



# LAPOLO

INTERNATIONAL

*Hundred+54th Edition*

A  
PRISTINE  
LEGACY

NEW ZEALAND'S POLO STORIES



NEW ZEALAND'S  
GLORIOUS POLO  
TROPHIES

*The history of polo tournaments in the Kiwi country goes back to as early as 1891 with the Savile Cup.*

NEW ZEALAND'S  
EQUINE HERITAGE

*The country boasts of some spectacular racing courses of the world.*



NATURAL  
HORSEMANSHIP WITH  
MANJEEV CHAUDHARY

*Learn the empathetic way of natural horsemanship with expert feedback and proven results.*

WINE & DINE IN  
NEW ZEALAND

*With its breathtaking scenery and exciting wines, many would choose to live in the land of the long white cloud forever.*





## AROUND THE WORLD with POLO

*It is often said and more so believed that Polo is not just a sport, it's not just hockey on the horseback but probably a way of life. A way that's a passport to a whole new and exciting world.*

*To this belief, La Polo takes off to a journey around the world in true Polo style, bringing stories and fables from one place at a time.*

*Come, board on the journey with us!  
This time we are off to New Zealand.*

# POLO



The first tournament of the Delhi Polo Season Fall 2020, the Bhopal Pataudi Cup, 8 goals played at Jaipur Polo Ground, New Delhi, was lifted by Sona Polo after Siddhant Sharma in the extra chukker grabbed the golden goal to beat Rajnigandha Achievers by 6 goals to 5.



EXPLORE

# NEW ZEALAND'S GLORIOUS POLO TROPHIES

The history of polo tournaments in the Kiwi country goes back to as early as 1891 with the Savile Cup.

Image credit: New Zealand Polo

The major trophies for which polo players compete against each other in the picturesque island of New Zealand.

## NEW ZEALAND OPEN

It is deemed as Australasia's longest running and most prestigious high goal polo tournament. The Auckland Polo Club hosts the New Zealand Open Tournament each year in February. It is the key social and sporting event of the summer where visitors are treated with only the best in action, fashion and hospitality. This tournament is not limited to domestic players but attracts several overseas players and patrons.

It has earned the distinction of drawing the biggest crowds in New Zealand polo, more so because of its noble association with brands like BMW as title sponsors. This year's tournament had much to offer in terms of soirée. The bird's eye view of the field, nail-biting competition set atop the polo hill catered to the needs of VIP guests and seemed to be just perfect for families and anyone seeking to enjoy the pep. The after-party hosted on Chukka Lawn by George FM became an absolute treat for music aficionados.





The NZ Polo Open's Fashion on the Field sets the ground buzzing with a spectacular sight of fashion styles and trends donned by guests who are allowed to showcase their own styles. Rewards are provided for three categories: Best Dressed Woman, Best Dressed Man, and Best Accessory.

### DEWAR CUP

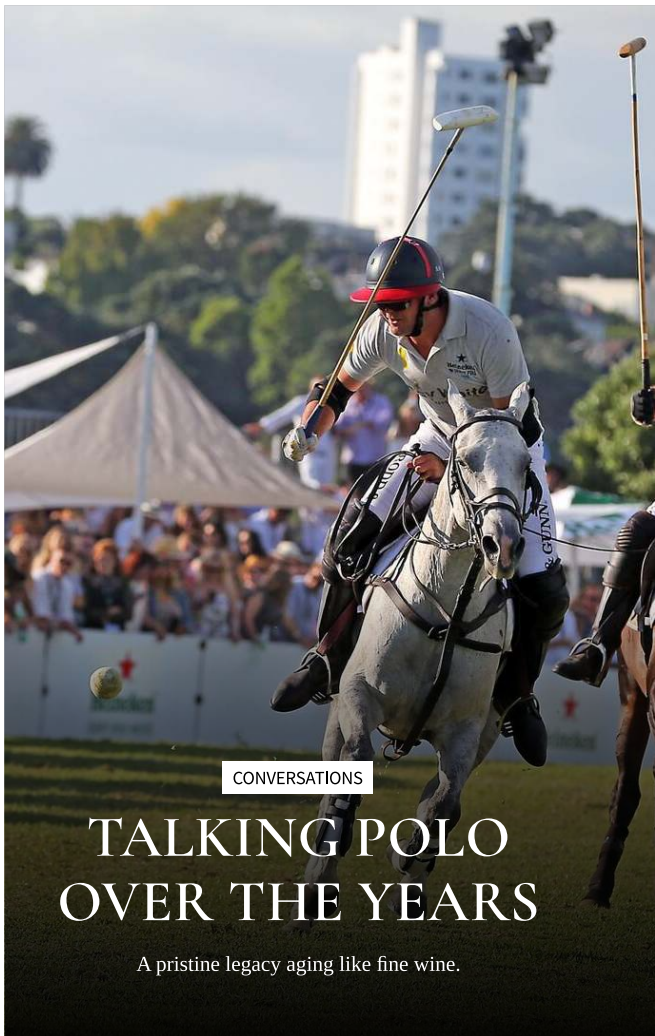
The prestigious Dewar Cup is hosted annually at the Hawkes Bay Polo Club. The fantastic sight of ace players atop enormous beasts on a ground overlooking the mountains cannot be missed by polo lovers. With delectable and free food and refreshments, the management ensures you get an experience of a lifetime.

[Click to read more >](#)

### GOULD CUP

The Gould Cup is the leading tournament in the South Island polo season. The tournament is hosted by Christchurch Club in conjunction with The Port Hill Polo Club. If you wish to witness South Island's best polo players at the peak of the season battling it out for pride and prizes, this should be on your itinerary. Weekend becomes all the more convivial with afterparties and drinks on Saturday nights. There are entertaining commentaries and a high chance to stomp in the divots at the end of chukkas.





CONVERSATIONS

# TALKING POLO OVER THE YEARS

A pristine legacy aging like fine wine.







## CONVERSATIONS

New Zealand has all the warmth in its soil to embrace and admire the spirit of horsemanship. Indeed, the equine endowments are something the nation proudly boasts of. It has 19 polo clubs and 300 handicapped players, including women and youth.

### CLASSIC CHARM

· MARK TODD

The name Grandstands among the eloquent equestrian riders from the land of long white cloud- Aotearoa (NZ's name in Maori).

Often referred to as a master horseman who made horse and rider seem one, his record of two Olympic gold medals in the three-day event, at Los Angeles in 1984 and

Seoul in 1988, makes him one of NZ's finest sportsperson. He has won a string of other top-line competitions, including world championships.

His journey has inspired equestrian enthusiasts. Todd was voted eventing rider of the century in 1999 and at his final Olympics in Sydney in 2000, he won the bronze medal in the three-day event.



### CONTEMPORARY FLAIR

· SAM HOPKINSON

He is a familiar, handsome face when it comes to representing New Zealand in the international arena.

Standing among the top rankers of world polo, he has been playing for New Zealand for the last 15 years, based predominantly in the UK, Australia and New Zealand. The Rodd & Gunn team has often played under the captaincy of Sam and had managed to win the New Zealand open, an event of eminence and stature not just once but thrice. His passion for the sport and horses as well is quite pleasantly evident on the field!

[Click to read more >](#)





EXPLORE

# NEW ZEALAND'S EQUINE HERITAGE

The country boasts of some spectacular  
racing courses of the world.

Colonisation introduced horse racing to New Zealand in 1840. By the 1860s, racing was a serious business and clubs were coming up all over the country. Today there are over 52 race courses in the country and nearly 68 racing and jockey clubs, registered under the New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing Association. The sport contributes approximately NZ \$1.4 billion in revenue per year, and employs roughly 18,300 people. The country boasts of some spectacular racing courses of the world:

Ellerslie Racecourse is one of the premier racetracks and is host to some of the most high-profile racing events like the Auckland Summer Carnival, Auckland Cup Carnival, Karaka Million, and New Zealand Derby. Extravagant dressing has become synonymous with race-days. Ellerslie Racecourse also organises fashion competitions.

Trentham is one of the best racecourses of the country and is the main on the lower North Island track of Wellington area which hosts some of the country's biggest races, including the Wellington Cup, the New Zealand Oaks, the Telegraph Handicap and the Thorndon Mile. The club boasts of the famous "Champagne Turf". The racecourse is home to the Wellington RC, which is the major club in the Wellington region. The club too observes a strict dress code.



Riccarton Park Racecourse is located in Christchurch; Riccarton is the central track in South Island. It came into being in 1885 and holds 22 race days each season. The racecourse offers first class training and stabling facilities, and hosts the New Zealand 1000 Guineas and the New Zealand 2000 Guineas apart from the New Zealand Cup Carnival in November. Riccarton Park Christmas with thoroughbred racing in the afternoon is the centre of year-end festivities. The picturesque Riccarton Park is home to the famous Canterbury Jockey Club. The club offers five kinds of memberships and unparalleled hospitality.

[Click to read more >](#)

## THE BLACK MARBLE POLO HORSE

The Rajasthan Polo Club Ground at Rambagh, Jaipur was graced with the presentation of a Black Marble Polo Horse which is made out of one single block of black marble. The unveiling of the same was done by Mrs Deepshikha Sahgal and Sawai Padmanabh Singh, while the statue is an art of honor presented by Mr Rajesh Sahgal. In conversation with La Polo, Rajesh Sahgal briefs in detail about the black marble polo horse.



[Click to read more >](#)

## Ground set for Platinum

Homes Polo Cup 2020 at Lahore Jinnah Polo & Country Club (JP&CC) looks forward to hosting the latest edition of Platinum Homes Polo Cup. Starting from October 20, the four-goal event comprises five teams divided as under:

Pool A: Platinum Homes Black, Rijas Property Development, and Barry's.

Pool B: Platinum Homes White and Diamond Paints.

The opening match, scheduled at 2:45 pm, will witness Rijas Property Development and Barry's opposite each other while the second match at 3:45 pm has Diamond Paints and Platinum Homes White competing against each other. Finals are due on 24th.

## OSU Polo Club's fundraiser

### Amidst 2020-2021

Intercollegiate/Interscholastic (I/I) season suffering coronavirus lash, I/I team has devised a fundraiser to make up for lack of student dues. Non-recruitment of new members and difficulty in sustaining old ones did not affect the enthusiastic lot of Oklahoma State University Polo Club which will be organising a merchandise fundraiser till November 4. The proceeds will go towards hay, feed, vet care, upkeep, and farrier bills of the facility.



# National Copper Cup Finals Foxdale Equine Veterinary

Services routed SD Farms for the second time in the National Copper Cup Finals at New Bridge Polo & Country Club in Aiken, South Carolina.

The first half put the skills of both teams into play in terms of penalty scores, which were a major factor throughout the match, but Foxdale Equine Veterinary Services profited from a slight lead in remaining three chukkers and emerged victorious. Responsible for eight of his team's 12-total goals, Nachi Viana was named the "Most Valuable Player". Eight-year-old Paragua was the "Best Playing Pony".



## EIFFEL HEIGHTS POLO CUP 2020 CONCLUDES

Diamond Paints and Rijas Property Development team engaged in a tough match with the latter's hairline win. Hosted at the 9-8 Jinnah Polo & Country Club (JPCC) Lahore, the tournament had Ahmed Zubair Butt as the top scorer from the winning team (four goals) and Saqib Khan Khakwani as the top scorer from the losing team (five goals).

In the subsidiary final, FG Polo team defeated Newage Cables by 9½-4. Federation of Chambers and Commerce President Mian Anjum Nisar, former Test cricketer Inzamam-ul-Haq were present on the occasion.

## BENDURA BANK SNOW POLO WORLD CUP POSTPONED

COVID-19 outbreak has led to the postponement of the 19th edition of Bendura Bank Snow Polo World Cup, from 14-17 January 2021, to January 2022. The decision was taken by the organisers of the tournament which expects players from over 10 countries, over 120 horses each year. VIP tickets will either be reimbursed or credited towards the 2022 tournament.



# Bridle Prize for Shane Rice

Excitement was high at the Houston Polo Club which hosted ten splendid teams for the Delegate's Cup on October 17. Initially comprising ten teams, finals zeroed on two teams. Roxstars prevailed by effective marking of Sullivan Group and producing a balanced team offense to take \$2,5000 home. Cody Ellis' first chukker bay Gato received Best Playing Pony.



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## MODIFICATION IN USPA ANNUAL HANDICAP ANNOUNCED

The United States Polo Association is awaiting the 2021 season of Annual Handicap to be held at Wellington. It has announced the following changes in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic.

- A. From 8 to 9: Barto Castagnola, Rodrigo Andrade and Diego Cavanagh.
- B. From 7 to 8: Camilo Castagnola.
- C. From 6 to 7 (effective June 1, 2021): Felipe Vercellino and Jeff Hall.
- D. From 5 to 6: Tolito Fernández Ocampo.
- E. From 4 to 5 (effective January 1, 2021): Francisco Rodríguez Mera, Santiago Gómez Romero, Gonzalo Ferrari and Luis Escobar.
- F. From 4 to 5 (effective June 1, 2021): Marcos Alberdi, Matt Coppola, and Nico Escobar.

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## CAVALRY GOLD CUP 10 GOALS

The Delhi Polo Season Fall 2020 is witnessing its second tournament. The tournament had a total of six teams who participated in and went against each other for a span of three days. The finals of the ten goal were played on Sunday, 25th October 2020 at Jaipur Polo Ground, New Delhi between Sphiro-ASC-Cavalry and Rajnigandha Achievers where the latter team won by 8 goals to 3.



*Results of league days:*

Day 1: Velocity 48 6 vs Rajnigandha Achievers 8 | APRC 3 vs Jindal Panther 11

Day 2: Sona Polo 10 vs Velocity 48 5 | Sphiro-ASC-Cavalry 10 vs APRC 9

Day 3: Sona Polo 5 vs Rajnigandha Achievers 7 | Jindal Panther 6.5 vs Sphiro-ASC-Cavalry 7



# Argentine government gives nod to Argentine Triple Crown

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TORTUGAS OPEN: October 24-31

HURLINGHAM OPEN: November 3-21

QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT: November 6-17

ARGENTINE POLO OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP: Nov. 28-Dec. 19



The much awaited Al Habtoor's 2020-21 season kicks off. Polo tournaments will hit off after the Halloween Cup on October 23. The first grand tournament will be the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series, scheduled on January 2. Polo Masters Cup, Silver Cup, Gold Cup (Dubai Open), Dubai Cup and Dubai Challenge Cup will have renowned players and teams competing for Dubai's eminent polo tournaments.



A tribute to the heritage of polo through one grand procession

LA POLO  
PRESENTS

*A NIGHT TO REMEMBER AS WE REWARD THE  
MASTERS AND HONOUR THE SPIRIT OF POLO*

THE  
INDIAN  
POLO  
AWARDS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

**STERN**HAGEN  
GERMANY

*CELEBRATING  
THE CHAMPIONS  
WITHIN*

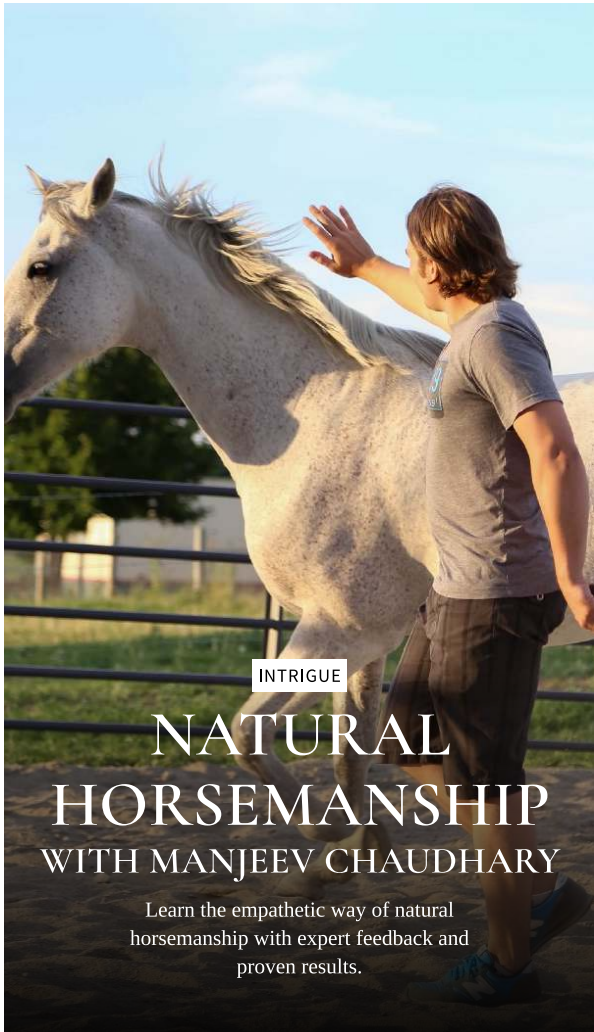
*COMING SOON*



# LA EQUUS



Horsemanship is the art of mastering our own movements,  
thoughts, emotions and behavior. Not the horses.  
- Mark Rashid



INTRIGUE

# NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP WITH MANJEEV CHAUDHARY

Learn the empathetic way of natural horsemanship with expert feedback and proven results.

**H**orse riding for some is choice, for others destiny. For Manjeev Chaudhary, it was the love for his wife, Charlotte who is a polo player. Manjeev is a certified Monty Roberts instructor and opened Natural Horsemanship India as a part of his vision of training horses with natural horsemanship. He prefers using horse psychology while training horses.

He and his wife have worked towards horse welfare and have rescued horses. They have explained how owners often do not know how to care for their horses.

LA POLO asked if this is an issue as horses might be used as a means of transport and labour – and owning a horse for pleasure is not the reality for the majority of Indians.

He is convinced that “it can be done in this country better than any other, because caring for an animal is in our culture, from domestic help to worshipping - we have animals in every part of our history and epics. When you talk to them, you will understand quickly that the owner loves his animal, and the reason for the ill-treatment or condition of the animal





is either superstitious customs or lack of education. We can help them by educating them; we can also help them with better tools. We can tell them how bad the spiky bit is and they should use softer bits instead. Also, we can teach them how to spot lameness. It doesn't matter how small the effect/change/education is, all that matters is the positive effect," says Manjeev.

Depending on the kind of trauma the horse has suffered, it can take quite some time to undo the harm, especially since horses have an incredible memory. Manjeev speaks from experience since 80% of their horses are rescued. "They don't forget, hence I don't think they ever overcome their traumatic experience, but what we can do is help them handle the trauma and make them more

confident. Because they are associative thinkers, it (trauma) will come back to them whenever there is a similar situation, which created the trauma initially."

When we talk about horse psychology as a training method, we have to ask its effect on the game. "It definitely affects the sport when you understand horse psychology, not in terms of quality of sports, because the quality of sports depends on how good a horseman you are," he adds. He agrees that training might be time-consuming because one needs to make the horse comfortable with the equipment. "If your horse is confident by nature, he will gain knowledge quicker".

[Click to read more >](#)

## BRIAN MORTON GRABS ATCO CUP IN THE FIRST CANADIAN FEI COMPETITION POST-COVID

Brian Morton's victory at ATCO Cup was a hometown win. Hosted by the Thunderbird Show Park, the global competition got a kickstart after the resumption of sport activities amidst coronavirus pandemic.

The event had a whopping \$180,000 as prize money, including a \$20,000 U25 division. This win was a lucky one for Morton, securing him a \$2,500 bonus as FEI divisional champion for the competition.



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## *First leg of FEI Dressage Cup concludes*



Danish Dressage champion Cathrine Dufour beat previous World Cup champion Isabell Werth of Germany in the Grand Prix Freestyle at the first leg of FEI Dressage Championship.

Jessica Von Bredow-Werndl finished in third place. Set against the idyllic location of Vilhelmsborg's National Equestrian Centre, the event was a nail-biting one for Dufour, who is also a previous bronze medal winner at the FEI European Championships.

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## RESTRICTIONS ON HORSE RACING LIFTED IN IRELAND

Horse Racing and Greyhound Racing have been exempted from Level 5 restrictions initially imposed on activities as a coping mechanism for controlling the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic in Ireland. Earlier, these restrictions were supposed to persist till the end of November.

Both the sports will be organised behind closed doors, besides GAA inter-county championships on grounds of them being professional and elite sports. It is speculated that the decision has been taken in the wake of preventing the shutdown of revenue earned by the €2 billion horse racing industry and this has been rightly acknowledged by the Government.

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## EQUINE SYMPOSIUM SHIFTS ONLINE

University of Guelph has made an announcement for the virtual session of its 5th Annual Equine Industry Symposium. The Symposium will be conducted by the students of BBRM Event Management spanning over five days, from November 16 to 20, 2020. The timings shall be from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (EST).

The theme of this year's Symposium is 'RESILIENCE: Rethinking, Restructuring, Re-evaluating due to COVID-19'. No registration fee is being charged for the event and it welcomes those involved in the equine industry seeking discussions regarding changes in the same. Willing individuals must register in advance after which virtual link shall be provided to them.





# 385

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# BEYOND



Image credit: The Stripe

Earlier this year, Veuve Clicquot was once again proud to be in partnership with the 2020 BMW NZ Polo Open for its ninth year of sponsorship.



CLASSICS

## WINE & DINE IN NEW ZEALAND

With its breathtaking scenery and exciting wines, many would choose to live in the land of the long white cloud forever.



**L**and of the long white cloud--that's what's Aotearoa (New Zealand's name in Maori) is. Surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and the Tasman Sea, the country is known for its stunning national parks, dynamic Maori culture and incredible hiking trails. Whether you want to be mesmerised by the untouched, lush landscapes or want a world-class skiing and surfing experience with a promising adrenaline rush--New Zealand has it all!

You can plan a vacation, a honeymoon, or maybe a "get away from it all" solo trip--New Zealand won't disappoint. New Zealand has a lot to offer when it comes to hospitality. There are some remarkable hotels and resorts that redefine luxury and some even add an enchanting hint of serenity to the vicinity, using nature itself as an embellishment.

## CALL FOR PALOOZAS!

Sharing food is a common and pleasant way of bringing people in New Zealand. Indulge in fresh seafood, sip local wine or be adventurous and try something you haven't yet tried! New Zealanders are quite subtle and the best way to blend in and to experience the real kiwi ways is to be a part of NZ's wine and dine events. Among a plethora of these extravaganzas there are some fiestas that really stand out.

## BOTTLES WORTH SAVOURING!

“It takes a lot of good beer to make great wine,” says Brian O'Donnell, a winemaker. Indeed, these are pristine, traditional wine making methods with meticulous details which enables a label to stand firm among the grand-crus. Charlotte Read, from NZ winegrowers, adds: “Sauvignon Blanc is the first to put New Zealand on the map, and it has developed a cult following with millions around the globe. The world’s love for New Zealand wine continues to grow as wine lovers discover the diverse varieties on offer, including our expressive pinot noir, refined chardonnay, and refreshing pinot gris and rosé.”

Charlotte adds: “While much has changed in markets due to the impact of Covid-19 and there is a lot of uncertainty, the reputation of NZ wine remains intact – in fact it will likely have been enhanced by global coverage of NZ’s strong response to Covid-19. Our united approach to addressing the pandemic in NZ with “our team of 5 million” has been lauded around the world.



[Click to read more >](#)


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