

INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB PALM BEACH

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2020

# Sunday **POLO** Paper

**USPA Gold Cup®**

The second leg of the  
GAUNTLET OF POLO®





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# TODAY'S FEATURE MATCH

• **USPA GOLD CUP®** •

## Coca-Cola

1 Gillian Johnston    2 Steve Krueger    3 Nico Pieres    4 Julian de Lusaretta



HANDICAP 1



HANDICAP 4



HANDICAP 9



HANDICAP 8

## Equuleus

1 Magoo Laprida    2 Inaki Laprida    3 Mariano Gonzalez    4 Joe DiMenna



HANDICAP 8



HANDICAP 7



HANDICAP 8



HANDICAP 0



White Fence  
EQUINE PHOTOGRAPHY

# SITE MAP

International Polo Club Palm Beach



## FAQs IPC Sunday Polo

**How much does parking cost?**

General admission parking is \$5 Valet parking for The Pavilion is \$10

**When does the game start?**

The feature polo match begins at 3 p.m. Our gates open at 12 p.m. and brunch in The Pavilion is served at 2 p.m. It usually lasts about 2 hours total.

**Are there activities for my kids?**

Yes, we have various obstacle games and kid-friendly food and beverages located in the Wellington Regional Medical Center Kids Fun Zone by the General Admission seating.

**What happens at halftime?**

At halftime, after the 3rd chukker, spectators are welcomed onto the field for a complimentary glass of champagne. Be sure to grab a class located in one of the barrels first, and then find a server by one of the pick-up trucks to fill up your glass. Golf carts located in the center of the field will also be handing out ice cream for all guests.

**Are food and beverages available?**

Yes, visit one of the bars located in between each section of the stadium or along the top of the stadium if you are sitting in a box seat. All bars serve alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages as well as snacks and light meals. Food trucks are also stationed by the general admission zone with more food and drink options.

**What happens after the game?**

After the match, all fans are encouraged to join us down on the field for the awards ceremony where the winners will be presented with trophies and fans will be able to take photos or even get an autograph from their favorite players.

Spectators are also welcome to enjoy the after party taking place in the Pavilion with a live DJ and full cash bar!

## Learn To Play Polo This Winter!

**Lessons available  
7 days a week**

All ages and riding levels welcome

**Call  
203-232-6935  
to learn more!**

3667 120TH AVENUE SOUTH • WELLINGTON, FL 33414 • [internationalpoloclub.com](http://internationalpoloclub.com)

## Schedule

**4 GOAL (4 CHUKKERS)**

March 15 - April 4      **Stefano Laviano Cup**

April 4 - April 19      **Palm Beach County  
Sports Commission Cup**

**IPS Spring Series (6 Goal & 10 Goal)**

April 30 - May 10

May 15 - May 24

May 27 - June 7

*For more details about the tournaments, practice schedules, and field locations contact [jgridley@equestriansport.com](mailto:jgridley@equestriansport.com).*

## 2020 LOW GOAL TOURNAMENT DETAILS

- 3 matches guaranteed per tournament
- IPS can assist in formation of half teams
- Tuesday and Thursday practices
- All competitors must be registered USPA members



# TEAM PROFILE

## Coca-Cola

A mainstay at the International Polo Club Palm Beach (IPC), Coca-Cola has consistently competed at the high-goal level, led by patron Gillian Johnston. Returning to the team in the Gauntlet of Polo® for the second consecutive year, Julian de Lussarreta and Steve Krueger are joined by newcomer Nico Pieres, who comes off a successful 2019 season in the USA, UK and Argentina. With offensive firepower from the front to back of their line-up, Coca-Cola squares off against Equuleus on Sunday's feature 3pm game on the U.S. Polo Assn. Field 1.

Fighting to recapture their winning ways at IPC, claiming their last major title in the 2017 Ylvisaker Cup, Coca-Cola's revitalized attack has seen a significant improvement in this year's Gauntlet of Polo®, scoring 11.5 goals per game compared to just 9.7 in 2019. A consistent feature of Coca-Cola's attack has been their focus on utilizing the pass, moving the ball with pace towards goal to break any of the four receivers free. Trailing only Postage Stamp Farm in assists per game, Coca-Cola will bring that exciting style of play to the field on Sunday, seeking to capture their second win and improve their chances of reaching the



quarterfinals in the USPA Gold Cup®.

Leading the team in shot attempts with 20, Gillian Johnston excels playing a prototypical #1 position, displaying an innate sense for when to race downfield to receive a pass. Strong horsepower that includes horses from her G-String Polo Ponies breeding operation, Johnston puts herself in position to pick up

and move the ball with accuracy, scoring 10 goals through four games this season. While not producing the same amount of offense, Coca-Cola's defense is anchored by Steve Krueger, who effectively supports his teammates' runs and often acts as the catalyst in transitioning to offense. In arguably his best game of the season, Krueger came forward in Coca-Cola's overtime win against Cessna to contribute three goals and provide secondary scoring alongside Coca-Cola's elite duo.

Since emerging onto the scene in 2016 during Orchard Hill's U.S. Open Championship run, Julian de Lussarreta has advanced to an 8-goal handicap and has become one of the most impactful players in the Gauntlet of Polo®. Leading the team in field goals due to accurate 66.7% shooting that places him fourth among all players, de Lussarreta can string together goals in quick succession, providing Coca-Cola with the opportunity to match any team on the scoreboard. While he has been responsible for directing Coca-Cola's offense in past seasons, de Lussarreta is joined by notable 9-goaler Nico Pieres, who enters 2020 after an impressive 2019 season that saw him capture the prestigious Cartier Queen's Cup as well as the Jockey Club Open and Tortugas Open in Argentina. Scoring 4.8 goals per game, 3.5 of which came from the penalty line, Pieres brings a winning pedigree in high-pressure moments, including a penalty four conversion in overtime to secure Coca-Cola's first victory in the tournament.

Coca-Cola's fast, team-based attack returns to IPC on Sunday against Equuleus in the feature 3pm game, on the U.S. Polo Assn. Field 1.



**#LIVEAUTHENTICALLY**  
**@USPOLOASSN**



# USPA Gold Cup®

The second leg of the GAUNTLET OF POLO®

## THIS WEEK'S RESULTS:

### Monday, March 2

Las Monjitas defeated Patagones 9-8

### Tuesday, March 3

Dutta Corp defeated Equuleus 11-6

Coca-Cola defeated Cessna 14-13

### Wednesday, March 4

La Indiana defeated Postage Stamp Farm 13-11

Santa Clara defeated Daily Racing Form 9-8

### Thursday, March 5

Park Place defeated Old Hickory Bourbon 9-6

## UPCOMING GAMES:

### Sunday, March 8

10:30 a.m.	Las Monjitas vs. Dutta Corp	Bracket III/IV
12:30 p.m.	Santa Clara vs. La Indiana	Bracket I
3:00 p.m.	Equuleus vs. Coca-Cola	Bracket III/IV

### Monday, March 9

11:00 a.m.	Postage Stamp Farm vs. Daily Racing Form	Bracket I
3:00 p.m.	Cessna vs. Patagones	Bracket III/IV

### Tuesday, March 10

11:00 a.m.	Old Hickory Bourbon vs. Pilot	Bracket II
3:00 p.m.	Park Place vs. Tonkawa	Bracket II

### Saturday, March 14

11:00 a.m.	Quarterfinal I
3:00 p.m.	Quarterfinal II

### Sunday, March 15

11:00 a.m.	Quarterfinal III
3:00 p.m.	Quarterfinal IV

### Wednesday, March 18

11:00 a.m.	Semifinal I
3:00 p.m.	Semifinal II

### Sunday, March 21

3:00 p.m. Final of the USPA Gold Cup®

**Call the Polo Hotline for field assignments:  
561-282-5290**



Alexander Solotzew is Russian-German modern artist who resides in Sarasota, FL. He graduated from a renowned State Academy of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg, Russia. With more than 40 years of his artistic growth and experience, Alexander has been recognized as an honored citizen and has been awarded a gold medal for his cultural and artistic contribution in Germany. Alexander was recognized as an extraordinary artist by the Russian State Museum in St. Petersburg which named him "the heir of the Russian avant garde" for his unique and creative artwork.

Solotzew's reputation as an "artist par excellence" has earned him high praise among the established elite of fine art critics of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York as well as art historians in Europe. At the present time, he continues to work on various art projects and conducts solo exhibitions in Europe and the United States. His artworks have been acquired by private collections all over the world and some works accepted in international museums.

Alexander maintains several studio-galleries on both continents. In search for new inspirations he paints live when he travels.

Original artworks and giclee art prints embellished by the Artist are available upon request. Please contact Fine Art Solotzew for details.

**Fine Art**  
**solotzew** (941) 780-2897  
art.solotzew@gmail.com  
www.solotzew.com

JOIN US FOR A  
**Festive Easter Sunday**  
AT THE INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB  
**April 12, 2020**  
Gates open at 12:00 p.m.  
Easter Egg Hunt Begins at 1:45 p.m.  
on U.S. Polo Assn. Field 1

Visit  
[InternationalPoloClub.com/SundayTickets](http://InternationalPoloClub.com/SundayTickets)  
to reserve your seats now

INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB  
PALM BEACH



**BENEFITTING**  
*susan g. komen.*  
FLORIDA

# U.S. Open Women's Polo Championship™

**SATURDAY  
MARCH 21**

**U.S. POLO ASSN. FIELD 1**  
at International Polo Club

**FREE GENERAL ADMISSION**  
**\$10 PARKING**

*Proceeds benefit Susan G. Komen Florida*

Visit [internationalpoloclub.com](http://internationalpoloclub.com)  
for tickets & more information!

U.S. POLO ASSN. SINCE 1900

PORT MAYACA POLO CLUB

INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB PALM BEACH

3667 120th Ave. S.  
Wellington, FL

**All preliminary games will be held at Port Mayaca Polo Club.  
The Final will be played at the International Polo Club Palm Beach**

**Thursday, March 12**

10:30 a.m.	Dundas vs. Mint Eco Car Wash - Game 1	Bracket I
12:00 p.m.	Rocking P vs. Hawaii Polo Life - Game 2	Bracket I

**Friday, March 13**

10:30 a.m.	Cowdray Vikings vs. BTA/Villages - Game 3	Bracket II
12:00 p.m.	Iconica vs. San Saba/Polo Gear - Game 4	Bracket II

**Monday, March 16**

10:00 a.m.	Winner of Game 1 vs. Loser of Game 3
11:30 a.m.	Winner of Game 2 vs. Loser of Game 4
1:00 p.m.	Winner of Game 3 vs. Loser of Game 1
2:30 p.m.	Winner of Game 4 vs. Loser of Game 2

**Thursday, March 19**

10:30 a.m.	Semifinal I - 1st vs. 4th
12:00 p.m.	Semifinal II - 2nd vs. 3rd

**Saturday, March 21**

1:00 p.m.	Final of the U.S. Open Women's Polo Championship™ on the U.S. Polo Assn. Field 1
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# SUNDAY GALLERY

Share your Sunday funday photos on Instagram and tag @InternationalPoloClub for a chance to be featured here each weekend! #IPCSundayPolo



# PLAYER PROFILE

## Mariano "Peke" Gonzalez

Barely 20 years of age, Mariano 'Peke' Gonzalez is competing in the Gauntlet of Polo™ for the second consecutive year, joining Postage Stamp Farm after a successful 2019 season with Iconica. Recently increased from a 5-goal to a 6-goal handicap, Gonzalez follows in the footsteps of his father Mariano, who currently plays for Equuleus. Despite the young age, Peke Gonzalez has a wealth of experience in some of the most competitive tournaments in the USA and Argentina, as well as representing Team USA in the 2018 Westchester Cup. Arguably a highlight of his young career, Peke won the 2017 Copa Provincia in Argentina, playing alongside his father in a tournament that had been won by his grandfather back in 1958. The latest generation in a polo-playing family, Gonzalez has risen through the sport at a rapid rate, striving to reach the level of the elite players in the world.

Emerging onto the high-goal scene at the International Polo Club Palm Beach with notable organizations such as Orchard Hill and Valiente, Gonzalez's jump to the 22-goal level began in 2019 with Iconica. Just two years earlier in 2017, Gonzalez held a 4-goal handicap, with his play at the International Polo Club Palm Beach warranting a handicap increase in three of the last four years. A steady progression by playing with top players each season, Gonzalez's improvement was highlighted in the inaugural Gauntlet of Polo™ when he reached the semi-finals of the CaptiveOne U.S. Open



Polo Championship®. An integral part of Iconica's success, Gonzalez led the team with 4.4 goals per game despite being the third-highest rated player on the team.

Now a member of Postage Stamp Farm, one of two teams yet to lose this season, Gonzalez has been a standout player, ranking fourth among all players with 5.7 goals per game which places him alongside the notable 9-goal and 10-goal players in the Gauntlet of Polo™. While his father has consistently been one of the best penalty takers in the sport, Peke Gonzalez has stepped into that responsibility for Postage Stamp Farm and performed admirably, scoring 10 penalties in just three games. The addition

of penalty shooting contributes to Gonzalez's already well-rounded game, as he has an exceptional ability to finish around goal, but also defend with high pressure without fouling. However, the evolution of Gonzalez's play this season might be most evident by his ability to find teammates with the pass, collecting six assists, matching his total from all of last season. Playing in front of experienced players Mariano Aguerre and Lerin Zubiaurre, Gonzalez has continued to push the Postage Stamp Farm forward, resulting in the second-best offense thus far at 11.7 goals per game.

## THE GAME OF POLO

A sport unlike any other, polo showcases the powerful bond between a player and his or her equine partner. As one of the oldest team sports, polo is an exhilarating combination of horsepower, athleticism and control. Competing on a 300 by 160 yard grass field, players score by driving the ball into the opposing team's goal using a bamboo mallet while riding at speeds of up to 35 mph.

### PLAY

Plays are based on the "line of the ball," an imaginary line created by the ball as it travels down the field. It represents a right-of-way for the last player striking the ball, and is the basis for most fouls in the game. Players may try to hook or "ride off" their opponents in an effort to gain control of the ball.

### TEAMS AND HANDICAPS

A team consists of four mounted players and can be a mix of both men and women. Players are handicapped on a scale of -2 to 10, as determined by a player's horsemanship, hitting ability, quality of horses, team play and game sense. The team handicap is the sum of its players' total handicaps. A player's jersey number reflects the position they play, with each number indicating a different objective.

### THE HORSES

Although the real stars of the game are called polo "ponies," the term is just a tradition; an old rule limiting their height was dropped in 1919. Today's players prefer horses with a Thoroughbred's speed and stamina in their bloodlines. These four-legged athletes can run two miles in a single chukker: seven-and-a-half minutes of starting, stopping, swapping from offense to defense in a single stride. The mane is shaved and the tail wrapped so that they are not entangled in reins, mallets and other equipment, especially when the horses are bumping shoulder to shoulder at 35 mph.

### EQUIPMENT

Players wear a safety helmet, knee-high boots, white pants, jersey and carry a polo mallet held in the right hand during play. The mallet is made of a bamboo shaft measuring between 48 to 54 inches in length with a wooden head. The game ball is made of hard plastic and is comparable in size to a baseball.

### THE OFFICIALS

During games, two mounted Umpires officiate on the field while a Referee assists from the sidelines. The rules of polo are designed to allow both the players and their equine partners the opportunity to maximize their athletic skills in a safe and fair environment.

### HALFTIME

As a sport steeped in tradition, the "Divot Stomp" is one of polo's oldest practices. At halftime, spectators are invited to walk onto the field to socialize and replace the divots that are created by the horses' hooves during play. The ten-minute break in the middle of the game gives players and horses a chance to rest and regroup.



## FAST GAME FAST FACTS

**4 PLAYERS**  
per team.

**6 CHUKKERS**  
or periods in a match.

**35 MPH**  
top SPEED  
of a polo pony.

**300 YDS. X 160 YDS.**  
**THE SIZE**  
of a regulation polo field. Equivalent to nine football fields.

**48 POLO PONIES**  
are used per game. Most players play one or more horses each chukker.

**7½ MINUTES**  
in a chukker.

**110 MPH SPEED**  
a polo ball can reach during play.

**10 MINUTES**  
during half-time when you can walk the field and help replace the divots created during play.

# USPA GOLD CUP®

## Equuleus vs Coca Cola



### POLO'S ULTIMATE TEST

14 Teams, 3 Events, 1 Champion – Who will be crowned Gauntlet Champion?

WATCH ALL HIGHLIGHTS ON [GLOBALPOLO.COM](http://GLOBALPOLO.COM) | [@GAUNTLETOFPOLO](https://twitter.com/GAUNTLETOFPOLO)



#### Cessna (CES)

Chip Campbell (2)  
Felipe Marquez (7)  
Ezequiel 'Gallego' Martinez Ferrario (7)  
Nicolas 'Nico' Saenz (5)



#### Daily Racing Form (DRF)

James 'Jared' Zenni (6)  
Tomas 'Tommy' Collingwood (5)  
Constancio 'Costi' Caset (5)  
Agustin Obregon (6)



#### Equuleus (EQU)

Joseph 'Joe' DiMenna (0)  
Mariano Gonzalez (7)  
Christian 'Magoo' Laprida (8)  
Ignacio 'Inaki' Laprida (7)



#### Las Monjitas (MON)

Camilo Bautista (0)  
Mackenzie Weisz (3)  
Francisco Elizalde (9)  
David 'Pelon' Stirling (10)



#### Park Place (PPL)

Alfredo Bigatti (8)  
Andrey Borodin (0)  
Juan Britos (8)  
Felipe Viana (6)



#### Pilot (PIL)

Curtis Pilot (0)  
Facundo Pieres (10)  
Gonzalo 'Gonzalito' Pieres (10)  
Lucas Escobar (2)



#### Santa Clara (SCL)

Luis Escobar (4)  
Matias Magrini (7)  
Ignatius "Nachi" Du Plessis (8)  
Henry Porter (3)



#### Coca-Cola (CC)

Gillian Johnston (1)  
Julian 'Negro' de Lusarreta (8)  
Nicolas 'Nico' Pieres (9)  
Steve Krueger (4)



#### Dutta Corp (DUT)

Timmy Dutta (3)  
Mariano 'Nino' Obregon (7)  
Facundo Obregon (6)  
Lucas Diaz Alberdi (6)



#### La Indiana (IND)

Santiago Gomez Romero (4)  
Michael Bickford (2)  
Pablo 'Polito' Pieres (10)  
Jeffrey 'Jeff' Hall (6)  
Esteban Panelo (4)



#### Old Hickory Bourbon (OHB)

Stephen 'Stevie' Orthwein (4)  
Miguel Novillo Astrada (9)  
Victorino 'Torito' Ruiz Jorba (7)  
Will Johnston (2)



#### Patagones (PTG)

Gonzalo Avendaño (1)  
Santiago Toccalino (8)  
Tomas Garcia del Rio (8)  
Geronimo Obregon (5)



#### Postage Stamp Farm (PSF)

Annabelle Gundlach (0)  
Mariano Aguerre (8)  
Valerio 'Lerin' Zubiaurre (8)  
Mariano 'Peke' Gonzalez (6)



#### Tonkawa (TKA)

Jeff Hildebrand (0)  
Guillermo 'Sapo' Caset (10)  
Ignacio 'Cubi' Toccalino (8)  
Matias 'Colo' Gonzalez (4)  
Matthew 'Matt' Coppola (4)

(S)=Substitute





**USPA Gold Cup®**

Sunday, March 8, 2020 • 3:00 p.m.  
U.S. Polo Assn. Field 1



TEAM Coca-Cola COLORS \_\_\_\_\_

Rating	Pos.	PLAYER	1	2	3	4	5	6	Of	Totals
1	1	G. Johnston								
4	2	S. Krueger								
9	3	N. Pieres								
8	4	J. Lusaretta								
	ALT									
22	Team Rating	Totals	By handicap						0	
TOTAL										



TEAM Equuleus COLORS \_\_\_\_\_

Rating	Pos.	PLAYER	1	2	3	4	5	6	Of	Totals
8	1	M. Laprida								
7	2	I. Laprida								
7	3	M. Gonzalez								
0	4	J. Dimenna								
	ALT									
22	Team Rating	Totals	By handicap						0	
TOTAL										

Defending Champion:  
Today's Announcer: **Tony Coppola**



INTERNATIONAL POLO CLUB  
PALM BEACH



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