Reminiscing

130 YEARS

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Diana The Hui Ling
Greg Parkhurst
Melissa Ko
Tan Hock

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Head, Finance Woo Lee Choo
Head, Membership, Stephanie Lim
Marketing & Communications
Human Resource Manager Alinna Li
Events & Banquet Manager Irene Li
Membership Manager Darma Sahari
Lead Riding Instructor Daniel Sitranen
Polo Administration Manager Sunny Oh
Maintenance, Tender & Purchasing Manager Han Peck Hoe
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Singapore Polo Club members get to enjoy special privileges.
OPERATING HOURS

FRONT DESK
7.30am – 9.00pm (Sunday to Thursday)
7.30am – 10.00pm (Friday & Saturday)

F&B OUTLETS
The Polo Bar
8.00am – 11.00pm (Daily)

The Mountbatten Room
8.00am – 11.00pm (Daily)

The Verandah
8.00am – 11.00pm (Daily)

(Food order at 10.30pm except for Poolside at 10.00pm)

FACILITIES
Gaming
10.00am – 1.00am
(Sunday – Thursday & Public Holiday)
10.00am – 2.30am (Friday, Saturday & Public Holiday Eve)

Gym
7.00am – 9.00pm (Weekdays)
8.00am – 8.00pm (Weekends)

Jacuzzi
7.00am – 9.00pm (Daily)

LUSH Spa
10.00am – 9.00pm (Daily)

Sauna
7.00am – 9.00pm (Daily)

Squash Court
8.00am – 10.00pm (Daily)

Swimming Pool
7.00am – 9.00pm (Daily)

Tennis Courts
8.00am – 10.00pm (Daily)

The Polo Loft
9.00am – 7.00pm (Tues –Sun)

Towel Counter
7.00am – 9.00pm (Daily)

President’s Message
New Members
Our New General Manager
69th Annual General Meeting
Singapore Polo Club Outreach Programme
Reminiscing 130 Years of Memories
What’s On
By Design

CHUKKAS
Snippets from The Club Tournament 2016
Beach Polo Singapore

TROT, CANTER, JUMP
“Good Morning Boys!”

Our Young Riders
Para Equestrian Rider

SPOTLIGHT
Beer, BBQ & Quality Time
What an Egg-citing Easter!
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The Polo season is finally back! I know the riders are looking forward to the various competitions lined up in this sun-sational year. Gone were the days of heavy downpour, we are finally embracing the warmth of the sun! What a good start to the year of the Monkey!

Our AGM was held on 29 March 2016 with a limited quorum and although we managed to get through all the standard items, we were not able to vote for the Constitutional amendments as proposed.

The members had expressed the need to research into the MasterPlan deeper as well as an urgent call for upgrading and diversification of revenue sources.

The Committee intends to re-propose the MasterPlan at an EGM by the third quarter on top of presenting an overhaul of the Constitution by that time. At the moment, the guest rooms project will temporarily be suspended.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the outgoing Committee members, Jonathan Gabler, Gerry Gan and Leon Chu for their contributions to the Club.

The 2016 / 2017 Committee is special as it is the first time three ladies are on board, with Diana The joined by Amelie Moore and Melissa Ko. We are certain this new committee will bring the club to greater heights!

As our Club turns 130 years old, it is essential to ensure we take turns to share the responsibility of governing this great institution.

Whilst it is a real privilege to take part in such a diverse and vibrant equestrian club, it has been challenging in the last few years, with plenty of concerns to address. I hope that as we rejoice in our 130th anniversary, we will renew our energy and enthusiasm for the club and one another to further strengthen the wonderful foundation of equestrians and members which we've built thus far.

I would like to urge all of our members to assume positive intent and let's all play our parts to create an atmosphere where our individual aspirations as well as the club’s can be achieved. We should not let challenges fragment us nor jeopardize our membership.

Moving forward, please join me in welcoming our new General Manager, Sylvan Braberry who had vast experiences in members’ clubs like Warren Golf & Country Club, Seletar Country Club and Singapore Island Country Club. He was also heavily involved in private enterprises’ management of manpower which is quite similar to that in our Stable Yards, Grounds and Clubhouse. Enhanced Membership Communication and Human Resource issues are definitely aspects the Club will be increasingly involved with. Good luck GM!

I would also like to say a big “Thank You” to Stephanie Lim and Woo Lee Choo for holding the fort well in the past 3 months as Acting General Managers.

In the upcoming months, there will be plenty of activities to look forward to. One of the social events for this forthcoming quarter includes a 3 Day Summer Camp from 20-22 June for children aged between 7-12 years old. The aim of the camp is to allow our young ones to learn more about horses, riding, football, music, Zumba, explore the tennis clinic and engage themselves in Arts & Crafts and Science activities.

We will be appointing a number of Sub-Committees members this term and we’ll post the names and terms of reference on the notice board as well as on our e-news. Apart from advising the General Manager and the Committee within their scope, the other important role of the Sub-Committee is to act as a communication channel between members and management. So, please approach any of the Sub-Committees members should you have any feedback whether it is positive or negative so as to help us improve the Club.

Ever better, if you think you can and have time to contribute, please volunteer to the respective Convenors to join as a Sub-Committee member.

See you at the Club.

Best Regards,

Rickard Hogberg
President
A warm welcome to the new members who have recently joined the Singapore Polo Club family. We look forward to seeing you at the club!

**REGULAR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS**
- Alexandre Schmitz
- Basana Bhanu Harika
- Carmelam Polce
- Chang Young Bin
- Chew Cheng Moi
- Deanie Leanne Sultana
- Dev Ananth Durai
- Edoardo Giuseppe Mazza
- Fiona Heather Freeman
- Goh Pei-Ru Janessa
- Holly Stegman-Lye
- James H. Woodrow
- Lynette Lee
- Manuel Bobillier
- Matthew C.J. Talbot
- Mielow Soeren
- Moira O’Hagan
- Momoko Tamaki
- Pavitar Kaur Gill
- Tan Lian Choo
- Tan Wei Wei

**CHARTER MEMBER**
- Amy Kathleen Slayter
- Chan Su Yin Tracy
- David Charles Henwood
- Emilie Jany Augustin
- Kendall Johnson
- Liaw Tuan Mian Silvana
- Marie Godenir
- Michael Edward Brennan
- Michael Leutwyler
- Nawal Roy
- Ng Soh Hee
- Serena Kim Adsit
- Smita Gupta
- Timothy Alford
- Wong Kit Kit Winston
The Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of Sylvan Braberry as our new General Manager. Sylvan has almost 29 years’ experience in the hospitality, food & beverage and resorts industries, and has held various positions ranging from Club Chairman to CEO. These include being the CEO of the Singapore Island Country Club, where he managed the overall operations and administration of the Club, which had an operational turnover of more than $50 million and with a full-time staff strength of more than 700 over two locations. Over and above achieving specific operational and financial objectives during his tenure, he also improved and streamlined operations, productivity, overall efficiency and services that resulted in large financial savings for the club.

He was also previously the General Manager of Seletar Country Club and Warren Golf and Country Club.

The Committee is confident that with the vast experience and enthusiasm Sylvan is bringing to us, he will be a great asset to the Singapore Polo Club.

He will take up his position with effect from Friday, 1 April 2016, so please join us in welcoming Sylvan.

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Congratulations!

**Quarterly Staff Award**

Congratulations to Agilan A/L Manikamvasagam for being awarded the Quarterly Staff Award! As a supervisor in the Main Riding department, he has shown exceptional leadership skills, teamwork, initiative and passion. Well-liked by his peers as well as livery owners, Agilan constantly puts the needs of others first. He also genuinely cares about the school horses and the Club, often putting in extra hours without complaints.

Keep up with the good work, Agilan!
The Club’s 69th Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday, 29 March 2016. The results are as follows:

**COMMITTEE 2016/2017 elected unopposed as:**
- President: Rickard Hogberg
- Vice President: Satinder Garcha
- Polo Captain: Ali Namazie
- Hon Secretary: Lawrence Khong
- Hon Treasurer: Ali Reda
- Committee Members: Amelie Villeneuve-Moore, Diana The Hui Ling, Melissa Ko, Tan Hock

**Trustee Group 2016/2017 elected as:**
- Brian Miller
- Graham Cox
- Iqbal Jumabhoy
- Loh Kim Chah

**New Charter Polo Playing Members were elected:**
- Melissa Ko
- Vinod Kumar

**Resolution 1:**
Change of Constitution, Rule 37 – Extraordinary General Meetings
Change of Constitution, Rule 40A – Alterations to the Constitution

**Resolution 2:**
Change of Constitution, Rule 31 – Powers of the Committee
Resolution 3:
Change Of Constitution to Amend Rule 39 and as a Consequence Rules 9, 36, 40 and 52

The above resolutions 1, 2 and 3 were not voted on as the requisite quorum was not achieved and members present have no power to alter, repeal or make additions to any of the existing Rules in accordance to Constitution Rule 36 (d).

Resolution 4:
To Amend Rule 49 – Exclusion of Liabilities
Not approved to be tabled at AGM.

Resolution 5:
Rule 31.1(f) – Powers of the Committee
To spend S$320,000 on 5 polo ponies, water storage and a grass mower
Carried

Resolution 6:
Rule 37 a) That the Committee be empowered to abort the implementation of the resolution regarding guest rooms dated 24 March 2015; in its place, another resolution regarding the guest rooms will be proposed at a later date, to align with the Master Plan; and,
b) to proceed with the Phases 1, 1A, 2 and 2A of the Master Plan Project (as annexed) and to utilize an amount not exceeding $1,820,485 from the Club’s Facilities Improvement Fund for renovation of and upgrading of the Club’s facilities.
Not Carried
The Singapore Polo Club (SPC) is proud to announce its first Outreach Programme with First Toa Payoh Primary School. In our drive to be a net contributor to society and to provide new horizons for underprivileged Singaporean children, the Club has established a weekly programme, run over the course of eight weeks, to introduce up to 25 children to the wonderful world of horses.

It is often forgotten that Singapore has a diverse social fabric, and First Toa Payoh Primary School is a microcosm which reflects this. The school has 850 students over 4 grades, and the students who were selected for inclusion in this programme come from particularly troubled households where the children have no other extra-curricular activities and the parents are often not at home when the children return home from school.

The first session proved an emotional experience for all parties involved – exhilarating for the children and moving for us.

At the first session of the programme, Club riding instructor Krystal Wang’s first question, “Who here has ever seen a horse?” was met with silence and heads down, but one hand was raised and a shy voice asked, “Does it count if I saw it on TV?”
For all these children it was their first encounter with a real, live pony, and many started off standing a few metres away gazing in awe (mixed with a little fear) at this strange animal, but by the end of the hour, they had managed to overcome their wariness and were happily taking turns to give a hug.

Before the children would start learning how to ride, a foot mallet mini tournament on the polo field will be introduced at the end of each pony club session to give them a sense of feel of the game.

At the end of the day, every child participated with such enthusiasm and I felt very privileged to be part of this unique opportunity together with SPC. If not for SPC opening its doors for these children, they would certainly not be exposed to the world of horses at this age.

Ms Valerie Boffy, a SPC member who is leading the project with our riding instructors Daniel Sitranen, Krystal Wang and Melanie Turney, said, “I am proud to be associated with such an initiative, to be able to share our passion for horses and provide a moment of magic to these children.”

When we gave the children SPC polo shirts to mark this momentous occasion which they can wear throughout the programme, we were rewarded with heartwarming looks of pride on their faces which was enough to make our day.

Looking at the positive response from its first ever outreach programme, the club plans to roll out similar initiative to other schools, boys homes and community centers with a goal to reach out to over 80 - 100 kids per week across all races and religions as part of its long term vision to give back to society.

Article by Valerie Boffy
Formerly an Olympic Sport, the game of polo was usually known as “Game of Kings” and in the olden days, it was because of this nickname that the club toiled through hardships to earn its place in Singapore and nobody thought it would ever gain popularity.

Founded in 1886, the Singapore Polo Club (SPC) went from sharing the ground with avid golfers at the Singapore Sporting Club to its first ever premise in 1914 at Balestier Road to its exceptionally majestic grounds and facilities at Mount Pleasant Road today. From the likes of Lord Mountbatten, HRH Prince Charles, Prince Henry of Prussia and even Sultan Ibrahim of Johor, the Singapore Polo Club went through a turmoil of challenges which included declining wealth of the club, lack of support towards the game and unsuitable grounds of practice before it became what it is presently.

What started out as a notice in The Straits Times on February 1886 announcing a meeting to encourage men who were interested in polo to...
come together and pool their resources to establish a polo club in Singapore later became the key milestone which saw the formation of the Singapore Polo Club. Whilst polo was played leisurely at the racecourse of Singapore Sporting Club twice a week on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 4.30pm, much to the chagrin of golfers, it was never considered a sport which would further develop but that changed in a series of events during 1899 - early 1900.

In January 1899, the King’s Own Regiment (KOR) were transferred from Hong Kong to Singapore, using Singapore’s Sporting Club as their playing ground while in March 1899, Sultan Ibrahim of Johor announced he wanted to pick up the sport. Prince Henry of Prussia’s visit to the club in 1900 further sparked popularity in the game among elites in Singapore. All these let to the increased interest and membership of the club.

Soon with the growing numbers of members which consisted of both players and non-players, the committee of the polo club requested for an additional day of use at the grounds of Singapore Sporting Club but they were denied because of the Golf Club’s claims it had more members and thus needed more days. Thankfully, polo matches were still carried out at the grace of Sultan Ibrahim who offered the ground of Tyersall, his 65-acre home in Singapore for the game.

To accommodate to the bigger membership, the polo club moved to its first ever home at Balestier Road.
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on 12 March 1914 however it wasn’t long before the joy and exhilaration was halted. The grounds at Balestier proved too small to accommodate to the various matches. Alas, the search for a new and bigger location started at the end of 1930s with assistance from Singapore Turf Club.

In 1941, The Singapore Polo Club finally moved into its current home at Mount Pleasant Road, one which surprisingly came with its own clubhouse and stable; something which they’ve never had before. Though the grounds of the club were ready to be used, it wasn’t only until 1947 that games were held. This was because, with the Great Depression and two world wars, the club’s revenue was badly affected since majority of the players were regimental players who were often transferred, making it hard to secure a permanent pool of players. Even though there were a number of local players, it was not enough to cover the cost of running the club. Soon after, the club was used as a squatters’ settlement during the war.

Just how did the Singapore Polo Club bounce back from a squatters’ settlement to a promising polo ground?

Post World War II, tremendous improvements were made to the grounds during 1950s with influence from Lord Mountbatten, a dedicated polo player himself. One of the additions to the club was the creation of a pony/horse riding school for children. This drew more attention to the club and the general public began to join the club’s membership. However, the club wanted to concentrate on polo to increase its membership following the pullout of the British colony so it reduced subscription rates to attract local members.

Over the years as membership continued to soar, its expansion included swimming pools, tennis courts and so much more. Today, we relish in a state of the art club. As we celebrate the 130th anniversary of the club this year, let’s raise a toast to those who made it possible for us to enjoy the club today.

Happy 130th Anniversary, Singapore Polo Club!

Article by Nurul Nadiah
APRIL – JUNE 2016

Don’t miss the exciting line-up of events and activities!

CLUB & NOVICE TOURNAMENT
16 – 17 April

SINGAPORE OPEN
1 – 15 May

NATIONAL DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIP
20 – 22 May

BEACH POLO SINGAPORE
3 – 5 June

SUMMER CAMP
20 – 22 June
We’ve Revamped!

You’ll never miss out on another promotional update ever again with our newly refurbished website!

Launched on 11 April 2016, our website now boasts a more colorful picture of what we do here at the Singapore Polo Club. In addition, there is a ‘Subscribe’ button which will allow you to receive promotional and event updates automatically via your email. We hope you’ll enjoy the new website and don’t forget to subscribe!
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BY DESIGN

With dedicated members like Honorary Treasurer Ali Reda, the Singapore Polo Club is certainly in great hands.

When did you join the Singapore Polo Club (SPC) and what made you decide to be a member? I joined the Singapore Polo Club about 10 years ago.

What is your favourite aspect of SPC? The horses, the game of polo, the notion of being in a green haven within a metropolis.

Speaking of which, what drew you to the sport of polo? A friend in Dubai introduced the sport to me while I was building the ‘Desert Palm Estate Development’ for him; although, horses have always been a family passion. My grandfather was a breeder of ‘Arabian Horses’ and a saddler in his day.

You are a design architect by profession. Are there parallels between architecture and polo? Yes, there are many! They are both about strategy, hard work, constant practice and the immense satisfaction that you get when you have planned and constructed a building from scratch and in the same way, how a polo match or tournament is played from start to finish. Fundamentally, they are both about team work and are reciprocal of the talents of the team members: their character, inventiveness, skill and execution.

What’s the next polo tournament that you’ll be participating in, and how are you preparing for it? We have a busy season at the club with a few players travelling out to tournaments. So, it is important to keep fit all the time, particularly strength and flexibility. Polo is very hard on the body and as one ages, one has to work hard on strength but most of all, flexibility. I do Pilates twice a week with one of Singapore’s best coaches and this has helped me tremendously. I do this with my spouse, who does not play polo or ride horses. However, Pilates allows us to share activities around this great sport.

Being a committee member of the club requires plenty of commitment. Why did you decide to serve as a committee member of SPC and what do you wish to achieve in your position as honorary secretary? I have served on the main committee and on many sub-committees previously. I feel that members who care for this unique club should put some time into furthering as many aspects and amenities as possible through our knowledge and past experiences.

As one becomes more senior within the club, one must ‘step up’ and serve with a view to the betterment of the current status so that improvements can be made. With the support of members and the committee, I would like to uplift the image of this club to a higher level, be it its aesthetics, services or amenities.

What are your hopes and aspirations for SPC? I hope that we have more positive thought, action and drive within SPC so that the club continues to stay viable in challenging times. At the same time, remain unique within what must be realised and acknowledged as a ‘treasure’ within this great city state.

I ask you all: where else in the world can you be in your office one minute and in half an hour, be mounted and ready to ride or play polo atop the most magnificent animal (the horse) amongst acres of green?

Article was covered in Calibre Magazine, April 2016.
TATA communications
SINGAPORE POLO OPEN 2016

Come and join in the excitement of our opening tournament of the season!

April 30th - May 15th

Match dates are as follows: Tuesday 3rd May, Wednesday 4th May, Thursday 5th May, Friday 6th May, Saturday 7th May, Sunday 8th May - Little Black Book Brunch, Tuesday 10th May, Thursday 12th May, Saturday 14th May - Match for 3rd and 4th place and Sunday 15th May - Finals

Match dates and times may change due to inclement weather. For further information call the Singapore Polo Club on (65) 6854 3999 or email events@singaporepoloclub.org.
Snippets From The Club Tournament 2016

The opening tournament of our 2016 season was played in good spirits although the battles out on the field were fierce, the players embraced the attitude of “Let’s play hard but have fun”.

First up, we had the B division with Sanny Khan’s team coming out firing against Ali Reda’s team. They jumped out to an early lead but as the game went on Ali Reda and his team fought back to narrow the gap and control a little more of the game. However, Sanny’s team raced to a strong finish with a score of 9-5.

Next up was the A division with Patrick Furlong’s Red Team taking on Shane Boyd’s Black team. Much the same as the first game, Patrick and his team took an early lead with 4 unanswered goals in the first chukka. In the next three chukkas, the black team managed to get 3 goals back but with great play from Patrick and tough marking from Isabelle Larenaudie, Kevin Wilkinson and Lawrence Khong, the black team were unable to rain them back in. The red team won 6½ to 3.

On day two in the B division, Ali Reda’s Red team turned up to right the wrongs of the day before. With some strong forward running from Greg Parkhurst, Clifton Yeo, Marie Hesselman and impressive goals from Ali Namazie and Ali Reda, they clinched the lead which they weren’t about to let go without a fight. Sanny rallied his team but was unable to gain the advantage and get back in front.

Day two, A division also saw a turn in the tide, with Shane’s Black team ready to make amends for the previous day. With a lot of hard work in the middle from Anna Lowndes, Melissa Tiernan and a strong display of stamina from Giles Twiss and Gerry Gan, they managed to gain a small advantage to take the win 4 to 3½. Good job guys!

I’d like to thank Stijn Welkers and Ali Reda for helping out with the umpiring. They did a great job in ensuring a fair and proper play of the game.

Special thanks also to the team up in the crows nest, our resident commentators Gary Tiernan and Greg Coops for calling the games and entertaining the crowd.

We’re off to a great start in 2016! Let’s keep it going.

Article by Shane Boyd
Beach Polo, anyone? The game of Maharajahs and Kings is coming to Tanjong Beach, Sentosa.

How many of us polo players have stood on a beautiful beach over the years and wished we could play polo on it? Well, wish no more — competitive beach polo, in all its inimitable style, is FINALLY coming to Singapore in 2016. An event not to be missed, so clear your diaries from 3-5 June 2016.

Eye-catching photos of spirited ponies, beach-type balls and players in trunks on beaches from Australia to Uruguay, have captured the imagination over the last 15 years. Competitive beach polo first came into being when Irish player Mark Selway began running tournaments on County Kerry’s Inch Strand in 2002. Overlooked by the dramatic mountains of the Dingle Peninsula, players used a grass ball on a full-sized sand pitch, something which no other beach polo event has attempted to do since. The aptly-named Inch Polo Festival was attended by an astounding 25 national and international teams the following year. In 2004, beach polo gained greater international prominence and began to evolve into a global money-making and polo PR tool when the Beach Polo Cup Dubai was created; as is the case, it’s always bigger and glitzier in Dubai, and that event is still in place today as one of the larger-scale equestrian events in the UAE.

Following on the heels of Dubai’s 2004 example, players in other countries were inspired to try beach polo in their own locales. Most notably, it was in the US with the birth of the Miami Beach Polo World Cup in 2005, an event which has grown from strength to strength and one which really took the beach polo concept to a new level. The event is the world’s most competitive beach polo tournament and has attracted crowds of up to 15,000 spectators, who can choose to watch for free on the East side of the polo arena, or pay for a VVIP experience on the day.

Over the years other events have sprung up and beach polo has become a global behemoth spanning 30 countries. According to one organiser,
“We are making it accessible to a wider audience and everyone feels accepted. Lots of players come to watch to be part of a different event, as do arena polo enthusiasts. Beach polo is a moveable feast; we bring polo to the people and also make people feel comfortable so they want to go on and support the sport.”

By 2014, beach polo events were being held in countries including Mexico, Austria, Poland, Italy, Thailand, and China. Admittedly, the China event was a slight departure, as “SO! DALIAN” was a boutique yachting, networking and lifestyle event, dedicated to promoting Dalian as a major destination for tourism and luxury living in Northern China. To that end, the ‘Beach Polo World Cup’, China’s first beach polo event, was a key attraction and drew 7,500 guests.

This adaptation of polo proper seems to have gained some traction, as new beach polo events are popping up every year. Most recently, New Zealand held their first beach polo event in the scenic Hawkes Bay area, with the Porangahau Beach Polo event, and both Nigeria and Ghana are currently in the planning stages for events there in 2016.

From the looks of it, though beach polo is here to stay. The Singapore Beach Polo event is an offering of Lifestyle and Sport with two polo matches each day and a VVIP marquee offering exceptional cuisine, free-flow alcohol and off-pitch entertainment. International deejays are also being flown in from around the world to entertain you during the day and with an after-party every evening at the Tanjong Beach Club for those that have the stamina to see it through.

Come out and support the Club’s inaugural 2016 Singapore Beach Polo Championships. For VIP Tickets please contact events@singaporepoloclub.org.

Article by Karen Kranenbourg
Our family started frequenting the Singapore Polo Club as visitors some time before deciding to become members. Apart from enjoying the green, open space and peacefulness of the environment, we were wondering if being with horses might benefit our children, particularly our then 12-year-old son Faisal.

We became members in June of 2014 when our daughter Farah started learning to ride in the Riding Section. We hoped that Farah would love horses; make riding part of her growing years and maybe take it with her into adulthood. We wanted Faisal to see his younger sister on horses to stimulate his interest in an activity we felt offered him much in his journey. Farah has since progressed nicely in her riding, made many friends with the club ponies, fellow riders, instructors and grooms. Many members have been supportive, as Farah has built her confidence and skills. She is now working to learn dressage with Riding Instructor Melanie Triganne and is working to pass her Pony Club tests.

Faisal was born at Kingdom Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia after a problematic delivery that took him and my wife close to the point of death. After 28 hours of labour mother and child were safe and our lives would never be the same. We named him Faisal because we felt this child signified a change in the course and meaning of our lives; those familiar with the Arabic meaning* may understand that more deeply. For years we have worked to help Faisal overcome a range of sensory and behavioural challenges. We dared not wish he could have come as far as he has. Today he can read, write, spell, do simple arithmetic, he has wonderful coordination and takes to sports and physical activities with ease and confidence. His comprehension is very strong and though his vocabulary is small it is growing with his rapidly expanding social interactions and confidence. Our approach with Faisal has always been to develop an interest that leads to further social engagement; this was exactly what we hoped joining the Singapore Polo Club would provide for him.

Faisal is about to undergo a new treatment we hope will improve his

“Good Morning Boys!”
condition. We are working with fellow SPC member Ines Ligron to maintain Faisal on a 100% organic, dairy and gluten free diet. He will undergo testing and treatment for toxic and heavy metals; these also can weaken the immune system allowing viruses and parasites to flourish causing further issues. Many children like Faisal have completely recovered through a process of cleansing these toxins and organisms whilst maintaining a diet that prevents any problematic substances from obstructing their cognitive processes. Through this treatment Ines was able to help her son Luce recover completely. There are no guarantees for Faisal, but we still hope we can sit and have a normal conversation with our son one day, as Ines can with Luce.

The suggestion to have Faisal work in the Mt. Pleasant stables originally came from former SPC Polo Pro, now member, Sattar Khan and SPC member Hana Abdullah. SPC Polo Captain Ali Namazie and the Polo Sub-Committee supported the idea and helped get Faisal started. SPC member Melissa Ko kindly offered to take Faisal for rides on her polo pony “Sandy” which helped get him connected with these amazing animals. SPC Polo Pro Sanny Khan has since taken Faisal under his wing and made him feel one of the team. SPC Chief Groom Madhu Reddy rallied his team to ensure Faisal was learning and progressing in a way that was safe for him and the horses. Faisal works most closely with Groom gunar A/L Muttaya. Gunar has a special way of connecting with Faisal to help him acquire the skills, knowledge and confidence he needs to look after horses.

Like his sister, Faisal is also learning to ride in the Riding Section. At home we teach Faisal stable management from the British Horse Society curriculum and we insist he tacks, untacks and showers his ponies whenever he rides to reinforce the skills he is learning. Riding Instructors Krystal Wang, Kora Bremner, Keith Choi, Daniel Sitranen and Melanie Triganne all contributed to bring Faisal to where he is today in his riding. He can now walk, trot, canter with comfort. We were initially too afraid to even put him on a horse. We would like to see Faisal learning dressage by the end of 2016. Thank you all for your tireless support and encouragement.

Faisal works exclusively with the Club’s string of polo ponies. We bring him to the stables at 7:30am every Saturday and Sunday; many riders will have met Faisal over the past 9 months. Through this experience we have seen him start to strive for his independence. Faisal grooms, tacks, untacks, showers, shampoos and feeds the ponies. He also cleans the stable yard and likes to help muck-out, always ready to do the more physical jobs as well. He has made friends in the stables with the grooms, stable-hands, riding and polo instructors, amongst the owners, student riders and staff around the club. He proudly strides into the stable yard each morning with a shout “Good morning boys”. He knows everyone’s name and each day improves through the interaction in a normal working stable environment with men he is striving to be like, as any other teenage boy would.

Tian and I appreciate having the opportunity to share his success story and thank the kind people of the Singapore Polo Club: the grooms that have become his friends and mentors, the polo and riding instructors that have cared and guided him, the owners that gave their time and horses and the staff that make Faisal feel at home when he is around the club. You all make a huge difference. Please say “hello” to Faisal when you see him around the club next and give him a high-five.

Article by Steve Afendoulis

* Faisal = decisive, one with strength, arbiter of right from wrong, comes from the Arabic word Fa’Sa’La. Which means break apart, or separated in it’s root form. Faisal, is a noun meaning the person who breaks apart or separates matters in a decisive fashion. The Arabs used to use the word Faisal as a name for the sword (because it is used to separate right from wrong, or good from evil).
On February 27th and 28th, at the Hong Bao Horse Show, a whole group of young riders took their first steps into the world of competing. This was the largest number of new competitors that our monthly horse shows have seen in a couple of years.

Numerous different classes, all geared towards young beginners, encouraged kids to come out for the first time and show off their riding skills. During the jumping on Saturday, we had six entrants in the new 30 cm class, none of whom had ever jumped in a competition. They were undoubtedly nervous, but everybody got their ponies around the course amid much applause from the audience.

“These young riders are the future of our sport here in Singapore,” said Rolando Gonzalez, riding instructor at the Polo Club. “The riders you see jumping 1 meter and above now all started in classes like this.” The 30 cm jumping class is not timed, so riders can feel free to trot the jumps. Those who have a clear round win a rosette, and there are no first place prizes handed out — everyone who was brave enough to compete is a winner.

Sunday’s horse show started early for many, as they arrived at the break of dawn to bathe, groom and braid their ponies. These youngsters, ranging from young lead-liners to teenagers, were competing for the coveted prize of Best Groomed Horse. Everything from bits to boots and hooves was polished as riders paraded around the show ring on their favourite mounts. The response to this class was overwhelming, and each rider did such a nice job that it was nearly impossible to pick winners. It was wonderful to see young riders thinking about different aspects of horsemanship, and spending the time on the ground with their ponies as opposed to just in the saddle.

The twenty by forty meter dressage arena, which was set up in the RDA covered school, also saw its fair share of children competing in dressage for the first time. Doing the C1 or 1.1 test gives riders an opportunity to show off what they learn in lessons, as tests consist of basic movements like circles and diagonal lines. Riders receive their score and the judges comment on the test sheet, so they have the chance to read it over and improve the next time — remember not to cut your corners, everyone!
Some riders can be intimidated by entering alone in a dressage ring and having to remember a complicated series of movements. With this in mind, lead rein, walk/trot and walk/trot/canter equitation classes were introduced. Students get to ride around in a group and followed instructions about transitions and changes of direction – similar to a group lesson – while they demonstrate their position and control of their horse.

Equitation divisions are incredibly popular in North America, and the United States Equestrian Federation defines equitation as:

A division that is judged on the ability and the style of the rider. The riders can be judged both over fences and on the flat.... On the flat, riders are tested at the walk, trot and canter at the lower levels, and at more difficult gaits – such as strong or collected walk, trot and canter, or counter canter and hand gallop – in higher level classes. They are to demonstrate proper riding of the horse at all these gaits, as well as accurate and stylish position.

Young riders often work their way up through equitation divisions, both on the flat and over fences, and do not start show jumping until they are older teenagers. With equitation the emphasis is on riding properly, not simply going fast and leaving the jumps up. Riders who work hard to do well in equitation are setting themselves up for success when they move into jumpers.

Due to the success of these new classes, subsequent shows will test riders on new skills and there will be some variations within the classes to keep things interesting. We want to encourage students to become horsemen and horsewomen, not simply riders, and will create competition classes to reflect this goal.

At the end of the day on Sunday, the Polo Club had a big number of happy students, who bravely entered the world of competition, showed off their skills, and hopefully learned a lot and had fun.

The horses and ponies were all very well-behaved and must have gotten a lot of carrots and apples for a job well done! We encourage all our young riders, even those who just started, to enter our upcoming horse shows – prizes and fun guaranteed!

Article by Melanie Triganne
PROUDLY PRESENTS

NATIONAL DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016

20-22 MAY

Friday, 20-May (from 4.30pm)
First round of competition

Saturday, 21 May (from 3.30pm)
Freestyle to Music Competition
(Preliminary, Novice & Elementary class)
Quadrille Performance by Riding school
Tent Pegging Performance by Polo section
Freestyle to Music Competition
(Medium, Advance & PSG class)

** Dressage under the Stars Gala Dinner commençé at 7pm
(Guests to be seated by 6.30pm)

Sunday, 22 May (from 8.00am)
Final round of competition (all classes)
Mini Chukka display by Polo section
Mounted Prize Giving Presentation
Puissance Exhibition
Pony Club Fancy Dress Show

** Award Ceremony & Stable Supper commence at 6.30pm
(For booking of dinner tickets, please contact our riding office at +65 6854 3980)
Para Equestrian Rider

Full Name: Gemma Rose Foo
Age: 20
Disability: Cerebral Palsy
FEI Classification: Grade Ia
Trainers: Volker Eubel (Cologne), Daniel Sitranen (Singapore Polo Club)

Gemma’s equestrian journey commenced at the RDA Singapore in 2004 when she started Hippotherapy sessions at the age of 8. She quickly advanced to the Independent Rider programme and took part in her first competition in 2008 at the Annual Disability League, coming in First in her class.

In 2011, she was part of the 3-member Singapore Para Equestrian Team which qualified for the London Paralympic Games 2012. It was the first time an Asian Para Equestrian team had qualified for the Paralympics. At age 16, Gemma was the youngest Team Singapore member and one of two youngest riders at the Paralympics.

In 2014, Gemma competed at the World Equestrian Games (“WEG”) in Caen, France with her team. It was the first time a Singapore Equestrian Team had competed at the WEG.

Gemma has now once again qualified for the Paralympics which will be held in Rio de Janeiro from 7-18 September this year. She will be heading to Cologne this week for intensive training-cum-preparatory competitions with Volker Eubel, Head Coach of the Singapore Team. Cologne is also where her horse Cassis Royal, a 10 year old Gelding, is based.

For the past 5 months she has been riding at the Singapore Polo Club with Daniel Sitranen.

Article by Anthony Foo
NEW POLO GEAR
NOW AVAILABLE IN
THE POLO LOFT
BY ZACK’S TACK

• 3 Point Harness Polo Helmets
• Stick Bags, Kit Bags And
• Gorgeous Polo Belts

Accessorise in style and quality
With durable, reliable products
Selected by professionals
Made by craftsmen
Delivered to you

The Polo Loft by Zack’s Tack
C/- Singapore Polo Club
80 Mount Pleasant Road, Singapore 298334
T: +65 6854 3990    E: pololoft@zackstack.com
Operating Hours: 9.00 am – 7.00 pm (Tues to Sun)
www.ZacksTack.com
LUSH MUM’S SPA
Mum’s Best Me Time

APRIL SPA FIX
2 hrs | from S$205
Best Therapeutic Cures

Moisture Fix
SPA TREATS
» floral foot bath
» 20 min back or foot massage
» Decléor hydrating full facial & eye cure
» collagen hand mask

BENEFITS
» revitalises & plumps skin up

...and more

MAY MUM’S SPA
2 hrs | from S$198
Give Mum Her Best Me-Time, Happy Mother’s Day!

Mum’s Me-Time
SPA TREATS
» warm floral foot bath
» 50 min lavender body massage
» Decléor express hydrating facial
» champagne

BENEFITS
» promotes relaxation & tension-relief

...and more

Limited sessions on 9 & 10 May. Book early!

JUNE DAD’S SPA
2 hrs | from S$198
Recharge Dad with a Good Massage, Happy Father’s Day!

Dad’s Muscle Relief
SPA TREATS
» sea salt foot bath
» 80 min warm stone lemongrass body & scalp massage
» 30 min relaxing foot massage
» champagne

BENEFITS
» relieves aches & tight muscles

...and more

lush @ singapore polo club, 2nd level (next to the gym). contact us at 6254 9051 or email enquiries@lushspa.com.sg for bookings & enquiries.
SUMMER CAMPS

20 - 22 JUNE 2016
22 - 24 AUGUST 2016

6-12 YEARS OLD
9AM - 5PM

minimum 10 to go!

Activities

Riding
Tennis
Swimming

Fun Science
Soccer
Interactive Art
Clay Modelling

For more information, please email membership@singaporepoloclub.org or contact us at 6854 3999
Founded in 1929, The Pony Club began in England for youth interested in ponies and riding. Today, The Pony Club is an international voluntary youth organisation, represented in over 27 countries, with membership exceeding 110,000, and a starting point for many equestrian athletes.

**The Pony Club (Singapore Polo Club)**

Held at the Singapore Polo Club, members age 4 to 21 years old participate in weekly un-mounted rallies, where instructions in equitation and horse management are shared in a fun and safe environment.

With 45 riding school ponies & horses to groom, wash, shoe, feed and cuddle, members are sure to get a weekly dose of horse interaction.

**Our Aim**

To cultivate respect, understanding and trust between our horses and youths, to build confidence in our young equestrians and to promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship – strength of character and self-discipline.

**What We Do**

The Pony Club Standards of Efficiency Tests, segmented into 8 levels of achievement, beginning with ‘E’ and culminating with the prestigious ‘A’, are designed to show members progress of knowledge in different areas of horsemanship. We also organise gymkhanas, annual camps, lectures, film screenings and even Easter and Christmas parties!

**Who Can Join**

We welcome both members and non-members of the Singapore Polo Club. As part of The Pony Club, we collaborate with the Riding Section to expedite our members waiting time for riding lessons, to supplement un-mounted learning with mounted training!

Email us at ponyclub@singaporepoloclub.org any time! Our application form can be found at the front of the Riding School Office.
Celebrating Thai New Year

Cá Chém Hấp Chanh – Steamed sea bass in lemon juice
Whole steamed sea bass immersed in an exotic and aromatic medley of lemon juice, garlic, coriander and red chilli.

$22

TOM YAM KOONG
Traditional soup brewed with herbs and spices.

CHICKEN – $12
SEAFOOD – $14

East Meet West

Norwegian Salmon Tartare
Norwegian salmon tartare infused with Asian herbs, roasted rice powder and spices.

$16

ROASTED LEMONGRASS FRENCH 100% CORN-FED CHICKEN
½ Lemongrass marinated French corn-fed chicken, roasted to perfection.

$24

Seafood Tom Yam Linguine
Al dente linguine infused with homemade tom yum sauce, pan tossed with New Zealand mussels, sea squid & tiger prawn

$15

Asian Duck Breast, Watercress & Potato Beetroots Salad
Fresh duck breast seared, sliced, glazed with caramel sauce, accompanied with potato beetroot salad & watercress

$22

For more information or reservation, please contact 6854 3985 or e-mail reservations@indochine-group.com

*All pictures are for illustration purposes only*
Beer, BBQ & Quality Time

From enjoying the lush greenery to savouring a delectable combination of icy-cool beer and piping hot BBQ, the Singapore Polo Club held its very own Beer and BBQ Night on 27 February 2016. It was an evening well-spent for families and friends to catch up and bond under the evening stars with a surprise lucky draw contest. Here’s to more get-together within the club in future!
Established in 1886, the Singapore Polo Club strives to promote the sport of polo and equestrian activities both locally and internationally. Its history dates back to the colonial period and the Club has always had an illustrious membership. Several members of the British Royal Family have at various times played polo on the lush tropical grounds of the Club, which is situated along Mount Pleasant Road. The Singapore Polo Club is where luxury and privacy come together, and is the perfect venue for you to hold your Corporate Seminars, Birthdays, Anniversaries and Celebrations.

**THE COMMITTEE ROOM**
The committee meeting room is a boardroom setting and the room is perfect for a private and exclusive corporate meeting.

**SEATING CAPACITY**
16 persons

**THE POLO GALLERY**
The Polo Gallery is a Private Room that has a seminar-style set up. The room is also suitable to conduct trainings / workshops and private parties.

**SEATING CAPACITY**
Round table : 30-40 persons  Theatre Seating : 70 persons
U-Shape Style : 20-25 persons  Cocktail Standing : 70 persons

**THE MOUNTBATTEN ROOM**
The Mountbatten Room is a wine lounge that is part of the Polo Restaurant and Bar.

**SEATING CAPACITY**
Round table : 50 persons  Theatre Seating : 90 persons
U-Shape Style : 35 persons  Cocktail Standing : 100 persons

**THE CHUKKA BAR TERRACE**
The Chukka Bar Terrace is an extension of the Chukka Bar, next to the Chukka Board by the field side of the Polo Ground. It oversees the lush greenery of the polo field and one can relax while at the same time be near to the Polo action. The space is perfect for cocktail parties and group gatherings.

**SEATING CAPACITY**
Square Tables of 8 : 8 Tables  Round table of 10 : 6 Tables  Cocktail Standing : 80 persons

For bookings, please call 68543999 or email events@singaporepoloclub.org
(2 - 4 weeks advance booking is recommended)
On 19 March 2016, the Easter bunny hopped by the Singapore Polo Club to spend the afternoon with our young ones, engaging in photo-taking sessions, egg hunting thrills, fun-tastic games with prizes handed out and even face painting! Children weren’t the only ones who had a good time; their parents were full of smiles and laughter too, watching their kids from afar! It was definitely a colorful and enjoyable Easter. Thanks for the visit, Easter Bunny!
TATA COMMUNICATIONS
SINGAPORE POLO OPEN 2016

PRELIMINARY
Sunday - Saturday 8 & 14 May
*Advance booking is required for tables at The Verandah

FINAL
Sunday 15 May
*Advance booking is required for tables at The Verandah

BOOK NOW!

8 & 14 MAY
♦ High Goal Set
Includes 1 Canapes set for 4 persons and 2 Bottles of Piper Hedieck Champagne
$358+ (Member) $408++ (Guest)

♦ Polo Set
Includes 1 Canapes set for 4 persons and 2 Bottles of Tenuta CA' Vescovo Prosecco DOC
$228+ (Member) $278++ (Guest)

15 MAY
♦ High Goal Set*
Includes 1 Canapes set for 4 persons and 2 Bottles of Piper Hedieck Champagne
$408+ (Member) $458++ (Guest)

♦ Polo Set*
Includes 1 Canapes set for 4 persons and 2 Bottles of Tenuta CA' Vescovo Prosecco DOC
$268+ (Member) $318++ (Guest)

♦ Walk-In Passes for The Lower Verandah at $30 per pax*
*Free Flow of Stella Artois Beer, Hoegaarden Beer, Appleiser, Grapetiser
(Served from 3.00pm to 6.30pm. Chargable after 6.30pm)

*Additional Pax at $40+ (Member) and $45++ (Guest) for the above sets

For Reservation, please email events@singaporepoloclub.org or contact us at 6854 3999
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To visit any of the Reciprocal Clubs, an Introductory Letter is required from the Singapore Polo Club. For reciprocal arrangement and / or information please contact Membership Department at Tel: +65 6854 3999 or Email: membership@singaporepoloclub.org.
Member Get Member
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Existing Member receives
6 months waiver of subscription fees

Buyer receives
$200 worth of credits
(Applicable only for Gym, F&B, Spa, Polo and Riding)

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