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# Maryland Polo Club

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## 2024 Season

Facebook - *Maryland Polo Club*  
Instagram - *@marylandpoloclub*



Email - *marylandpoloclub@gmail.com*  
Inquiries - *info@marylandpoloclub.com*

### *May 31st - September 13th*

#### ***Maryland Polo Club***

Tom Huber - *President*  
Max Hempt - *Vice President*  
PJ Orthwein - *Treasurer*  
Parker Pearce - *Club Manager*  
Art Gompf - *Maintenance*

#### ***Polo Lessons***

Email - *marylandpoloclub@gmail.com*

#### ***Web Design***

Foxtrot Media  
[www.marylandpoloclub.com](http://www.marylandpoloclub.com)

#### ***Magazine***

Holly H. Pearce - *Magazine Editor*  
Arabella Brockett/Andrew Erickson - *Advertising*

#### ***Event & Sponsorship Packages***

Email - *marylandpoloclub@gmail.com*

#### ***Patron Parking & Season Passes***

Email - *marylandpoloclub@gmail.com*

#### ***Publishing***

Accent Printers

#### ***Advertisers' Index***

Page 76



Bob Burkhard

#### ***EHC Polo Arena Address***

3403 Pocock Road  
Monkton, Maryland 21111

#### ***Maryland Polo Club Field Address***

3633 Fallston Road  
Jarrettsville, Maryland 21084

***Cover Photo: Mitch Adolph***

# Maryland Polo Club



## Letter from the President....

To our Friends and Patrons,

Welcome to the 2024 season at the Maryland Polo Club. Entering our 38<sup>th</sup> year we look forward to another season of competitive, action-packed polo at our terrific facility. Polo matches on Friday evenings (6PM) and Sunday afternoons (1PM) offer a great atmosphere to enjoy with family and friends.

Our new manager, Parker Pearce, is a familiar face to our regular patrons. Parker is a recent graduate of the University of Virginia where he was a member of UVA's National Intercollegiate Championship Team. He brings enthusiasm and energy to club management, and has worked diligently to prepare for the 2024 season. In addition to participating on the field and managing the club, Parker will oversee our intermediate/beginner program on Tuesday evenings. Plans are also in place to integrate arena play further into our offering. For anyone looking for an introduction to polo, the enclosed arena is a wonderful place to start. Please see Parker if you have an interest in polo at any level.

Several off-season projects should improve the experience for both players and spectators. Facility upgrades have been in the work for months. Boards have been put up on the Ladew field which will keep the ball in play and improve the flow of the game. You will notice the hillside opposite the announcer stand has been cleared. Initially it improves the view of the facility and longer term we hope to make it available for spectators. Both fields were top dressed and seeded to provide a safe and enjoyable playing surface. Improvements have also been made to our arena surface and drainage in anticipation of heavier use.

The MPC program (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. I think you will enjoy the photo gallery provided by our volunteer photographers. 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 2024 another successful season.

I look forward to seeing you at the fields,

Tom Huber

President, Maryland Polo Club



# 2024 Maryland Polo Club Schedule



## General Information

- Friday Night Polo:** 6:00 PM (Gates open: 4:45 PM)  
**Sunday Polo:** 1:00 PM (Gates open 11:45 PM)  
**Members Practice:** Wednesday 6:00 PM  
**Intermediate Practice:** Tuesday 6:00 PM (Intermediate Tournament Series last Tuesday every month)  
**Arena Practice:** Thursday 6:00 PM (To begin June 6<sup>th</sup> or earlier dependent on restoration project)

- May 24<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>: Pre-Season Practice  
May 26<sup>th</sup>: Opening BBQ for Playing Members  
**May 31<sup>st</sup>: Opening Day Regular Season**

## Tournament Schedule

- June 7<sup>th</sup> – June 9<sup>th</sup>: General George S. Patton, Jr (2-4 Goal)**  
(Entry Fee: \$1,200/team)  
**June 25<sup>th</sup>: NYTS Tournament** (Entry Fee: \$150/player)  
**July 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>: Women's Challenge WCT**  
A Flight: 8-10 Goal (TSP: \$2,500)(Entry Fee: \$1,500/team)  
B Flight: 4-6 Goal (Entry Fee: \$1,200/team)  
**July 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>: Constitution Cup (4-6 Goal)**  
(TSP: \$2,500) (Entry Fee: \$1,500/team)  
July 19<sup>th</sup>: Ronny Maher Memorial  
**Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>: Sand Cup (0-2 Goal)** (Entry Fee: \$800/team)  
**Aug 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>: Congressional Cup and Fred Peterson Memorial Trophy**  
(2-4 Goal) (TSP: \$2,500) (Entry Fee: \$1,200/team)  
**Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>: Spark Plug** (Entry Fee: \$150/player)  
(Reserved for Intermediates and players 1 goal or less)  
**Sept 1<sup>st</sup>: Labor Day Cup** (Entry Fee: \$200/player)  
**September 13<sup>th</sup>: Final Day of Polo** (Fall Arena Schedule TBD)

# Maryland Polo Club



## Letter from the Manager...

May 31st, 2024

To the Maryland Polo Club Community,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the 2024 Maryland Polo Club Season and serve as your manager. For those I have not yet met, my name is Parker Pearce. I grew up in Monkton, MD and recently graduated from the McIntire School of Commerce at the University of Virginia. Since a very young age, I have been a part of the Maryland Polo Club and I am truly looking forward to improving and continuing the tradition and growth of our club. In fact, this growth has already begun thanks to the help of our Board of Directors, volunteers, sponsors, the USPA, and many more. As Tom Huber mentioned in his President's letter, we are very excited to share these changes with you all. The most significant of those changes include: our recently cleared sideline for spectators, improved field conditions, utilization and restoration of the arena, and much more.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the start of the season. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Parker Pearce, Club Manager



# *Reserve Your Game Day Parking May 31st - September 13th, 2024*

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Sunday Patron ~ \$300  
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\*first come, first served, space is limited



Friday Matches @ 6pm

Sunday Matches @ 1pm

*Thank You...*

*Maryland Polo Club 2024 Patrons*

Season Schedule:

[www.marylandpoloclub.com](http://www.marylandpoloclub.com)

Parking Info: [marylandpoloclub@gmail.com](mailto:marylandpoloclub@gmail.com)





# Letter from the Editor...



Welcome to our 38<sup>th</sup> year of polo! Hopefully, Dawn, our gatekeeper, just met you with a big smile at the entrance and handed you this 2024 edition of the Maryland Polo Club Magazine. Each year the new publication unveils the “highlights” from our previous season. We hope you find the magazine to be a good source of information whether you are a player, spectator, advertiser, sponsor, or photographer.

Maryland Polo Club magazine has several new advertisers this year giving the pages a fresh look. Many advertisers renewed their ad spaces, as well, and we are so grateful for their continued support of the club. Take a look around the grounds and you may see that several advertisers chose to upgrade their advertising packages with a sponsorship that includes a banner along the the hillside. These contributions to our magazine are necessary for us to be able to produce this full-color (80) page publication. Thank you to every business and organization that participated!

Our dedicated photographers attend practices, tournaments, and events throughout the entire summer. Every photo submission is vital to the creation of the magazine. Please introduce yourself to a photographer and ask one of them to take a photo of your tailgate or family...you never know...you might just be in the 2025 edition next year!

~ Holly H.Pearce, Editor



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# NOTE TO SPECTATORS

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## SAFETY FIRST

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**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.

**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.

**Divot-Stomping:** Divot-stomping is a long standing tradition at halftime (after the third chukker). 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.

**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.

**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!



**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.



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# *Polo Basics & Terms*

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**The Field:** The regulation polo field is 300 yards (think 3 football fields end to end) 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 with a maximum of seven and a half minutes elapsed time. At the end of seven minutes, a horn will sound to indicate that thirty 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 obviously 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°, 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, and in tournament play there is a designated third referee on the sidelines.

**Ponies:** Actually horses, are selected for their speed, agility and stamina. Many are thoroughbreds under sixteen hands, and many are mares because they are more aggressive.

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# *Polo Basics & Terms*

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**Divoting:** The traditional half-time invitation to fans to walk on the field and “toe-in” the divots made by galloping horses. This repairs the field and provides an opportunity to socialize.

**The Shots:** Players execute shots from the “off ” (right) side of the horse. With reins in the left hand and mallet in the right, the player is only holding on with his/her legs. Players stand in the stirrups when they hit the ball.

**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.

## *Penalties & Handicaps*

### Penalty 1

Team fouled awarded a goal. The ball thrown in 10 yards from the goal without ends (of field) being changed.

### Penalty 2 (Un defended)

Free (undefended) hit from 30 yards opposite, the center of the goal, or from the point of infraction - Captain's choice.

### Penalty 3 (Un defended)

Free hit from 40 yards. Defenders are to be positioned behind the end line and outside the goal posts.



### Penalty 4

Free hit from 60 yards. Defenders must be positioned at least 30 yards from the ball.

### Penalty 5

Free hit from center of the field, or where the foul took place. Defenders must be positioned at least 30 yards from the ball.

### Penalty 6

A "safety" is awarded when the defending team hits the ball over their end line. A free hit is taken by the team fouled from a point 60 yards from the end line.

All players registered with the USPA are rated from -2 (novice) to 10 (the best) by a committee. (-2, -1, & 0 are also listed as C, B, & A respectively). The 0 rating is average, currently there are very few players in the world who are rated at 10.

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. Any difference of the two teams' ratings is awarded as points to the lesser-skilled team at the beginning of the game. For instance, if a 12-goal team plays against an 11-goal team, then one goal is awarded on the scoreboard for the 11-goal team at the start of the match. Interestingly, in tournament play, "under-handicapped" players are highly valued as they do not count so much in the total team handicap.

# Women's Grass Opener

6-17-23

Winners - Berube Polo

Runners-Up - Bay Harbor

MVP - Tammy Wiggs

BPP - Pam Patton's "Lexus"



# PHOTO CONTEST

**2024 Grand Prize Winner ~ Mitch Adolph ~ Cover Photo**

**2nd Place ~ Bob Burkhard**

**3rd Place ~ Kevin Moore**

**4th Place ~ Richard Armstrong**

Maryland Polo Club would like to recognize the following who contributed to the Magazine Contest and General Inclusion, Website and Facebook Page this year. Several photos from each photographer have been distributed in this issue and may or may not show a photo credit. "Thank you" to all the photographers that participated:

Mitch Adolph  
Richard Armstrong  
Bob Burkhard  
Tisa Della-Volpe

John Drennan  
Larry Hammerman  
Robert Keller  
Leisa Kelley

Judy Lalingo  
Kevin Moore  
Holly Pearce  
Paul Zappala

*Grand Prize "Winning Photo"*



*2nd Place*



*3rd Place*



*4th Place*



# 2023 Results

## July

### June

Womens Match

Winners - Berube Polo

Runners-Up - Bay Harbor

NYTS A

Winners - Berube Polo/Maryland Polo

Runners-Up - Pinkard Properties

NYTS B

Winners - Marlan Farm/Maryland Polo

Runners-Up - Ruda Polo

WCT B Flight

1st - Marlan Farm

2nd - Pinkard Properties Blue

3rd - Pinkard Properties White

WCT A Flight

1st - Pinkard Properties/Melinda's Prospect

2nd - Outlaw Polo

3rd - Dovecote

Ronny Maher Memorial

Winners - Dovecote

Runners-Up - Cobalt Mgmt Services

USPA 6 Goal Constitution Cup

Winners - Midlantic Ltd/Red Maple

Runners-Up - West Shore/Dovecote

### August

International Cup

1st - USA

2nd - Jamaica

3rd - Maryland Polo

USPA 4 Goal Patton Cup

Winners - Midlantic Ltd

Runners-Up - Dovecote

Spark Plug

Winners - Marlan Farm

Runners-Up - Ruda Polo





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**Ride. Learn. Succeed.**

Saddle Up Scholars is a nonprofit organization that partners with equestrian outreach programs to provide academic support to young horse enthusiasts from under-served communities. Our program harnesses the transformative power of education and the positive influence of horses to allow youth to embrace their potential and build a brighter future for themselves.

### Unbridling Potential

Riding and caring for horses boosts a young person's confidence by teaching them to be responsible, cooperative, and perseverant, so they can overcome challenges. These lifelong lessons in horsemanship, coupled with our academic assistance, help students set themselves up for success beyond the stable.

### Harnessing Education

Our tutors meet with students in weekly virtual sessions to offer tailored instruction and develop learning strategies. Some students need help with algebra homework or literacy skills, while others are seeking enrichment with more advanced concepts. We encourage and guide our students toward higher education options and career paths, as they navigate their own roads to success.

### Empowering Youth

Our students gain a sense of self-worth and accomplishment from working with horses, and our tutors connect lessons from the barn to lessons from school and encourage students to apply the confidence from their riding to their academics. Additionally, our students become trailblazers, breaking down the barriers to entry in equestrian sports and increasing diversity and representation.

### Our Equestrian Partners

BridgeUP GiddyUP      Charm City Polo      Work To Ride  
Great Strides Equestrian Foundation      The Schuster Foundation

[www.saddleupscholars.org](http://www.saddleupscholars.org)





# NYTS A Flight

6-20-23

Winners - Berube Polo/Maryland Polo

Runners-Up - Pinkard Properties

"All-Stars" - Sierra Blevins Rory Knox Marc Harley Liam Driscoll

BPP - Liv Stringer's "Boomerrang" played by Izzy Brockett



# NYTS B Flight

6-20-23

Winners - Marlan Farm/Maryland Polo

Runners-Up - Ruda Polo



# NYTS Awards Ceremony

## Adam Snow & Shelley Onderdonk, DVM



B Flight Winners



A Flight Winners



BPP - Liv Stringer's "Boomerang" played by Izzy Brockett



All-Stars A Flight



Tisa Della-Volpe



Holly Pearce



Holly Pearce



Holly Pearce



Tisa Della-Volpe



Tisa Della-Volpe



Holly Pearce



Tisa Della-Volpe



Holly Pearce



Holly Pearce



Paul Zappala



Paul Zappala

Youth/Intermediate "Winner"

Tisa Della-Volpe



Tisa Della-Volpe



Paul Zappala



Tisa Della-Volpe



Paul Zappala



Tisa Della-Volpe



Richard Armstrong

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- Photoshoots



# Meet the 2024 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



Sierra Blevins  
0/2/3/4  
Hereford High School  
Parkton, MD



Jake Brown  
2/5  
Monkton, MD



Laura Lee Brown  
0/1/4/5  
Monkton, MD



Arabella Brockett  
-1/0/1/2  
Monkton, MD



Izzy Brockett  
-1/2/2/3  
Garrison Forest School  
Monkton, MD



Joel Brockett  
1T/1T  
Monkton, MD



Jose Cervantes  
0/1



Josh Escapite  
1/2  
Aiken, SC



Will Green  
1/3  
Aiken, SC





Demitra Hajimihalidis  
-0.5/1/3/4  
Monkton, MD



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



Max Hempt  
0/2  
Aiken, SC



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



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



Rory Knox  
0/2/2/4  
Hereford High School  
Parkton, MD



Sarah Lynch  
-0.5/ 1/2/4  
Towson University  
Monkton, MD



Ashley Mackenzie  
Financial Advisor  
Northwestern Mutual  
Butler, MD



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



Orion Mercaitis  
-1/0  
Aiken, SC



Lindsey Morris  
-1/2/2/5  
SMU  
Baltimore, MD



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



PJ Orthwein  
2/4  
Spring Capital Partners  
Stevenson, MD



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



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



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



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



David Silvestre  
2T/2T  
Stevenson, MD



Liv Stringer  
0/2/4/5  
LIV Polo  
Aiken, SC



Marissa Wells  
1/4/5/9  
Marlan Farm  
Freeland, MD



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



### 2023 Polo Training Foundation Awards

Daniel Colhoun Lifetime Achievement Award  
"Daniel Colhoun"



Stephen A. Orthwein  
Intercollegiate Player of the Year  
"Parker C. Pearce" – University of Virginia

### 2024 USPA National Interscholastic Champions

Marlan Farm Polo



Kylie Beard "Sierra Blevins"  
Coach Kelly Wells  
"Rory Knox" "Izzy Brockett"

### 2023 USPA Women's Arena Open Champions

OC Polo



Mila Slutzky  
"Izzy Brockett"  
"Marissa Wells"

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# Intercollegiate Polo

Established in 1986, Maryland Polo Club has several members that have been around for 38 years in some capacity whether still playing, volunteering, or coaching. Collectively over 38 years, 64 members past and present have played collegiate polo representing 14 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, or West Shore Polo. 50% of the current 2024 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 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 Hajimihalís  
Caroline Hardie  
Tom Huber  
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 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

# "Polo Lesson"



Tisa Della-Volpe

*Ride Off*



Mitch Adolph

*Neck Shot*

*Hook*



Tisa Della-Volpe

*Bump*



Tisa Della-Volpe

# "Polo Lesson"



Mitch Adolph

*Offside Foreshot*



Mitch Adolph

*Offside Backshot*

*Nearside Backshot*

*Nearside Foreshot*



Tisa Della-Volpe



Mitch Adolph



Richard Armstrong



Paul Zappala



Richard Armstrong



Paul Zappala



Kevin Moore



3  
or  
More

Grand Prize  
"Winner"

— Mitch Adolph—



Mitch Adolph



Bob Burkhard

2nd Place  
Bob Burkhard

# — Polo Gear for Pony & Player —



PC: Mitch Adolph

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 hoof to pivot 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.

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# 10 Goal Exhibition Match - Weber Field

6-25-23

Thank you, Pros, for visiting Maryland Polo Club!

"Felipe Viana" - "Nachí Viana" - "Tommy Huber"

---



Photo Credits: Richard Armstrong & Holly Pearce

10 Goal ...



Photo Credits: Richard Armstrong, Holly Pearce, & Paul Zappala



10 Goal ...



Photo Credits: Richard Armstrong & Holly Pearce

# Women's WCT B Flight

7-15-23

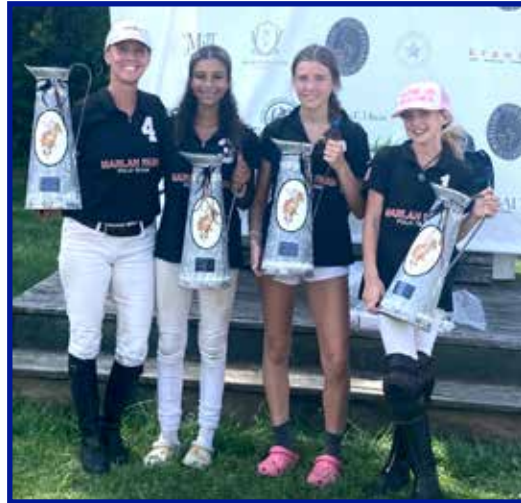
1st Place - Marlan Farm

2nd Place - Pinkard Properties Blue

3rd Place - Pinkard Properties White

MVP - Ana Grace Karpovich

BPP - Liv Berube's "Coquita" played by Holly Pearce & Tammy Wiggs





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*Katherine Pinkard and the team at Pinkard Properties are proud to support the Maryland Polo Club for the 2024 season.*



# Women's WCT A Flight

7-17-23

1st Place - Pinkard Properties/Melinda's Prospect  
2nd Place - Outlaw Polo      3rd Place - Dovecote  
MVP - Sophie Grant      BPP - Liv Berube's "Amber"





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Photos courtesy of R. Keller



# 26<sup>th</sup> Ronny Maher Memorial Polo Match

*Benefits R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, University of Maryland*

FRIDAY, JULY 19

# 2024

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

# 25th Ronny Maher Memorial

7-21-23

Winners - Dovecote

Runners-Up - Cobalt Management Services

BPP - Nate Berube's "Amber"





Tisa Della-Volpe



Bob Keller



Bob Keller



Tisa Della-Volpe



Tisa Della-Volpe

# "Thank you Bob Keller for your photos!"





# "Thank you Tisa Della-Volpe for your photos!"





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Bob Burkhard

---

Non-Action  
"Winner"  
Bob Burkhard

---



Bob Burkhard



Leisa Kelley



Bob Burkhard



Bob Burkhard



Bob Burkhard



Kevin Moore



Bob Burkard



Judy Lalingo



Kevin Moore



John Drennan



Judy Lalingo



Kevin Moore



Leisa Kelley



Bob Burkhard



John Drennan



Larry Hammerman

## Ponies & Equipment "Winner"

John Drennan



Paul Zappala



Paul Zappala



Paul Zappala



Richard Armstrong



Mitch Adolph



1 on 1 "Winner"

Richard Armstrong

4th Place



# USPA 6 Goal Constitution Cup

7-23-23

Winners - Midlantic/Red Maple

Runners-Up - West Shore/Dovecote



PC: Mitch Adolph





PC: Mitch Adolph



# International Weekend - Ladew Field



August 4th - 6th

Thank you, Jamaica, for visiting Maryland Polo Club!  
"Shane Chin" - "Conrad Shin" - "Paul Chin" - "Kurt Chin"

## International Cup



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# International Cup

8-6-23

1st Place - USA

2nd Place - Jamaica

3rd Place - Maryland Polo

MVP - Izzy Brockett

BPP - Liv Berube's "Wanda" played by Paul Chin



# International Weekend...



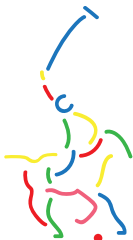
Bob Burkhard



Mitch Adolph



Mitch Adolph



Bob Burkhard



Mitch Adolph



Bob Burkhard

# International Weekend...



Mltch Adolph



Paul Zappala



Richard Armstrong



Paul Zappala



Mltch Adolph



Mltch Adolph



Mltch Adolph

# USPA 4 Goal Patton Cup

8-16-23

Winners - Midlantic Ltd  
MVP - Vlad Tarashansky

Runners-Up - Dovecote  
BPP - Parker Pearce's "Samurai"





PC: Mitch Adolph



Mltch Adolph



John Drennan



Paul Zappala



Richard Armstrong



Individual  
"Winner"

— Kevin Moore —  
3rd  
Place



# Spark Plug

8-30-23

## Winners - Marlan Farm

MVP - Tori Picha

BPP - Posey Obrecht's "Paint" played by Emma Paternotte



# Labor Day Cup

9-3-23

## Maryland Polo



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Mitch Adolph



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John Drennan



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Mitch Adolph

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&  
Tailgating  
"Winner"

— Mitch Adolph —

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Leisa Kelley



Leisa Kelley

Children/Pets "Winner"  
—— Leisa Kelley ——



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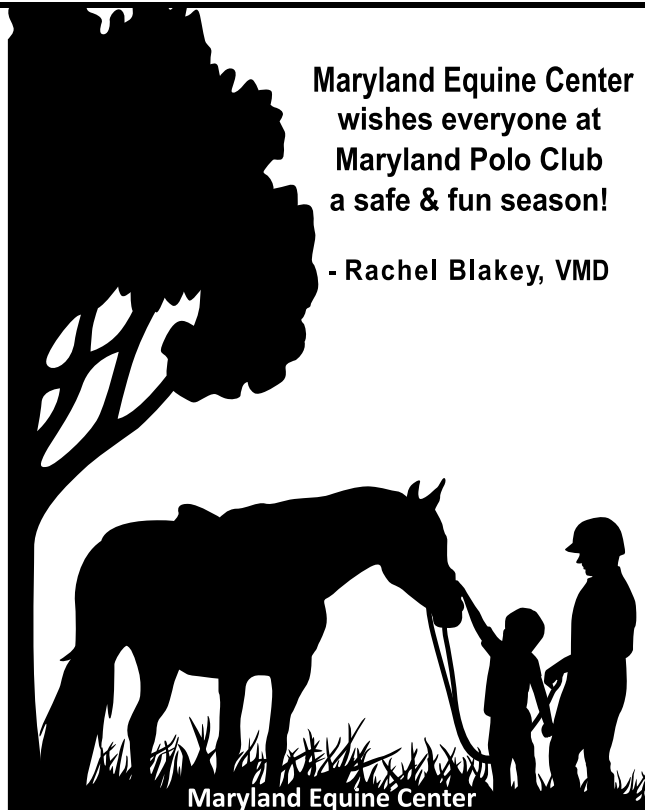
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**- Rachel Blakey, VMD**



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Paul Zappala



Richard Armstrong

Women's Polo "Winner"  
—— Richard Armstrong ——



Bob Burkhard



John Drennan



Bob Burkhard



Paul Zappala





Mitch Adolph



Kevin Moore



Richard Armstrong



John Drennan



Kevin Moore



Bob Burkhard

# — Thank You! —

## 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 2023 season...



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# PHOTO CONTEST CATEGORIES

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Individual	Women's Polo	Tailgating & Spectators
1 on 1	Youth/Intermediate	Children & Pets
3 or More	Ponies & Equipment	Non-Action
	Arena	



ENTRIES CLOSE JAN. 31st, 2025

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](mailto:hhpearce@yahoo.com)

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## NOTE

It is very helpful to DATE your files, as we have 10 tournaments.

These dates make it possible for us to use your photos on tournament HIGHLIGHT pages.

---



PC: Kevin Moore

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PC: John Drennan



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