



Welcome to the PTF Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2015

We hope you enjoy the eighth 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.

2015 PTF Polo College Fair

The third College Fair sponsored by the PTF was held Saturday September 26, 2015 at the Hickox Fields in Old Westbury, NY. Nine collegiate coaches representing a cross section of the United States were on hand to meet twenty-five high school youngsters from as far away as Wisconsin. After a brief introduction by PTF Executive Director Danny Scheraga, students and their parents had the opportunity to speak with each coach individually about their polo programs and their school's entrance requirements and unique programs. An Argentine asado was held in conjunction with this, giving students and coaches a chance to further interact in a relaxed atmosphere.



Lou Lopez, Jason Brummer, Ed Armstrong, Megan Judge, Tony Condo, Leighton Jordan, Jon Nicholson, Mike McLeary & Danny Scheraga.

Later that evening At Country Farms Polo & Equestrian Center, the coaches had the pleasure of viewing some of the high school students play. The teams that battled in the fast paced action were "P.T.F. Red" Guille Maia, Chris Jordan & Jed Cogan vs. "P.T.F. Navy" Hannah Reynolds, Will Green & Louisa Huber vs. "P.T.F. Lt. Blue" Ry Koopman, Jack

Magruder & John Vasquez. In the first 2 chukkers Red had a commanding lead over Navy with the score 6 – 1. In chukker 3 & 4 the Lt. Blue team had the advantage over the Navy Team with the score 4 - 2. In chukkers 5 & 6 the Red Team took an advantageous lead over the Lt. Blue Team with the score 9 - 4. At the end of the game the Red Team was on top finishing in 1st place followed up by Lt. Blue in 2nd place & Navy in 3rd place. Based on the level of Sportsmanship and Skills that these 9 young players exhibited, the future of polo is looking exceptionally bright. Executive Director of the Polo Training Foundation Danny Scheraga presented trophies to all players.

2015 PTF I/I Awards

On Friday October 16th at the historic Grand Marriott Hotel in Point Clear Alabama, four young polo players were celebrated.



D. Riemenschneider, T. Coppola, P. Obrecht, A. Fraser, L. Thompson, G. Hempt, J. Tietje, J. Schwartz, K. Rosser, J. Flourmoy Jr., & M. Ganzi

The Polo Training Foundation Award winners are selected through their participation in the Intercollegiate and Interscholastic programs of the United States Polo Association based on Playing Ability, Contribution to the sport and Sportsmanship.



KAREEM ROSSER

2015 Intercollegiate PTF Award

Kareem Rosser was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1993, one of four children in his family who began riding at an early age. At the age of 9 Kareem joined his two older brothers and became a student of the Work to Ride (WTR) program.



Kareem Rosser with Lezlie Hiner

Kareem has always had a passion for sports. He started his education in the Philadelphia school district and later transferred to Valley Forge Military Academy (VFMA), where he excelled both in the classroom and on the athletic fields. As a cadet at VFMA he played many sports including basketball, soccer, baseball, lacrosse, and, of course polo. He managed to play multiple sports simultaneously, but his true passion has been playing polo. After a couple years as an alternate, Kareem would finally get his opportunity to compete with the Work to Ride interscholastic team. Many years later Kareem would go on and help lead WTR to their first national title in 2011. In addition to winning the national title he was also selected as PTF Interscholastic Male Player of the Year.

After graduating high school, Kareem would attend Community College in Dryden, NY for a year and go on to transfer to Colorado State University (CSU). Following his transfer to CSU Kareem has decided to pursue a degree in Economics along with a minor in Business. Mr. Rosser would also follow his passion for polo and joined the CSU's men's team in 2012. He and the CSU team would make the national finals his first season, but fall short in the final game. Two seasons later Kareem and the CSU Rams would find their way back to, and won, the title game ending a 16-year drought. He was also a recipient of the 2015 National All-Star Team.

With this being Kareem's final year, he would enjoy nothing more than to bring home another national title. Kareem will go on to graduate this spring with a bachelor in economics.

JILLIAN TIETJE

2015 Interscholastic PTF Award

I was fortunate enough to have been raised on a ranch with the opportunity to ride and connect with horses prior to playing polo. Before Polo, "life was in the saddle," meant herding cattle, playing arena-tag, and getting two black eyes from a misjudged tree branch. By Elementary school, it was gymkhanas, rodeos, and cattle dogs. In those years, a little gelding's lively character and athleticism taught me how to laugh and be confident atop such a powerful animal. Above all, this horse sparked my competitive edge and challenged me to pursue riding at higher speeds with greater demands and changing dynamics.



Megan Judge, Martin Teitje & Jillian Teitje.

During the summer before my sophomore year of high school, my father introduced me to Polo. That year I began practicing with the local team coached by Megan Judge at the Central Coast Polo Club. The following year, our all girls team went to the Girl's Interscholastic Nationals in Connecticut. With a different team in my senior year, we returned to the National Finals in Indio, California.

After graduating early my senior year, I wanted to play and ride all summer before beginning college at Cal Poly State University. Opportunity arose in a job with Joel Baker at his polo ranch in Buellton, California. His meticulous eye and unique methods taught me a different approach with horses, the game, and even my life outside of the sport. This was my first job in polo and the experience proved to enlightening, encouraging, and motivational in endless ways.

Since my first summer playing Polo, I have been blessed to meet many fellow players and enthusiasts who went on to become great friends and mentors. These people have helped mold me into the polo player, horseman, and young woman I am today. For the people, the horses, and the game, I am infinitely grateful.



GEORGE HEMPT

Russell A. Sheldon, Jr. Interscholastic PTF Award

George Hempt was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on February 25, 1997. He grew up on his great grandfather's standard bred breeding farm in nearby Mechanicsburg, which is also the home of West Shore Polo. George was introduced to horses at a young age. When he was eight years old he started to ride and take polo lessons under the guidance of Kelly Wells.

George juggled polo and ice hockey for many years. When he started to play interscholastic polo he found his true passion to be polo. George played for West Shore Polo Club alongside teammates Tommy Huber, Ben Lynch and Jackson Bennet. They were coached by Cindy Halle, Emily Dewey and Posey Obrecht. Through George's high school years, West Shore worked their way up the tiers of the I/I tournament culminating in an undefeated season and a 2015 National Championship.



Max Hempt, George Hempt, Amy Hempt & Cindy Halle.

George spends his summers playing polo alongside his father Max at both West Shore and Maryland Polo Club. Portions of 2013 and 2014 George was fortunate to have the opportunity to work at Graymar Farm in Franklin, Tennessee under Bobby Connors and Whistle Uys. During his time in Franklin George gained valuable experience in horsemanship and riding.

George is a 2015 graduate of Cumberland Valley High School. He recently started his freshman year at Roger Williams University in Bristol, Rhode Island majoring in business. He looks forward to continuing his I/I career at RWU under the coaching of Ted Torrey. George and his teammates are striving to bring a national title to Rhode Island for the first time.

George credits all of his success as a polo player not only to his high school polo coaches, but also to his parents for giving him the opportunity to play polo and for their endless support through his ongoing journey.

JENNY SCHWARTZ

Daniel J. Wallace, Jr. Intercollegiate PTF Award

Jenny Schwartz began her riding career when she was five years old in Baltimore, MD. She learned from a local legend, the late Frances Merryman. She did local horseshows through elementary and middle school but needed a little more excitement in her life. A friend recommended that she take polo lessons at Garrison Forest School in Owings Mills, MD. Jenny started taking lessons once a week at the age of twelve and then attended Garrison in 2007. At Garrison she played for coach Cindy Halle and new assistant polo coach Emily Dewey.

Jenny was the youngest member of Garrison's JV team that year then went on to be the youngest member of the varsity team her sophomore year. Jenny played on the varsity team her junior year and then was captain of the team her senior year. The Garrison varsity team went undefeated that season and won the National Championship again in 2011.

Jenny decided she would attend a College with no polo. She attended Virginia Tech that Fall and quickly realized a life without polo was no life at all. Jenny decided the school needed a team. By her sophomore year, Jenny had 15 members, none of which had played polo before. She taught lessons almost every day, fed horses, dealt with all of the finances, built an arena and organized every aspect of the club. The club members traveled and Jenny mostly coached from the sidelines in order to gain interest in the sport and to help improve the playing of the members. Jenny's senior year began with five polo ponies, 30 loyal members, a varsity team, a JV team and a boys' team. Jenny finally got to play her senior year, and her teammates, that she taught herself, were easily able to back her up. She won All Star at this tournament. Jenny still oversaw all of the finances, members and positions and still organized all major events. She organized a fundraiser in April of 2015 called the Mercedes Cup, UVA versus VT, with an attendance of over 200. They raised over \$4000 with ticket sales, a wine tasting and by featuring VT acapella groups in between chukkers. The event was a huge success and will now be an annual fundraiser.



Cindy Halle, Jenny Schwartz, Dr. Michael Schwartz & Paige Schwartz

Amy Fraser was Jenny's go-to in the USPA throughout her journey with the Polo Club at Virginia Tech. Jenny now works alongside Capitol Polo Club manager Melanja Jones in Poolesville, MD and hopes to continue working there in the next summer.



Polo Training Foundation
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PRESORTED STANDARD



2016 PTF FLORIDA SEASON SCHEDULE

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| December 28+30, 2015 | Major Collins Memorial |
| January 4 - March 28, 2016 | Weekly Jr. Beginners Class |
| January 18, 2016 | Joanna Monaco Memorial |
| February 11-18, 2016 | England Exchange |
| February 15, 2016 | Avendano Memorial |
| March 21, 2016 | Buzz Welker Memorial |
| April 18-22, 2016 | Jr. Championships |
| | Jimmer Newman (0-5 goal) |
| | George Oliver (6-12 goal) |
| April 22, 2016 | PTF Polo Party & Awards |

SUPPORT THE PTF

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.