

LA POLO

INTERNATIONAL

Hundred+ 42nd Edition

**CYCLE
POLO
BREAKING**



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-Raghuvendra Singh Dundlod,
President, CPMI



NEW



“I had an added responsibility, as for most of my team members it was the first World Cup and first time abroad. Keeping their morale high was important.”
-Assarudeen Sha,
Captain, 12th World Cup Cycle Polo Championship



GROUNDS



"File:Lord Mountbatten 6 Allan Warren.jpg" by Allan Warren is licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0

POLO LEGACY OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN

Like many members of the royal family, Mountbatten was a polo aficionado. He discovered the sport in Jodhpur.

POLO SQUARE: NAQSH-E JAHAN

The UNESCO World Heritage site has been witness to Chogan as well as royal and religious ceremonies.



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

KYZ KUUMAI- THE KISSING GAME

According to an ancient proverb, horses are "the wings of Kyrgyz". Horse riding forms an integral part of their culture.

HANDCRAFTED LUXURY

Craft, heritage and skill lie at the heart of Savoir—customised luxury bed makers.





The most seasoned record of polo originates from an Iranian record dating close to 600 BCE. That is around 2000 years before this rare diminutive showing the incredible character Gushtap playing polo against Caesar—sporting challenges were painted in the 1440s for the Shahnama of Firdowsi.

POLO



Image credit: Guards Polo Club

This huge shield, which dates back to the 1920s, is played for by some of the sport's leading 18-goal teams. The Indian Empire Shield is an official Hurlingham Polo Association tournament, attracting top teams from throughout the UK.



TRIBUTE

POLO LEGACY OF LORD MOUNTBATTEN

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Mountbatten was a polo aficionado.
He discovered the sport in Jodhpur.

“He was the perfect captain, both on and off the field... On the field he never got rattled or bad-tempered. And no matter how silly one was he was always forgiving and encouraging.”

-‘Mountbatten and Polo’ by Sir Robert Neville



In India, he played matches with the Maharaja’s squad. It prompted numerous competitions back home. The grandson of Queen Victoria, born in 1900, accomplished a 5-goal Polo handicap and left a precious heritage in the game.

“For the first time in my life I am excited about a sport. Soon I will be playing polo more than anything else!” Lord Louis Mountbatten wrote to his mother. It was a mind-blowing start of a lifetime’s obsession when Lord Mountbatten, affectionately known as ‘Dickie’, at 22 years, discovered polo in Jodhpur while serving in the British Army.

“It was one of the best mornings of my life. I played my first-ever polo match...I think the average handicap of the players in India is five, but it is undoubtedly one of the best things in India,” he wrote in a journal in December 1921.



“File:Lord Mountbatten 6 Allan Warren.jpg” by Allan Warren is licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0



Lord Louis Mountbatten and the rest of the Warspite polo team, Mandelieu Polo Club, c. January 1927 [MB2/L4/210]



Lord Louis Mountbatten and the rest of the Warspite polo team, Mandelieu Polo Club, c. January 1927 [MB2/L4/210]

MASTER OF THE GAME

Lord Mountbatten is best recognised as a remarkable Naval official, war legend and ambassador; he was also an adept polo player. In 1923, he took a month's course in military equestration with the Life Guards.

"I watched English and American films in slow motion and analysed the players hitting the ball. I remember that my team and I used to come up with tactics around a billiard table. As polo was amateur, I had to do everything myself. I remember one time I was speaking to an international player, and I asked him advice about how to hit the ball. He said: 'My dear Dickie, hit it quickly! Hit it like a snake!'"

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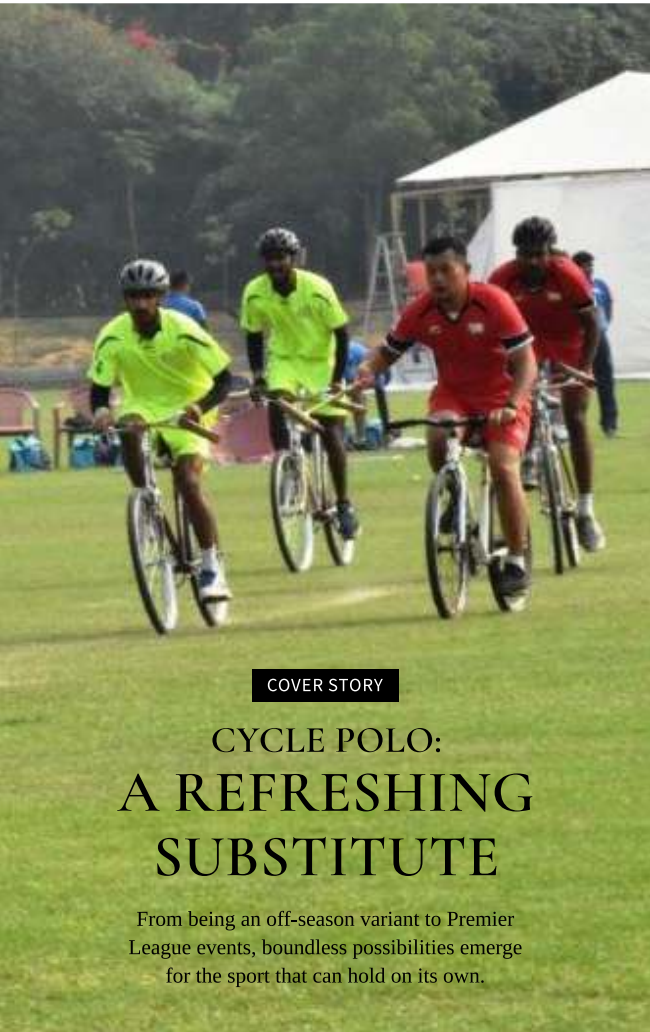
"He was the perfect captain, both on and off the field... On the field, he never got rattled or bad-tempered. And no matter how silly one was he was always forgiving and encouraging."

-'Mountbatten and Polo' by Sir Robert Neville



Lord Louis Mountbatten's polo team, the "Shrimps", after winning the Keyes Cup, Malta, 31 December 1928 [MB1/L4/166]





COVER STORY

CYCLE POLO: A REFRESHING SUBSTITUTE

From being an off-season variant to Premier League events, boundless possibilities emerge for the sport that can hold on its own.

Richard J Mecredy, the Irish editor of a bike magazine, devised bicycle polo in 1891, 20 years after the first polo match was played in British India. This was a refreshing substitute for polo lovers to indulge in their favourite sport in the off-season.

An official rulebook of the sport, borrowing judiciously from horseback polo, was laid out in Mecredy's magazine, on October 31, 1891. Cycle polo initially served as a variant of horseback polo. The sport achieved its peak in popularity when it found itself amongst the elite fold, at the 1908 Olympics. However, from this enviable position, it underwent a slump. The commencement of the First World War could be one of the reasons.



“Our aim is to have a minimum of 45 countries to play cycle polo, so that we could request for an exhibition sport at the Olympics. With emphasis on environment and physical fitness, countries will pick up the sport. Achievements at World Championships have ensured job opportunities for our players.” says Dundlod.

“

Post-war, restarting the sport from scratch was needed, before it could reinstate itself again as an international sport.

Regional leagues in England and France led the revival, until another halt in the Second World War.

”

INDIA & CYCLE POLO

India holds a very strong place at World Cycle Polo, and has defeated countries like the USA, UK, France, Canada, Germany and now Argentina. Raghuvendra Singh Dundlod, president, Cycle Polo Federation of India said: “It has given our players confidence and now all member states of the country are improving the standard of their players. India plans to host the next World Cycle Polo Championship in 2021/2022.”

Although now due to the pandemic, things are shaping differently. Covid-19 has left its impact on the sport and the National Championships of Boys in Senior, Junior and Sub Junior categories had to be cancelled. Players are unable to practice as it's a team

sport but so far they are continuing with their physical training and exercise individually. CPFI is soon going to have an online coaching session for safe play and now plans to start the calendar of events from October onwards.

Indicating the future of the sport, Dundlod said: “Our aim is to have a minimum of 45 countries to play cycle polo, so that we could request for an exhibition sport at the Olympics. With emphasis on environment and physical fitness, countries will pick up the sport. Achievements at World Championships have ensured job opportunities for our players.”

Sharing his thoughts on the 2021 championship, Aasurdeen Sha, who captained the Indian Bicycle Polo team at the 11th World Cup said: “Teamwork and regular practice is essential.” Reflecting back to the time when he was the captain, he added: “I had an added responsibility, as for most of my team members it was the first World Cup and first time abroad. Keeping their moral high was important.” As of looking in the future, everyone is hoping for the best.” Covid has affected the calendar of our National and World Championships. But players are in practice and I am confident that we will see positive results by 2021.”

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EXPLORE

POLO SQUARE: NAQSH-E JAHAN

The UNESCO World Heritage site has been witness to Chogan as well as royal and religious ceremonies.

EXPLORE



Chogan, Naqsh-e Jahan Square, Esfahan
- 8 February 2018, Source: Wikimedia,
Author: Hamidreza Nikoomaram

“
The goal-posts,
made of marble,
stand at each edge
of the square,
reminding
everyone of the
halcyon days.
”

Iran is one of the most welcoming countries on earth. It's a gem in Islam's crown, with magnificent architecture and exotic customs and traditions.

It is home to some of the most impressive architectures on the planet. At every turn, the unique aesthetic charm of the elegant buildings is mesmerising.

One of these architectural beauties is the Naqsh-e Jahan (Imam) Square: the flawlessly proportioned blue-tiled arch of the Masjed-e Shah, the elegant Masjed-e Sheikh Lotfollah and the richly adorned Ali Qapu Palace leave a huge impact on onlookers. It is an impressive testimony to the high level of skill and artistry prevalent in Iran during the Safavid era.

Shah Abbas-I constructed the Naqsh-e Jahan Square to play Chogan. The royal Persian sport of polo could be played in the expanse, providing the Shah, residing in the Ali Qapu Palace, and onlookers, with entertainment.

As Achaemenians stretched their boundaries to other regions, this age-old Iranian sport found its path to other countries as well. Of course, it was played differently in those times. Horse riding was more of the soldierly and warfare kind. As time passed, Chogan (polo) transformed into how we watch and play it today. After Mongols conquered Iran, they discovered Iranian crafts and traditions, including Chogan, and advanced it through their empire.

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Opening Gradually



The Lagos Polo Club, and other social communities and clubs, including the 1938 Ikoyi Club, the Lagos Motor Boat Club, Ikeja Country Club, Ikeja Golf Club, Lagos Jetski Club, Lagos Lawn Tennis Club, Yoruba Tennis Club, and Ikeja Gold Club have been verified to open and told to obey the COVID-19 guidelines

suggested by the Lagos Government.

Progressively social clubs, bars, night clubs, wagering shops, and different organisations in the state will be evaluated and accreditation will be given to open while maintaining appropriate social distancing.

THRILLING MATCH

Astors defeated rivals Vanderbilts in a thrilling tie breaker, by 9-8 in the finals of the Vanderbilt Cup, presented by Vanderbilt International Properties. Torrey scored the deciding goal in less than a moment of extra time for the Astors to claim the Trophy.

The match finished with Newport Polo Fan Salute, and the Veuve Clicquot Champagne Toast and Trophy Presentation with delegates from Vanderbilt International Properties presenting the sterling silver Vanderbilt Cup to the Astors.

Close Battle

Amadeus Polo and Roman Fortunato Polo tied at 4-4 in a neck-to-neck battle in the Finals of the 6th edition of Father & Son Tournament held on July 17-18, by the Ibiza Polo Club in Ibiza, Spain.

KING POWER GOLD CUP



The King Power Gold Cup is played in honor of Vichai Srivaddhanaprabha and his sporting passions

Park Place Vaara defeated Monterosso 13-8 making their place in the semi-finals as the Group play ended with a conclusive 10-5 triumph for Les Lions/Great Oaks against Thai Polo NW. Three groups were tied with a 2-2 record in Zone B on the last day of Group play in the 2020 King Power Gold Cup at the Cowdray Park Polo Club.

The first quarter-final started with an extra time spine chiller that was at last won 11-10 by Les Lions/Great Oaks over the Thai Polo NW. Next Generation crushed Scone 13-10, confirming the final spot in the eagerly-awaited semi-finals at Cowdray Park Polo Club.

INDIAN EMPIRE SHIELD

Kildare conquered Emlor by 9-7 in the Finals to claim the Indian Empire Shield at Guards Polo Club. Charlie Hanbury was given the Most Valuable Player award and Irenita Porfiada, played by Juanchi Ambroggio, was named the Best Playing Pony.



British Ladies Open

The British Ladies Open Semi-Finals were held on July 17, at Cowdray Park Polo Club. Park Place defeated Coombe Place 5-2 and Monterosso Vikings got the better of MJVH 7-6 to face each other in the finals on July 19.

Featuring the top ladies' polo players, Lia Salvo and Hazel Jackson-Gaona, going head-to-head in the final, Monterosso Vikings conquered Park Place by an easy 6-3 win. Park Place's Milly Hine's Mosqueta was named the Best Playing Pony.



AUMALE CUP

Black Mamba - Voltex got the better of Omedia Paris by 5-4 to win the 6th Aumale Cup with a deciding goal from Florent Garaud in extra time. Sea of light, a 10-year-old mare belonging to Florent Garaud and played by Bérengère was awarded the Best Playing Pony at the Polo Club du Domaine de Chantilly, Picardie, France.

Grassfield crushed Majora Paris by 4-1 to claim the 7th edition of the Ladies Polo Cup as the La Mariana - Gallops of Jordan triumphed the EARL PHP Cup by defeating Opaline by 5 - 3.5.

Deauville from August 11-30, 2020

The Barrière Deauville Polo Cup and its well-known Gold Cup, the only tournament in France and among the few in Europe to hold a “hall of fame”, were created by François André - founder of the Barrière Group - in 1950.

The two renowned tournaments comprising the initial two lifts of the French Grand Slam, the Silver Cup will be held from August 11-16, followed by the Gold Cup 2020 from August 15-30, finishing with the Chantilly French Open, from September 5-20. Cibao La Pampa, led by Argentina’s Juan Pepa, have reached the feat of winning all three titles in 2017.

The women’s polo will commence this year with the Ladies Cup, with the finals scheduled on August 15, a couple of hours after the main procession of teams in the boulevards of Deauville. The Bronze Cup will start from August 17, with a subsequent parade of teams to be held on the final day, August 29.



Players are all set to get into play for the Barrière Deauville Polo Cup.



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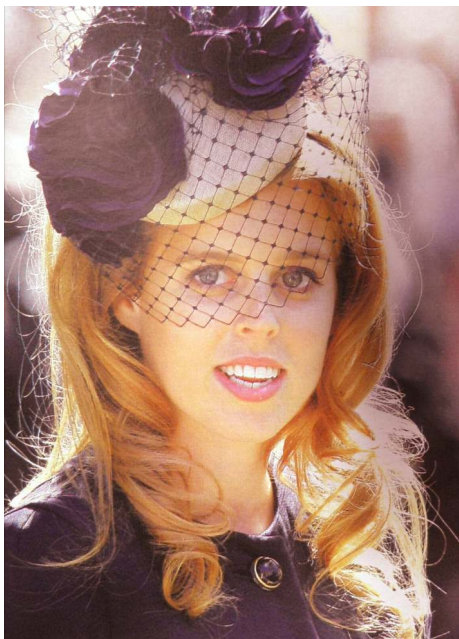


Image credit: Mig_R

HRH Princess Beatrice of York, just like members of the royal family, is an equine enthusiast. She has been spotted at a number of horse races. Also, the Princess rides herself. She was seen enjoying a cozy horse riding with her father just before her marriage. The Princess recently got married to her long time boyfriend Edoardo Mapelli Mozzi.

TRAVEL

KYZ KUUMAI THE KISSING GAME

According to an ancient proverb, horses are “the wings of Kyrgyz”. Horse riding forms an integral part of their culture.



"Bokom Bayev Festival - Kyz-Kuumai. - Chasing After the Bride"
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The national festivals in Kazakhstan involve the celebration of traditional games, most of which are equestrian rivalries. The itinerant way of life required the Kazakhs to be genuinely good horse riders and skilful trackers. Kyz kuumai, or Kyz koo, is an equestrian game among the Turkic people, such as the Azerbaijanis, Kazakhs and Kyrgyz. It literally means “chase the girl” in Kazakh language and displays glimpses of horse racing, yet is frequently alluded to as a “kissing game”.



Image credit: blog.nomady.net



A youth riding a horse holds up at a beginning line. A young lady, mounted as well, starts her pony, a little away. At the point when the young lady passes the youngster, he may start his pony, and the two race towards a spot ahead.

In the event that the youngster can make up for lost time to the young lady before they arrive at the finish line, he may reach out to her and steal a swift kiss, which marks his triumph.

If the youngster has not made up for lost time to the young lady when they arrive at the finish line, the young lady pursues the admirer back to the beginning line. She may use her whip to beat him, which implies a triumph for her.



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Image credit: Rediff

Covid Cloud Hangs Over Racing

In late March, nearly a thousand thoroughbreds from the stables of Mumbai's Mahalaxmi Racecourse made their way back to the training farms in and around Pune, as they do every year after the racing season.

This time, however, there was no telling when they would return to Mumbai and once again

thunder down the turf, watched by hordes of excited attendees, seasoned punters and proud owners. With horse racing events across clubs in India halted because of the pandemic, the sport is facing an existential issue: Should it wait for things to normalise or should it gallop?

Close Doors Bring New Opportunities

Zavaray Poonawalla, Chairman, Royal Western India Turf Club (RWITC) said that in a historic first, closed-door racing has been slated to commence at the Pune Race Course on August 23, 2020 subject to clearances from the Government of Maharashtra.

Closed door racing means that horse racing will take place, as usual on the track, but there will be no spectators. The races will be relayed on the turf club website, www.rwitic.com, where people can watch the action. This is akin to other sporting tournaments that are being played at sporting grounds during the Covid-19 season, but without spectators.



Royal Western India Turf Club set to commence horse racing

Image credit: Mid day

The Chasing Rainbows Horse Show

A horse riding show will be held this weekend at the Leonard O Swisher Memorial Arena at the Clearfield Driving Park. The show will be held on Saturday beginning 8 a.m. and on Sunday starting 9 a.m. for gaming activities.

It is open to the public and there are no fees

for admission and parking. Seating is limited.

The Chasing Rainbows Horse Show series for all ages, disciplines and skill levels, has been taking place at Swisher Arena since late May.

Horseback show
jumping to start at
Leonard O Swisher
Memorial Arena

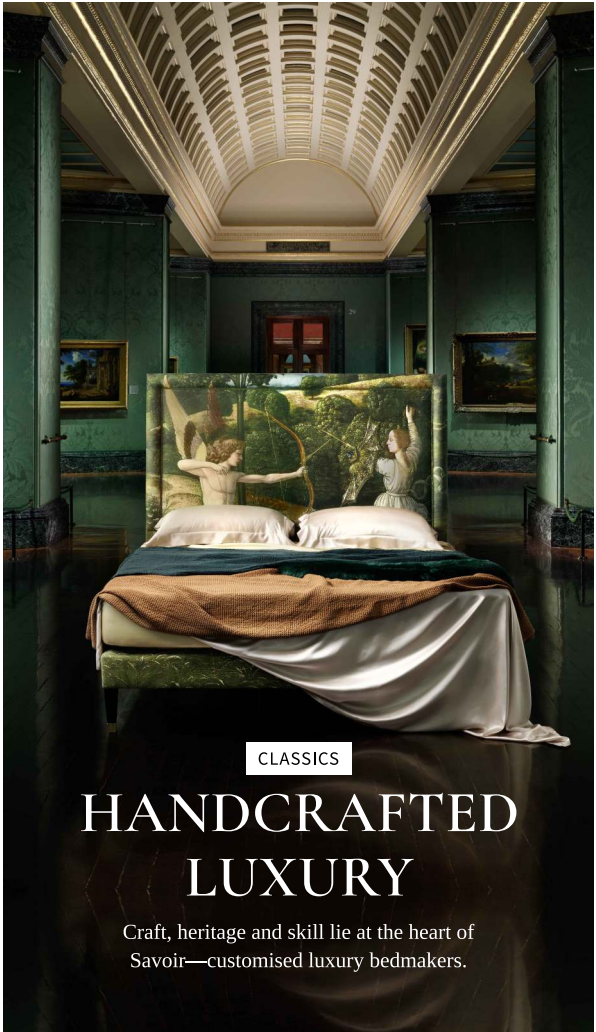


BEYOND



Image credit: Sortiraparis

As per usual for 5 years now, European royal residences expected enthusiasts on social networks to share this historic and cultural heritage. For this edition that took place on Sunday July 19, 2020, Palace Day 2020 focused on music.



CLASSICS

HANDCRAFTED LUXURY

Craft, heritage and skill lie at the heart of
Savoir—customised luxury bedmakers.

Tell us about the Savoir beds?

Savoir have been perfecting and crafting the perfect night's sleep since 1905, when the beds were first commissioned for London's Savoy Hotel. During a hotel refit in 1905, it was felt that no bed in the market was able to offer the sumptuous sleep that The Savoy offered, so the prestigious upholsterer James Edwards Ltd was specially commissioned to create The Savoy Bed. This luxurious model slumbered on by the rich and famous down the decades, is still made today as the Savoir No 2 bed. Craft, heritage and skill lie at the

heart of Savoir. We continue to handcraft beds at our North London Bedworks and in Wales, just outside Cardiff. Every Savoir bed is made to order for a particular client, built by hand to meet specific needs and deliver unsurpassed comfort.

Focusing on the finest also applies to our use of natural materials such as curled horsetail, which provides a breathable sleeping surface and the ultimate temperature control for enhanced sleep. The end result is not only a wonderfully comfortable bed for our clients but one that matches their style aspirations, as only a bespoke product can.



What has been the most unique demand a customer has ever made?

Every Savoir is bespoke. Our customers expect the extraordinary and through the nature of handcraft, anything is possible, the sky is, literally, the limit. We have made beds to fit into private aircraft and even used an aircraft wing to create a headboard. We have designed and made beds with secret compartments, jewellery safes and champagne fridges. We also crafted a Golf Bed, which featured a bespoke drawer within the base of the bed, which housed golf balls and club.



How do you incorporate luxury?

Purchasing and owning a Savoir is a unique experience. Starting with a “fitting” at one of our stores, the expertly trained team will discuss your needs and test you and your partner on various models and support options in order to tailor-make your bed. Beyond comfort is the design and styling of the bed, in which we will work to our client's requirements with unlimited fabric options for upholstery and styles for the headboard and base.

[Click to read more >](#)




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