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A WORLD UNITED BY POLO



Dear Polo Enthusiasts,

Welcome to another fascinating issue of POLO+10 WORLD, in which we once again explore the world of polo in all its diversity and cultural richness.

At the centre of this issue is our in-depth conversation with Wolfgang Weiss, the founder of the Polo & Country Club Gut Seeburg. Weiss discusses his beginnings in polo in 1987 in Berlin-Frohnau, his passionate collection of polo documents and memorabilia covering over 100 years of German polo history, and the challenges and achievements he has experienced along the way. His story is not only a personal chronicle, but also reflects the development of polo in Germany.

Another highlight of this issue is the interview with the patron of the Standing Rock Polo Team, Philipp Mueller, who reveals his philosophy behind the success of the young and dynamic team. The balance of sporting discipline, dedication to quality, and familial team spirit makes Standing Rock a vibrant and most inspirational team on the international polo fields. The plans for the coming season and the efforts to promote fair play and community involvement are setting new standards in the sport of polo.

As always, Polo Park Zurich is an integral part of our coverage, whose continued support and commitment to the sport of polo are indispensable, not forgetting the global polo events that take us from the snowy fields of Aspen to the vibrant tournaments in Argentina.

We hope that this issue of POLO+10 WORLD will inspire you and give you deep insights into the world of polo, which is far more than a game — it is a way of life that connects people around the world.

Warmest regards,

THOMAS WIRTH

Founder and Publisher

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On the cover: The amazing polo player Hope Arellano at the FIP World Polo Championship 2022. © David Lominska Photography Editorial: Roberto Hegeler

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+10Tournaments and people, polo POLC science and lifestyle - the new issue

of POLO+10 World brings you stories from the whole polo universe.



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United by a passion for polo - experience the strength and reach of our global network.

25TH ZÜRICH INTERNATIONAL POLO LADIES CUP 08

Polo Park & Country Club Zurich is celebrating 25 years of Ladies Polo this season, making it the oldest Ladies Cup in the world. Since 2017, the club has implemented ladies' handicap in Switzerland, offering one of the largest ladies-only tournaments in Europe, providing polo games from 12 to 0 goals. All levels and ages are welcome to participate in the tournament. Since its start, the club has had the pleasure of welcoming players from over 35 countries, united in their love for the sport and driven by their competitive spirit.

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Quick reaction and a near-reflex assessment of situations are of the essence of tactical play and safety. The next two examples highlight the right, and the wrong reactions in a given situation.

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BY POLO+10



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South African Polo Association



Central European Polo Association



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Über Polo



OLO TEAN

Polo Team



La Republica Polo Club



PoloPark Berlin



Polo Pop Paintings

















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For the first time in 2017, the Ladies' Cup was divided into two leagues to welcome faster polo and inspire more players to join the higher level.





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It's hard to believe that it has already been 25 years since Polo Park Zurich began organizing a dedicated tournament for women's polo. Even before the rise of female-only competitions, the former owner, Markus Gräff, had the brilliant idea of creating a ladies-only tournament, as the club had always had women players.

Every year, the level of the game fluctuated depending on the number of guests, players, and locals participating. However, there was always a minimum of two teams and a maximum of eight.

In 2016, the tournament organization reached a milestone. Sébastien Le Page invited Sunny Hale to speak and support the players, but little did he know that this would take the tournament to the next level. It was a unique and precious occasion to spend three days with Sunny, who constantly coached the players and encouraged them. She pointed out their weaknesses and gave them advice on how to improve, as well as how to take advantage of their strengths.

Sunny's vibrant lecture about her journey from starting at a lower level to being chosen by Adolfo Cambiaso and winning the US Open with him, was an unforgettable experience for all attending members. Her speech inspired many and still resonates in the hearts of many today.

In 2017, Morgan Van Overbroek made a significant change by introducing two different levels for the Ladies Cup - a low goal accessible to all players and a medium goal with a level of 8 to 12 goals. This allowed the Ladies Cup to be included in the Women's Polo Tour rankings, allowing higher-ranked players to earn more international points. This was also the first season where players could use their ladies' handicaps to play. Switzerland was one of the pioneering countries in Europe to officially implement this change. On the same weekend, Hazel Jackson, who was playing the 10 goals mixed was also a guest and motivational speaker for the ladies players. Her powerful playing style left a strong impression on all players.

And since 2017, the medium goal was launched and became an almost inevitable stop in the Ladies European circuit.

While at the club, they had the opportunity to witness several players transitioning from low to medium goal, enjoying the game at a different pace. These players had the opportunity to play alongside experienced international players and learned that not only having great polo skills was important, but also fitness and mental strength. It was a significant enhancement for the club to host such players, as it gave the local players the chance to interact with the guest players. The Ladies' Cup is an incredible weekend where polo friendship transcends all borders, and the polo family grows even larger.

The Ladies Cup provides an opportunity for many players to experience the game of polo with all its challenges. They suddenly have to make decisions such as who will shoot penalties, quickly organize their teams, and adjust to a slower pace and shorter shots compared to mixed polo matches. This can make the game much more demanding for each player. Many players also come to realize the importance of maintaining good fitness levels for all levels of polo as every player's contributions count at every moment of the game.

Morgan von Overbroek: "The Ladies Cup tournament is typically held on the first weekend of July. If one is available that weekend and enjoys playing with enthusiastic players of all skill levels, they are invited to join. A fun and competitive experience on the field is guaranteed."

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BY UNITED STATES POLO ASSOCIATION PHOTOGRAPHY DAVID LOMINSKA, MICHELLE VANTINE PHOTOGRAPHY

Hope Arellano was honored for 10-Goal Handicap Achievement at National Polo Center.

> ARELLANO HOPE







Hope Arellano is an Active Team USPA Member. Team USPA is a USPA program designed to enhance and grow the sport of polo in the United States by identifying young, talented American players and providing mentored training and playing opportunities leading to a pool of higher rated amateur and pro players and the resultant giveback to the sport of polo.

America's latest 10-goaler, Hope Arellano, was honored for achieving the sport's highest handicap rating at the Joe Barry Memorial final on Sunday, January 28, at the National Polo Center in Wellington, Florida. Arellano was also presented with the Hugo Dalmar Award for her outstanding display of sportsmanship and character on the polo field.

"Since before the COVID pandemic, I had had it on my mind to present Hope with the Hugo Dalmar trophy," said USPA Chairman Stewart Armstrong, who had received the honorable distinction twice. Presented in memory of Hugo Dalmar Jr. and his contributions to the USPA, the trophy is annually awarded to the player who best exemplifies the sportsmanship characteristics inherent to the sport of polo. Arellano is the third female player to receive the award since its inception in 1977.

The 20-year-old Active Team USPA member has amassed quite the following over the years, collecting countless accolades and awards along her impressive career trajectory. A fourth-generation player, Arellano knew at just 9 years old that she wanted to be a professional like her father, Hall of Famer Julio Arellano. Her first adult tournament at the age of 11 served as the catalyst for her polo career. At 14 years old, Arellano was rated 3-goals in women's outdoor when she first competed in and won the U.S. Open Women's Polo Championship, making her the youngest player to ever win the tournament.

Arellano made headlines again in 2022 for her appearance in the XII FIP World Polo Championship as the first woman to compete for the United States in the international competition. In December of 2023, she achieved the ultimate mark of a professional with the coveted 10-goal handicap in both women's outdoor and arena polo. Arellano's achievement also marked a significant accomplishment for American polo; Arellano is the first American woman to achieve a 10-goal Women's Outdoor Handicap since the legendary Sunny Hale, and the first American to achieve any 10-goal status since Polito Pieres in 2015. She is also the youngest American to reach a 10-goal women's handicap.

In the last year alone, Arellano led La Fe to victory in the U.S. Open Women's Polo Championship in March, winning game MVP in the final. In the fall, the 10-goaler became the first American to win the Women's Argentine Open with El Overo Z7 UAE.

"U.S. polo needs inspiration in order to 'keep the flame' of American polo excellence burning," Armstrong told. "Hope's achievement of a 10-goal rating along with the U.S. Open Women's Polo Championship victory and the Argentine Women's Open Championship victory are inspirational to women and men all across the USA."

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Cover: Thanks to David Lominska, for the POLO+10 WORLD cover picture (The amazing polo player Hope Arellano) & many thanks to Pascal Renauldon / RB Presse for the POLO+10 cover picture (The excellent polo players Pablo McDonough and Facundo Pieres). Design: POLO+10, www.poloplus10.com / Mock Up Magazine: Freepik.com





A FEELING OF FINE LIFESTYLE

Louisa's Place combines the best of two worlds: the typical charm of Berlin's Golden Age with contemporary luxury and first-class service.

BY LOUISA'S PLACE HOTEL BERLIN PHOTOGRAPHY CATHLEEN HERWARTH VON BITTENFELD

Our privately run boutique hotel is located in the pulsating heart of West Berlin, directly on the legendary Kurfürstendamm. The outstanding quality of this individual hotel is its uniqueness. Instead of the usual units,



it offers spacious rooms and suites ranging in size from 46 to 117 square meters. This exceeds the standards of conventional hotels by far. Discerning guests who appreciate not only luxury but also a private atmosphere and exclusive comforts will find their retreat here.

Louisa's Place reveals itself as a classically elegant city palace that impresses with its attention to detail. From the library with its fine wood paneling to the garden room with its marble-framed fireplace and silk wallpaper, every corner exudes timeless elegance. Almost all the rooms & suites have separate sleeping and living areas, and some even offer additional amenities such as a private workroom, winter garden or balcony. Another absolute specialty is the fully equipped kitchen in all rooms - especially for long-term stays and families.

But what really sets Louisa's Place apart from other hotels is its exceptional service. Here, hospitality is not a duty, it's a passion. Every guest is looked after personally, from the handwritten welcome letter to individual assistance with shopping and other requests. The hotel exudes an atmosphere of exclusivity and warmth that makes every stay an unforgettable experience. However Louisa's Place also leaves nothing to be desired in terms of facilities. A private pool, sauna and steam bath, a gym and massage treatments ensure relaxation and well-being. A hairdressing salon, a trendy restaurant and the exciting Vesper Bar invite you to linger, while the small inner courtyard with garden is a green oasis in the middle of the vibrant capital.

Louisa's Place Hotel combines the best of two worlds: the typical Berlin charm of an historic building paired with contemporary luxury and first-class service. The hotel's host Sven Schimank and his internationally experienced team stand for professionalism, discretion and personal service at the highest level.

For fans of polo, Louisa's Place Hotel is more than just a place to stay - it is a lifestyle statement. This is where tradition, present and future meet. Here luxury is not only felt in amenities, but also in a unique experience for the senses. Welcome to Louisa's Place, where the charm of Berlin meets exclusive lifestyle.

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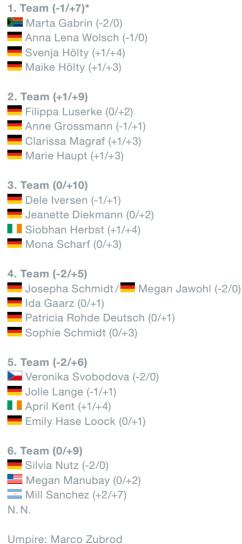
4TH **INTERNATIONAL LADIES CUP** POLOPARK BERLIN, JULY 12 TO 14, 2024

An international tournament of the highest caliber: Teams from five nations, accompanied by "the Voice of Polo" Jan Erik Franck, and a diverse program await the guests.

BY POLO+10 PHOTOGRAPHY POLO SYLT

Preparations for the 4th International Ladies Cup at PoloPark Berlin are in full swing, and the tournament is shaping up to be a standout event in the polo sports calendar. With six teams from five nations, attendees can expect an international competition enriched by the commentary of Jan Erik Franck, known as "the Voice of Polo," adding a unique atmosphere to the event. Beyond exciting matches, a diverse program awaits, including a Hat Contest – a highlight that underscores the tradition and elegance of polo. The support from renowned sponsors such as Wolfgang Weiss's fashion brand "blanche," Polo Sylt, and Ingo Pyko Real Estate enhances the tournament experience. A new feature this year is the option for table reservations, offering guests an exclusive tournament experience. Complementing this are top-notch gastronomy and musical accompaniment by Polo DJ Sebastian, ensuring a perfect ambiance. The upcoming release of official women's handicaps by the German Polo Association (DPV) marks an important step in promoting and recognizing women's polo. The forthcoming tournament at PoloPark Berlin stands out for its high-caliber field of participants, a versatile program, and support from distinguished sponsors. It promises to be an unforgettable event for all polo enthusiasts and guests, further highlighting the sport's allure.

TEAMS



Umpire: Marco Zubrod Commentator: Jan Erik Franck *(HDC/Women's HDC)

AM CHAMPAGNERBERG JI SEEBUR

Original flag 1906: Tour under DPV gallery + seminar room (youtube.com)

1906

CLUB

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INTERVIEW WITH WOLFGANG WEISS AT GUT SEEBURG IN MARCH 2024 An interview with Wolfgang Weiss: Almost four decades of polo passion and the founding history of the Gut Seeburg Polo & Country Club.

BY POLO+10 PHOTOGRAPHY FRANK ALTMANN / UNITEDIMAGES.COM

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雕料





 Maifeld 1989 World Championship
 Barnete - English polo painter 3 Collection of the Simplicissimus from 1909 4 Cups 1991 -2006 5 Maifeld 1992 international polo tournament 6 Helmets and equipment 7 Polo tournaments - 2 decades national and international 8 Shirts German championship 1995 9 Barnete -English polo painter English polo painter
 Team shirt German championship 1995
 Original packaging of 150 bamboo balls from J. Salters & Son **12** 7 Polo tournaments -2 decades national and international **13** Polo poster Berlin-Frohnau 1927 **14** Head protection (after 1900) **15** Coloured polo game scene from approx. 1910 **16** Polo goals from approx. 1930 **17** Tournament helper cap 1995 **18** Posters of national polo events **19** Bamboo balls with personal dedications **20** Historical club sign (in the possession of Wolfgang Weiss since 1990) **21** Barnete - English polo painter.



Symbolic handover of the contract between Thomas Strunck and Wolfgang Weiss, sealing a partnership for the next 10 years.

An interview with Wolfgang Weiss, the founder of the Polo & Country Club Gut-Seeburg, who has been active in the sport of polo for 36 years and founded a polo facility at Gut-Seeburg near Berlin after the fall of the Berlin Wall. He has collected polo documents with over 100 years of German polo history from around the world, offering a fascinating opportunity to gain deep insights into this unique sport, his personal experiences, and the heritage of polo in Germany. Ten questions from POLO+10, covering a wide range of topics and addressing his experiences, challenges, achievements, and vision:

YOU HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN POLO FOR 36 YEARS. CAN YOU TELL US WHAT ORIGINALLY BROUGHT YOU TO POLO AND WHAT WAS YOUR GREATEST MOTIVATION TO BECOME ACTIVE IN THIS FIELD?

My enthusiasm for polo began in 1987 in Berlin-Frohnau with the sponsorship of polo events. Even though I had no experience with horses or riding, the thrill and aesthetics of polo fascinated me from the very first second. My enthusiasm for the sport quickly led to my first riding lessons, the purchase of horses, and polo lessons in Germany, Argentina, Florida, and California.

AFTER REUNIFICATION, YOU FOUNDED TWO POLO CLUBS IN SEEBURG NEAR BERLIN. WHAT CHALLENGES DID YOU FACE WHEN FOUNDING THE CLUB, AND HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO OVERCOME THEM? HOW DID THE FORMER LPG SITE BECOME TODAY'S POLO & COUNTRY CLUB WITH THE AFFILI-ATED POLO PARK BERLIN, WHICH IS NOW MANAGED BY THOMAS STRUNCK?

The founding of the Polo Club Gut Seeburg was aimed at developing a social and sporting background for the game of polo at Gut Seeburg; the Förderverein des Polosports Berlin-Potsdam served as a commercial association for all events and youth work and as a contact point for sponsors.

Over the years, I have freed myself from the clumsiness and restrictions on freedom of action by having a say in the clubs and turned everything into a company, which I will transform into a foundation in the future.

My active sporting days are over, and in Thomas Strunck, I have found a committed tenant with excellent contacts in the polo scene who will continue to run the polo matches in Seeburg.

WHAT PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN POLO ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO YOU, AND WHY?

For me personally, my greatest achievements are not necessarily sporting successes but the enjoyment of the game itself, the memories of a multitude of experiences, the people who accompanied me during this time, and the interesting contacts that I have been able to make in many places around the world as part of the sport from 1990 to the present day.

THE POLO EXHIBITION YOU HAVE PUT TO-GETHER COVERS OVER 100 YEARS OF POLO HISTORY. WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO CREATE THIS EXHIBITION, AND WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACHIEVE WITH IT?

The collection and preservation of historical documents began with my enthusiasm for the sport of polo and its aesthetics and my passion for preserving historical artefacts and antiques. I kept posters and brochures from decades ago without realising that this collection would become unique as documentation, as there are hardly any regional "event prints" left today as future contemporary documents, a fact that is suitable for continuing the polo exhibition.

POLO+10 and the Hurlingham Polo Magazine are the only regular print sources of information about regional polo coverage.

IS THERE A PARTICULAR EXHIBIT OR PIECE IN YOUR POLO EXHIBITION THAT YOU ARE PARTICULARLY FOND OF? IF SO, COULD YOU TELL US ITS STORY?

My favourite piece is a poster for a polo tournament in Frohnau from 1927, which I discovered on a trip to Argentina in Buenos

GUT SEEBURG AM CHAMPAGNERBERG



www.gut-seeburg.de

Aires at the flea market in San Telmo, and the 1906 club flag of the Berlin Polo Club.

HOW DID THE POLITICAL CHANGE IN GERMANY IN 1989 INFLUENCE THE SPORT OF POLO AND ESPECIALLY THE ACTIVITIES AT GUT SEEBURG?

Suddenly, major hurdles such as horse transport by GDR transit were no longer necessary, and rooms and areas were available that opened up new possibilities for spacious horse keeping and created space for polo. Fuelled by the presence of the English as pioneers of polo on the Maifeld and in the barracks in West Germany, our willingness to invest led to the establishment of a large number of polo clubs in a short space of time, e.g., in Hanover with Wolfgang Kailing, in Aspern by the Kirsch family, we at Gut Seeburg, and two further clubs in Phöben and Finkenkrug.

Without reunification, this development would not have taken place, and for 20 years we fought for land with the Treuhand, the BVVG, and the JCC (New York). The property would not have become what it is now without these efforts. Now we see the children of my polo partners from 1990 playing together with their own children and partners.

HOW HAS POLO CHANGED AND HOW DO YOU SEE THE FUTURE OF THE SPORT?

Thanks to digital networking, players and clubs are more closely connected worldwide; contacts can be made more quickly,

and appointments can be arranged. International networking creates independence for clubs from associations and manipulation within them.

Polo equals money and time, and nothing has changed in the last 120 years; the documents from the polo exhibition prove this.

HOW DO YOU PROMOTE YOUNG TALENT AND WHAT IMPORTANCE DO YOU ATTACH TO YOUTH WORK?

Youth and junior work is the cornerstone of polo and is my absolute priority. From the very beginning, we developed a polo youth programme in conjunction with sponsorship and partnerships to reduce costs, to give children the opportunity to learn and practise the sport.

We still pursue this goal today by training children and young people in riding as basic work for the sport of polo. A golf school with a short course and driving range, flats, and guest rooms round off the country club concept. The work with children and young people, such as in Berlin at our Gut-Seeburg art school, therapeutic riding, and our pony farm, are important further mosaic stones in the further development of the club.

WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE PLANS AND VISIONS FOR BOTH POLO ACTIVITIES AND

THE POLO EXHIBITION? ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL PROJECTS OR INITIATIVES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO TACKLE?

We will continue to develop and strengthen the sport of polo in Seeburg with the help of investments and a new 10-year contract with Thomas Strunck, thereby supporting Thomas with his openness to all polo players in Berlin and the polo environment at Ladies and Youth Cups in order to consolidate his previous work at Gut Seeburg.

I will continue to promote and support the sport of polo and guarantee this for the future through a foundation.

I will expand the polo exhibition by continually extending the documentation and continue to make the rooms available for company seminars, meetings, guided tours, and press events.

I would be happy to receive information on suitable objects for purchase.

These questions should not only emphasise the passion and achievements of the initiator and passionate polo player but also offer deeper insights into the culture and development of the sport of polo. Mr Weiss, thank you very much for this interview and all the best for the future development of your impressive polo exhibition.

STANDING RO(

INTERVIEW WITH PHILIPP MUELLER Unity, Professionalism, and Tradition: The Winning Strategy of the Standing Rock Polo Team.

BY POLO+10 PHOTOGRAPHY THE ART OF POLO, STANDING ROCK POLO TEAM/PRIVAT, PRENSA POLO



Left: Pierandrea Mueller Middle: Tough game against Snakebite.

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EDITORIAL & PRINT CUSTOMER MAGAZINES PUBLIC RELATIONS IMAGE BROCHURES SOCIAL MEDIA NEWSPAPERS BOOKS EMPLOYMENT MAGAZINES CORPORATE PUBLISHING

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1 Victory at the Copa de la Plata, Palermo 2 Father and son 3 Teamplay matters 4 Coworth Park Challenge - Final 5 Philipp Mueller with the Savile Cup, the most prestigious and oldest sporting trophy of the southern hemisphere 6 The Polo Team Standing Rock.

THE STANDING ROCK POLO TEAM CAN LOOK BACK ON A SUCCESSFUL YEAR. WHAT MAKES THIS RELATIVELY YOUNG TEAM SO SUCCESSFUL?

Well, last year we played our fourth season in England with three of those being under our old name (Wascosa Polo Team). We try to find a healthy mix of sport and fun, and the way in which team members interact with each other is an important part of this. Everyone in the team has their role and no one is more important than the team itself. Standing Rock is a big family and there's a great atmosphere in the Team. What's more, we aim to be as professional as possible and leave nothing to chance.

WHAT ARE STANDING ROCK'S PLANS FOR THE NEW SEASON?

The new year has started well with a number of tournaments in Argentina and New Zealand some of which have been up to 20-goals. In England, we will also be competing this year in the 12-Goal Victor Ludorum Championship. We'll also have a newly formed High-Goal Team, to allow us to focus initially on the 18-Goal tournaments. Later in the summer, we plan to play again in Chantilly before heading off to Argentina to take part in further tournaments.

WHAT DOES THE ORGANISATION OF STANDING ROCK LOOK LIKE TODAY?

We have our base in England, at the Royal County of Berkshire Polo Club, and at the Guards Polo Club. In Argentina, we recently purchased 20 stables at the La Dolfina Ranch near Cañuelas, which really is becoming the new hotspot in the Buenos Aires area where many of Argentina's best players are now based. We want to expand this base, which will mean adding and training quite a few young horses so that they can play in the years to come.

STANDING ROCK IS MORE THAN A POLO TEAM AND POSITIONS ITSELF AS A BRAND IN THE POLO WORLD. WHAT ELSE IS ON THE AGENDA BESIDES THE POLO TEAM ITSELF?

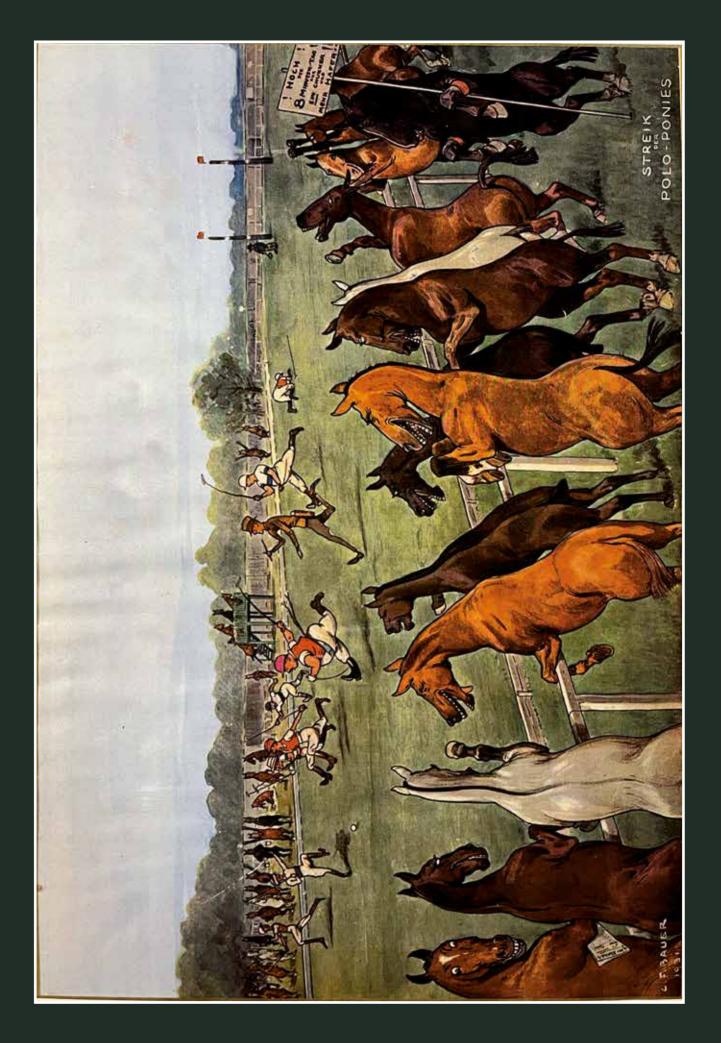
True to the values of the Native Americans, which have been our guiding inspiration, we are committed to fair play and to the welfare of our horses, as well as to the various charities that we support.

CAN YOU TELL US MORE ABOUT THAT?

Starting this year, Standing Rock will donate a Fair Play Award to the HPA for the fairest and most sportsmanlike polo team in England. And of course, we're eager to see how this award will be received. Emma McDermott, one of the most renowned sculptors in Britain, has been commissioned to create the trophy which we hope will be an inspiration for the polo world. Winning is important, but it's also about how you conduct yourself towards your opponents, the umpires and the horses. In addition, we are involved in various charities, such as the Polo in the Park tournament in June in London. The annual party for the grooms, which Standing Rock hosts for all the grooms of the Berkshire Polo Club, is also a must. It's our way of expressing our gratitude for their daily work.

WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES FOR THE NEW SEASON?

Well, I'm hoping for a thrilling season without any accidents because the health of the players and the horses is paramount. At the end of the day, if we can inspire the polo world with our DNA and the values we stand for, then I will be more than pleased. •



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Central European Polo Association

THE CENTRAL EUROPEAN POLO ASSOCIATION WITH A NEW MISSION

POLO+10 is proud to have been an exclusive partner of the Central European Polo Association (CEPA) for a long time. **www.cepapolo.com**

BY CEPA PHOTOGRAPHY JAN ZAVÁZAL ART CARL FRANZ BAUER "STREIK DER POLO-PONIES, 1931"

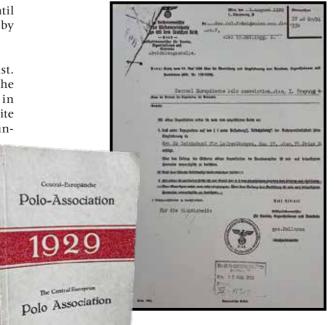
The Central European Polo Association, better known as CEPA, was established by Czechoslovakian polo player Ulrich Ferdinand Kinsky in 1929 in Vienna. It served as the governing body for Polo Clubs in Central Europe, disseminating information from the British Hurlingham Polo Association.

Due to the political situation and the rise of Nazi Germany, CEPA lasted only until August 1st, 1939, when it was abolished by the NS Partei in Vienna.

For almost 70 years, CEPA did not exist. However, when Baron Richard Drasche from Polo Club Schloss Ebreichsdorf in Austria embarked on a mission to reunite polo with former Eastern European coun-

tries, including the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Romania, he revived the Association with Uwe Zimmerman and Maria Dominowski in 2008.

As each country established its own national association, CEPA became redundant. Therefore, it was restructured with a new plan and mission and handed over to someone new. Jan Zavázal, certified HPA Coach, together with Sylvia Strube and Veronika Svobodova from La Republica Polo Club in Prague took over CEPA with a plan to create a tournament calendar for Central Eastern Europe. This aims to spread information about events happening in central Europe as well as in the former Soviet states, where polo has been growing since the early 1990s. In addition, CEPA holds a history that began in the Habsburg monarchy, a legacy that should not be forgotten. CEPA continues to publish this precious history, which is still not 100% complete, as the historical facts of the individual countries are a part of its journey.



CEPA also disseminates Rule Updates from the Hurlingham Polo Association, as it is the respected rule book in Central Europe. Last but not least, a youth program is in place. The aim is to give young people a chance to get involved in this sport by integrating them into the polo society. The mission here is to establish connections with Polo Clubs around the globe and offer job positions for young talents who wish to travel the world by working in Polo.

This comes with a new brand identity and website which were introduced to represent a modern look for modern times. CEPA welcomes tournament organizers to publish their tournaments. •

OPEN DE FRANCE · 12TH WOMEN'S OPEN DE FRANCE · 12TH WOMEN'S OPEN DE FRANCE · TROPHÉE CASTEL 2023

An unforgettable finale at the French Open: TTR Sotheby and Kazak triumph in a thrilling showdown, marking a new chapter in the history of the Open de France.

BY RAB PRESSE PHOTOGRAPHY JUSTINE JACQUEMOT, R&B PRESSE / ADÈLE RENAULDON, POLO-10



(AZA)













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23RD OPEN DE FRANCE

Kazak

- Sébastien Aguettant (0)
- Beltran Laulhe (+3), (2 goals)
- Antonio Heguy (+5), (1 goal)
- Nico Pieres (+8), (8 goals)

Amanara (17)

- Nicky Sen (0)
 Lorenzo Chavanne (+4), (2 goals)
 Santiago Chavanne (+7), (3 goals)
- Benjamin Panelo (+6), (4 goals)

Progression Kazak: 3-2 / 4-5 / 6-5 / 8-7 / 9-9 / 10-9 (OT)

MVP: Beltran Laulhe

Best amateur player of the final by Soriano Motori: Sébastien Aguettant (Kazak)

BPP:

V8 Back Home, owned by Nicky Sen and played by Lorenzo Chavanne (Amanara)

Best Argentinian studbook horse in the final (AACCP BPP) :

Open Exquisita, jouée par Nicolas Pieres (Kazak)



12TH WOMEN'S OPEN DE FRANCE

TTR Sotheby's

- Margaux Guillemin (0)
- Laura Farell (+1), (1 goal)
- Lucy Coddington (+5), (4 goals dont 3 pénalités)
- Nina Clarkin (+10), (2 goals dont 1 pénalité)

La Mariposa Polo Team

- Annalise Phillips (+1)
- Nina Fruehaufn (ALL 0),
- Rebecca Walters (+5), (3 goals)

Hazel Jackson (+10), (2 goals dont 1 pénalité)

Progression TTR Sotheby's: 0-1 / 3-3 / 4-3 / 6-5

MVP: Nina Clarkin (TTR Sotheby's)

Rookie of the tournament: Margaux Guillemin (14 years old - TTR Sotheby's)

BPP by Majoa: Lovelocks Florin, Nina Clarkin (TTR Sotheby's)



TROPHÉE CASTEL 2023

Mustang Polo Team

- Françoise Okala (0)
- Elouan Badarello (0), (2 goals)
- Nicolas Lopez Fuentes (+3), (3 goals)
- 🛨 Tete Fanelli (+5), (3 goals)

Mungo

- Ulysse Eisenchteter (0), (1 goal)
- Noémie Eisenchteter (-1), (2 goals)
- Jules Legoubin (+3), (1 goal)
- Pierre Henri N'Goumou (+6), (3 goals)

Progression Mustang Polo Team: 1-1 / 3-2 / 6-5 / 8/7

MVP:

Elouan Badarello (Mustang)

BPP:

Absolute Revoltosa owned and ridden by Pierre Henri Ngoumou (Mungo)



TAKE YOUR POLO TOTHE NEXT LEVEL!



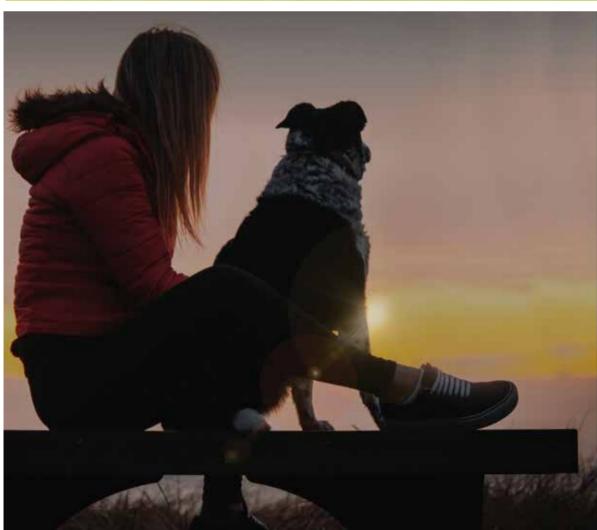
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THE BEST MOBILE

VETERINARY SERVICE

A WHOLE BODY APPROACH TO YOUR PET'S WELLNESS providing services in Los Angeles







There were eighteen teams at the start and eight in the women's category. After a flamboyant qualifying phase (50 games) that gave rise to some sublime battles over three weeks, four fine teams faced each other at the Ferme d'Apremont, home of the Chantilly Polo Club, in front of a lot of people! The French Open was a resounding success, with TTR Sotheby in the women's category and Kazak in the men's category coming out on top after a game of insane intensity that went into extra time. Two finals that will be remembered for a long time writing a new chapter in the history of the Open de France.

First title for Kazak

Kazak has been competing for four years now and this magnificent team won its first title, one of the most coveted on the international circuit, in Apremont on Sunday. An incredibly intense game and polo of the highest quality, thanks to some horses worthy of Palermo. From one end of the game to the other, the teams gave blow for blow, none of them managing to get the upper hand. And as is often the case in such evenly matches, it was in extra time that the 23rd Open de France was decided. After a decisive pass from Nico Pieres, Antonio Heguy scored the golden goal in front of his father, polo legend Pepe Heguy. For Nico Pieres, it was his first participation in the Open de France and his first victory: "I'm happy, obviously, but I'm especially happy for this fine Kazak team, who gave themselves the means to win this title by investing in the right horses. It was a very complicated game to win and I knew it was going to be tough because I have watched Amanara's games. I knew the score was going to be very close. In the extra chukker, I had to be patient and not rush things and that

worked. It is the first time I have played polo at this level, and the first time I have played a tournament with eighteen teams, and I was surprised by the level of polo that was played here. It is a good preparation for the Argentinian Triple Crown, which I will be flying to tomorrow, but for the moment I don't want to think about that because tonight we are going to celebrate this French victory as we should."

Women's Open: Second appearance and second victory for the legendary Nina Clarkin

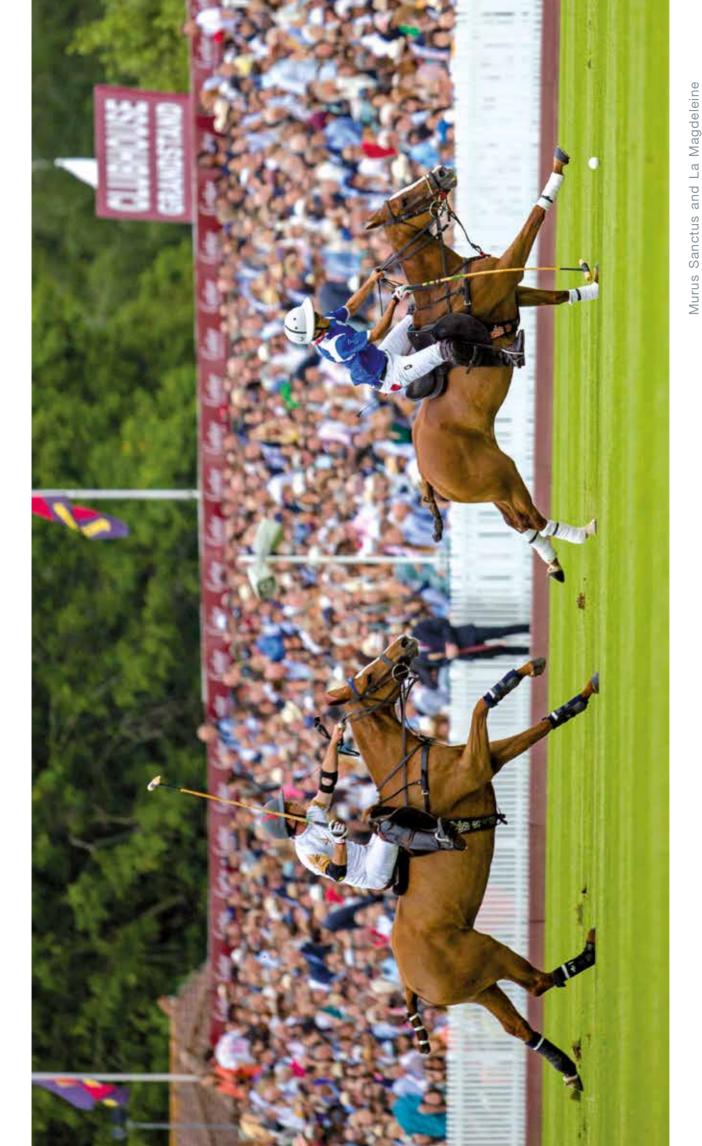
With three of the four best female players in the world, all of whom have won the Argentine Open, the pinnacle of the sport for both men and women, the Women's Open de France reached an exceptional level for its 12th edition. In the end, it was the two English female 10-goalers who came face to face, just as they did in Palermo (the Argentine championship stadium) last year and in Chantilly in 2018! It took a while for the game to get going and it really took off in the third chukker. The promise of an intense battle between the two Englishwomen was fulfilled, but in the end, it was Nina Clarkin's experience that sealed the deal: "It was a great tournament this year with some very good teams. Some of the games were very tough, like this final, but it is a fantastic tournament with a great organization," said the world's best female player. "We were lucky enough to be able to bring our own horses here. It was a really great week, especially as it ended with a win. A game against Hazel is always difficult, she is a great player and very combative. We really had to fight. They got the better of us at the start of the game, but we recovered at the end of the second half to hold on. Little Margaux (Guillemin) has really helped us and she is a great surprise. We needed a fourth player with a handicap of 0 and the organizers suggested us this young Frenchwoman who has a lot of talent and whom we didn't know at all: but I don't think she'll remain unknown for long." Like the men, Nina will now turn her attention to Argentina, where she will be defending her title with La Dolfina alongside Mia Cambiaso: "I always enjoy playing over there with this team, especially as I have some top quality horses over there. The Argentine Open is now my goal for the end of the season."

Trophée Castel: battle of the juniors and victory for Mustang Polo Team

This festive day ended with a nice bonus: the final of the Trophée Castel, which pitted two French teams against each other, and in particular two juniors with great hopes for the future of French polo. The battle between two childhood friends, Elouan Badarello and Ulysse Eisenchteter, as well as his sister Noémie, was won by the former, who scored two magnificent and important goals, as Mustang Polo Team took the last victory of these magnificent three weeks by the narrowest of margins.

Many of these champions went on to Argentina to compete in the Triple Crown tournaments, the pinnacle of the international season, culminating in the Argentine Opens, reserved for the world's top ten teams. Fourteen of them participated in Chantilly, putting the Open de France on the world map of top-level polo. It's bittersweet to see these players, horses, and petiseros depart, as the club gradually transitions to its winter structure.

www.poloclubchantilly.com



CARTIER OUEEN'S CUP

BY DIANA BUTLER PHOTOGRAPHY PABLO RAMIREZ

faced off in the Cartier Queen's Cup final at the historic Queen's Ground.







HURUS SANCTUS (+22)
 Corinne Ricard (0)
 Alejandro Muzzio (+7)
 Polito Pieres (+9)
 Marcos Araya (+6)

2. LA MAGDELEINE (+22)
Alexandre Garese (+0)
Facundo Fernandez Llorente (+7)
Pablo MacDonough (+9)
Santiago Laborde (+6)

3. VIKINGS (+22)
Siri Evjemo-Nysveen (0)
James Beim (+6)
Diego Cavanagh (+8)
Juan Martin Zubia (+8)

4. TWELVE OAKS (+22) Charlie Wooldridge (+2)

Charlie Wooldridge (+2)
 Joaquin Pittaluga (+7)
 Cristian Laprida (+8)
 Matias MacDonough (+5)





Murus Sanctus won Cartier glory for the first time.

After navigating through a strong field of 17 teams over four weeks of elite competition, Corinne Ricard's Murus Sanctus and Alexandre Garese's La Magdeleine went head-to-head on the historic Queen's Ground at Guards Polo Club to crown a new Cartier Queen's Cup champion. La Magdeleine's Santiago Laborde opened the scoring, but Murus Sanctus, the only team unbeaten throughout the competition, was soon on the attack, thanks to Alejandro Muzzio, to take a 3-1 lead.

La Magdeleine took advantage of Murus Sanctus's foul troubles in the second, with Pablo MacDonough converting three penalties. Polito Pieres replied with two goals to maintain Murus Sanctus' narrow onegoal advantage. With a combined five field shots between the two teams in the third, the accuracy of these evenly matched opponents was on display to the packed grandstands before the half-time bell. MacDonough and Facundo Fernandez Llorente found the goal in the third chukka for La Magdeleine, while Marcos Araya and Pieres delivered for Murus Sanctus. These deadlocked teams made their way into the break tied 7-7.

Emerging with a charge, Murus Sanctus generated some much-needed air in the score to open the second half of play. Pieres and Muzzio worked beautifully in tandem from the field to combine for three goals and give Murus Sanctus a 10-7 lead. Generating only two shots with no opportunities to score from penalties, La Magdeleine was forced to make a late push in the sixth chukka. Rebounding on back-to-back goals from MacDonough and Santiago Laborde, La Magdeleine managed to cut their deficit down to one. Stifling La Magdeleine's sudden momentum, a brilliant drive from Pieres was all Murus Sanctus needed to hold off MacDonough's final effort and ensure Murus Sanctus held on for an electrifying 11-10 victory to capture their first Cartier Queen's Cup title.

Corinne Ricard received Queen's Cup from Cartier UK's Managing Director Laurent Feniou. Not surprisingly, thanks to an impressive, seven-goal performance, Polito Pieres was named the Cartier Most Valuable Player. Meanwhile, the Cartier Best Playing Pony prize was awarded to Irenita La Kiosquera, which had been played by Pablo MacDonough.

Earlier in the day, Vikings defeated Twelve Oaks 10-9 in the sub final for the Cartier Trophy on The Duke's Ground. This was a stop/start game full of penalties, highlighting the tension and determination from both teams to secure a win on the last day of such a magnificent, 22-goal tournament. At the post-match presentations Vikings' Juan Martin Zubia received a Cartier Most Valuable Player prizes.

www.guardspoloclub.com





Casablanca won the 2023 St. Regis World Snow Polo Championship at Rio Grande Park in front of a sold-out crowd, with Nic Roldan scoring five goals and earning MVP honors. BY SHARON ROBB PHOTOGRAPHY NICK TININENKO

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Casablanca won St. Regis World Snow Polo Championship 2023 at Rio Grande Park. In front of a soldout crowd. Casablanca (Grant Ganzi, 3, Hilario Figueras, 5, Nic Roldan, 9) held off Aspen Valley (Jason Crowder, 6, Marc Ganzi, 1, Adolfo Cambiaso, 10) for a hardfought 8-6 victory.

Nine-goaler Nic Roldan scored a game-high five goals including his first two-pointer in the three-day tournament and was named Most Valuable Player. It was Roldan's fifth St. Regis tournament victory in eleven years. "Any win is a good win and this was a good win," Roldan said. "This is one of our favorite events of the year. Grant and Hilario played amazing and are two really competitive players. Kudos to them for stepping up and giving their all."

Argentine 10-goaler Adolfo Cambiaso, the sport's greatest all-time player, made his U.S. debut on snow. Unlike his 10-goal performance including three two-pointers, in Friday's indoor arena qualifier, Casablanca held him scoreless and shut down Aspen Valley's offensive attack that had scored 23 goals in four chukkers.

"Adolfo is the greatest of all time by far," Roldan said. "He keeps impressing us and blowing our minds with what he's doing. We didn't really think about playing against him. It was a very tough game and very competitive. It could have gone either way."

It was Ganzi's fourth St. Regis title. Last year the Casablanca Ambassador teamed with Hilario

Figueras and Tommy Biddle for Blade & Bow's first tournament victory.

"I think this was a bigger win," Ganzi said. "Having Adolfo's debut and making the final and being able to beat him is huge. Having a fun team to play with against a very good team, this was definitely a bigger win.

"It was a fun final," Ganzi said. "Shutting out Cambiaso was rare. I don't think he knew what to expect playing on snow. It was very different for him. If we could keep the ball away from Adolfo we knew that would benefit us greatly.

"A hundred percent having him here was huge and added to the tournament," Ganzi said. "Obviously, he is the best player ever. His accomplishments speak for themself. We were fortunate to get him to come this year and add another amazing player to a great list of 10-goalers. It seemed like he enjoyed it and adapted very quickly."

In a hotly-contested game, Casablanca jumped out to a 2-0 lead behind goals by Roldan and Figueras. Roldan's two-pointer and another Figueras goal gave them a 5-2 advantage after two chukkers.

"Two-pointers are always tough," Roldan said. "I think there's a little bit of luck involved. You just have to try to hit it as softly as possible and hope that it just stays on line and it did." Aspen Valley clawed its way back in the third chukker for a 3-0 shutout to tie the game at 5-5. Going into the fourth and final chukker, the lead changed hands twice before Casablanca went ahead on Roldan's 15-yard penalty conversion to break a 6-6 tie with two minutes left. Figueras added an insurance goal for an 8-6 final.

"We got off to a quick start and then they started to work their way back in," Roldan said. "In the end the idea was to be patient and not give away any fouls. It worked out well."

In addition to Roldan's five goals, Figueras had three. Crowder led Aspen Valley with three goals, Ganzi had one and they were awarded two penalty-ones.

Added Ganzi, "We wanted to defend them well and play pretty simple. We wanted to do the same things we did the other day defensively. Most of our tactics were defensive. In the end, playing pretty open polo and working a little harder for each other I think made the difference. We played a hard, smart game."

Casablanca, the tournament's apparel sponsor, produces the world's leading equipment for polo players with the highest safety ratings and supplies supreme quality clothing.

"It's great for Casablanca," Ganzi said. "I am happy for the brand and happy to get their name on the trophy. It's cool to be able to lead the team and do it. I think they should be happy."



There were three Best Playing Pony blankets awarded. The BPP for the final was Nadia, a chestnut mare played and bred by Cambiaso and owned by Santa Rita Polo Farm. The tournament BPP was Nobu, played by Roldan, bred and owned by Santa Rita Polo Farm. The American Polo Horse Association BPP was Highlands, played by Hilario Figueras, also bred and owned by Santa Rita Polo Farm.

In the Aspen Cup, St. Regis (Santos Bollini, 2, Juan Bollini, 6, Nacho Figueras, 6) defeated NetJets (Ricky Cooper, 3, Pete Webb, 6, Sugar Erskine, 7), 11-6, for third place. Figueras, St. Regis Connoisseur and team captain, scored a game-high 10 goals and was named MVP.

On Saturday, Edmiston (Teo Calle, 1, Pancho Bensadon, 8, Alejandro Novillo Astrada, 7), rallied for a 5-4 victory over Blade & Bow (Scott Wood, 2, Juan Martin Nero, 10, Pablo Spinacci, 6) to win the High Alpine Cup and finished fifth. Argentine Alejandro Novillo Astrada was MVP. He scored the only twopointer of the game.

The inaugural Potamkin Charity Chukker was held in honor of beloved Aspen resident Robert Potamkin, the father of Melissa Ganzi, who passed away recently. Each goal scored in the chukker earned a donation to charity.

Potamkin Black (Grant Ganzi, Alejandro Novillo Astrada, Juan Bollini), earned \$9,000 for the Calloway Young Cancer Center, winning 9-7 over Potamkin Yellow (Michael Calle, Sugar Erskine, Pancho Bensadon), earning \$7,000 for the Aspen Valley Hospital Foundation. Astrada led with a game-high five goals, Ganzi had three goals and Bollini added one.

In the Celebrity Polo Match, Sterling (Vinny Sangaline, Michael Sangaline, Aurora Figueras) defeated Lugano (Federico Farina, Sterling Jones, Michael Calle), 5-2. Vinny Sangaline and Figueras each had two goals for Sterling.

One of the world's top snow polo tournaments and only snow polo tournament held in North America, was the final stop of the World Polo Tour. It's also one of Aspen's major international sporting events, attracting fans from all over the world.

For the eleventh consecutive year, Aspen Valley Polo Club owners Melissa and Marc Ganzi hosted the world-class event in a holiday setting against a backdrop of snow-covered mountains, kicking off the holiday social season in Aspen.

"Every year it seems to get better and better," Roldan praised. "Melissa and her team have done an incredible job of putting this event together. We're all hugely appreciative and very grateful to be able to experience this. It's an awesome experience and great way to end the year. The win is just a bonus."

In last year's thrilling finish, Blade & Bow won its first St. Regis World Snow Polo Championship. Blade & Bow (Grant Ganzi, 3, Hilario Figueras, 6, Tommy Biddle, 9) rallied from a four-goal deficit to defeat St. Regis (Melissa Ganzi, 0, Nacho Figueras, 6, Alejandro Novillo Astrada, 7), 9-8.

Other past winners are: 2021, Richard Mille (Sarah Siegel Magness, Jesse Bray, Pablo Mac-Donough); 2020, World Polo League (Riley Ganzi, Hilario Figueras, Alejandro Novillo Astrada); 2019, Richard Mille (Edouard Pan, Pablo MacDonough, Louis Jarrige); 2018, Richard Mille (Marc Ganzi, Martin Pepa, Pablo MacDonough); 2017, U.S. Polo Assn., (Grant Ganzi, Juancito Bollini, Nic Roldan); 2016, Flexjet (Melissa Ganzi, Alejandro Novillo Astrada, Juan Bollini); 2015, U.S. Polo Assn. (Grant Ganzi, Nic Roldan, Juancito Bollini); 2014, Piaget (Marc Ganzi, Jeff Hall, Nic Roldan); and 2013, St. Regis (Nacho Figueras, Nic Roldan, Brandon Phillips).

With the majestic 12,965-foot summit of Mount Sopris as a backdrop, Aspen Valley Polo Club has become the world's destination spot for summer and snow polo.

Since Marc and Melissa Ganzi resurrected the Carbondale-based club and polo in 2014, polo has increased in popularity in Aspen and surrounding cities with the club's offerings of various weekly grass and arena tournaments, Arena & Asado Nights, Kidz Polo, Kids Wheely Polo, The Polo School headed by former 8-goaler Juan Bollini, and Polo On Demand. In addition, the club offers practice sessions for teams competing in the club tournaments.

2023 took place at Palermo's iconic ,cathedral'. 2024 Polo ges and continuity after The 130th Argentine Open Season: Key team chan-La Dolfina's defeat.

BY PASCAL RENAULDON PHOTOGRAPHY R&B PRESSE, JAN ZAVÁZAL

ARGENTINE OPEN 2023 HLC C



Barto Castagnola in the lead, helplessly watched by Juan Martin Nero (grey helmet) and Pelon Stirling (black helmet), with Facundo Pieres (in green) and Adolfo Cambiaso at the back

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of the La Natividad clan, players, petiseros and family, after the podium ceremony. <u>v</u>o(

TRIPLE CROWN 2024

- La Natividad (+40) Facundo Pieres (+10) Jeta Castagnola (+10) Pablo Mac Donough (+10)
- Barto Castagnola (+10)

La Dolfina (+40)

- Adolfo Cambiaso (+10)
- E David Stirling (+10) Poroto Cambiaso (+10)
- Juan Martín Nero (+10)

La Hache (+36)

- Polito Pieres (+9) Tomás Panelo (+9) Hilario Ulloa (+9)
- Fran Elizalde (+9)

La Ensenada (+36)

Juan Britos (+9) - Alfredo Bigatti (+9) Juan Martín Zubía (+9) Jeró del Carril (+9)

Ellerstina (+35)

Lukin Monteverde (+8) Gonzalito Pieres (+9) Sapo Caset (+9) 🞾 Nachi Du Plessis (+9)

Cría La Dolfina (+32)

📑 Bautista Bayuar (+8) Diego Cavanagh (+8) Alejo Taranco (+8)

La Hache Cría y Polo (+31)

Benjamín Panelo (+7) Carlos María Ulloa (+8) Facundo Sola (+8) Joaquín Pittaluga (+8)

Indios Chapaleufú (+31)

Antonio Heguy (+7) Victorino Ruiz Jorba (+8) Cruz Heguy (+8) Teodoro Lacau (+8)

WOMEN'S OPEN

La Dolfina (+36) Mia Cambiaso (+10) Nina Clarkin (+9) Lia Salvo (+9) Catalina Lavinia (+8)

El Overo Z7 UAE (+36)

Hope Arellano (+10)

Hazel Jackson (+9) Mily Hine (+8)

Candelaria Fernández Araujo (+9)

La Hache (+28)

- Clara Cassino (+8)
- Azucena Uranga (+6)
- Milagros Fernández Araujo (+8)
- Maitena Marre (+6)



TRIPLE CROWN 2024



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WOMEN'S OPEN 2024







Helena Schoeller, Eike Knueppel,
 Vicky Fenner, Kary Mallorca, Alejandro Holik,
 Juan Martin Sarli, Jan Zavázal
 Palenque, the mare is a clone of Cuartetera
 Jan Zavázal, Jeta Castagnola, Lukáš Zaťko
 Bianca Du Toit, India Parker-Smith,
 Hope Arellano 5 Kylie Sheehan, Vicky Fenner,
 India Parker-Smith, Helena Schoeller,
 Juan Martin Sarli, Jan Zavázal, Eike Knueppel,
 Coco Juls, Alejandro Holik, Kary Mallorca.









Left on the horse: the famous Domador Polito Ulloa, father of Hilario (h10, La Hache).

ADOLFO DOESN'T GIVE UP!

After La Dolfina's defeat, speculation was rife. Would Cambiaso hang up his mallets? Would Poroto join his Castagnola cousins and build the team that everyone was waiting for, a team that was likely to be unbeatable for a decade or two? However, shortly after the final, Cambiaso (49 years old) expressed his delight at playing alongside his son and announced that La Dolfina 2024 would be the same as La Dolfina 2023 with Nero and Stirling.

The same goes for La Natividad: you don't change a winning team. Nevertheless, this victory enabled Facundo Pieres to regain his 10 goals of handicap, and the team will be presenting itself, like La Dolfina, with 40 goals in 2024. This is a rare moment in the history of polo: the last time was in 2009, when La Dolfina and Ellerstina both had 40 goals.

La Ensenada, this year's sumptuous semi-finalist, has also remained unchanged: nothing is moving for 2024 (Juan Britos, Alfredo Bigatti, Juan Martic Zubia and Jero del Carril, who has moved up to 9 handicap).

The case of Ellerstina is a little trickier (sad?). Gonzalito will remain the last of the Mohicans, or at least the last of the Pieres in the team that was La Dolfina's greatest rival at the start of this century. Gone is Nico (down to 8 goals), who will be joining a team that will be playing in the qualifiers with the very young Beltrán Laulhe and Lorenzo Chavanne (who upgraded to 6-goalers) and Matías Torres Zavaleta (8-goaler). Bautista Bayugar is also out, so it is Lukin Monteverde (promoted to 8 goals) and Sapo Caset who will join Gonzalito Pieres and Nachi Du Plessis in an Ellerstina side that is still finding its feet.

Elsewhere, Cria La Dolfina have signed Rufino Bensadon and Bautista Bayugar alongside Diego Cavanagh and Alejo Taranco. As for La Hache, Caset has been replaced by Thomas Panelo.

El Overo Z7 UAE, who retained their place in the Open 2024 after winning the play-off

against the winner of the Camara, will field Victorino Ruiz Jorba, Teo Lacau, Cruz Heguy and Antonio Heguy. With the latter two having passed 8 and 7 handicap, the team is set to take on the legendary Indios Chapaleufú name.

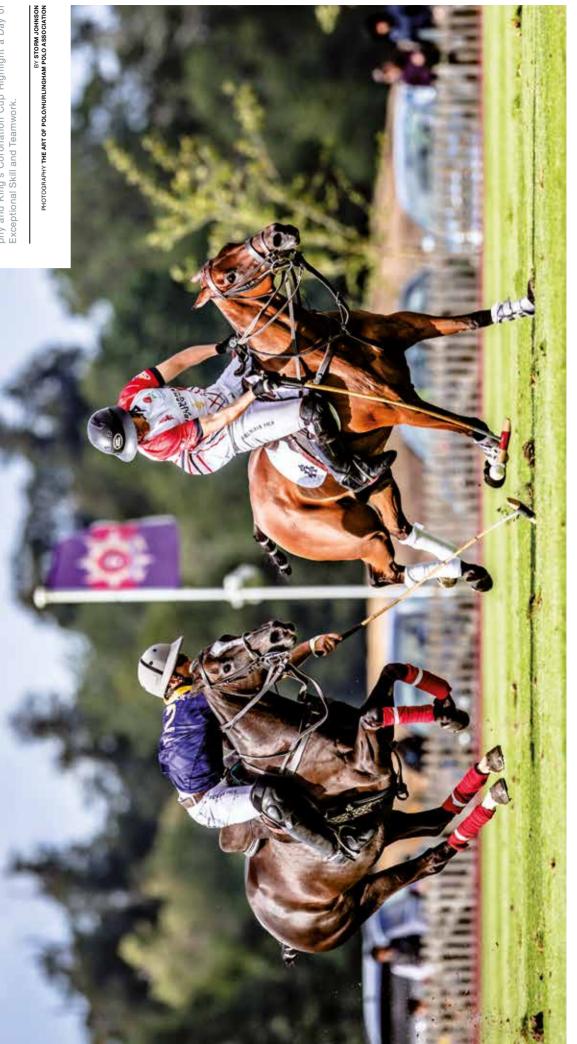
The nice La Hache Cría y Polo will remain unchanged with Toly Ulloa (upgraded to 8 goals), Joaquín Pittaluga, Facundo Sola and Benjamín Panelo.

On the women's side, the most spectacular transfer was that of Lia Salvo, called up by Mia Cambiaso and Nina Clarkin to La Dolfina. Along with Catalina Lavinia, they will replace the Fernández Araujo sisters. Candelaria joins El Overo Z7 UAE, where American Hope Arellano has been promoted to 10 goals. Milagros will be playing with a new team, the women's version of La Hache.

All in all, it promises to be an exciting Argentine Opens in 7 months' time.

ENGLAND TAKE TWO TITLES ON HISTORIC CORONATION CUP DAY

England Celebrates Double Polo Triumph at Guards Polo Club, Windsor: Decisive Wins in Whitbread Trophy and King's Coronation Cup Highlight a Day of Exceptional Skill and Teamwork.



↑ 0 0





It was a dream international day for England polo, with victories in both matches at the glorious surroundings of Guards Polo Club, Windsor.

The event opened with a 15-goal match between Young England and the Commonwealth for The Whitbread Trophy. Louis Hine (5) led Will Millard (2), Luke Wiles (4), and Will Harper (4) to a decisive victory over the opposing team of captain Hissam Ali Hyder (4) for Pakistan, Adebayo Karim (2) for Nigeria, Abby Pathak (4) for India, and Jake Daniels (5) for Australia.

By the second chukka, the Young England team had taken control of the play, and kept up a relentless pace that would prove too much for the Commonwealth side. Excellent coaching from Nacho Gonzalez saw the home team continue to draw away in the second half, and despite some fantastic rallying play from the Commonwealth in the final chukka, Hine and his team could not be caught, leaving the final score a resounding 11-4.

The wave of success continued, with the Guards crowds treated to a well-spirited clash between some of the world's best players in the fight for the King's Coronation Cup. The Commonwealth were keen to extend their record against England, while England captain Tommy Beresford left no doubt that his team were determined to even the score.

The Commonwealth team, down by 1 on the handicap, started with a goal on the board. Debutant Garvy Beh (5) for Malaysia, Chris MacKenzie (6) for South Africa, and JP Clarkin (6) for New Zealand were led by Canadian captain Fred Mannix (7). The home side fielded a 25-goal team of Max Charlton (6), Ollie Cudmore (6), and James Beim (6), captained by Tommy Beresford (7).

Beresford opened the card with a welllofted penalty to equalise, before winning a big ride-off to swing the board into England's favour. Another confident penalty followed, but Chris MacKenzie prevented a clean sweep by hammering home a goal for the Commonwealth in the final 30 seconds.

The second chukka opened with some missed early chances for the Commonwealth, while England's Ollie Cudmore and Max Charlton used huge hits to up the England score, finding the ever-consistent James Beim ready and waiting on the receiving end to see the goals home. The Commonwealth team, coached by John Horswell, found their momentum in the third chukka, with a goal from captain Mannix keeping Commonwealth hopes high.

The second half started with an actionpacked chukka that saw five goals added to the board, but it was the fifth chukka that demonstrated exactly why England have enjoyed a fantastic international season, with brilliant teamwork between the home side players proving the key. Beresford converted a penalty once again before Cudmore, fighting a ride-off from Mannix, found Beim at the goal to draw five goals ahead. Mannix kept his team in the hunt with a high, smooth penalty hit to head into the final chukka 11-7.

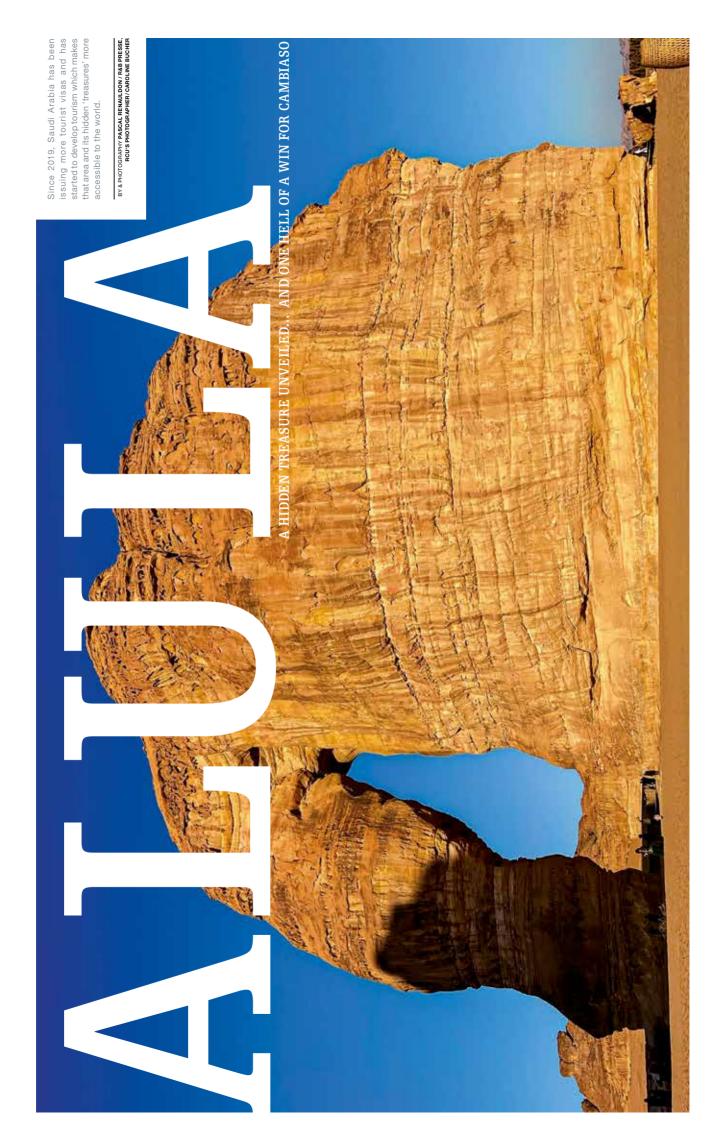
The Beim-Cudmore alliance swept through the field once again, with Beim scoring

through an open goal thanks to Cudmore's strong riding seeing off the competition. Mannix scored again to bring the score to 12-8, but the England team proved too strong for the Commonwealth horsepower, and despite fighting all the way to the end, the visiting team could not see off the home side, who had kept their promise of keeping the King's Coronation Cup on English soil. The team were presented with the coveted trophy by The Right Honourable Patricia Scotland KC, Baroness Scotland of Asthal, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, in an evening ceremony supported by family, friends, and spectators to finish a spectacular day.

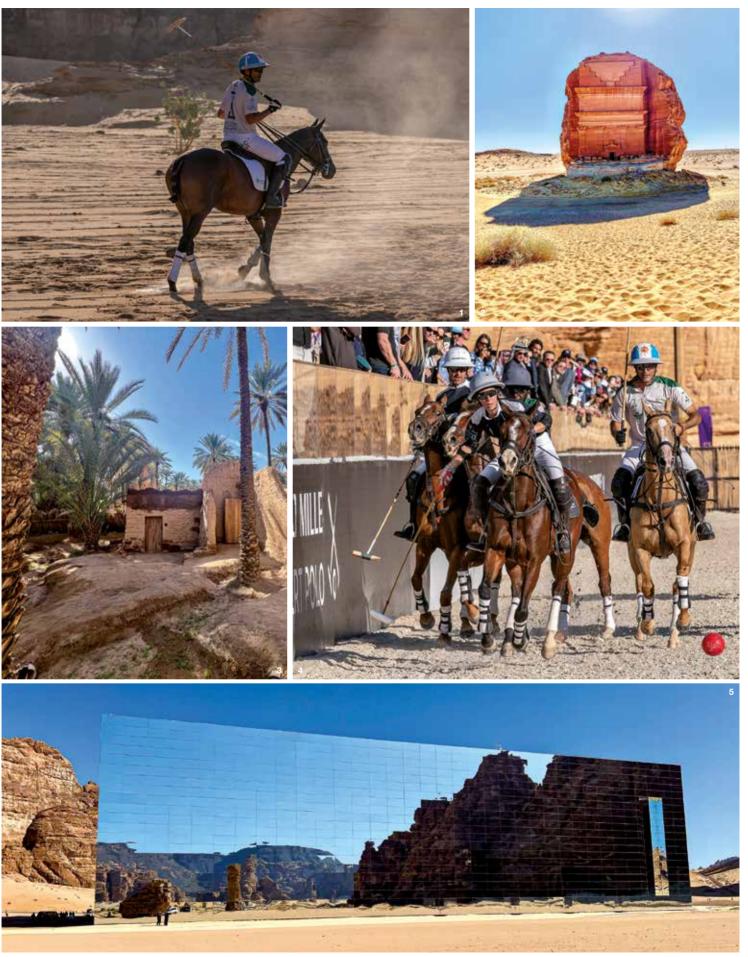
Chris Mackenzie was awarded the Most Valuable Player, having played a brilliant attacking game. The Best Playing ROR also went to Mackenzie, awarded to his own Biento (racing name Badalona Breeze), who was formerly trained by Mick Appleby.

Best Playing Pony was awarded to Tommy Beresford's own Teddy, with his groom Raul Mora picking up the cash prize. Tommy's mother Teresa Beresford was on hand to present the Donoso Trophy, traditionally awarded to the captain of the opposing team, to Fred Mannix in memory of her late brother Gabriel Donoso, whose name appears twice on the Coronation Cup.

The sun was shining and the party continued with a performance from the Rick Parfitt Jnr Band, as the mood was high after two brilliant matches in the glorious Guards Polo Club grounds. An historic Coronation Cup year that left England's hopes high for the future.



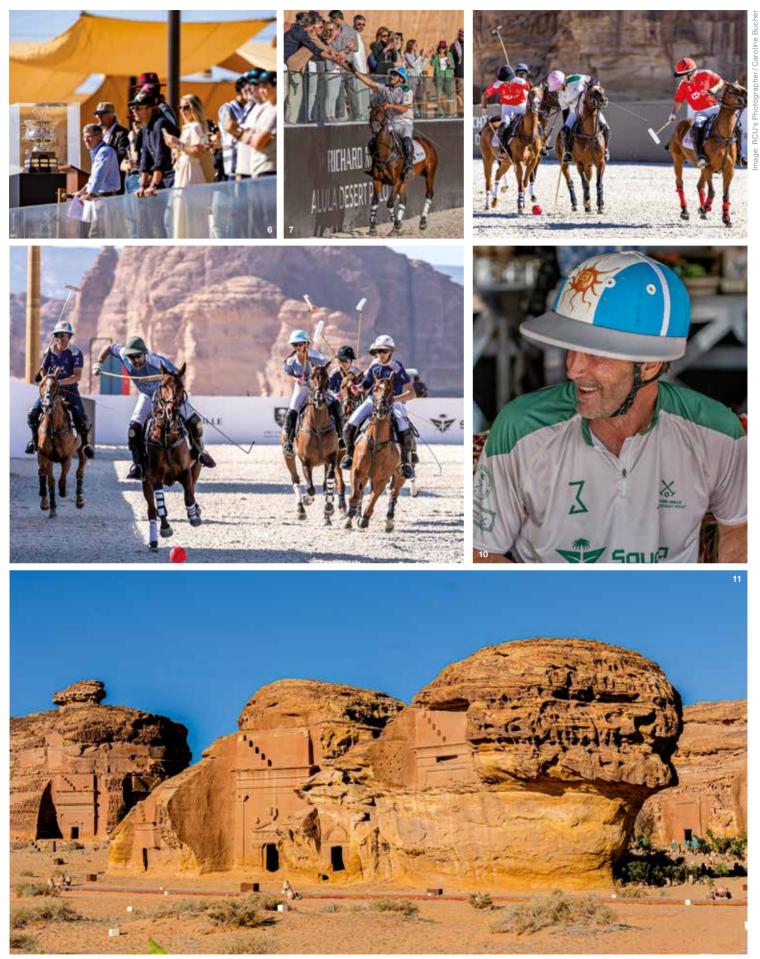
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1 Adolfo Cambiaso conquers the AlUla desert 2 Rocks sculpted by wind and nature 3 The palm grove of the AlUla oasis 4 Pablo McDonough (white helmet) and Adolfo Cambiaso (right) watch the action from behind 5 The astonishing mirror palace of Maraya, an unlikely cultural center in the middle of the desert. **Right page:** in summer, even in the last century, before air-conditioning, the people of Alula went to live in the oasis.



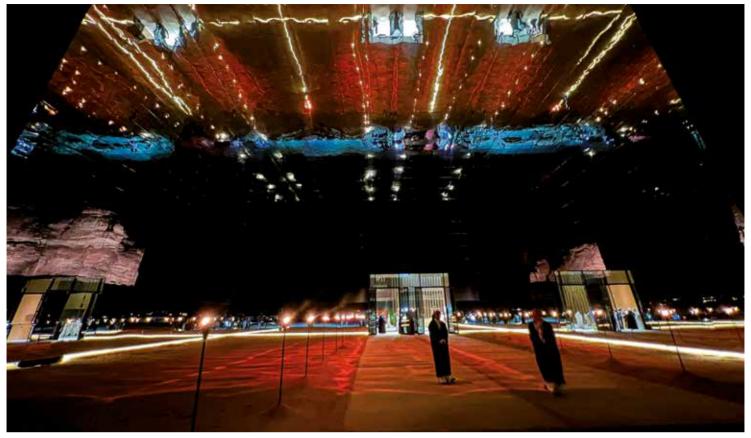
Left page: The most imposing Nabataean tomb on the Hegra site. Above: Team presentation around a Bentley, tournament sponsor Below: A unique setting for a unique tournament.



6 Audience in the luxurious Richard Mille Desert Polo grandstand 7 Lap of honour and salute to the audience. Something you almost never see elsewhere with Cambiaso 8 Melissa Ganzi (pink helmet) in the heart of the action 9 Small final before the big one 10 A Cambiaso happy with his double conquest 11 The Hegra archaeological site is packed with Nabataean tombs in a spectacular desert setting.



12 The Richard Mille Trophy for Team Saudia with Adolfo Cambiaso, Nigerian Sayuu Dantana and American Melissa Ganzi **13** Polo at the foot of the rocks **14** Adolfo Cambiaso at the helm: victory was a must **15** Congratulations **16** Juan Rojas, left, director for Pololine TV and husband of Lia Salvo, right, around Pascal Renauldon **17** In the AIUIa oasis, now a landscaped garden with pleasant backdrops and... restaurants.



Gala evening, night at the Maraya Palace.

Since 2019, Saudi Arabia has been issuing more tourist visas and has started to develop tourism which makes that area and its hidden 'treasures' more accessible to the world. Among these is an extraordinary and still quite unknown site: AlUla, in the northwest of the country, which combines natural splendors – the magic of a spectacular desert with rocks artistically sculpted by the winds – and archaeological riches which are reminiscent of those of Petra in Jordan. A site we were able to discover during the Richard Mille Desert Polo tournament and thanks to the French Agency for the Development of AlUla (Afalula).

AlUla is a site the size of Belgium. At its heart is a spectacular oasis as well as architectural treasures retracing the 7,000 years of history that the King and the Crown Prince have decided to reveal to the whole world, a rather revolutionary approach.

Incredible, little-known heritage

Afalula and its Saudi partner collaborate closely to develop this beautiful region in various sectors, including tourism, archaeology, urbanisation and sustainable architecture, agricultural development, water and energy management, the environment, infrastructure, culture, sport, botany, and training. Afalula, chaired by former foreign minister Jean-Yves Le Drian, coordinates the skills and expertise, (mainly French) at the service of this development and on behalf of the Royal Commission for AlUla (RCU). Today, AlUla has a population of 50,000, which will eventually rise to 150,000, which is neither surprising nor disproportionate. Buildings rise out of the ground at incredible speed. The priority objective is however to preserve these historical and natural treasures: the Nabatean tombs (first century BC), in the same vein as this civilization has established itself on the much better-known site of Petra in Jordan 400 kilometers away, the Dadan and Lihyan kingdoms (first millennium BC) as well as the prehistoric remains.

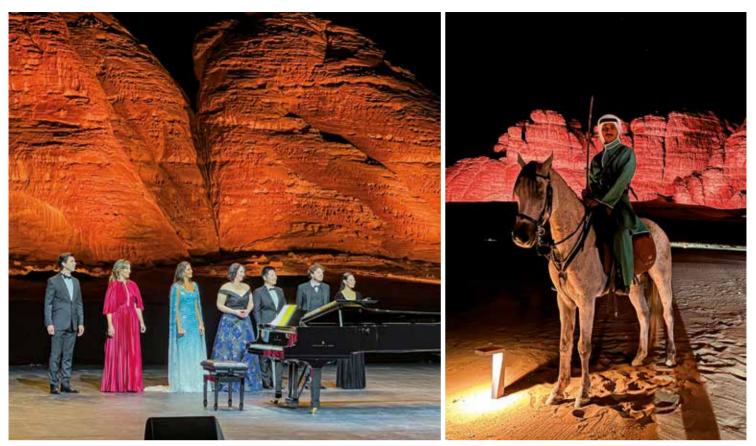
The horse will have a large place in the project, as it does in the Arab civilization. Antoine Sinniger, director of the Afalula equestrian project, manages this activity on the French side with the Royal Commission for AlUla. Two equestrian villages will be built on the site: one, a culture center around a Horse Museum primarily dedicated to the Arabian horse, and another, a sports center that can host major show jumping, endurance and polo events. Competitions in respective disciplines already exist on the site and the best polo player of all time, the legendary Argentine Adolfo Cambiaso, is an ambassador of AlUla and has been coming to play with his Dolfina Team in demonstration on the desert sand

since the beginning of the project as part of one of the major operations to promote the site.

For tourists, even before the site fully develops, even in a reasonable way, visiting AlUla currently remains a privileged escapade, far from the crowds of Petra. The hotel accommodation is already top-of-therange and well-integrated into nature. And let's not forget Maraya, the incredible cultural center, a palace of glass and mirrors set in the middle of the desert, reflecting its sandy and rocky backdrop. It hosts several events and concerts, including one by the Paris Opera, which we were able to attend.

Polo in AlUla: the Cambiaso Garden

In Palermo, La Dolfina's shirts are emblazoned with the "Saudi AlUla" logo – quite a significant sponsor. Invited since 2020 to orchestrate the Richard Mille Desert Polo tournament, Adolfo Cambiaso has firmly established himself in AlUla's equestrian project. He has become Saudi Arabia's Mr Polo. In 2020, at the very first edition, he came with his La Dolfina players (Stirling, Nero and McDonough) to play a first arena tournament on local horses. This year, after selling around forty horses from his La Dolfina stud, which were used in the tournament, he brought an 'extended family': the 2023 La Dolfina team with his son Poroto,



Left AlUla and the Maraya welcomed the Paris Opera for the first time. The setting is natural! Right Traditional welcome at the Maraya.

Pablo McDonough, the ambassador for the main tournament sponsor Richard Mille, and a few professional friends such as Alejandro Novillo Astrada and Polo Ralph Lauren muse Nacho Figueras, and the La Dolfina girls: Mia, his daughter, Lia Salvo and Nina Clarkin – all world-class female players. And let's not forget the patrons such as Melissa Ganzi, David Paradise, Lila Pearson, and Nicky Sen. In short, the organization was 100% La Dolfina, with the addition of a few local players, mainly royal highnesses of the region.

Of course, in the end it was Cambiaso who won under the colors of Team Saudia, along with Nigerian Sayuu Dantana and American Melissa Ganzi. Incidentally, the team won the final by a score of 9-4 against the Richard Mille team led by its former teammate from La Dolfina and now opponent at La Natividad, Pablo McDonough. It was the perfect scenario, with the two 10-handicap teams going head-to-head, Cambiaso undoubtedly a little more motivated and, above all, very well assisted in attack by the excellent Sayuu Dantana.

But the most important victory for Cambiaso was the cooperation contract he signed at the end of the tournament with The Royal Commission for AlUla (RCU). The respective press release states, "The agreement lays the technical foundation for the annual tournament's success as well as the introduction of new events in the future".

And further, "La Dolfina will assist RCU in the creation of a new Polo Academy in AlUla, as well as planning and executing training programs for the community, visitors, and Saudis eager to learn the sport under the watchful eye of some of the best coaches and players in the world. La Dolfina will also provide horses to take part in polo tournaments in AlUla". A good outlet for La Dolfina breeding...

"Among the sport's most successful teams, La Dolfina counts Adolfo Cambiaso among its star-studded line up of players. Cambiaso and his La Dolfina teammates along with technical staff will lend their extensive knowledge and experience to the expansion of polo in AlUla.

Sure to grab the attention of the global polo and sporting community, as well as KSAbased players and local equestrian fans, the new partnership marks the transformative and ambitious next stage in the growth of the sport, and desert polo in particular.

As AlUla aims to solidify its role as the leading winter destination for equestrian tournaments, the new strategic collaboration with La Dolfina will super-charge the introduction of robust technical developments, attracting players, teams, enthusiasts, and more to AlUla and its rapidly evolving landscape of facilities and purpose-built infrastructure such as the equestrian Al Fursan Village.

Members of the La Dolfina staff will provide high-level advisory, technical and professional assistance to AlUla's polo community while also encouraging participation in the sport, increasing capabilities, and helping to establish new economic opportunities.

The new agreement comes with numerous benefits for equestrian and heritage sports in AlUla (and for Cambiaso, editor's note!) supporting the promotion of deep-rooted cultural traditions around horses in KSA; expanding tourism into new markets with a sophisticated and dedicated audience of global fans; generating new avenues of economic development for the community; and engaging local people to foster a sense of pride and positive participation in AlUla's regeneration".

In short, a gigantic project which, in addition to the construction of a 400-stall stable on the site, will see the creation of two grass polo fields... quite a challenge in the desert. But one thing's for sure: this agreement is another great victory for Adolfo Cambiaso, not only the GOAT (Greatest of All Time) on the polo field, but also in the polo business! Let's face it, polo at AlUla is Cambiaso's backyard.

FRENCH VICTORY IN THE FIRST POLO NATIONS CUP

The first Polo Nations Cup, launched by the Fédération française de polo and the Polo Club de Chantilly, was a real success.

PASCAL RENAULDON PHOTOGRAPHY ADELE RENAULDON R&B PRESS







The first Polo Nations Cup, launched by the Fédération française de polo and the Polo Club de Chantilly, was a real success: eight teams took part, ten days of games, each as exciting as the next, and a magnificent final won by PACA France, a wonderful team made up of four young players all from French training.

This first final opposed France against South Korea, a young polo federation eager to develop the sport in its country and position itself on the international polo map. A first success with their qualification for this final in Chantilly. But Korea had to contend with an ambitious young French team, who took control of the game right from the start with a goal from Dorian Bulteau. Although Pandy Irstorza equalized with a corner shot, Louis Jarrige gave France the lead in the first half. This dominance was confirmed in the second chukker (3-1), but in the following period, again thanks to Pandy Irstorza, the two teams were tied again... at least for a few moments. It was in the fourth chukker that the team in blue broke the deadlock, thanks mainly to collective action (everyone scored today), as explained by MVP (best player of the final) Julien Reynes: "It really is above all a team victory, as this was a team tournament, we played all our games as a foursome and we won all our victories as a foursome. The start of the game was closed, which is what Tito was looking for, keeping the ball for fear we'd get it back, and in the fourth chukker we opened up the game by hitting our first balls, and that's when we made the difference. Last year, we won a tournament of the same level with this team, and this shows that we're on the right track. We're delighted to have won this first edition, as the Polo Nations Cup is destined to become a benchmark tournament on the international circuit."

For David Ko, the Korean captain (best amateur player), qualifying for the final was a victory in itself: "It was a great feeling to be in the final, it was quite unexpected, but we were here thanks in particular to our two professional players, Santiago Irastorza and Tito Guiñazu. Being MVP is one thing, but above all it's a great start for Korean polo. This kind of tournament teaches us to play better, and we'll be back next year for the Polo Nations Cup and before that for other major tournaments in France, such as the Open de France here in September. Polo is still in its infancy in Korea, but I hope we'll be able to bring more players to France next year."

This first and "young" Nations' Cup is destined to become a major event. Its concept has already won over a number of new nations, who have signified their interest in taking part next year, the Olympic year. As is often the case on these days at the Polo Club de Chantilly, this day of the final was a beautiful one... but there are many more to come, starting with the next tournament of the same level which begins this week, the Charity Cup, and above all the Open de France next September, where at

STATISTICS

PACA France

Elena Venot (1, 1 goal), Dorian Bulteau (3, 2 goals, yellow card at 3rd chukker), Louis Jarrige (4, 4 goals including 2 penalties) and Julien Reynes (4, 2 goals and MVP)

South Korea

David Ko (0, amateur MVP), Jerry Kwak/Bin Kim (0), Tito Guiñazu (7.1 goals, yellow card at 5th chukker) and Santiago Irastorza (5, 4 goals including 1 penalty and 1 corner, yellow card at 3rd chukker)

Best horse of the final, Oración, born in Argentina, ridden by Louis Jarrige and owned by Jean-Claude Le Grand.

Progression PACA France: 2/1 – 3/1 – 4/3 – 7-3 and 9/5

least twenty teams have been announced to take part. It's going to be great sport! High level sport!

Following this initial success, the second Polo Nations Cup will take place this year from June 13 to 23, with ten teams taking part: Belgium, Pakistan, Italy, the German Länder of Hamburg and Lower Saxony, the American states of Illinois and California and the French regions of Provence, Auvergne Rhône Alpes, Île-de-France and Occitanie.



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7 LADIES POLO EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

The German Polo Association introduces Ladies Handicaps: "Equality in Polo". This initiative marks a significant sign of fairness, supported by a dedicated commission and highlighted by four inaugural tournaments.

BY DPV PHOTOGRAPHY JENNIFER LORENZINI

The German Polo Association (DPV) is delighted to announce the introduction of Ladies Handicaps from 2024! This decision, already established in other foreign associations, marks a significant step towards promoting equal opportunities and fairness in polo for women.

FIP

To achieve this aim, the DPV has established its own Ladies HCP Commission, consisting of five members. Led by experienced polo player Svenja Hölty, the commission is comprised of three female and two male polo players. Its primary objective is to ensure the ladies handicaps are awarded fairly and transparently.

The current Ladies HCPs are now available on the DPV website. Four Ladies tournaments are scheduled for the 2024 season, where the new handicaps will be applied for the first time. These tournaments provide an ideal platform for ladies to demonstrate their skills under fair conditions and establish themselves in the polo community.

Here is the programme of the Ladies tournaments for the 2024 season:

5 - 7 July 2024 Copa de Oro Feminino (Polo Club Schleswig-Holstein e.V; Gut Aspern)

12 - 14 July 2024 Internationaler Ladies Cup (Polo Club PoloPark Brandenburg e.V.; Seeburg bei Berlin)

26 - 28 July 2024 Ladies Cup (PPCCBB e.V.; Phoeben)

23 - 25 August 2024 Ladies Cup (Polo Club Mühlen e.V; Mühlen) These tournaments not only offer exciting matches but also a unique opportunity for ladies to establish themselves in the polo community and showcase their skills.

Looking ahead to the coming season, there will not only be a series of exciting matches but also a continuous review and adjustment of the Ladies Handicaps by the commission. Additionally, Arena HCPs will be set for all active players at the end of the season, which will apply from 2025 onwards.

The German Polo Association stands firmly behind its commitment to growth and diversity in polo and looks forward to an exciting and successful 2024 season.

www.dpv-poloverband.de

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POLO RULES

RIGHT AND WRONG

Quick reaction and a near-reflex assessment of situations are of the essence of tactical play and safety. The next two examples highlight the right, and the wrong reactions in a given situation.

Situation 1 (left half of the field)

A player doesn't hit the ball hard enough and tries to hit it again by slowing down, or abruptly changing directions. Another player is directly behind the first player in playing position.

Wrong because:

A player hits the ball wrong and gives it a second try by slowing down or abruptly changing direction. There are other players right behind him in position to hit the ball.

Right:

A player, having messed up a hit, should carry on at the same speed without attempting a second hit. He should let a teammate take the next hit or, time allowing, go round and approach from the back of the field to attempt another hit.

Situation 2 (right half of the field)

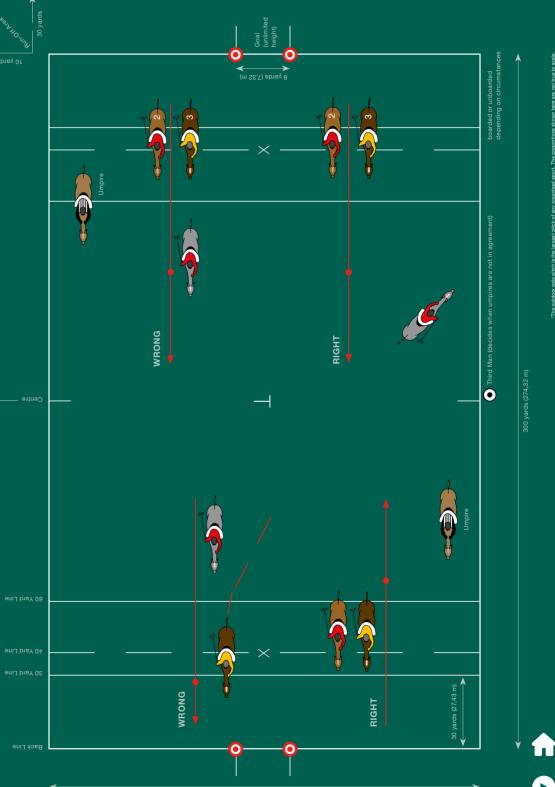
In an attempt to hit the ball back in an offside-back-shot a player gets into the way of an opponent who is in possession of the ball on his offside.

Wrong Because:

The defender infringes on the opponent's right-of-way in a manner that is not only dangerous but also unsportsmanlike. He has crossed the opponent's line leaving too little space between them and therefore puts himself and the other player in danger.

Right:

In order to cover his opponent correctly and effectively, the defender must wait until he can overtake his opponent and hit the ball in the opposite direction of play.





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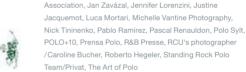




Polo (FIP), the Mexican Polo Federation (FMP), the South African Polo Association (SAPA), the German Polo Association (DPV), the Austrian Polo Association (APA), the Central European Polo Association (CEPA) and the International Beach Polo Association (IBPA).

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