



Facts and figures of the world's first and foremost snow polo tournament

- St. Moritz is the cradle of snow polo. Reto Gaudenzi, today's host and CEO, and Hanspeter Danuser, the legendary tourism director of St. Moritz, came up with the seemingly far-fetched idea 1983.
- After two years of intensive preparation, the first tournament took place in January 1985 in a snow blizzard on a field measuring 40 by 80 meters, roughly one fifth of the size of today's field.
- It is the only polo tournament in the world played on a frozen lake
- Size of the polo field: 200 meters x 100 meters
- Distance between the goal posts: 7.25 meters
- Thickness of the ice: between 50 cm and 70 cm
- Infrastructure on the lake: It takes 40 men a total of 5,600-man hours (or the equivalent of 3 man years) to erect 3,900 tons of tents, fences, grand stands and other infrastructure on the lake in under 3 weeks.
- Amount of snow made by machines to prepare the polo field: 5,000 m³
- Altitude of Lake St. Moritz: 1,768 meters above sea level
- Temperatures in January: -1°C (average high temp.) / -16°C (average low temp.)
- Sunshine on an average January day in St. Moritz: 58% of sunshine
- Number of spectators 2025: over 26,000 spectators from Friday and Sunday
- Staff: approximately 150 in total, including many volunteers
- Tournament budget: CHF 3.0 million
- Estimated revenue for the Engadin valley: approx. CHF 25 million