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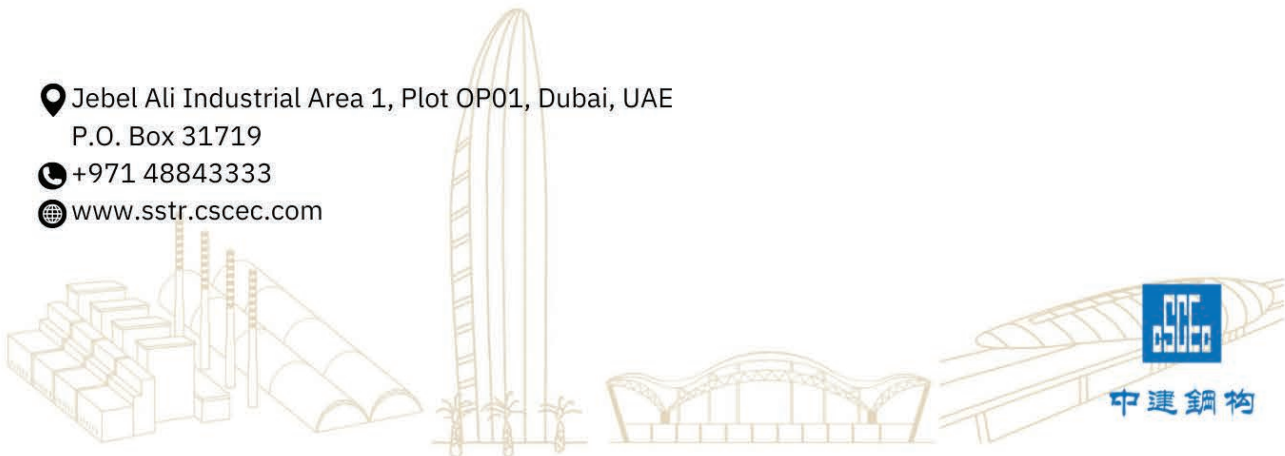
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22nd FEBRUARY

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN:

MOHAMMED AL HABTOOR

VICE CHAIRMAN & CEO, AL HABTOOR GROUP
CHAIRMAN, UAE POLO FEDERATION

Dear Valued Readers, Polo Aficionados, and Players,

It is with great excitement that we prepare for the 2025 Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series (DPGCS). I extend a warm welcome to all players, supporters, and fans of this incredible sport.

The DPGCS has become a symbol of polo excellence, showcasing the spirit and skill of the global polo community. As we begin this season, we carry forward a proud legacy while striving for innovation and top-tier competition. With a highly competitive 20-goal handicap, the Silver Cup and Gold Cup promise unforgettable moments of brilliance and passion for both players and spectators.

This world-class series would not be possible without the support of the Dubai Sports Council, our valued sponsors, regional teams, and the vibrant city of Dubai. To all our partners, I offer sincere thanks for your dedication to advancing polo and making these events a lasting success.

As Chairman of the UAE Polo Federation, it is an honor to oversee initiatives that promote the growth of polo in the UAE. Beyond the DPGCS, we are preparing to host the XIII FIP World Polo Championship in 2026, marking a significant achievement for the UAE's polo community. This milestone highlights our country's leadership in the sport and sets the stage for future generations to experience polo at the highest level.

The Silver Cup has become a showcase of thrilling matches, blending teamwork, skill, and determination. Every season brings new narratives, including unforgettable comebacks and displays of resilience that inspire both players and fans. The Gold Cup Series, representing polo excellence, continues to attract the world's best players. Its high-stakes format exemplifies the essence of polo: strategy, elegance, and passion.

These tournaments are a shining example of what can be achieved through collaboration and commitment. They highlight not only the talent on the field but also the collective effort of a community united by its love for the sport.

As we look ahead, I am confident the DPGCS will continue to raise the bar, solidifying its place as a cornerstone of the global polo calendar. Together, we celebrate these events, which inspire the next generation of players while positioning Dubai as a premier polo destination.

To the teams, your talent and sportsmanship embody the spirit of polo. To our spectators, enjoy the beauty, intensity, and camaraderie of this sport.

Here's to a season of exceptional competition, cherished memories, and new champions.



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Indulge in a Symphony of Italian Flavors at il Pastaio

The famed il Pastaio Italian restaurant originated in Beverly Hills, California, just a few blocks from Rodeo Drive. It was founded by the Sicilian Drago brothers Giacomino, Celestino, and Calogero in the early 1990s and is now in Dubai after three decades. The name il Pastaio, which translates as "the pasta maker," resides in the heart of the city, perfectly positioned at the Boulevard of Al Habtoor City.

The Beverly Hills flagship has witnessed the A-list crowd, including the Hadid sisters Gigi and Bella Hadid, the Kardashians, Hailey Baldwin, Justin Bieber, Sofia Vergara, and many more.

Prepare to be whisked away by breathtaking décor that complements our inspired wine collection. It is a sophisticated space with lots of natural light during the day, ambient lighting at night, earthy tones, and gorgeous greenery. All come together to form an inviting upscale setting, with a glam factor to the roadside, giving it a chic and feel-good factor.

Honest to its heritage, il Pastaio Dubai showcases a menu filled with fresh and authentic Italian food in a gorgeous décor in homage to its Sicilian origins. The menu offers discerning guests fresh and authentic Italian food, especially for its highly praised pasta such as Spaghettino O' Scarpariello, Paccheri alla Justin Bieber, Tonnarelli ai Crostacei, and Garganelli Strascicati.

Follow this with signature specials, including Tomahawk ai Ferri, Branzino al Sale, and Trio Tartare. il Pastaio's array of meat, poultry, and seafood dishes impresses, and lighter bites and sides include excellent creative salads, tempting antipasti, hearty soups, risotto, and even gluten-free pasta.

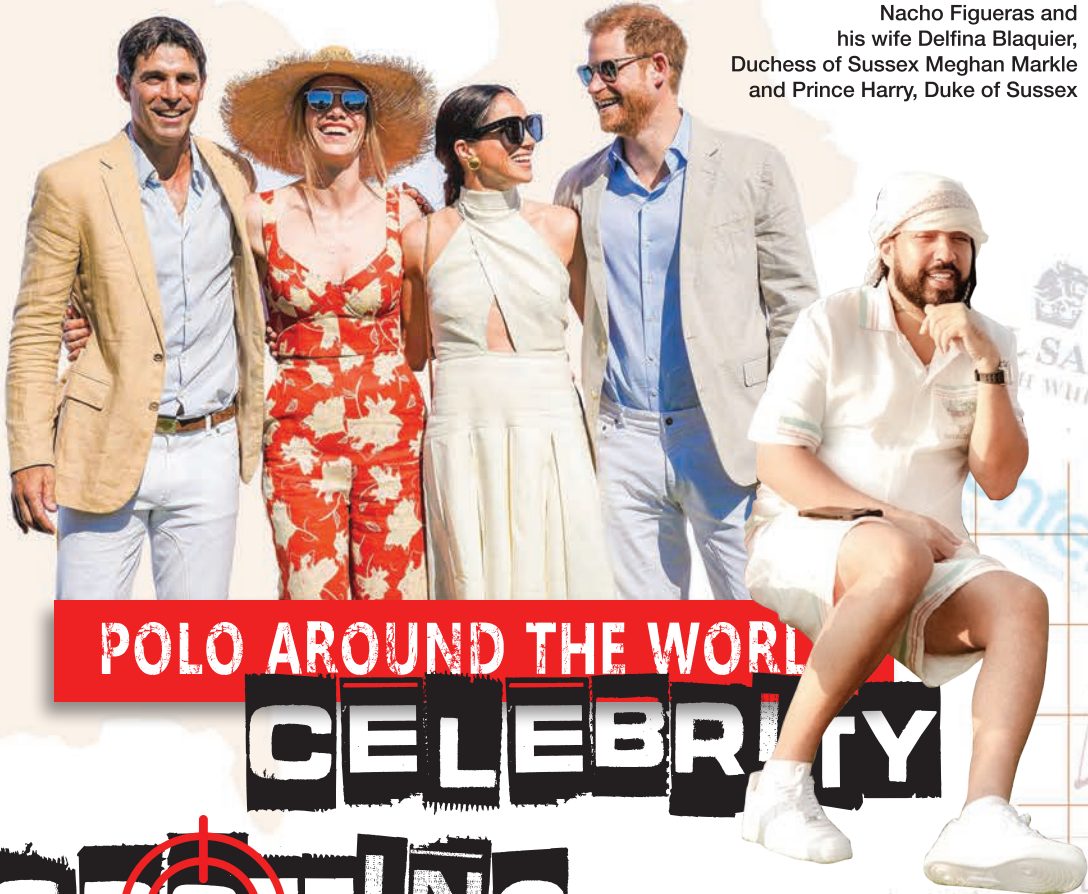
Accompaniment your memorable meal with sips from an exclusive wine list and round off your experience with splendid 'sin-free' desserts, ranging from Cioccolato and Cannoli to Panna Cotta and Torta al Formaggio.

We invite you to be part of our storied history and experience the authentic taste of Italy in the heart of Dubai!

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Nacho Figueras and his wife Delfina Blaquier, Duchess of Sussex Meghan Markle and Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex



POLO AROUND THE WORLD CELEBRITY

SPOTTING

Polo attracts many A-listers around the world. Here's a look at some of the stars spotted at the polo...

French Montana

Veuve Clicquot
POLO CLASSIC



Yvette Nicole Brown



Sherry Cola



Sheryl Lee Ralph



Lubia Chidume



Suki Waterhouse and Robert Pattinson

Betty Bachz



Mabel



William Gao



Alex Sharp



Ed McVey



Flora Gibbs



Gugu Mbatha-Raw



Ariana Rockefeller

Alessandra Ambrosio

Crishell Stause

Brian Howey

Khosi Twala

Hannah Dodd

Victoria Justice

NAIL YOUR *Polo Outfit*

Polo has long been associated with the fashion elite. The game attracts everything from stars, sports personalities to style icons. So, it is important to look your ultimate best.



Chinos are your go-to. Choose light, summery shades such as pastels, white, beige and camel and pair it with navy blue or olive. Have some fun with colour and accessories and don't be afraid of a pocket square, bow tie or a belt in a bold shade.

1 Bentley Aviator 2 Cole Haan Ripley grand chukka boots with custom stitch detail
3 Hermes IgnaciO Loafer leather Gancini Moccasin Loafer
4 Salvatore Ferragamo Men's Double-Gancini Calfskin Belt



1 BRIXTON Jo straw rancher hat **2 PRADA** collection
3 JADE JAGGER collection **4 HERMES** Birkin 35
 Bordeaux Croco GHW **5 BVLGARI** Serpenti Cabochon
 micro bag **6 FERRAGAMO** 105mm pointed-toe
 high-wedge sandals **7 GIANVITO ROSSI** Versilia 100
 suede sandals

Whether you opt for a pretty sundress, floating maxi dress, tailored trousers or comfortable culottes, the general rule here is smart and feminine – and lightweight. The polo is not necessarily the place to transfer over your race day outfit, nor is it the time to wear anything overtly sexy or tight. Think stylish summer picnic meets garden party and you can't go too far wrong. Colour-wise, steer clear of black if you can... White is always a good option as are pastels, neutrals and bold pops of colour.

GOLD CUP 2025

22nd FEBRUARY

Hospitality Packages

GOLD LOUNGE

AED5,000/table of 10 pax
minimum spend on drinks
including 10 Entry tickets
& 4 VIP parking passes



VIP GARDEN

AED1,500/person
1 General admission pass
1 VIP parking pass
Access to Gold Lounge

PARTY AT THE POLO

Unlimited house drinks & sparkling wine
from 2pm - 5:30pm
Live food stations and entertainment

For reservations, visit www.partyatthepolo.com



PICNIC GAZEBO

AED2,800/Gazebo
Picnic hamper, 8 General admission tickets,
2 Parking passes

AED1,350/Gazebo
Picnic hamper, 4 General admission tickets,
1 Parking pass

*T&C: Booking deadline: 3 days before the event,
50% advance payment required*

GENERAL ENTRY

AED195/person
Sold online via Virgin Megastore,
Platinum List, TIXBOX,
Loyal by AHG



BANGASH POLO TEAM

The Bangash Polo Team has been led by its patron, Haider Bangash, since 2017. With years of polo experience in London, Haider decided to take his game to the next level after spending more time in Dubai, participating in high-goal tournaments. The team achieved a remarkable performance in the 2021 Silver Cup, reaching the semi-finals, and went on to win the Bentley Cup at the IFZA Gold Cup final in 2021. Since then, the team has continued to make its mark in tournaments.



Haider Bangash

PATRON
HANDICAP 0



Federico Von Potobsky

HANDICAP 5



Genaro Ringa

HANDICAP 7



Tomas F. Llorente Jr.

HANDICAP 7



DUBAI WOLVES POLO TEAM



The Al Habtoor family's passion for polo is carried forward by the next generation with the Dubai Wolves Polo Team, led by Habtoor Al Habtoor. The team has steadily made its presence known in the UAE polo scene, participating in the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series. The Dubai Wolves clinched the Subsidiary Final at the Dubai Challenge Cup in 2016, won the Bentley Cup in 2018, and the Dubai Challenge Cup in 2019. In 2023, they secured the runner-up spot in the Subsidiary Final at the IFZA Silver Cup and triumphed in the Subsidiary Final at the Bentley Cup. The team continued their success in 2024, claiming the Insignia Cup, finishing as runners-up in both the Gold Cup and Polo Masters.



Habtoor Al Habtoor

PATRON
HANDICAP 1



Santiago Laborde

HANDICAP 6



Felix Esain

HANDICAP 6

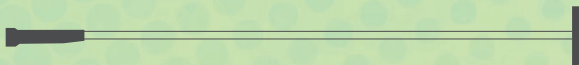


Benjamin Panelo

HANDICAP 7



GHANTOOT POLO TEAM



The Ghantoot Polo Team was founded in 1995 by the late UAE ruler, His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, and is currently patronized by his son, HH Sheikh Falah bin Zayed Al Nahyan. Known for its unique blend of Emirati talent and skilled high-goal Argentine professionals, Ghantoot Polo has achieved significant success. The team won the Dubai Polo Gold Cup in both 2013 and 2014, as well as the McLaren Silver Cup in 2014 and 2015. In 2019, they finished as runners-up in the Silver Cup, and in 2021, they claimed the prestigious Gold Cup. In 2023, Ghantoot Polo was the runner-up in the subsidiary final of the IFZA Gold Cup. Most recently, in 2024, they triumphed in the Bentley Cup.



Nasser Al Shamsi

PATRON
HANDICAP 1



Juanchi Ambroggio

HANDICAP 5



Marcos Araya

HANDICAP 7



Gonzalo Ferrari

HANDICAP 7



HABTOOR POLO TEAM

The Habtoor Polo legacy was founded in 2000 by Mohammed Al Habtoor, a man with a deep passion for polo. Since its inception, the team has led the way in the sport's evolution, achieving remarkable success. Habtoor Polo secured its first Dubai Polo Gold Cup title in 2012, followed by a victory in the Silver Cup in 2013. The team won the Hildon Cup for three consecutive years from 2014 to 2016 and again in 2023. They also earned runner-up positions in the Julius Baer Gold Cup in 2017 and the Bentley Cup in 2020. In 2021, Habtoor Polo claimed the IFZA Silver Cup and successfully defended it in 2022. Most recently, in 2023, they finished as runners-up in the IFZA Gold Cup, and in 2024, they triumphed in the Silver Cup, Gold Cup, and Polo Masters Cup.



Mohammed Al Habtoor

PATRON
HANDICAP 0



Bartolome Bayugar

HANDICAP 5



Juan Jaureche

HANDICAP 7

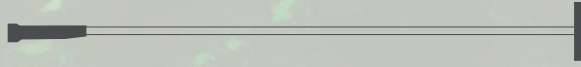


Bautista Bayugar

HANDICAP 8



JEHANGIRI POLO TEAM



The Jehangiri Polo Team, under the patronage of Muhammad Jehangiri, is set to make its debut in the prestigious Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series. This marks a significant milestone for the team as they compete for the first time in one of the most renowned polo tournaments in the region. With a strong commitment to excellence and the leadership of Jehangiri, the team aims to make a lasting impression in this elite competition, showcasing their skills and determination on the world-class polo fields. As they enter the Dubai Gold Cup Series for the first time, the Jehangiri Polo Team is poised to join the ranks of other top-tier teams, bringing a fresh and competitive energy to the event.



Muhammad Jehangiri

PATRON
HANDICAP 0



Santos Iriarte

HANDICAP 3



Alejandro Muzzio

HANDICAP 8



Gonzalo Pieres

HANDICAP 9

UAE POLO TEAM

UAE Polo, led by Her Highness Sheikha Maitha bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the daughter of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice President, Prime Minister, and ruler of Dubai, has become a formidable force in the polo world. A former martial artist who represented the UAE in Taekwondo at the Beijing Olympics and won a silver medal in karate at the 2006 Asian Games, Sheikha Maitha broke barriers in a male-dominated sport, stating, "Not only can women play polo, but they can play it well." She began her polo journey a few years ago at Ali Al Bawardi's Desert Palm Polo Club and quickly rose to compete in prestigious events like the Queen's Cup and Gold Cup. The team achieved remarkable success, winning the 2016 Julius Baer Gold Cup and the 2017 McLaren Cup, and in 2019, they claimed three prestigious trophies in the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series: the Silver Cup, Polo Masters Cup, and Julius Baer Gold Cup. They also defended the Standard Chartered Gold Cup in 2020 and were runners-up in the 2021 IFZA Silver and Gold Cups, while taking home the Dubai Challenge Cup. The team reclaimed the Gold Cup in 2022, and in 2023, they won both the IFZA Silver and Gold Cups, finishing as runners-up in the 2024 Silver Cup.



**Her Highness
Sheikha Maitha bint
Mohammed bin
Rashid Al Maktoum**

PATRON
HANDICAP 0



Rosendo Torreguitar

HANDICAP 6



Lucas Monteverde Jr.

HANDICAP 7



Teodor Lacau

HANDICAP 7

16 Years of the Dubai Gold Cup Series: Polo, Prestige, Excellence

Now celebrating its 16th year for the Gold Cup and 15th year for the Silver Cup, the Dubai Gold Cup Series has firmly established itself as one of the most prestigious events on the international polo calendar. From modest beginnings, it has evolved into a premier competition, blending the thrill of high-goal polo with the luxury and opulence synonymous with the UAE. This journey of growth and success began with a vision set in motion by Chairman Mohammed Al Habtoor and a bold initiative to introduce the Dubai Open to the region.

At the heart of this initiative was Cristina Gusita, tasked by Chairman Mohammed Al Habtoor with researching the sport and identifying the key elements required to bring high-goal polo to the UAE. Her findings revealed that polo, while a novel concept in the region, held immense potential to enhance its global presence. Collaborating with the Gold Cup Committee, Cristina ensured the vision faced no obstacles, laying the groundwork for what would become the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series. Between 2010 and 2016, the tournament was held at the Dubai Polo and Equestrian Club under the umbrella of the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Organization. Officially established in 2009 under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the series began with the Gold Cup and a 10-12 goal handicap, eventually expanding to include five premier tournaments: The Silver Cup, Gold Cup, Polo Masters Cup, Dubai Challenge Cup, and Dubai Cup. The series flourished under the leadership of Mohammed Al Habtoor, moving to its current home at the Al Habtoor Polo Club in 2017 and gaining international recognition as a WPT Championship Cup-level tournament. The introduction of new teams, meticulously maintained fields, and the club's commitment to excellence have made it a cornerstone of the global polo community, earning its place alongside world-class events in Argentina, Spain, the UK, and the US. Cristina Gusita, General Manager of Al Habtoor Polo Club, reflects on this transformative journey: "When we began, our vision was simple: to bring the best of polo to Dubai and create an event that not only showcased the skill and elegance of the sport but also highlighted the UAE's dedication to luxury and excellence."

The Dubai Gold Cup Series is not just a tournament—it is a celebration of unmatched competition, extraordinary talent, and an unwavering commitment to distinction

Looking ahead, the Dubai Gold Cup Series is poised to continue its legacy of innovation and growth. The Polo Academy at Al Habtoor Polo Club plays a key role in fostering new talent, raising awareness of the sport among younger generations, and ensuring its continued evolution. With its rich traditions, modern innovations, and global allure, the series remains a symbol of Dubai's commitment to excellence, captivating audiences worldwide and inspiring a love for polo that will carry the sport into the future. Under Gusita's leadership, the Dubai Gold Cup Series has seen remarkable transformation, evolving from a regional tournament into a global spectacle. "The growth has been incredible," she says. "We've attracted world-class players, legendary teams, and spectators from across the globe. This success is a testament to the hard work of our team and the unwavering support of the polo community." Gusita emphasizes that the event's success is a collective effort. Al Habtoor Polo Club has become a regional hub for polo, offering state-of-the-art facilities that combine tradition with modernity. "Our goal has always been to create a world-class experience, not only for players but also for spectators," she explains. "Each year, we strive to raise the bar, ensuring the series remains at the forefront of global polo."

The series has also significantly boosted polo's profile in the Middle East, encouraging local participation and raising the prominence of UAE-based players and teams on the international stage. "It's wonderful to see the region embrace polo, and we're proud to be at the heart of this movement," Gusita adds. Looking to the future, Gusita is optimistic about what lies ahead.



"In the coming years, we will continue to push the boundaries of polo to new heights. The Dubai Gold Cup Series is not just a tournament—it is a celebration of unmatched competition, extraordinary talent, and an unwavering commitment to distinction," she concludes. As it enters its next chapter, the Dubai Gold Cup Series is poised to continue its legacy as a beacon of excellence in the world of polo.



Polo in the UAE has seen extraordinary growth in recent years, thanks to the vision and dedication of key figures in the sport. One of the most significant drivers of this growth is the Dubai Gold Cup Series, an event that has not only elevated polo in the region but has also placed the UAE on the global polo map. We had the opportunity to speak with Santiago Torreguitar, a key figure in the development of this prestigious event, who shared insights into the history, evolution, and future potential of polo in the UAE.

Growing Polo in the UAE: Insights from Santiago Torreguitar and the Dubai Gold Cup Series

How did you initially become involved with the Dubai Gold Cup Series, and what role did you take on?

My involvement with the Dubai Gold Cup Series began in the summer of either 2008 or 2009 when I met Mohammed (Mohammed Al Habtoor) in Sotogrande while he was playing there. After spending some time together, he approached me with an idea to help organize a tournament—the Gold Cup. We started the journey the following year, in 2010, with the first UAE Gold Cup at the Dubai Polo and Equestrian Club.

How has the role of Al Habtoor Polo Club and Resort evolved in the regional and global polo landscape over the years?

After our initial Gold Cup in 2010, Mohammed had the vision to expand and organize even more tournaments. By the following year, we introduced both the Silver and Gold Cups, and from there, things grew exponentially. After a few years, Mohammed established his own club with four polo fields, elevating the level of play. We gradually moved from a 10-12 goal to a 15, 16, and 18-goal level, and today we are playing at a 20-goal level, firmly establishing ourselves as a premier polo destination in the region and beyond.

What do you see as the biggest opportunities for growth in the next few years for the club?

The growth we've experienced over the years has been remarkable. We've seen an influx of new players and teams, and we're now focused on encouraging young kids to take up the sport. With a solid foundation being built for future generations of players, we are looking ahead to the 2026 FIP World Cup, which we will be hosting. The potential for polo in the UAE is immense, and we're excited to see how the sport continues to grow.

What changes or developments would you like to see in the future of polo in the UAE?

As polo continues to expand in the UAE, it's essential that we develop the infrastructure to support the increasing number of local players and teams. Additionally, we hope to see some of the world's best international polo teams participating in the UAE, elevating the competition and bringing global attention to our local polo scene.

The Dubai Gold Cup Series has been instrumental in raising the profile of polo in the UAE, and as the sport grows, so too will the opportunities for further development and international recognition.

Peter Wright's illustrious career in polo spans decades, from his early days as a professional player to his current role as Chief Umpire for The Hurlingham Polo Association. With over 20 years of experience as a professional umpire, Peter brings unparalleled expertise to the sport.

His journey into polo began in the UK, where The Pony Club introduced him to this dynamic game. "I had been riding all my life and loved playing ball sports as a child," he shares. "The moment I saw the two combined—the speed and agility of the polo pony with the dynamic team sport element—I knew it would be with me for life."

In this candid interview, Peter opens up about his passion for polo, the challenges of umpiring, and his insights into one of the world's most exhilarating sports.

How would you describe polo in a single sentence to someone who has never experienced it before?

Playing polo is like trying to play golf during an earthquake! (*Sylvester Stallone quote*)

In an ideal world, what would your perfect polo match look like?

A nice sunny day. Not too hot and a light breeze. The ground in good condition and a knowledgeable crowd waiting in anticipation for a close contest. A group of 8 friends who all understand the sport and go out onto the field to be competitive, but most importantly, to have fun and enjoy the game.

Can you share an instance when you had to make a tough decision that impacted the outcome of a match? How did you navigate that situation?

In polo the umpire is often called on to make difficult calls, whether in the first minute or the last minute of a match. As long as these decisions are made consistently and honestly, with a good understanding of the rules, I believe that is all that can be asked of an umpire. There is always an amount of human error in sport, either as a player or an official. Being truthful with yourself after making a tough decision is the key factor in moving forward and improving.



PETER WRIGHT

A life in polo

by L. Sanchez

“Bad umpires want to be left alone, good umpires want to be coached, and great umpires want to be told the truth.”

What qualities do you believe are essential for an umpire to have in order to navigate good relationships with players?

Good umpires are good communicators. Knowing the rules, good appearance and good mechanics are critical, however if you are unable to communicate effectively the players will not comply, in part because they don't understand your intentions. This leads to misunderstandings, hot tempers and frustration. Clear and calm communication is the key.

What's the most valuable piece of advice you've received from a fellow umpire or player?

Bad umpires want to be left alone, good umpires want to be coached, and great umpires want to be told the truth.

What advice would you give to someone aspiring to become a polo player?

To play polo to a good standard is not easy. It costs economically, emotionally, and in the time that has to be put in to succeed. Take advice from people in the sport that you know and really trust. People that will tell you the truth. And then it is incredibly hard work!! Dedication to improving and overcoming the inevitable setbacks, and doing it all with a smile. It can be a difficult journey at times, but if and when you do achieve your goal, it will all be worth it.



How would you explain the Dubai Polo Gold Cup series to someone who has never experienced it?

The Dubai Polo Gold Cup series is the highest level of competitive polo in the region. Throughout January and February each year some of the best athletes in the world, both human and equine, converge at The Al Habtoor Polo Resort for the ultimate prize in Dubai polo. For over fifteen years the event has continued to grow, and is a never to be missed experience.



From Buenos Aires to Dubai: The World's Premier Polo Competitions

by L. Sanchez

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https://www.poloine.com/galleries/?album=139496&album_size=1

Polo, often referred to as “the sport of kings,” captivates audiences worldwide with its blend of skill, speed, and sophistication. Each year, a select group of tournaments stands out, drawing the sport’s finest players, majestic horses, and a global following.

History of Polo

Originating in Central Asia, polo is one of the oldest known team sports. It was first played in Persia (modern-day Iran) between the 6th century BC and the 1st century AD as a training exercise for cavalry units, particularly the king’s guard. To the warlike tribesmen, polo was akin to a miniature battle, with up to 100 players on each side.

Over time, polo evolved into a national sport in Persia, played extensively by the nobility. Notably, both men and women participated, as historical accounts mention Queen Shirin and her ladies competing against King Khosrow II Parviz and his courtiers in the 6th century AD.

The game eventually spread beyond Persia, reaching Arabia, Tibet, China, and Japan. In Tibet, the term “polo” originated from the Balti word for “ball.” The sport gained significant attention in China, though its intensity led to tragedy; Emperor A-pao-chi famously ordered the beheading of all surviving players after a relative’s fatal accident during a match in 910. Polo made its way to India in the 13th century through Muslim conquerors. However, it wasn’t until British tea planters in Assam formed the first European polo club in 1859 at Silchar that the game began to flourish

internationally. By the 1860s, the Calcutta Polo Club was established, and British cavalry officers stationed in India popularized the sport further. Upon returning to England, these officers brought polo with them, leading to the sport’s rapid growth. Matches at Richmond Park and Hurlingham drew large crowds, and by 1875, the sport was a favorite among both the military and the British aristocracy.

The Modern-Day Global Polo Circuit

Today, polo has grown into a global spectacle, with prestigious tournaments held across the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East.

The US Open Polo Championship, hosted annually in Florida, is the pinnacle of American polo. Known for its intense competition and glamorous atmosphere, the championship attracts top teams and players from around the world. Similarly, the USPA Gold Cup, another highlight of the American polo season, features high-stakes matches as part of the Gauntlet of Polo series.

In South America, the Argentine Open in Buenos Aires remains the crown jewel of polo. Played at the historic Campo Argentino de Polo, this tournament showcases the world’s best players and horses, drawing passionate crowds who celebrate Argentina’s deep-rooted polo heritage. Across the Atlantic, Europe’s top tournaments include the Cartier Queen’s Cup at Guards Polo Club and the Gold Cup British Open at Cowdray Park Polo Club. Both events embody the sophistication and

tradition of British polo, with royal patronage, high-energy matches, and an elite social atmosphere.

In the Middle East, the Dubai Gold Cup Series – Dubai Open has emerged as a beacon of excellence. Held at the luxurious Al Habtoor Polo Resort, this series combines breathtaking desert backdrops, top-tier competition, and unparalleled hospitality, making it a standout on the international polo calendar.

A Global Celebration of Polo

These tournaments represent the very best of polo, blending tradition, cultural heritage, and the thrilling dynamics of the sport. From the passionate crowds of Buenos Aires to the regal settings of Windsor and the opulent landscapes of Dubai, each event offers a unique experience.

As the new season approaches, polo fans have much to look forward to. These events not only honor the sport’s rich history but also pave the way for its bright future. From the pristine fields to the electrifying matches, polo continues to captivate audiences worldwide, proving its enduring appeal as the sport of kings.

The US Open Polo Championship in the United States epitomizes high-goal polo with its intense competition and star-studded atmosphere. In South America, the Argentine Open in Buenos Aires is the sport’s crowning jewel, celebrated for its legendary players and electrifying matches.

In the U.S., the USPA Gold Cup serves as



and teams from around the globe, the Dubai Gold Cup Series showcases the growing influence of the UAE in the sport. Its breathtaking desert backdrop and commitment to excellence make it a standout event in the international polo circuit.

Cartier Queen's Cup

Across the Atlantic, the Cartier Queen's Cup stands as a testament to British polo's rich tradition and royal heritage. Hosted at the iconic Guards Polo Club in Windsor, this tournament boasts royal patronage and some of the best polo action in Europe. The Queen's Cup is as much a social occasion as it is a sporting event, attracting celebrities, dignitaries, and polo aficionados. The pristine grounds and elegant ambiance make this tournament a highlight of the British summer season.

Gold Cup British Open

Also in the UK, the Gold Cup British Open is revered as one of the most challenging and prestigious polo tournaments in the world. Held at the Cowdray Park Polo Club, the Gold Cup attracts top-tier players and team's eager to compete for one of the sport's most coveted titles. The tournament's competitive edge and dramatic matches have solidified its place as a must-see event on the global polo calendar.

A Global Celebration of Polo

These tournaments, spanning the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East, represent the very best of polo. Each event offers a unique experience, blending cultural traditions with the thrilling dynamics of the game. Whether it's the passionate crowds of Buenos Aires, the regal atmosphere of Windsor, or the opulent settings of Dubai, these tournaments embody the spirit and elegance of polo.

As the new season approaches, polo fans have much to look forward to. These events not only celebrate the sport's rich history but also set the stage for its bright future. From the pristine fields to the exhilarating matches, the world's most prestigious polo tournaments promise a year of unforgettable moments and unmatched sophistication.

a key fixture in the American polo season, where top teams compete for glory. Across the Atlantic, the Cartier Queen's Cup at Guards Polo Club offers a unique blend of royal patronage and world-class play, while the Gold Cup British Open in England stands as Europe's premier polo competition, renowned for its fiercely contested matches. Not to be missed our very own Dubai Gold Cup Series, a jewel in the Middle Eastern polo calendar. Hosted at the Al Habtoor Polo Resort, this series attracts top-tier players and spectators from around the globe, blending luxury with exhilarating high-goal action in a spectacular desert setting.

celebration of a nation's enduring love for polo.

USPA Gold Cup

Another highlight of the American high-goal polo season is the USPA Gold Cup, held annually in Florida. This tournament is a cornerstone of the prestigious Gauntlet of Polo series and features the sport's top teams vying for glory. With its combination of high-stakes matches and an elite social atmosphere, the USPA Gold Cup consistently delivers unforgettable moments, making it a favorite among players and fans alike.

US Open Polo Championship

As the crown jewel of American polo, the US Open Polo Championship represents the height of the sport in the United States. Hosted annually in Florida, this tournament is known for its thrilling matches and star-studded ambiance. The US Open brings together the best teams and players from around the globe, delivering electrifying moments that keep fans on the edge of their seats. Beyond the matches, the event has become a social hub, blending luxury and sport in a way that epitomizes the glamour of American polo.



Dubai Gold Cup Series – Dubai Open

In the Middle East, the Dubai Gold Cup Series has become a beacon of excellence in the polo world. Hosted at the luxurious Al Habtoor Polo Resort, this tournament series combines world-class polo with unparalleled hospitality. Drawing top players



Argentine Open

In the heart of Buenos Aires, the Argentine Open stands as the pinnacle of polo in South America. Played at the historic Campo Argentino de Polo, this tournament is a spectacle like no other, featuring the world's best players and horses. Argentina's deep-rooted polo culture is on full display during this event, with passionate crowds and exhilarating matches that showcase the sport's unmatched artistry. The Argentine Open is more than just a tournament; it's a



TOURNAMENT WINNERS

SILVER CUP - 20 GOAL HANDICAP

RUNNER - UP
UAE POLO



MVP
JUAN JAURECHE



BEST PONY
POCAHONTAS



WINNER
HABTOOR POLO



RUNNER - UP BANGASH DODSON & HORRELL



THE UMPIRES



INSIGNIA CUP WINNER
DUBAI WOLVES by CAFU

GOLD CUP - 20 GOAL HANDICAP



WINNER
HABTOOR POLO



RUNNER - UP
DUBAI WOLVES by CAFU



MVP
JOSE ARAYA



BEST PONY
MACHITOS ANGIE



BENTLEY CUP
GHANTOOT POLO



RUNNER - UP MAHRA by AIX INVESTMENT GROUP



THE UMPIRES

TOURNAMENT WINNERS

POLO MASTERS CUP - 6-8 GOAL HANDICAP

RUNNER - UP
DUBAI WOLVES by CAFU



MVP
SANTOS IRIARTE



BEST PONY
PURA



WINNER
HABTOOR POLO



RUNNER - UP PBS POLO



THE UMPIRES



SUBSIDIARY CUP WINNER
MOR-RALPH STARS POLO

DUBAI CHALLENGE CUP - 8-10 GOAL HANDICAP



WINNER
BHANSALI POLO



RUNNER - UP
EL BASHA POLO



MVP
MANUEL PEREZ



BEST PONY
AZUL



SUBSIDIARY CUP WINNER
HABTOOR POLO



RUNNER - UP POWER HOUSE - PBS POLO



THE UMPIRES

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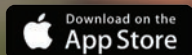
UAE POLO FEDERATION

The official governing body of the sport of polo
in the United Arab Emirates

**FOR UPDATES,
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1st FEBRUARY

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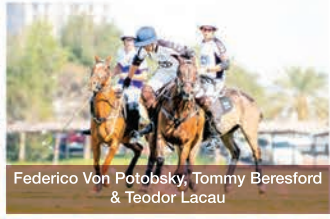
Mahra Polo Team vs Bangash Polo Team



Ghantoot Polo Team vs Habtoor Polo Team



UAE Polo Team vs Dubai Wolves Polo Team



Federico Von Potobsky, Tommy Beresford & Teodor Lacau



Dubai Wolves Team vs Ghantoot Polo Team



Pablo Llorente & Facundo Llorente



Mahra Polo Team vs UAE Polo Team



Habtoor Polo Team vs Bangash Polo Team



Tariq Al Habtoor & Nasser Al Shamsi



Habtoor Polo Team



Mahra Polo Team vs Ghantoot Polo Team



Habtoor Polo Team vs UAE Polo Team





Mohammed Al Habtoor



HH Sheikha Maitha bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



Habtoor Polo Team vs Bangash Polo Team



UAE Polo Team vs Dubai Wolves Polo Team



Haider Bangash



Habtoor Al Habtoor



Teodor Lacau & Tommy Beresford



Habtoor Polo Team vs Dubai Wolves Polo Team



Nasser Al Shamsi



Tariq Al Habtoor



Tomasito Llorente & Juan Juareche



Ghantoot Polo Team vs Dubai Wolves Polo Team



Lucas Monteverde Jr.



Benjamin Pabelo



Teodor Lacau



Facundo Kelly



Santi Laborde



Alfredo Capella



Felix Esain



Tommy Beresford



Pablo Llorente



Juan Juareche



Tomasito Llorente



Federico Von Potobsky

THE MATCH

Here are some of the highlights of last year's action-packed event...







Polo attracts the fashion concious. Here are some of the trend-setters from last year...

Socialites







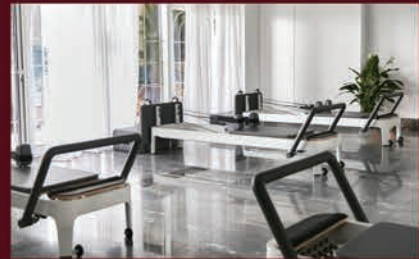


Experience the stunning polo views at Al Habtoor Polo Resort, an equestrian-inspired retreat that blends Andalusian charm with Arabian serenity. Stay in one of our luxurious rooms, suites or villas overlooking the polo fields and indulge in exceptional leisure activities and dining experiences.



Enjoy a variety of in-house recreational and leisure facilities designed for your convenience.

Stay active at our 24/7 gym, play Padel or Tennis with courses sponsored by ISM and feel revitalized at Connect boutique Pilates studio. Pamper yourself with luxurious body treatments and massages at Luxe Spa, followed by a refreshing dip in the water and sunbathing at the cabanas by the Oasis Pool. Complete your experience with expert hair and nail services at HighZone Beauty Salon.



Dining and Entertainment

Indulge in a variety of dining experiences at Equestrian Lounge, Horse & Hound and Oasis Pool Bar and enjoy exclusive offers and live entertainment at all venues.



THE ACCUMULATOR
 Mondays 17:30pm onwards
 Free Entry | Accumulating cash prize & guaranteed rewards
 Hosted by our favourite radio MC Rich
 Special Ladies Night Deal | AED 75 for 3 drinks
 Whatsapp Eddie for bookings +971 54 539 6893

Absolute Ladies Night
 EVERY MONDAY
 AED 75
 3 FREE DRINKS FOR LADIES

TUESDAY STEAK NIGHT
 AED138 per person
 Enjoy:
 A glass of red wine | Juicy steak & fries with your choice of sauce

Midweek Unplugged
 WITH HASHEM LAOJAL
 EVERY WEDNESDAY 7:30PM ONWARDS

AMINE Solo
 EVERY FRIDAY 7PM ONWARDS

CURRY NIGHT
 Every Wednesday | 6pm Onwards
 1 Choice of Chef's 3 signature curries | Raita | Bread | Fragrant Basmati Rice
 AED65 per person

ACOUSTIC Afternoons
 WITH RYAN BASSINDALE
 EVERY SUNDAY | 1PM - 4PM

HAPPY HOUR
 MONDAY - FRIDAY | 4PM TO 7PM

SUNDAY ROAST FAMILY EDITION
 Kids Play Area | Bouncing Castle | Pony Rides
 AED 145 per person including a glass of wine or bottle of hops
 Every Sunday | 12PM Onwards
 For Bookings, Whatsapp Eddie at +971 54 539 6893

WEEKEND DRUNCH
 Saturdays & Sundays | 12pm - 3pm
 Unlimited beverages | Unlimited good vibes | Come enjoy the fun in the sun with us
 AED169 per person
 For Bookings, Whatsapp Eddie at +971 54 539 6893

Oasis Pool Bar
WEEKEND DRUNCH
 Saturdays & Sundays | 12pm - 3pm
 Unlimited beverages | Unlimited good vibes | Come enjoy the fun in the sun with us
 AED169 per person
 For Bookings, Whatsapp Eddie at +971 54 539 6893

Oasis Pool Bar
WEEKEND DRUNCH
 Saturdays & Sundays | 12pm - 3pm
 Unlimited beverages | Unlimited good vibes | Come enjoy the fun in the sun with us
 AED169 per person
 For Bookings, Whatsapp Eddie at +971 54 539 6893

Absolutes Stylish
 Daily | 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
 AED 200 for 2 persons

Oasis Happy Hour
 Monday to Friday 4pm-7pm
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Oasis Pool Fiesta with DJ LANA
 SPECIAL LOCATIONS

THE NEIGHBORHOOD POOL Tournament
 EVERY TUESDAY | 7PM ONWARDS
 ALL IT TAKES IS 2 PARTS OF HOPS TO GET INTO THE ACTION AND HAVE A NIGHT OF BURNING ENERGY PRESS.

POLO ACADEMY



Daily from 6:30am - 11:30am | 2:30pm - 6:15pm

TYPE OF LESSON		CHILD<18	ADULT	FEE
Assessment Session	New Member 15 mins			AED297
Group Lesson	45 mins	AED499	AED649	
Private Lesson	45 mins	AED749	AED849	
Players Coaching - Own Horse	45 mins	AED329	AED519	
Stick and Ball	40 mins	AED599	AED799	
Instructional Chukkas	minimum 2 chukkas			AED597
Corporate Days	5-15 pax	AED429	AED599	
	15+ pax	AED399	AED499	
Club Chukkas	minimum 2 chukkas			AED829
Green Fee (per chukka)				AED330
Green Fees (stick & ball)	Non-members			AED350
Green Fees (4 Chukkas)				AED1320
Tournament Horse Hire (outside)	Members			AED1599
	Non-members			AED1849
Tournament Horse Hire (inside)	Members			AED1099
	Non-members			AED1399

* All prices are inclusive of VAT.



LIVERY

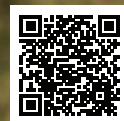
	MONTHLY FEES	FEES
Full Livery - Horse (1-2)	AED5,325	
Full Livery - Horse (3+)	AED5,050	
Part Livery - Horse (1-2)	AED4,750	
Part Livery - Horse (3+)	AED4,480	
Stable Only	AED3,440	
Grooms Accomodation/Sharing	AED1,050/person	
Grooms Accomodation/Single	AED1,575	
Groom Meals	AED1,050/person	
Trim (AHPRC Clippers)		AED225
Trim (Client Clippers)		AED170
Groom Service (Lunging)		AED 60
Ground Fee (Instructor)		AED160
Instructor Membership <i>Monthly</i>		AED685
<i>Annual</i>		AED6,615

* All prices are inclusive of VAT.



RIDING SCHOOL

Open daily from 06:30 - 10:15am and 04:00 - 08:45pm



TYPE OF LESSON	STANDARD RATE		TYPE OF LESSON	STANDARD RATE	
	CHILD	ADULT		CHILD	ADULT
ASSESSMENT LESSON (30 mins)	AED359	AED429			
RIDING LESSONS (45 mins)			EQUESTRIAN EXPERIENCE		
Group Lesson	AED259	AED299	Stable Tour 45mins (minimum of 4 pax) (Children under 2 years old complimentary)	AED89	AED139
Group Lesson - Own Horse		AED189	Slot 8:30AM and 5PM Stable management 45mins	AED99	AED149
Semi Private Lesson	AED379	AED449	(minimum of 4 pax, Children under 2 years old complimentary)		
Semi Private Lesson - Own Horse		AED229	Slot 8:30AM and 5PM Stable Tour Family Package 45 mins 2 Adults + 2 Children		AED299
Private Lesson	AED519	AED599			
Private Lesson - Own Horse		AED299			
EQUESTRIAN EXPERIENCE			HORSE LEASE		
Pony Ride (10 mins)	AED79	AED99	RS Horse Lease - 1 day per week		AED1659
Pony Club Membership (new members)		AED399	RS Horse Lease - 2 days per week		AED2249
Pony Club Assessment		AED299	RS Horse Lease - 3 days per week		AED2997
Pony Club Lesson	120 mins	AED319	RS Horse Lease - 4 days per week		AED4197
Pony Club - Own Horse	120 mins	AED279	RS Horse Lease - 6 days per week		AED5799



contacts@alhabtoorpoloclub.com | +971 4 436 2222 | +971 056 5205081

Know your polo



THE HELMET

Naturally, the helmet is of critical importance, providing the shade of a front porch. It's remarkably light and allows a wrap-around view-span like that of a British safari helmet.



TEAM SHIRT / WHITE PANTS

Designed by tennis player Rene Lacoste in 1929 and wildly popular in their day, polo shirts became cool again when Ralph Lauren debuted his Polo line in 1972. A decade later, the USPA launched its own polo shirts. The numbers on the sleeve and back reveal which position the player is playing. The stretchy white jeans are made of heavy cotton and spandex. Amazingly comfortable on or off a horse.



SADDLE BLANKET

For the comfort of horse and rider both, to minimize abrasion of the saddle, and enhance control for the rider who needs to grip and steer with the legs.



BRAIDED TAIL / SHAVED MANE

What with the polo mallet swinging around, the last thing you want is for it to become entangled in the tail or the mane. The tail is closely braided before the game, and the mane is shaved to a crew cut, for safety reasons.



THE Mallet

When you see the shaft curving in a photograph, you are often looking at bamboo, which reflects the necessary flexibility. Bamboo is also a nod to India, where the sport got its launch into the British empire and international popularity. The head is made of hardwood, and the side of the head is used to strike the ball.



KNEE PADS / POLO BOOTS / GLOVES

Though stylish, the boots and gloves are protection against chafing mallet strikes, collisions, and flying polo balls. And since you need to lean out from your horse, knee pads also enhance your grip on the side of the horse.



BELL BOOTS / BANDAGES

These protective cuffs shield the hoof from mallet strikes and kicks from other horses. Bandages support and protect the horse's ankles.



DRAW REINS

In polo, you use two sets of reins, and carry each pair between two fingers of the left hand. Riders only use the right hand to hold the mallet, to prevent injuries.



MARTINGALE

This crucial piece of equipment restrains the horse's head from rearing back and locking the rider in the head, should it rear suddenly from something in the game, like a random bee sting say, or a collision with another horse.



BIT & BRIDLE

For turning, braking, accelerating, and overall control of the horse, by either applying or lessening pressure on the bit in the mouth.



BREAST PLATE

This piece keeps the saddle from slipping backward.



SADDLE / BRIDLE

Both the saddle and the bridle are in the English style, meaning the front part of the saddle is a low hump rather than the vertical pommel of Western-style saddles, used for roping, yet which might impale a rider in a polo game.



POLO PONY

Though they were once actual ponies, these days they are horses, and many are retired from hunting/jumping or racing and need retraining to play in a calm manner amid the hurly-burly of the game. They include quarter horses and thoroughbreds, often weigh around 900 pounds, and stand some 15-17 hands high-from ground to shoulder. The hand represents the width of an average hand, just as an inch is said to represent the length of a carpenter's thumb.

Benjamin Panelo
Dubai Wolves Team
plays during the 2024 Dubai
Polo Gold Cup

References:
<https://www.beverlyequestrian.com/post/ready-to-try-polo-here-is-quick-guide-for-your-first-polo-lesson>

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Partnering with us offers a mutually beneficial collaboration that positions your brand in front of an upscale demographic. With 16 years of experience connecting the region to the elite polo community, we provide a unique platform to showcase your brand. Polo is more than just a sport; it's a lifestyle that attracts high-profile individuals, and we have sponsorship packages tailored to fit any budget. By gaining direct access to this elite audience, you can elevate your brand's visibility and establish a strong presence in the polo world. Our polo tournaments attract Dubai's social elite, VIPs, and even members of royal families, allowing your brand to stand out and gain a competitive edge.

Don't miss this chance to elevate your brand within an exclusive community and partner with us today!

To enquire about sponsorship opportunities or tailored packages, please contact us:



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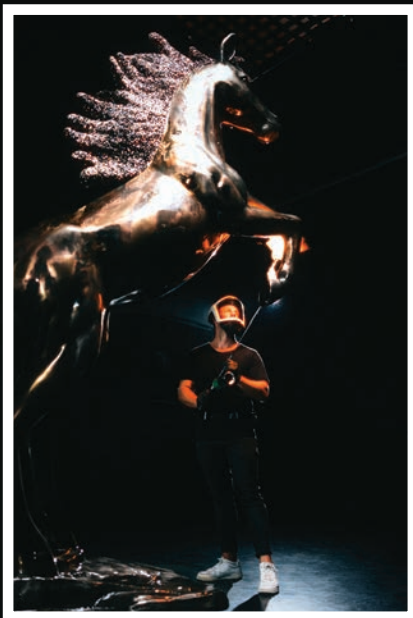


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My art is meant to touch and inspire people in many different ways. I want it to evoke a sense of wonder and take their senses on a journey.

NICO MASTROPRIMIANO



Can you tell us something about yourself and why you are so passionate about this art?

I am a visual person with a passion for extraordinary and luxurious art. My ideas are often wild and unconventional, but in the end, they merge into unique works that impress with their noble materials and exceptional aesthetics.

For me, it's not just about creating art but evoking emotions. The combination of creativity and high-quality materials results in sculptures that are not only unique but also timeless. Each of my works is an expression of individuality and a pursuit of perfection.

Where do you get the ideas for your extraordinary art?

I draw inspiration from many sources to develop ideas for my art. Nature, which I consider the true artist of this world, plays a central role in my creative process. My many travels and the new impressions I gather along the way also influence my works. Architecture and contemporary design elements further inspire my creativity. By combining extraordinary and luxurious materials with innovative techniques, I create unique art objects that are both visually and tactilely impressive.

What sparked your passion for art and this incredible horse sculpture?

I love creating luxurious art and bringing my creative ideas to life. The interest in such an impressive horse sculpture was overwhelming from the very beginning. As a visual person, I had a clear vision of how to artistically capture the breathtaking physique and powerful muscles of such a majestic animal. For this work, I chose a genuine metal alloy of gold and platinum, complemented by a finish with real silver nitrate. The crowning touch consists of nearly 70,000 hand-set crystal elements, which give the piece unparalleled elegance and brilliance.

Do you have a favorite? A piece of art you've created that is particularly special to you?

My art and my special pride. I don't have a specific favorite, as each of my artworks and sculptures is special in its own way. I take pride in my unique line of exclusive art.

However, if I had to choose, the sculpture "Horricœ" is definitely one of the most outstanding pieces. Its sheer size and execution make it extraordinary! I've had the pleasure of witnessing people standing in front of this sculpture, utterly captivated, and telling me with shining eyes, "You must be crazy – this artwork is unbelievably beautiful." Moments like these fill me with joy and affirm my passion for art.

Could you tell us a bit about your typical artistic process for creating this sculpture?

The intricate process behind my unique horse sculpture. The process and artistic design of my works require a very specialized technique and approach. First, a genuine metal alloy is applied. For this piece, I chose a combination of gold and platinum. After several time-intensive steps, a little secret comes into play: by using a special acid and my unique artistic technique, I create fascinating shades that give the metals an impressive depth and a shimmering, iridescent character. However, I wanted to achieve even more depth and iridescent effects to make the sculpture even more captivating. Using real silver nitrate and a flambé technique, I crafted mirror-like accents meticulously integrated into the horse's surface. Following these artistic processes, I moved on to the delicate detail work. I decided to adorn the entire mane of this majestic sculpture with nearly 70,000 hand-set crystals from a renowned Austrian company. The result is a unique, luxurious sculpture of extraordinary beauty—timeless and endlessly rediscovered through varying light sources. A true one-of-a-kind masterpiece of global distinction.

Do you have a personal connection to the world of horseback riding, such as owning horses?

Not directly, but I find these animals incredibly beautiful, radiating strength and dynamism! That's how the fitting title for this sculpture came to me: "Horricœ"! This title perfectly reflects that essence. I wanted to present something entirely new to people with a special connection to this majestic animal in the form of an artistic sculpture. I wanted to excite and fascinate them! To give many people the opportunity to own a smaller version of this artwork, I created a beautiful limited edition of 50 pieces worldwide. This edition is perfectly coordinated and designed to match the large "Horricœ" sculpture, with the same color scheme and metal finish, carefully crafted by me. Standing at 60 cm tall, with a proud weight of 6 kg and approximately 2,500 crystal elements, they make a stunning highlight.

What effect do you want your art to have on people?

My art is meant to touch and inspire people in many different ways. I want it to evoke a sense of wonder and take their senses on a journey. By using exceptional and luxurious materials, as well as innovative techniques, I aim to create artworks that not only fascinate visually but also offer a unique tactile experience. My pieces are meant to awaken emotions, spark conversations, and transport the viewer into a world of beauty, depth, and sophistication. They should be a highlight in any space, conveying a sense of luxury and uniqueness.



SAVE THE DATE

The Most Awaited Tournaments
of the Season

SILVER CUP 2025

20 Goal Handicap
15th January - 1st February



GOLD CUP 2025

Dubai Open - 20 Goal Handicap
5th - 22nd February



DUBAI CHALLENGE CUP 2025

8-10 Goal Handicap
1st - 8th March



POLO MASTERS CUP

6-8 Goal Handicap

1st - 5th April



DUBAI CUP 2024

6-8 GOAL HANDICAP
14th - 19th April



SATURDAY Polo Picnic

Winter is the best season to be outside with your family and friends, so why not have a picnic?

Al Habtoor Polo Resort and Club is a perfect spot to have a picnic with its lush surroundings. Spend a beautiful day outdoors and treat each Saturday as a fun day out filled with activities, surprises and chances to win amazing prizes during the day.

Pack a picnic basket or buy some tasty treats from Half Time Food Truck and sit under a gazebo as you watch polo from the sidelines. A dedicated Kids Area is set with free pony rides, a huge bouncy castle, kids coloring area, and several games that will surely keep the little ones entertained.

So the next time a beautiful day comes around, drive down to Saturday Polo Picnic - Dubai's most stylish and fun picnic!



* AED100 will be charged if you would like to park in the picnic area.
* There is free public parking available if you do not wish to park in the picnic area

For more info call: 04 436 2222

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