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Arnd Küchel, Member of the Board, Reto Gaudenzi, Vice President of the Board and CEO & Dr. Piero Dillier, President of the Board of Evviva Polo St Moritz AG, playing polo at the Legends Polo Cup at Alegria, Bien Mirada, March 2019, Argentina

# WELCOME

## TO THE SNOW POLO WORLD CUP ST. MORITZ

Dear guests,

The lake has frozen over to the perfect layer of ice, and the town is buzzing with anticipation – unmistakable signs it is snow polo time in St. Moritz once again!

We are delighted to welcome you to St. Moritz to this epic event for the 36th time.

It is with immense pleasure that we also welcome our new team sponsor de GRISOGONO to the tight-knit Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz family. Partnering with one of the world's finest jewellers fits our long-standing maxim "tradition, class & emotions" to a T. A maxim that we could not live up to without all of you – so, thank you all for making the last weekend in January such an exhilarating experience year after year.

You may, once again, look forward to outstanding high-goal polo being played in the efforts to take home the de GRISOGONO Trophy. The title holder Badrutt's Palace led by Melissa Ganzi, who was the first female captain ever to win the tournament, will come up against an equally first-rate Team Maserati, captained by Kutlay Yaprak from Turkey, and the unstoppable team Azerbaijan Land of Fire, as well as newcomer Team de GRISOGONO captained by Valery Mishchenko and Zhanna Bandurko.

Pepe Lienhard and his Big Band will be back too with a performance at the Baku Moritz Gala. DJ Mr Mike will provide entertainment during the action on the lake. Huw Lewis and many other international artists will be on stage during and after the polo games. Badrutt's Palace, together with local restaurateurs, will provide for a plethora of culinary delights to satisfy the most discerning palate.

St. Moritz and with it the entire Engadin Valley are in a festive and sportive mood. Enjoy the games and enjoy the moment – may the best team win!

**Dr. Piero Dillier, Reto Gaudenzi, Arnd Küchel – the Board of Evviva Polo St. Moritz AG,  
Dr. Thomas Rinderknecht, Peter A.C. Blum, advisory Board Members**



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# REVIEW

## 2019





Snow polo and St. Moritz were born to go together and this world famous spectacle attracts 8, 9 and 10 goal players alongside big hitting patrons, 200+ members of the world's press and over 15,000 spectators.

The 35th anniversary of the tournament saw four international, star-studded teams – including 10 goaler Juan Martín Nero, the third best player in the world – compete, all vying to be crowned champions.

With three days of competition ahead, it was impossible for spectators to predict which team would lift the illustrious trophy; would it be Team Cartier whose red shirts have lifted the trophy as victors thirteen times in the tournament's history? Or would it be Melissa Ganzi, the only female player bold enough to brave the cold and the intense competition?

Before the polo action each day, the Azerbaijani Karabakh riders performed their gravity-defying 'Land of Fire' mounted acrobatic display atop galloping stallions, whilst the Sarhadchi dance ensemble accompanied them with their flowing robes catching the alpine sunshine in a dazzling display.

Two days of tense polo, with teams battling it out upon the frozen lake to secure their place in the Final, under the warm and bright early spring sunshine which saw spectators donning their sunglasses and cooling down with glasses of chilled Perrier-Jouët.

As Finals day dawned, the alpine sunshine faded away and the snowflakes began to fall. Azerbaijan Land of Fire took on Cartier in The Subsidiary Final, however the resulting match took everyone by surprise as Cartier failed to find the posts at all, remaining goalless throughout, whilst their opponents, Azerbaijan Land of Fire notched up a respectable tally of five goals to secure the La Martina Cup.

Next, it was on to the main events, the Final for The Cartier Trophy with Melissa Ganzi's Badrutt's Palace facing Maserati. Both teams' handicaps were





equal, which resulted in no goals being scored in the first few minutes of play as both teams matched each other, play by play. However, Badrutt's Palace's Alejandro Novillo Astrada soon picked up the pace and unleashed a goal scoring frenzy, weaving through the opposition to find the posts again and again, whilst simultaneously neutralising Maserati's best efforts. It was a fraught, frenetic and fast Final with tumbles, stumbling ponies and Chris Hyde replaced mid-match by his son Jack due to a nerve injury sustained the day before.

This surprise substitution did the Maserati momentum no favours and the team didn't manage to find their footing, which was reflected in the final score of 7-3 in favour of Badrutt's Palace. As the tension of the Final subsided, congratulations and commiserations were made and a jubilant Melissa Ganzi was not only presented with The Cartier Trophy but also the Best Playing Patron award, Ganzi commenting "It is an absolutely amazing feeling to be the first woman to win The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz. I'm so happy and proud of my team – we had a great year. Our team has now won Aspen, Kitzbühel and St. Moritz!" A jubilant end to another year of success in St. Moritz.



# FÜR UNS AM START



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**Snow Polo World Cup  
St. Moritz 2019 Results  
Friday 25 January**

**The Royal Salute Trophy:**  
Azerbaijan Land of Fire defeated Cartier, 5½-5

**The President's Cup:**  
Maserati defeated Badrutt's Palace Hotel, 6-5

**Saturday 26 January**

**The Maserati Cup:**  
Badrutt's Palace Hotel defeated Azerbaijan Land of Fire, 7-3½

**The Deutsche Bank Wealth Management Challenge:**  
Maserati defeated Cartier, 7½-6

**Sunday 27 January**

**La Martina Cup (Subsidiary Final):**  
Azerbaijan Land of Fire defeated Cartier, 5-0

**The Cartier Trophy (Final):**  
Badrutt's Palace Hotel defeated Maserati, 7-3

**Most Valuable Player** = Alejandro Novillo Astrada  
**Best Playing Pony** = Pantera, played by Alejandro Novillo Astrada  
**Best Playing Patron** = Melissa Ganzi



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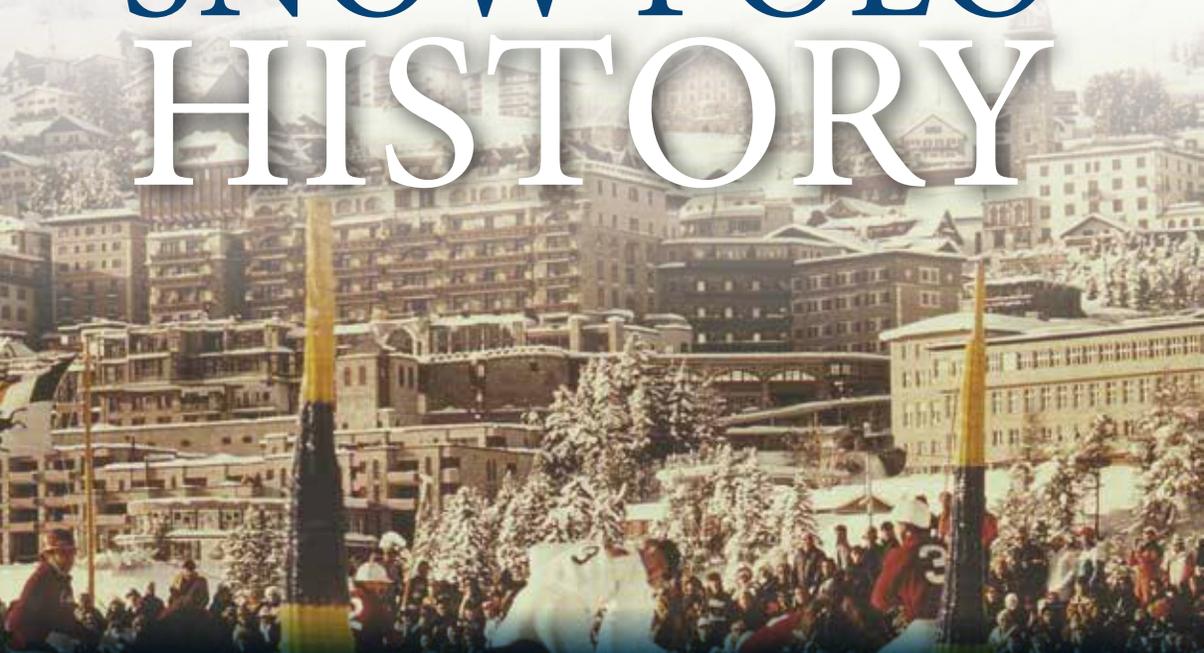
Polo is one of the oldest sports in the world. Although many different countries claim to be the birthplace of the modern game, historic experts largely agree the origins of modern polo can be traced back to Central Asia. Azerbaijan has celebrated a centuries-old playing tradition of 'Chovgan' which is an ancient form of the sport. In addition the early form of polo was used as training for war and followed the nomads' migration to Persia between 600BC to 100AD. Skip forward several centuries and Lt. Joseph Sherer, a British military officer posted to India, saw local horsemen in the northeast state of Manipur playing a game called *sagol kanjai*, he immediately took a liking to the game and in March 1859 created Silchar Kangjai Club. In 1860, Sherer moved to Calcutta (now Kolkata) and along with Capt. Robert Stewart anglicized *sagol kanjai* and formed Calcutta Polo Club – the world's first modern Polo Club.

Today, polo is played in over 70 countries, has been an Olympic sport and is played on grass, beaches, snow and here in St. Moritz on a frozen lake.

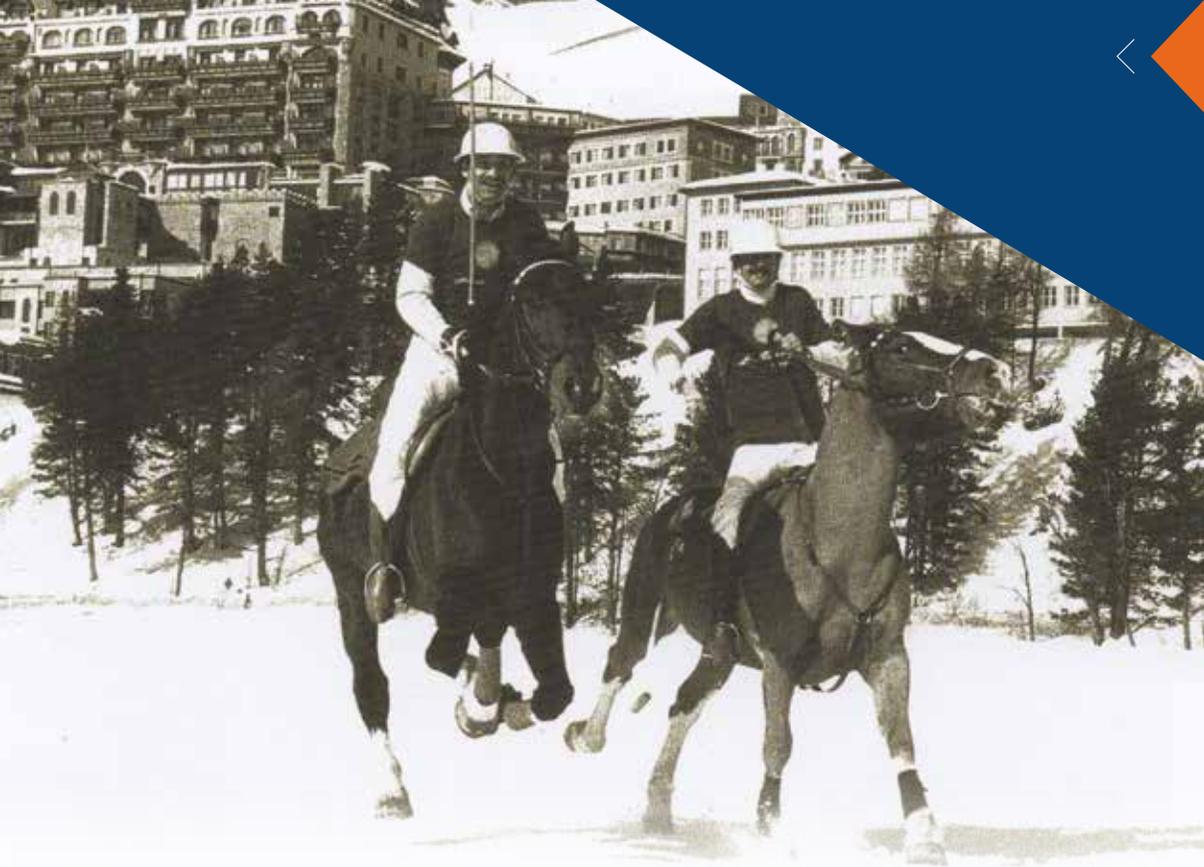
Polo first arrived in St. Moritz around 1899 when the British Cavalry built the first polo field in St. Moritz Bad and practised there. This was followed by the founding of the St. Moritz Polo Club by Dr Peter Robert Berry in 1959, where international tournaments were held in the summers between 1960-1964. Unfortunately, the original polo field was "unceremoniously converted into a high-altitude training camp for athletes in the run-up to the Mexico City Summer Olympics" according to Gianni Berry.

The revival of polo in the Engadin Valley began in Sotogrande, Spain, as Reto Gaudenzi "the Godfather of snow polo" was introduced to polo in somewhat sunnier climes. Gaudenzi returned full of enthusiasm and determination and in 1978 the hotelier formed the

# SNOW POLO HISTORY



1985	1989	1996	1997	2000	2003	2005	2006
St. Moritz Polo World Cup on Snow – Switzerland	Cortina Winter Polo Gold Cup – Italy	Megève Snow Polo – France	Snow Polo Tremblant World Cup – Canada	Aspen World Snow Polo Championships – USA	Kitzbühel Snow Polo World Cup – Austria	Klosters Snow Polo – Switzerland	Inaugural Chovgan President's Cup – Azerbaijan



first Swiss National Polo team, who competed in their first international match in 1983. In 1984, Gaudenzi found an ally in Hans Peter Danuser, who was the Tourism Director of St. Moritz. Hans Peter was looking for a new event with a British connection to celebrate the Cresta Club's centennial year and the idea of a winter polo tournament was born. However, the initial reception was rather tepid as Hans Peter recalls, "I started approaching people who had staged the summer polo tournaments in the 1960s and they just dismissed the idea... only one person really got behind the idea and that was Reto Gaudenzi with snow polo". Not only were the duo proposing the idea of snow polo, at the time a new frontier in the traditional sport, but also to play upon a frozen lake, which sceptics deemed impossible.

Undeterred, in 1984 the first test-run was staged which was swiftly followed by the first snow polo

tournament played upon the frozen lake in St. Moritz in 1985. The founders certainly showed ingenuity in raising funds, even auctioning off plots of ice on the lake for the first polo gala. Dividends were distributed in the form of drinks at the Carlton Hotel's Polo Bar.

Today's Board members of the Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz have all won the tournament – Reto Gaudenzi (5 wins), Piero Dillier (3 wins) and Andy Küchel (1 win).

The idea of snow polo, born in St. Moritz 36-years-ago sparked a worldwide trend and snow polo is played across the globe from Aspen in the US and Cortina in Italy to Tianjin in China. In 2019, over 15,000 spectators gathered to experience world-class snow polo at 1,850 metres above sea level, all nestled within the charming beauty of the Engadin Valley – a truly unique experience.

**2009**

Argentina Snow Cup, Chapelco – Argentina  
Val d'Isere Snow Polo – France  
S Club Snow Arena Polo World Cup, Courcheval – France

**2010**

Fin del Mundo Snow Polo Cup, Ushuaia – Argentina  
Accord Salud Senior Cup, Ushuaia – Argentina

**2011**

International Snow Polo Challenge, Tianjin – China

**2012**

FIP Snow Polo World Cup, Tianjin – China

**2013**

10th Anniversary of the Kitzbühel Snow Polo World Cup – Austria

**2017**

World number one, Adolfo Cambiasso secures the Ushuaia Snow Polo Title with his son, Poroto – Argentina

**2019**

Melissa Ganzi becomes the first woman to win The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz



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# ST. MORITZ HALL OF FAME

Since polo was first played on the frozen lake in St. Moritz in 1985, snow polo has been played here every year (except in 2012) and has become an international snow polo fixture. Over the years, many famous polo players have competed to become champion of The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz. The Hall of Fame recognises the winners of the past.



Team Badrutt's Palace, winners of The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2019

## 2019

### TEAM BADRUTT'S PALACE

- 1 Melissa Ganzi
- 2 Juan Bautista Peluso
- 3 Alfredo Bigatti
- 4 Alejandro Novillo Astrada

## 2018

### TEAM CARTIER

- 1 Rommy Gianni
- 2 Juan Cruz Greguoli
- 3 Chris Hyde
- 4 Dario Musso

## 2017

### TEAM CARTIER

- 1 Rommy Gianni
- 2 Charlie Wooldridge
- 3 Chris Hyde
- 4 Dario Musso

## 2016

### TEAM MASERATI

- 1 Rommy Gianni
- 2 Dario Musso
- 3 Luciano Vazquez
- 4 Frankie Menendes

## 2015

### TEAM CARTIER

- 1 Jonathan Munro Ford
- 2 Max Charlton
- 3 Jamie Morrison
- 4 Chris Hyde

## 2014

### TEAM CARTIER

- 1 Jonathan Munro Ford
- 2 Max Charlton
- 3 Chris Hyde
- 4 Hissam Ali Hyder

## 2013

### TEAM CARTIER

- 1 Jonathan Munro Ford
- 2 Max Charlton
- 3 Nacho Gonzalez
- 4 Chris Hyde

## 2012

Cancelled for the first time in history due to insufficient ice thickness.

## 2011

### TEAM FRANCE

- 1 Francois Le Barazer
- 2 Oscar Mancini
- 3 Oli Hipwood
- 4 Nacho Gonzalez

## 2010

### TEAM CARTIER

- 1 Saeed Bin Draï
- 2 Rob Archibald
- 3 John Paul Clarkin
- 4 Glen Gilmore

## 2009

### TEAM BANK JULIUS BÄR

- 1 George Milford Haven
- 2 José Donoso
- 3 Pablo Mac Donough
- 4 Richard Le Poer

## 2008

### TEAM BRIONI

- 1 Guy Schwarzenbach
- 2 Nacho Gonzalez
- 3 John Paul Clarkin
- 4 Jonny Good

## 2007

### TEAM BRIONI

- 1 Charlie Hanbury
- 2 Eduardo Novillo Astrada
- 3 Milo Fernández Araujo
- 4 Guy Schwarzenbach

## 2006

### TEAM CARTIER

- 1 Adriano Agosti
- 2 Jaime Huidobro
- 3 Jack Baillieu
- 4 Jonny Good

## 2005

### TEAM MAYBACH

- 1 Simon Holley
- 2 Chris Hyde
- 3 Nacho Gonzalez
- 4 Alejandro Díaz Alberdi



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Maserati, winners of The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2016

**2004****TEAM LARCHMONT**

- 1 Marek Dochnal
- 2 Juan Martin Nero
- 3 Alejandro Díaz Alberdi
- 4 Jack Kidd

**2003****TEAM BANK HOFMANN**

- 1 Piero Dillier / Thomas Rinderknecht
- 2 Lucas Labat
- 3 Ignacio Tillous
- 4 Christian Bernal

**2002****TEAM DYNERGY**

- 1 John Manconi
- 2 Satnam Dhillon
- 3 Carlos Solari
- 4 Alejandro Díaz Alberdi

**2001****TEAM CARTIER – ST. MORITZ**

- 1 Adriano Agosti
- 2 José Donoso
- 3 Cody Forsyth
- 4 Chris Hyde

**2000****TEAM CARTIER – ST. MORITZ**

- 1 Adriano Agosti
- 2 Cody Forsyth
- 3 Satnam Dhillon
- 4 Marco di Paola

**1999****TEAM POMMERY- GHANTOOT  
ABU DHABI**

- 1 Nasser Al Daheri
- 2 Luis Escobar
- 3 Hugo Barabucci
- 4 Thomas M. Rinderknecht

**1998****TEAM CARTIER**

- 1 John Manconi
- 2 Horacio Fernández Llorente
- 3 Alejandro Díaz Alberdi
- 4 Francis-Michael Claessens

**1997****TEAM CARTIER**

- 1 John Manconi
- 2 Horacio Fernández Llorente
- 3 Alejandro Díaz Alberdi
- 4 Francis-Michael Claessens

**1996****TEAM CARTIER**

- 1 John Manconi
- 2 Horacio Fernández Llorente
- 3 Piki Díaz Alberdi
- 4 Francis-Michael Claessens

**1995****TEAM TROIS POMMES  
– LAS LEÑAS**

- 1 Piero Dillier
- 2 Adriano Agosti
- 3 James Lucas
- 4 Tomás Fernández Llorente

**1994****TEAM POMMERY – LAS LEÑAS**

- 1 Piero Dillier
- 2 Adriano Agosti
- 3 Tomás Fernández Llorente
- 4 Martin Ortozo

**1993****TEAM POMMERY – SÃO PAULO**

- 1 Piero Dillier
- 2 Adriano Agosti
- 3 James Lucas
- 4 Tomás Fernández Llorente

**1992****TEAM BERNIE'S – ST. MORITZ**

- 1 Reto Gaudenzi
- 2 James Lucas
- 3 Adrian Laplacette
- 4 Mario Zindel

**1991****TEAM REVLON – PALM BEACH**

- 1 Franco Pellegrino / Arnd Küchel
- 2 Michael Tarnopol
- 3 Christian Laprida
- 4 Vlad Antoniaide

**1990****TEAM POMMERY – MILANO**

- 1 Colin Emson
- 2 Franco Pellegrino
- 3 James Lucas
- 4 Martin Ortozo

**1989****TEAM AUDI – ST. MORITZ**

- 1 Mario Zindel
- 2 Reto Gaudenzi
- 3 Alfonso Pieres
- 4 Adrian Laplacette

**1988****TEAM AUDI – ST. MORITZ**

- 1 Mario Zindel
- 2 Reto Gaudenzi
- 3 Adrian Laplacette
- 4 Yvan Guillemain

**1987****EUROPE SELECTION**

- 1 Oliver Ellis
- 2 Orazio Annunziata
- 3 Franco Piazza
- 4 Yvan Guillemain

**1986****EUROPE SELECTION**

- 1 Reto Gaudenzi / Orazio Annunziata
- 2 Vlad Antoniaide
- 3 Yvan Guillemain
- 4 Paul Withers

**1985****TEAM CARTIER – ST. MORITZ**

- 1 Reto Gaudenzi
- 2 Orazio Annunziata
- 3 Gianni Berry / Vlad Antoniaide
- 4 Yvan Guillemain

# 2019 WINNER TEAM BADRUTT'S PALACE

Following her historic win as the first woman to win The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz, we spoke to Bardutt's Palace Team Captain Melissa Ganzi about her love of polo and St. Moritz

## **Do you have a particular training schedule before the tournament gets underway?**

I don't have a particular training schedule as I play all year-round on grass, arena, beach and snow polo. I am fortunate to play snow polo in Aspen in December and then Kitzbühel to get ready for St. Moritz. As I rent horses to play in Europe, Kitzbühel is an excellent opportunity for me to try and refine the horses I play in St. Moritz.

## **Do you prefer snow polo or grass polo?**

That's not a fair question, I love them both equally. I find the snow to be a bit more exciting for the spectators, so it can be a bit more exhilarating to have the crowd cheer for the teams. I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to play on all surfaces around the world each year.

## **Outside of St. Moritz, where is your favourite place to play polo?**

Aspen, Colorado in the United States. The breathtaking mountain view and world-class fields just add to the excitement of the tournaments we host. Of course, I am partial since my husband Marc and I own Aspen Valley Polo Club.

## **Who are your favourite teammates to play with in St. Moritz?**

My 2019 winning teammates, of course, Alejandro Novillo Astrada, Alfredo Bigatti and Juan Bautista Peluso. My other favourite team is my Aspen Snow Polo team, Alejandro Novillo Astrada & Juan Bollini.

## **What is the most challenging aspect of The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz?**

The competition gets tougher each year with talented players and horses. It's such a prestigious tournament with so much history, that every player wants to get their hands on that trophy.

## **How did it feel to win and be the first woman to win The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz?**

It was my fourth appearance in the only high goal polo tournament played on snow around the world. I had come close but never won it. It was emotional for me because my husband Marc and son Grant also competed in the tournament and were there to share the incredible moment with me. Both are former St. Regis World Snow Polo Cup champions and very competitive.

Also, to be the first woman to play in the tournament was amazing as it inspired other women to play.

And, then to share being the first woman to win the tournament with my sponsors, Badrutt's Palace to win for the first time in 35 years made it even more special to me.

## **What makes The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz so special?**

To start with, St. Moritz is a magical venue. It was also the first snow polo tournament in the sport's history. Reto Gaudenzi has done a tremendous job in creating something magical on snow. The scenic arena, atmosphere, fans, sponsors and parties make it the real deal.

## **What has been your greatest snow polo memory?**

I have had so many great experiences on snow. I was the first woman to win the St. Regis World Snow Polo World Cup in Aspen in 2016 and 2018 Bendura Bank Snow Polo World Cup in Kitzbühel. I was also the first woman to compete in the St. Moritz Snow Polo Tournament in 2016 and first woman to make the Final in 2017. But winning the 2019 St. Moritz tournament has to be my greatest memory in snow polo. I enjoy being a pioneer and paving the way for women and girls who want to play polo. And, I look forward to making many more memories in St. Moritz for many years.





Reto Gaudeni, Vice President & CEO Evviva Polo St. Moritz AG, Bahruz Nabiyev, Secretary General Equestrian Federation of Azerbaijan Republic, Adrian Simonetti on behalf of Lando Simonetti, Founder and Owner of La Martina & Piero Dillier, President of the Board of Evviva Polo St Moritz AG

# BAKU MORITZ POLO AWARD

2018 winner,  
Dr. Adrian Laplacette



## The Beginnings

The idea of bringing together St. Moritz and Baku during the Arena World Cup goes back to General Elchin Guliyev, President of the Equestrian Federation of Azerbaijan Republic, and Reto Gaudenzi, President of World Polo, who felt that the thread of polo that both cities shared was worth honouring. The perfect occasion was to be the 2016 Arena World Cup in Baku. Yves Gardiol, then CEO of the Badrutt's Palace Hotel, joined in the collaboration, and ever since, the Baku Moritz Night has been celebrated; in Baku in the summer and in St. Moritz in the winter during the Snow Polo World Cup. Each evening is undoubtedly the social highlight of the respective event.



### The Connection

Historians trace back the origins of the sport to the ancient states situated on the territory of modern Azerbaijan. According to some historians, the game of Chovqan, the precursor to modern polo, was played in Azerbaijan as long as 3,000 years ago. St. Moritz, on the other hand, is the cradle of the variant played on ice – snow polo, which was invented right here in 1985. In keeping with the tradition of the Silk Road, an ancient route starting from ancient China which traversed and Europe. Today's polo plays an important role for tourism in both Baku and St. Moritz – economically and for the sport.

### The Award

The publisher and owner of Polo & Luxury Country Life magazine, Birgit Hügli-Hermann, approached Reto Gaudenzi with the idea of creating an award to recognise outstanding achievements in polo – from the best coverage of the sport in the media to individuals, groups, organisations or institutions which have contributed significantly to advancing polo worldwide; and so, the Baku Moritz Polo Award was born. The prize will be presented annually, at the Snow Polo Gala in St Moritz.

### The Committee

The Committee that will decide on the recipient of the award consists of: Elchin Guliyev, President of the Equestrian Federation of Azerbaijan Republic; Dr. Piero Dillier, Vice President of FIP, the world governing body of polo; Reto Gaudenzi, the founder of Snow Polo and President of World Polo GmbH; Birgit Hügli-Hermann, owner and publisher of Polo & Luxury magazine, as well as Richard Leuenberger, managing Director of Badrutt's Palace Hotel.

### The Award Presentation

The first Baku Moritz Polo Award was presented at the Baku Moritz Polo Gala on 27th January 2018 at the Badrutt's Palace Hotel in St. Moritz on the occasion of the 34th Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz. The award itself is a silver and marble bust of a polo pony and player in action and is a work of art by renowned sculptor Murad Sudjadinov from Azerbaijan.

### BAKU MORITZ POLO AWARD WINNERS

#### 2018: Maria Lia & Luis Garrahan of Polo International & Dr. Adrian Laplacette

The first Baku Moritz Polo Award went to Maria Lia and Luis Garrahan, publishers and editors of Polo International. And to Dr. Adrian Laplacette for his great work as polo and equine adviser to Switzerland and Azerbaijan and many other countries and Polo Clubs Worldwide in the last 30 Years.

#### 2019: Lando Simonetti, Founder of La Martina

Lando Simonetti's La Martina has become synonymous with polo since its launch in 1985, supporting polo across the globe. The company which began creating polo tack has expanded to create a fashion lifestyle collection and improved its technology, to make it one of the most prestigious polo brands in the world.

#### 2020: Who will win?

The winner will be presented at the Baku Moritz Night Gala Dinner

2018 winners, Maria Lia & Luis Garrahan of Polo International





# LA MARTINA ON TOP OF THE WORLD: SNOW POLO WORLD CUP ST MORITZ 2020

*"where Sport and Fashion combine"*



St Moritz is nestled at the very heart of the Alps and boasts the only high goal polo tournament on snow – played on the stunning and unique location of the frozen lake. During the winter months this breathtaking natural setting plays host to the international jet set as well as lovers of fast-paced and exciting winter sports.

La Martina is delighted to share a very special partnership with this event, supplying the players, teams and officials with their stylish snow polo gear in a unique collection that marries performance with style details that stand out in the crowd and appeal to a discerning clientele. The challenges of dressing the player for snow polo are unique, and it takes a unique brand to link style and functionality in this way.

One of Italy's most current stylish influencers, Luca Macellari Palmieri

@lucamacellaripalmieri was treated to the full and glamorous Snow Polo World Cup St Moritz experience in 2019, modelling key pieces from the La Martina St Moritz kit and enjoying a one to one learn to play session with England Polo Player Malcolm Borwick. On and off the field, this hard-wearing super stylish snow polo collection is a winner.

Guests at St Moritz are also treated to the opportunity to purchase the collection via a bespoke shopping experience at the La Martina boutique where they can browse and purchase team replicas, all within a chic modern interior that was designed specifically for this special snowy setting.

We look forward to welcoming you to the La Martina St Moritz collection, and the 36<sup>th</sup> Snow Polo World Cup St Moritz in January 2020!



[lamartina.com/lm/st-moritz](http://lamartina.com/lm/st-moritz)

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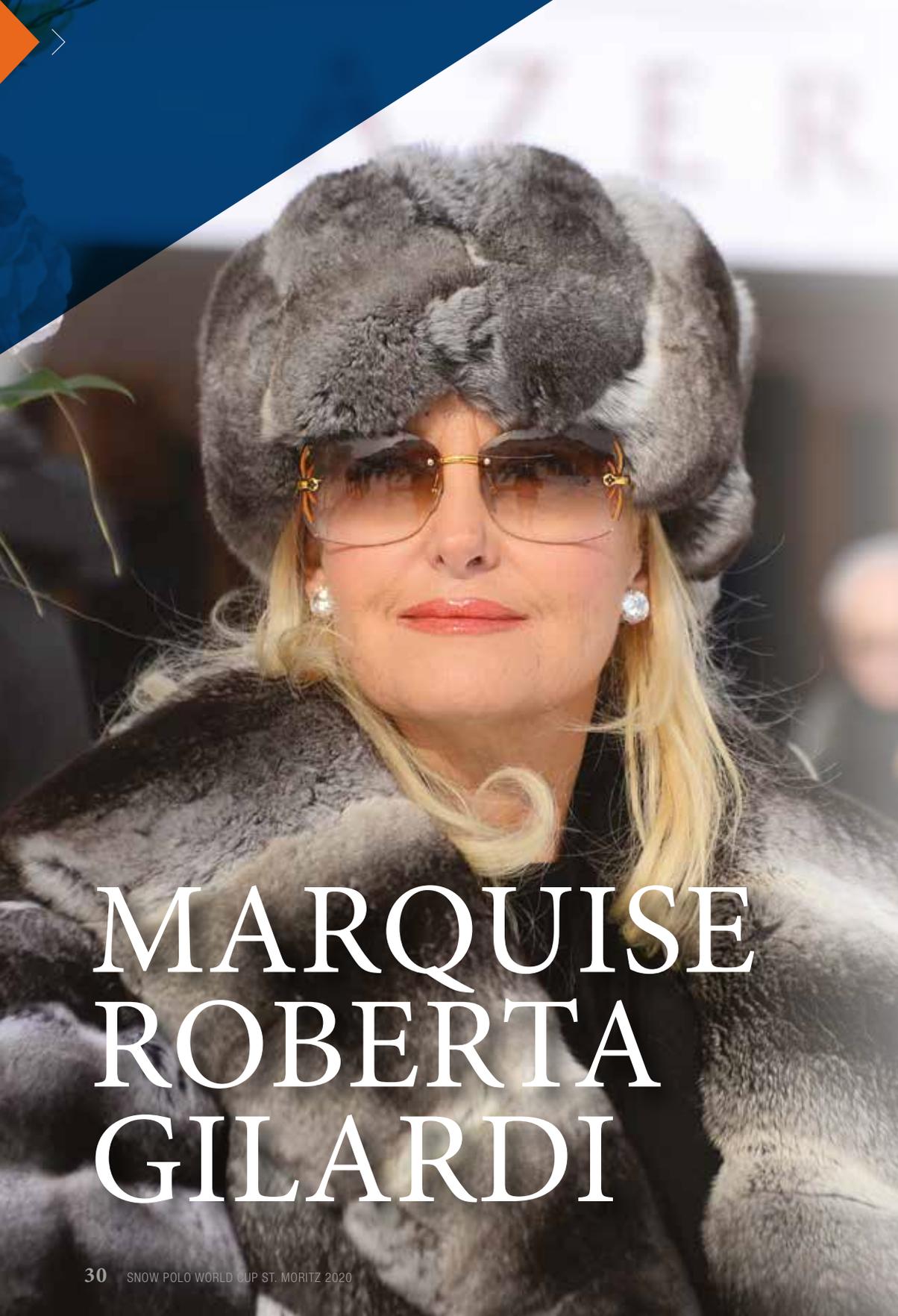
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# MARQUISE ROBERTA GILARDI

The Marquise Roberta Gilardi was born in Switzerland, but her roots come from Imperial Russia: as the last descendant of the Marquis Dementij Ivanovic' Zhilijardi, Private Concelor of HIM the Tsar Alexander I of Russia. The Marquise's noble title was given by Imperial Decree and inscribed in the genealogical tree of The Russian Aristocracy.

The Marquise and her husband live between Switzerland and the Principality of Monaco where they attend the most important events such as the Monaco Red Cross Gala, the Rose Ball, The Monte Carlo Gala for the Global Ocean and they have supported the Prince Albert of Monaco Foundation for the safeguard of the Global Ocean from the beginning. The couple travel extensively during the year, but St. Moritz and Monte Carlo are their second homes, "We think that they are the two most fabulous places in the world!?"

The Marquise first came to St. Moritz as a small child with her parents, "St. Moritz is the most beautiful mountain place in the world. Here I have a lot of beautiful memories! My husband and I have been attending The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz for many years."

“Reto’s great engagement makes the event absolutely gorgeous”

The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz holds a special place in The Marquise's heart, with no better place to watch snow polo "The event is a sporting event unlike any in the world. The tournament which takes place on the frozen lake of St. Moritz and is absolutely unique. In my opinion it is the world's most famous tournament with its origin in 1985. St. Moritz is the birthplace of Snow Polo, the very first snow polo tournament was played in St. Moritz and today it remains the most important snow polo tournament in the world. The frozen lake is embedded in a beautiful natural setting which means the event radiates a unique atmosphere, surrounded by a village with VIP tents and gourmet chefs preparing delicious food and drinks. This is the ultimate playground for the elite. Last but not least the famous Gala Dinner which takes place at the prestigious Badrutt's Palace is the high society highlight event."

"Since Reto Gaudenzi became the President of the Snow Polo World Cup St.Moritz, everything has become more and more spectacular. His great engagement makes the event absolutely gorgeous. He brought the attendance of the Azerbaijan Land of Fire team and last year the Azeri artists performed on the frozen lake in a stunning show, a breath-taking performance of the "Sardhadchi" cavalry team, who also performed their show at the Birthday celebration of HRH Queen Elizabeth II. These artists on horseback from Azerbaijan who appeared for the first time in Switzerland delighted the audience with fast-paced acrobatic show. Simply stunning!"



"St. Moritz has been the ultimate getaway for the elite since 1864 and offers fairytale style events such as the Snow Polo Tournament. The Engadin Valley with its snow covered mountains is absolutely fantastic. The snow-blanked landscape covered in sunshine with mild temperatures during the day is a paradise on earth. For decades, St. Moritz has been one of the prime mountain destinations among the world's elite. St. Moritz is deep in the Alps in winter covered with snow and it is the most coveted destinations catering to the world's wealthiest. A sunning and magnificent mountain landscape unlike any others! I am in love with the Snow Polo Event and with St. Moritz!"

# CÉLINE ASSIMON

## CEO OF de GRISOGONO

Interview with Céline Assimon, CEO of de GRISOGONO, the new title sponsor

Today, de GRISOGONO is proud to celebrate 26 years of history during which the Maison has made its mark as a free-thinking and highly creative force in High Jewellery. Ever daring to be different, our outsized, highly colourful and sensuous jewels results from the constant innovation and creativity of our Creative Studio and craftsmen.

“de GRISOGONO caters to self-confident and active women, for whom we design our jewels. One of our emblematic collections is Allegra, with its unique and distinctive visual signature – intertwining. A collection

synonymous with elegance, both sophisticated and glamorous. It embodies the de GRISOGONO woman who, from Cannes to Porto Cervo, from St. Moritz to New York, shines with an audacity imbued with independence and radiates a free spirit.

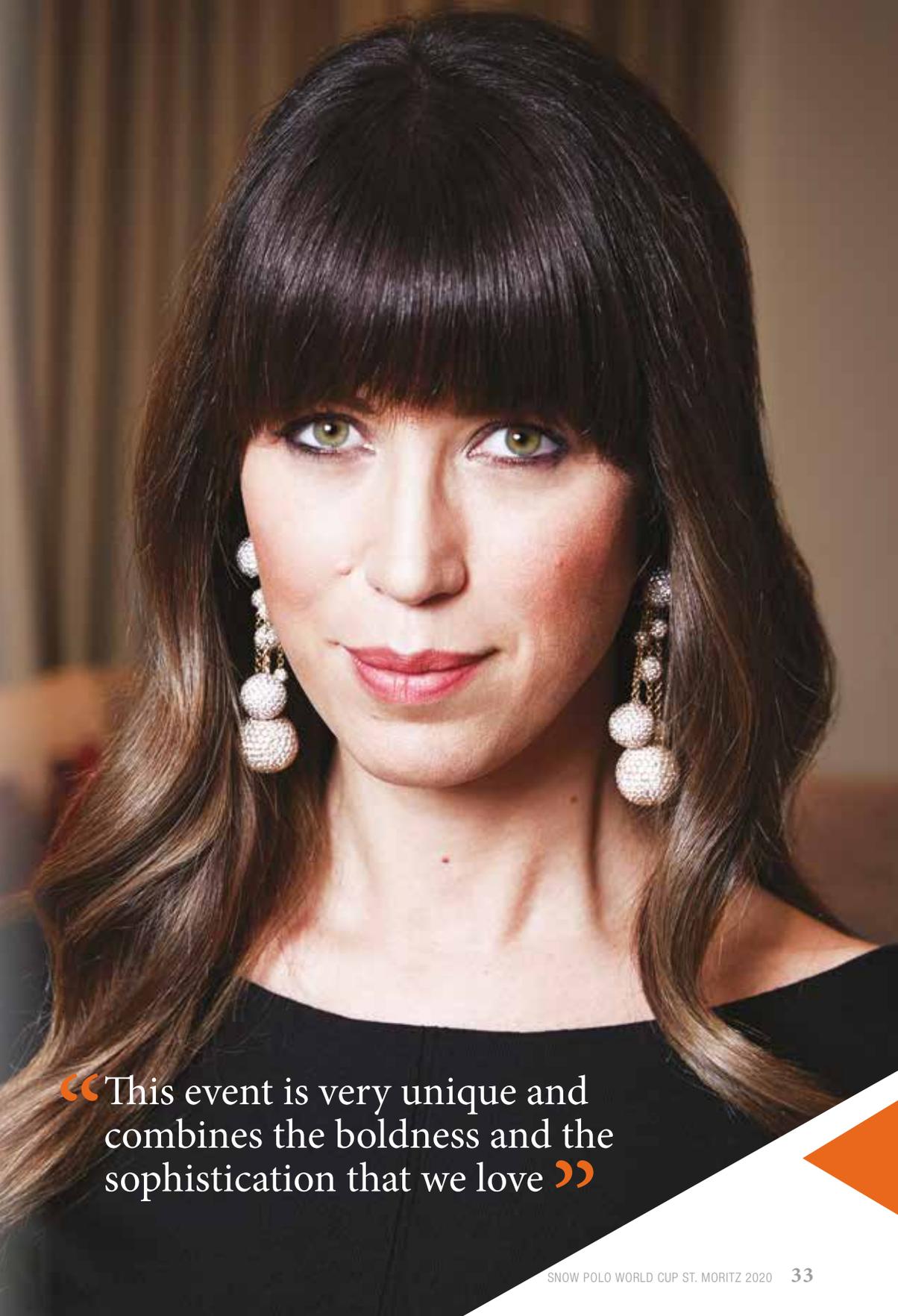
“I love the fact that St Moritz and de GRISOGONO share a common pioneering spirit and innovative vision as well as a unique taste for joy of life and contemporary glamour. Both are pioneers in their own field: one is a pioneer in winter tourism; the other a pioneer in its interpretation of High Jewellery. So we have a common DNA.

“St. Moritz is an incredible resort, I love its charm, its wonderful location on the lake and its fabulous hotels. We opened a boutique in St. Moritz in May 2001.

“When the opportunity presented itself to become a sponsor of the St. Moritz World Cup on Snow we did not hesitate one second, this is the only sporting event which we are involved with. This event is very unique and combines the boldness and the sophistication that we love at de GRISOGONO. We instantly thought it was a perfect fit for us! I really admire the dexterity and endurance that are required from the players as much as from the ponies. It is really brave to be playing on snow, at a high altitude. I also very much admire the beauty of the game and its pace, which is breath-taking. If I had to sum up the tournament in three words they would be: daring, exciting and magnificent.

“The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz promises to be a great moment of enjoyment and fun for the friends of the Maison. In the meantime, we are bringing our unique positioning in the High Jewellery world to one of the most prestigious winter sport's competition. The synergies between our audiences are quite natural.”





“This event is very unique and combines the boldness and the sophistication that we love”

SEPTEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> – 20<sup>TH</sup> 2020

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# Land of Fire Azerbaijan

Baku is the capital of Azerbaijan, it is not only the largest city in Azerbaijan but also on the Caspian Sea and the Caucasus region. Baku is the scientific, cultural, and industrial centre of Azerbaijan. The city is renowned for its winds, which is reflected in its nickname, the **“City of Winds”**.



**Karabakh Horse** – The Karabakh Horse, one of the symbols of bravery and beauty of Azerbaijan. The Karabakh Horse has a shiny coat with thin and soft skin. The main colours are chestnut and bay, with a characteristic golden tint; some are grey, whilst palominos and buckskins are rare. As well as being fast and agile, the Karabakh is known for its endurance and loyalty.

**Icherisheher** – Old City or Inner City is the historical core of Baku and the capital of Azerbaijan. The Old City is the most ancient part of Baku and is has been well protected over the years by its surrounding city walls.



**Azerbaijani Cavalry** team engraved its name into the country's history by showing spectacular shows on Karabakh Horses in many local and international events. Recently, the Cavalry team was admired by the whole world with their “Land of Fire Azerbaijan” composition at the anniversary celebrations of Her Majesty Elizabeth II, Queen of England.

**The Seafront Boulevard**, which covers the Bay of Baku with 15 kilometers of greenbelt, is a place especially loved by residents of the capital of Azerbaijan and is affectionately nicknamed Little Venice.



If you love to experience life by exploring new flavours come to the “Land of Fire” and sample **Yarpag dolmasi**, the pearl of Azerbaijani cuisine.

# EQUIPMENT EXPLAINED

At first glance, the enormous amount of polo equipment for both the players and ponies can be confusing. Polo equipment is very important not only for safety, comfort and performance but can be the difference between success and failure in the key moments of a match. This guide will help you learn the intricacies of the equipment required for this unique sport.

## SADDLE

The saddle largest piece of polo pony equipment. Traditionally polo saddles have been heavy, however due to increased research into the effects of equipment weight, players are now opting to use lighter models. Unlike in other equine sports, polo saddles do not have knee rolls and the pommel is lower – these adaptations are to allow the players to position themselves forward.

## KNEEPADS

Polo is a physically demanding, contact sport, therefore players have to wear kneepads in order to protect their knees from being damaged in ride-offs. Players' knees are exposed and without kneepads would have little protection.

## BOOTS

Polo players' boots are made of brown or black leather and must be worn during matches. Some styles, such as La Martina's boots, even have additional, reinforced protection on the outer calves.

## TAILS

It is a compulsory rule that the playing ponies' tails are tied up with tape in order to prevent them from getting caught in the sticks, they are usually plaited first. Umpires ponies' tails are usually not tied up.

## CLIPPING

As snow polo is played in the winter when ponies' have already developed their thicker winter coats, some players choose to clip their ponies in order to aid thermoregulation and stop over-heating. Ponies that are clipped need protection from the cold pre and post-matches.

## STICK

Sometimes also called a polo mallet, the head of the stick is usually wooden, whilst the cane is made from bamboo. The length and heaviness depends on the pony's height as well as the player's preference. All players must use their right hand to hold the stick, even if they are naturally left handed, such as HRH The Duke of Cambridge.

## HELMET

It is compulsory across the world for all players must wear a safety helmet at all times during a polo match. Different countries have varying rules and standards. Players can customise their helmets with colours, initials or logos.

## EYEWEAR

Protective eyewear is optional, but is becoming increasingly popular. In St. Moritz, many players choose to combine protective eyewear with sunglasses is the best way to combat the sun's glare bouncing on the white, snowy surface of the frozen lake.

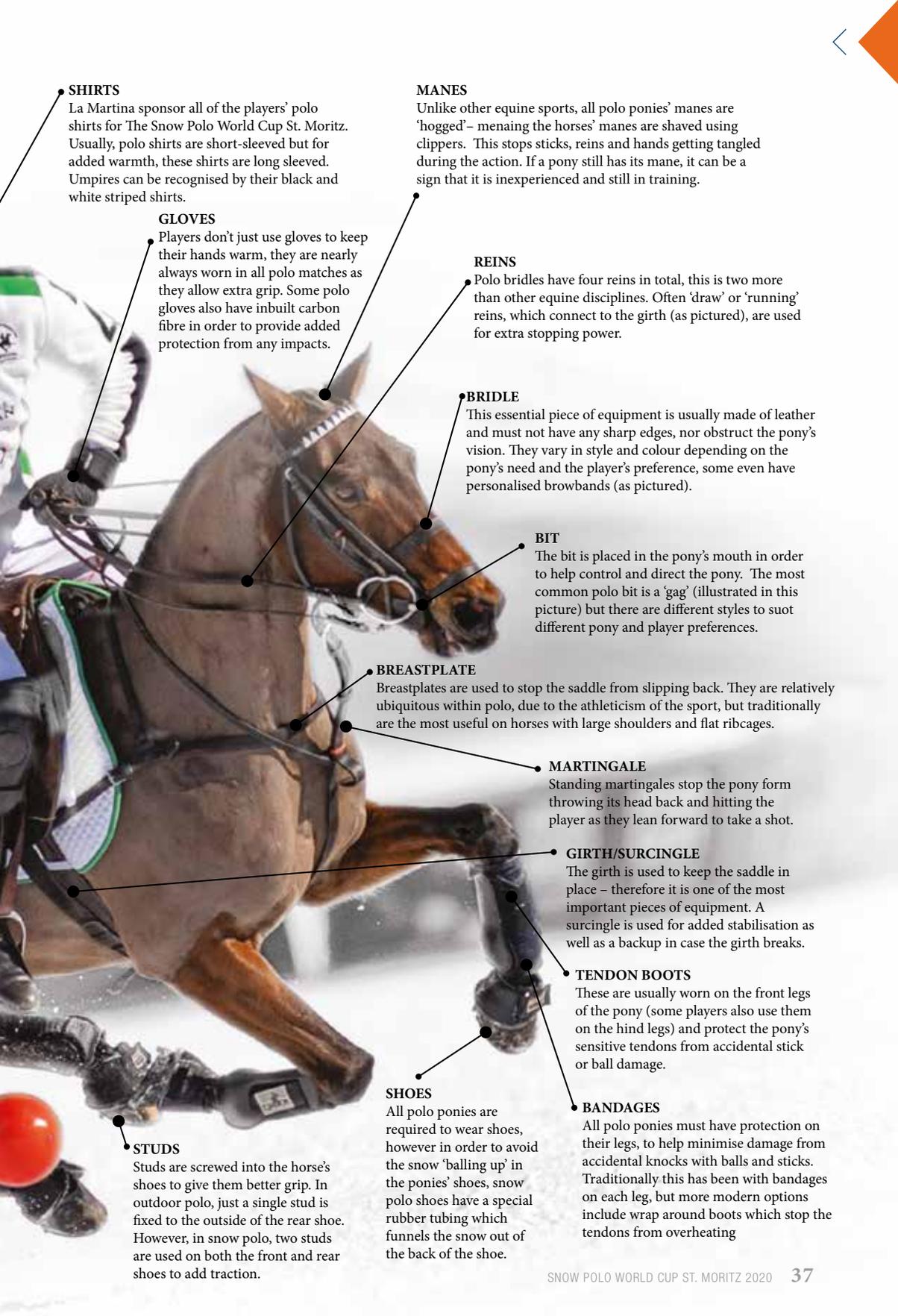
## WHITES

All players and umpires must wear white polo jeans, sometimes referred to as breeches, when playing matches. During practices, players usually wear blue jeans.

## STIRRUP

Polo stirrups are usually wider and heavier than those used in other equine disciplines in order to allow the players to stand up in their stirrups and to lean right out to take shots. The bases of the stirrups are usually grooved to provide better grip.





### SHIRTS

La Martina sponsor all of the players' polo shirts for The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz. Usually, polo shirts are short-sleeved but for added warmth, these shirts are long sleeved. Umpires can be recognised by their black and white striped shirts.

### GLOVES

Players don't just use gloves to keep their hands warm, they are nearly always worn in all polo matches as they allow extra grip. Some polo gloves also have inbuilt carbon fibre in order to provide added protection from any impacts.

### MANES

Unlike other equine sports, all polo ponies' manes are 'hogged' – meaning the horses' manes are shaved using clippers. This stops sticks, reins and hands getting tangled during the action. If a pony still has its mane, it can be a sign that it is inexperienced and still in training.

### REINS

Polo bridles have four reins in total, this is two more than other equine disciplines. Often 'draw' or 'running' reins, which connect to the girth (as pictured), are used for extra stopping power.

### BRIDLE

This essential piece of equipment is usually made of leather and must not have any sharp edges, nor obstruct the pony's vision. They vary in style and colour depending on the pony's need and the player's preference, some even have personalised browbands (as pictured).

### BIT

The bit is placed in the pony's mouth in order to help control and direct the pony. The most common polo bit is a 'gag' (illustrated in this picture) but there are different styles to suit different pony and player preferences.

### BREASTPLATE

Breastplates are used to stop the saddle from slipping back. They are relatively ubiquitous within polo, due to the athleticism of the sport, but traditionally are the most useful on horses with large shoulders and flat ribcages.

### MARTINGALE

Standing martingales stop the pony from throwing its head back and hitting the player as they lean forward to take a shot.

### GIRTH/SURCINGLE

The girth is used to keep the saddle in place – therefore it is one of the most important pieces of equipment. A surcingle is used for added stabilisation as well as a backup in case the girth breaks.

### TENDON BOOTS

These are usually worn on the front legs of the pony (some players also use them on the hind legs) and protect the pony's sensitive tendons from accidental stick or ball damage.

### SHOES

All polo ponies are required to wear shoes, however in order to avoid the snow 'balling up' in the ponies' shoes, snow polo shoes have a special rubber tubing which funnels the snow out of the back of the shoe.

### BANDAGES

All polo ponies must have protection on their legs, to help minimise damage from accidental knocks with balls and sticks. Traditionally this has been with bandages on each leg, but more modern options include wrap around boots which stop the tendons from overheating

### STUDS

Studs are screwed into the horse's shoes to give them better grip. In outdoor polo, just a single stud is fixed to the outside of the rear shoe. However, in snow polo, two studs are used on both the front and rear shoes to add traction.



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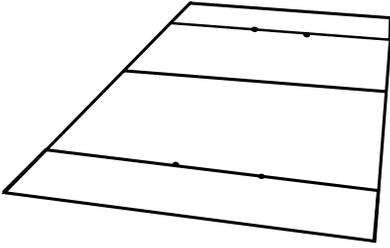
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# RULES OF THE GAME



A standard international polo ground is usually 182m wide by 274m long, which is roughly three times as big as a football pitch!  
However, snow polo grounds are usually smaller and in St. Moritz, the playing surface measures 80x200m.



When the ball is hit, the direction it is travelling in automatically creates a 'line'. If a player is following the line of the ball they have the right of way and if another player crosses the line this is a dangerous foul.

When two players are approaching the ball from different angles to the line, the player approaching at the smallest angle to the line of the ball has the right of way.



Each goal, marked by two posts, in St. Moritz is 7.3m wide. Unlike most other ball sports, the teams will swap the scoring direction after each goal; this means that neither team can enjoy an environmental advantage (such as sun glare and wind direction) for a prolonged period of time.



All polo players must play with their right hand, even if, like HRH The Duke of Cambridge, they are naturally left-handed.

## 4 IN SNOW POLO THERE ARE FOUR PLAYERS ON EACH TEAM



1

Most attacking player and goal scorer. Often marks opposing Number 4



2

Mid-attacking position. Often marks opposing Number 3



3

Mid-defending position. Often marks opposing Number 2



4

Most defensive player. It is beneficial if they have a good, strong backhand. Often marks opposing Number 1

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# Penalties

1

A rare penalty where the offensive team is awarded an automatic goal with a throw-in 15 yards from the goal.

2

A hit 30 yards from the opposition's goal. Defenders cannot defend this penalty.

3

A hit 40 yards from the opposition's goal. Defending players may run from the sides of the goal and try to stop the travelling ball.

4

A hit 60 yards out from the opposition goal. The player taking the penalty must only take one shot at goal. Opposing players can defend the goal but must be at least 30 yards from the ball.

5a

A hit from the spot where the foul was committed. Opposing players must be at least 30 yards from the ball.

5b

A free hit from the centre of the field. As with a penalty 5a, opposing players must be at least 30 yards from the ball.

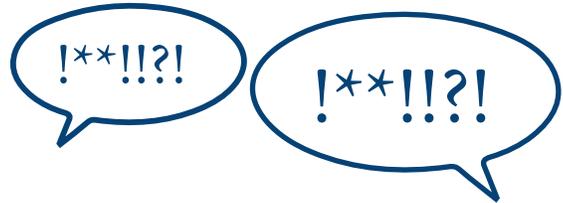


Each polo match is split into sections called chukkas. Depending on the handicap level of the tournament, there can be four to eight chukkas – in St. Moritz there are four chukkas.

Each chukka length is seven minutes, after which a bell is rung and 30 seconds of overtime is played.

Each chukka has a duration of seven minutes, after which a bell is rung, and 30 seconds of 'overtime' remain. If there is a penalty, goal or the ball goes out of play during these 30 seconds then the chukka ends.

There are breaks in between each chukka for the players to change onto fresh ponies, especially important in St. Moritz where the altitude is more physically demanding.



Polo has a zero tolerance for arguing with an umpire's decision or foul language. If an umpire hears a player disagreeing with their decision, they have the ability to increase the penalty severity.



Similar to other sports, polo also has red and yellow cards which the umpires can award to players for breaking the rules. A player awarded with a yellow card will be sent off for two minutes. A red card means the player will be sent off for the remainder of the match and may only be substituted after two minutes.

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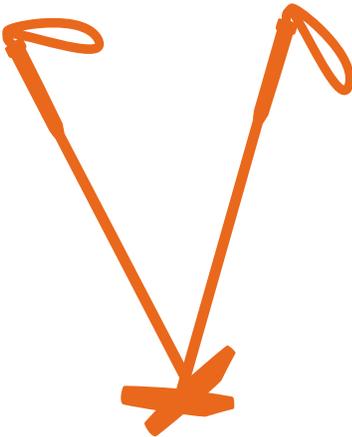


Two mounted umpires ensure the law and order during the polo matches. The umpires wear black and white shirts and their ponies' tails are usually unplaited. There is also a 'third man' who watches the action from the sidelines (in the commentary tower in St. Moritz) and is called upon if the two mounted umpires cannot agree on a decision.

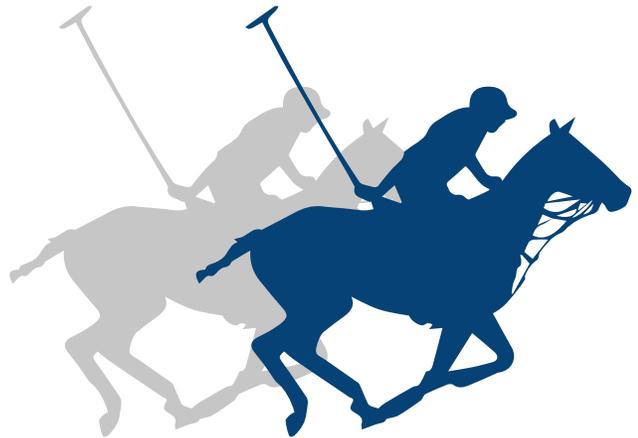


Polo ponies are key to polo, without them the sport wouldn't be possible. Players often credit at least 80% of their performance to their ponies – the ability of your pony can be the difference between making a play or not.

When polo was first played in the UK, the ponies were as small as 13 hands, but as speed has been prioritised and Thoroughbreds have increased in popularity the average height has increased to 15.1 hands.



Hooking is one of the most commonly used defensive plays that you will see in polo. Hooking is when a player blocks their opponents swing with their own stick. However, there are rules to prevent an 'illegal' hook; a player can only hook if they are on the side that the swing is being made or are directly behind their opponent. A player cannot hook across a pony or above shoulder height.



Today you'll see players bumping against each other, this is to push the opposing player off the line of ball and therefore gain right of way to hit the ball. The ride-off is a very physical part of polo, which leads some people to call it 'rugby on horseback'.

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# -2 to 10

Similar to golf, polo has a handicapping system, with each player ranked on a scale from -2 to 10, with 10 the highest handicap possible.

Each country and type of polo (outdoor or arena) ranks players differently, assessing the player's ability in that country. This means that some players may hold different handicaps for different countries, which is currently an area of much discussion within the polo community.



Federation of International Polo (FIP) is the international federation representing the sport of polo. It was created in 1982 to enhance both the status and image of the sport internationally, collating together the world's polo playing countries into one body. FIP rules are adhered to in The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz.  
[www.fippolo.com](http://www.fippolo.com)



The Swiss Polo Association (SPA) is the parent organisation of all Polo Clubs in Switzerland and was founded by Reto Gaudenzi in 1983. Its main task is the representation of the interests of Swiss Polo Clubs towards governing authorities and polo associations. The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz follows SPA/FIP rules.  
[www.spa-swisspolo.ch](http://www.spa-swisspolo.ch)



Unlike other equine disciplines, polo authorities have yet to establish cloning laws for polo. This has created a 'cloning revolution', the most famous example is Adolfo Cambiaso's Cuartetera – in 2017 he won The Argentine Open with six Cuartetera clones. Advocates of polo pony cloning believe cloned horses are born with a type of shadow memory inherited from their donor 'parents', but it remains an area of ethical discussion.



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<sup>3</sup> The Greenhouse gas CO<sub>2</sub> is main responsible for the global warming, the average CO<sub>2</sub> emission of all offered vehicles in Switzerland is of 137 g/km.



# PROGRAMME

## THURSDAY 23 JANUARY 2020

- Polo training sessions on polo field or on stables field (small catering on the lake)
- 13.00h Badrutt's Palace vs de GRISOGONO
- 14.00h Maserati vs Azerbaijan Land of Fire
- 18.30h Players' and sponsors' presentation with cocktail party at Sunny Bar at the Kulm Hotel (by invitation only)
- 20.00h Fondue Night (players, sponsors & officials by invitation only) at Hotel Steffani

## FRIDAY 24 JANUARY 2020

- 10.30h Press conference in VIP lounge on the lake
- 11.00h Polo Village opens
- 11.30h VIP tent opens
- 12.00h **Polo Game 1**  
**Badrutt's Palace vs Azerbaijan Land of Fire**
- 13.00h Prize-giving ceremony President's Trophy
- 14.15h **Polo Game 2**  
**de GRISOGONO vs Maserati**
- 15.15h Prize-giving ceremony
- 16.30h Polo village and VIP tent close
- 19.30h Individual Sponsor Dinners in St. Moritz (by invitation only)

## SATURDAY 25 JANUARY 2020

- 11.00h Polo Village opens
- 11.30h VIP tent opens
- 12.00h **Polo Game 3**  
**Azerbaijan Land of Fire vs de GRISOGONO**
- 13.00h Prize-giving ceremony Maserati Trophy
- 14.15h **Polo Game 4**  
**Maserati vs Badrutt's Palace**
- 15.15h Prize-giving ceremony Deutsche Bank Wealth Management Challenge
- 16.30h Polo village and VIP tent close
- 19.15h Cocktail Reception (black tie, tickets available) in the Badrutt's Palace Hotel Lobby
- 20.00h The Snow Polo Night Gala Dinner "Baku Moritz Night" (black tie, tickets available) at Badrutt's Palace Hotel
- 23.30h Polo After Party King's Social House (open end, by invitation only) at King's Social House, Badrutt's Palace Hotel
- 23.00h La Martina Youth Night (open end) at Vivai at Hotel Steffani

## SUNDAY 26 JANUARY 2020

- 11.00h Polo Village opens
- 11.30h VIP tent opens
- 12.00h **3rd place Final: La Martina Cup**
- 13.00h Prize-giving ceremony La Martina Cup
- 14.15h **Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz Final**
- 15.15h Prize-giving ceremony: The de GRISOGONO Trophy
- Prize-giving: Best Player
- Prize-giving: Best Playing Patron
- Prize-giving: Best Playing Pony by Polo Times
- 17.00h Polo Village and VIP tent close for 2020
- 19.00h Farewell Party (by invitation only)

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# ARTISTS

The musical genius' providing the musical backdrop to this year's Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz

## DJ MR MIKE



DJ Mr Mike is one of Switzerland's best known DJs with a worldwide reputation and often credited as one of the pioneers of Swiss dance culture. Mike's reputation as a vocalist established when he earned a platinum disc in the Benelux for his recording of the song "Why Can't We Live Together" while he was living in Belgium. Moving to Switzerland in the 90s, Mike made an instant impression with his live radio show's on the Swiss national network. As a full-time DJ with a wealth of experience DJ Mr Mike has played in most major venues during his DJ career and will be entertaining the crowds as Official DJ at The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2020.

## PEPE LIENHARD & BAND



With unbroken energy, the experienced entertainer tours the concert halls and knows how to get the most out of his band. In his career, Pepe Lienhard has accompanied various legends and stars such as Whitney Houston, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr. and Quincy Jones with his ensemble. The orchestra also toured with Udo Jürgens for 37 years. Today, his 14 member show orchestra is one of the most popular formations in the German-speaking region. Their repertoire includes highlights and evergreens from swing, soul, pop, jazz as well as popular dance music. Pepe Lienhard is strongly connected to St. Moritz, in particular to the traditional Snow Polo and the Festival of Jazz. On 1 August 2019, the well-known bandleader celebrated his 50th professional jubilee in the ancient riding-hall of St. Moritz!



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## HUW LEWIS



Huw Lewis is a live musician based in St. Moritz, specialising in galas, weddings and functions, organising live music for events both as a soloist or with larger formations. Having also wowed the crowds in 2018, Huw once again returns to entertain at The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2019. As a multi-instrument performer focused on Soul, Blues and Classic Rock, Huw will once again be bringing his versatility to the event.

## LEYLA QULIYEVA



Leyla Quliyeva will be the compere for the Snow Polo Night Gala Dinner 'Baku Moritz Night' at Badrutt's Palace Hotel on Saturday 25 January, she has been involved in world class polo events in Baku and St. Moritz for six years. After graduating from Baku Music Academy, Leyla began covering Eurovision news and became part of İTV's Eurovision organising committee.

Leyla is a Television and Radio speaker, commentator, show host and certainly no stranger to the stage having hosted the Grand Final of the 2012 Eurovision Song Contest in her home country of Azerbaijan.

## SCHLITTEDA



During the annual Schlitteda, an ancient tradition, couples drive their horse through the Engadin Valley. Originally, the bachelors used this occasion to invite the beloved to a romantic carriage ride. This year there will be 8-10 carriages on the ice, each with a couple in traditional Engadin costume.



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# THE UMPIRES

## OLIVER ELLIS



Oli Ellis has made a career for himself in polo, with experience of both playing professionally and umpiring for over 30 years across the world. As a professional player, Oli's wins have included prestigious British titles such as The Gold Cup, The Warwickshire Cup, The Prince of Wales Trophy and The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz. As well as his activity on the polo ground, Oli was Polo Manager at Guards Polo Club, one of the UK's top polo clubs, for over 10 years and also Chief Umpire and Tournament Director at Cowdray Park Polo Club.

## TIM KEYTE



Tim heralds from a prestigious polo playing family in New Zealand and in the early days of his polo career won New Zealand's oldest trophy, The Savile Cup. Having hung up his polo sticks, Tim has filled positions such as Executive Polo Manager at Cirencester Park Polo Club, one of the UK's oldest polo clubs, whilst also maintaining fair play on polo grounds across the globe. A St. Moritz snow polo stalwart, Tim is one of three umpires in charge of maintaining law and order on the frozen lake this week.

## MARCELO GARRAHAN



Marcelo has umpired all over the world, from the sunshine state of Florida to the picturesque alpine setting of St. Moritz. Alongside his umpiring ability, at the peak of his polo playing days, Marcelo held a 4 goal handicap and hails from an impressive polo pedigree, with members of the Garrahan family claiming some of the most illustrious polo titles across the globe.



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# THE VOICE OF POLO

## JAN-ERIK FRANCK

also known as **The Voice of Polo**, is a polo commentator extraordinaire bringing his passion for polo across the globe, from Azerbaijan to Belgium and Ibiza. His love of the sport and ability to speak multiple European languages, has meant Jan-Erik has been entertaining polo crowds for over a decade.

**You are now an internationally renowned polo commentator, how many countries do you commentate in each year?**

I'm now commentating in over 20 countries, almost too many to count! Each place is so unique, especially with the variety between snow, arena and grass polo.

**What has been your commentating highlight of the past year?**

There are so many highlights, but the best commentating experience over the past year would have to be the inaugural World Polo League (WPL) in 2019, there was such an amazing atmosphere with some of the best players in the world competing against each other, all set in the amazing surroundings of Grand Champions Polo Club.

**How many years have you been commentating in St. Moritz? Which has been your most memorable year?**

It is now over 10 years that I've been commentating in St. Moritz, every year is a fantastic experience, especially with the polo spirit infusing the entire

town's atmosphere. The crowd who support the event are so enthusiastic and are genuinely interested in the sport, they really get behind their favourite teams and players. For me personally, 2013 stands out as my most memorable year, as I was asked to play for BMW.

**What is the most challenging part of commentating?**

The most challenging part is trying to make a slow game fast and a dull game exciting.

When a match is filled with action, open, fast and flowing it is easy to get the audience excited and engaged, but when a game stops and starts it can be hard to find the momentum – then when you do get the momentum going, you have to just pray the momentum continues! If all else fails, I find my tongue in cheek humour always helps to lift the mood!

Luckily this is never the case in St. Moritz, as it has one of the best polo audiences in the world!

**What is your favourite part of polo commentating?**

Although commentating can appear from the outside to be a monologue, in reality it is much more of a dialogue – there is no better feeling than having a fully engaged audience on the hook, listening to every word – feeling and engaging with the feedback from the audience, perfectly in sync, is such a buzz.

**Who would be on your dream polo team?**

Nicole Obermeier (my girlfriend), Sharon Stone, Cindy Crawford and the hot blonde from the Dior advert – who could argue with that!

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Free access to the Piazza and all polo matches

### 1 POLO MATCHES

Friday - Sunday 12.00 pm and 2.15 pm

### 2 VIP TENT

Culinary delights by Badrutt's Palace Hotel  
Limited number of VIP tickets available:  
[www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com](http://www.snowpolo-stmoritz.com) or at the information desk.

Friday - Saturday 11.30 am - 4.30 pm

Sunday 11.30 am - 5.00 pm

### 3 PIAZZA OPENING HOURS

Friday - Saturday 11.00 am - 4.30 pm

Sunday 11.00 am - 5.00 pm

### 4 RESTAURANTS

Local dishes, n woks, barbecue, pasta by Badrutt's Palace Hotel in cooperation with local partners

### 5 POLO SIMULATOR

Try out your polo skills on the polo simulator

### 6 MUSIC

Huw Lewis & Band (live) and DJ Mr Mike

### 7 PRIZE-GIVING STAGE

A prize-giving ceremony takes place on the stage after every game

### 8 MEDIA CENTRE

Information desk and working space for accredited media representatives.  
Friday - Sunday 10.30 am - 4.00 pm

### 9 GRANDSTANDS

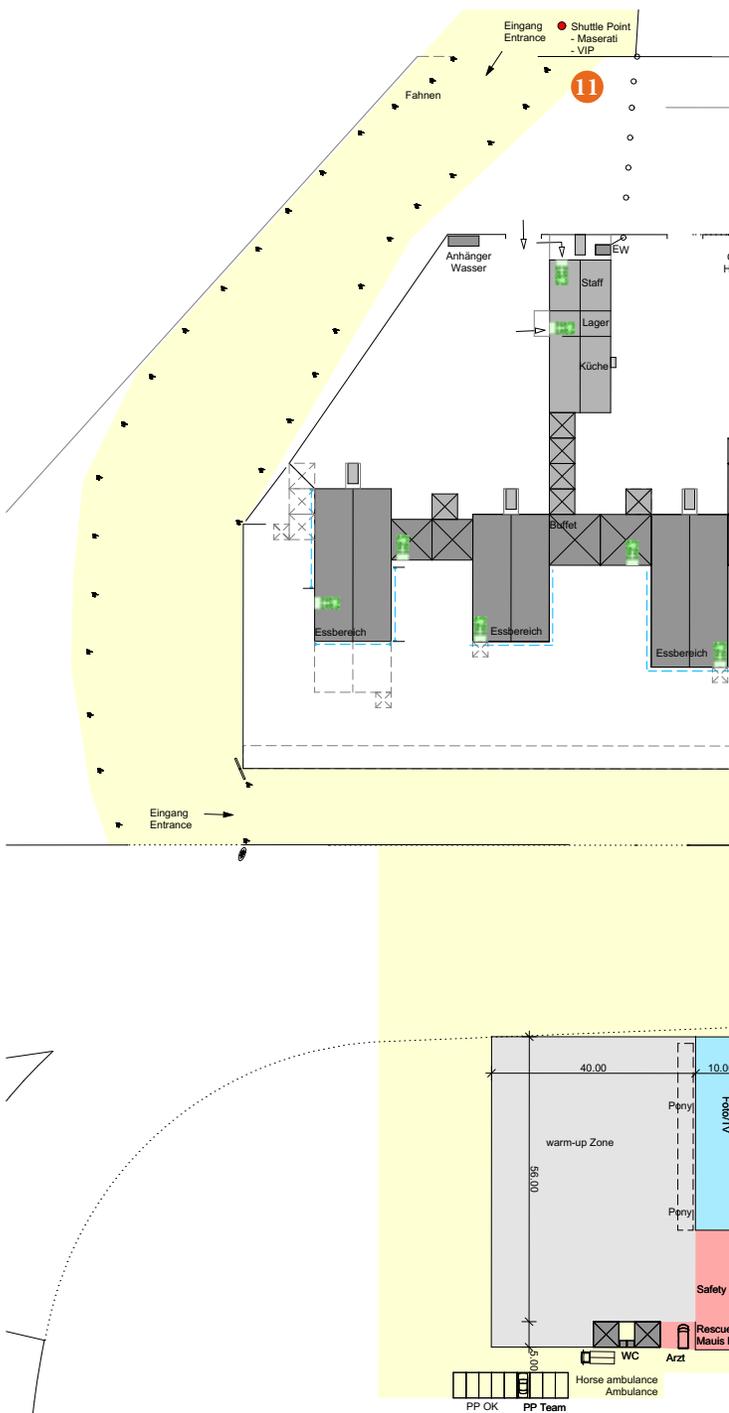
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### 10 INFORMATION DESK

Friday - Sunday 10.30 am - 4.30 pm

### 11 SHUTTLE SERVICES

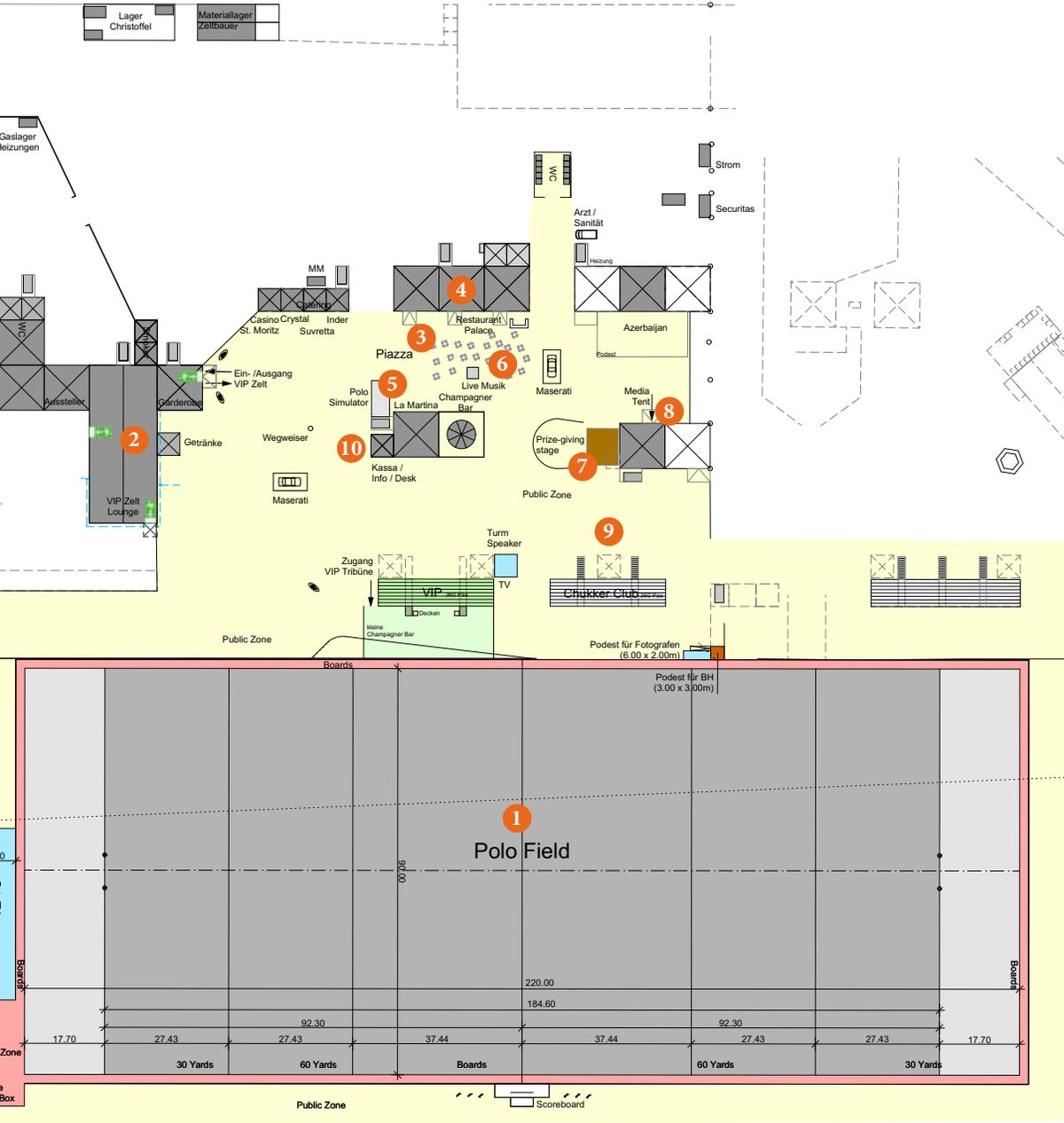
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# EVENT MAP

There is so much to see and do at the temporary Snow Polo Village perched upon the frozen lake, this event map will help you to find your way around





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# TEAMS

A summary of the four teams competing in the Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2020



## TEAM AZERBAIJAN LAND OF FIRE 14

	1. Elchin Jamalli (Team Captain)	2
	2. Pato Bolanteiro	3
	3. Agustin Kronhaus	3
	4. Santiago Marambio	6
	Res. Rashad Hasanov	0
	Res. Ali Rzayev	0

Team Captain Elchin Jamalli returns to St. Moritz for the third year with Team Azerbaijan Land of Fire, joined once again by Agustin Kronhaus – this dynamic duo are no strangers to snow polo and this year are joined by Pato Bolanteiro and Santiago Marambio. Marambio is a familiar face on the European polo circuit, in June 2019 he lifted the Amadeus Cup at Villa A Sesta Polo Club in Tuscany and when not playing he can be found managing Poloclub Schloss Ebreichsdorf 30km outside of Vienna. No doubt Team Azerbaijan Land of Fire will dazzle the crowds with their determination and skill.



## TEAM BADRUTT'S PALACE HOTEL 18

	1. Melissa Ganzi (Team Captain)	0
	2. Juan Bautista Peluso	2
	3. Nic Roldan	8
	4. Alejandro Novillo Astrada	8

Team Badrutt's Palace Hotel are the defending champions of The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz, with Melissa Ganzi leading her team to victory in 2019, which meant Ganzi entered the history books as the first woman in history to win this illustrious snow polo tournament. Joined once again by Alejandro Novillo Astrada and Juan Bautista Peluso, both of whom were part of the 2019 winning line-up. 8 goal powerhouse Nic Roldan joins this team, who no doubt will be a firm favourite with the crowd.



## TEAM de GRISOGONO 17

	1. Zhanna Bandurko/ Valery Mishchenko (Team Captain)	0
	2. Robert Strom	5
	3. Max Charlton	7
	4. Santiago de Estrada	5

Zhanna Bandurko and Valery Mishchenko once again return to St. Moritz, this year captaining the newest team, Team de GRISOGONO. In 2019, Mishchenko, Strom and Charlton reached the Final but ultimately lost out to Team Badrutt's Palace Hotel. No doubt they will be keen to build and improve on their 2019 form, this year with the addition of Santiago de Estrada. Santiago 'Chino' de Estrada is a player and coach based in Argentina, who has over 20 years of playing and teaching experience. This detailed understanding of the game certainly makes this team a strong contender for the title.



## TEAM MASERATI 14

	1. Kutlay Yaprak (Team Captain)	1
	2. Fabio Meier	1
	3. Adrian Laplacette Jr	6
	4. Valentin Novillo Astrada	6

The Snow Polo World Cup St. Moritz 2020 sees a new Team Captain, with Kutlay Yaprak heading Team Maserati. Yaprak is joined by Adrian Laplacette Jr, who is no stranger to St. Moritz, this dynamic duo honed their snow polo technique together last year in Kitzbühel. Swiss player, Fabio Meier returns to St. Moritz once again, having last played in the tournament in 2017 for Team Perrier-Jouët. Valentin Novillo Astrada, part of the historic Novillo Astrada dynasty rounds off this competitive team.

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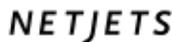
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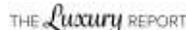
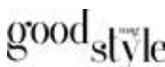
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