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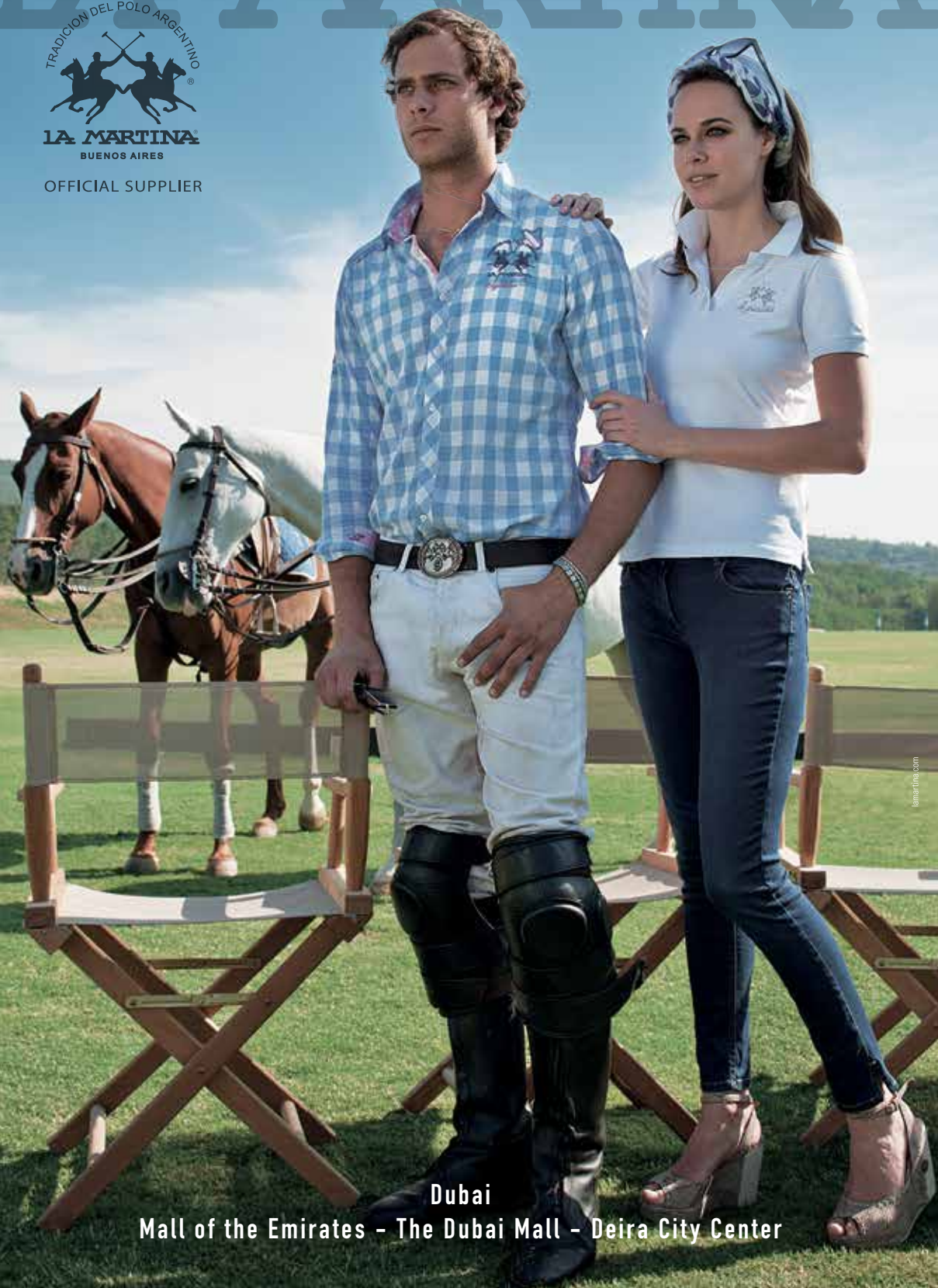
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Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai**



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The Habtoor Polo team celebrate its victory at the Dubai Gold Cup 2012.

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



**Allah took a handful of
southerly wind, blew
His breath over it, and
created the horse....
Thou shall fly without
wings, and conquer
without any sword.
Oh, horse.
-Bedouin Legend**

I am proud to see Dubai playing host to yet another top polo event. 2013 marks the fourth year in a row that we are hosting the UAE's prestigious tournament – the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series. We are honoured that the Dubai Gold Cup is held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai.

Each year the event reaches new heights. Dubai has quickly gained popularity and found its place on the Polo world stage. In 2012 the Dubai Gold Cup Series was recognised by the World Polo Tour (WPT).

We have been privileged to attract some big names to the event year after year. Of course it is lovely to see many familiar faces (players, officials and spectators), but it is also great to see new faces on and off the field.

This year we have upped the stakes by increasing the handicap from 15 to 16 goals. This means the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series (Dubai Open) is now the highest handicapped tournament in the Middle East, Africa and Asia. A great achievement!

Last year I was fortunate to lead my team to victory. Best of luck to all the teams!

*Mohammed
Al Habtoor*

POLO

EVOLUTION

WHILE THE EXACT ORIGINS OF POLO ARE UNKNOWN, IT IS BELIEVED TO BE ONE OF THE OLDEST MOUNTED SPORTS IN HISTORY - AND PERHAPS EVEN PLAYED BY NOMADIC WARRIOR OVER TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO. HERE'S HOW THE SPORT HAS EVOLVED OVER THE CENTURIES...

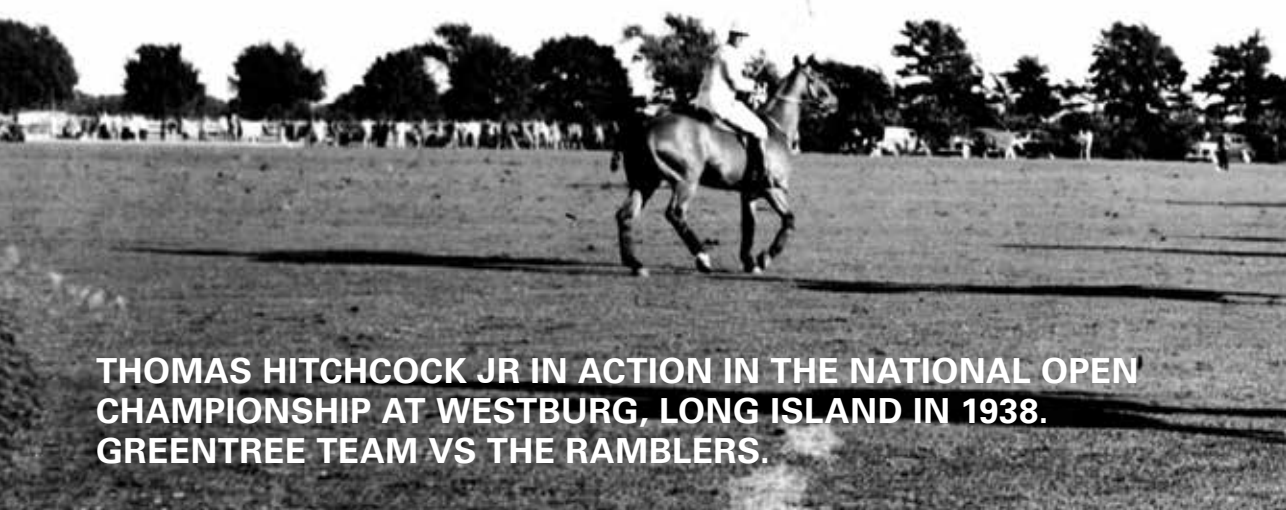
The roots of polo are said to date back over 2,500 years to the 6th century in ancient Persia. But it quickly spread eastwards and eventually caught the attention of the British tea planters in India in the 19th century who put the 'English touch' on the sport and imported it to Britain in 1869. It was then re-exported to America and beyond.

A NOBLEMANS SPORT

Polo is often referred to as "the game of kings," as it was adopted as the most noble of pastimes by kings, princes, emperors, shahs, sultans and warriors all over the world.

It was Captain John Watson, an Irishman, from the British Cavalry, who created the first known set of rules for playing polo. The so-called 'Hurlingham Rules' were created in 1874 limiting the number of players in a team to five.

In 1876, an American publisher called James Gordon Bennett, introduced the sport to New York City, by Spring the same year, a group of polo players established the first formal American polo club, 'The Westchester Polo Club'. As the years went by numerous polo clubs popped up as the sport gained popularity throughout the country. It grew to such a scale that in the 1926



THOMAS HITCHCOCK JR IN ACTION IN THE NATIONAL OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP AT WESTBURG, LONG ISLAND IN 1938. GREENTREE TEAM VS THE RAMBLERS.



©AP Images

Open there were over 30,000 spectators. Two years later the Cup of the Americas was viewed by over 100,000 polo fans.

The first official match in Argentina took place in 1879, where the sport of polo was introduced by Irish ranchers at Shennan's Estancia. In 1879, Colonel Thomas St. Quintin of the British Cavalry 10th Hussars, introduced polo to Australia.

STANDARISATION

The development of a governing body took the game to a new level. Games were coordinated, rules were standardized and ratings and handicaps were established. In the US the Polo Association changed the number and lengths of chukkers in a polo match, equipment became standardized and training improved.

The centuries-old sport made its first Olympic appearance in 1900 in Paris. It remained in the

Olympic program for nearly four decades (1900, 1908, 1920, 1924 and 1936).

MODERN DAY POLO

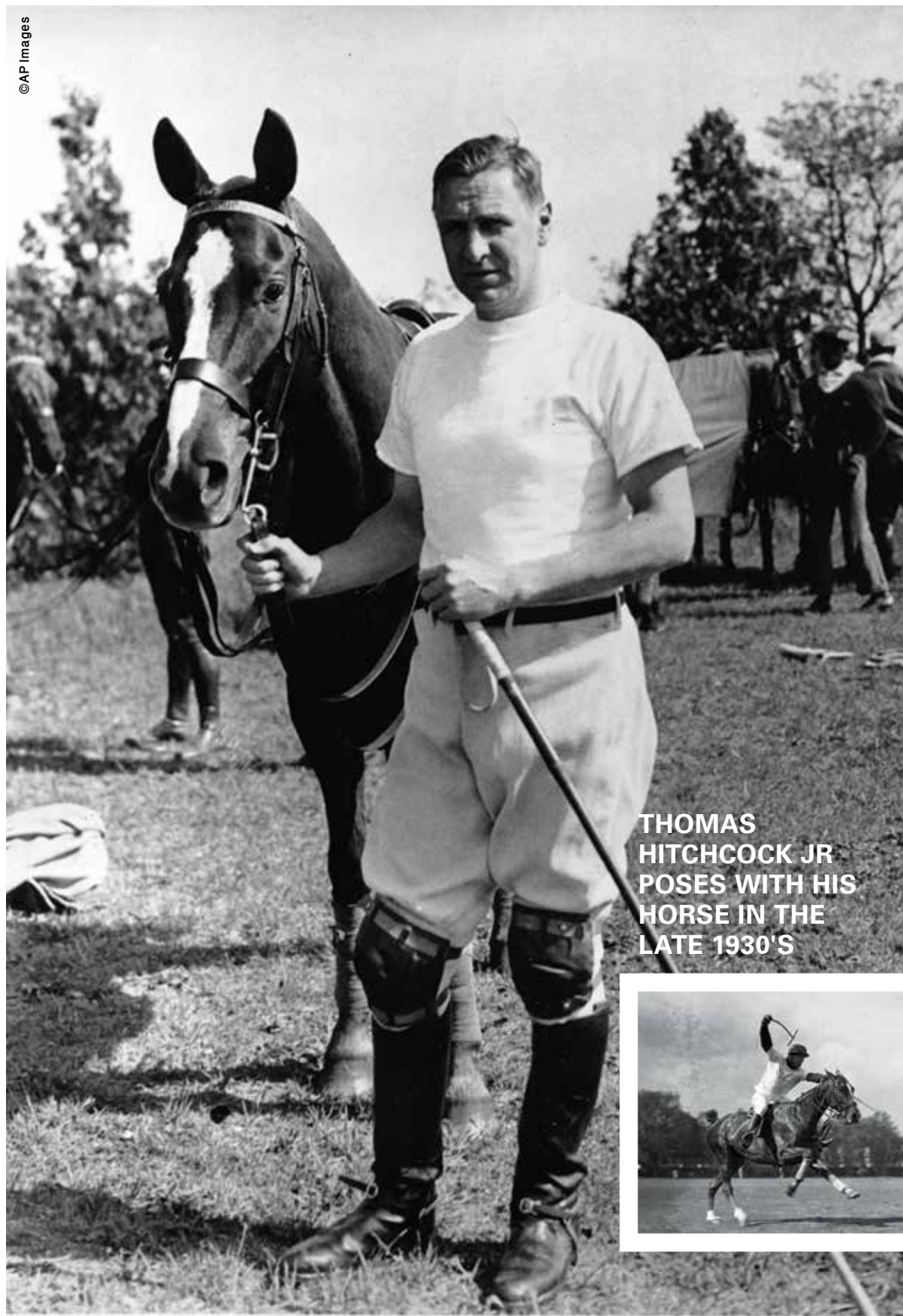
Modern polo is played between two teams of four, on a field measuring 300 yards by 160 yards, with 10-foot goal posts on either end. The winner is the team that scores the most goals in a six-period game. Each period, also known as a chukker, is seven minutes long. No time-outs are allowed except for penalties, or in the event a player or horse is injured, and no substitutions are allowed unless a player has to be replaced.

RULES OF THE GAME

Each of the four players is given a zone of responsibility, from the player on offense in front to the player on defense, in the back. The numbers worn on the jerseys indicate that zone – number 1 is the most forward, and number 4



©AP Images



**THOMAS
HITCHCOCK JR
POSES WITH HIS
HORSE IN THE
LATE 1930'S**





the most defensive. By custom, number 3 is the on-field captain, and usually the highest-rated player on the team.

Typically, each player uses a different horse in each of the six chukkers. If a horse appears to be tiring before the end of a chukker, the player may switch horses. But, as time-outs are not given on request, the player who wants to change his pony must pick a time when there is a lull in the action, make it to the sidelines, change horse, and make it back on to the field before play resumes.

Horses are credited with being at least 80 per cent of the player's effectiveness. Occasionally an exceptional pony will be played in two chukkers with one or more chukkers in between to rest. Polo ponies are usually in such good physical condition that they are able to play at least two periods or more.

With a game as hard and fast and intense as polo, danger rides along with the players; safety is of utmost concern. The control of the game rest in the hands of two mounted umpires and a referee stationed on an elevated platform at midfield.



**HITCHCOCK JR AT SANDS POINT
LONG ISLAND, N.Y., ON MAY 7,
1939**



**STEWART S. IGLEHART (L) OF
THE AMERICAN TEAM AND A
HURLINGHAM CLUB PLAYER IN
ACTION AT THE HURLINGHAM
CLUB, FULHAM, LONDON ON
MAY 20, 1936**



INTERVIEW

Mohammed Al Habtoor

DEFENDING HIS TITLE

Mohammed Al Habtoor, the reigning champion of Dubai's Gold Cup tournament, is a well-known name in the polo circuit. This year the Patron of Habtoor Polo team is defending his title...

WHAT DID LAST YEAR'S WIN AT THE DUBAI WORLD CUP MEAN TO YOU?

It was a very important tournament for me as I have been working hard to win the title for the last two years and in 2012, we won. I have a very good team and strong horses that is why we won.

HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DEFEND YOUR TITLE THIS YEAR. ANY TACTICS UP YOUR SLEEVE?

I am playing with the same team and I have added new horses that can play the level of polo which is the highest handicap in the whole Middle East and Asia.

THE HABTOOR NAME IS SYNONYMOUS WITH POLO. HOW DID THE FAMILY GET INVOLVED?

My brother Rashid was playing polo for a long time and I did not have any interest in the sport but I was riding horses from time to time. Ali Al Bawadi - a well-known patron - encouraged and helped me to get started.

WHEN YOU PLAY AGAINST ANOTHER HABTOOR TEAM ARE YOU MORE COMPETITIVE THAN EVER?

I work hard and I give my best whether it is a practice game or an official tournament.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO ANYONE WANTING TO TAKE UP THE SPORT?

My number one advice is to learn horse-riding in a professional way and not just horseback riding because polo depends on riding skills. Secondly, you need to have enough money to spend

on the sport. Polo isn't cheap.

WHAT IS THE SECRET OF BEING A GOOD POLO PLAYER?

Dedication, listening to people who play better than you, reading and studying the tactics of your opponents and good polo ponies.

WHEN DID YOU START PLAYING POLO?

1999.

WHAT WAS THE MOST CHALLENGING GAME YOU EVER PLAYED?

The medium goal final game in Spain against Argentina. We won!

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE POLO EVOLVING IN THE UAE?

My dream is to see lots of polo fields in the country and lots of patrons that can afford to put together a good polo organisation. The UAE is already active in polo since the start of the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series.

WHO DO YOU MOST ADMIRE?

Facundo Pieres, 10 goaler.

HOW MANY GAMES HAVE YOU PLAYED – AND WON?

Sixty games in 12 official international tournaments and I won four tournaments out of the 12 including the Dubai Polo Gold Cup which is one of the best tournaments in handicap and organization.





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Abu Dhabi Polo



Abu Dhabi Polo Team is a high goal polo team based out of Desert Palm Polo Club in Dubai. It was formed in 2009 by Faris Al Yabhouni and Tarik Fatheldin. The team reached the semi finals of the Royal Jet Silver Cup and was crowned the championship winners at the 2011 Threadneedle Gold Cup. Faris comes from a UAE family with a strong tradition of excellence in camel racing and horse endurance racing. He has been playing polo for over eight years and has gained a 0 goal handicap.



Faris Al Yabhouni

PATRON

UAE

Handicap **0**



Manuel Elizalde

ARGENTINA

Handicap **4**



Juan Jose Storni

ARGENTINA

Handicap **5**



Juan Ambroggio

ARGENTINA

Handicap **7**

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Bin Draí Polo

Having set up the first polo club in Dubai in 1974, the Bin Draí family has been involved in polo for over three decades. Humaid bin Draí is credited with bringing polo to the UAE. His son, Saeed Bin Draí officially started the Bin Draí polo team in 2002. Bin Draí Polo was originally an all-brother team. Saeed's ambition is to keep on raising the profile of UAE polo. His long-term mission is to continue to promote the UAE internationally.



Saeed Bin Draí

PATRON

UAE

Handicap **0**



Ignacio Ithurburu

ARGENTINA

Handicap **2**



Salvador Ulloa

ARGENTINA

Handicap **7**



Juan Jose Brane

ARGENTINA

Handicap **7**



Ghantoot Polo

Ghantoot Polo was established in 1994 by the late ruler of the UAE, His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan, as the only Royal facility in the UAE. Today, the patron of the Ghantoot Polo Team is his son His Highness Sheikh Falah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The team has carried the UAE flag to many international tournaments. Ghantoot Polo was established as a key equestrian and cultural centre, aimed at promoting polo and the UAE country to the world.



PATRON
HH Sheikh Falah Bin
Zayed Al Nahyan

Ali Al Merri

UAE

Handicap **0**



Ramiro Garcia Dagna

ARGENTINA

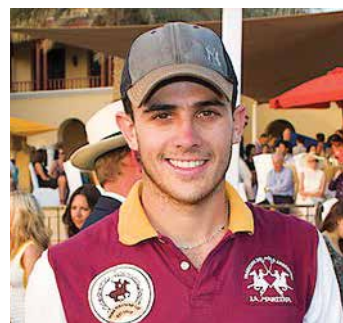
Handicap **4**



Juan Zubiaurre Canal

ARGENTINA

Handicap **4**



Facundo Sola

ARGENTINA

Handicap **8**



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Habtoor Polo

Established in 2000 by Mohammed Al Habtoor, just one year after he started learning the sport. The team has grown from strength to strength and today Habtoor Polo is one of Dubai's most prestigious organisations. The Al Habtoor brothers Rashid and Mohammed have worked hard over the past decade to raise the profile of the sport and firmly put the UAE on the polo world map. Habtoor Polo was the winner of last year's Dubai Gold Cup.



**Mohammed
Al Habtoor**

PATRON
UAE
Handicap **0**



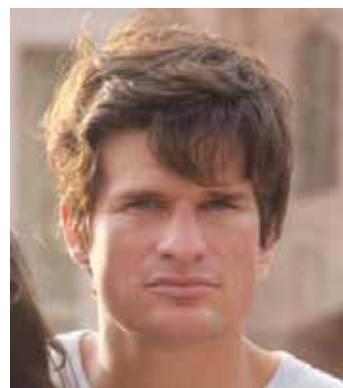
Ignacio Bello

ARGENTINA
Handicap **3**



Guillermo Cuitino

ARGENTINA
Handicap **6**



**Martinez Ferrairo
Ezequiel Edwardo**

ARGENTINA
Handicap **7**



Mahra Polo

Rashid Al Habtoor has been passionate about polo from an early age and has participated in many international tournaments including high profile events in the UK, France, Germany and Spain. He co-founded the Habtoor Polo Team alongside his brother Mohammed. He is also credited with setting up beach polo in Dubai in 2004. His enthusiasm for polo has led him to become the Chairman of Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club. Mahra Polo was the winner of the 2010 Dubai World Cup.



**Rashid
Al Habtoor**

PATRON

UAE

Handicap **0**



Guy Gibrat

ARGENTINA

Handicap **4**



Augustin Canale

ARGENTINA

Handicap **6**



Fernando Papi Bourdieu

UK

Handicap **6**

Zedan Polo



Zedan Polo was established over a decade ago by its Patron Amr Zedan. Amr has been a polo enthusiast for many years and previously played on the GCC polo team. Amr is a member of the Young Presidents' Organisation and the Young Arab Leaders and has used his role to enhance polo in the Middle East.



Amr Zedan

PATRON

KSA

Handicap **0**



Matias Logioco

ARGENTINA

Handicap **3**



Rodolfo Ducos

ARGENTINA

Handicap **4**



Naxi Heguy

ARGENTINA

Handicap **9**

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Mohammed Al Habtoor and Flo Rida



Team KBL, last year's Gold Cup sponsor





L-R: Fidelio Cavalli and Flo Rida



Strike a pose!

DRESSED TO IMPRESS





Mohammed al Habtoor with KBL Sponsors



L-R: Mubarak Al Yabhouni,
Tarik Fatheldin



REIGNING CHAMPION

HIS HIGHNESS SHEIKH MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTOUM IS AN AVID SPORTSMAN. THE VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER OF THE UAE AND RULER OF DUBAI WALKED AWAY WITH TWO GOLD MEDALS AT THE FEI WORLD ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP IN LONDON IN AUGUST 2012.

Dubai's ruling family have a well-known love of sports and are active in many events around the world – whether it is as a spectator or a participant. In August 2012, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum secured a historic double in the FEI World Endurance Championship in the UK. He not only won the individual gold medal but he also led the UAE team to victory.

"I only ever compete because I enjoy taking part in endurance. I do not go out to get a result; I go out to have fun. I do not try to change position but ride my own ride," Sheikh Mohammed told reporters after the race.

"My horse gave me a wonderful ride - all the way through he felt incredible. I am very pleased with the result," he added.

Riding 12-year-old Madji du Pont, Sheikh Mohammed was crowned champion of the world endurance race after crossing the finish line in about seven hours. The epic victory is the third in a row following victories in the 2008 World Endurance Championship in Malaysia and in the 2010 World Endurance Championship in





"MY HORSE GAVE ME A WONDERFUL RIDE - ALL THE WAY THROUGH HE FELT INCREDIBLE. I AM VERY PLEASED WITH THE RESULT"

Kentucky, USA. Sheikh Mohammed galloped to victory leading home a 1-2-3 finish in the individual medals, with Sheikh Rashid Dalmouk Al Maktoum winning the silver and Ali Khalfan Al Jahouri the bronze in the prestigious event at Britain's Euston Park.

The equestrian event is no easy feat. Sheikh Mohammed covered the 160 kilometer distance in 7 hours 00:45 minutes, with an average speed of 22.8 kilometers. That's roughly equivalent to a medium speed canter. The route comprises of six loops between 20km and 38km, five of which take riders on different routes around the Suffolk countryside covering heathland, forest tracks, river meadows and open farmland.

"The weather could have been worse, but God was kind and gave us some good conditions in which to race," Sheikh Mohammed said following the win. "This feels great."

FOR HOME AND COUNTRY

He dedicated his victory to UAE President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and the Emirati people. His Highness commented on his website: "The World Endurance Championship is one of the most competitive in the world. Over 150 riders from 38 countries joined the 160 kilometre race. Our lead, individually and as a team, is a reflection of our strong connection to equestrianism and the UAE's ability to remain ahead of the game."

Sheikh Mohammed also reflected his feelings in his poem titled "Intisar" (Victory), which denotes the UAE's international achievements in general and winning of the 2012 FEI World Endurance Championship. In his poem, Sheikh Mohammed also dedicated this victory to the entire Arab Nation and assured that he will never settle for less.

"I ONLY EVER COMPETE BECAUSE I ENJOY TAKING PART IN ENDURANCE. I DO NOT GO OUT TO GET A RESULT; I GO OUT TO HAVE FUN. I DO NOT TRY TO CHANGE POSITION BUT RIDE MY OWN RIDE"

GOING FOR GOLD

The UAE team won the 'team competition' completing the course in two hours – just ahead of France. Headed by Sheikh Mohammed, the UAE team included Dubai's Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Culture and Arts Authority Sheikh Majid bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Sheikh Rashid Dalmouk Al Maktoum, Ali Khalfan Al Jahouri and Ahmad Mohammed Ahmad Belqaizi.

ANOTHER STRING TO THE BOW

In December HH Sheikh Mohammed watched his son, Dubai Crown Prince Sheikh Hamdan bin

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum earn the title of the World Military Endurance Championship, which was held at the Bahrain International Endurance Village in the presence of King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa.

Sheikh Hamdan received the gold medal from Secretary-General of the International Council for Military Sports (CISM), Colonel Alexandre Morisod, who congratulated Sheikh Hamdan on his win.

Forty-eight riders from 15 Arab and foreign countries participated in the championship.

.....

2012 LONGINES FEI WORLD ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP UAE TEAM

Sheikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum

Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Al Maktoum

Sheikh Majid bin Mohammed Al Maktoum

Sheikh Rashid Dalmook Al Maktoum

Ali Khalfan Al Jahouri

Ahmad Mohommad Ahmad Belqaizi

Madji Du Pont (12)

Nikos (11)

Nadirha Du Breuil (11)

Kangoo D'Aurabell (14)

Vendaval (10)

Dandy (8)

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THE FLAG FOR THE UAE

SHEIKHA MAITHA BINT MOHAMMED AL MAKTOUM IS ANOTHER ROYAL RENOWNED FOR HER SPORTING PROWESS. THE 32 YEAR OLD HAS ACHIEVED WORLDWIDE RECOGNITION IN KARATE AND TAE KWON DO AND HAS REPRESENTED HER COUNTRY AT TWO OLYMPIC GAMES...

While Sheikha Maitha is best-known for her martial arts, she participates in many other sports – including polo. The daughter of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, made history when she became the first woman to represent her country at the Beijing Olympics in 2008 when she competed in the 67 kg Tae Kwon Do event.

A few years earlier HRH was also the first woman from the UAE to win an international gold medal. This time in karate at the 10th Pan-Arab Games held in Algeria in 2004. Two years later, in 2006, she won a silver medal at the Asian Games in the over 60 kg karate event. In 2007, she added another gold to her medals cabinet at the Pan-

Arab Games in Cairo.

It is no surprise then that she was named the "Best Female Arab Sportsperson" at the Arab Sports Awards in 2008 and was crowned the "UAE's Best Sports Personality" of 2010.

To cap it off, Sheikha Maitha, was one of 26 athletes representing their country at the London 2012 Olympic Games. It was the largest ever Emirati contingent to participate in the Games. There is no doubt that the young royal has etched her name in the history books, but she has also helped promote the UAE as a serious competitor in international sporting events and paved the way for other Emirati women to follow in her footsteps.

GOING FOR GOLD

DUBAI'S OLYMPIC DREAM

NO ARAB COUNTRY HAS EVER HOSTED THE OLYMPIC GAMES. BUT THAT COULD SOON CHANGE, AS DUBAI EYES THE 2024 OLYMPICS

Hosting well-organised Olympics games historically has helped bolster a nation's reputation. It's one of the key events that attracts worldwide attention for more than a month.

Istanbul, Tokyo and Madrid will compete to host the 2020 Olympics and Paralympics after Qatar's Doha and Azerbaijan's Baku were cut from the list last year. The winning host city will be named on September 7th in Buenos Aires.

Dubai decided to opt out of the 2020 bid to give it time to focus on competing for the 2024 games instead. Saeed Abdul Ghaffar, the Secretary General of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) said recently, "If we are successful for Dubai to host the event, it will be a historical event. It will be the first time for the Middle East."

With 12 years left before Dubai's possible bid comes to fruition, it will provide ample of time to for the UAE to nurture the talent to compete in the games.

And while the event would be played out at the heat of the summer, Dubai has a sporting chance of clinching the bid. Qatar has already set the precedent for hosting a summer event, with the upcoming FIFA World Cup in 2022. Not forgetting, the Sydney Games was moved to September to account for soaring temperatures!

But Dubai isn't alone in its 2024 Olympic aspiration. It is vying against 14 other cities who have indicated a possible interest in hosting the sporting

extravaganza. It could be up against Amsterdam (The Netherlands), Berlin (Germany), Brisbane (Australia), Casablanca (Morocco), Copenhagen (Denmark), Durban (South Africa), Kiev (Ukraine), Madrid (Spain), Melbourne (Australia), Paris (France), Rome (Italy) and Taipei (Taiwan) amongst others. A decision is set for 2017.

For some cities, hosting an event, especially in a crisis, the costs are just too high. And if the infrastructure is not in place, it is going to pull even harder on the purse strings. Think back to 2004, when the games returned to their birthplace: Greece. The 2004 games in Athens cost almost EUR 9 billion (AED 43.1 billion) – making it the most expensive games ever – and putting a strain on the the country's massive public debt.

According to a feasibility study conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers and Populous last year, 'Dubai has 70 per cent of the hard infrastructure in place – or planned' to host the games.

On a recent visit to Dubai, Andy Hunt, Chairman of the British Olympics Association, who was credited with successfully organizing the London 2012 Olympics said, "The infrastructure that they have put in place here, it's phenomenal. Every time I come here it has moved on once again so I think there is no doubt the UAE could put together an incredible bid to host the games".

One thing is for sure, Dubai is ready to rise to the challenge!

THE MATCH

Only one team can be victorious! Last year seven teams fought it out in the Dubai Gold and Silver Cup. Here's a look at the highlights from 2012...





Mahra vs Zedan



Abu Dhabi Polo Team



Al Habtoor Polo Team



Mahra Polo Team

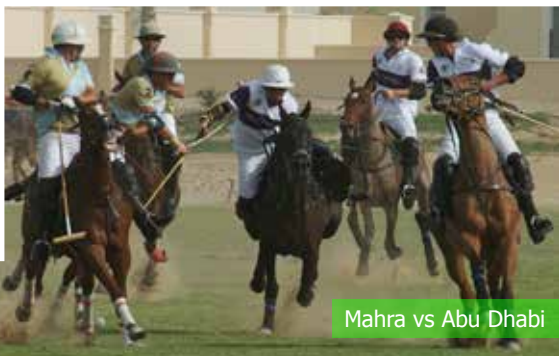


Facundo Solo, Abu Dhabi Polo Team (2011 Gold Cup winner)

THE MATCH



Ahmad Al Habtoor congratulates his father on his victory



Mahra vs Abu Dhabi



The young Khalaf Al Habtoor aspires to play polo





2012 RESULTS FEBRUARY

The Silver Cup

WINNER 2012: ABU DHABI POLO
RUNNER-UP: ZEDAN POLO

	TIME	QUALIFICATIONS	MAT CHES	FIELD	UMPIRES	3RD MAN
FRIDAY 3rd	14:30	ABU DHABI RINHOS	11 5	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	A.SNOWDOWN
	16:00	HABTOOR GHANTOOT	5 4	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	A.SNOWDOWN
SATURDAY 4th	16:00	BIN DRAI MAHRA	5 6	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	A.SNOWDOWN
SUNDAY 5th	14:30	ABU DHABI GHANTOOT	7 6	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
	16:00	ZEDAN RHINOS	6 5	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
MONDAY 6th	16:00	HABTOOR MAHRA	6 4	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	A.SNOWDOWN
TUESDAY 7th	14:30	ZEDAN GHANTOOT	6 5	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
	16:00	BIN DRAI RHINOS	6 5	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
THURSDAY 9th	14:30	ZEDAN MAHRA	6 7	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
	16:00	ABU DHABI HABTOOR	6 8	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	A.SNOWDOWN
FRIDAY 10th	14:00	BIN DRAI GHANTOOT	5 6	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
SATURDAY 11th	16:00	HABTOOR RHINOS	5 3	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
SUNDAY 12th	14:30	BIN DRAI ZEDAN	6 5	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
	16:00	ABU DHABI MAHRA	6 9	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
TUESDAY 14th	14:30	HABTOOR ZEDAN	6 8	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	A.SNOWDOWN
	16:00	MAHRA ABU DHABI	5 7	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
FRIDAY 9th FINAL	14:30	HABTOOR VS MAHRA	4-6	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR
	16:30	ABU DHABI VS ZEDAN	7-3	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	S.TORREGUITAR

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2012

RESULTS

MARCH

APRIL

KBL Dubai Polo Gold Cup

WINNER 2012: HABTOOR POLO

RUNNER-UP: BIN DRAI POLO

	TIME	QUALIFICATIONS	MAT CHES	FIELD	UMPIRES	3RD MAN
SATURDAY 25th	15:00	MAHRA BIN DRAI	4 7	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT D. ALBERDI - BETHELL	BETHELL WRIGHT
	16:30	ZEDAN HABTOOR	6 7	DPC 1	ELLIS- SEAVILL	KEYTE
SUNDAY 26th	16:30	ABU DHABI GHANTOOT	9 4	DPC 1	BETHELL - WRIGHT	D.ALBERTI
MONDAY 27th	16:30	MAHRA ZEDAN	9 7	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	BETHELL
TUESDAY 28th	15:00	GHANTOOT HABTOOR	6 5	DPC 2	BETHELL - WRIGHT	D.ALBERTI
	16:30	ABU DHABI BIN DRAI	7 9	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - BETHELL	WRIGHT
THURSDAY 1st	15:00	MAHRA ABU DHABI	2 7	DPC 2	BETHELL - WRIGHT	D.ALBERTI
	16:30	GHANTOOT ZEDAN	5 4	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - BETHELL	WRIGHT
FRIDAY 2nd	15:00	HABTOOR BIN DRAI	6 3	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	BETHELL
SATURDAY 3rd	16:30	MAHRA GHANTOOT	6 2	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - BETHELL	WRIGHT
SUNDAY 4th	15:00	HABTOOR ABU DHABI	9 4	DPC 2	BETHELL - WRIGHT	D.ALBERTI
	16:30	BIN DRAI ZEDAN	6 2	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	BETHELL
TUESDAY 6th	15:00	BIN DRAI GHANTOOT	8 4	DPC 2	BETHELL - WRIGHT	D.ALBERTI
	16:30	MAHRA HABTOOR	7 9	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - BETHELL	WRIGHT
WEDNESDAY 7th	12:00	ZEDAN ABU DHABI	5 4	DPC 2	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	BETHELL
FRIDAY 9th FINAL	14:30	ABU DHABI MAHRA	7 5	DPC 1	TBA	
	16:30	BIN DRAI HABTOOR	5 6	DPC 1	D. ALBERDI - WRIGHT	

AND THE WINNER IS...

HERE'S A LOOK AT THE WINNERS FROM THE DUBAI POLO GOLD CUP FROM THE
PAST THREE YEARS. WHO'S GOING TO LIFT THE TROPHY THIS YEAR?
WATCH THIS SPACE!

.....



Rashid Al Habtoor:
2010 winner

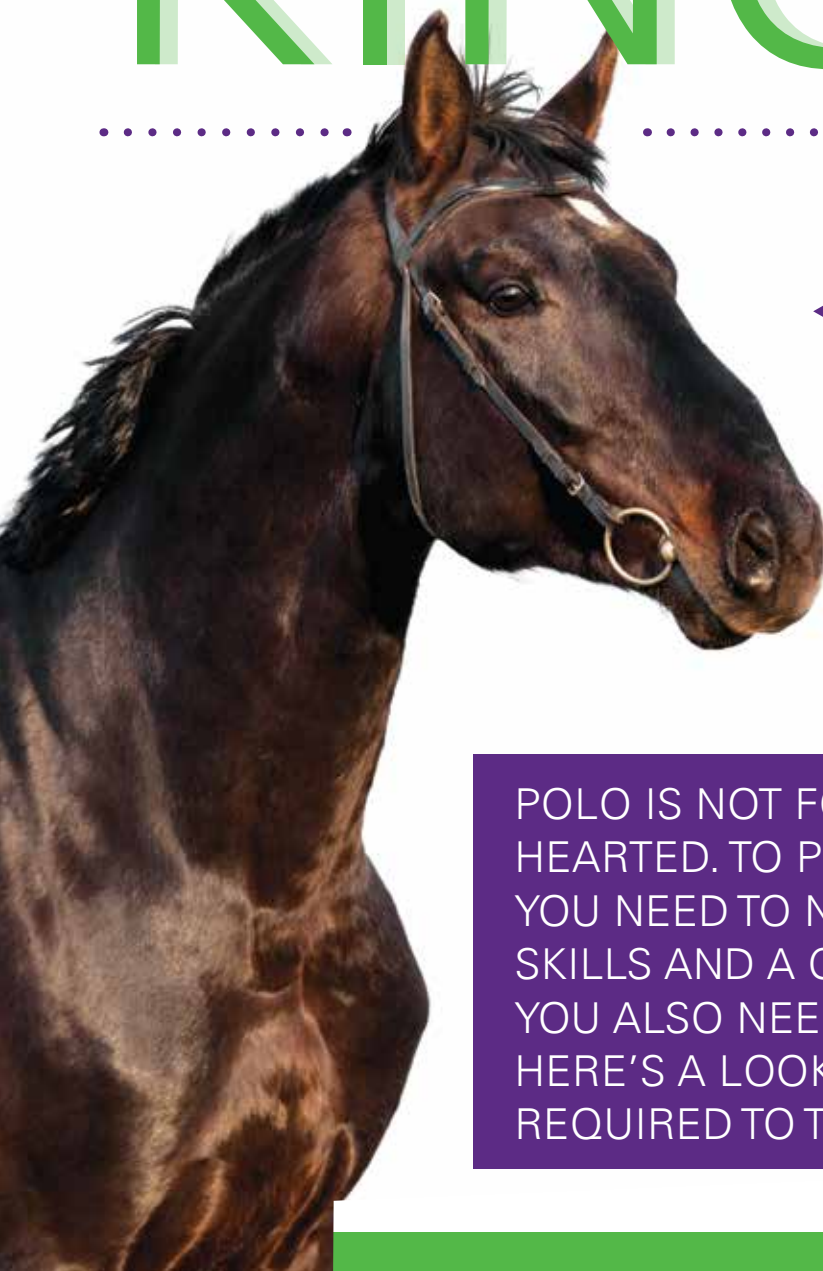


Faris Al Yabhouni:
2011 winner



Mohammed Al Habtoor:
2012 winner

KIT FOR KINGS



HORSES

◀ The first thing you will need is a horse... well eight to 10 to be exact! A good polo pony will set you back [around \\$50,000](#). The polo pony is not an actual pony but a full grown horse that is actually shorter than its peers to better reach the ground.

POLO IS NOT FOR THE FEINT-HEARTED. TO PLAY THE SPORT YOU NEED TO NOT ONLY HAVE THE SKILLS AND A GOOD HORSE, BUT YOU ALSO NEED A THICK WALLET! HERE'S A LOOK AT WHAT'S REQUIRED TO TAKE UP THE SPORT.

SADDLE

A well-fitted polo saddle is essential. Saddle fittings and pads help both player and horse perform at their optimum levels. It is important that the saddle is able to balance the polo rider in a centered position and carry the weight of the rider in a manner that is comfortable to both horse and rider. \$800+



SADDLE PADS

Polo players use polo saddle pads to protect the horses back and to protect the saddle from excess sweat from the horse. The pads are usually the same colour as the team colour and often bear the initials of the player. Approx \$100



BRIDLES

Polo bridles need to be strong to cope with the hard demands of the sport. \$250+



HELMET

Safety in this sport is paramount, so it is important to wear a polo helmet that has been engineered well and tested to ensure it provides the head and brain the protection it deserves. \$500+



ELBOW & KNEE PADS

- To keep your joints safe while you enjoy your favourite sport. Approx \$400+



BOOTS

- Polo players need ample protection and comfort – and it doesn't hurt to look good in their polo boots. \$600+.



GLOVES ►

Polo gloves must provide the polo player with a firm, slip free grip in the most demanding and harsh conditions that arise during the game. \$50+



GOGGLES ▲

Polo goggles protect the players eyes from the many dangers in the game of polo. Polo balls travel at over 100 miles per hour! Goggles are essential to protect the eyes from polo balls, polo mallets, etc. \$150+



KIT

It is important to look good while playing polo. You don't necessarily need bespoke kit... but then again, why not? ▶

Shirt: \$195+ Jodhpurs: \$350+

.....



CHAPS

No player's equipment is complete without at least a pair of chaps. Polo chaps offer comfort and protection. Approx \$125.

.....



BANDAGES & PROTECTORS

▶ Polo bandages and polo leg protectors offer the maximum protection for polo horses against injury in the game of polo. A polo ponies legs are the most susceptible part of the polo horse to injury during a polo match or polo tournament. \$80+

MALLETS ▶

Polo mallets are as personal as any sports gear for any amateur or professional athlete. Tournament, professional, and practice mallets are available in a variety of sizes and materials to ensure polo players have the best grip and function. It is important to match your height, weight strength and expertise to your mallet.



PARTY TIME

No sooner did the Dubai polo matches wrap up, the players put down their crops, kicked off their boots and put on their party clothes and trotted down to join in the revelry with the many spectator...





PARTY TIME





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Oscar buzz raises the style bar*

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happens, it
happens'*

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