

MARYLAND POLO CLUB
Est. 1986



40th Anniversary

Celebrating 40 Years

Managers

Editors/Publishers

Tournaments and Memorials

Events

Ponies

1986

2026

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2026 Season

May 29th - September 13th

Maryland Polo Club

Tom Huber - President
Max Hempt - Vice President
PJ Orthwein - Treasurer
Parker Pearce - Club Manager
Parker Pearce - Grounds Maintenance

Polo Lessons

Email - marylandpoloclub@gmail.com

Web Design

Foxtrot Media
www.marylandpoloclub.com

Magazine

Holly H. Pearce - Magazine Editor/Advertising

Event & Sponsorship Packages

Parker Pearce
Email - marylandpoloclub@gmail.com

Patron Parking & Season Passes

Email - marylandpoloclub@gmail.com

Publishing

Accent Printers

Advertisers' Index

Page 76



Mitch Adolph

EHC Polo Arena Address

3403 Pockock Road
Monkton, Maryland 21111

Maryland Polo Club Field Address

3633 Fallston Road
Jarrettsville, Maryland 21084

Maryland Polo Club



Letter from the President...

To our Friends and Patrons,

This year we celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Maryland Polo Club. Events to commemorate the milestone are in the works. In the meantime, we look forward to another season of competitive, action-packed polo at our facility. Polo matches will be played on Friday evenings (6PM) and Sunday mornings (11AM). If interested in a reserved parking spot please see our website at www.marylandpoloclub.com.

While we celebrate our 40th year at the club we also mourn the loss of Art Gompf, a founder and long time player at Maryland Polo. Art was a fixture at the club even in his “retirement” and was always willing to help keep the facilities and equipment operating. He will be greatly missed by the MPC community.

Parker Pearce returns as club manager for a final season with us before he takes on a new role as Head Coach and Program Director of the Virginia Polo Club. Parker’s attention to our facilities and efforts to build Maryland Polo will leave a positive impact on the club. There are many current and former UVA polo players at Maryland Polo that will be cheering for his continued success. This season Parker remains the contact if you have an interest in an introduction to the sport. Beginners are welcome.

The MPC magazine (special thanks to editor Holly Pearce) does an excellent job of highlighting sponsors, assists in understanding the game of polo and recaps last season’s results. Please see this year’s edition for a full calendar of polo tournaments hosted by our club, as well as dates for signature events.

Finally, thanks to our advertisers, patrons, and sponsors who continue to support our club. Your contributions are appreciated and will help make 2026 another successful season.

I look forward to seeing you at the fields,

Tom Huber

President, Maryland Polo Club



Join us for the MPC 2026 Season!
Celebrating 40 Years of Maryland Polo Club



May 29, 2026 – September 13, 2026
Season Schedule

Friday Night Polo at 5:30/6:00 PM

(5/29-7/17 Start: 6:00 PM, Open: 4:45 PM, 7/24-9/13 Start: 5:30 PM, Open: 4:30 PM)

Sunday Polo at 11:00 AM

(Start: 11:00 AM, Open: 10:00 AM)

May 29th: Opening Day

June 5th: David Silvestre Memorial (Individual Entry: \$50/player)

June 18th – 21st: General George S. Patton, Jr. Cup 2-4 Goal
(EF: \$1,200/team, Prize Money: \$2,500)

June 23rd: NYTS Qualifier (Individual EF: \$150/player)

June 26th: Fred Peterson Memorial Exhibition

July 9th – 12th: Women's Challenge #1

A Flight 10-12 Goal (EF: \$1,500/team, Prize Money: \$2,500)

B Flight 6-8 Goal (EF: \$1,200/team)

July 16th – 19th: Constitution Cup 4-6 Goal

(EF: \$1,500/team, Prize Money: \$2,500)

July 17th: Ronny Maher Memorial Polo Match

July 30th – Aug. 2nd: Sand Cup 0-2 Goal (EF: \$800/team)

Aug. 13th – 16th: Congressional Cup 2-4 Goal (EF: \$1,200/team)

Aug. 25th: Spark Plug Tournament

(Individual EF: \$150/player, Reserved for players rated 1 goal or below)

Aug. 28th – 30th: Labor Day Cup 0-2 Goal (EF: \$800/team)

Sept. 11th and 13th: Women's Challenge #2 6-8 Goal (EF: \$1,200/team)

*Schedule subject to change due to weather and pending USPA approval

May 29th, 2026

Welcome to the Maryland Polo Club 2026 Season! We are incredibly excited to have you join us for Maryland Polo Club's 40th Anniversary Season!

For those who I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Parker Pearce and I am excited to return once again as your club manager this season. We are looking forward to another great season of competitive polo, good times, and great memories!

I would like to yet again thank everyone who has been a part of our community for the past 40 years and extend my gratitude to those who pitched in to make the 2025 season a great success! The Maryland Polo Club would not exist without our incredible group of members and players, dedicated spectators, generous supporters, and all of our staff and volunteers. Thank you for your continued support, you are greatly appreciated!

It has been an honor to serve as Manager for the past three years. Unfortunately, on a bittersweet note, this will be my last season as MPC Manager for the foreseeable future as I am moving on to another opportunity as Head Coach and Program Director of the Virginia Polo Club. While I would like to extend my personal thanks to everyone who has aided me during my time at the Maryland Polo Club, the list is simply too long. In brief, this list includes my immediate and extended family, great friends, invaluable mentors, and a few incredible individuals of our community who not only made an incredible impact on my life and our community, but have also since passed, including but not limited to Art Gompf, David Silvestre, and Ronnie Maher. It truly takes an army, and I am forever grateful to all those who played a role in my success as manager and the previous thirty-seven years of Maryland Polo Club's history.

Nonetheless, we have a great season ahead for the Maryland Polo Club's 40th Anniversary Season, featuring great polo, successes to be celebrated, and memories to be made. Please join us and invite your friends starting May 29th!

We look forward to seeing you on the field! Thank you for your support!

Best regards,
Parker Pearce | Manager



PC: Kevin Moore

Reserve Your Game Day Parking May 29th - September 13th, 2026

High Goal Patron ~ \$800
Reserved Parking Friday & Sunday

Friday Night Patron ~ \$600
Reserved Parking Friday Nights Only

Sunday Patron ~ \$300
Reserved Parking Sundays Only

Subscriber ~ \$175
Admission With Sideline Parking

General Admission ~ \$25 per car*
*first come, first served, space is limited



Friday Matches @ 6pm

Thank you...

Sunday Matches @ 11am

Maryland Polo Club 2026 Patrons

Season Schedule:

www.marylandpoloclub.com

Parking Info: marylandpoloclub@gmail.com



PC: Tisa Della-Volpe

MPC|2026|5



Letter from the Editor...



As I conclude my "12th" year of editing and publishing the Maryland Polo Club magazine, we will be celebrating the club's 40th Anniversary Season. As we reflect on the past 40 years, I would like to acknowledge the editors that preceded me in this archival tradition of printing an annual collection of season highlights.

Recently, I spent some time with local historian Maryanna Skowronski looking through past magazines to put together a timeline of all the previous editors. I was delighted to discover that my brother-in-law, Turney McKnight, was the editor/publisher of the first issue in 1988! Turney was a founding member of MPC who played alongside his wife, Liz McKnight, and children Anna and Phillip. Some of you may even remember their pro, Frederico Cendoya.

It appears that Turney produced the magazine from 1988 to 1995. In 1989, Julie Deford, Dick Gebhard, and Randy Habeck worked with Turney. Eddie Cohen joined Turney on the magazine staff in 1991 and 1992. Eddie's polo team, White Columns, was a fun addition to the club! In 1991, Maryanna also became a staff member in many ways by recording tournament results, taking photos, writing stories, and editing until 1994. Kimber Damron was an important assistant to Maryanna during that time.

Traditionally, Maryland Polo Club has always been a family-oriented club supported by friends and family members. After Turney, it was a natural fit for his daughter-in-law, Tasia McKnight, to carry on the publication for a few years, as she is proficient at photography and follows polo.

Moving into the late 1990's, Cindy Halle took over the responsibility of designing the magazine for six years. Cindy is a local, well-known women's polo player and founding member of Maryland Polo Club. From 1998 until 2003, Cindy edited and published the magazine while she was coaching the Garrison Forest School polo team, managing Maryland Polo Club, teaching intermediates, and playing competitively on the grass and in the arena.

Cindy was followed by polo enthusiast, Melinda Roberson. Melinda was editor until 2008.

Following Melinda as joint editors, were polo fans Tom and Suzanne Carr. Tom enhanced the magazine by utilizing his creative graphic skills. Their good friend, Betsy Gompf, volunteered by selling advertising space to locally owned businesses. When the summer season arrived, Betsy enjoyed watching her husband Art, daughter Sarah, and son-in-law PJ, all playing polo together!

In 2014, Tom and Suzanne befriended me on the side-lines, where they knew right away that I was the person that they wanted to pass the magazine production along to, as they were planning to retire in North Carolina. Tom generously gave me a crash course in graphic design. Suzanne shared the "dos and don'ts" with me on how to capture the memories that players cherish, record scores, cover field-side events, and introduced me to our loyal photographers.

Every editor holds a special place in their hearts for the Maryland Polo Club. I have embraced every year of designing this "yearbook" and hope that all players and polo fans look forward to each new edition. We now distribute (500) copies at the entrance to spectators every Friday and Sunday and display a digital version on the homepage of our website: www.marylandpoloclub.com.

Cheers to another 40 years of Maryland Polo Club!

~ Holly H. Pearce



NOTE TO SPECTATORS

SAFETY FIRST...

Attire: You really can't be over or underdressed for a polo event. Spectators wear everything from shorts and jeans to high fashion. Wear comfortable shoes if you plan to go "divoting" at halftime, and don't forget your hat and sunscreen for protection.

Refreshments: Tailgating is very popular at a polo match, and the style and elaborateness of the picnics vary widely with the participants. Be sure to pack items that will travel well for a summer event.

Viewing: A polo match is fast and the playing field is large. Your best bet is to watch the main group of players clustered loosely around the ball. Keeping your eye on the ball is difficult at far ends of the field; if you have binoculars, bring them.

Parking: Be sure to park only in designated parking spaces along the side of the field. **Safety Zone:** Always observe a "safety zone" of 30 feet along the sidelines at all times: the safety zone is to protect the spectator from flying balls and charging horses, and also allows fans room to walk past the cars and other spectators and to spread a blanket or set up lawn chairs.

Remain Alert: Please remain alert at all times, especially when polo action is nearby. During play, keep your eye on the ball and horses, as action can extend beyond the edge of the playing field.

Children: Please be aware of the whereabouts of small children. The direction of play can change in a split second.

Pets: Please keep pets leashed. Loose dogs may be a distraction – or even a hazard – to the match and spectators alike.



Tisa Della-Volpe

Divot-Stomping: Divot-stomping is a long standing tradition at halftime. Spectators wander all over the field, stomping down the turf that was kicked up by the horses during play. It's fun and you can meet great people just wandering the field. It also helps the groundskeepers.

Polo Basics: Read on in this program to learn about the basics of the game – the positions, the penalties, and the ponies. If you aren't with a friend who knows a little about polo, ask the people around you what's happening. Many spectators love to help a new observer. If you've already made some studies of the game, you should be able to see the rules in action and recognize great play.

Questions: Please feel free to ask questions of players or officials. They love talking about their favorite sport!

Polo Basics & Terms

The Field: A regulation polo field is 300 yards by 160 yards and the goal posts are placed 24 feet apart at each end. There is a “safety zone” of 30 feet along the sidelines behind which spectators should stay.

Chukker (Chukkar): A period of play 7.5 minutes of elapsed time. After 7 minutes, a horn will sound to indicate that 30 seconds remain in the period. There are six chukkers in a match with a ten minute “halftime” after the third. Players change ponies during the short breaks between chukkers.

Goal: Scoring goals is the purpose of the game. Anytime the ball crosses the line between the goal posts, it is a goal – regardless of whether a mallet or horse caused it to go through. Teams change ends of the field after every goal.

Line of the Ball: If you don't remember anything else about polo, remember this phrase: “The ball's path creates an imaginary line as it travels, and the player or players established in this line – behind or before the ball – have the right-of-way on the play.” Most penalties involve a violation of the line. An opposing player may NOT cross directly in front of the player hitting the ball and can NOT cross the line without first bumping or riding off his opponent to the other side of the imaginary line.

Bump: A player is permitted to ride into another player so as to spoil his/her shot. The angle of collision must be no more than 45 degrees, and the faster the horse travels, the smaller the angle must be.

Ride-Off: Similar to the bump, the players attempt to push each other off the line of the ball to prevent a successful hit. The horses are the ones intended to do the pushing.

Hook: A player can interfere with another's shot by putting his mallet in the way of the striker's swing. However, it's a foul to hook too high or to reach over the other player's horse.

Knock-In: When an offensive player hits the ball over the back line, a defending player resumes the game with a free hit from their back line. No timeout allowed.

Out of Bounds: When the ball crosses the sidelines, play stops and is resumed when the opposing team is awarded a spot hit.

Throw-In: The umpire rolls the ball onto the field between lined-up teams to start or resume play.

Umpires: Two umpires are on the field; tournament play requires a third referee on the sidelines.

Fouls: When the umpire observes a foul, he/she blows a whistle, and the other team gets a penalty shot. The most common foul is crossing the line of the ball. Forty percent of all points in a match are scored from a penalty shot because of a foul.

Penalty: Players are penalized for moves that create dangerous situations for horse and rider. Depending upon the severity of the foul and where it occurred, the fouled team is allowed a free hit from a set distance from the goal.

Handicaps: Reflect skill and the value of the player to the team, not the number of goals he or she is expected to score. In handicap matches, each team adds up the ratings of its' players to arrive at a team rating.

Ponies: Actually horses, are selected for their speed, agility, size, and stamina. Most are thoroughbreds from Argentina or the USA and either mares (females) or geldings (males) are played.



2025 Tournament Results



David Silvestre Memorial ~ Red Maple

Fred Peterson Memorial 11 Goal Exhibition Match ~ Travelstead TTR Sotheby's

St. George's Society Cup ~ FYRE

General George S. Patton, Jr. Cup 4 Goal ~ Double Down/La Jefa

NYTS ~ Maryland Polo Club Yellow

Women's Challenge B Flight ~ La Jefa

Women's Challenge A Flight ~ Taylor Hill Farm

Constitution Cup "Ronny Maher Memorial"~ Double Down/La Herradura

Sand Cup/Centennial Cup 2 Goal~ Dovecote

Congressional Cup 4 Goal ~ Dovecote

Spark Plug ~ Maryland Polo Club Yellow

Labor Day Cup ~ Cobalt

September Women's Challenge ~ Marlan Farm Divas

Thank you to all the teams that participated at Maryland Polo Club in 2025!



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PHOTO CONTEST

2026 "Grand Prize" Front Cover Winner ~ Bob Burkhard

AWARDS

Grand Prize ~ Cover Photo, Magazine Recognition, Facebook Presentation, Reserved Parking
Category Winner ~ Magazine Recognition, Facebook Presentation, Season Pass



2027 PHOTO CONTEST CATEGORIES & RULES



Individual
1 on 1
Three or More
Women's Polo
Youth & Intermediate



PC: John Drennan

Ponies & Equipment
Arena
Children & Pets
Non-Action
Tailgating & Spectators

ENTRIES CLOSE JAN. 31st, 2027

Enter three photos per category.

Additional photos may be submitted and are eligible for contest selection.

Grand Prize Photo ~ 3 or more players for the cover photo is now acceptable.

Please understand photos may be cropped to create an alternative look. Ultimately each year, the cover photo is selected on quality, clarity and its cohesiveness with magazine content. We urge you to look at past winner's covers to get a feel for what composition is generally chosen. The winning photographer is eligible to win year after year. Clarity of the photo is most important for printing purposes.

Photos to be taken on MPC fields or arena with a natural presentation.

Photographer's **NAME & DATE** must be on EACH .jpg file name/number extension

(If you do not name or date your files, they may not be considered as an entry)

(ONLY FLASH DRIVES WILL BE ACCEPTED)

Mail Photos to: MPC, c/o Holly Pearce, 2711 Corbett Rd, Monkton, MD, 21111

Questions: hhpearce@yahoo.com



PC: Tisa Della-Volpe

NOTE

It is very helpful to **DATE** your files, as we have many tournaments.
These dates make it possible for us to use your photos on tournament **HIGHLIGHT** pages.

MPC|2026|11

David Silvestre Memorial Tournament

6-9-25

Winners ~ Red Maple

Runners-Up ~ Maryland Polo Club

Horsemanship Award - Nacho Arbelbide

BPP - PJ Orthwein's "Muneca"



PC: Tisa Della-Volpe

David Silvestre Memorial Highlights - Ladew Field



Mitch Adolph



Mathieu Sherman



Tisa Della-Volpe



Fred Peterson Exhibition Match

6-27-25

Visiting Pros: Nachi Viana 7, Nacho Arbelbide 5, Nando Pelosini 4

Winners ~ Travelstead TTR Sotheby's Runners-Up ~ Maryland Polo Club Yellow

MVP - Tom Huber

BPP - Nacho Arbelbide's "Cross"



Fred Peterson Memorial Highlights - Ladew Field





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The St. George's Polo Cup ~ Ladew Field

6-29-25

Winners ~ FYRE

2nd Place ~ Maryland Polo Club



PC: Mathieu Sherman



Awards PC: Tisa Della-Volpe

Thank you St. George's Society for choosing Maryland Polo Club as your venue!



Youth/Intermediate "Winner"

———— Judy Lalingo ————



Bob Burkhard



Mitch Adolph



Kevin Moore



Kevin Moore



Bob Burkhard



Mitch Adolph

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Thank you for the work you do each day and for carrying forward the standard of excellence at our firm.

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Senior Vice President | Financial Advisor

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Lutherville, MD 21093

410-583-4848

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L-R: **Stephen Ross**, Vice President, Financial Advisor; **Matthew Riggin**, Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor; **John Magiros**, Managing Director-Wealth Management, Financial Advisor; **Mason Champion**, Managing Director-Wealth Management, Financial Advisor; **Dominic Nicolini**, Managing Director-Wealth Management, Financial Advisor; **Jim Lillie**, Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor; **Johnathon Raver**, Associate Vice President, Financial Advisor; **Brooke Coligan**, Financial Advisor; Not Pictured: **Don Wilber**, Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor; **Dave Noble**, Vice President, Financial Advisor; **Tim Kidd**, Associate Vice President, Financial Advisor; **Tim Marino**, Vice President, Financial Advisor; **Scott Quinto**, First Vice President, Financial Advisor

Barron's (Awarded May 2025). This ranking was determined based on an evaluation process conducted by Barron's for the period Jan 2024-Dec 2024. Neither Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC nor its Financial Advisors or Private Wealth Advisors paid a fee to Barron's to obtain or use the ranking. This ranking is based on an algorithm that includes client retention, industry experience, review of compliance records, firm nominations, and quantitative criteria, including assets under management and revenue generated for their firms. Investment performance is not a criterion. Rankings are based on the assessment of Barron's and this ranking may not be representative of any one client's experience. This ranking is not indicative of the Financial Advisor's future performance. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC is not affiliated with Barron's. Barron's is a registered trademark of Dow Jones & Company, L.P. All rights reserved.

Meet the 2026 Players...



Maryland Polo Club

USPA Handicaps Listed (where applicable)*

Regular Outdoor/Regular Arena/Women's Outdoor/Women's Arena

*Please verify handicaps with the USPA before entering a tournament



Zoey Bivalacqua
-1/1/2/3
LSU
Maryland



Sierra Blevins
o/2/4/4
UK
Parkton, MD



Arabella Brockett
-1/0/1/2
The ONE Group
Monkton, MD



Izzy Brockett
o/2/3/3
UVA
Monkton, MD



Joel Brockett
o/1T
Madonna Veterinary Clinic
Monkton, MD



Jose Cervantes
o/1



Tom Garner
NR
Greenspring, MD



Maddie Grant
1.5/3/7/8
Aiken, SC



Demitra Hajimihalis
-0.5/1/2/4T
Monkton, MD



Cindy Halle
0/2/3/4
Greenspring, MD



Max Hempt
0/2
Aiken, SC



George Hempt
1/4
Aiken, SC



Tom Huber
1/3
T. Rowe Price
Monkton, MD



Louisa Huber
0/2/4/5
Monkton, MD



Tommy Huber
3/4
Monkton, MD



Rory Knox
0/2/2/4
UVA
Parkton, MD



Sarah Lynch
-0.5/ 1/3/4
Trellis ABA
Monkton, MD



Ashley Mackenzie
0/0T/3/3
White Hall, MD



Kate McCleary
-1/-1/0/1
Professor - University of Del.
Baltimore, MD



Drew Mallahan
-1/-1/1/1
University of Maryland
Baltimore, MD



Posey Obrecht
0/2/4/6
Greenspring, MD



PJ Orthwein
2/4
Spring Capital Partners
Stevenson, MD



Anna Palacios
1/3/5/8
Aiken, SC



Emma Paternotte
-1/-1/1/1
Garrison Forest School



Pam Patton
0/0/1/2
Millersville, MD



Holly H. Pearce
-1/-1/0/1
Midlantic Ltd
Monkton, MD



Parker C. Pearce
1/4
FYRE Handmade Cookware
Monkton, MD



Nando Pelosini
4/NR
Port Mayaca Polo Club, FL



Tori Picah
University of Maryland
-1/1/2/3
Stevenson, MD



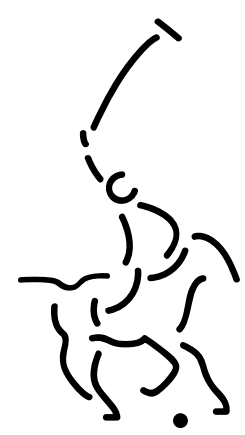
Brian Salmon
-1/1
UVA
Charlottesville, VA



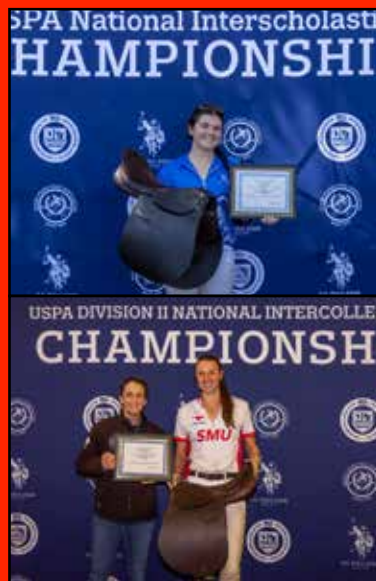
Marissa Wells
1/4/6/10
Marlan Farm
Freeland, MD



Tammy Wiggs
-1/-1/0/1
T. Rowe Price
Ruxton, MD



Bob Burkhard





Intercollegiate Polo

Established in 1986, Maryland Polo Club has several members that have been around for 40 years in some capacity whether still playing, volunteering, or coaching. Collectively over 40 years, 66 members past and present have played collegiate polo representing 16 colleges from the United States and Scotland, 66% of these players participated in interscholastic polo with either Garrison Forest School Polo (GFS), Marlan Farm's Maryland and Baltimore Polo, West Shore Polo, and Ruda Polo. 50% of the current 2026 membership played interscholastic or collegiate polo. Not only were these members competitors for a Maryland Interscholastic team, nearly every single one of them has won an Interscholastic or Intercollegiate National Championship Title.

Maryland Polo Club's Collegiate Players

Past & Present

University of Virginia

Jenny Alexy
Whitney Chamberlin
Martha Colhoun
Daniel Colhoun, Jr.
Mary Collins
Mark Egloff
Lila Gaines
Shockey Gillet, Jr.
Maddie Grant
Lissa Green
Randy Habeck
Demitra Hajimihal
Caroline Hardie
Tom Huber
Rory Knox
Suzanna Lampton
Molly Muedeking
Parker Pearce
Fred Peterson
Jeffrey Schlesinger
Kylie Sheehan
Brennan Wells
Bess Worrall

Texas A & M University

Arabella Brockett
Joel Brockett
Josie Dorsey
Hannah Reynolds
Olivia Reynolds
Marissa Wells

Cornell University

Jim Easter
Jeff Morse
Turney McKnight
PJ Orthwein
Sara Orthwein
Anna Palacios
Liam Palacios
Branden VanLoon
Kelly Wells
Trevor Wells
Lizzie Wisner

Colorado State

Liv Berube
Laura Lee Brown
Jake Brown
Beth Supik

University of California - Davis

Cindy Halle

Roger Williams University

George Hempt

Texas Tech

Samira Waernlund

University of Connecticut

Nate Berube
George Krabbe
Alicia Wells
Kelly Wisner

University of Kentucky

Courtney Asdourian
Grace Beck
Lila Bennett
Will Green
Louisa Huber
Tommy Huber
Rebecca Kozlowski
Ben Lynch
Posey Obrecht

University of Maryland

Tori Picha

University of Santa Barbara

Max Secunda

University of St. Andrews - Scotland

Abbie Grant

Michigan State

Emily Dewey

University of Michigan

Madelyn Blum

University of Wisconsin

Alyssa Daniels

Southern Methodist University

Lindsey Morris



Maryland Polo Club at Forty
By
Maryanna Skowronski



Forty years.

The fields. Voss, Timonium infield, Weber and Ladew, McKnight, White Columns, EHC Arena.

Pre-season field prep days. Art's booming laugh and surveyor's transom. Eddie, Fred, Bill Minor, Rick Fine, Randy Williams.... Runs to Savory Deli for sandwiches and sodas (this author). Lines. Boards (love 'em or hate 'em, you've still gotta paint 'em.) Always hot.

The managers in no particular order. Peter, Greg, Bunky, Cissie, Jason, Philip (with one "l"), Max, Cindy, Kelly, Emily, Gonzalo, Nate, Parker.

The players. Too many to name. (You know who you are.)

The pros. Hailed from Argentina, Mexico, Italy, and the good old U. S. of A. (Patrons heard a lot of "Leave Its!")

The grooms. Sometimes overlooked and underappreciated. No ponies without them.

The flaggers. You don't get paid enough.

The ponies. American thoroughbreds that were never going to be Secretariat. Criollos and Argentine thoroughbreds arriving from the pampas via planes from Buenos Aires. Not enough Best Playing Pony awards to thank them all. No games without them!

Wives/girlfriends, husbands/boyfriends on the sidelines. Holding wristwatches and extra mallets. Often recipients of a shrieked "Mallet!" or "Taco!"

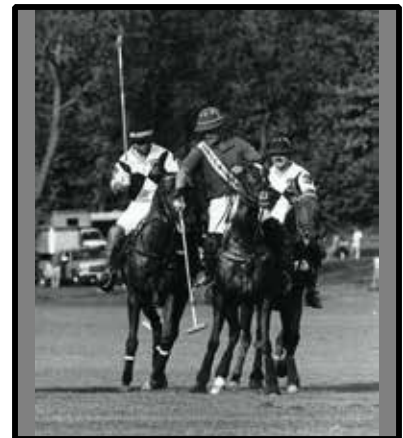
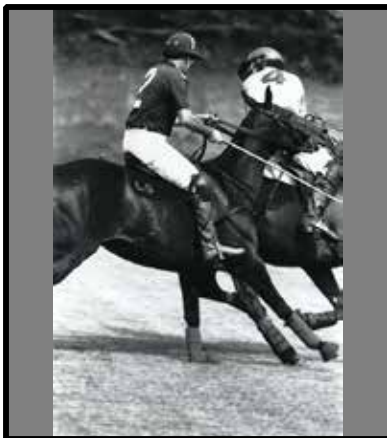
Whistles, striped shirts, stop watches and air horns. "Could you give me a little warning?!"

Friday post-match dinners at The Tavern pre-fire remodel. Everyone did know your name. Trip Maher in a baby carrier on the floor next to Ron or Peggy.

The benefits. Bagpipers and kilts. Union Jacks and the Stars and Stripes. Carriages and vintage cars. Oriental carpets. British officers in uniform. A tent large enough for Ringling Brothers. Champagne, crystal and silver. Divot stomping (treading in, to put it more politely). Beaucoup dollars raised for local charities.

Visiting teams, asados, practice chukkers, intra-club matches, USPA tournaments. Tailgates. (Don't talk to Charles. He takes the games seriously.) First generation players. Second generation players. And, in the Hempt family, three or four generations! Friends we lost. Friends who moved on to bigger, but we'd argue, not better.

Program pages. Not enough in this one to adequately capture forty years of Maryland Polo Club but we gave it our best shot.



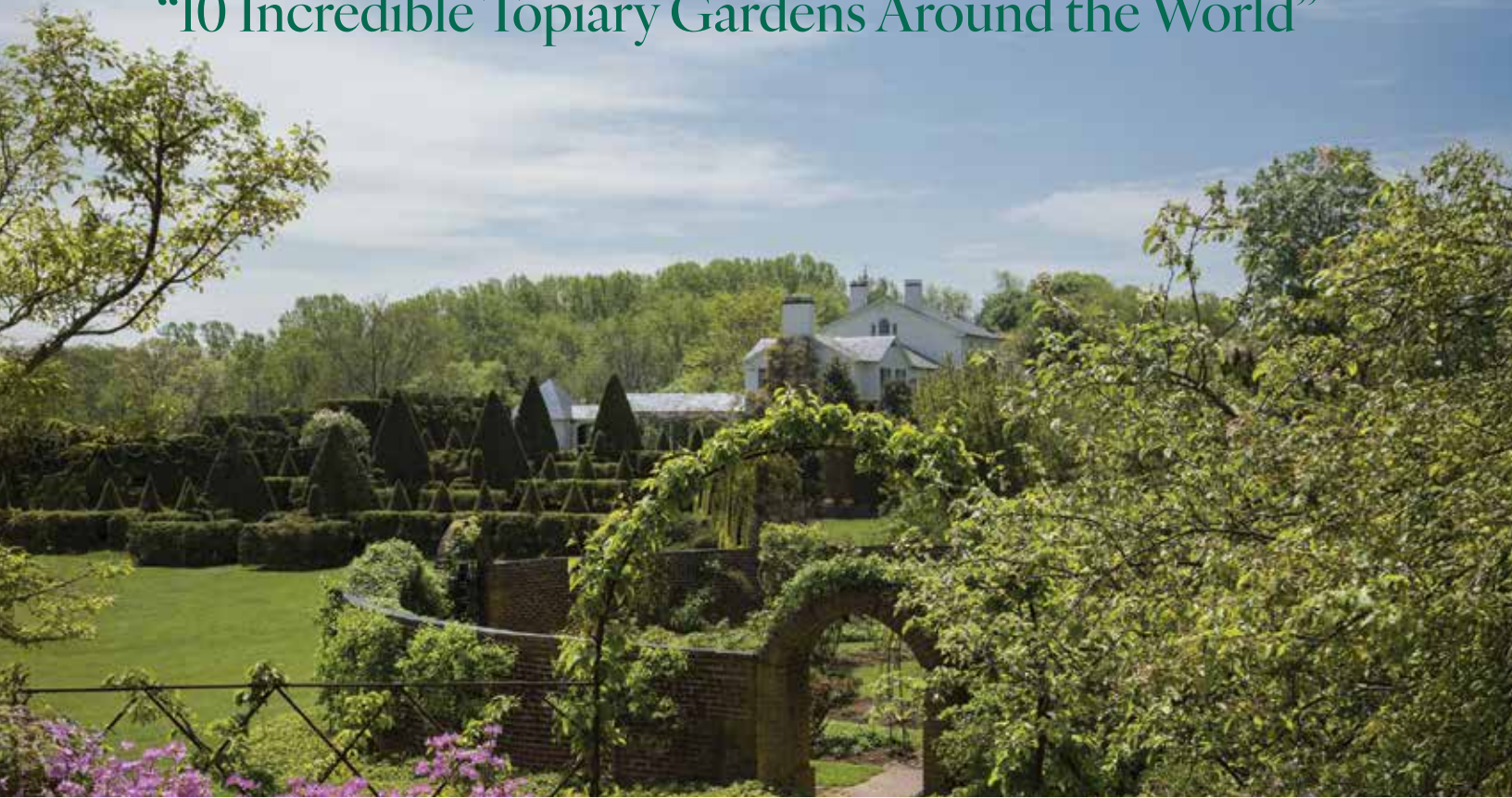


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Women's Polo
"Winner"
Paul Zappala





Mitch Adolph



Mitch Adolph



John Drennan



Kevin Moore

Polo Gear for Pony & Player



PC:Mathieu Sherman

1 ~ **The HELMET** has a hard surface and is lined, strapped and many have face guards. The helmet protects a player from the ball and swinging mallets.

2 ~ **POLO SADDLES** are flatter than jumping saddles.

3 ~ Padded leather **KNEE GUARDS** offer protection.

4 ~ Brown or black **POLO BOOTS** offer rider protection.

5 ~ **BRAIDED TAIL** allows less interference with swinging mallets.

6 ~ **The MALLET HEAD** is made of tipa wood from Argentina. The ball is hit with the side of the head. The mallet is made of manua cane and is flexible.

7 ~ **POLO PLATES** are a special lightweight horse shoe. Made of iron, they have an inner rim and an outer rim. The inner rim is slightly higher than the outer one, making it easier for the horse to stop and turn in all directions.

8 ~ **BANDAGES** support and protect the pony's legs.

9 ~ **BREAST PLATE** keeps the saddle from slipping back.

10 ~ **POLO MARTINGALE** prevents the horse's head from going up and striking a player's face.

11 ~ **DOUBLE REINS** are attached to the sides of a bit in the horse's mouth and are held by a player's hands to turn and stop the pony.

12 ~ **The POLO BRIDLE** is used to control the horse.

13 ~ **ROACHED MANE** is a clipped mane and forelock to help prevent the mane from wrapping around the reins, as well as to prevent the mane from getting in a player's face.

Ponies & Player Positions

The Ponies...“Over seventy percent of a player's success on the field depends on the Horse he is riding. They are teammates, companions and friends.” ~ unknown ~

The ponies, it is often said, contribute 70% to the success of their polo players, but many players will suggest that percentage is higher. The centuries-old close partnership of horse and rider are the essence of polo. An examination of the characteristics of these equine athletes reveals their key role in this very ancient sport. What, exactly, are polo ponies? First, they are actually horses. They are traditionally called ponies because when the game was encountered by the British in nineteenth-century Asia, it was being played on pony-sized mounts. A pony is under 14.2 hands (a hand being 4 inches, and height measured at the withers).

At first, the British kept this size standard, but now there are no size limits and full-sized horses are used. Most are mares, and many are thoroughbreds, with some quarter horses, or crosses of both, or other backgrounds. Many are compact, trim, and around 15-16 hands. In Argentina, a major polo center, horses called Argentine thoroughbreds are bred specifically for polo, and this breeding trend is increasing in the U.S.



Most ponies are chestnut (brown) or bay (brown with black manes, tails and legs), but there are some grays, blacks, roans (white-flecked), and paints. Their manes are shaved and their tails are braided and tied-up so they do not interfere with reins and mallets. They are not colts and fillies—it takes years to train a good polo pony.

Whatever their breeding, all must be quick, agile, and competitive. They must be able to race against another horse down the field, following the ball by making sudden stops or changes of direction.

They are taught to bump or push a rival horse off the line of the ball. They have to learn to take rein and leg cues from their riders and tolerate having mallets swung all around them, and perhaps the occasional hit by a ball. They move at a gallop, so they must have stamina.

Most ponies play only one seven-minute chukker, then are walked off the field to a rewarding cool bath, some water and a rest back at the trailers.

Position 1

This is an offensive player who is similar to a forward in hockey or soccer. An accurate hitter, he / she should be out in front and concentrating on scoring.

Position 2

Primarily an offensive player, he / she should be quick and aggressive with fast ponies. He / she supports the efforts of #1, and is often the second-highest rated member of the team.

Position 3

This player is like the quarterback and usually the team captain. Typically, he / she is the highest handicapped and most experienced player on the team. He / she is the pivot, and works to take possession of the ball from opponents. Good stick-and-ball control, accurate passing, and the ability to hit the longball are essential skills.

Position 4

This player is like the defensive back. He / she is the defender; there are no goalies in polo. A #4 has to be capable of turning a play, often with a good back shot, and returning the ball to his teammates.

USPA Patton Cup 4 Goal

7-6-25

Winners ~ Double Down/La Jefa

Runners-Up ~ Madonna Vet

MVP - Lydia Williamson

BPP - Nando Pelosini's "Ecstasy"



PC: Mathieu Sherman

Patton Cup Highlights - Ladew Field



PC: Paul Zappala, Tisa Della-Volpe, Mitch Adolph, Mathieu Sherman, John Drennan



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Nachí Viana (7 Goals) Nacho Arbelbide (5 Goals)

"Intermediate" Clinic - Weber Field





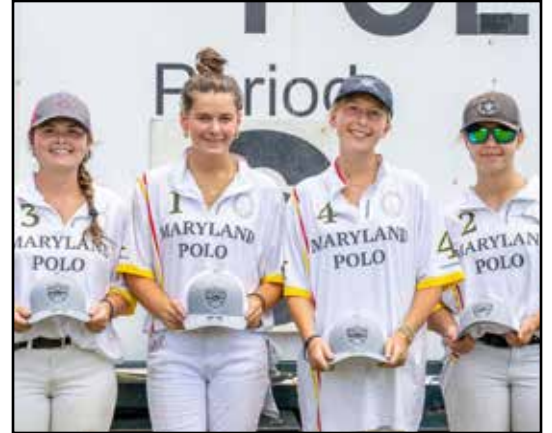
NYTS Awards Ceremony

Ladew Field

7-8-25

Winners ~ MPC Yellow

MPC Yellow: Cailyn Solandro, Clara Baldwin, Rory Knox, Izzy Brockett



BPP ~ Clara Baldwin's "Romeo"



"All-Stars" ~ Clara Baldwin, Sierra Blevins, Izzy Brockett, Rory Knox, Faris Hanna





NYTS Highlights

Ladew Field



"Thank you, Tisa Della-Volpe, for being the MPC NYTS Photographer"



PC: Mathieu Sherman

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Photos courtesy of R. Keller

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[Off Mountain Rd., 1/4 mile from intersection of Mountain Rd. (Rt. 152) & Jarrettsville Pike (Rt. 146)]



Women's Challenge B Flight Awards

7-12-25

Winners ~ La Jefa

Runners-Up ~ Northpointe Polo



MVP - Jill Hunt

BPP - Ola Polo's "Wyona"





Women's Challenge A Flight Awards

7-13-25

Winners ~ Taylor Hill Farm

Runners-Up ~ Aurora/Naughty Dog



MVP - Maddie Grant

BPP - Anna Palacio's "Tilinga"



"Thank you, Mitch Adolph, for photographing the Women's Challenge"
Mathieu Sherman's photos can be viewed at www.mathieusermanphoto.com

The 27th Ronny Maher Memorial Constitution Cup

7-18-25

Winners ~ Double Down/La Herradura 2nd Place ~ Cobalt
MVP - José Cervantes BPP - Nacho Arbelbide's "La Cruz"



PC: Bob Keller

Thank you Ronny Maher Memorial for choosing Maryland Polo Club as your venue!

Mathieu Sherman's event photos can be viewed at www.mathieusermanphoto.com

Tisa Della-Volpe's event photos can be viewed at Tisa Della-Volpe Photography

Ronny Maher Memorial Polo Match - 27 Years



Photo Gallery courtesy of Bob Keller



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Bob Burkhard



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Non-Action "Winner"

2nd Place

—— John Drennan ——



Kevin Moore



Paul Zappala



John Drennan



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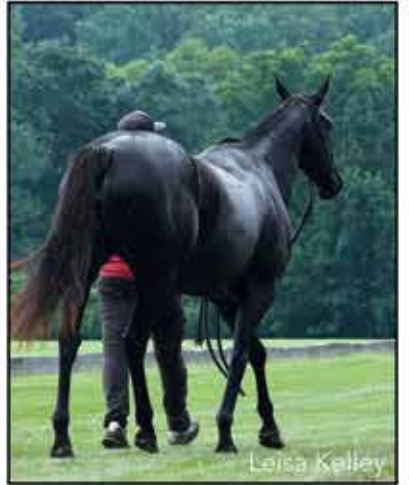
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———— Bob Burkhard ————



Sand Cup 2 Goal

8-7-25

Winners - Dovecote

MVP - Tom Huber

Runners Up - La Herradura

BPP - George Hempt's - "Koala"



Maryland Polo Club would like to thank all participants who played in the 2025 Sand Cup!

Entry fees for The Sand Cup go towards sand to top dress our fields. It takes assiduous turf management to keep our fields prepared for 3 months of continuous play. Our spectators chip in all summer long filling and stomping divots made by all the horses thundering hooves! Thank you to our Stompers!



Photo Gallery by Tisa Della-Volpe



1 on 1
"Winner"
Kevin Moore



Bob Burkhard



John Drennan



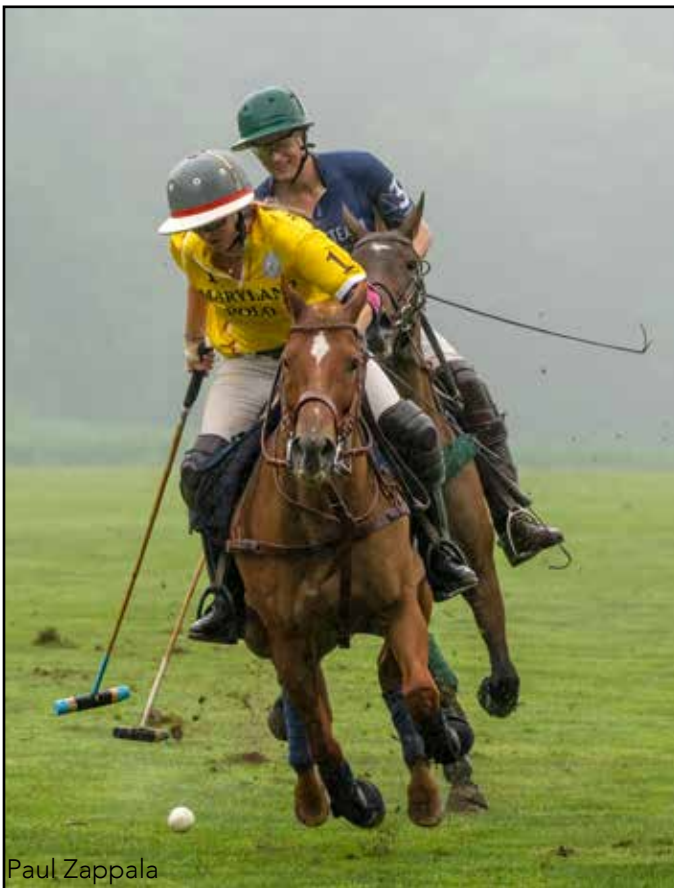
Mitch Adolph



Mitch Adolph



Paul Zappala



Paul Zappala



Paul Zappala

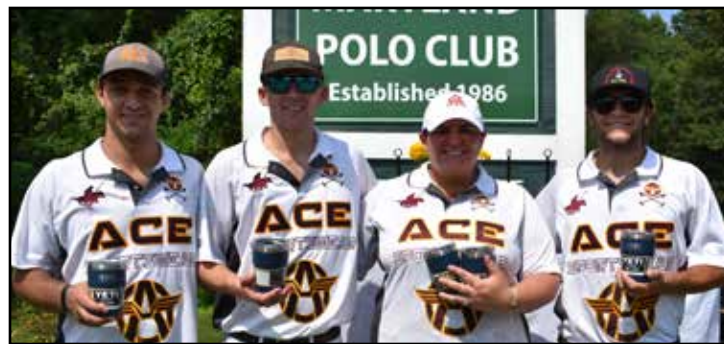
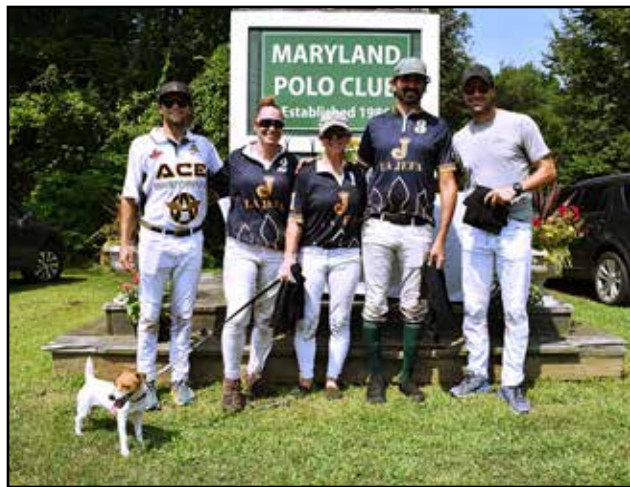
USPA Congressional Cup 4 Goal

8-17-25

Winners ~ Dovecote

Runners-Up ~ La Herradura

MVP - Louisa Huber BPP - Nachi Viana's "Oriental Cosita" played by Nacho Arbelbide



Congressional Cup Highlights - Ladew Field



PC: John Drennan



PC: Mitch Adolph



PC: Mathieu Sherman



Kevin Moore



Mltch Adolph



Mltch Adolph



Doug Ebbert





Individual "Winner"

3rd Place

Leisa Kelley



Spark Plug 0 Goal

8-26-25

Winners ~ Maryland Polo Club Yellow

Runners Up ~ Maryland Polo Club White

MVP - Emma Paternotte BPP - Posey Obrecht's "Espresso" played by Emma Paternotte



Spark Plug Highlights - Weber Field



Photo Gallery by Mitch Adolph

Labor Day Cup

8-31-25

Winners ~ Cobalt Runners Up ~ FYRE

MVP - PJ Orthwein BPP - Parker Pearce's "Samba"



PC: John Drennan

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September Women's Challenge 8 Goal

9-14-25

Winners ~ Marlan Farm Divas

MVP - Marissa Wells BPP - Posey Obrecht's "Churro" played by Emma Paternotte



Award Photos by Bob Burkhard

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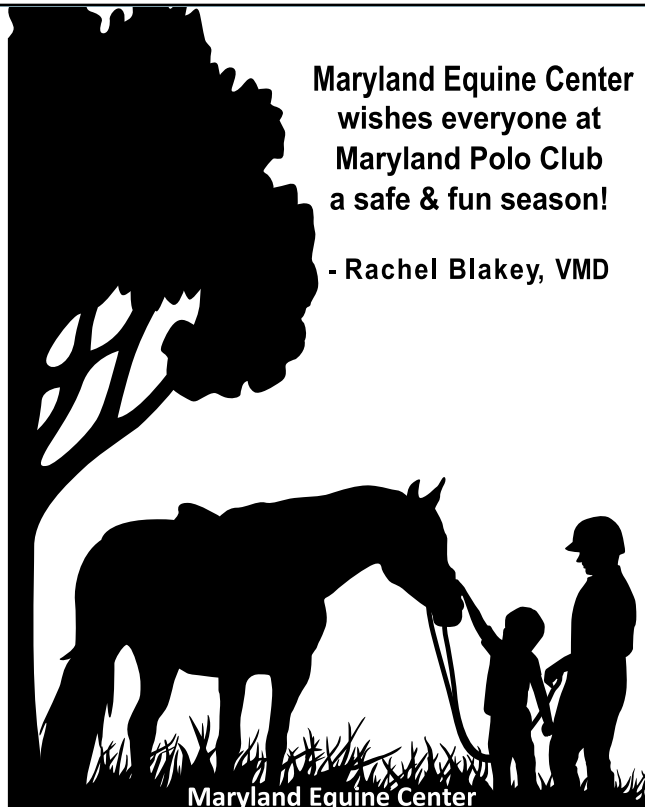
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- Rachel Blakey, VMD



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John Drennan



Kevin Moore



Paul Zappala



Paul Zappala



Mitch Adolph

3 or More "Winner"

4th Place

Mitch Adolph



Leisa Kelley

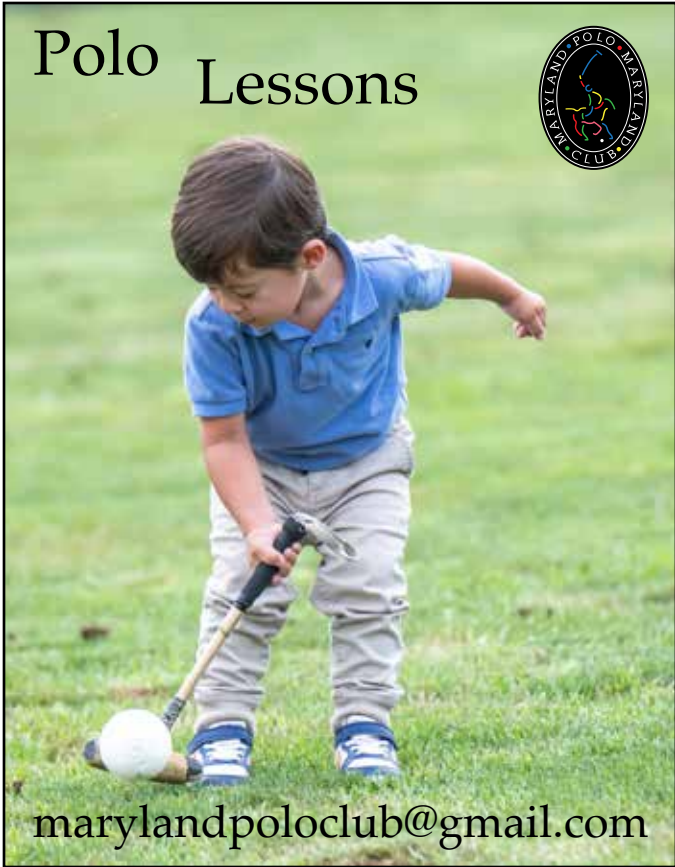


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———— Doug Ebbert ————



Larry Hammerman



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—— Larry Hammerman ——



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Leisa Kelley



Kevin Moore

40 Years

Thank You!

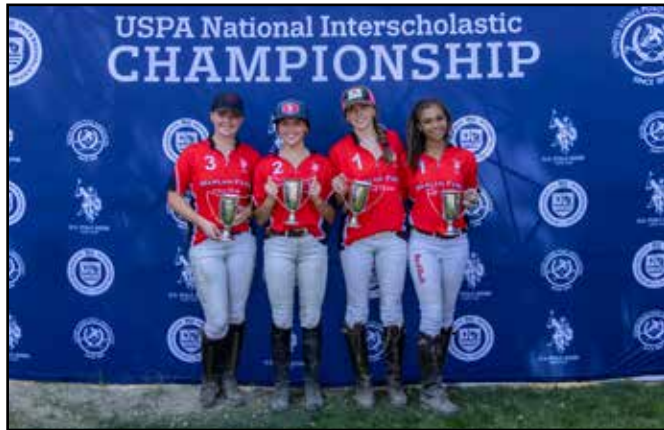
MPC PHOTOGRAPHERS



*Maryland Polo Club would like to acknowledge the board members,
manager, and other volunteers
for their dedication, time, and hardwork that they put into the 2025 season...*



**2026
USPA National Girls Interscholastic Champions**



Marlan Farm Polo

Coached by Kelly Wells: Izzy Brockett Kylie Williamson
Ana Grace Karpovich Maya Quarcoopome

USPA "10" Goals



The MarylandPolo Club would like to recognize Marissa Wells for achieving a "10 Goal" Arena handicap. This year Wells became the first womes's arena player to achieve this rating.

**2026 USPA National
Intercollegiate DII Women's Champion**



Lindsey Morris - SMU



"Best Groom"



**USPA
Club Awards**

"Most Improved Player - Joel Brockett"
"Most Improved Player - Kate McCleary"



"Equine Welfare"



"Best Pony - Baja"



"Equine Welfare"



"Best Groom - David Silvestre"

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APRIL 10, 2027



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