



Press release Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz (26 – 28 January 2018)

## Action from the Cradle of Snow Polo

### 2017 champions Cartier and Maserati to compete in the Final

*St. Moritz, 27 January 2018.* As guests gathered in the cradle of snow polo for the second day of high goal action in the Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2018, crisp and clear weather made for excellent conditions as the thousands-strong crowd prepared themselves for the most important snow polo tournament in the world. Basking in the sun, whilst cosseted under Cartier blankets and sipping piping hot cocoa for two thrilling matches of high goal world-class thrilling action, the spectators were in for a treat.

It was the turn of 2017 champions Cartier to take on their rival Maserati in the first match of the day. Both teams had left the arena winners yesterday, so it was all to play for. Cartier, with their usual vitality, were the first on the ball, racing up-field with only one thing in mind – The Maserati Cup. From the word go, 2017 champions Cartier were the stronger team. Dario Musso raced up and down the field, dribbling the ball just out of Maserati's reach. But, despite an epic goal that culminated in Juan Cruz Greguoli colliding with the goal post, as the play headed towards half-time, Robert Strom and Gerardo Mazzini fired two consecutive goals out of nowhere, straight through the posts. Cartier had to fire all canons to catch up as the scores read 2-1½ at the beginning of the third chukka. And, this is exactly what they did. Open play and expert defence, combined with a third and final goal from the 'Red Devils', sealed the deal for Cartier and with it, a spot in tomorrow's Final, The Cartier Cup. Cartier's number three, Chris Hyde said after the match, "It's great to play with Dario again and the team is gelling really well. It's a great team spirit. We are really looking forward to tomorrow's Final." The teams were presented with their prizes by Jacob Nyborg, Head of Marketing Maserati S.p.A.

As the sun continued to shine on the Engadin Valley, the newbies in this year's competition, Azerbaijan Land of Fire, took to the arena against Melissa Ganzi's Badrutt's Palace, playing for the Deutsche Bank Wealth Management Challenge. In a team line-up change, the Azeri's welcomed Tarlan Gurbanaliyev into the number one position providing an even stronger team for Badrutt's Palace to shake off. From the very beginning, the expert duo of cousins Adrian and Andrés 'Lala' Laplacette took



control of the match. As the ball was thrown-in for the start of the first chukka, Lala scored two goals in as many minutes, creating the gap needed to slightly take the pressure off his teammates. By half-time, Badrutt's Palace had made it onto the scoreboard with an excellent goal from Alejandro Novillo Astrada, but with a winning penalty from Elchin Jamalli at half-time, the scores sat at 3-1. The third chukka was the decider for Azerbaijan Land of Fire, as the boys in white put another four goals on the scoreboard and with only three goals in reply from Badrutt's Palace, going into the fourth chukka, it looked like it was all over. To cement his team's success, Elchin Jamalli signed on the dotted line for Azerbaijan Land of Fire with not one, but two goals to win the match 9-4. The teams were presented with their prizes by Peter Hinder, CEO of Deutsche Bank (Switzerland) LTD and Head of Wealth Management EMEA. "Today went really well", said Adrian Laplacette Jr after the match. "Unfortunately, we didn't make it to the Final, but we are really happy with our performance". Cousin 'Lala' continued, "We're playing Badrutt's Palace again tomorrow and plan to win!"

Tomorrow, Sunday 28 January, the La Martina Cup for the third place position, will be played for between Azerbaijan Land of Fire and Badrutt's Palace at 12pm. The big event of course, will be the hotly awaited Cartier Trophy to decide this year's ultimate winners which will take place at 2.15pm. With all to play for, the question on everyone's lips is will Rommy Gianni's Cartier once again dominate the podium or will their long-term opponents Maserati take home the magnificent Cartier Trophy? Tune in on [www.facebook.com/snowpolostmoritz/](http://www.facebook.com/snowpolostmoritz/) or on [www.enjoystmoritz.ch](http://www.enjoystmoritz.ch) to watch the action live.

#### **Snow Polo and Evviva Polo St. Moritz Ltd**

1985 saw the first ever polo competition on snow – it took place in St. Moritz. The Snow Polo World Cup has reigned over the last weekend in January in this mountain town ever since. In 2014, well-known exponents of snow polo in Switzerland founded Evviva Polo St. Moritz Ltd and signed a long-term contract with the city of St. Moritz, thus securing a sustained continuation of the Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz. The Board of Directors consists of Dr. Piero Dillier (President), Reto Gaudenzi (Vice-president and CEO), and Arndt Küchel. Dr. Thomas Rinderknecht and Peter A. C. Blum are on the Advisory Board; Jürg Reinger is the Managing Director. The tournament is organised in close collaboration with an experienced team of local hotels, businesses and experts, the town of St. Moritz and their See Infra Ltd. For more information, visit [www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com](http://www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com)

#### **Important notice to the members of the press**

To cover the 2018 tournament, members of the press are asked to sign up for accreditation online at [www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com/media](http://www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com/media).

#### **Media services Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz**

Gian Testa +41 79 305 75 00 [media@snowpolo-stmoritz.com](mailto:media@snowpolo-stmoritz.com)

#### **Evviva Polo St. Moritz Ltd**

Reto Gaudenzi +41 79 774 38 27 [reto.gaudenzi@snowpolo-stmoritz.com](mailto:reto.gaudenzi@snowpolo-stmoritz.com)

Jürg Reinger +41 79 402 92 75 [juerg.reinger@snowpolo-stmoritz.com](mailto:juerg.reinger@snowpolo-stmoritz.com)

#### **SNOW POLO WORLD CUP ST. MORITZ**

Media Services · GRAUWILER I TESTA Public Relations · Mantelgasse 10 · CH-8008 Zürich  
T +41 79 305 7500 · [media@snowpolo-stmoritz.com](mailto:media@snowpolo-stmoritz.com) · [www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com](http://www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com)

## The Teams of the Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2018

### Team Cartier

1	Rommy Gianni	+1	ITA
2	Juan Cruz Greguoli	+4	ARG
3	Dario Musso	+6	ARG
4	Chris Hyde	+5	ENG

### Team Azerbaijan Land of Fire

1	Rashad Hasanov	+2	AZE
2	Elchin Jamalli	+3	AZE
3	Lala Laplacette	+5	ARG
4	Adrian Laplacette Jr.	+6	ARG

#### Reserve

Ali Rzayev	0	AZE
Amil Namazov	0	AZE
Tarlan Gurbanaliyev	+1	AZE

### Team Badrutt's Palace Hotel

1	Melissa Ganzi	0	USA
2	Alejandro Novillo Astrada	+8	ARG
3	Juan Bollini	+6	ARG
4	Tito Gaudenzi	+2	SUI

### Team Maserati

1	Zhanna Bandurko / Raya Sidorenko	0	RUS
2	Gerardo Mazzini	+6	ARG
3	Hissam al Hyder	+6	PAK
4	Robert Strom	+5	FRA

### Umpires

Olivier Ellis	Head Umpire	GBR
Tim Keyte	Umpire	NZL
Marcelo Garrahan	Umpire	ARG



## Sponsors and partners of the Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2018

Team sponsors	Cartier, Maserati, Badrutt's Palace Hotel and Azerbaijan Land of Fire
Global Lead Partner	Deutsche Bank Wealth Management
Official outfitter	La Martina
Trophy sponsors	Cartier, La Martina, Maserati, Deutsche Bank Wealth Management
Official hotels	Badrutt's Palace Hotel, Kulm Hotel St. Moritz, Kempinski Grand Hôtel des Bains, Carlton Hotel, Suvretta House, Crystal Hotel, Steffani Hotel, Hotel Corvatsch, Hotel Laudinella, Hotel Sonne
Official partner hotel Zürich	Hotel Schweizerhof
Sponsors	Maura Wasescha, AXA ART, HATO, NETJETS, Pernod Ricard Swiss, Prora Solitaire, Slupinski-Furs, UBV Lanz AG, JET Aviation, SBS Swiss Business School, Sprüngli, Azerbaijan Land of Fire, Heineken, Trois Pommes, Florens Resort & Suites, Chesa Veglia/Polo Bar, CHECHA Restaurant & Club
VIP catering	Badrutt's Palace Hotel
Official suppliers	Perrier-Jouët, Cecchetto, Sprüngli, Heineken, Cigar Must, Cochi, Zwyer Caviar, Bogle White Caviar, Movirlavida
Travel agencies	Finass, Castle Premier Services
Exhibitors	Maura Wasescha, Azerbaijan Land of Fire, La Martina, JET Aviation, Casino St. Moritz, NETJETS, Ender Sport St. Moritz, IQOS, NB Noble & Brulée, Florens Resort & Suites, artis, Bogle White Caviar
Public catering	Badrutt's Palace Hotel & local partners
Supporters	Engadin St. Moritz, Klinik Gut, Gemeinde St. Moritz, Lyceum Alpinum Zuoz, St. Moritz Tourism, Ski Service Corvatsch, O. Christoffel AG, Blasto
Official affiliated Club	Polo Park & Country Club Zürich
Official Snow Polo Magazines	The Polo Magazine, Polo Times
Media partners	Polo +10, The Polo Magazine, Polo Quarterly, Polo International, Prestige Magazin, Le Grand Mag, Polo Times, Polo Luxury & Country Life Magazine, La Bocha, good style mag, Swiss Health Magazine, L'Officiel, SMAC, ¡Hola!, ClassHorseTV, ENJOY ST. MORITZ