



Welcome to the PTF Quarterly Newsletter

Winter 2014

We hope you enjoy the fifth issue of the PTF Quarterly Newsletter. Founded in 1967 to help grow the sport of polo with an emphasis on youth, the PTF continues this mission through its many projects.

The Joanna Monaco Memorial

January 19th 2015 @ Gulfstream Polo Club

La Martina Wins Joanna Monaco!!

Joanna Monaco, for whom this tournament is named, traveled the polo circuit, with her husband Tom, a professional player and club manager. Joanna was loved by everyone and she mentored many people in the working world of polo. In her era there were many English ladies who came to the States as grooms. Joanna became a surrogate mother to them. Her door was always open, and it was not uncommon to find many people, temporarily down on their luck, at Joanna's house for dinner. They were often, also given a place to stay until they could get on their feet. Out of this developed a program where Joanna would find jobs for people in the polo world. For many years, if a polo groom needed a job, they went to Joanna, and she would find work for them.

Sadly she was taken by cancer at too young an age, but those who remember Joanna all speak of her kindness, her constant cheerful attitude and above all her help for those who needed a temporary haven until they could get back on their feet. This tournament marks The Polo Training Foundation's and the rest of the polo community's appreciation for a great lady who helped the people behind the scenes who make polo a great sport.

A lot of people come together to make these tournaments possible, so we would first like to give a

special THANK YOU to Marla O'Connor and the Gulfstream Polo Club for hosting the Joanna Monaco!!! Another special thank you goes to Charlie Muldoon and the USPA Umpires who officiated 30 Chukkers of polo!!! And last, but not least, a special thank you to all of our Volunteers: Branden Van Loon, Maggie Mitchell, Cale Newman, Amber Owen and Alyson Poor!!



Nico Escobar, Rachel Kelly, Manuel Astrada and Mia Astrada

On a beautiful Monday morning at the Gulfstream Polo Club, 66 junior players competed in the 2015 Joanna Monaco Memorial. Five teams at the most advanced level battled for the title of Joanna Monaco Championship. The final between the Stefano Laviano Team of Jack McLean, Lucas Criado, Vance Miller and Vaughn Miller and the La Martina Team of Mia Novillo Astrada, Manuel Novillo Astrada, Nico Escobar and Rachel Kelly was an exciting, well balanced game, ending only in overtime with La Martina's Nico Escobar scoring the winning rainbow rule goal, thus making **La Martina the 2015 Joanna Monaco Champions!!!**



Blanco TX Cup

January 19th 2015 @ Everglades Polo Club

On a beautiful afternoon at the Everglades Polo Club in Wellington Florida, 4 teams took the field, some meeting for the first time, others having grown up side by side. The past chemistry between Bollini, Daniels and Ganzi along with a new teammate, Guillerhme Maia, proved successful as they captured the 2015 Polo Training Foundation's Blanco TX Cup title.



Grand Champions, GJ Racing, Casablanca & Escue Teams

Grand Champions met Casablanca in the opening round and only barely eked by Toro Ruiz, Lauren Biddle, Alex Job Said and Keegan Walsh in an overtime shootout. GJ Racing with a little extra help from their youngest player, 15 year old Jack McLean, who scored two goals, gained their spot in the final by defeating World Polo News/Escue 3-2.

In the Consolation Final, Casablanca controlled most of the first chukker, as Toro Ruiz broke away again and again, while his teammates Biddle, Said, and Walsh cleared and defended, giving them a 2-1 lead at the end of the 1st. The second chukker brought a newly organized WPN/Escue team on the field who held Ruiz to only one field goal while Derek Berg and Wesley Bryan both notched two goals apiece, giving WPN/Escue the Win of 6-3 over Casablanca.

The much anticipated final was an amazing display of horsemanship and teamwork by all eight players. Both teams went back and forth, breakaways, team

plays, with only one goal sneaking in by 16 year old Liam Lott coming off a nice play by teammates Gonzalez and Villamil ending the chukker 1-0 to GJ Racing. Grand Champions upped the ante in the second chukker with beautiful teamwork and added two field goals by Daniels and Bollini, giving the lead to Grand Champions at 2-1. With under a minute left on the clock, GJ Racing's McLean took off on a breakaway, getting everyone out their seats, but the shot went just wide, and Grand Champions with a one goal lead, won the 2015 Blanco TX Cup!!!



Wesley Bryan and Jack McLean

GJ Racing's Jack McLean was nominated the Most Valuable Player of the day, having scored 2 of his team's 4 goals throughout the mini tournament. The Best Playing Pony Award went to Matias Gonzalez' gelding "Pampa," who played two and a half of Matias' four chukkers!!



Guille Maia, Justin Daniels, Grant Ganzi & Juan Bollini



Eldorado Junior Polo

January 18th 2015 @ Eldorado Polo Club

Bayne Bossom, Riley Jordan, Anthony Atchly and Nick Roth for Team Hackett wins the 2015 Joe Barry Memorial kids tournament at the Eldorado Polo Club on January 18!!

The second tier was won by the Bush League: Ellise Purdue, Quinn Kyle and Julio Nunez.



Joe Barry Memorial Kids Tournament

Eldorado Jr. Polo Schedule

Fish Creek Tournament: February 20-21, 2015

NYTS Qualifier: February 28- March 1, 2015

Arty Cameron Memorial: March 7-8, 2015

PTF Scholarships

The PTF annually funds three collegiate academic scholarships of \$2500 per academic year. Recipients must maintain a 3.0 GPA and be a member of the collegiate polo club that participates in the USPA Intercollegiate tournaments at their college. An application is available on the Polo Training Foundation

website: www.polotraining.org. PTF has been issued a challenge grant of \$20,000 if the PTF can raise an additional \$40,000 to bring the scholarship endowment up to \$100,000 which would fund two annual scholarships. For more information contact dscheraga@polotraining.org.

Youth Clinics

The PTF has had an active fall and early winter supporting youth clinics at diverse locations including Culver Academies in Culver, Indiana, Being the Change in Laveen, AZ, Cedar Valley Polo Club in Mount Albert, Ontario Canada, both the Big Island and Oahu in Hawaii, The University of the Pacific in Oakdale, CA, Pioneer Ranch Pony Club in Templeton, CA, Valley Brook Equestrian Center in Napa, CA, and The Golden Hills Pony Club in Gilroy, CA. The PTF is also partially funding the Border Circuit Polo School in Anthony, NM just outside of El Paso, Texas. These clinics usually have between 6 and 20 participants.

For information on scheduling a clinic contact the PTF by email at dscheraga@polotraining.org, or phone 888-PTF-POLO (783-7656).

PTF Florida Schedule

England Exchange: February 14-20th 2015

Avendano Memorial: February 16th 2015 @ IPC

February Youth Game: February 16th 2015 @ IPC

Jr International Game: February 17th @ GCPC

Buzz Welker Memorial: March 16th @ GCPC

March Youth Game: March 16th 2015 @ IPC

New Zealand Exchange: April 1-7th 2015

PTF Junior Championship

Jimmer Newman Memorial (0-5g): April 17th @ IPC

George Oliver Memorial (6-12g): April 17th @ IPC

PTF Polo Party: April 17th 7pm @ IPC Mallet Grille

The support of polo enthusiasts such as yourself is crucial to our mission to help grow polo. The PTF is a 501(C)(3) organization with a current annual operating budget of \$600,000; of this, \$400,000 is funded by yearly tax deductible donations. Your support in any amount will be greatly appreciated by the beneficiaries of our programs.



Polo Training Foundation
70 Clinton St.
Tully, NY 13159

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PRESORTED STANDARD



The Polo Training Foundation

Cordially invites you to

The PTF Polo Party

2015 Junior Awards

Dinner, Dancing & Open Bar

@ The Mallet Grille

Friday April 17th 2015

7pm

COCKTAIL ATTIRE
RSVP (888)783-7656
FLORIDAJRPOLO@YAHOO.COM

\$200 PER PERSON
\$100 JUNIOR TICKET *
\$50 UNDER 12 TICKET
**12 - 20 YEAR OLDS*