books – ahead of him are Juan Carlos Harriott (20 victories), Horacio Antonio Heguy (19 wins), Alberto Pedro Heguy (17 wins), Alfredo Harriott (13 wins) and Enrique Alberdi (12 wins).

Looking now to the future, there are changes afoot for the Triple Crown this year. The most important news in terms of the teams is Polito Pieres, who started playing with the highest possible handicap of 10 goals from this year, switching from team Alegría to team Ellerstina. In 2015, he will start all three tournaments in the Triple Crown alongside his cousins Facundo, Gonzalo and Nicolás Pieres, replacing their brother-in-law Mariano Aguerre. The latter injured his shoulder in the Argentine Open last year and was replaced by

Ignatius Du Plessis for the remainder of the tournament. Polito Pieres' place in team Alegría will be occupied by Magoo Laprida, who has played for La Aguada Las Monjitas for the past three years.

There are always discussions as to how the Triple Crown can be improved, including in terms of the number of teams, the location of the qualifying matches and the tournament system. Spreading matches across several playing days has also been discussed: at the start of April, Francisco Dornic, President of the Argentine Polo Association, raised the possibility of the 2 pm match being eliminated from this year's Argentine Open. This is an issue that players and critics have campaigned in favour of for a long time. The preliminary matches at the Argentine Open are usually played across three weekends, always on Saturdays and Sundays at 2 pm and 4.30

pm. The final takes place on the Sunday of the fourth weekend. If the new rules are implemented, this would mean that the three preliminary weekends would be four days long, with one match played on each day from Thursday to Sunday. The Argentine Open matches would thus be spread over a greater number of match days and the disadvantage for some teams of playing at 2 pm in hot November temperatures would be eliminated.

However, one thing is clear: when the “Cathedral del Polo” in Palermo is once again the location for the final of the Argentine Open at the beginning of December, polo aficionados across the world will watch with bated breath to see which teams meet each other in the most important match of the year and whether there will be another winner of the Triple Crown. ●

FINAL OF THE 2014 ARGENTINE OPEN

Final result:
La Dolfina 14-12 Ellerstina

Progression:
#1 Chukka: 2-2
#2 Chukka: 4-4
#3 Chukka: 7-5
#4 Chukka: 9-6
#5 Chukka: 11-8
#6 Chukka: 12-9
#7 Chukka: 14-11
#8 Chukka: 14-12

Goal Scorers La Dolfina:
Adolfo Cambiaso (9 goals)
David Stirling (4 goals)
Juan Martín Nero (1 goal)

Goal Scorers Ellerstina:
Facundo Pieres (10 goals)
Gonzalo Pieres (1 goal)
Nicolás Pieres (1 goal)

Top Scorer:
Facundo Pieres, 10 goals

Most Valuable Player:
David Stirling

Fouls:
La Dolfina: 19
Ellerstina: 29

Throw-Ins won:
La Dolfina: 19
Ellerstina: 15

Effectivity in penalty shots:
La Dolfina: 7/12
Ellerstina: 9/9

Image: beatrice prève - fotolia.com



U.S. OPEN

Another edition of the U.S. Open Polo Championship has come to an end and Adolfo Cambiasso (10), together with his team Valiente, took the trophy home. POLO+10 takes a look at the history of this prestigious tournament.

BY MARÍA PAULA FERNANDEZ
PHOTOGRAPHY LILA PHOTO,
MUSEUM OF POLO

Image: LILA PHOTO



Divot stomp at the 2015 edition of the U.S. Open.

Images (2): LILA PHOTO



1 Facundo Pieres defends the ball against Alejo Taranco in the 2015 U.S. Open finals 2 Team Orchard Hill faced team Valiente in the final game of the 2015 edition at the International Polo Club Palm Beach in Wellington, Florida.



Images (6): LILA PHOTO



3 John Wash, Brenda DuPont, Ken Adams and George DuPont 4 Richard Gaff and Danni Melita 5 Facundo Pieres and his Best Playing Pony Frenchita 6 Adolfo Cambiaso celebrates the win 7 The winners of the 2015 edition, team Valiente: Adolfo Cambiaso, Guillermo Terrera, Alejo Taranco and Bob Jornayvaz.

20 YEAR HISTORY OF THE OPEN IN FLORIDA

- 2015 Valiente
- 2014 Alegria
- 2013 Zacara
- 2012 Zacara
- 2011 Lechuza Caracas
- 2010 Crab Orchard
- 2009 Audi
- 2008 Crab Orchard
- 2007 Crab Orchard
- 2006 Las Monjitas
- 2005 White Birch
- 2004 Isla Carroll
- 2003 C Spear
- 2002 Coca-Cola
- 2001 Outback
- 2000 Outback
- 1999 Outback
- 1998 Escue
- 1997 Isla Carroll
- 1996 Outback

The scoreboard showing 11-9 on Sunday, 19 March 2015 in Wellington, Florida, marked the victory of Valiente over Orchard Hill in the U.S. Open. After two consecutive defeats in the 2013 and 2014 editions, patron Bob Jornayvaz, who had been waging an outstanding campaign with 10-goaler Adolfo Cambiaso, raised the coveted trophy surrounded by cheering polo aficionados.

The U.S. Open Polo Championship was played for the first time in 1904 at Van Cortlandt Park, located in the Bronx, New York City. Back then, New York was the epicentre of the sport in the United States of America, and the game was extremely popular, attracting a big crowd. This first Open featured just two teams, the Wanderers and the Freebooters, who played a single match: in that edition, the Wanderers quartet formed by Randolph Snowden, John

Cowdin, and Laurence and J.M. Waterbury were the first ones to win. After 1904, the Open took a hiatus until 1910, when the second edition took place at Narragansett Pier, also in New York. Meadow Brook Polo Club was the third location that saw the tournament continue, and after several pauses, including one during the war years, the Open has continued without interruption since 1946. This prestigious competition has experienced many high-lights through the years and has also been played in various locations. The Gracida family holds the record of 36 Opens won by family members, and one of them, Guillermo "Memo" Gracida Jr., is the absolute record-breaker of the championship, with 16 wins throughout his outstanding career. His late brother Carlos Gracida comes in second with 9 wins, and Julio Gracida gave the family its 36th U.S. Open trophy in 2005.

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Images (7): MUSEUM OF POLO



8 Gulfstream vs. Aknusti at the U.S. Open in 1941 9 Prize-giving ceremony at the 1962 edition 10 1972 U.S. Open: Del Carroll, Tommy Wayman, Joe Barry and Robert Uihlein 11 Crowd watches the presentation of the tournament in 1937 12 1999: Team Outback with Tim Gannon, Jeff Blake, Adolfo Cambiaso and Lolo Castagnola 13 Billy Post at the 1935 edition of the tournament 14 1937 U.S. Open: Winston Guest, Cecil Smith and Stewart Iglehart go after the ball.

In 2002, the businessman and patron of the Isla Carroll Polo team John B. Goodman started the construction of the International Polo Club Palm Beach (IPC), adding three more fields to the previous two tournament-quality fields he already had, as well as a stadium, a pool, two tennis courts, a bar and restaurant. Thus the prestigious club was born and later continued to expand and become one of the best polo clubs in the world. The U.S. Open had been held in South Florida since 1996, but in 2004 it moved to the IPC, where it still takes place now.

Due to the interruptions that the tournament suffered in the first half of the 1900s, this is the 99th edition of the U.S. Open. In this year's edition of the U.S. Open, eight teams including the best polo players from around the globe once again gathered in the Wellington polo mecca to write a new chapter of polo history. The tournament is the last part of the American Triple Crown, which also includes the C.V. Whitney Cup, won this year by Valiente's quintessential rival Orchard Hill (Steve Van Andel, Ezequiel Martínez Ferrario, Polito Pieres and Facundo Pieres), and

the Piaget Gold Cup USPA, where Audi, formed by Fred Mannix, Rodrigo Ribeiro de Andrade, Marc Ganzi and Gonzalo Pieres Jr., was the winning team.

Team Valiente with Adolfo Cambiaso, Bob Jornayvaz, Guille Terrera and Alejo Taranco showed outstanding efforts and the strongest desire to win, and not even the injuries of Jornayvaz and Cambiaso could keep them from achieving this ultimate goal. This U.S. Open was the 7th one for Adolfo Cambiaso, who previously won the American Triple Crown in 2010 with his team Crab Orchard. At 40 years old, which he turned just a few days before his win, the Argentine polo extraordinaire proved his winning qualities all over again in the star-spangled lands of Wellington.

Polo aficionados are now counting the days to the 2016 edition of the nation's most respected polo tournament, and one thing is certain already: the polo battle will be full of renewed adrenaline.

HAT TRICK FOR THAI POLO

The sixth edition of the BMW-B.Grimm Thai Polo Open was marked by a great success for the hosts: the Thai Polo & Equestrian Club team accomplished a hat trick by winning the tournament for the third time in a row.

BY HALINA SCHMIDT PHOTOGRAPHY DOMINIC JAMES



1 Four teams fought for victory of the 6th BMW-B.Grimm Thai Polo Open 2 Award ceremony with all participating teams 3 The inaugural South-east Asian Polo Awards were held following the final match 4 Many spectators came to see the polo matches of the Thai Open.

In January, one of the most sought-after events in the region, the 6th BMW-B.Grimm Thai Polo Open, was once again held at the Thai Polo & Equestrian Club in Pattaya. Over the course of two weeks, four teams with handicaps of 10 to 12 goals competed against each other. Thai Polo, consisting of Harald Link (0), Caroline Link (0), Pedro Fernandez Llorente (5) and Agustin Garcia Grossi (7), went through the tournament undefeated and was also successful in the final match. The foursome won against Windson Rao (0), Tommy Martinez (3), Damian Marco (2) and Pablo Jauretche (7) of team Fast Fish by 8-5.

This meant a hat trick for the host team: for the third time in a row, the Thai Polo & Equestrian Club team became the winner of the tournament. Princess Sirivannavari Nariratana presented the prizes to the various competitors, and also gave a bouquet of flowers to winning patron Harald Link in honour of his 60th birthday. As in past years, the event again raised funds for the Chitralada Vocational School. HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's charity helps disadvantaged people to get access to education.

In addition to the exciting polo matches, watched by the enthusiastic audience with great interest, the event organisers had arranged an extensive social programme for guests on Saturday. The entertaining day concluded with a fireworks display and then a cocktail

party. Prior to the party getting underway, the inaugural South-east Asian Polo Awards took place, with the winners of the three competitions held during 2014 by the Royal Malaysian Polo Association (RMPA) being honoured. The International Award was won by Thai Polo, the National League Award went to the Windhorse team, while the Merdeka League Award was bestowed on the La Sarita team.

About Thai Polo & Equestrian Club

The Thai Polo & Equestrian Club is located 150 kilometres from the capital, Bangkok, in the beach resort of Pattaya. It opened in 2005 under the direction of Harald Link, CEO of B.Grimm Group, and Ms Nunthinee Tanner, co-owner of the Thai Polo & Equestrian Club, and has since turned Thailand into an international centre for polo and equestrian sports in East Asia. With wooded hills as a backdrop and its beautifully landscaped setting covering 800 acres, the club has evolved to include a full range of world-class equestrian sporting facilities, including three full-sized polo fields, two practice fields, an eventing and endurance course, cross-country, dressage and show jumping stabling for 250 ponies, numerous paddocks and the renowned Rege Ludwig International Polo School (see page 104).

www.thai-polo-club.com



ST. MORITZ

Chris Hyde was announced the first Arena 10-goaler ever from Great Britain in April. With team Cartier he won the Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz in January for the third time in a row.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY SWISS IMAGES



1 The tent village 2 The polo ponies are kept warm after the match 3 Audience 4 Dr. Piero Dillier, Chairman of Evviva Polo St. Moritz Ltd 5 Player Jamie Morrisen at the audience tribune 6 Antonio d'Aurelio, Christian Dunkelberg, Christina Holte and Irina Gaudenzi 7 Lando Simonetti, founder of La Martina, with his wife and Enrico Roselli (La Martina Europe) 8 In red Chris Hyde, winner and best player of the tournament 9 Fabio Francesco Filograsso and Rudolf Berglehner, FIPA Group 10 John Wright, Chairman of the Hurlingham Polo Association and his wife 11 Dressed up for St. Moritz 12 Polo spectator 13 Matteo Beffa (Legacy Polo) and Giacomo Benelli (FIPA Group) 14 Good entertainment by Huw Lewis 15 Green shirt: Pepe Riglos playing with the Swiss guys for Trois Pommes 16 Cédric Schveri, Pepe Riglos and Thomas Wolfensberger at the team presentation 17 Fashion Show at Badrutt's Palace 18 Piki Diaz Alberdi with Louis Garrahan (Polo International) and his wife María Lia 19 Famous Adrian Laplacette and Thomas Rinderknecht 20 Team presentation by Reto Gaudenzi.

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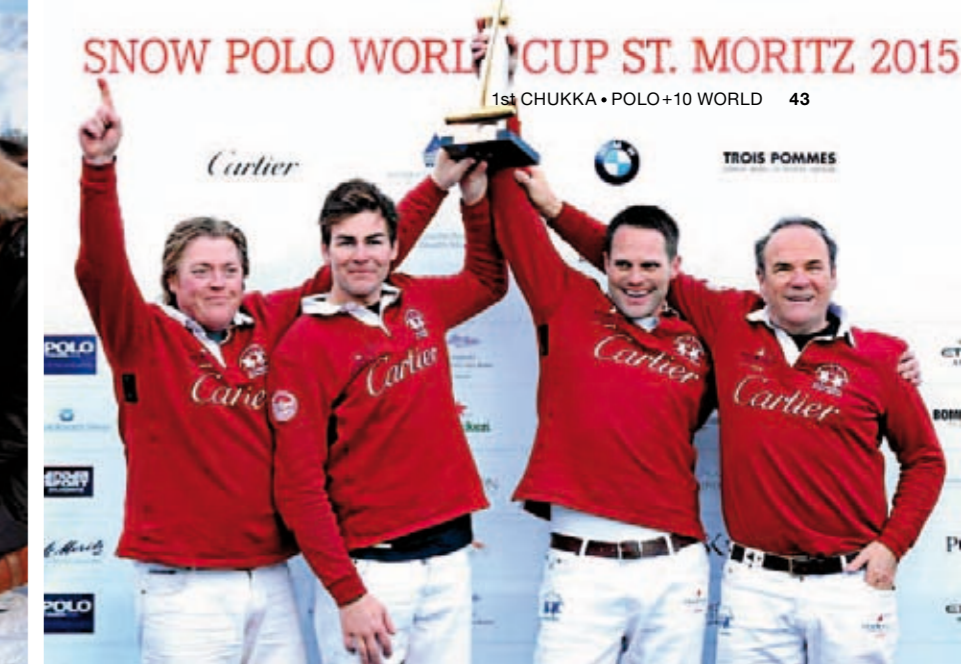
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The tournament was a great success with the public – more than 12,000 spectators attended the games. Bottom right: The inventor of Polo on Snow is back: Reto Gaudenzi promises to set up the venue again in 2016.

Thirty years ago, in January of 1985, the world's first-ever polo tournament on snow took place on "Top of the World" in St. Moritz. Now the inventor of the fast sport on snow, the local Reto Gaudenzi, returned to his roots. He took over the management of the event backed by his team from Evviva Polo St. Moritz Ltd. "We worked hard and were faced with difficult weather conditions during the preparations. Finally, we are proud to have made it a perfect success; it was simply sensational. That was St. Moritz at its best, and we will be back next year." With a sensational 10-2.5 win over team BMW, team Cartier won the 31st Snow Polo World Cup 2015 in St. Moritz. Winning the tournament for the third time in a row, team Cartier completed the hatrick. The 6-goaler Chris Hyde from England scored his team to victory; there was no way past him. Hyde played with a 9-goal arena handicap in England, making him one of the world's best arena players. In April he was announced the first arena 10-goaler from Great Britain. An overwhelming victory for team Cartier. "Reto Gaudenzi won the St. Moritz tournament five times – we want to repeat that," said Guillaume Alix, Managing Director of Cartier Switzerland. After the game, polo pro Chris Hyde, playing for the winning team and scoring five of the final's ten goals, praised the high level of the tournament.

"Yesterday's game (against Badrutts Palace) was one of the best snow polo games I ever played in or anyone has ever seen, I think," said the scorer of the three-times winning team. "The conditions were superb – today and yesterday, that's the best I've ever played on."

For many years, after Gaudenzi had started to address other tasks, St. Moritz Polo AG was responsible for organising the tournament, the last time in 2014. Then the organisers threw in the towel and the future of the tournament was uncertain. Reto Gaudenzi, who today organises polo tournaments all over the world, now steps in and returns to St. Moritz. In association with his friends and Swiss polo personalities Dr. Piero Dillier, Andy Küchel, Werner Meier and Thomas Rinderknecht, he founded the Evviva Polo St. Moritz AG in Spring 2014 to guarantee the continuance of the snow classic in St. Moritz. Reto Gaudenzi: "The uncertainty about the future of this sporting and social highlight in St. Moritz kept on bothering us. Friends of polo from all over the world encouraged us to once again assume the responsibility for the tournament in St. Moritz and to lead it to a secure future."

www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com



1 The Organising Committee of the Ascona Polo Cup: Uwe Zimmermann and his beautiful wife Krizstina, Nicole Pandiscia, Margret and Jürgen Sauer. These people are highly talented in creating breath-taking events and decorations and giving friends from all over the world a warm welcome 2 Arena polo in Ascona is fast and exciting because of the solid soil and well-maintained pitch 3 Russian girls 2014 4 One of the most beautiful VIP areas in European polo can be found at the Polo Cup Ascona.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS

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

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY KRISZTINA ZIMMERMANN



Enchanting Ascona by night. The traditional polo parade through the village of Ascona takes place on Saturday July 18th.

The Hublot Polo Cup Ascona is looking forward to its next edition from 16-19 July 2015. Review 2014: in addition to the four teams with twelve players and their 60 horses, around 3,000 spectators came to watch the exciting matches played in high temperatures. The huge interest of the media, the organisation and the top-notch catering of "Le Gourmet" made the event an unforgettable experience for both players and guests alike. The winning team of the 2014 Hublot Polo Cup Ascona was team Engel & Völkers, consisting of Piero Dillier (0), Uwe Zimmermann (1) and Lucas Labat (6). Cédric Schweri (0), Thomas Wolfensberger (1) and Martin Riglos (4) of team Podium Swiss & Loris Kessel Lugano were placed second.

Over the past six years, enchanting Ascona has 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: 2014 it was Russia's turn. In 2015 Ascona will welcome Brazil. The venue will start with a glamorous welcome party at the Hotel Eden Rock on the shores of Lago Maggiore. The chancellor of Ticino and first consul of the Brazilian Embassy in Switzerland will attend the official opening on 17 July 2015. An elegant "White Players Party" will follow in the evening on the island of Brissago. All guests will be taken to the island by boat. Next morning the traditional parade with all polo players and Bentleys through the village of Ascona will draw people's attention towards the polo games which start at 7.30 pm. After the polo by night chukkas, the polo community will enjoy an all-night-long colourful Brazilian party. Following a leisurely family brunch on Sunday, the finals and the charity auction for the benefit of the Erika Medweth Foundation in Brazil will complete the Hublot Polo Cup Ascona 2015.

TEAMS 2015

Styger / Podium	
Marcus Schaldach (BR), TC	(1)
Bruce Colley (USA)	(1)
Guilherme Lins (BR)	(5)
Giardino / Fipa	
Michael Husted (DK), TC	(0)
Matteo Beffa (CH)	(-1)
Ross Ainsley (AUS)	(5)
Engel & Völkers / Bentley	
Cédric Schweri (CH), TC	(0)
Carlos Spruengli (CH)	(1)
Martin Riglos (ARG)	(4)
Ecovis / MyTowel	
Piero Dillier (CH)	(0)
Philipp Zimmermann (H/GER)	(0)
& Uwe Zimmermann (H/GER), TC	(1)
Lucas Labat (ARG)	(6)

Official Supplier: La Martina

www.poloclubascona.ch

Image: María Paula Fernández

NATURE POLO AND SO MUCH MORE

San Pancho, in the Mexican state of Nayarit, is a rural community best known for its touristic appeal. This town on the Riviera Nayarita is surrounded by tropical forests rich in biodiversity. This is where La Patrona Polo and Equestrian Club was born, based around the idea of promoting and developing polo in this special region, helping to position Mexico as an international polo destination.

BY MARÍA PAULA FERNÁNDEZ PHOTOGRAPHY TIERRA TROPICAL





1 The Jaguar field, a world-class polo pitch 2 The "Higuera", a centennial tree that the developers of La Patrona decided to preserve, and adjusted the Jaguar field in order to respect it 3 Gabrielle Weber and Nic Roldan enjoy a polo exhibition at the indoor arena.

La Patrona Polo & Equestrian Club will open its doors at the end of 2015, allowing visitors to experience polo in a new way, in perfect harmony with nature and the energy of the tropics. The polo club is part of Tierra Tropical, a development that aims to achieve perfect harmony between its equestrian and seaside tourism activities and projects aimed at environmental conservation and local progress. Its design and development have been undertaken by a multi-disciplinary Mexican group with a comprehensive vision and a global approach: the project's infrastructure has been designed with the strictest environmental safeguards and care. The club's staff has been recruited with an emphasis on hiring locals, who have committed to the training required by their trades: from dressage riders to cooks and polo players, they all understand their job as a path towards human development. La Patrona will also include a Cultural and Culinary Center that will connect its activities with the larger San Pancho community, strengthening its commitment to the cultural development of the region. This marriage between culture and nature is the core inspiration for the project.

La Patrona will offer a wide range of equestrian disciplines, such as vaulting, show jumping, combined driving and dressage. There will also be facilities for equine therapy and a state-of-the-art equine spa and horse infirmary with an operating room. The club's

exceptional stables are designed to optimize comfort for the horses and grooms and have the capacity to house 120 horses. The polo and equestrian club continues to evolve, with facilities and amenities being optimized and project goals consolidated.

Surrounded by a jungle landscape, palm groves and orchards, this club amazes visitors with its incredibly designed facilities. Its structures have been built in harmony with the topography of the land – there are no clashes between them and the facilities seem to rise naturally out of the forest. There is no one architectural style, but the design is based on landscape studies conducted during the first phase of the project. All of the wood used in construction at the site has been purchased from certified sustainable logging operations and the materials are mostly locally sourced, in line with the project's goals of utilizing local resources and manpower. The buildings collect and reuse rainwater and energy use has also been optimized.

In terms of polo, the club has been planned as a top-notch international destination and has its own horses. There are currently two polo fields: an indoor arena, expected to be the best in the Americas upon completion, and the club's centerpiece, the Jaguar Field, which was designed incorporating advice from Alejandro



4 The hosts and their star guests after the match 5 Martin Tassara and Brandon Phillips in action 6 The state-of-the-art stables for 120 horses 7 Nic Roldan and Ivan Echeverria.

Battro. An additional polo field will be added in the future. There are also plans to open a polo academy and host tournaments for all of the equestrian activities performed at the club. The directors have an open-minded attitude towards the club's operations: they believe that everyone can play polo, regardless of their level, age, sex, or background. La Patrona has a competitive component but it is above all a space for training and recreation, allowing both beginners and professionals to get the most out of their polo experience and continue to grow as players.

In the last week of April, polo journalists were invited to visit La Patrona to observe the progress of the project, appreciate the natural landscape and see the quality of its facilities for themselves. Two exhibition matches were played, one in the indoor arena and another on the Jaguar Field. The club invited polo stars Nic Roldan, Brandon Phillips, Chris Kampsen, Martín Tassara and Javier Herrera to play with San Pancho locals Gabrielle Webber, Iván Echeverría, Tomás Elliot and Sebastian Dawnay over the course of two days filled with excellent polo, amazing food, cultural activities and the warmest Mexican hospitality that one could wish for. "There is something incredibly special about this place," was one of the opinions heard between chukkas. "The field is amazing, not only because of its quality and the way it drains, but the whole

ethos of the project with its natural and cultural preservation, the premises, the friendly atmosphere and the amazing architecture are just perfect. Although we travel a lot in polo, I have never seen something like this before, we are all amazed and extremely pleased."

As the invitees could see for themselves, a trip to La Patrona is an opportunity to open your mind to a unique way of life in which polo does not imply any social status and the sport itself can even be a distraction from the main attraction: the locals, the natural and cultural richness and the magic of San Pancho.

The impression you get from a visit to La Patrona Polo & Equestrian Club is that it is not your usual polo destination and it is more than just a pretty place: the natural landscape merges beautifully with the club's built structures. None of the elements that comprise the site can be separated, forming a harmonious whole that allows you to rest your mind, have a laugh with your friends, enjoy the surroundings and feel at home. As soon as you step foot in the place, you are overcome with a feeling of inner peace as the freshest air enters your lungs. A truly unforgettable and extraordinary experience.



Image: Maria Paula Fernández



BARBADOS POLO BY NIGHT

The Apes Hill Polo Club in Barbados “Polo Under the Stars” event was a major success! This year Apes Hill Polo has gone bigger and better with its first inaugural event for night polo.

BY CAMILLA WILLIAMS PHOTOGRAPHY ANDRE WILLIAMS



1 VIP marquee 2 Ladies of the Barbados night polo 3 Prizegiving: Team Williams Equipment from left: Stuart Gill, Pablo Crespin, Stephen Williams and Linda Williams, Team Apes Hill Blue from left: Damian Luke, Adam Deane, Sir Charles Williams, Philip Atwell and Moët sponsor 4 Prizegiving: Team Digicel from left Jeff Evelyn, Oliver Taylor, Jamie Dickson, Oliver Williams, Moët Chandon Sponsors. Team Virgin Atlantic from left: Danny Atwell, Teddy Williams, Richard Gooding and Marc Atwell.

Around the world, night polo is played for many different purposes, mostly flood lit polo can be found in places where the heat of the day is just too much to bear. From the UAE across the continents to the USA and even south to Argentina, you can find polo players and clubs playing night polo. So why not do the same in Barbados? This year was a first for The Apes Hill Golf, Polo and Tennis community, adding something new to the mix and bringing a little extra to the island of Barbados. The Apes Hill Polo field is an international sized field which means 300 yards of flood lights to be considered which was an easy task for Apes Hill Club, the hard part was placing glitter stars on 86 of the horses in the stables.

With a completely sold out crowd that varied from VIP Marquee down to Party Lounge spending the night enjoying two polo matches, an international DJ from Ibiza and a special performance from BLAKE. The first match being a 2-goal followed by the main match being a 10-goal. International players included Jamie La Hardy, Oliver Taylor, Gaston Diverent and a few more.

Plans for next year’s event are already being organized turning Apes Hill Polo Club into the home of night polo. Next year will consist of a 4-team entry and will extend over a long weekend. Next years night polo tournament will be Barbados vs The World. Do you think your team can take us on? Sir Charles Williams who played for Apes Hill Blue, at his fine age of 82, is still a fierce competitor and still playing polo like a spry young man. He is the man

behind everything Apes Hill, his passion has always been horse’s and especially polo. He has spent his life building his dream and a hobby with quite a price tag on the side. His family follows in his foot steps with his sons, Stephen Williams, Teddy Williams, his daughter-in-law Linda Williams and grandson Oliver Williams who all have polo in their blood. The two players that have been gaining much attention these days, Mark Atwell (Virgin Atlantic) and Adam Deane (Apes Hill Blue), are making their way up the handicap ladder, especially Adam who has now gotten the nickname Pro. Oliver Taylor (Team Digicel), professional polo player has been coming to Barbados for longer than I can remember. He comes from another line of polo players and for the last few years, Oliver has made Apes Hill Club and Barbados his polo home for the winter season. When not playing polo, he is busy enjoying the rest of the island, surfing, and nightlife. One of the most important player’s on the field is Jamie Dickson (Team Digicel). Jamie learned to play polo in England at Cowdray Park and turned professional after leaving school at 18. He has played all over the world including, Chile, New Zealand, Ireland and more. Jamie was not a stranger to Barbados or Apes Hill polo and decided in 2003 to return to the island of Barbados where he took the role of Polo Manager for Apes Hill Club. Not only is he a manager, but he is responsible for over 14 polo players in the stables and all their needs.

GERMAN POLO TOUR

The German Polo Tour has been the top polo league in Germany since 2010, and with six locations across the country, it is also the first and top league in the country. In 2015, the German High Goal Championship at Gut Aspern will also form part of the tour.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY VALERIA CETRARO



Christopher Kirsch (3) on his mare Classica, riding next to Dominik Velazquez. Classica is the first horse from Kirsch's own Aspern Uno stud farm and is six years old today.



DATES OF THE 2015 GERMAN POLO TOUR

BUCHERER POLO CUP – MUNICH
29-31 May 2015, Munich/Holzkirchen

BERENBERG HIGH GOAL CUP – DÜSSELDORF
12-14 June 2015, Düsseldorf

BERENBERG POLO-DERBY – HAMBURG
26-28 June 2015, Hamburg

INTERNATIONAL GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIP – BUCHERER HIGH GOAL – GUT ASPERN – HAMBURG
3-12 July 2015, Hamburg/Gut Aspern

POLO TROPHY – FRANKFURT
4-6 September 2015, Frankfurt

BUCHERER POLO CUP – BERLIN
25-27 September 2015, Berlin/Hoppegarten

The Legendary: groom Ramon Vega on the stallion Halloween, owned by Christopher Kirsch. At the tender age of five, the stallion won the German High Goal Championship in 2012 at Berlin's Maifeld.



1 Heino and MJ Ferch have played in the Bucherer Polo Cup in Munich for many years 2 Jan-Erik Franck (world's best polo presenter) with Christopher Kirsch in front of the camera 3 Spectators in Bavarian costume 4 Jacinto Crotto (6) from team Sowiniec 5 Evening asado in authentic Argentinian style 6 Ian Buchanan on Truco from Ytacua stud farm 7 At the Land Rover and Engel & Völkers stand, guests had the opportunity to get their first own experiences in polo.

As the top polo series and league in German polo sport, the German Polo Tour (GPT), which was founded in 2010, is now highly regarded by players and sponsors alike. Founder Christopher Kirsch: "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." Polo players from twelve nations have applied for the German Polo Tour in 2015, a total of 38 teams with 152 players and 800 horses.

A particular highlight this year is the German Polo High Goal Championship as part of the German Polo Tour at Gut Aspern near Hamburg. "That will be an amazing event for which we have the perfect prerequisites at Gut Aspern. With two full-sized polo pitches and an infrastructure of stalls, parking areas and a spectator area, we are able to realise a high-quality tournament." Major

international companies such as the Swiss jeweller Bucherer, Germany's oldest private bank Berenberg and Land Rover support the league across the country as sponsors. "This continuous presence is something that the sponsors value because they can present themselves as long-term partners of the sport in a very exclusive environment and invite their guests."

This year, there will be a change of venue in the Rhine-Main area. Up until now, chukkas have been played on the pitch at Oberursel, but for the German Polo Tour 2015, they will be played on the Frankfurt Polo Club complex. "Because of this change in venue, we will increase the number of teams in Frankfurt from four to six. Almost all the players who played in the Frankfurt Gold Cup want to take part in our tournament." Some of the players in Frankfurt do not meet the handicap criteria of -1 yet and are not allowed to play the tournament. This lower handicap limit of -1 is also set at



8 Berenberg is Germany's oldest private bank and has been one of the biggest supporters of the sport in Germany since 2001. In the picture: Argentinian polo player Jacinto Crotto 9 Cédric Schweri, international polo player from Switzerland. This past year, Cédric opened his Rancho Tinto in Argentina close to the Riglos family farm. Both the Riglos and Schweri polo estates are located inside a compound that constitutes one of the oldest farms in the province, Estancia San Martín, Buenos Aires, just four hours away from the capital city 10 Polo spectators at the German Polo Tour 11 The Swiss jeweller Bucherer has also been a title and team sponsor of the German Polo Tour for many years.

Munich and Berlin / Hoppegarten. For the three other tournaments on the tour the handicap limit is 0. The German Polo Tour will surely be an incentive for some Frankfurt players to improve their handicaps over the coming year in order to be able to play there in 2016. The Bucherer Polo Cup in Hoppegarten, Berlin will still be included and takes place at the end of September.

The traditional racecourse with its unique atmosphere has managed to move from a lowly position to the top of the German racing world over the past few years. The complex is meticulously maintained the whole year round and there has long been an interest in polo here. Christopher Kirsch: "In 2016, we will also include Stuttgart in the German Polo Tour. A tournament may yet take place there this year. More and more sponsors, including international

companies, are approaching us and expressing their wishes in terms of locations. We are currently checking Bremen out as a possible match location. This would mean that the Tour is represented evenly across Germany."

"However, the prerequisite is that the conditions are suitable. The quality of the pitch and infrastructure must be adequate and meet the standards of the Tour. The sport needs flagship events where high-quality playing is showcased in a good atmosphere." With the constancy and continuity that the Tour brings to the sport, Kirsch wants to increase the loyalty of spectators, as well as offer sponsors a long-term presence.

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WELCOME TO BERLIN

From 21-30 August 2015 the Engel & Völkers Berlin Maifeld Polo Cup will host its international high goal tournament. In 2016 the Preußischer Polo & Country Club Berlin-Brandenburg e.V. and the German Polo Association present the European Polo Championships at the traditional Maifeld, where polo was played as olympic discipline. Berlin is looking forward to welcoming the international guests and is glad to add that highlight to its next year's calendar.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY SEVENDAYS POLOEVENT





Image: Vicky Fenner

1



Image: POLO+10

2



Image: Vicky Fenner

3



Image: POLO+10

4



Image: Vicky Fenner

5



Image: POLO+10

6



Image: POLO+10

7



Image: Vicky Fenner

8



Image: POLO+10

9

1 2016 the Maifeld at the Olympia Parc of Berlin will host the Polo European Championship. We are already looking forward to a gorgeous venue 2 Winner and new German champion of high goal polo is team Allianz Kundler with Adrian Laplacette (5), Naomi Schröder (0), Caesar Crasemann (TC, 1) and Santos Anca (6) 3 Max Bosch (3) played for team Eltec who achieved last place in the tournament 4 Carnival atmosphere on the Maifeld. Only in the final did things start to get heated 5 Team captain Uwe Schröder (0) completes the ice bucket challenge with the help of Christopher Maxwell Vogel after the award ceremony 6 Land Rover against title sponsor Engel & Völkers 7 Actor Heino Ferch (0) played with team Land Rover 8 Team Tom Tailor (behind in blue-pink shirt) lost 8-11 to Allianz Kundler in the final 9 Sylvia Gädeke, event organiser and President of the Preußischer Polo & Country Club Berlin-Brandenburg.

It was a colourful mix on the winner's podium of the German High Goal Championship 2014: the 16-year-old Caesar Crasemann (TC, 1), Naomi Schröder (0) and two Argentinians Santos Anca (6) and Adrian Laplacette (5) won the most important title in German polo with their team Allianz Kundler: the Engel & Völkers Maifeld Polo Cup 2014. This meant that for Caesar Crasemann, the dream of defending his title came true: "It's just overwhelming," said Caesar to POLO+10 shortly before the award ceremony. The young and talented player not only won the title, but was also declared Most Valuable Player. At his family's polo farm in Mallorca, Caesar and his brother Caspar are getting themselves and their horses fit for the 2015 season. Sylvia and her son Moritz Gädeke, together with seven days poloevent, have made the Berlin Maifeld Polo Cup one of the, if not the, best polo tournaments in

Germany since 2010. Excellent organisation with a love of detail inspires the spectators every year anew. It's no wonder then, that the Berlin Maifeld has been awarded the honour of being the venue for the European Polo Championships in 2016.

Moritz Gädeke: "We will be organising the European Championships 2016 in collaboration with the German Polo Association. The Federation of International Polo (FIP) gave us the go-ahead for the European Championships in December 2014! We're already looking forward to presenting the preliminary rounds at the Phöben Polo and Riding Centre at the end of August 2016 and the final match of the European Championships at the start of September 2016 at Berlin's Maifeld!" Berlin's Maifeld, one of the most impressive playing fields in the world, has a long polo-playing history.

High goal German polo championships have taken place on the 112,000 square metre complex since 2010. The Maifeld also served as the venue for the summer Olympic Games in Berlin with over 50,000 spectators on the stands back in 1936.

On 13 May 1931, the President of the International Olympic Committee, Count Baillet-Latour, announced that the summer Olympic Games would be held in Berlin in 1936. The Games were opened on 1 August 1936, and 52 countries took part. Polo was also an Olympic discipline – for the last time in the history of the sport. The setting for the competition was the Maifeld, which was also used for the dressage competition and gymnastics performances by Berlin schools. Polo was an Olympic sport five times between 1900 and 1936: 1900 and 1924 in Paris, 1908 in London, 1920 in

Antwerp and 1936 in Berlin. The polo matches in Berlin were a huge advertising success for the sport. However, the outbreak of the Second World War meant that polo in Germany and other European countries came to an abrupt end. The Maifeld remained unused as a polo location for a long time, but finally returned to this historic location in 1975: the cavalry squadron of the British infantry brigade stationed in Spandau organised a tournament there that was repeated every year. Since 2010, the Berlin Maifeld has been a fixed component of the German tournament calendar. Following the international high goal tournament, everyone is now hugely looking forward to the European Championships 2016.

600 YEARS GUARDS POLO CLUB

The Guards Polo Club is one of the most important and prestigious polo clubs in the world. In 2015 the long-standing club celebrates its Diamond Jubilee.

BY DIANA BUTLER PHOTOGRAPHY GUARDS POLO CLUB



The Queen presents Adolfo Cambiaso with the Queens Cup prize.

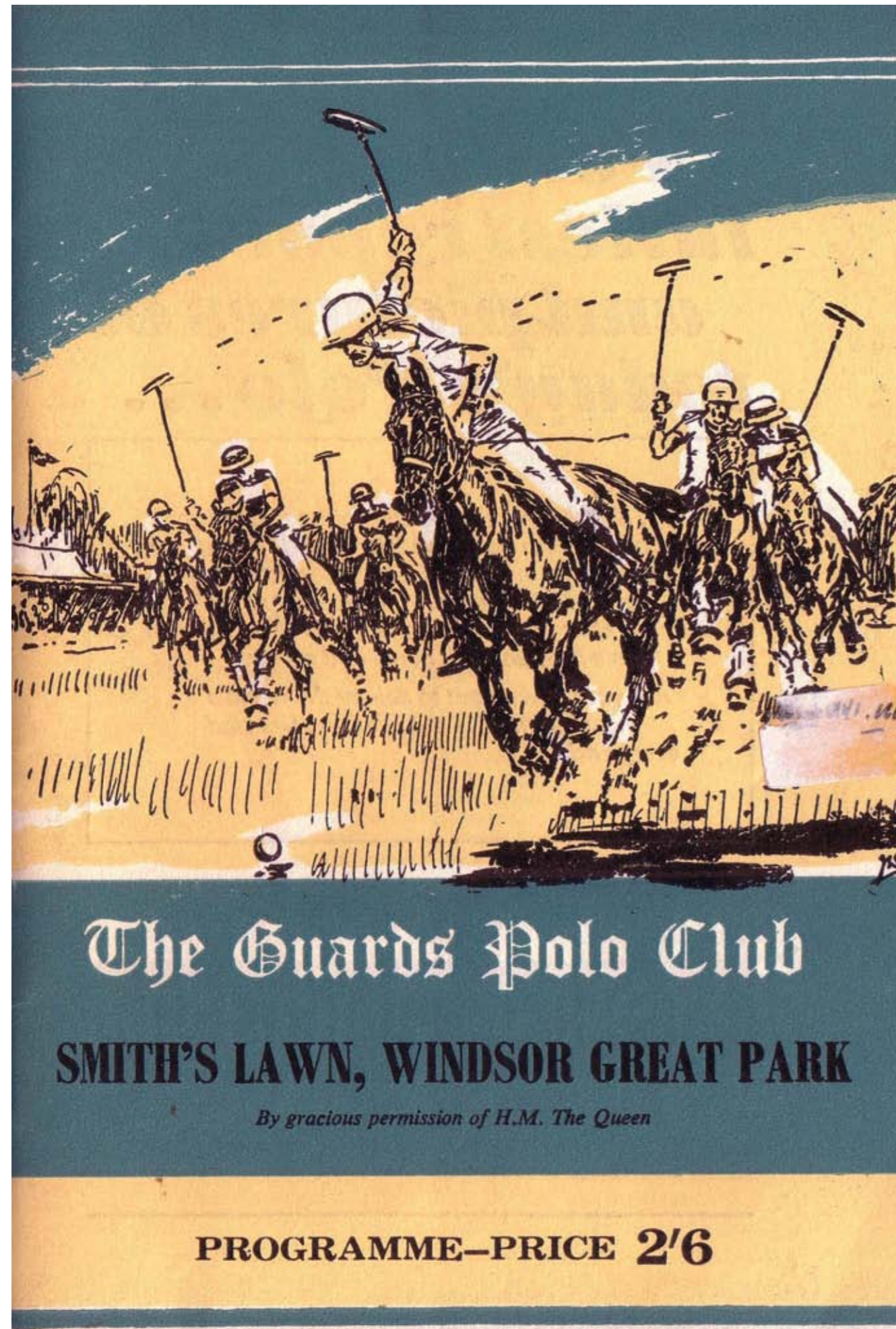


Cartier Queen's Cup action in front of the Royal Box.

Guards Polo Club is celebrating 60 years of superb sport this season. The Club was first formed because its President, HRH Prince Philip, wanted to play closer to home at Windsor Castle and HM The Queen suggested a flat area of grassland in the Royal Park at Windsor, known as Smith's Lawn. Some 14 teams entered the Club's first tournament, the Royal Windsor Cup, which is still played for today. It has since added an array of competitions at all levels. In fact, over the past six decades Guards Polo Club has grown into Europe's leading Club, with an enviable fixtures list and impressive membership, making it the go-to club for players and spectators.

The 1960s saw the start of the Queen's Cup. It may not have been played as 22-goal tournament in the early days, but was still fiercely competitive. The first winners were Sir Evelyn de Rothschild's Centaur's team and HRH Prince Philip reached the final twice in this decade, although victory eluded him. Big name teams who made regular appearances at Guards in this decade included Windsor Park, Pimms, Cowdray Park and Woolmers Park.

A decade later and the International Day moved to Guards Polo Club in 1972. Major Ronald Ferguson had been inspired by a trip to the States and wanted to bring a bit of that buzz back to Smith's Lawn. So bands, luxury hospitality, and two great games were included in the programme. HRH Prince Charles would play with his Prince of Wales Team in the Silver Jubilee Trophy match, while a host of international teams would play for the Coronation Cup. HRH Prince Charles was at the height of his polo success in the 1980s, including victory in the Queen's Cup in 1986 with Guy Wildenstein's Les Diables Bleu team. Cartier began its long association with Guards Polo Club in this era, first sponsoring the International Day in 1984.



Historical Queens Cup Programme Cover.

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS 2015

La Martina Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother Centenary Trophy (12-15 Goal)
1-17 May 2015

The Cartier Queen's Cup (20-22 Goal)
19 May - 14 June 2015

The Bentley Royal Windsor Cup (12-15 Goal)
27 May - 21 June 2015

60th anniversary twilight polo & dinner dance (4-8 Goal)
27 June 2015

Indian Empire Shield (15-18 Goal)
30 June - 18 July 2015

Coworth Park Challenge Trophy (12-15 Goal)
14-26 July 2015

International Polo Day (28 Goal)
25 July 2015

Land Rover Duke of Cornwall Trophy (12-16 Goal)
1-23 August 2015



The Royal Family in 1955.

The rise of the big patrons – Urs Schwarzenbach, Kerry Packer and Hubert Perrodo – were the talk of the 1990s – Black Bears, Ellerston and Labegorce won everything. The game was changing and pony power would make the difference between winning and losing.

The turn of the millennium saw Guards Polo Club take its brand far beyond Windsor with the creation of the Cartier International Dubai Polo Challenge at Ali Albwardy's Desert Palm Polo Club in Dubai. At Smith's Lawn HRH The Duke of Cambridge and HRH Prince Harry began to play with their school – Eton – and then progress to several charity matches and international days. These Princes have clearly inherited their grandfather's love of the game. La Martina opened its doors for the first time in 2009 and The Queen formally opened the elegant new Clubhouse and offices in this year too – a far cry from the Club's early days when the

hospitality area was an old army tent that also doubled up as a changing room! In 2012 Cartier transferred its sponsorship to the Cartier Queen's Cup after 27 years and brought an array of glamour and elegance to the high-goal. Guards also took over the management of the polo fields at Dorchester Collection's Coworth Park, so adding three more tournaments to its extensive fixtures. After five years of work, Guards Polo Club reopened its Flemish Farm complex in 2014, including the impressive Castle Ground with its amazing backdrop of Windsor Castle. It also expanded its overseas events with international polo in China and Brazil.

However, despite the huge expansion of the club and the fixtures list over the past six decades Guards Polo Club's ethos remains unaltered – to play the best pro/am polo possible from 2-22 goals. •

www.guardspoloclub.com



JOHN WRIGHT

England is one of the three most successful polo nations in the world. POLO+10 interview with John Wright, Chairman of the Hurlingham Polo Association.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY HPA



The Hurlingham Polo Association was founded in 1875.

“THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLO IS INEXTRICABLY LINKED TO THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE.”

JOHN WRIGHT Chairman HPA

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR COMMENT ON THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN CHILE 2015...

First of all one must congratulate the Chile Polo Association and the Federation of International Polo for organising a magnificent polo event which by any standard was hugely successful and very enjoyable. The San Cristóbal Equestrian and Polo Club is a beautiful setting and provided 2 splendid grounds and record-breaking enthusiastic and knowledgeable crowds.

Although called the World Championship, I think that we must remember that it is played at 14-goal level and does not reflect the true strength of some of the nations at the top end of our polo world. Nevertheless the standard of polo we were privileged to watch was very high and fiercely competitive with much young talent on display. With a couple of exceptions the matches were all very close – 4 of them, including the final, going to a sudden death extra chukka. That says much for the handicap system on the international stage.

It was an excellent experience for our own England team too and I'm glad they reached the semifinals. I'm sure that the best two teams were in the Final and what a joy for the home crowd to see the Chile team win a really tough and exciting match – a well-deserved result. We have not seen the last of the superb long-term and extensive organisation that produced a great performance from the young USA team. They almost did it. For the future I believe that the 4 zone selection process needs more emphasis and I do not think that the previous years winner should automatically qualify. As for Chile in 2015 – it gave us a true Festival of Polo in the best spirit of the FIP.

WHAT MAKES THE ENGLISH PONY CLUB POLO SO SUCCESSFUL?

The Pony Club is a nationwide organisation based on our traditional hunts that is. There are over 300 branches with about 30,000 young members. Some 60 of those branches include polo as an activity and that involves about 600 young players aged between 6 to 21 years old. We are very lucky to have such a set up and I doubt if it can be easily mirrored elsewhere.

A small volunteer committee organises a series of tournaments, kindly hosted by adult polo clubs, such as Cirencester and Tidworth, during July each year which culminates in a National Pony Club Polo Championship at Cowdray Park Polo Club in early August. Most of the matches are one chukka only and the under 12s mostly play on ordinary non-polo ponies – known as “fluffies”!

The HPA has recently set up its own Junior Polo competition alongside the Pony Club where the matches are played over 4 chukkas. To win the Gannon, the most senior level of our Pony Club / Junior Polo is the ambition of every young player. That victory can only be matched by winning the Cowdray Gold Cup in later life!

WHAT ARE THE MAIN POINTS THE HPA HAS ON ITS AGENDA CURRENTLY? WHICH PROJECTS ARE YOU WORKING ON IN 2015?

With the withdrawal of Audi, who have been excellent supporters of English Polo, we have quite a substantial gap to fill. So right at the top of the agenda now is the search for sponsors and also finding other ways to create revenue for the HPA in order to continue its support for polo at all levels. One way that we are exploring is through licensing our brand. On 1 May 2015 it will be the 140th anniversary of the Rules of Polo being issued by the Hurlingham Polo Committee. We have created a brand based around the history and heritage that we have in the sport, underpinned by the tag line “Authentically British, Absolutely International”. We are hoping that there will be commercial value in licensing this brand. For polo to continue to flourish throughout the world it is really important that the game can be played under one set of rules. I know that the AAP and USPA feel the same so we are working hard towards unifying the rules. The standard of umpiring, and the development of good umpires,



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WEAR YOUR PASSION

is also something that the HPA is working to improve; a well officiated game improves the enjoyment for both players and spectators. I would like to see this given a very high priority.

HOW DID POLO AND THE HPA DEVELOP IN ENGLAND THROUGHOUT THE LAST 20 YEARS?

The support of Audi for most of that time has been crucial to the development of English polo. We now have more international matches played in the UK and the England team have more opportunities to play overseas. Our development of young players has become more structured and we now send groups of youngsters to South Africa during our off-season for structured training with Buster Mackenzie. The Pony Club, and in particular Junior HPA tournaments, have grown during that time and we have been very successful in identifying talent and ensuring those players have the best opportunities to develop. The quality of the grounds has also improved hugely, enabling the players to become much more skilful with the ball and of course the horses are getting better and better. In theory this should lead to much faster polo but the need to win the game has led players to realise that possession of the ball is critical to success and thus the passing and running style of play has suffered as a result. However, the English high goal season has flourished and we are privileged to see the world's best players in action here every summer.

HOW MANY POLO PLAYERS DOES ENGLAND HAVE? 3,400.

HOW DO YOU MANAGE TO BRING POLO EVEN TO THE UNIVERSITIES AS AN ACADEMIC SPORT DISCIPLINE?

SUPA (Schools and Universities Polo Association) receive a grant from the HPA and they do a fantastic job in bringing polo to universities and schools. There are now schools such as Millfield and Langley where polo is part of the curriculum and SUPA run very successful tournaments in both the summer and winter for senior and junior schools.

ENGLAND IS ONE OF THE THREE BIG POLO NATIONS IN THE WORLD. HOW DO YOU EXPECT/ AND HOW DO YOU WANT THE ENGLISH POLO TO DEVELOP IN THE FUTURE?

The development of polo is inextricably linked to the economic climate, so I hope that if the economy is picking up that polo will follow suit. I would like to see more opportunities for English players at the upper levels in England and more opportunities for them overseas, at all handicap levels, during our off season. I also think that we must maintain the English polo calendar in as attractive a form as possible so that we continue to see the many international players who grace our shores each summer. ●

A SHORT OVERVIEW OF MY POLO CV

I first started my polo at the British Army's Dhekelia Saddle Club in Cyprus towards the end of June 1973 aged 32. The horses were quite small and had to participate in all the equestrian pursuits – showjumping, hunting, dressage and polo. Mine was called Bullet which naturally meant that it was the slowest and most reluctant; except when on exercise on the beach when it made a beeline for the sea and rolled over in the water with its unsuspecting rider still on board! However the Turkish Intervention in North Cyprus three weeks later put an end to that!

I took up the game again ten years later at the Tidworth Polo Club when I was commanding my regiment – the 16th/5th The Queens Royal Lancers (The Scarlet Lancers). I had the greatest fun playing low goal polo with military and civilian friends without a professional player in sight and managed to reach the dizzy heights of a zero goal handicap before my son Peter took over the ponies and thus started his own polo career-first of all with the Pony Club. That took care of the family's summer holidays for the next five years!

I was then ambushed by Buff Crisp in 1990 into becoming Chairman of national Pony Club Polo. We had a great team of people running things so that over the next 8 years Pony Club Polo went from strength to strength producing much of the talent that is at the top of English polo today.

Meanwhile when I left the army in 1995 I achieved my burning ambition to become Manager of the Tidworth Polo Club. Over the next 18 years we built it up from being a military club pretty much on its last legs with a real membership of about 45, into being the most successful low goal polo club in the country with the second largest playing membership of about 160.

It was also during the 1990s that I became involved with the FIP for the first time, mostly to do with the junior polo international exchanges inspired by the then President Marcos Uranga. His watchwords were ;"don't forget John – friendship first: polo second". Off course, unfashionable though that concept may have become, it is from the genuineness of the first that much that is truly valuable, unique and iconic about our wonderful game flows. Difficult to convince a professional 7 to 10 goaler or his Patron of that today!

Mark Vestey asked me to become a HPA Steward in 2003 and a little later I became the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee. Much to my surprise I was elected Chairman of the HPA in 2012 which I will hand over at the end of this year. I have loved the game at its grass roots level and regard myself as being incredibly lucky to have been involved with the sport – it's horses and its people across the world – over the last 25 years.

POLO IN MALAYSIA

The British brought polo to the Malaysian peninsula at the end of the 19th century. The sport of kings has enjoyed a true renaissance here since the beginning of the new century and today Malaysia is one of the key polo-playing nations in South East Asia.

BY KATRIN LANGEMANN PHOTOGRAPHY ROYAL MALAYSIAN POLO ASSOCIATION





Boasting 253 active players, Malaysia is one of the most important polo countries in Southeast Asia.



In 2015 the RMPA Polo Leagues celebrate their tenth anniversary. Within the past ten years the three tournament series have developed tremendously: the number of players has increased 100 per cent since the start (from 120 to 250 today) and the number of horses has tripled (today: approx. 1,000).

Polo has a long tradition on the Malaysian peninsula. The British brought the fast-paced sport to the long, narrow landmass almost 130 years ago and the sport of kings quickly gained in popularity. The Singapore Polo Club was founded in 1886 (at that time Singapore was part of the Straits Settlements of Malaysia), followed by the Selangor Polo Club in 1902. Polo clubs were also opened in Butterworth and Penang, and the Royal Pahang Polo Club opened in 1923.

Since the start of the new century, polo has enjoyed a true renaissance in the former British colony. More and more people are becoming interested in the oldest team sport in the world and the number of players is growing continuously. Today, the Royal Malaysian Polo Association (RMPA, founded 1922) has 253 active players and twelve clubs registered on its books. The centre of polo is the region around the capital Kuala Lumpur, which has four clubs. The Royal Selangor Polo Club is also located here, which, like the Royal Pahang Polo Club near Pekan and the Royal Johor Polo Club on the border with Singapore, is one of the most important and largest polo clubs in Malaysia. Polo is played almost all year round and the tournament season with ten to twelve official tournaments runs from March to October. The highlights are the final of the RMPA International League and Malaysian Ladies' Polo Championships.

What characterises polo in Malaysia? Peter Abisheganaden from the Royal Malaysian Polo Association doesn't have to take long to think about it: "We have many heads of corporations, politicians, and royalty playing polo in Malaysia. While it is a powerful group of people, going to polo is a very casual thing." The country's connections to its polo-playing neighbours are intimate and friendly. Everyone knows each other, plays together and they are all one big polo family. "Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore are connected by the same landmass, so it is with these countries that we can develop more polo that we can all travel to." The country has a particularly close relationship with the Thai Polo & Equestrian Club and Singapore Polo Club, but also enjoys friendly relations with Brunei, Indonesia and the Philippines, and also with Vietnam, where polo celebrated its premiere in mid-March.

The renaissance of polo in Malaysia is due in no small part to the development of the RMPA Polo Leagues. The tournament series were conceived in 2002 by His Royal Highness Tengku Mahkota Pahang, Crown Prince Abdullah Shah, Dato' Brian Miller, Dato' Mohamed Moiz and Peter Abisheganaden. The first tournament took place in 2005 and the RMPA Polo Leagues celebrate their tenth anniversary this year. A success story: the number of players has increased 100 per cent since the start (from 120 to 250 today) and the number of horses has tripled (today: approx. 1,000). The RMPA Polo Leagues comprise the Merdeka League (for entry level players), the National Championship (6-goal) and the International League (High Goal). Points are awarded in the individual leagues according to position and this is what determines the respective ranking of each team in the end. "The formats are very clear, and umpiring is done professionally – something that everyone welcomes," says Peter Abisheganaden. "It is a very sporting league and patrons are also good friends. After 10 years the leagues are running smoothly. We try always to improve the leagues and we meet with patrons regularly to discuss how we can make it better. Decisions are made collectively."



The RMPA Polo Leagues are very competitive and have been the renaissance of polo in Malaysia.



THE 2015 RMPA POLO LEAGUES

International League:

- 10-12 goals
- 4 tournaments: Thai Polo Open, Royal Pahang Classic, Malaysia Open and RMPA International League Final
- 6 teams

National Championship:

- 4-6 goals
- 3 tournaments
- 8 teams

Merdeka League:

- 0-3 goals
- 3 tournaments
- 9 teams

On occasion of the jubilee in September a special 10th Anniversary Ball is planned.

Polo is played in Malaysia nearly all year round: the tournament season, consisting of ten to twelve official tournaments, starts in March and ends in October.

THE BEST POLO PLAYERS AND MOST IMPORTANT POLO PERSONALITIES OF MALAYSIA:



Saladin Mazlan (hdc 3).



Shaik Reismann (hdc 3).



HH Prince Ahmad Shahzril (hdc 3).



Edham Shaharuddin (hdc 3).

Further important names in the Malaysian sport of polo: Huzaini Yunus • HRH Sultan Ibrahim of Johor • Khairy Jamaluddin (Minister of Youth and Sport) • Dato' Seri Dr Jamaluddin Jarjis (Former Minister and Ambassador to USA)



HRH Prince Abdullah Shah of Pahang.



HRH Sultan Ahmad Shah of Pahang.

With this future-oriented spirit and community engagement, Malaysia will certainly easily master future challenges. More good playing fields, more young players, better opportunities for up-and-coming talents, more high goal playing and players with higher handicaps – Malaysian polo has a lot to accomplish. The first South East Asian Colts Cup for players under 23 will be played this year. A big issue for the future is also the development of umpiring, as Peter Abisheganaden explains: “Malaysia will continue to develop umpiring and stewarding and will run more umpiring courses, similar to the FIP Umpires’ Course we ran in 2013. We have shortlisted potential candidates to become professional umpires and will send them overseas for training.” Another focal point is the Malaysian national team’s participation in the next World Polo Championship, as well as the South East Asian Games 2017 in Kuala Lumpur. Following 2007, when polo was part of the South East Asian Games for the first time (apropos: Malaysia remained unbeaten), in two years the oldest team sport in the world will be one of the sports of the SEA Games once again. No question about it: With the South East Asian Games taking place in its own country in 2017, Malaysia aims high and will now concentrate on the development of the national team squads.

10
GOALER
SERIES

MIGUEL NOVILLO ASTRADA

The Argentine polo player reached the highest ranking of 10 goals, after winning the Argentine Triple Crown in 2003 with his team made up of the four Novillo Astrada brothers, La Aguada. That year he was also named MVP of the prestigious tournament and was awarded the Silver Olimpia Award, the most important prize for professional sportsmen in Argentina. POLO+10 had the chance to interview Miguel at the end of the U.S. Open, and he talks here about his career, his family and tradition.

BY MARÍA PAULA FERNÁNDEZ PHOTOGRAPHY MATÍAS CALLEJO





With his father Eduardo "Taio" Novillo Astrada, riding Cereza.



Left: The Novillo Astradas: Eduardo, Miguel, Alejandro and Nacho. Right: With his son Miguelito.



HOW DID YOU GET INTRODUCED TO POLO?

My grandfather used to play polo, my father did too and still does, it was a family thing. I started playing on foot when I accompanied my father to his matches, and when we were around 5 years old we started to ride and then it all started.

RECENTLY YOU DECIDED TO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE 2015 ARGENTINE TRIPLE CROWN AS A PLAYER, SO WHAT WILL BE YOUR NEW ROLE AT LA AGUADA?

I will collaborate with the team, not as a coach or in a fixed role, but I intend to collaborate from "backstage". I want to be involved as much as possible, but not too involved, just enough to really help the team.

WHAT IS A YEAR IN YOUR LIFE LIKE, POLO-WISE? WHICH TOURNAMENTS ARE FIXED IN YOUR CALENDAR?

My polo calendar starts in January, playing in Palm Beach at 20 goals, until the end of April when the U.S. Open ends, and then I am back in Argentina where I play medium handicap tournaments, and then I start to get ready for the Triple Crown from October to December, but this year as I mentioned, I won't be playing in it, I will play in other tournaments. I used to do the three main seasons: Palm Beach, England and Argentina. I have not played in England for the past two years, I've gone straight back to the US in July and August.

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR STRONG POINT AS A POLO PLAYER IS? WHAT SETS YOU APART FROM EVERYONE ELSE?

I believe that my strongest features are anticipation and the capacity to be a good team player.

WHO DO YOU LOOK UP TO IN THE SPORT?

My father (Eduardo "Taio" Novillo Astrada) is one of the people I admire the most. Gonzalo Pieres (Sr.) is another of my role models, and of course, Adolfo Cambiasso and Facundo Pieres.

TELL US ABOUT THE MOMENT WHEN YOU REACHED 10 GOALS.

Reaching 10 goals was what I have always aimed for. It was the result of many years of effort and training, it was really a dream

come true. To reach 10 you need to endeavour, be dedicated, well organised, and of course, be a good rider. To become a 10-goaler gives you a great confidence boost that helps your career, and the challenge now is to keep making the effort and stay at the same high level.

THE U.S. OPEN JUST ENDED, WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL CONCLUSION ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT?

It was a really good tournament in which I have had a really good season. The only issue was that some rules were changed and at first they slowed and lengthened the games, but at the end of the season we could play a bit better, the new rule interpretations were clarified and that led to a better overall match quality.

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES AND WHAT FAMILY DO YOU HAVE?

I am married and have 5 kids, four girls and a boy. Two of them play polo, my older daughter and my son Miguelito, who is eight years old. My other three daughters, Tonia, Azul and Mora also ride or have started to ride, they all love horses but most of them still don't play polo. As for my leisure activities, after my family and my career there is not much free time left, but when there is, I love reading, especially about world economics and the different markets. So when I am not thinking about polo or the family, I like to find out more about those subjects.

DO YOU EXPECT MIGUELITO TO CONTINUE THE NOVILLO ASTRADA TRADITION?

I would really like to see that, but only if he really wants to and enjoys it. I don't want to put any pressure on him in that regard. I want Miguelito to choose his own path regardless of family traditions. I will always support him, whether he chooses to be a polo player, or whether he chooses to be something else.

WHAT CHANGES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE WAY THE GAME IS PLAYED NOWADAYS?

Personally I think there are rules that could be changed in order to make the game more dynamic and attractive for the spectators, and this would also make it easier to understand, contributing to the popularisation of the sport and its professionalisation. ●

Protection is everything.



"It's very important to play trusting that your equipment is the best, it boosts your confidence... Falcon Polo knows about protection, and now they're part of my team"

- David "Pelon" Stirling (10)

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Miguel riding Aguada Anónima, the prized mare that was bred by his late brother Javier, and won the "Mejor Producto Polo Argentino" award on 2013.



Top: Novillo Astrada shows off his skills. Bottom: Miguel and his daughter Mia who has started to play polo.

ABOUT THE NOVILLO ASTRADA FAMILY AND LA AGUADA

The Novillo Astrada family has a tradition of more than 60 years in polo. Julio Novillo Astrada, born in 1916, was passionate about polo and horses and his sons Julio and Eduardo inherited this passion and started to play in their fields in Cordoba, called La Aguada. In the 70s, Don Julio acquired lands in Open Door, Buenos Aires and, to keep the tradition alive, he called them La Aguada too. His aim was that his sons and grandsons would play polo near their place of residence, the city of Buenos Aires. Thanks to the hard work of the family, La Aguada is now one of the best polo clubs in the world.

Don Julio's son, Eduardo "Taio" Novillo Astrada, reached 9 goals and conquered the great national and international tournaments, such as the Silver Cup in Sotogrande and the Coupe d'Or in Deauville, and he also was the first to represent La Aguada with a high handicap. The club won its first Hurlingham Open in 1986. 1990 was a very singular year for La Aguada: the team, formed by Taio and his teenage sons Eduardo, Miguel and Javier won the "Copa República Argentina". In 1999 the team reached the finals of the Argentine Open, and in 2003, when Nacho joined the team, La Aguada won the Argentine Triple Crown, and wrote a chapter of history by becoming the first team formed by four siblings to win the most important polo trophy worldwide. The Novillo Astrada brothers, Eduardo (9), Miguel (10), Javier (9), Nacho (9) and Alejandro (7) have achieved outstanding accomplishments in polo in the most important tournaments worldwide. The Novillo Astrada tradition has already passed to the next generation, and it looks like it will keep on expanding.

Source: La Aguada

GREENWICH POLO

Peter Brant is the founder of Greenwich Polo Club which is located in close proximity to New York City in the leafy suburban enclave of Greenwich, CT. A leading Patron of the sport as well as an active player, Mr. Brant sat down recently with POLO+10 to discuss the sport he loves.

INTERVIEW STEFANIE STÜTING
PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF GREENWICH POLO CLUB





Royal Salute's Facundo Pieres is on the ball and being chased down by Airstream's Nick Manifold at the Royal Salute Jubilee Cup. Greenwich Club has hosted many great tournaments throughout its 34-year history and this summer will host the East Coast Open with the USPA, with finals televised on NBC Sports Network.



“ART AND POLO ARE TWO OF THE GREAT PASSIONS OF MY LIFE.”

PETER BRANT

YOUR FIRST STEPS TOWARD THE SPORT OF POLO DATE BACK TO THE 1970S, WHEN YOU MET POLO LEGEND THOMAS B. “TOMMY” GLYNN AT THE FAIRFIELD HUNT CLUB. WHAT KIND OF PLAYER AND MENTOR WAS HE? HOW DID HE INSPIRE YOUR FURTHER CAREER IN THE SPORT?

I knew Tommy Glynn’s daughter, Sandy Glynn, quite well. She trained racehorses and I met her father Tommy at the Fairfield Hunt Club. Tommy inspired my initial interest in polo and he then ended up coming to Greenwich, CT and advised me when I first started playing and founded Greenwich Polo Club. Tommy taught me how to play polo indoors and introduced me to some of the best polo players in the world. Working at Greenwich well into his 90’s, Tommy managed Greenwich Polo Club and really was a wonderful man.

WHAT DO YOU THINK TODAY ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS ABOUT THE SPORT AND SPORTS STRUCTURE?

Promoting professionalism and fostering the growth of new players and teams. I think it is important to continually encourage players and teams to play to the best of their abilities and at the highest level possible.

WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO FOUNDING THE GREENWICH POLO CLUB. WHICH VISIONS FOR THE CLUB DID YOU HAVE IN MIND?

I’ve always had incredible respect and love for horses. They are the most giving, generous animals. I first became seriously involved in the equine world through horse racing. Once I developed a passion for polo, I was inspired to create Greenwich Polo Club which is still my favorite place to play. Greenwich is one of the most beautiful clubs in the world and it has all the facilities necessary for high-goal polo. It is unique in that it is adjacent to The Brant Foundation Art Study Center, which is dedicated to the education and awareness of contemporary art. We hold several educational programs and both the club and the Foundation are great for the community. We always have sculptures or artwork on display outside which can be seen from both the Foundation and the polo fields including the present sculpture, “Big Clay” by Urs Fischer, as well as “Ali Frazier,” a sculpture by artist Richard Serra. This is really a place where two of the great passions of my life – art and polo – intersect. I hope others get as much joy from them as I do.



HOW IS THE CLUB STANDING TODAY?

We’re going into our 34th season and we’ve built a reputation as the destination for high-goal polo in the Northeast. We have a three-year partnership with the USPA to host the East Coast Open and we’re committed to expanding and promoting the awareness of polo in the U.S. Not only are we working with the USPA, we also want to support our neighbouring clubs who produce and foster new professional and amateur players and contribute so much to the sport. Many of these clubs have been part of the golden era of polo and share the same vision of where we want to take the sport. So I think this really marks the beginning of a unique time where all the clubs are joining forces and pulling from each other’s strengths to take polo to the next level in the U.S. We want to inspire and encourage new players and teams, upgrade club facilities where needed, bring on new sponsors and create polo matches and events that really engage fans. We’ll be doing this on a variety of levels, including reaching out to our audience through social media, streaming video and broadcast TV.

WHAT ARE THE SEASON’S HIGHLIGHTS?

The season starts on 7 June 2015 at Greenwich Polo Club and every Sunday we’ll have some great matches and tournaments, including the Monty Waterbury Cup and the Butler Handicap, which is a USPA National event. The 20-goal East Coast Open will start on Sunday, 23 August 2015 and will be played the following two Sundays with the Championship Match on Sunday, 6 September 2015. The USPA will live stream the East Coast Open Semi-Finals on ChukkerTV and NBC Sports Network will air the East Coast Open Final on 13 September 2015.

For the East Coast Open, players will be competing to have their names etched into the Perry Cup trophy. And there are some really legendary names already on that trophy, including Memo Gracida, Mariano Aguerre, Adam Snow, Gonzalo Pieres, Sr., Gonzalo Heguy and others. Myopia Polo Club was kind enough to give us the trophy for the tournament. We actually have the Perry Cup with a silversmith now and we’re excited to debut it at Greenwich Polo Club.

1 A long view of Greenwich Polo Club on game day 2 Peter Brant on the field 3 Polo ponies relaxing before a match 4 Prince Harry playing at Greenwich Polo Club for the Sentebale Royal Salute Polo Cup 5 A crowd of spectators line the fields of Greenwich Polo Club.

ARE THERE PARTICULAR PLANS FOR A FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF THE CLUB?

I think it is important to focus on the game and those who play it. We need to have support from fans and sponsors who are committed to that mission. Greenwich Polo Club is known for hosting the best high-goal polo matches in the Northeast and attracting the top players and teams and we want that to continue. I think this year’s East Coast Open will be a tournament to remember.

YOU DID A LOT TO SUPPORT YOUNG TALENTS IN THE SPORT OF POLO. WHAT IS IN YOUR OPINION THE BEST WAY TO RAISE NEW YOUNG AND TALENTED POLO PLAYERS?

We’ve had the opportunity to develop a lot of great players over the years, including Santi Torres, Bautista Heguy, Augustin Merlos, Lucas Monteverde, Steve Dalton, Todd Offen, Nick Manifold, Mariano Gracida, Julio Gracida and Carlitos Gracida. With young players, we try to integrate them into the life of the barn – have them work around horses and take the time to provide lessons for them. From my perspective, it’s gratifying to see young talent develop and know that you have had some small part in helping them.



POLO SAISON 2015

TOURNOI DE L'ALLIANCE
11/04 - 26/04

COUPE PHG
2/05 - 17/05

CHARITY CUP
23/05 - 7/06

COUPE LAVERSINE
13/06 - 28/06

LADIES POLO CUP MARBELLA PARIS
14/06

COQUETIER D'OR
4/07 - 12/07

COUPE INTERNATIONALE
18/07 - 26/07

OPEN DE FRANCE
5/09 - 20/09

CHAMPIONNATS DE FRANCE
26/09 - 4/10

CREDITS: ANTOINE DE LA PORTE



6



7

6 Mariano Aguerre has played polo with White Birch and Peter Brant for almost 30 years 7 View from the polo fields looking towards The Brant Foundation Art Study Center and the sculpture "Big Clay" 8 Peter Brant with his wife Stephanie Seymour.



I can't say enough about the great university teams and all they do to cultivate young talent. Universities like Harvard, Yale, California Davis, Cornell, etc. I think the other key is trying to connect with younger kids, especially those that may not have family that have horses, and find more ways to inspire them and create the love of polo and horses in general. The Polo Training Foundation is a great example of this type of outreach.

IN THE TEN YEARS BETWEEN 1979 AND 1989, YOU ROSE TO A 7-GOAL HANDICAP – AT THAT TIME THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD OF AMATEUR POLO. TO WHAT EXTEND DID YOU FOCUS YOUR LIFE ON POLO IN THOSE DAYS? When I first started playing, I trained hard and studied the logistical demands of the sports. I also surrounded myself with great talent and learned as much as I could from them, guys like Tommy Glynn, Bennie Gutierrez, Hector Barrantes. You have to get very involved to be good at it and having a competitive drive is probably the common denominator among all great polo players.

YOUR TEAM WHITE BIRCH HAS WON 31 CHAMPIONSHIPS/TOURNAMENTS AT THE 26-GOAL LEVEL OR ABOVE. WHAT ARE THE RECENT PLANS OF THE TEAM FOR THE NEXT FUTURE? We had a really good season last year with Mariano Aguerre, Hilario Ulloa and Matias Sosa on White Birch.

We've found success balancing the team with two high-goal players and then a player playing #1 that is a low goaler. Certainly, we'd like to continue the success we had last season and we will be participating in several high-goal tournaments at Greenwich Polo Club this Spring and Summer, including the Monty Waterbury Cup, the Butler Handicap and the East Coast Open. It's been more than five years since White Birch has played in Palm Beach, but we plan to be back in Florida for the Winter 2016 season.

WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL PLANS CONCERNING POLO? Well I feel really good – probably better than I have in the last few years – and I had a very rewarding season last year because of it. I want to keep playing at the highest level I can and for as long as I can.

Another thing I've been thinking about a lot more recently is how can I help to encourage and develop new Patrons? We've had some great Patrons here at Greenwich Polo Club over the years such as Peter Orthwein, Marty Gruss, Mickey Tarnopol, Henryk de Kwiatkowski along with newer Patrons. Having Patrons that love and support the sport is integral to the continued longevity of high-goal polo. •

www.greenwichpoloclub.com

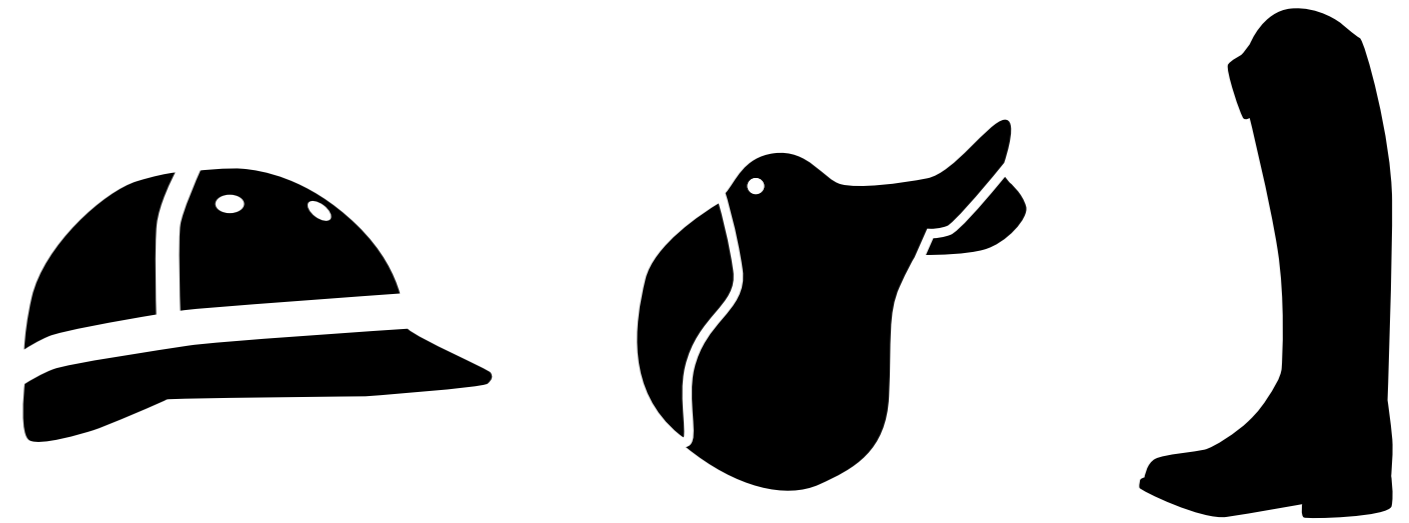
TOM TAILOR POLO TEAM OFFICIEL RICHARD MILLE O MEDIA OPTIMUM parnasse



SOME FACTS ABOUT THE VARIANTS OF POLO

Polo is not just played on grass, but also on sand, snow and in arenas. And there are even more versions of polo than these. POLO+10 explains the most important differences and gives an overview of the various different types of polo as well as sports related to polo.

BY KATRIN LANGEMANN



Arena, snow and beach polo differ from traditional grass polo in several respects. The playing field and teams are smaller, chukkas shorter and the ball larger. There are also differences in the rules. For example, with polo on grass, the direction of play is changed after each goal. This is not always the case with other polo variants; sometimes the direction of play is only changed after each chukka or every second chukka. An overview of the most important differences is given here.

THE RULES

At the end of the 19th century, the Hurlingham Polo Club set down the rules for grass polo in writing for the first time. They are still used in international polo today. In 1991, the Hurlingham Polo Association (HPA) also created a set of rules for arena polo and the International Beach Polo Association (IBPA) also provides a set of recommended rules for beach polo. Headway is also being made in terms of the rules for snow polo: together with Tito Gaudenzi (organiser of the Snow Polo World Cup Kitzbühel), Caspar West (polo manager of the Beaufort Polo Club in England) is adapting the official HPA rules to suit the special conditions of polo played on snow.

THE PITCH

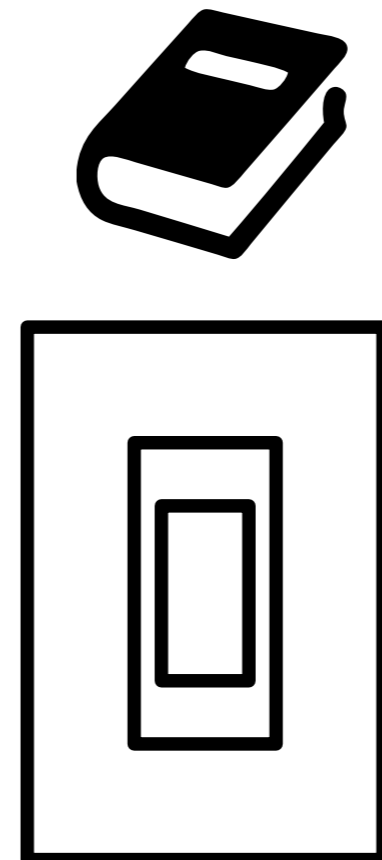
Polo can be played on pitches of any size; the most important aspect is that the ground is even and well maintained. With beach and snow polo in particular, pitches vary greatly in length and width depending on the local circumstances.

Grass polo: the polo pitch is normally 300 yards long and 200 yards wide, which corresponds to measurements of approx. 274m x 183m. The 3m high goal posts stand 8 yards apart (approx. 7.20m) and are not firmly anchored in the ground due to safety reasons.

Arena polo: the pitch in arena polo is smaller than in grass polo. The ideal size is a length of 300 feet (approx. 90m) and width of 150 feet (approx. 45m). An arena polo pitch should not be smaller than 150 x 75 feet (45m x 22.5m).

Beach polo: the International Beach Polo Association recommends a length of 100 yards (approx. 90m) and a width of 50 yards (approx. 45m). The ideal set-up is with barriers with rounded corners around the edge so as to keep the ball in play. However, pitch sizes vary according to location.

Snow polo: like beach polo, a snow polo pitch may vary hugely depending on the local circumstances. The snow polo pitch in Tianjin (China) is, for example, 170 yards x 80 yards (approx. 155m x 73m) large, whereas on the frozen Lake St. Moritz, players play on a surface measuring 200m x 80m.



“POLO IS A GAME THAT OWES MUCH OF ITS UNIQUE APPEAL TO THE FACT THAT IT SHOULD BE PLAYED NOT ONLY WITHIN ITS RULES BUT ALSO WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME.”

HPA RULE BOOK 2015



THE TEAM

A maximum of four players form a polo team. It is also recommended to have substitutes who can replace players if they sustain injuries.

Grass polo: 4 players per team (no. 1 = attacking offensive player, no. 2 = midfield player, no. 3 = tactical focus and heart of the team, no. 4 = defender, also called “back”)

Arena and beach polo: 3 players per team are the norm, although sometimes the game is played with 2 players per team.

Snow polo: 2 to 4 players, often three.

THE BALL

Grass polo: balls were traditionally made from compressed bamboo, but today are mainly made from plastic. They have a diameter of 3-3,5 inches (8-9 centimetres) and weigh around 130 grams.

Arena polo: with arena polo, the ball is considerably bigger than with grass polo. Its circumference is approx. 15 inches (38 centimetres), and it weighs between 140 and 175 grams. The ball used in arena polo is similar to a small football.

Beach and snow polo: the balls used in beach and snow polo are also larger than those used in grass polo. In order to be able to see the ball more clearly against the ground, it is a bright colour (often red). The ball is normally inflatable and is made from leather or plastic. Snow polo balls are similar in size to arena polo balls, but lighter. For beach polo, the International Beach Polo Association recommends balls not larger than 5 inches (13 centimetres) in diameter.

PLAYING TIME

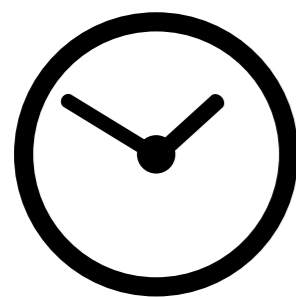
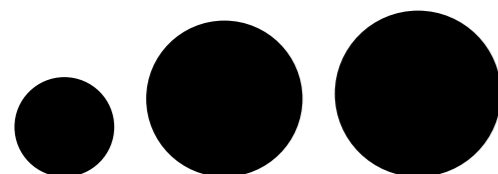
Grass polo: a match comprises at least 4 to a maximum of 8 sections, so-called chukkas. One chukka is 7.5 minutes of pure playing time. If there are any interruptions, timing is stopped. Breaks between the individual sections, when the horses must be changed, last between 3 and 5 minutes.

Arena polo: with arena polo, usually 4 chukkas of 6.5 minutes are played. The breaks between the individual sections comprise 4 minutes, and 6 minutes at half-time.

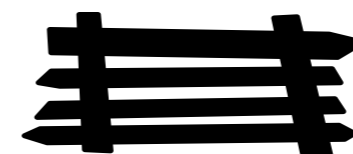
Beach and snow polo: the IBPA recommends 4 chukkas of 6 minutes and breaks of 5 minutes, with 15 minutes at half-time. There are, however, major differences between the individual tournaments. The same applies to snow polo, where the number and length of the chukkas are very different between tournaments.

THE HANDICAP

Players who do not have a specific arena handicap play in arena polo tournaments with their normal handicap plus 1. Handicaps are also normally raised one level in beach and snow polo.



+10



Additional polo variants and sports related to polo

Polo on grass and in the arena are the most widespread types of this fast-paced sport by far. Beach and snow polo is also played around the globe and are gaining in popularity every single year. There are also numerous other types of polo or sports related to polo in existence, including bike polo, camel polo, elephant polo, Segway polo, canoe polo, hobby horse polo, golf cart polo and donkey polo. Other sports linked to polo include buzkaschi, polocrosse, horseball and pato. POLO+10 presents five versions of polo, some of them are lesser known, some are somewhat more bizarre:

Paddock Polo

In paddock polo, two teams of three players battle it out. It is played on grass or sand and the pitch is max. 160m long and 80m wide. Balls are normally made of leather and have a diameter of around 11.5 centimetres. Horses are not changed during the match. Paddock polo is popular mainly in France.

Cowboy Polo

In cowboy polo, a team comprises five players. Instead of a polo saddle, a western saddle is used, as is other equipment normally only used in western riding. A simple rodeo arena is normally used as the pitch. It is played with a large red rubber medicine ball and the American Quarter horse. Horses are not normally changed during matches. Cowboy polo was founded in 1952 in New Smyrna Beach, Florida (USA) and reached its peak during the 1970s. This type of polo has been in severe decline ever since. Today, cowboy polo is mainly played in the west of the USA and almost exclusively in Montana.

Yak Polo

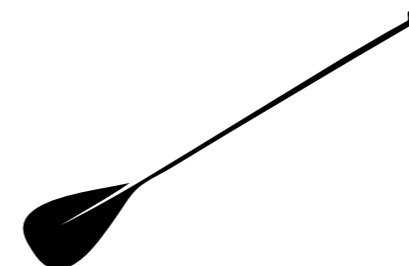
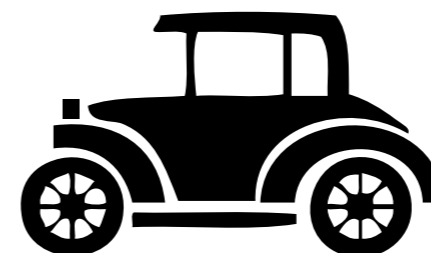
Yak polo (or Sarlagan polo) is a Mongolian version. Instead of ponies, it is played on yaks. Yak polo was invented as a tourist attraction in the early 2000s and has become more and more popular over time. Today, yak polo is also played in Pakistan and is part of the Broghil Festival in the north-western district of Chitral.

Auto Polo

Auto polo first made an appearance at the start of the 20th century in the USA. This polo modification is attributed to Ford dealer Ralph “Pappy” Hankinson, who is alleged to have founded the sport as an advertising gimmick to promote sales of the Model T Ford. The sport enjoyed great popularity in the USA mainly at trade fairs and exhibitions from 1911 to the late 1920s. Outside the USA, auto polo was regarded with great scepticism owing to the dangers involved. The rules and equipment were the same as polo on horseback, except cars were used instead of ponies. Auto polo was played on an arena pitch. Each team had two cars and four men. Drivers were strapped in, with the man with the polo stick hanging onto the side. The aim was, as with grass polo, to hit the ball - in this case a basketball - between the opposing goalposts. At the start, normal cars were used, but later cars without roof, doors and windscreen were used. The cars achieved maximum speeds of up to 64 km/h and raced around the small pitch in breakneck curves. There were often accidents. Auto polo is no longer played, but polo on motorbikes (“Moto polo”) was developed in Rwanda in 2008 and is gaining more and more fans.

SUP Polo

The latest sport related to polo to appear on the scene is Stand Up Paddling (SUP) polo. With SUP polo, players do not sit on ponies, but stand on a surfboard as with stand-up paddling. The paddle replaces the stick. The goals are similar to handball goals and the balls are water polo balls like those used in canoe polo. The teams comprises two to three players, with the effective playing time being 2 x 5 minutes. However, the sport is so new that there are currently no fixed rules in place.



THE POLO HANDICAP

In polo, every player is awarded an individual handicap depending on performance. Handicap commissions of the national associations meet several times a year to decide players' handicaps. There is no uniform system worldwide. POLO+10 clarifies the details.

BY KATRIN LANGEMANN

History of the polo handicap

British officers who were stationed in India towards the end of the 19th century brought polo to Europe. The Hurlingham Polo Club, founded here in 1876, was the first to set down the rules of polo in writing and these are still used in international sport today. The British also took the sport to North and South America. The polo handicap, however, did not originate with the English, but rather from Henry Lloyd Herbert, the first president of the United States Polo Association (USPA), who introduced a handicap system when he founded the USPA in 1890. From then on, the abilities of individual players could be compared and teams could be put together in a way that made them even despite individual differences in performance. In 1910, the English and Indians also introduced handicap systems. However, there is still no globally homogenous and all-encompassing system. The handicaps of players are determined by the respective country associations.

From beginner to professional: the scale

A handicap is not determined by goal and tournament success alone, but many other factors are also taken into account, such as sportsmanship, team play, knowledge of polo, strategy and horsemanship. The highest possible handicap is 10 goals. Not even a dozen people worldwide have this ranking, and it is primarily Argentinian polo families who dominate this top category. Of the nine 10-goalers currently playing, eight are from Argentina. The majority of the players does not achieve the upper end of the scale: two thirds of all players have a handicap of 2 goals or less. The exact division of the handicap scale is different according to each country.

Argentina: 0 to 10

USA: C (-2), B (-1), B+ (-0.5), A (0), A+ (0.5), 1.0, 1.5, 2 to 10

England: -2 to 10

The team handicap in a tournament is calculated from the individual handicaps of the players. For reasons of fairness, teams with lower team handicaps are given a so-called goal advantage.

The best of the best: the 10-goalers

There are currently only nine players across the world who have the highest possible handicap of 10 goals. As each country determines its own handicap, players in Argentina may play at 10 goals in Argentina, but they would be playing at just 9 goals in the USA. The differences are sometimes even greater than this.

THE BEST POLO PLAYERS

	Argentina	USA	UK
Adolfo Cambiaso (ARG)	10	10	10
Juan Martín Nero (ARG)	10	10	10
Facundo Pieres (ARG)	10	10	10
Pablo Mac Donough (ARG)	10	10	10
Gonzalo Pieres (ARG)	10	9	10
Miguel Novillo Astrada (ARG)	10	9	9
David Stirling Jr. (URU)	10	10	10
Pablo Pieres (ARG)	10	10*	9
Guillermo Caset Jr. (ARG)	9	10	9

* Effective from 1 January 2016 (currently 9 goals)

“A POLO HANDICAP IS YOUR PASSPORT TO THE WORLD.”

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

Go ladies: the women's handicap

In polo, it is usual for men and women to play together in mixed teams. The number of female polo players is rapidly increasing and over the past few years, more and more ladies' tournaments have been established. In order to increase the appeal of ladies' tournaments, the Asociación Argentina de Polo (AAP) introduced special handicaps for women in 2012. The women's handicap only applies to women-only tournaments – if women play together with men, the normal handicap applies. During the season, the women's handicap commission observes players in the ladies' tournaments and meets twice a year to discuss performance and possible handicap changes. At the end of 2011, the Fédération Française de Polo (FFP) adopted the Argentinian system. Since the start of 2014, a special women's handicap has also existed in the USA. This year, the United Kingdom has caught up and introduced ladies' handicaps in April 2015. In all other countries there is no special handicap system for women, and women-only tournaments are played with normal handicaps.

THE BEST FEMALE POLO PLAYERS

	Outdoor handicap	Women's handicap in Argentina	Women's handicap in the USA
Sunny Hale (USA)	3	9	9
Lia Salvo (ARG)	2	9	8
Hazel Jackson (UK)	1	8	7
Kristy Outhier (USA)	2	--	8

Further female top players: Carina Clarkin plays a women's handicap of 9 goals in Argentina. Marianela Castagnola, Emma Tomlinson and Tamara Vestey are listed in Argentina with a women's handicap of 8 goals.

Arena, Beach and Snow Polo

There are also separate handicaps for arena tournaments in the USA and United Kingdom. The best arena player in the USA is Thomas Biddle with an arena handicap of 10 goals. He plays at 6 goals on grass. In the United Kingdom, Chris Hyde was recently promoted and now also plays at 10 goals (outdoor 6 goals).

For beach and snow polo, there are no separate handicaps, but the normal handicaps are usually raised by one level. ●

INTERVIEW WITH NICHOLAS J.A. COLQUHOUN-DENVERS, PRESIDENT FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL POLO

WHY IS THERE NO WORLDWIDE HANDICAP?

The handicaps are currently established by the National Associations based on their own seasons, protocols and systems. The benefit derived from a single entity gathering this information and keeping it updated through all the different playing seasons would not be worth the administrative time and effort. As the Federation of National Associations we are currently able to pinpoint handicaps through our national association members extremely easily at present, but it would be unnecessary and extremely difficult to do it on a day to day basis.

DO THE SPORT OF POLO NEED A WORLDWIDE HANDICAP?

Not really. In the recent FIP World Championships in Chile four of the matches went into an extra chukka and the final results of several other matches showed a mere one goal difference, which we believe shows that the international handicapping system is pretty accurate.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE WOMEN'S HANDICAP?

I believe that they are good for matches played only by women. I believe that anything which encourages a growing sector of the sport can only be a good thing. It has worked for those playing in France, the Argentine and the States – I am sure it will be a great success in the UK.

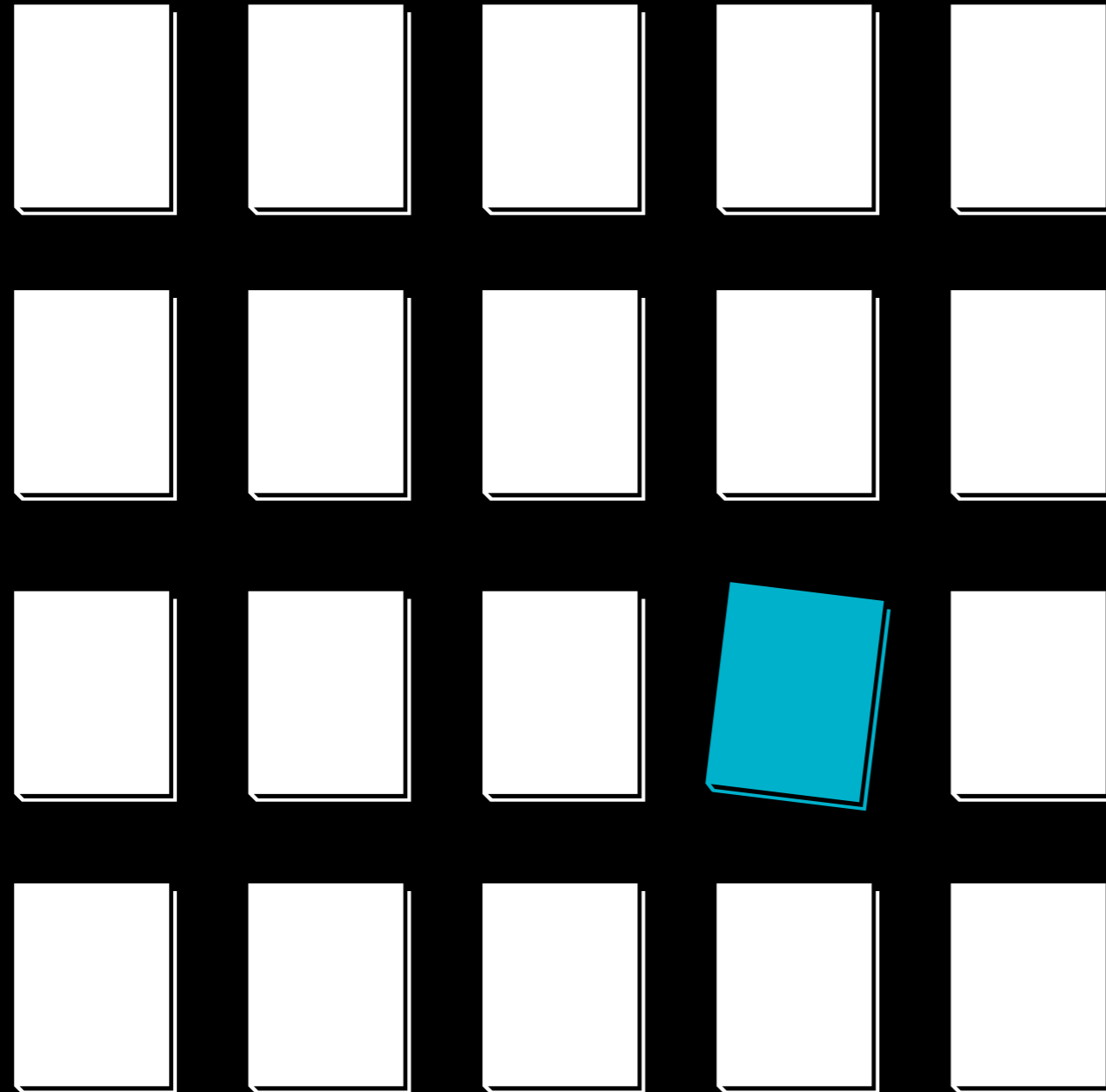
AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT ARENA HANDICAP?

Only few nations play arena polo and some players ONLY play arena polo! As a three-a-side game in a confined area, the handicaps are bound to be different from Field Polo.

ARE THERE AMBITIONS BY THE FIP TO UNIFY THE EXISTING HANDICAP SYSTEMS?

Not to my knowledge! As FIP represents the interests of the National Associations it must respect their sovereignty.

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HELMET SAFETY: THE IMPORTANCE OF STANDARD-TESTING

Falcon Polo, specialists on high-impact equipment for polo players, provides the readers of POLO+10 with some key information about standards for testing the safety and quality of polo helmets.

BY SERGIO SILVA PHOTOGRAPHY FALCON POLO

The sport of polo is becoming faster and more aggressive, and protection equipment is crucial to keep up with it in a safe way. Helmets are part of the safety gear to prevent injuries that may arise from uncontrolled situations, but the question is: what exactly a helmet protects us from?

The brain can be injured by impact (causing the head to move rapidly back and forth), or by a sudden violent rotation of the head when the brain remains immobile, giving blood vessels and nerves a yank. Internal blood vessels and nerves yank parts of the brain around too in different ways, straining the vessels and nerves in the process.

Having said that, the function of the helmet is to reduce the peak impact to the brain by extending the head's stopping time by a few thousandths of a second after the violent move, which is the concussive force. Modern polo helmets are designed to handle an amount of crash energy, by using a tough shell with a layer of impact absorption foam. But unless the manufacturers have a laboratory, you cannot test impact protection. That is the reason why the industry uses standards to designate performance levels.

In order to be approved by standards, helmets must resist brain-injuring concussive forces as aforementioned. Several impact tests are taken to determine if the helmet meets an

established Severity Index for concussion tolerance. Standards define the necessary laboratory tests for helmets, and then "certify" that the product passes all of them. While there is a growing awareness in several countries for better protection, certified helmets are still not mandatory, and not even professional players require them sometimes. It is then crucial for those who wish to start playing polo or are already playing, to step up and research before buying a helmet, in order to determine the one with proper protection.

About Falcon Polo

Falcon Polo is a brand built upon Floriano Falcon's principles and identity, and has been manufacturing of high quality polo helmets since 1988. Before anyone would test protection gear, Floriano worked intensely with US laboratories and safety standards. Falcon was then the first manufacturer to test its helmets under NOCSAE and ASTM standards (USA), receiving in 2005 an approval certification. In 2012, after many years of providing helmets to top brands in the world, Falcon decided to detach from third party retailers and started providing premium helmets only through its own company, 40 Goals Corp, and the brand that holds his name.

www.falconpolo.com

SPEAKER'S CORNER

Jan-Erik Franck is polo player, HPA instructor, polo commentator, La Martina Ambassador since 2015 and an all round nice guy ... Now he starts his 1st "Jef's Polo Column" in POLO+10.

BY JAN-ERIK FRANCK



In this, my 1st column, I'll be telling you my plans for the year as well as those of a handful of players who also have an exciting year ahead of them. As in previous years, 2015 started with another very exciting snow polo season. It all kicked off in Kitzbühel which is becoming more and more one of the most fun snow polo tournaments. It was then off to St. Moritz which now under new management was again polo at its best on snow. February was The Arena Gold Cup at The Royal County of Berkshire Polo Club which really is a must for all polo junkies who cannot spend the winter in warmer climes.

In March I was back in the south of the Netherlands now for the 3rd, commentating the City Polo Championships Maastricht. Teams from all over Europe battled it out for what is also fast becoming a must for any polo aficionado. Coming up in April is the last arena polo tournament of the winter season which I played in myself a few years ago in Mannheim. It's then finally back out on grass and a few beach tournaments which I will tell you more about in the next edition.

I managed to catch up with a few players ahead of the summer season to find out what their plans were.

Matteo Beffa from the Legacy Polo Club in Switzerland ... is looking forward to as much fun and entertaining as he had last year by playing a lot of nice tournaments throughout Europe on all different surfaces and levels and successfully and hosting the Legacy Pollo Cup 2014. This year he is heading for some nice beach polo tournaments in the northern part of Europe, the tournament at Gut Basthorst (Germany) and the beach polo venue at the beautiful Tuscan beaches (Viareggio). His main highlight 2015 will be the second edition of the Pollo Cup, which his recently founded "Legacy Polo Club" will be hosting for the second time.



Image: POLO+10

My mate Chris Hyde whom I know since he was a boy ... has been playing polo for 27 years now and have played in all levels and on all surfaces. He has a six goal outdoor rating and has just been raised to ten in the arena which is the first 10 goaler ever in England arena polo. So of course that is his biggest polo achievement. Congrats Chris!! His wonderful family is now starting to climb the ranks with Jack playing for Zacara in the high goal and twins who play in the famous pony club. Chris himself is currently playing for Jonathon Munroe Fords black eagle team. With them he just won for the third year running the snow polo World Cup in St Moritz.



Image: Tony Ramirez

Polo Doc Andy Krüger is doing fine as ... his winter polo season was very exciting due to the fact that he followed the hot battles of the outstanding snow tournaments in Kitzbühel and St. Moritz. Last autumn he joined the tournaments in Baku and Ascona with their unique charme. In his function as the CMO (doctor) in Kitzbühel Tito Gaudenzi asked him for help with his playing shoulder, that got hurt while playing the tournament in Chiemgau. Eight weeks after that shoulder dislocation Tito could play the full tournament in Palm Beach without any restriction. This season Andy hopes to be on tour again as last year.



Image: POLO+10

My friend Jamie Morrison from England ... is very much looking forward to the summer season and what it brings. For Jamie it starts at the Berkshire playing with the boys from La Indiana and some club tournaments. Beginning of June is Polo in the Park which is always a great event. Jamie hopes to play as well in the RCBPC showcase tournaments like the Julian and Howard Hipwood and the John Prestwich. Seems like a full season of top events and great tournaments. The polo festival in August is one Jamie is looking forward to, it will be a real celebration of the game and bring together many different fun elements. Bring on the season!

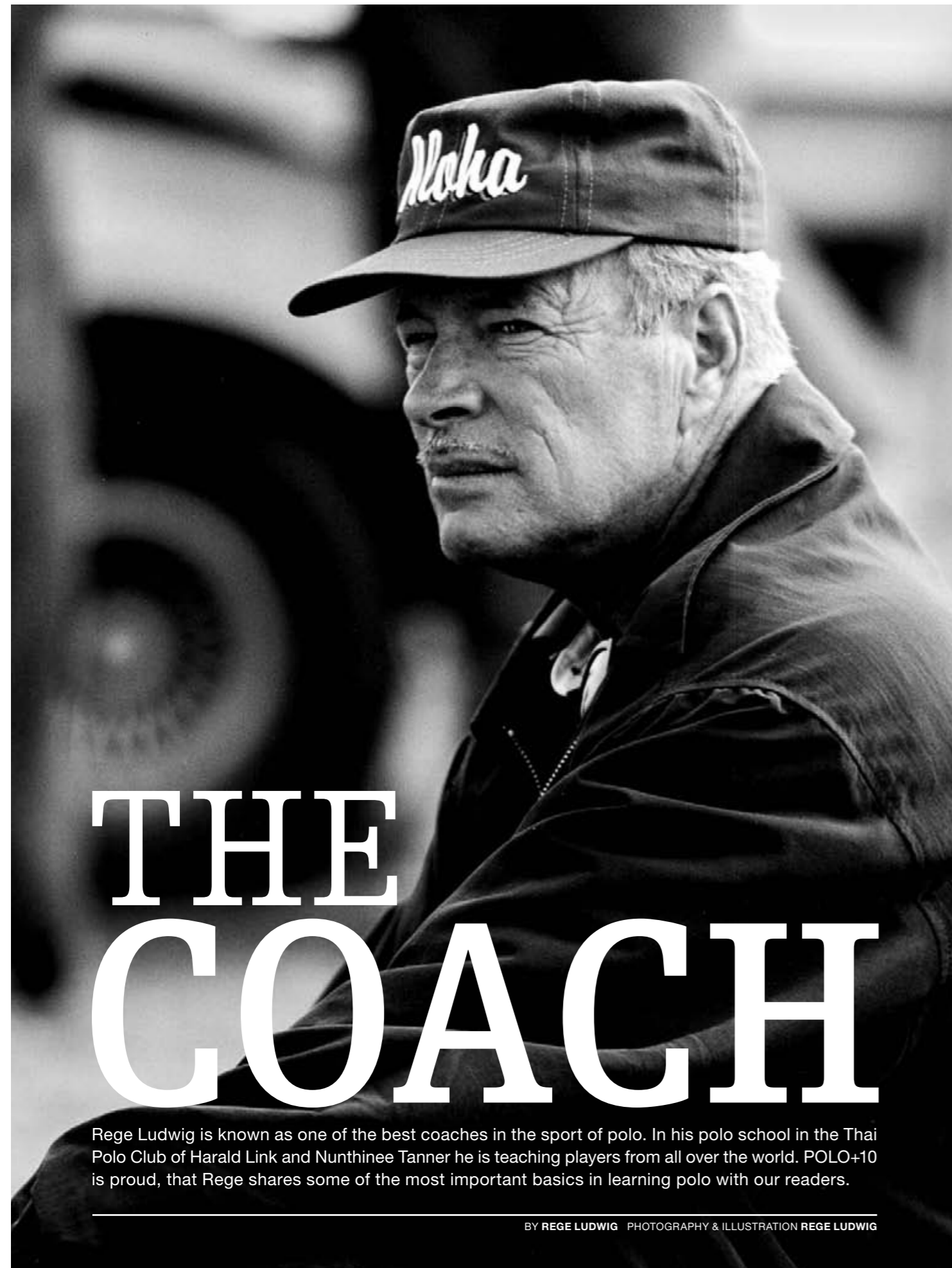


Image: POLO+10

Christopher Kirsch told me ... that his German Polo Tour is growing rapidly and will take place in six cities this year. For him the International German Championship, which is held for the first time at his Gut Aspern, is a special event, says Chris. He joined the Championship in Berlin on Maifeld the past four years. Three times he made it into the final and two times he won. There is no doubt that he hopes to be successful on home soil. During the German season he will play almost every weekend. But also in Spain, Chris will have some performances. He has also serious ambitions regarding his handicap as he will once again attack the top to confirm his 4-goal handicap, which he plays in Argentina and to reclaim 4 goals in Germany again. •



Image: Valeria Cetraro



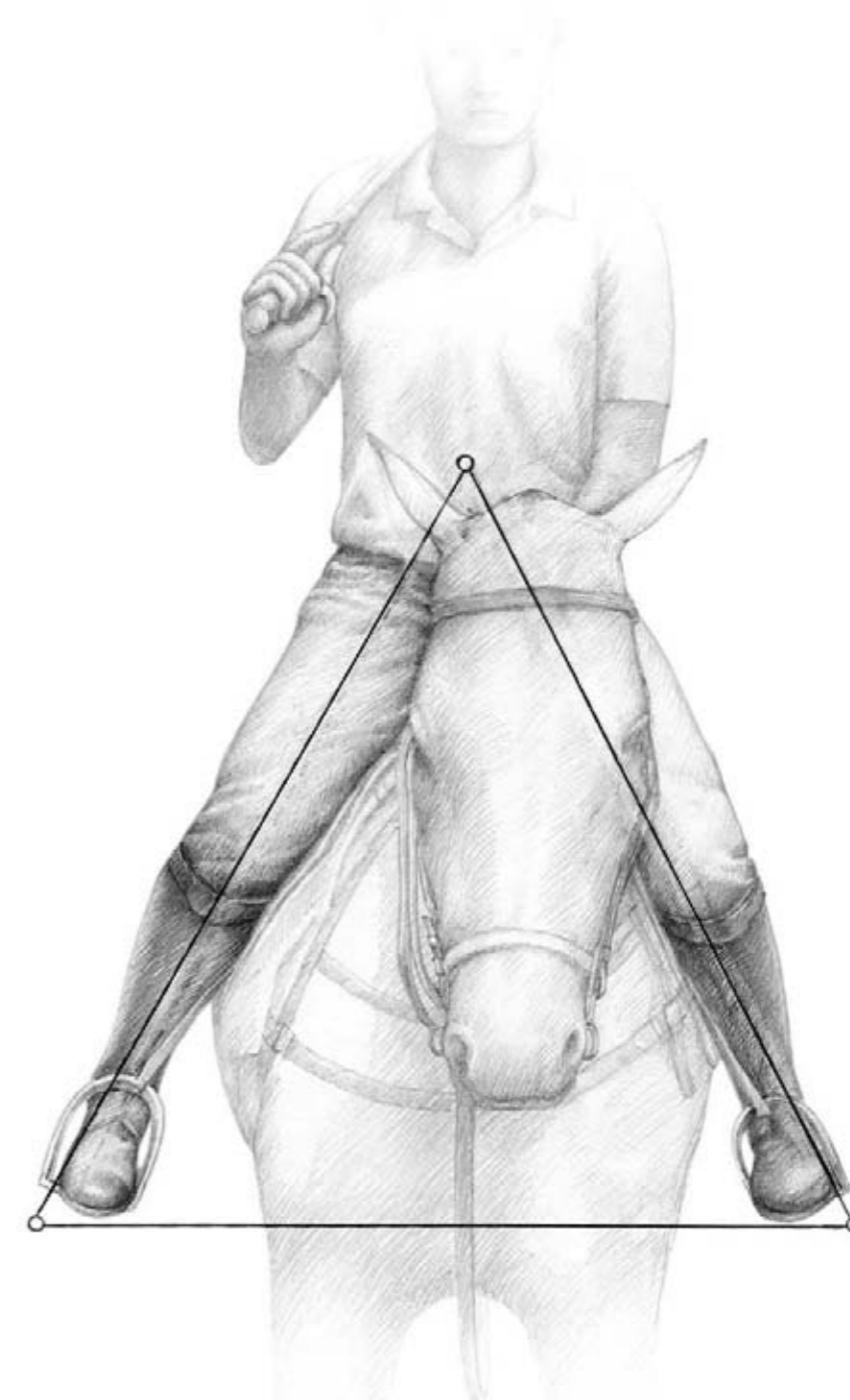
THE COACH

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 PHOTOGRAPHY & ILLUSTRATION REGE LUDWIG

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

A STABLE HITTING PLATFORM



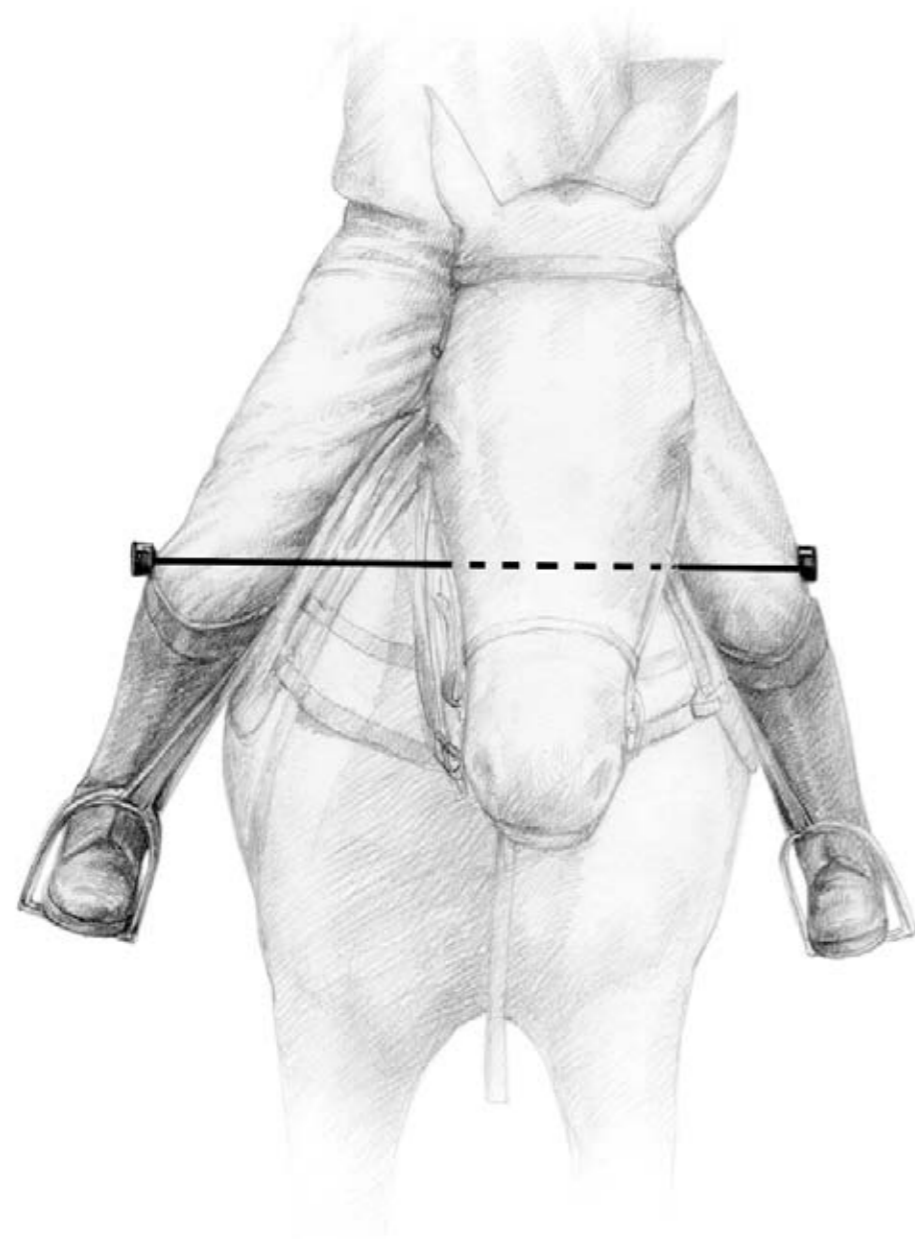
Pyramid.

The Canadian Polo Association conducted a hitting analysis many years ago. If memory serves me correctly, the study included eight players ranging in handicap from a +1 to 8 goals, with two participants having an 8-goal handicap. An interesting feature of that analysis was, between the eight players approximate 200 balls were hit and analyzed, and 92%, or 184, of those hits demonstrated an identifiable degree of instability in the players hitting position within the process of hitting the ball.

That was a truly enlightening discovery for me at that time. Now, all these years later, it is my privilege to write about those analytical statistics within an instructional format.

The first phase of the hitting process to be concerned with is having your horse arrive at the ball being correctly placed for that hit. The next item of concern is you being established in the saddle in a correct, secure and stable hitting platform by the time you have arrived at the ball, and before the downswing is initiated.

There are two critical mechanical factors associated with developing that correct, secure and stable hitting platform. The first is having your feet wider apart than your knees, with the weight in the stirrups more on the big ball of your foot than the little ball. That is important for the purpose of creating a wide foundation to your hitting platform, i.e., "Pyramid Effect."



Bolt through knees.

The second factor of gripping with your upper legs is the most significant characteristic of the polo style of riding, and is significantly influenced by the positioning and use of your feet – squeeze your knees into your horse's shoulders with a firm to strong upper leg gripping pressure as though there were a bolt holding your knees into the horse's shoulders, i.e., "Bolt through Knees Concept".

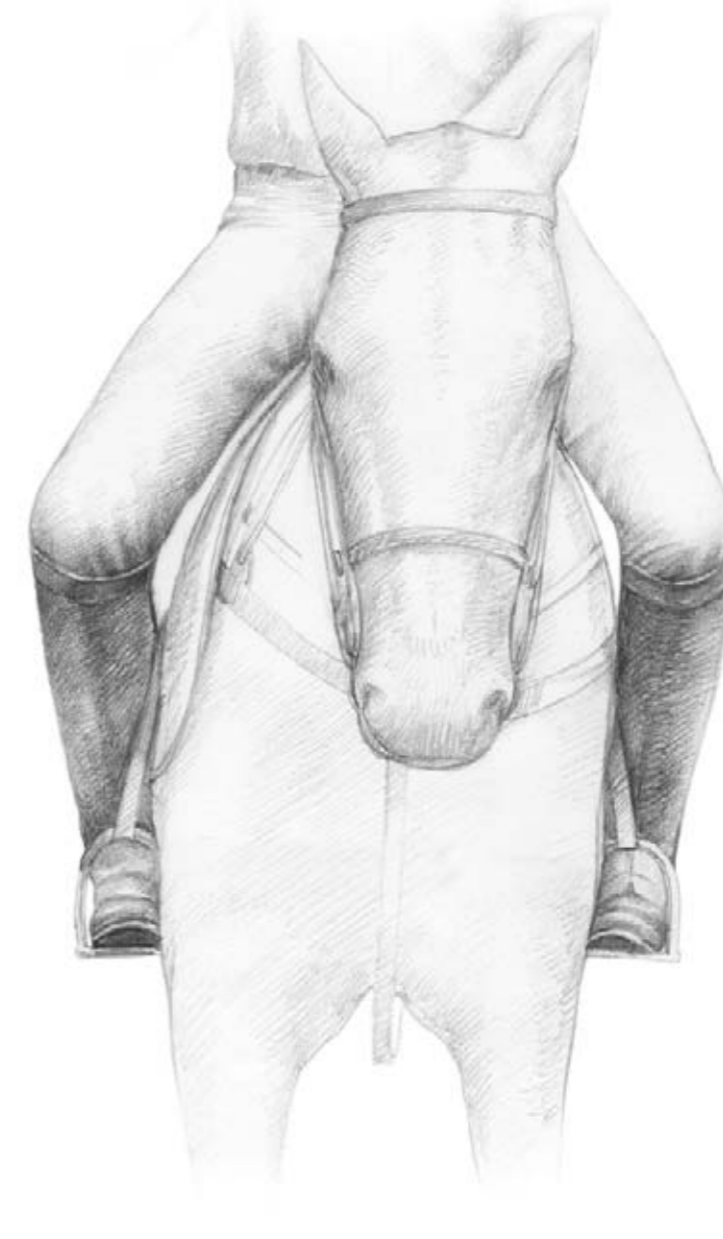
The upper leg gripping pressure is the most direct contact you have with your horse; and, is the strongest source of gripping power you can use for connecting you to your horse. As such, your upper legs (groin to knees) are the primary source from which you establish a stable and effective hitting platform from your horse's back. Typically, when hitting the offside fore shot, you rotate your hips, torso and shoulders clockwise to do so. It is most unfortunate that within that process there has developed a generally accepted concept that you should turn your right toes (foot) down, out and away from your horse. That procedure, I am sure, has been accepted because it makes rotating clockwise easier to accomplish.

The problem with turning your right foot (toes) down and out is that it causes your upper body to fall forward to the degree to which your right foot (toes) has turned down and out. When that happens, the unstable hitting platform issues are just getting started.

When your foot (toes) turn out and away from your horse, your knee does the same, and to pretty much the same degree. When your knee turns out, you are in the process of decreasing the gripping strength, between your upper legs creating the undesired result of losing control of upper body movement throughout the remainder of the hitting process, i.e., instability. That is happening because your seat and hitting platform have become less secure, thereby, causing control of upper body movement to falter throughout the remainder of the hit process.



Close to perfect form.



Feet in, knees out.

Because of a less secure and more unstable, hitting platform from turning your knee out and away from your horse's shoulder, your hitting effort produces a less powerful and inaccurate hit of the ball.

Keep in mind that hitting the polo ball is a mechanical process; much the same as hitting a golf ball, a baseball, or a tennis ball. If you understand the mechanical process of hitting any of those balls then you understand the mechanical process of hitting the others.

One of the more significant mechanical manoeuvres associated with hitting any of those balls is that of having your feet wider apart than your knees. With your feet separated to a greater degree than your knees, your knees are caused to be pushing in towards each other. This, in turn, causes your upper legs to grip more strongly into your horse's shoulders. The stronger upper leg grip allows for more solid contact of you to your horse, producing a more secure and stable platform for you than can possibly be realized when your feet are closer together, forcing your knees to be farther apart (see illustration).

To give you an idea of the upper leg strength needed to create a stable hitting platform, I offer my concept of "Bolt Through Knees" (see illustration). You should be gripping your horse's shoulders as though you have a bolt (nut on one end) passing through your knees and your horse's shoulders. Imagine the nut tightened to the point of having your upper legs gripping and holding your horse's

shoulders with a firm to strong gripping effort. With that degree of maintained upper leg gripping strength, the platform from which you hit the ball has a chance of being both secure and stable. Compared that to your upper leg grip decreasing because your right knee has turned out and away from your horse's right shoulder. The stronger Bolt through Knees grip can only serve to increase your chances of hitting the ball more accurately and strongly.

The strong upper leg grip is not necessarily easy to achieve, however when compared to your knees turning out, or separating from each other; there truly is greater power to be realized when your knees are pressing together throughout the hitting process than can possibly be realized when they are allowed to be separated. The essence of the situation is, even though the concept of turning your foot and knee out has been around for centuries, and has been accepted as correct; the physics of those mechanics just cannot compare favourably to the mechanics of keeping your feet wide, pyramid effect, and, having your knees press in toward each other, Bolt Through Knees. Turning your right foot and knee out may make it easier to rotate your hips, torso and shoulders when executing the backswing of the offside fore shot; however, the effects on the hit are much less desirable than those realized from having a wide foundation (Pyramid), and keeping your knees pressed in toward each other (Bolt). Both are more than significant to the process of building a stable hitting platform, each is essential.

SEASON ENDING INJURY – WHAT'S THE LIMIT

Speedy and perfect recovery after a season ending injury is the capital for every ambitious player. The time frame can be pushed to a certain limit, which needs to be defined individually. The important key is the early correct diagnosis by specialists to start the clocklike personal rehabilitation program within the time frame.

BY DR. ANDREAS KRÜGER PHOTOGRAPHY ALEX PACHECO



Tito Gaudenzi on the ball playing against Gonzalito Pieres.



Christopher Degano and Tito Gaudenzi (right).



Left: Dr. Andreas Krüger. Right: Tito Gaudenzi after his shoulder injury.

INJURY QUICK GUIDE

So what should one do if this happens to you?

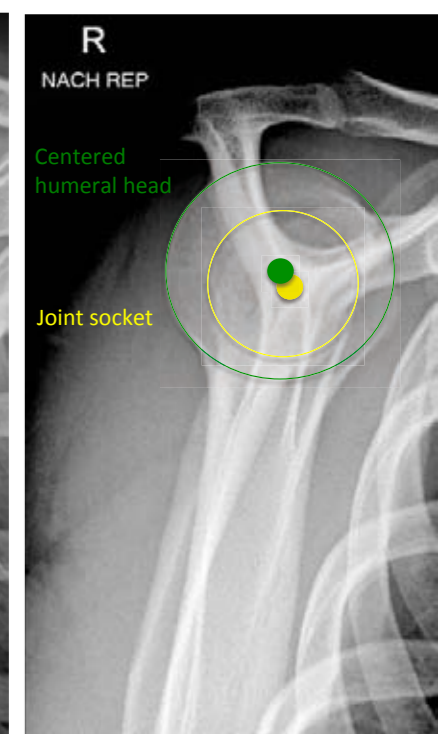
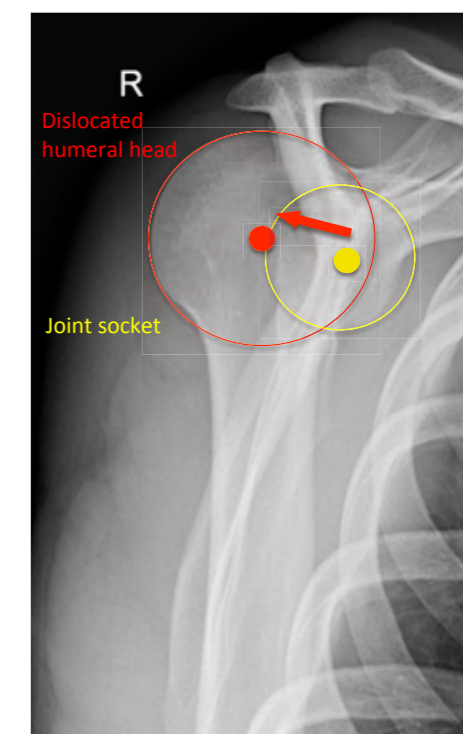
- Immediate correct diagnosis
- Sport injury related specialist
- Physio and physician controlling the progress
- Polo fitted orthopaedic gear

1. Get in the nearest clinic for primary care
2. If medical standard is below level of your mother country get transport back
3. Contact your family doctor to get contact details of orthopaedic specialist immediately
4. Contact polodoc

40 percent of the injuries happening in the sport of polo are non-fatal and happen as a study revealed to the upper extremity resulting from a fall. A typical season ending injury can also result from a direct blow to the shoulder. One of the most difficult to manage injuries is a posterior shoulder dislocation of the hitting arm – a potentially polo sport ending injury. But in case of correct treatment by a team of specialists a speedy recovery is possible. So happened to polo professional Tito Gaudenzi recently. He sustained a minor injury to his shoulder during playing when he received a direct blow to the right shoulder from another player. In spite of the impression that something happened to his shoulder the player was able to end the tournament and played another full medium-goal tournament. During the warm-up for a game abroad a few days later he dislocated his shoulder and needed an urgent reduction. After returning home a specialist team of sport physician and physiotherapy helped with cooling and compression devices.

The shoulder was examined by a sportorthopedic specialized surgeon and an ultra high resolution MRI was performed. A non-operative therapy pathway was designed to start right after a couple of days of rest. Every ascending step within this program was coordinated and guided through contemporary communication including video analysis. After six weeks a first riding session was executed and a fast return to stick and ball training followed by full speed club chukkas. After eight weeks the first high-goal tournament with full playtime was possible.

www.polodoc.ch



• Left side: This is a posterior dislocated shoulder. You can identify the ball, which is out of the socket. Right side: Now the shoulder is reduced. The center of the ball is on the center of the socket.

MALLORCA

Right now, Mallorca is evolving into the new polo hotspot in Europe. Daniel Crasemann knows the Balearic Island for a long time. 18 years ago the polo enthusiast and businessman from Hamburg bought his own polo finca in the east of the island. In spring the fourth edition of the Copa de Pascua was held here.

BY KATRIN LANGEMANN PHOTOGRAPHY VALERIE CRASEMANN, VALERIA CETRARO



Image: Valerie Crasemann



Image: (7) Valerie Crasemann



A cheerful, high-spirited and family atmosphere – this was the fourth edition of the Copa de Pascua in Mallorca. The six participating teams gave their all and competed against each other fiercely. Following three weekends of exciting polo, in the end team Barralina, consisting of Daniel Crasemann (0), Niclas Sandweg (1), Caesar Crasemann (2) and Adrian Laplacette (6), emerged as the winner of the tournament. Team Tom Tailor, including Christopher Kirsch (3) and Gastón Maíquez (6) as well as Uwe Schröder (0) and his daughter Naomi Schröder (0), was placed second. The Copa de Pascua 2015 was the biggest and most successful edition so far – never before that many teams participated in the tournament at the Barralina Polo Club.

Due to an amendment of the Mallorquin government, which makes it easier to build new polo fields, Mallorca is evolving at fast pace into the new polo hotspot in Europe. With four large private polo facilities already in existence, others are sure to follow and it is clear that the interest has peaked in new development in the southern regions of the Island. But what makes the Balearic Island so attractive to polistas? Daniel Crasemann, organiser of the Copa de Pascua and head of the Barralina Polo Club can tell you the reason: “The spirit of polo in Mallorca is “laughing” polo. Far away from the many political and overambitious topics, which are in the centre of things in the North of Europe, a very friendly and classic polo is being played in Mallorca. I am very happy that the atmosphere during the tournament as well as during the asados and the dinner on the beach had this spirit.”



Image: Valerie Crasemann



Six teams fought for winning the 2015 Copa de Pascua – more teams than ever before. Not only is the interest in the tournament at the Barralina Polo Club increasing, the enthusiasm for the polo island Mallorca also grows rapidly.

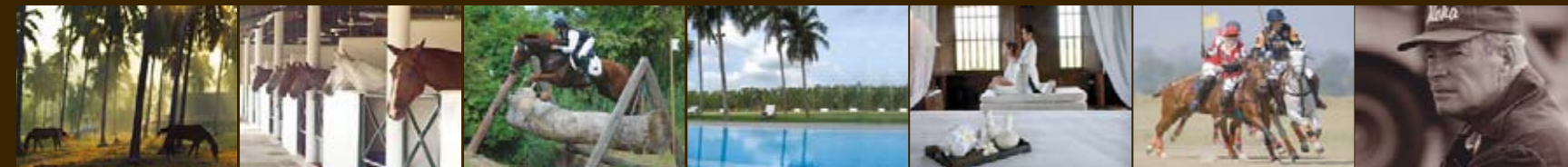


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SALT WATER POOL

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TOURNAMENTS UP TO 14 GOALS NOVEMBER TO APRIL

REGE LUDWIG INTERNATIONAL POLO SCHOOL NOVEMBER TO APRIL



The tournament Copa de Pascua primarily serves the purpose to train the horses for the season, explains Crasemann, who is very pleased with the success of the tournament: "Of course it was a real challenge to provide professional lodging for 120 horses and all the grooms, but everything was in good working order. And the event was a good final rehearsal for our exciting 12-goal tournament taking place in August. By that time our second pitch will be completed, leading to an even tougher competition."

Mallorca has been one of the top holiday islands for a long time. With the current developments and the growing polo community, in the future there will be no way for polistas to ignore the Balearic island. Daniel Crasemann watches the transformation of Mallorca into a polo island with great interest: "There will be definitely a fifth edition of the Copa de Pascua in 2016. And next year there will also be two additional huge fincas including new pitches, so my old vision to turn Mallorca into an very sportive, attractive and most of all easily accessible polo island, more and more becomes reality."



The atmosphere of playing polo in Mallorca is very casual, friendly and relaxed.

INTERESTED IN FINDING THE PERFECT POLO FINCA IN MALLORCA? POLO+10 IS THE RIGHT CONTACT

MALLORCA CHECKLIST

• 11-month polo season

In Mallorca you can play polo 11 months a year. Pasturing for the horses is possible all year round. Result: The horses get fast in shape for the new season after a very short winter break.

• Polo community

The polo community in Mallorca is increasing at fast pace, you will already find important polo people in the island. There are already four large polo facilities functioning, and several others are under construction. The goal is to position Mallorca as Europe's polo island.

• Accessibility – short distances – low prices

Mallorca is accessible from all European airports all year round, and at very convenient air fares. Thus, even a weekend trip for practising polo is worth the flight.

• Real estate prices

While the estates with ocean view in the southwest achieve record prices, exciting polo fincas for affordable prices are up for grabs yet in the rest of the island. The east of Mallorca is where the polo heart of the island beats. The "newcomers" of the international polo scene are currently settling here.

• Infrastructure

The infrastructure in Mallorca is great. A big advantage in terms of accessibility, comfort and quality of life (also for the horses).

• Legal security

As an EU country Spain provides legal security, the juristic "proximity" to the neighbouring European countries, unlike in Argentina, is given. A key point when buying horses and real estates, as well as the organization of polo events and polo clubs.

• Climate

Perfect polo climate between 16 degrees in winter and 30 degrees in summer.

• The "golden Visa"

When you buy real estate in Spain with at least a value of 500,000 Euro, you acquire at the same time the precondition for obtaining a residence permit, with which you can move free to all EU countries. Spain is the third EU country to introduce this exemption, after Cyprus and Portugal.

• Benefits of Mallorca

Moreover, compared to other polo destinations as Argentina, in Mallorca you count with all the benefits of being part of the EU, as well the best weather conditions that no other place can offer, and of course, in a much shorter distance from your home country, in case you live in Europe.

HOW TO GET TO MALLORCA

The Palma de Mallorca airport is approximately eight miles outside of the city. About 22 million passengers from 177 destinations use the airport each year. Mallorca is accessible from any point of Europe in a few hours.

DIRECT FLIGHTS TO MALLORCA

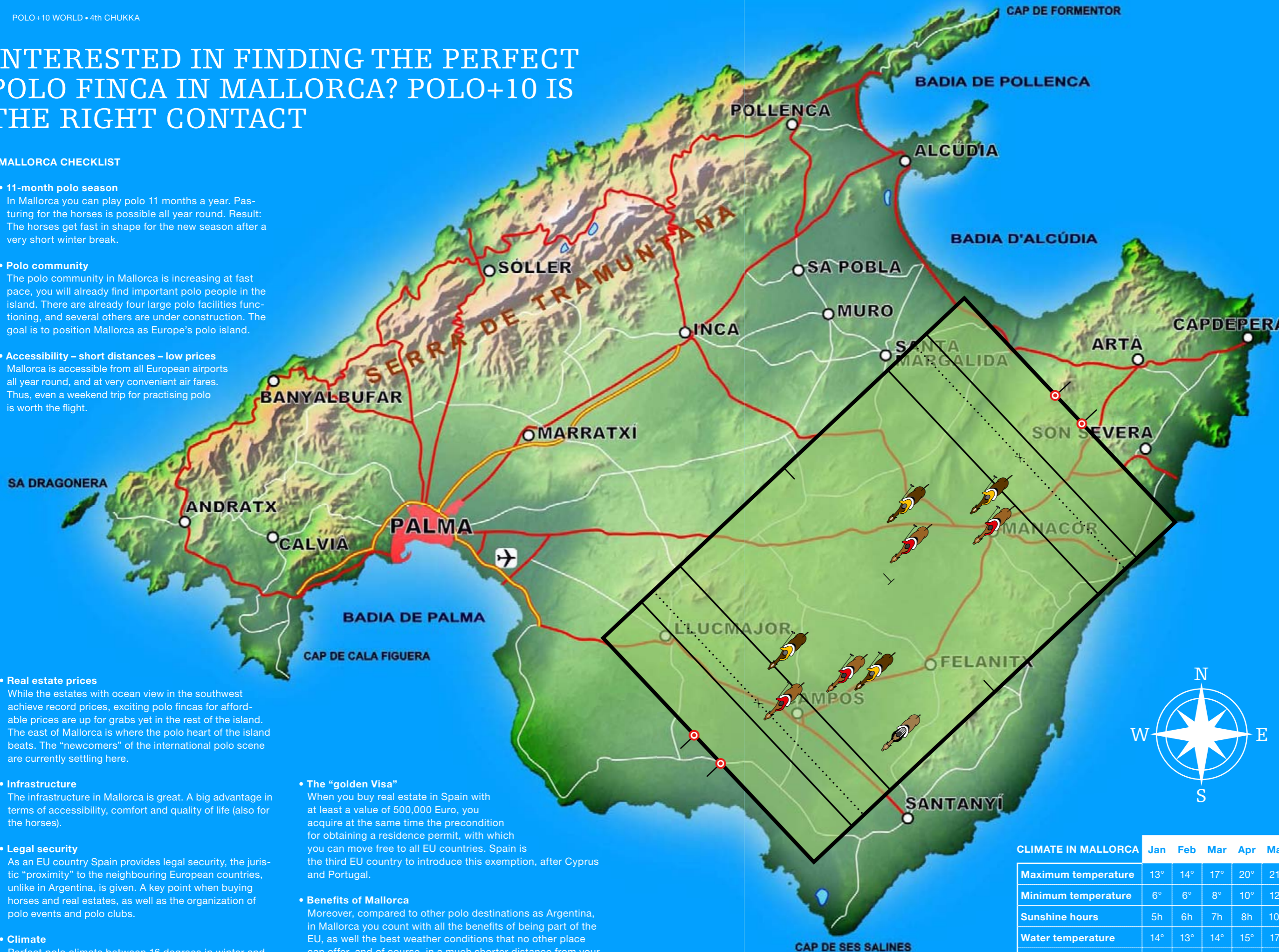
Departure	Time of flight	Number approx.
Hamburg	2h 15min	6x daily
Berlin	2h 15min	6x daily
Frankfurt	2h 15min	5x daily
Düsseldorf	2h 15min	6x daily
Zurich	2h	3x daily
Stockholm	3h 40min	2x daily
Paris	2h	4x daily
Madrid	1h 25min	14x daily
London	2h 30min	12x daily
Moscow	4h 30min	1x daily
Warsaw	4h 50min	2x weekly

MALLORCA FACTS AND FIGURES

Mallorca is the largest island of the Balearic Islands in the Western Mediterranean, situated at approx. 170 kilometres from the Spanish continent near Barcelona. The island's East-West expansion is 98 kilometres, its North-South expansion is 78 kilometres, and its coastline is 550 kilometres long. Mallorca's climate is moderate subtropical with an average of 7.9 hours of sun a day, and moderate amounts of rainfall. It has a registered population of 876,147 (in 2012), 407,648 of which live in the capital of Palma. The official languages on the Balearic Islands are Catalan and Spanish (Castilian). In Mallorca, people speak Majorquin (mallorquí), a dialect of the Catalan language.

CLIMATE IN MALLORCA	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Maximum temperature	13°	14°	17°	20°	21°	27°	31°	31°	28°	23°	18°	15°
Minimum temperature	6°	6°	8°	10°	12°	17°	20°	21°	18°	14°	10°	7°
Sunshine hours	5h	6h	7h	8h	10h	11h	11h	10h	9h	7h	6h	5h
Water temperature	14°	13°	14°	15°	17°	20°	25°	27°	25°	22°	18°	15°
Days of rain	8	6	6	6	6	3	1	3	5	9	9	9

Source: www.reise-klima.de





1 Villa Italia 2 Romantic terraces and swimming pool 3 View from the tower room overlooking the bay 4 Suite at Villa Italia.

VILLA ITALIA

Overlooking the bay of glamorous Port d'Andratx, the 4-star hotel "Hotel Villa Italia" is a dream escape where you can enjoy romantic and relaxed days on the island of Mallorca.

BY STEFANIE STÜTING PHOTOGRAPHY VILLA ITALIA

It's those precious, unforgettable moments that you will remember for years to come. Special encounters, special locations, a unique atmosphere. The Hotel Villa Italia in Port d'Andratx in Mallorca is one such place. The 4-star hotel is overlooking the glamorous bay. Steps, terraces, balconies, flowers – and a swimming pool and spa in the middle of it all. The far-reaching view of the bay with its harbour for yachts, the lighthouse to the left and the open sea: erected in the 1950s as the summer residence for the De Vitta family, who spearheaded construction of the Port d'Andratx harbour,

the architecture is reminiscent of a mix of Palladio-villa and Majorcan finca styles. A German turned the house into a hotel with rooms and suites and the whole villa was renovated and redesigned in 2009. A visit to the villa restaurant is particularly worth your while: for the past 25 years, native Swiss Christian Catrina has been the chef and offers creative cuisine with Mediterranean and international specialities.

www.hotelvillaitalia.com

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ESTANCIA EL ROCIO, ARGENTINA

The 135 hectare site combines the authentic charm of the Argentinian Pampa with facilities at the highest level. The Estancia is a family residence, a polo club, a farm and an exclusive boutique hotel. Its unique facilities include one polo field with boards (935 ft x 476 ft), a swimming pool, six fully-equipped houses, stables and six paddocks, two windmills and a fruit and vegetable garden.

Price: upon request



SON CATLAR, MALLORCA

Son Catlar Nou is part of one of the oldest and most emblematic estates in Mallorca, which belonged to the old Mallorcan aristocracy. The 70 hectare property offers the possibility of constructing a very complex polo estate, as it has several stately houses, which are located in the heart of an extensive garden of 1.015 m2, and some agrarian facilities with a total size of 3.351 m2. There is also a large building of 1.994 m2, which can be used as a big stable.

Price: upon request

More information and offers at www.poloplus10.com

Contact us via mail: hello@poloplus10.com or by phone:

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POLO+10
REAL ESTATE



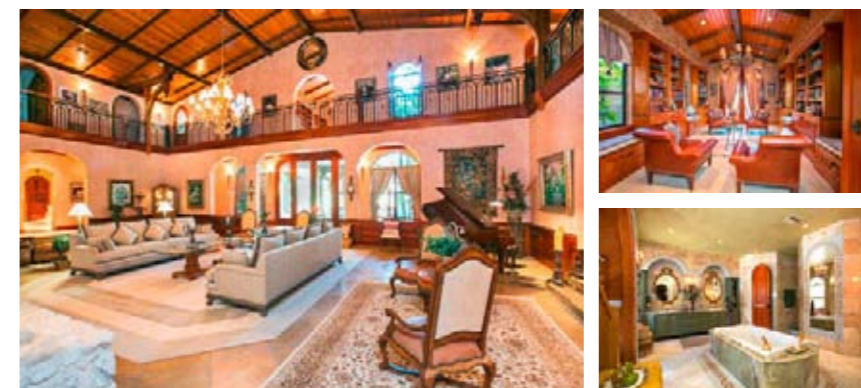
DREAM POLO ESTATE IN FLORIDA

Just 10 minutes from Venice Beach, this Grand Estate provides all that the heart desires.

PHOTOGRAPHY COASTAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Behind the gorgeous gated entry of this spectacular 102 acre estate is the tree-lined quarter-mile approach drive leading to the 24,000 square foot grand residence. The home is capped with a commanding Tuscan tower. This remarkable residence echoes the splendors of San Simeon yet it conveys a very special comfort and warmth. Craftsmanship is superb throughout with attention to every detail. Centering the home is a massive great room with soaring raftered ceilings. The surrounding mezzanine leads to the five bedrooms, each with a distinct character. The Celebrity Chef's kitchen is outfitted beyond belief! The library, billiard room, theatre with cinebar, and gymnasium add so much more in this "most beautiful home in Sarasota."

Residence grounds include an 8-car air conditioned garage, covered patio with a lovely fountain, a dining gazebo separating the stunning pool and the tennis court. A separate fully equipped guest home features a large 1st floor party area with three bedrooms, two baths on the 2nd floor. Everything the discriminating buyer might desire in a home! The fenced and cross-fenced grounds are divided into a series of paddocks plus a 5-furlong railed horse track with chute. Toward the rear is an impeccably maintained 22-stall horse stable just waiting to accommodate your prized steeds. Tack room and dressing area. Full staff quarters on the second floor. Multi-bay equipment garage with foreman's office. Complete details of the many features of this outstanding estate upon request.



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FACTS EQUESTRIAN ESTATE

Grand Estate
Price at \$ 9,800,000

Just 10 minutes to Venice beach and
40 minutes from the Sarasota /
Bradenton International Airport (SRQ)

102 acre equestrian property in
Sarasota (Venice), Florida
Main residence of 24,000 square feet
Guesthouse of 3,000 square feet
22-stall horse stable
5 furlong horse track
Entire property fenced / cross fenced

FEATURES

Eight Bedrooms, seven full Bathrooms
and four half Bathrooms, Library,
Theatre, Cinebar, Billiard Room,
Gymnasium, Pool Area and Gazebo,
8-Car Air-Conditioned Garage, Guest-
house, Stables, Stable Apartments

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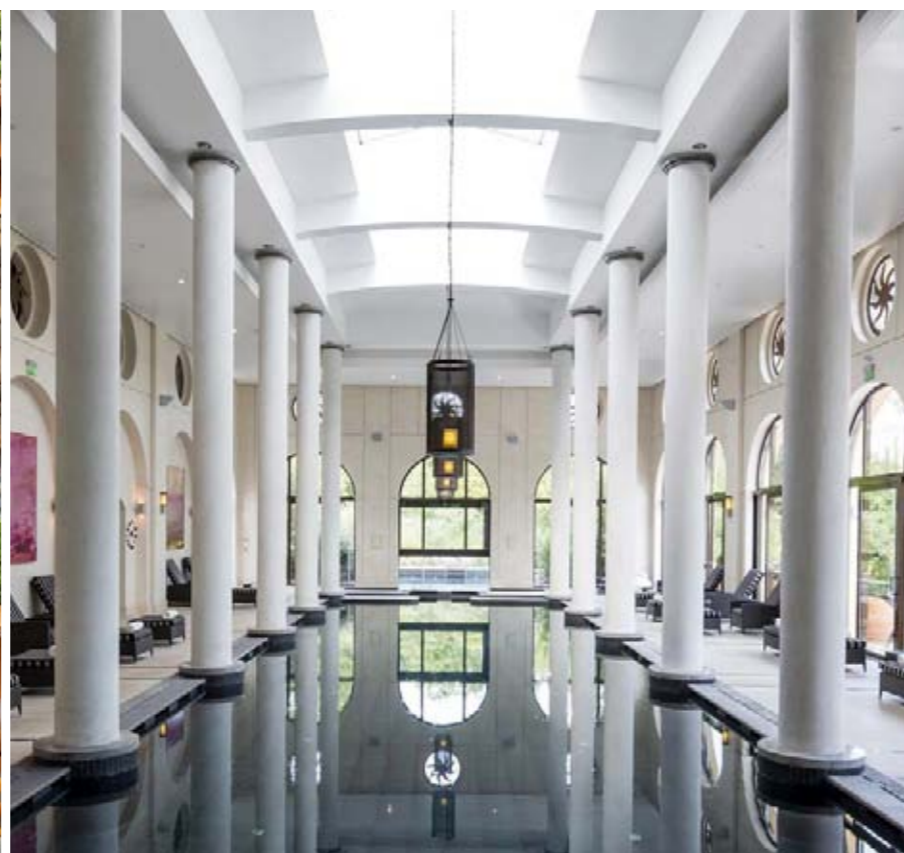
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POLO WITH A TASTE OF PROVENCE

Set back in the heights of the lush backcountry of the Côte d’Azur, the Domaine Pijaubert is a 75-acre estate surrounded by white oak and cork trees. Beyond the fields and olive groves is a honey-colored stone 18th-century “mas”, a farmhouse built on Roman ruins. Call it a postcard perfect vision of Provence, with a panoramic vista of distant blue grey peaks and the neighboring hilltop villages

BY LANIE GOODMAN

In 2001, the polo-loving Pike family acquired this lovely sprawling property and went on to launch a unique concept: the Riviera Polo Club, headed by passionate player, Gary Pike, which now offers highly personalized training. The Pijaubert Polo School, which houses Argentine criollo ponies and a hitting cage with a wooden horse, also hosts bi-annual tournaments, high-profile events and exciting polo demonstrations.

For those seeking relaxation away from the traffic snarls of the coast, the club has developed a custom-designed Polo Holiday that accommodates guests in private apartments on the premises. Whether it’s poolside cocktails, family-style barbecues at the main house or an Argentine asado on the field, the mood is relaxed and convivial. Along with the opportunity to improve polo skills, students can enjoy horseback-riding excursions on a trail through the protected natural reserve of Fondurane, which gradually winds down to the clear blue waters of the lake Saint-Casien. They can also take full advantage of the swimming pool, the nearby outdoor Provencal markets and top-notch country-style restaurants, only a short drive away.

“The Riviera Polo Club isn’t just a school, it’s a lifestyle,” says Alexia Pike, who along with her brother Jamie and sister, Caroline, created the founding team of HPA certified instructors. “At first we decided to open our home to friends and family who enjoy polo,” Alexia explains. “Then we realized that once people discover the sport, they get the bug and want to come back. And not just for the game – there’s nothing like swimming with the horses at the lake at the end of a hot summer day.”

Above all, what sets the Riviera Polo Club apart from other clubs is the intimate atmosphere and focused personal attention. “Those who already have some skills tend to get to a high level quickly,” says Caroline. “Students don’t need to have any experience, because we teach them the A to Z’s about polo. First you have to get comfortable with the horse before we put a stick in your hand and teach you to play.”

Pijaubert Polo School at the Riviera Polo Club. Domaine de Pijaubert, Callian. Tel: +33 (0)6 68 66 05 47
www.pijaubert-polo.com; www.riviera-polo-club.fr

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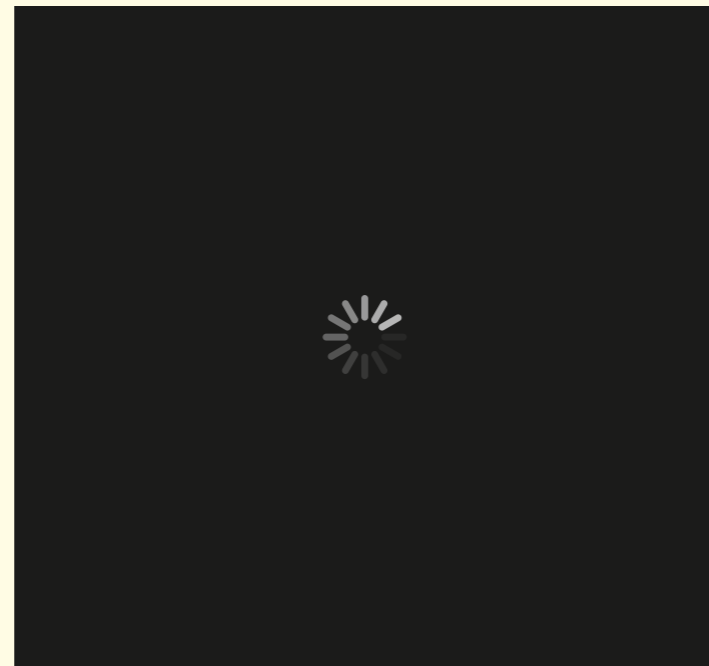


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POLO⁺¹⁰



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1 The neo-Renaissance façade of the hotel in a very appealing corner of the city 2 One of the rooms with different materials especially designed and selected by Martin Churba 3 The playroom, perfect for a break in the heart of the city.



ESPLENDOR HOTEL BUENOS AIRES

Strategically located in the heart of Buenos Aires in the famous and traditional district of San Martín y Córdoba, the Esplendor Hotel Buenos Aires is an authentic urban spot.

PHOTOGRAPHY ESPLENDOR BUENOS AIRES

Combining a beautifully restored neo-Renaissance façade with cutting-edge interiors, this hotel has a rich history and is also home to a permanent art exhibition by the Argentinian art collective Mondongo. It is a perfect boutique hotel, located in the heart of exciting Buenos Aires. Strategically situated in the famous and traditional district of San Martín y Córdoba, the Esplendor Hotel Buenos Aires is an authentic urban spot that links the city's various different tourist attractions: the Microcentro, Puerto Madero, Corrientes Avenue, Retiro and Santa Fé Avenue. The hotel is located adjacent to the famous shopping mall Galerías Pacífico and the lively Florida Street and was originally designed by architects Agrelo and Le Vacher in 1889. It was one of the first hotels in Buenos Aires and the absolute favourite of English immigrants. Remodelled in 2005, it has retained its original character but now has a modern interior, meaning that the architectural interior is completely different to the exterior façade. A minimalist vertical structure was designed with the antique patios of the hotel acting as a centrepiece.

Inside the rooms, a wide range of innovative and interesting materials has been used. Designed by the renowned Argentinian designer Martin Churba for his label Tramando, they cover everything from the headboards of the bed to the pillows and even the lamps. The very singular

works of art from the art collective Mondongo decorate the hallways of Esplendor with contrasting and divergent materials ranging from play dough, cookies, threads, nails, crystals and even gold chains. Between these works are images of famous Argentine figures from the country's popular culture, such as Maradona, Gardel, Piazzolla, Evita and Borges.

This avant-garde hotel also offers several amenities, such as beauty treatments and massage therapists in your own room, a fully-equipped gym, playroom, business centre and the very attractive Mott restaurant which remains faithful to its concept of seasonal fresh market cuisine, thereby guaranteeing the freshness and quality of each dish. With three room categories, this unique hotel surprises guests with carefully designed rooms that are harmonious, modern and comfortable. The VIP suites also offer a premium option that encourages guests to enjoy their relaxation to the maximum with integrated double size jacuzzis, queen size beds, perfect mattresses and wide spaces that provide exactly the level of quality comfort the hotel wants to give its guests.

For more information, discover Esplendor at www.esplendorbuenosaires.com. Reservations: +54 115 256 8814 or reservasbsas@esplendorbuenosaires.com

MUCH MORE THAN A SPORT

Mark Cameron is the Brand Experience Director for Jaguar Land Rover. His responsibilities include looking up and setting sponsorship strategies from the global headquarters. In this interview, he explains how the brand selects and measures events, what is so attractive about polo, and points out Land Rover's actions with British Polo Day.

LAND ROVER AS LUXURY BRAND AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURER HAS CONNECTED ITSELF WITH POLO, INCREASING ITS PRESENCE EVERY YEAR, FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS OR MORE. WHICH WERE THE INITIAL FACTORS THAT LEAD THE BRAND TOWARDS CHOOSING TO SPONSOR THE SPORT?

On Land Rover's side we have several lines of product, the principal ones being Range Rover, Defender and Discovery. About three years ago, we looked at our target customers and we did an analysis with our agencies, particularly our media planning agencies, to understand what were the passions and interests of the customers. That gave us a certain profile, and then we extracted from that data that there was a strong tendency for sport activities. For Land Rover those activities were rugby, sailing and equestrian sports, and particularly for the last two, there is a product connection as many of those customers need the car as a towing vehicle. Having identified the passions and interests, we researched the sponsorship activities of our main competitors, to make sure that we were not going into a space that was already highly invested by them. Within equestrian sports we wanted to make sure that we covered the basic customers in terms of wealth, and the Range Rover family of cars particularly fits perfectly with the polo world.

HOW WOULD YOU ASSOCIATE LAND ROVER AND POLO?

I think although polo is a very serious sport, played at a high level, there is also a lifestyle connotation that goes with it, and through the associations with polo we are able to reach those looking to be associated with that lifestyle, through our brand and our products. Polo is much more than a sport, and that is what is interesting.

HOW DO YOU SELECT YOUR EVENT SPONSORSHIPS? IN WHICH WAY THE CLUBS AND TOURNAMENTS ARE EVALUATED BY LAND ROVER?

Anything we decide on investing by sponsorships is measured around a number of different things. One of the indexes is how many cars would we sell to the audience that we reach. In the case of polo, this is a bit difficult to measure, but we do know by word of mouth or by observing year after year that they do consume our products. The second thing we measure is the reach in terms of the immediate PR coverage that we get as a result of the event itself, and we have a mechanism through which we get the equivalent advertising value of any coverage that Land Rover gets. We also use the events to capture media content, whether it is film or photos, which we can push through our social media channels, so then we can also measure this reach, then we put all that together and divide it into our direct costs to get a return on investment. All our sponsorships are evaluated upon return on invest.

THE LINK BETWEEN LAND ROVER AND BRITISH POLO DAY IS GROWING STRONGER EVERY DAY. WE UNDERSTAND THAT ONE OF THE GOALS OF BRITISH POLO DAY IS TO PROMOTE UK LIFESTYLE AND PRODUCTS WORLDWIDE. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT IT?

Our major competitors are principally German: Mercedes, Audi, Porsche. Jaguar Land Rover needs to separate from them by standing next to something that is distinctly different, and particularly the Range Rover line of products is very British, premium and luxury. Joining a platform like British Polo Day that celebrates the best of British luxury, gives us a point of difference that allows us to talk about our brand and products in a different way than our competitors. Being able to work alongside with



1 Mark Cameron is the Brand Experience Director for Jaguar Land Rover 2 JJ de Alba playing for Wallerstein at British Polo Day Germany 2013 3 The British Polo Day UK Charity Cup 2013 4 Alex de Lisle playing for Singapore at the British Polo Day UK Charity Cup 2014.

other brands that also attract to the audience means we can benefit from each other's presence, together we are bigger than we could be individually.

WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL APPRECIATION ABOUT THE SPORT OF POLO?

I love it! I have to confess that before I got this job I did not know much about it, though. What fascinates me is this fusion of great sporting achievement and the mastering of the horses, strength and skills that the players must have. Also you have this lifestyle that wraps around it and it is fantastic, very influential and successful people attend polo so you meet really interesting people. It is a great platform for charities and fundraising, significant amounts of money can be raised in the events... It offers so much, still it is so niche and well-targeted, allows the sponsors to introduce their products in a great way to possible customers.

LAND ROVER ALSO SPONSORS OTHER SPORTS AND DISCIPLINES, WHICH WOULD YOU SAY IS THE STRONGEST OF YOUR STRATEGIES? Rugby is probably our biggest investment. Land Rover is one of the main sponsors of the Rugby World Cup taking place in September, and that is where the most of our investments are going at the moment. But over the years we have been in sailing over 20 years, and also in other equestrian sports than polo. All our sponsorships are successful in their own way, markets like China are starting to understand and embrace sailing and polo and it is very interesting to accompany that. ●

Further information and picture galleries of the British Polo Day you find on the internet at www.landrover.com www.britishpoloday.com www.poloplus10.com

WHERE -to- BUY

Spring has finally arrived in the northern hemisphere and with it the first polo tournaments of the season. The sun is shining brightly and polo aficionados are starting to show up at the pitch, so sunglasses are a must-have item. To fully enjoy the action on the fields, your eyes need to be protected and we present you with the best sunglasses of the season here.

BY MARÍA PAULA FERNÁNDEZ

PRADA RAW: LIMITED WOOD FRAMES EDITION



Prada has graced us once again with a fascinating ocialli collection, Prada Raw, made from selected precious wood. Classical elegance and vintage references mix harmoniously with black walnut and Malabar ebony in this limited collection. The natural irregularity of the wood's grain turns each pair of glasses into a unique creation, the utmost expression of masterly craftsmanship. Prada Raw is available exclusively at selected Prada stores: Milan Galleria, Paris Faubourg St-Honoré, London Old Bond Street and New York 5th Avenue. Our favourite is this 70s-inspired pair, in which the sophisticated silhouette of the square frames has been handmade in this beautiful wood. A piece with timeless style, and polo, the sport of kings, is the most exclusive of outdoor activities and a perfect match for them.

www.prada.com

PERSOL 649 SERIES IS AS COOL AS IT GETS



Originally designed in 1957 for Turin tram drivers, 649 soon rose from its functional beginnings. It then became a legend when Marcello Mastroianni wore it in the classic film "Divorce Italian Style". Combining the best of design and technology, its unique shape has become the unmistakable brand icon over time. Persol is a byword for understated cool, timeless style and the ideal sunglasses choice for your polo holidays in the sunniest locations.

www.persol.com

BERLIN-BASED MYKITA EYEWEAR BRAND DEVELOP MYLON, HI-TECH MATERIALS AND AVANT-GARDE DESIGN



Mykita is a modern manufactory that combines precision craftsmanship with new technologies. The Mylon line of the brand blurs the boundary between fashion and sports. State-of-the-art design coupled with a material that boasts individual adjustability, low weight and extreme

durability make these spectacles both an outstanding sporting companion and a perfect everyday accessory. The manufacturing process for Mylon has won Mykita recognition and awards. A glimpse into the future through your hi-tech sunglasses.

www.mykita.com

COLOURFUL CLASSICS FROM ORLEBAR BROWN

Launched in 2007 by photographer Adam Brown, Orlebar Brown focuses on flattering, sophisticated swimwear that is suitable for the beach and beyond. Their sunglasses line is the perfect complement to their signature holiday garments. The Beaumont shades are classical yet trendy, as the combination of the crystal flax frames and the cinnamon crystals adds a pop of colour that can brighten any outfit.

www.orlebarbrown.co.uk



COSWAY ROYAL TORTOISESHELL SUNGLASSES

The Paul Smith brand combines a genuine sense of humour and mischief with a love of tradition and the classics, and these sunglasses are no strangers to the spirit of this British brand. The sunglasses comprise a masculine, robust frame inspired by Jim Morrison of The Doors, featuring a chunky royal tortoiseshell blue frame with blue gradient polarised lenses.

www.paulsmith.co.uk



DAMIR DOMA AND MYKITA COLLABORATION

An in-depth study of form, colour and surface laid the foundation for the MYKITA / DAMIR DOMA collaboration. Our favourite from this broad-ranging and colourful collection is the Ritas, a psychedelic feminine model inspired by the works of American artist Ruby Sterling that takes us back to Pucci in the 70s, seen here in a cloudy purple shade. Imagine an all-white outfit contrasted with this splash of colour: a fast pass to the best-dressed list at any of the hottest polo events.

www.mykitadamirdoma.com



CHIC, DELICATE AND RADIANT: A PERFECT FIND

Gucci sunglasses are one of the definitive luxury accessories. The sunglasses take inspiration from Gucci's catwalk and spirit and, like the clothing, draw on more than ninety years of heritage. Hardly any lady can resist a bit of sparkle, and these beige acetate glasses with "goffrato" treatment, a special embossing technique, and gold copper metal temples beautifully complemented with dark green shaded lenses provide the perfect, subtle highlight.

www.gucci.com



MIU MIU RIMLESS CAPSULE EYEWEAR COLLECTION, ALTERNATIVE STYLE WITH A STRONG PERSONALITY

Miu Miu is the brand of choice for every fashion girl, with its elegant, yet quirky, vibrant and fresh spirit. The Miu Miu glasses collection is aimed at a sophisticated, laid-back clientele that is particularly attentive to new trends. Last year Miu

Miu launched their "Rasoir" capsule eyewear collection and it included this statement-making pair of semi-rimless round glasses. These dare-to-be-different specs are irresistible.

www.miumiu.com



POLO⁺¹⁰_{WORLD}



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