

LA POLO

INTERNATIONAL

Hundred+ 41st Edition

@xbryanphoto wearing @devonwindor

Rebekah Greenhill:

DISMANTLING

Stereotypes





Equestrian
Man & The Wild:
SPAIN'S RAPA
DAS BESTAS

"Rapa das Bestas de Sabucedo 2008 #1"
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Polo
Buzkashi:
THE GAME
OF COURAGE



"GB.AFG.07.0301" by balazsgardi is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0



Polo
DONKEYS
FOR POLO

A tri-colored glazed donkey figurine from Xi'an, China.
(Credit: Hu, X. et al./Science and Technology Press

Lifestyle
Alexandra Llewellyn:
A CLASS
APART





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POLO



Image credit: Spirit of polo

The French Polo Season has already resumed and with it the French Open is all set to mark its 20 years in play this 2020.

CLOSE LOOK

BUZKASHI: THE GAME OF COURAGE

In the national sport of Afghanistan,
players compete on horseback for
the carcass of a goat.



"File:Buzkashi (5458879410).jpg" by Peretz Partensky from San Francisco, USA is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0

The fastest way to experience an adrenaline rush is to indulge in sports, especially ones like skydiving, skiing or bull fighting. The more the extremity, the greater the rush. Even as there's an endless list of sports popular all over the world that count as dangerous and require a superior level of skill and precision, some sports are still unknown to a major chunk of the world population.

Referred to as “polo with a headless goat”, Buzkashi, the national sport of Afghanistan is one such example. Fierce, intense, and highly skilled, Buzkashi players compete on horseback for the carcass of a goat, generally weighing somewhere between 40 and 100 pounds, disembowelled in most cases, like they do for the ball in regular polo.



"File:Buzkashi (5458895276).jpg" by Peretz Partensky from San Francisco, USA is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0

CLOSE LOOK



"Buzkashi in Afghanistan" by United Nations Photo is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0



In the 10th century, Buzkashi was a means of entertaining the kings while the carcass used to be that of a slain opponent. It originated among the nomadic Turkic; Uzbek, Turkmen, Kazak, and Kyrgyz, people. The one thing that hasn't changed through centuries is that only men participate even in modern-day Buzkashi. Even the audience of a game of Buzkashi is primarily composed of men.

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COVER STORY

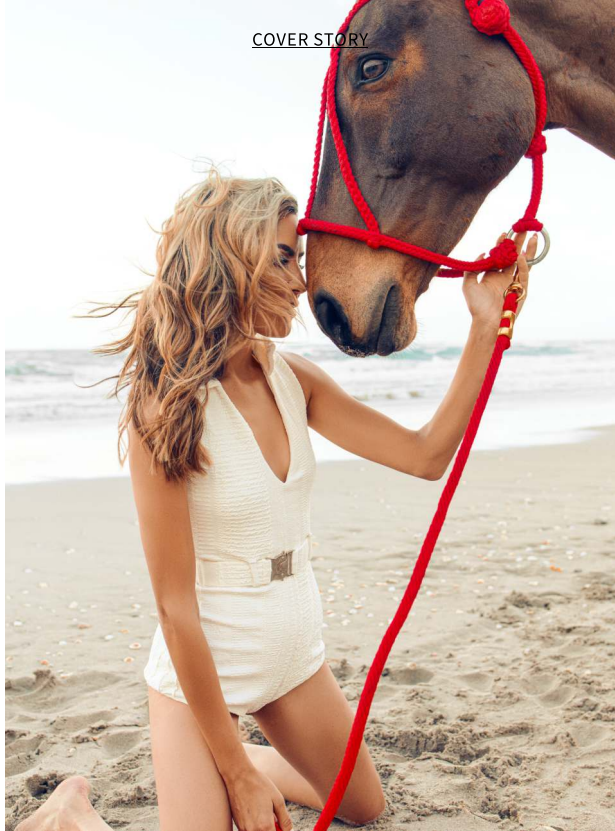
WINE & POLO with REBEKAH GREENHILL

With a diversity of deeply absorbing interests like polo, wines, fashion, baking and journalism, REBEKAH GREENHILL rides high, taking the glories along in her deft stride.



@chiroiacabrera





@xbryanphoto wearing @devonwindsor

“There are so many talented women in polo now. My goal is to be like Dawn Jones, representing the United States of America in Argentina and England. She is a talented, brave and graceful woman,” says Rebekah. ”

She has been a pastry chef, bakery owner, a wine enthusiast, a broadcast journalist, a polo player, and has done modelling gigs on the side. Rebekah Greenhill wears many hats—and all with great aplomb. She’s a game-changer in the world of women’s polo, and all this might be a heavy workload for anyone else, but she considers these as hobbies, and is able to creatively satisfy all her interests and commitments with elan.

Rebekah’s life took a 360-degree turn when she met Sebastien Marquet, winemaker at Greenhills Winery and Vineyards, for an interview. Dazzled by her knowledge of wines, food, business and journalism, Sebastien hired her to do the marketing for Greenhills Winery and Vineyards. Though that’s not where the fairytale began.

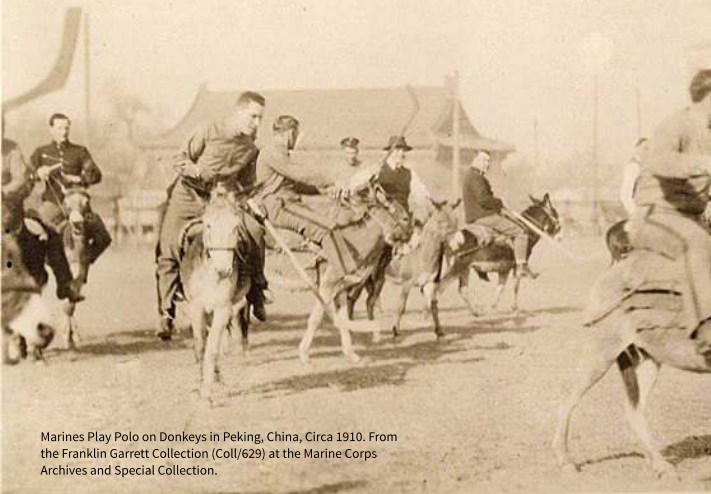
In 2015, the equestrian town of Middleburg, Virginia, inspired Rebekah to turn around the marketing strategy to satiate the

town’s appetite for equine sports, and she got interested in riding, while dating the winery owner, David Greenhill. She and David took up riding, first out of interest, and then she started pursuing it seriously.

“Middleburg and the neighbouring towns host a very active equestrian community with nationally recognised events like steeplechase races, showjumping and polo,” Rebekah tells La Polo. Greenhills Winery sponsors polo events at Great Meadow where both David and Rebekah play. They were coached by John Gobin, the owner of the Great Meadow Polo Cup.

With the branding of polo and Greenhill Wines together, it becomes the perfect summer pairing in Virginia, a feat accomplished by Rebekah, who foresaw the potential of both.

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Marines Play Polo on Donkeys in Peking, China, Circa 1910. From the Franklin Garrett Collection (Coll/629) at the Marine Corps Archives and Special Collection.

EXPLORE

DONKEYS FOR POLO

These people are actually mounted atop donkeys and not horses while seeming to be playing the Sport of Kings, Polo.



A Polo game using donkeys, Ras Tanura, the 1950s.

EXPLORE



In fact, the first evidence of playing Donkey Polo was found in Imperial China when the remains of an aristocrat woman named Cui Shi, who passed away in 878 AD, were dug up. To everyone's surprise, her's weren't the only remains that the archaeologists found.

There were remains of at least three donkeys buried alongside her.

When researchers came across her heavily looted grave, they were confused as to why a woman of that status would be buried with donkeys.

So, they started researching and the results they got, helped them identify that the donkeys actually belonged to Cui Shi.

Radiocarbon dating verified the bones belonged to the tomb based on the time they were buried. The examination disclosed strain on the bones that happened when the donkeys were still alive and well – not the sort of strain that is normally encountered in pack creatures utilised for transporting goods.

Rather, the patterns of stress in the bones were like that of animals that sprinted and turned often. The donkeys were shorter than pack creatures. This implies they were raised to play Polo. And the donkeys located in the aristocrat's grave were approximately six years' old-- excellent age for Polo, as per the researchers.



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GOOD NEWS From HPA



The Hurlingham Polo Association has finally come out with good news that shows a bright side for polo players and enthusiasts.

Here's the update 10 from HPA:

Update 10

You have probably heard that the government has made a significant announcement as far as sports is concerned this evening. The Chairman of the HPA has remained in regular communications with DCMS over the past few weeks and more frequently in recent days. We have made it clear to the DCMS that the necessary protocols are already in place and largely working well...

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CHUKKER TV CHALLENGE

The ChukkerTV Challenge trophy was won by Casablanca as they vanquished La Indiana 8 to 6 on Sunday. Casablanca's Polito Pieres was named the Most Valuable Player. Cruella DeVille, a gray Santa Rita-bred mare, played by Nacho Novillo Astrada, was awarded the Best Playing Pony.

In the second match, the Just-for-Fun Cup, La Karina got the better of Mountain Chevrolet, 12-9.

In the Just for the Love of It tournament, La Elina conquered Los Amigos and Seminole Casino with a noteworthy total of 18 goals at consolidated scores from Friday's round robin at Sopris Mountain Ranch.

Sabah Polo Association has been in a fix following the government's ban on slot machine operations. This ban can threaten the survival of Sabah's oldest sport.

Polo in Sabah holds a history of more than 40 years and without the income that is generated out of slot machine operation, the Sabah Polo Association will have to close down. This will affect not just the lives of the imported horses but will also lead to a loss of jobs for the Bajau staff. The association tried to get things under control but the state government refused to grant any trading licence for the operations of the slot machine.

David, Co-founder, Sabah Polo Association, said: "I wish the state government can make an exception as it affects our efforts to keep the sport (polo) alive."

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GOVT BANS PUTS SABAH POLO ASSOCIATION IN JEOPARDY



20 YEARS AND COUNTING

The French Polo Season resumed last week with the first official tournaments. In Chantilly, two titles were awarded and polo will now return to a cruising speed, close to what it used to be in “the world before”. The high point: The French Open and the celebration of its 20th anniversary this year!

More than 400 horses currently live on the grounds of the Ferme d'Apremont, where the Polo Club is located. 300 more will arrive in September for the French Open, during which three other important tournaments will take place, including the Women's French Open.



Polo Comes Back To Oak Brook Polo Club

Oak Brook Polo Club (Oak Brook, Illinois) is thrilled to announce the return of spectators for their 2020 summer season of matches through September beginning Sunday, July 12. In following the Illinois Governor's Phase 4 Industry Guidelines of the Restore Illinois Plan, which was announced last week, the Oak Brook Polo Club removed their signature game-day layout. Now, the field will be transformed into an “all-tailgate” spectator environment with social distancing enforced.

The Club's all-tailgate plan will be limited to a maximum of 70-80 parking spots or 35-40 vehicles per sideline. Each spot will be between 10-15 feet in length with a 12-15-foot buffer zone between each spot. A maximum of six guests per tailgate are allowed and must arrive in one vehicle upon entry. General parking will not be permitted on site, nor will shuttle services be offered. Vehicles will be assigned to a specific spot upon arriving. Guests of each tailgate will not be permitted to leave their assigned spot unless to use the restroom or nearby hand washing and sanitiser station.

Any activity that does not efficiently promote social distancing has been removed for the safety of guests.

COMING OUT VICTORIOUS

The Battle of Finals at Polo Club du Domaine de Chantilly in Apremont, France, continued throughout the end of the week with matches for two competitions. In the first, La Victoire won the 8-goal Trophée de la Haute Pommeraye by overcoming Land Rover by 5-4, while Aiudaz claimed the 4-goal Trophée du Capitaine des Jeux getting the better of Land Rover by 9-6.

La Ema POLO Mallet Cup

The 8-goal tournament which commenced on June 30, reached a conclusion on Sunday at Beaufort Polo Club, in England. DWF triumphed over AW Jenkinson in the finale by 3-2. Charlie Walton was awarded the most valuable player.

Also, In the FINAL SUBSIDIARIA, Beaufort and Lodge Security tied at 4-4.

CLASH FOR TITLE



In this unprecedented and challenging year, and after the French Government authorised some weeks

ago the practice of sports, Saint Tropez Polo Club announced its first tournament of the season. The International Polo Cup, one of the main tournaments at the French Riviera's club, kicked off on July 10.

A total of 4 teams up to 10 goals will be in participation. The finals are due on July 19.

POLO CLUB SAINT TROPEZ - CALENDAR 2020

Open de Gassin: July 23 - August 2

Côte d'Azur Cup: August 6-16

Open du Soleil: August 20-30

Gold Cup: September 3-13

Coupe de l'hippocampe: September 17-27

THE EDUARDO MOORE TOURNAMENT

Reached a conclusion on Saturday at the Royal County of Berkshire Polo Club, in England. Snakebite vanquished EFG Aravali by 9-5 to win the 15-goal tournament after 5 chukkers. Jimbo Fewster was awarded the MVP and Preferida, played by Manuel Fernández Llorente was named the BPP. Preceding this final, Emlor Black defeated Conosco by 8-5 to win the Subsidiary Cup.

XVII TORNEO MEMORIAL FUNDADOR ENRIQUE ZOBEL

Team PX Polo triumphed in the finale of the XVII Torneo Memorial Fundador Enrique Zobel defeating 25 Monte.

Gold Cup Update

Day 5 of the King Power Gold Cup at the Cowdray Park Polo Club was exciting for Park Place Association catching two back to back triumphs over troublesome rivals.

Park Place Vaara overpowered the solitary undefeated Les Lions/Great Oaks with a dominant 16-7 score, while Park Place claimed an exciting 10-9 triumph.

The finish of the third round brought about two additional teams holding a 2-1 record after Scone, led by Nico Pieres, lead scorer of the tournament, vanquished Monterosso by 11-8, and Thai Polo NW asserted the 13-10 triumph over Polo Stud Schockemohle.

Driven by competition scoring pioneer Nico Pieres, who added a great nine objectives to his aggregate, Scone never trailed in their triumph over Monterosso.

POLO TO WATCH OUT

Oak Brook's Schedule of Polo

Oak Brook Polo's remaining 2020 summer schedule includes the following matches with pending special events:

- July 12, Butler Challenge Cup
- July 26, Oak Brook Polo Open
- August 2, Cecil Smith Cup
- August 16, Chicago Polo Open
- August 30, Illinois Players Cup
- Sept. 13, USPA NYTS National Championships
- September 20, Drake Challenge Cup
- September 27, USPA Butler International Cup



Coworth Park Challenge Trophy	Mid-Summer Tournament	The Duke of Wellington Trophy
Guards Polo Club	Guards Polo Club	Guards Polo Club
25 July	26 July	21 July- 9 Aug

LA EQUUS



Image credit: @drinksolapop

A considerable lot of black jockeys, who were previous slaves, went to the sport for work. They were the first American professional athletes. In 1890 and 1891 Issac Murphy turned into the foremost back to back victor of the Kentucky Derby and became the first black tycoon. Willie Simms, Austin Curtis, Abe Hawkins and Charles Stewart, and Cato, Jesse and Simon were other notable black jockeys.



TRAVEL

MAN & THE WILD:
SPAIN'S RAPA
DAS BESTAS

The festival, that may also be called the "Capture of the Beasts" observed in a small region of Spain, is an old custom involving pure skill, to round up the wild horses and cut their manes.



“

Legend has it that the festival was born in the midst of a plague, and survived the flu of 1918, along with civil strife in the country.

”



"File:Rapa Das Bestas 2010 en el Curro de Sabucedo 01.jpg" by 'bergaralphoto' Ramon Rodriguez Martinez is licensed under CC BY 2.0



"Rapa das bestas de Mougas #7" by jpereira_net is licensed under CC BY-ND 2.0



"El círculo" by juantiagues is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0

The endeavour involves pure skill on the part of the gatherers, referred to as the *aloitadores*. The entire village assembles, along with spectators from nearby areas and a mass is held on Saturday morning. The patron saint of the region is prayed to, as believers claim that he protects the participants of the festival from harm or injury. Locals claim that even the mere witnessing of the festival fills them with thrill, and they eagerly await the festival each year.

When the hectic day moves into the evening, all the villagers gather to share food and wine and dance over-energetic numbers.

The festival is held at a number of places in the region every year, but Sabucedo stands out for it has honoured the tradition of gathering the horses without the use of force, ropes or sticks.

The village believes this to be the purest way of celebrating the union of man and nature. For them, the festival is synonymous to understanding horses, which they see as a symbol of the magnanimity of nature.

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PARADISE

HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Paradise Horsemen's Association held their first event of the year. "We wanted to keep our numbers down. Normally our bleachers are full and we have a lot more riders," said Paradise Horsemen Association President Scarlett Miller.

It's the second straight year where the first event has been delayed. In 2019, the first show was delayed until July after the Paradise Horse Arena suffered damage from camp fire.

"It's been very hard. Financially it's been hard on our club. We are a non-profit organisation. We're still trying to get back on our feet," Miller said. "It's fatiguing to be hit twice."



Image credit: MSN

Bailey, 29, of Oroville, was one of the 40 horseback riders as the Paradise Horsemen's Association

RACING

R E T U R N S

Racing returned to Northern Ireland at Downpatrick, while Down Royal's Ulster Derby meeting has been scheduled for July 24.

Downpatrick manager Richard Lyttle said: "I'm delighted racing has resumed at the course but I miss the atmosphere generated by the public -hopefully they will be able to return soon."

"I want to thank our long-standing sponsors who continue to support racing. I must commend Horse Racing Ireland and the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board (Turf Club) for the manner they have handled the pandemic and got racing going again."



Image credit: Cambratney racing

Covid-19 Fallout

Crowds of up to 5,000 people at major race days during the spring carnival are considered normal. However, Victoria's second round of Covid-19 restrictions have caused significant planning and commercial pain for the clubs ahead of the spring carnival, due to begin next month.

There is now an acceptance that even if Covid restrictions are eased back to stage two in Melbourne late August, it's likely to mean tough racecourse restrictions would remain

throughout spring and make the idea of crowds remote.

Moonee Valley Racing Club boss Michael Browell said: "We had a lot of great plans in place to celebrate the 100th running of the WS Cox Plate...It (no crowds) is certainly a possibility...We're working on a model that would see between 1,000 and 5,000 people here as a best-case scenario."



BEYOND



Image credit: Instagram/@royalcollectiontrust

The couturier Christian Dior coined a new term 'A-line' and added a jargon to the repertoire of words akin to the fashion industry.

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TOURISM PROJECT

An undiscovered gem in Saudi Arabia's northwestern coastline, AMAALA, showcases sustainability, art, wellness and the immaculateness of the Red Sea.

AMAALA is an extravagant resort promising to surpass all desires. “The qualities and the experience it will offer distinguishes it from any other hotel,” says Nicholas Naples, CEO.

Set against a scenscape of mountains and shining oceans, and running close by a coastline of delightful bays, it's an exclusive enclave in this unexplored area.

It will entertain sports like golf, polo, equestrian, camel hustling, falconry, tennis, reef plunging and submarine investigations—all accessible over three destinations.

Ignacio Figueras 'Nacho', the global polo star, is the brand ambassador for AMAALA. He will aim to promote prestigious polo events at AMAALA, as well as around the world through team sponsorships and other connections.

[Click to read more >](#)



STAYING-IN

ALEXANDRA LLEWELLYN: A CLASS APART

“Always think there is a solution if things go wrong. Never compromise on quality and listen to all opinions; however, know what you want, see your vision and stand by it”: These are the values the Alexandra Llewellyn label stands for.

“

In no part of the world is genteel visiting founded on esteem, in the absence of suitable furniture and complete dinner-service.

- George Eliot

”



Established to create board games serving as stunning objects of art, the next level for the label was bespoke furniture.

Games bring people together to have fun and enjoy precious time with family and friends, with friendly contests adding to the enjoyment and intrigue.

The Palm Table is a unique round backgammon table decorated with inlaid brass, and flips into a chess board. The table can be ordered in any wood and can also be used as just a beautiful piece of furniture.

The Zodiac, inspired by Astrology and the concept of time, is a unique and beautiful design that can be personalised for every individual. It is prepared using sustainable wood and traditional woodworking techniques such as dovetail drawers, marquetry inlay and hand-finishing.

Breaking the boundaries of the traditional backgammon layout, which has been rectangular for over 5000 years, the round design plays to the circular nature of the game and references the orbits of the sun and moon, and the ancient astrological year.

An exclusive limited edition of just ten backgammon boards using the never-seen-before photographs of the iconic Marilyn Monroe shot by celebrated photographer Milton H. Greene have been also added in this exquisite collection.

[Click to read more >](#)


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