

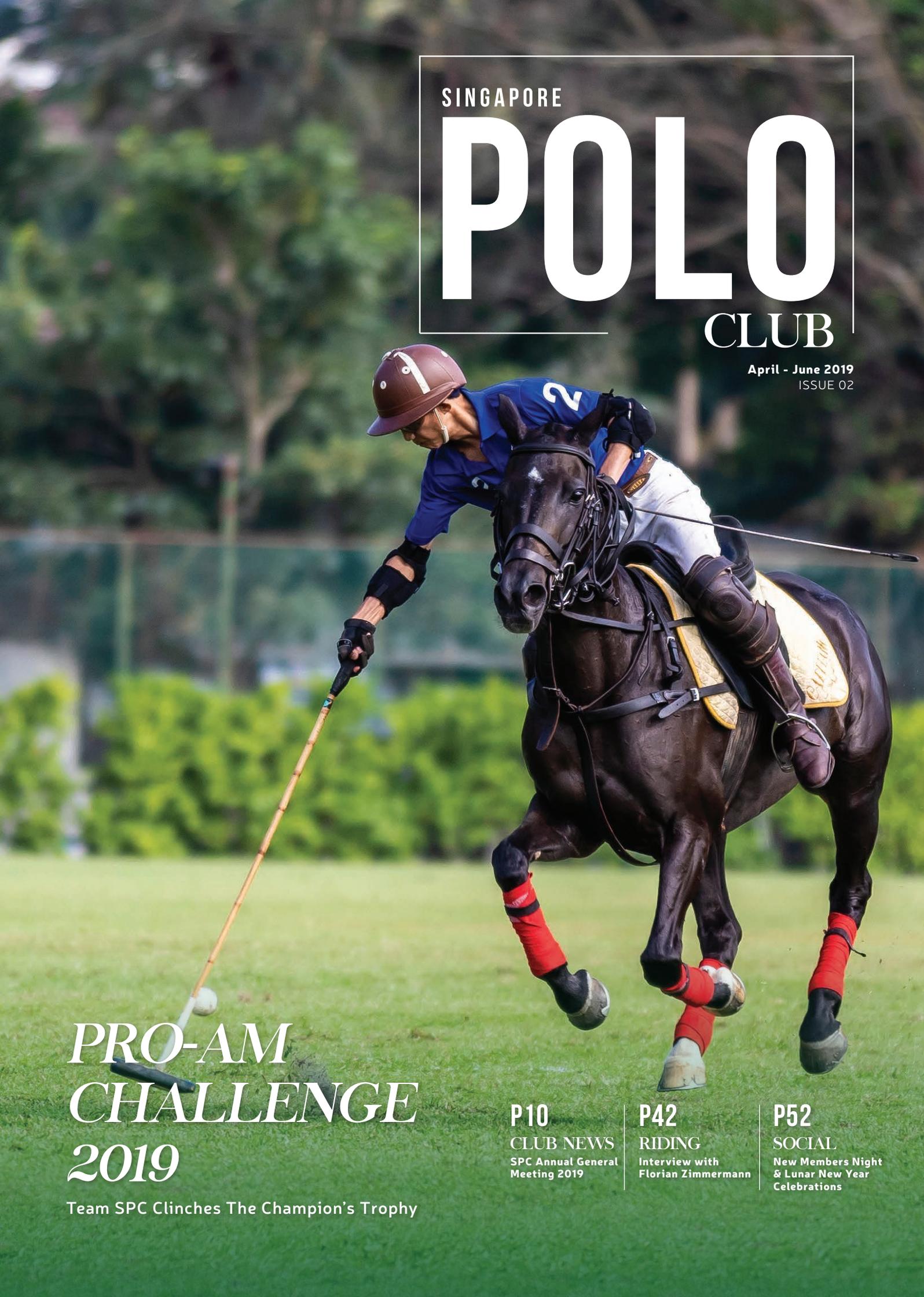
SINGAPORE

# POLO

CLUB

April - June 2019

ISSUE 02



## PRO-AM CHALLENGE 2019

Team SPC Clinches The Champion's Trophy

**P10**  
CLUB NEWS  
SPC Annual General Meeting 2019

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Interview with Florian Zimmermann

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SOCIAL  
New Members Night & Lunar New Year Celebrations

**TATA COMMUNICATIONS**



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# SINGAPORE POLO CLUB

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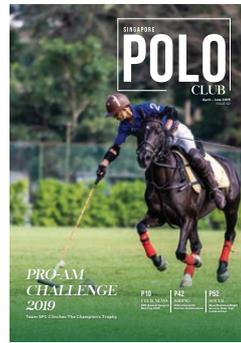
**Sunny Oh**  
Polo Administration Manager

**Daniel Sitranen**  
Riding School Manager

**Ady Wong**  
Membership & Marketing  
Communications Manager

## CONTRIBUTORS

Ady Wong  
Alison Eskesen  
Edric Lee  
Krysten Chan  
Laurent Ruelle  
Vinothini Vijayan



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## Published quarterly by the Singapore Polo Club

80 Mount Pleasant Road  
Singapore 298334  
Tel: +65 6854 3999  
Fax: +65 6256 6715  
Email: enquiry@singaporepoloclub.org  
www.singaporepoloclub.org  
Permit No.: MCI (P) 124/01/2019

## Connect with us at:

[www.facebook.com/SingaporePoloClub](https://www.facebook.com/SingaporePoloClub)  
[instagram.com/singaporepoloclub](https://www.instagram.com/singaporepoloclub)

## CONTACTS

**Committee** secretary@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Events & Banquet** events@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Facilities & Grounds** facilities@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Finance** accounts@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Food & Beverage** reservations@indochine-group.com  
**Gaming** gaming@singaporepoloclub.org  
**General Enquiries** enquiry@singaporepoloclub.org

**HR & Admin** hradmin@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Marketing, Advertising & Sponsorship** marketing@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Membership** membership@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Polo** polo@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Riding** riding@singaporepoloclub.org  
**Sports & Recreation** snr@singaporepoloclub.org  
**The Polo Loft** pololoft@zackstack.com



## GIVE MUM & DAD A RELAXING & REJUVENATING ME-TIME



### April Spa Cleansers 2 hr | from \$198 nett per pax

**SPA TREAT** warm foot bath + 80 min lemon & carrot seed oil body & scalp massage + choice of anti-migraine face spa OR lime body scrub

**BENEFITS** cleansing & detoxifying

**ADD-ON** warm stones \$20



### May Mum's Me-Time 2 hr | from \$198 nett per pax

**\*Limited sessions on Mothers' Day weekend 11th & 12th May '19. Book early!**

**SPA TREAT** warm floral foot bath + 50 min lavender body massage + Decleor express hydrating facial + champagne

**BENEFITS** promotes relaxation & hydrates skin



### June Dad's Energizer 2 hr | from \$198 nett per pax

**\*Limited sessions on Fathers' Day weekend 15th & 16th Jun '19. Book early!**

**SPA TREAT** sea salt foot bath + 80 min warm stone lemongrass body & scalp massage + 30 min relaxing foot massage + champagne

**BENEFITS** relieves muscle tension & rejuvenating

# CONTENT

## OPERATING HOURS

### FRONT DESK

7.30am – 9.30pm (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)  
(Last food order at 9.30pm)

### FACILITIES

**Gaming**  
11.00am – 11.00pm (daily)

**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**  
7.00am – 10.00pm (daily)

**Swimming Pool**  
7.00am – 9.00pm (daily)

**Tennis Courts**  
7.00am – 10.00pm (daily)

**The Polo Loft**  
11.00am – 6.00pm (Tues –Sun)

- 5** President's Message
- 7** General Manager's Message
- 8** New Members List

## CLUB NEWS

- 10-13** 72nd Annual General Meeting
- 14-15** Introducing the Volunteers of SPC's Outreach Programme
- 16-18** SPC Outreach Reaches Out Again

## POLO

- 19** Myra Cup Kick Starts The 2019 Polo Season
- 20-23** A Revelry of Polo, Music & Food
- 24-27** First Pro-Am Challenge for 2019

## RIDING

- 30-31** SPC Young Riders
- 35** Inaugural SPC Training Show for 2019/  
Second SPC Show on 9 and 10 March
- 37** Cupid Rules at SPC
- 39** First Win of The Year at BTSC's  
Inter-Club/BTSC's Valentine Show
- 40-41** Inauguration of Riding Academy Room
- 42-43** Meet Super Rider -  
Florian Zimmermann

## LIFESTYLE

- 46-47** Explore Your Heart And Soul
- 48-49** Travel With Hands On Heart

## SOCIAL

- 52-53** New Members Night and  
Lunar New Year Celebrations
- 54-55** Whisky Tasting Dinner with  
Chef Gary Rhodes

**10**



**42**



**54**





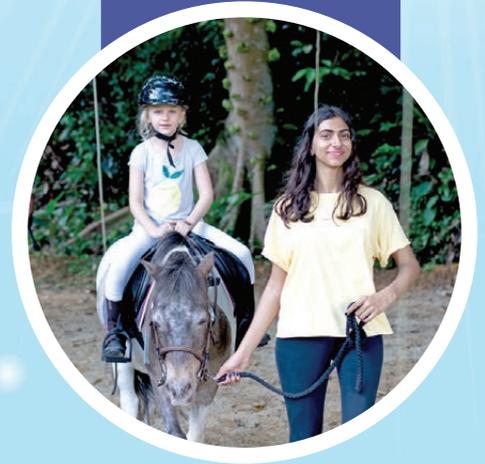
Minimum of 10 persons to commence a class



Pony rides and beginner lessons are suitable for riders with no experience



A jump lesson for experienced riders



## Day 1 & 2

- 9.30am : ARRIVAL
- 10.00am : Grooming & Tack-up
- 10.45am : Lesson 1
- 11.30am : Shower the horse
- 12.00pm : Lunch
- 1.30pm : Muck-out, Grooming & Tack-up
- 2.30pm : Lesson 2
- 3.15pm : Stable Management
- 3.45pm : End of Day

## Day 3

- 9.30am : Arrival
- 10.00am : Grooming & Tack-up
- 10.45am : Lesson 1
- 11.30am : Stable Management
- 12.00pm : Lunch
- 1.00pm : Games
- 3.30pm : Awards presentation with Certificate and Goody Bag at the Covered Arena

COME JOIN US AT  
SINGAPORE POLO CLUB'S

# PONY CAMP

3-Day Camp in July!

**\$499++**

per participant  
(for members/ non-members)



Enquire or sign up at  
the Riding Office: [riding@singaporepoloclub.org](mailto:riding@singaporepoloclub.org)



Dear Members,

The Club's 72nd AGM on 19 March 2019 recently concluded and with that, there is much work to be done to bring our Club to a better level of experience and quality. I would like to thank all members who attended the AGM; my previous Committee and Sub-committee members for all their hard work and dedication in selflessly serving the Club; and all members for your support this past year.

This will be my third year as your President and I would like to thank each one of you for having the confidence and support in having me continue for another year. You can be assured that this year will see positive changes that will transform your Club into something we can all be proud of.

During the 72nd AGM, members had approved the utilisation of the Club Reserve Fund for investment in Bonds and REITs. These investments could

potentially generate approximately \$340k of interests and dividends per year.

The new Committee will be working together to raise your membership experience with every visit. I am pleased to announce that the Club has already appointed a Project Manager through a tender exercise for our Clubhouse Redevelopment. As this is an important milestone and project of significant size, the Governance and Finance Sub-committee shall oversee this project, guided by the professionals we appoint.

With your feedback in mind, the Committee will finalise the details of the redevelopment within the confines of what was approved by members at the EGM of 15 February 2017 within a month or so. We plan to do our final submissions to the URA by mid 2019 and target works to begin late quarter of this year. Member's convenience will be taken into consideration when planning the works so that you may enjoy facilities and services with little interruption. The final plans, once approved by the authorities, will be displayed for all to see.

The new Committee has been tasked amongst others, to increase the 'happiness value' in the Club and this coming year will see a myriad of lifestyle events that will bring us all closer to a happy, vibrant and happening Club. I am excited with what is coming our way and I hope to see you all soon!

Warm Regards,

**Satinder Garcha**  
President

# Floral Watercolour Workshop

For Parent and Child



REGISTER NOW at [membership@singaporepoloclub.org](mailto:membership@singaporepoloclub.org)

**11 May 2019, 4pm to 6pm**  
**at the Polo Gallery**

Closing date for registration is 28 April

*This is a pair-up class comprising of a parent and child. Participants will paint as a pair on a A4 size piece. Light refreshments will be provided.*

**\$88+**

(one adult & one child - member)

**\$95++**

(one adult & one child - member's guests)

Class will commence with min. of 4 pairs and max. of 6 pairs

+ GST applies only for members ++ GST and service charge apply for member's guests. Fees are inclusive of watercolour paint, palettes, brushes, watercolour papers, alphabet notes and practice papers.



Dorothea, or Dottie, one of her many nicknames is a stay-at-home-mum who enjoys creating art that inspires others to dream big and live meaningful lives.

She conducts calligraphy, watercolour and/or craft classes for different groups, ranging from working adults to young children.

She has previously worked with SCAPE Singapore, Bold At Work and Singapore Writer's Festival.

FB: @dottieshop  
IG: @dottieshop\_sg



Dear Members,

**W**ith the 72nd AGM of the Club held on 19 March 2019, the Club welcomes the incoming Committee under President Satinder Garcha, and also thanks the outgoing Committee for all their hard work and dedication towards the Club and our members.

The new Committee has already started on working out its strategies to take the Club to the next level. Saturday 13 April 2019 will see Easter being celebrated with our very own family orientated Eggs-travagant Party. The event is a sell-out and will see families enjoying the traditional Easter Egg hunt, among other activities.

Look out for a whole host of lifestyle events coming your way; from fitness, sporting and social events, these will offer you a myriad of entertainment and excitement to keep you engaged throughout the year.

The Riding Academy Room was recently opened amidst wows from parents and children with a large 65-inch television, new decorations and memorabilia of current and past riding events and personalities. Children from the Pony Academy are already enjoying the new room, and this venue may be available for members wanting to hold small and personal events. Do contact the Front Office with any enquiries.

We have had great reviews from Members and guests on the new look of our Member Relations staff. The new uniforms take on an earthy tone blending with our lush greenery, tranquil and rustic environment. The new display television at reception has also been well received, and children have been excited to see their friends and families on screen, where upcoming events and activities are also displayed. This is a temporary measure and once the redevelopment is completed, the Club will have a centralised server system to keep you updated on the latest news, events and happenings at convenient locations throughout the Club.

Recently, the main stable yards have been given a new fresh coat of paint, while roof gutters were repaired, fans cleaned and shower areas for horses had their rubber mats replaced. This resulted in the yards looking much neater and better, and we have already had positive feedback about the improvements. Our grooms are constantly undergoing training and productivity has gone up a level too. We have been active in receiving feedback from livery owners on the yards, and some have been very helpful and constructive as we continue to raise the standards of our service as a whole. As always, my team and I are committed to always give our best to the Club to make every visit a memorable one.

With an exciting year ahead and many upcoming improvements to look forward to in terms of redevelopment, lifestyle events and activities, vibrant and exciting Polo and riding events and so much more, please do join in on the fun!

Warmest Regards,

**Sylvan Braberry**  
General Manager

# New Members

January - March 2019

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!

## CHARTER

Arun Sasikumar Nair

Leighton Carey Matheson

Marc Eric Rickard Hogberg

Sanad Ahamed

Tay Guan Yong, Benjamin  
(Zheng YuanYong, Benjamin)

Teo Wan Lin (Zhang WanLin)

Ym Jung Mi

## TERM

Alexander Georg Nicolaus

Leonie Noelle Keys

Samuel James Leonard Erskine

## REGULAR

Catherine Michelle Ellis

Denzel Pak Juin Tern

Emmanuelle Laure Ferrari

Joris Maria Dierckx

Loris Philippe Nold

Margaret Ferte

Marika Kylie Lind

Matthew Stuart Read

Richard James Williams

S Rajit

Yin Jian



# Singapore Polo Club Calendar of Events

April - July 2019

## POLO

**27 - 28 April**  
Indian Polo Challenge  
(Singapore)

**2 - 5 May**  
6 to 8 Goal

**16 - 19 May**  
Singapore Open  
(8 to 10 Goal)

**3 - 10 June**  
Field Closed 02/1 Week Break

**22 - 23 June**  
Club Tournament 04

**4 and 7 July**  
Club Tournament 05

## RIDING

**27 - 28 April**  
Inter Club (NEC)  
- Jumping Only

**3 - 5 May**  
National Dressage  
Championships (STCRC)

**11 - 12 May**  
Inter Club (BTSC)  
- Jumping Only

**24 - 26 May**  
National Jumping  
Championships (BTSC)

## SOCIAL

**11 May**  
Floral Watercolour Workshop  
for Parent and Child

**8 June**  
Diorama Workshop

**13 July**  
Eco-friendly Art Workshop

*\*Dates are subject to change*

# 72nd Annual General Meeting

19 March 2019

The Club's 72nd Annual General Meeting was held on 19 March 2019, and a new Committee was elected for 2019-2020. The results are as follow:



From left to right: Peggy Yeo, Melissa Ko, Satinder Garcha, Rickard Hogberg, Wee Tiong Han and Stephanie Masefield

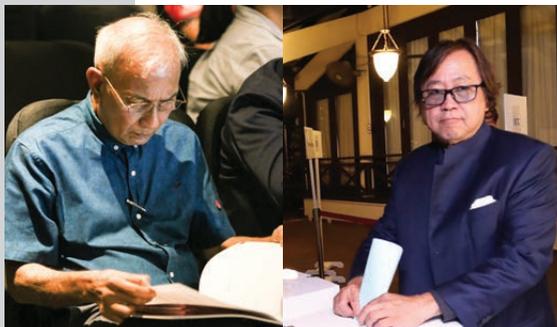


**COMMITTEE 2019-2020 ELECTED**

President	<b>Mr Satinder Garcha</b>
Vice President	<b>Mrs Stephanie Masefield</b>
Polo Captain	<b>Dr Ali Namazie</b>
Honorary Secretary	<b>Ms Melissa Ko</b>
Honorary Treasurer	<b>Mr Rickard Hogberg</b>
Committee Members	<b>Mr Tan Hock</b>
	<b>Mr Wee Tiong Han</b>
	<b>Ms Peggy Yeo</b>
	<b>Mr Daniel Chua</b>
	<b>Ms Koh Pei Bei</b>

**TRUSTEE GROUP 2019-2020 ELECTED**

**Mr Leon Chu  
Mr Iqbal Jumabhoy  
Mr Wong Teck Fong  
Mr Tan Saik Hock**



**Resolution 17 – Investment**

**PREAMBLE**

The Club foresees the need to improve income from its cash holdings, especially in view of expected poor contribution from Jackpot, where the current fixed deposits' yields do not meet current inflation. The Trustee Group had endorsed the utilisation of the Club's Reserve Fund for investment in Bonds and REITs on 1 September 2018 with the below criteria as proposed by the Committee.

**TO RESOLVE**

"That the Committee be empowered to utilise the Club's Reserve Fund for investment in Bonds and REITs".

**TYPE OF INVESTMENT**

SGD denominated Bonds which are Temasek linked corporate bonds with coupon rate at minimum 3.0% per annum with an expiry 3-5years. Up to SGD 3,900,000.

SGD denominated REITs in Commercial only at minimum yield of 5.0% per annum. Up to SGD 4,000,000.

**CARRIED**

# SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES OF THE SINGAPORE POLO CLUB

Have you ever wondered how the Club was started? The exciting journey that took us through the difficult but exciting years, how weightage votes came about, where did the popular non-alcoholic cocktail "Gunner" originated from and more? Below are the significant milestones in history that shaped the Singapore Polo Club to what it is today; a Club rich in history and heritage and probably the 2nd oldest polo Club in the world.

## **Singapore Polo Club was founded in 1886**

The Singapore Polo Club was founded in 1886 by the officers of the King's Own Regiment, the 1st Battalion.

## **Lord Mountbatten re-established the Singapore Polo Club**

In 1940, with the increasing popularity of polo, the Singapore Polo Club searched for a new and suitably sized ground. With the support from an increased military garrison and financial aid from the Singapore Turf Club, 24 acres of land were allocated at Mount Pleasant Road and with that, the current site of the Club (which was later to be supplemented by a further 3 acres) was leased. The land lease at Mount Pleasant was on a 99-year lease that expires end 2038.

After the war, Lord Mountbatten became the patron of the Club and re-established the Polo ground.

## **Riding School was formed in 1962**

Many improvements were made to the grounds, stables were rebuilt and a little barracks was constructed behind which was called the 'Clubhouse'. In addition, syces' quarters were provided for the first time. The Pony Section (a riding school for children) was created and later that same year, an Adult Riding School was formed giving riding lessons.

## **British Armed Forces left Singapore in 1975**

Majority of the members back then were regimental players, many of whom were officers that formed the Committee. The syces that came to work for the Club were largely from the Army barracks. In 1975, the last contingent of the British Armed Forces left Singapore and the only way the Club could survive the total withdrawal of British forces was to increase local support for the game. Through the effort of Mr. Ameerali R. Jumabhoy (President 1969 -1978), local membership increased. It was also during this time that the British Gunners created a cocktail called "Gunner" which was made of ginger beer, ginger ale and a spot of Angostura bitter.

## **Opening of new clubhouse in 1986 and New Constitution to protect Polo**

With the departure of the British Armed Forces, the Management of the Club at that time; the Committee, was concerned that with only 30 polo players, the Club faced an uncertain future, i.e. how were we going to pay for the maintenance of the

field, horses and everything else. Mr. W J Norris (President from 1979 – 1981) and Mr Eric Cromby (President 1982 – 1984) took the decision in early eighties (80's), to demolish the then existing timber clubhouse and construct a new two-storey Clubhouse with a viewing gallery, offices, billiard room, committee room, 2 squash and 2 tennis courts and a swimming pool. Mr. Ian Lander, was the architect that drew up the architectural plans.

With the improvements, it was inevitable that the membership would grow and to preserve polo which at that time had only 30 playing members, the Constitution was crafted to protect polo and that included weighted voting rights for senior polo players (the Charter Polo Playing Member) who had the highest weighted votes, and expected to put the Club before themselves.

## **Jackpot License in 1986**

Although membership grew, the Club was still short of funds. At that time, about 10 members guaranteed a loan from a bank to help the Club. It was an anxious moment whether the loan would come through and it did. The Club was also fortunate at that time, to have Mr. David Lim joining the Club. He started Jackpot which was relatively new at that time and it generated a massive revenue of about S\$1.5 million to S\$3 million yearly over the next 25 years that basically covered all our overheads that included field maintenance, management, depreciation and a lot of expenses. The Club was blessed for many years.

## **Club Corporation Asia (CCA), 555 to 923 membership drive in 1996**

Under then Presidents Rickard Hogberg and K C Loh, the Club decided to expand further to include a new 80 m x 45 m indoor riding and polo arena, outdoor arenas, a sports block that included a gym, spa, saunas and new jackpot room with the aim of expanding the membership to 1,000 from 555. The membership grew by another 400 members. With the revenue received, it also funded the construction of the new Main (or Gunners) Stable block with an addition of 55 new stables. The construction of these new facilities, overseen by Ali Namazie, commenced in 2003 and were ready by 2006.

## **Cartier high goal polo 2004-07**

In an attempt to re-activate the MPA polo circuit that saw competitive polo take place regularly in the 50's and 60's between polo clubs in Malaysia and Singapore, SPC invited 12-14 goal Malaysian teams to participate in the Cartier high goal series

of polo tournaments which took place in Singapore between 2004 to 2007.

## **Women's International Polo**

In 2004, (at a time when women's polo did not have the high profile it presently attracts) SPC inaugurated an annual Women's International Polo event which has seen the repeated participation of several of the highest ranked female polo professionals worldwide. This tournament ran for a continuous stretch of some 11-12 years.

## **The SPC-BMW Beach Polo 2016**

The Club had its inaugural SPC BMW Beach Polo 2016 at Palawan Beach Sentosa which saw more than 2,000 people watching high goal international polo professionals including our very own polo professionals and members playing in a high adrenalin charged game. While there was much to learn from an organizational stand point; the event was a great success so much so that the Club was offered a two-year agreement to continue but the Club declined as we saw new horizons in organising such events.

## **Clubhouse Redevelopment – EGM of 15 February 2017**

At the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 15 February 2017, a resolution for the club redevelopment works was tabled and approved in an effort to retain and expand membership base, develop new revenue streams and to bring the clubhouse to a new level in line with current market standards befitting the Singapore Polo Club. Renowned architect, Ernesto Bedmar was chosen after a rigorous tender and evaluation process.

In the same year, we saw a massive decline of Jackpot revenue due to new government legislation and restrictions. These new legislations would see a reduction of jackpot machines from 19 to 11 by end of 2019. The Clubhouse redevelopment and many other initiatives by the Committee and Management, will see a rejuvenated Club which is relevant, exciting, vibrant and happy. Members at the AGM of 19 March 2019 passed a resolution to use the Club's Reserve Funds for investments.

## **2019 – Clubhouse redevelopment, the resurgence of Polo, Lifestyle, Riding and a new exciting era for the Club.**

Members will see the beginning of an exciting and happening era at your Club once the redevelopment works start some time last quarter of this year. Indeed, an illustrious history and an exciting future for one and all at the Singapore Polo Club!

# MEET OUR COMMITTEE OF 2019-2020



**Satinder Garcha**  
President



**Stephanie Masefield**  
Vice President



**Ali Namazie**  
Polo Captain



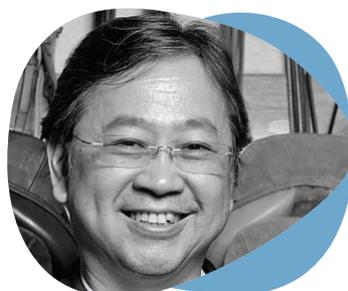
**Melissa Ko**  
Honorary Secretary



**Rickard Hogberg**  
Honorary Treasurer



**Tan Hock**  
Committee Member



**Wee Tiong Han**  
Committee Member



**Peggy Yeo**  
Committee Member



**Daniel Chua**  
Committee Member



**Koh Pei Bei**  
Committee Member



Kerry has been a member of SPC for the past seven years and has been riding at the Academy with occasional breaks due to injury. She had taken part in a few volunteering activities as means of giving back to society and the latest on her list is a charity in Cambodia.

She shares “My first volunteering activity was many years ago in London. I signed up with the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry, an organisation supported by The British Army. As volunteers we helped out at the call centre during a crisis. Family members and friends of people injured or caught in a fire or road traffic accident would call in requesting for help to trace their missing loved ones.

We took details of missing people and passed them to the emergency services to be matched with the injured in hospitals. This was all very different from the session at SPC.”

She first got to know about the Outreach Programme in mid-November 2018 through the Riding Office and it sparked an interest in her. Since she had a free week ahead, she decided to sign up.

As a volunteer with our equine assisted therapy programme, she found the structure and activities ideal for the attendees with a range of different abilities.

She liked how the programme was structured to be gradual, starting with understanding the fundamentals and progressively working up to being

# Introducing the Volunteers of SPC’s Outreach Programme

**Our editorial team had a chat with Kerry Cracknell and Neha Wasan who have been volunteering for many of the Club’s Outreach Programme’s initiatives. They shared with us their passion for giving back to the community, their experiences with the programme and their mottos in life.**

comfortable mounting and riding on a horse.

She was especially surprised to see polo ponies Esperanza and Tapadita playing their part. They were extremely patient, gentle and were adored by the trainees. Polo ponies are supposedly calmer, friendlier and less likely to get spooked.

Before coming on board as a volunteer, Kerry had various thoughts running in her mind, as this was the first time she was having close contact with people having intellectual disabilities and was a little nervous about whether she would be a suitable person for such a role.

However, by the end of the first session, things were very different. Kerry mentioned that she loved interacting with each one of them, as they were all lovely and easy to talk to. Each batch of trainees had different personalities and expectations of the programme. Seeing the smiles on the trainees’ faces was all worthwhile for the effort put in each session. She knew that she had made the right decision in bringing some sunshine into someone’s life.

The session on practicing their polo strokes by using a foot mallet at the covered arena was an activity close to her heart. Trainees were so positive, listened to instructions attentively and were willing to participate in the activity. Through these sessions, she had learnt to be more grateful and mindful, especially when interacting with the less privileged.

She hopes to see more members come forth to participate in the Outreach Programme. As the saying goes “The More The Merrier”; with an increase

in the number of volunteers, more activities can be planned during the sessions. She hopes to bring along her daughter, Isabel, aged 12, for future sessions and has spread the awareness to family and friends too.

“One should also be prepared to come for the sessions without any expectation or fear as no special credentials are needed. Do it wholeheartedly with a smile and most of all, you do it for them. Just 2 hours of your time could be a change to your life,” she says.

Kerry has always loved working with children and hopes to have a beneficiary from a children’s home for upcoming sessions. It can be hosting them for lunch, or having a meet and greet with our friendly horses. It will make a difference in every way possible.

Her motto in life is to understand what she can control and not to worry about what she can’t control.





Neha, a freelance yoga instructor, joined SPC as a member two years ago to pursue her interest in riding. To bring her riding skills to the next level, she was determined to spend more time interacting with horses and chanced upon details of our Outreach Programme through our Facebook Page. She came onboard as a volunteer in January this year with the Equine Assisted Therapy Programme with Touch Centre for Independent Living (Ubi).

Neha Wasan is not new to volunteering. Her first volunteering stint was a 6-month programme with the Rainbow School, assisting autistic children to swim. Prior to joining SPC's Outreach team, she was volunteering with Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA). Neha said that volunteering is enriching, rewarding and has always been able to give her a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction. She has her 73-year old mother to thank for her involvement in giving back to the community.

"As a child, I watched my mother, a senior counsellor, volunteer at various organisations and I contributed by helping out at old aged homes and blind associations alongside her. Since young

she has inculcated a set of values in me towards helping the less-fortunate. After a while I realised that my passion lies in horses and tried to look for equine type volunteering programmes."

Her favourite sections of the programme were learning to lead and groom a horse, the stables quiz and the horse-riding session. The riding session was a true revelation for her as she witnessed several participants, who were initially nervous around horses in the first few sessions, eventually becoming courageous enough to mount and ride a horse in the last session.

She added on to say that it was an extremely rewarding sight when participants broke out in huge smiles while attempting to fill up all the questions in the quiz. She also took note that all of them participated in all the activities like the feeding sessions, stable tour enthusiastically. "I do have a few personal favourites in the group, that I wished I could spend more time guiding and talking to," she exclaimed. Neha recalled some memorable moments during the session, "There was an instance where a heavier-built trainee sat on my arm while attempting to mount a horse, and he just did not know how to raise his lower part of the

body. Another was of a trainee who was hard of hearing, but she would hold on to my hands during the session, while trying to express her emotions through sign language."

She mentioned that SPC's Equine Therapy Programme is a fantastic programme as the modules are compact with fun elements bundled in while still maximising its reach to beneficiaries. External mentorship events that she had attended prior, usually came with too much responsibility, were lengthy, too structured or strict, taking the fun element out of the equation.

These sessions helped Neha to grow emotionally, mentally and physically. It was also a blessing for her to be able to give back to the society, stay grounded and to be more appreciative of life around her. She urged more members to come forth and experience this lifechanging programme. She also added that every volunteer in this programme was very cooperative and everyone worked as a team to ensure the trainees were able to enjoy the session to the fullest.

Neha will be introducing her two daughters, aged 17 and 14, as volunteers for the upcoming sessions.

She goes by this motto - "The Best Effort is Effortless Effort." Effortless effort is when one is relentless at trying new things he or she is passionate about and therefore, makes an effort to go all out for it.



# SPC Outreach Reaches Out Again



*Sattar Khan and our volunteers*

The four-week long Equine Assisted Therapy Programme was well received by trainees from TOUCH Centre for Independent Living (Bukit Merah) with word spreading to the organisation's branch in Ubi.

SPC welcomed trainees from TOUCH Centre for Independent Living (Ubi) at our premises to learn about horses and polo. This time, we played host to two groups in January and February consecutively, and like previous sessions, it took place in the afternoon on Fridays, for two hours.

Before the start of each session, trainees assembled at the Chukka Bar with SPC staff assisting them with their nametags. Two of our Outreach volunteers, Koh Pei Bei and Gina Lim took the lead introducing the day's programme, including acquainting the trainees with our Outreach volunteers.



*Learning about a horses' diet at the feed room*

During the first session, a summary of the day's curriculum and for the following weeks was explained.

Safety around the horses was also emphasised during every session before the trainees proceeded to the stables or the covered arena where some of the activities were conducted.

The tour at the stables gave trainees the opportunity to view the horses' living environment. The trainees were in awe to see the rows of horses residing in their stables, and learnt about the dietary requirements of our horses at the feed room and viewed facilities such as the wash bay, hospital room and automated walker.

Soon after the stable tour, our Outreach volunteers demonstrated the appropriate way to feed the ponies using chopped carrots in the covered arena. Many of the trainees were thrilled to be able to have a hands-on feeding and petting experience with the ponies.

Ponies Esperanza, Tapadita, Pajarita, Angelica, Strawberry, Mayday and Bandit were part of the Outreach team too. Each week, they took turns to accompany the trainees in their learning journey.

The programme for week two comprised of activities such as grooming, leading and grazing a horse. At one of the wash bays, different grooming tools were shown to explain their functionality. Working hand-in-hand, Gina and Bandit encouraged each trainee to use a tool to groom Bandit. While on the field, the second group attempted to lead and graze a horse. This session aimed to build confidence in the trainees when near horses.



The much awaited pony ride



Eagerly awaiting their turn



At the stick and ball session

Suspense awaited the trainees when they were informed of a pop quiz they had to attempt after the polo demonstration during the third week's programme. The first session began at the covered arena with Sattar Khan, SPC polo professional demonstrating different gaits of the horse and four types of polo strokes, while Pei Bei provided explanations of each. Cheers, applauds and happy faces followed whenever Sattar performed a very long shot from one end of the arena to the other.



Gina Lim, volunteer teaches a trainee to groom Bandit



Coming up close with Sattar Khan and Pajarita



Trying to complete the quiz at the stables

Pieces of the quiz papers were handed out to the trainees during the later part of the day. The colourful illustrated questionnaire comprised of topics taught from the first week until the third. Our Outreach volunteers then led the group to the stables where answers to most of the questions were found. Some of the trainees were quick with their answers while several of them needed a tip or two. The trainees were required to complete the quiz in thirty minutes, thereafter returning to the Chukka bar where they shared their answers with Pei Bei.



Beautifully hand-crafted gifts from the trainees to the volunteers



Team work during the quiz



Attempting to graze Tapadita at the field

Before the trainees settled in at the Chukka bar for the final session on the fourth week, several of the trainees were very eager and spoke enthusiastically amongst themselves about their maiden ride. Rules and safety around horses were emphasised once again before they headed to the covered arena.

On the field, cones, foot mallets, soft balls and helmets were prepared for the trainees. At the right side of the arena, our volunteers demonstrated safe methods to mount and dismount a horse, whilst at the opposite end, the trainees listened attentively to the correct techniques to play stick and ball.

The riding session was fun as always. Most of the time, the trainees were seen enjoying their rides - posing for pictures and jumping for joy after completing their rides, and sharing with their friends on how amazing it was.

Read about volunteers, Neha and Kerry's involvement in the SPC Outreach programme in Page 14 of this issue. They share with us about their experiences during the programme, on giving back to the community and on how they have looked beyond their own interests.



Attempting to mount a horse

# Myra Cup Kick Starts the 2019 Polo Season



The winning team!  
 From left to right: Ang Ban Tong, Jed Gabler, Lynly Fong and Gerry Gan  
 Not in photo: Christian Lockett

Three teams battled it out as we kicked off this year's polo season in style. The Myra Cup took place on 16 February over a 2-chukka round robin match.

A great tournament played well by the three teams and congratulations to Team Black for emerging victorious in this action packed match.

**Team Red:**

- Vinod Kumar (Captain)
- Daniel Chua
- Lucas Ertugrul
- Karan Narula

**Team Black:**

- Lynly Fong/ Gerry Gan (Captain)
- Ang Ban Tong
- Jed Gabler
- Christian Lockett

**Team White:**

- Isabelle Larenaudie (Captain)
- Lawrence Khong/ Greg Parkhurst
- Tim Zee
- William Gordon-Canning / Max Parkhurst



Ready for the kick off

**MYRA CUP**  
**16 FEBRUARY 2019**

Scores:  
**Team Red 3 vs Team White 2**  
**Team Red 2 vs Team Black 3**  
**Team Black 3 vs Team White 1**

Winner:  
**Team Black**



Team Red aiming to take the lead



# A Revelry of Polo, Music & Food

For the first time, the Sport of Kings made its mark on 23 February 2019 at the iconic Marina Bay Greens in Singapore. Showcasing skills of polo players and ponies in the heart of the city, it was an eye-opening experience, especially for those who had never watched a polo tournament before.

Debuting as Singapore Urban Polo, the event was staged alongside a festival. Its carnival-like atmosphere with music and post-event party that extended till late gave the whole event a refreshing social aspect. Several elements of the game were also modified to allow spectators to be as close as possible to the action. These included a three-player team (instead of the usual four) playing on a field which is barricaded by a waist-high wall. This allowed guest to experience up-close, the action-packed game and also to feel the adrenaline rush. The field was also smaller as compared to a regular polo field. Instead of a throw-in at the start of the tournament, a soft ball was used instead and placed at the center of the



Featuring the winners of Singapore Urban Polo, Team Rodd & Gunn



Proud podium moment



Lynly Fong, polo player from Singapore Polo Club



Tough competition as each team vies for a spot in the finals



Lynly Fong attempting a shot



Live music spun by Alex Woodford



Capturing a memorable moment



An intense moment with scores of onlookers



Spontaneous polo try-out by the attendees



Ali Reda in action

field. At the start of the tournament, the captains of each team would then race towards the ball to gain the first hit.

At 4pm, the gates were opened. Guests started to stream in and were dressed impeccably to impress. It was definitely a good showing; ladies were in summer hats, flowy dresses and men in their chinos and loafers. The Veuve Clicquot terrace offered exceptional cuisines and free-flow Champagnes for the VVIPs, while the Heineken marquees saw long queues for purchase of cold beers. Several food and beverage counters offered pizzas, tapas, wines and small-

batch craft gin to work up the crowd's appetite. Off-pitch entertainment with lively beats were performed by special guest deejays from the U.K and Singapore.

Minutes before the commencement of the tournament, guests speedily took the best spots behind the perimeter wall. The excitement heightened when the players who were riding on their ponies, exchanged high-fives with the spectators during the pony parade. There were three participating teams namely Rodd & Gunn, Space Executive and General Assembly. A short polo trivia was also introduced for the enjoyment of first-time polo tournament spectators.

The format of the tournament was a triple round robin with each team playing 2 chukkas against each other. The first game was kicked off by Ross Ainsley, and his team mates Ali Reda and Sattar Khan who were donned in pink polo shirts representing Rodd & Gunn, while the opposing team dressed in grey was led by Alec White with Lynly Fong and Sylvio Coutinho representing Space Executive. The initial scoreboard displayed a half-goal for Rodd & Gunn indicating a handicap goal disparity between the two teams.

Abounding in vigour and high spirits, Ali Reda scored two goals within two minutes of the game despite Alec White pursuing close behind him. Displaying good team work, the grey team matched up with some amazing defense by Lynly Fong and impressive shots by Sylvio Coutinho and Alec White. The first game ended with a score of 4 ½ vs 6, with Rodd & Gunn advancing to the finals.

The barricades were opened for spectators to interact with the polo players during the interval. Two white boxes were placed at one of the goal mouths where the polo players demonstrated hitting with the soft ball and mallet while standing on top of the boxes. Spectators and brave souls were encouraged to try out. At the same time, most of the spectators were down on the field partaking in the tradition of divot stamping during half time.



In the second game, General Assembly and Space Executive were competing for a place in the finals. In black polo shirts, Sam Hopkinson, John Martin and Isabelle Laurenadie represented General Assembly. The black team's efforts brought them three goals within a minute of the start of the first chukka. Space Executive was playing catch up throughout the game. Despite trying their hardest, they had to make way for the finals between General Assembly and Rodd & Gunn.

Spectators reached out for handshakes, pet the horses and attempted to get as close as possible for photo opportunities during the second intermission. Spontaneous groups of spectators were seen dancing with beers and wines in their hands right in front of the DJ's stand, many 'wefies' were snapped to commemorate a good time.



*Guests dressed to the occasion*



*Getting up close with the players and their ponies during the pony parade*



Guests enjoying some cold beer



Sattar Khan attempting to take the lead for his team



More action on the Marina Bay greens

Intensity grew when both teams went head to head in the final game. Notably the hot pursuits were by both Sattar Khan and Sam Hopkinson embarked on various speed breaks as they tried to break through for their respective teams. When the whistle is blown to signify the end of the game, Team Rodd & Gunn emerged victorious with the score of 5:2.

As Marina Bay Sands turned into a silhouette at twilight, the winning team took a stand in the middle of the field. Sattar Khan was awarded the Most Valuable Player, and together with his teammates, Ali Reda and Ross Ainsley, the winning team held high the Champion's trophy. Koinor clinched the title of Best Playing Pony.

The successful event drew an international crowd who immersed themselves in the thick of the action to experience polo in a shorter, more dynamic version of the traditional sport.



The adrenaline rush!



Polo Players at the Singapore Urban Polo

# First Pro-Am Challenge for 2019



Well done teams!

The Polo fraternity had a fantastic start to the year with the Club's first Pro-Am Challenge. Held on 7 - 10 March 2019, the tournament was filled with heart-pumping moments of hits and misses from participating teams.

The Pro-Am kicked off with 4-chukka matches played between Team SPC and Team Tata at the qualifying preliminary rounds. The final round on 9 March ended with Team SPC emerging as winners with a score of 7 vs 5.

Team SPC with a total handicap goal of 0, captained by Sattar Khan emerged as champions after a fast paced exciting match on the greens during the finals. Congratulations players!

### Pro-Am Challenge

#### Team Tata:

- Sanaullah Khan (Captain)
- Vinod Kumar
- Lucas Ertugrul
- Ang Ban Tong

#### Team SPC:

- Sattar Khan (Captain)
- Cyrille Costes
- Greg Parkhurst/ Marie Hesselman
- Tim Zee/ Max Parkhurst

### Exhibition Match

#### Team SPC (Black):

- Ali Reda (Captain)
- Lynly Fong
- Daniel Chua
- Jed Gabler

#### Team SPC (White):

- Stijn Welkers (Captain)
- Isabelle Larenaudie
- Anna Lowndes
- Tim Zee

The finals of the Pro-Am Challenge took place on 10 March 2019, with the Club's Verandah decked out with spectators wining and dining with free-flow champagne, gin, and canapés as they enjoyed a close-up bird's eye view of the match.

Several other guests also gathered at the chukka bar with friends and family to relax over a couple of draught beer, courtesy of Peroni while watching the intense moment unfold in front of them. The mood was hyped up with live music spun by DJ Tech 1 – a fab and family-friendly way to spend a Sunday afternoon.



Guests from Tata Communications

The afternoon commenced with an exhibition match played between Team SPC (Black) and Team SPC (White) with the latter opening the chukka with a goal from Stijn Welkers. The intensive game continued with Team SPC Black pursuing close, determined to end the chukka with a goal. A 40-yard penalty was awarded to them during the final minute on the greens, with Ali Reda scoring an opening goal for his team.

The match swiftly progressed on to the second chukka with Lynly Fong closing the chukka with two back-to-back goals, clinching the winners' title for her team.



Spectators at the event



Families bonding on a Sunday afternoon



Beer, anyone?



A pretty display of Tanqueray Gin and Tonic



Fun under the sun

The 4-chukka Pro-Am challenge had Team SPC starting the game with a 2-goal upper hand due to their wins in the previous games. This match was pretty interesting as we saw brothers Sanaullah Khan and Sattar Khan captaining their teams to push them through to victory. Just before the 90-second break of the first chukka, Vinod Kumar missed a goal with the shot sliding pass the right goal post.

Team Tata came back after the mini-break, fast and furious. Within a minute, they opened the first goal of the Pro-Am through Lucas Ertugrul and had a goal to their name. Team SPC was all set to increase the goals between them and it was proved with a majestic shot by Sattar Khan for his team. Team Tata tried to close up the score gap but it was in vain. The first chukka closed off as Team Tata 1 vs Team SPC 3.



Pre-match discussions



Brothers in action on the greens

Second chukka commences with Marie Hesselman making way for Greg Parkhurst and Max Parkhurst, then making way for Tim Zee. There was so much of energy and teamwork exhibited on the ground. Within a minute, Lucas Ertugrul had the crowd break out in cheers and claps with his goal for Team Tata. The match got more intense with great defending by Team Tata and continuous attacking from Team SPC.

Greg Parkhurst was next to score for his team after a failed block by Vinod Kumar. After a tough hustle at the goal post, Cyrille Costes's goal gave his team an edge. Scores were now standing at Team SPC 5 vs Team Tata 2.



A bit of a scuffle for the ball



Lucas Ertugrul taking the lead with Sattar Khan following close

Due to a fault before the re-commencement of the match, the reds were seen defending a 60-yard penalty taken by Sanaullah Khan to which he succeeded. The blues now had another goal added to their bucket bringing the scores to Team Tata 3 vs Team SPC 5.

Towards the final two chukkas, players and horses were visibly tired, slowing down the game. Nevertheless there were lots of attacking and the reds were quick to gain another goal to their name to widen the goal gap between the teams.

The final chukka was to determine the winners of the Pro-Am Challenge. Vinod Kumar sent the crowd into a frenzy as he took the lead solely, fast-paced from mid field to score a goal for the Blues. The chukka closed off with two final goals from Greg Parkhurst and Sattar Khan. A winner was declared. Team SPC 8 vs Team Tata 4.

Well played everyone and big thank you to our Tournament Officials.

**Winners:**  
Team SPC

**Runners-up:**  
Team Tata

**Most Valuable Amateur Player:**  
Vinod Kumar

**Thank you Sponsors:**  
Tata Communications  
Tanqueray  
Fever-Tree  
Peroni  
Veuve Clicquot



The winners of the first Pro-Am Challenge  
From left to right: Cyrille Costes, Tim Zee, Max Parkhurst, Greg Parkhurst, Marie Hesselman and Sattar Khan



Vinod Kumar receiving the Most Valuable Amateur Player award from Ali Reda



Team Tata with Ali Reda  
From left to right: Sanaullah Khan, Ang Ban Tong, Lucas Ertugrul and Vinod Kumar



Some action from the exhibition match



Umpire Tim Brown receives a token of appreciation from Ali Reda

Singapore Polo Club



# PONY ACADEMY

**Weekly Intakes**

Open to members and non members too!



Grooming in progress..

**New Topics:**  
Grooming Clips  
Turing Out Pony Safety  
Bridles & Saddle  
Tacking up  
and more!

Eager to find out?  
**Join us now!** We are  
happy to share more with you.  
View the programme details!

**A**t the SPC Riding Academy, we create wholesome outdoor activities designed for children 6 to 12 years of age.

Our Pony Academy organises activities that are enriching, educational and suitable as an after-school curriculum. Your child can spend time interacting with the school's friendly ponies, and equipping them with skills that last a lifetime such as confidence, trust, compassion, awareness, teamwork and assertiveness.

Set in a safe and fun environment, our elite team of instructors and experienced groomers ensure personal attention to each child whilst sharing knowledge and skills towards our young participants.



## ~ Schedule for Pony Academy ~ Weekly intakes available!

Each class is 45 minutes  
Non-mounted lessons and limited slots are available  
Course is suitable for children between 6 to 12 years old

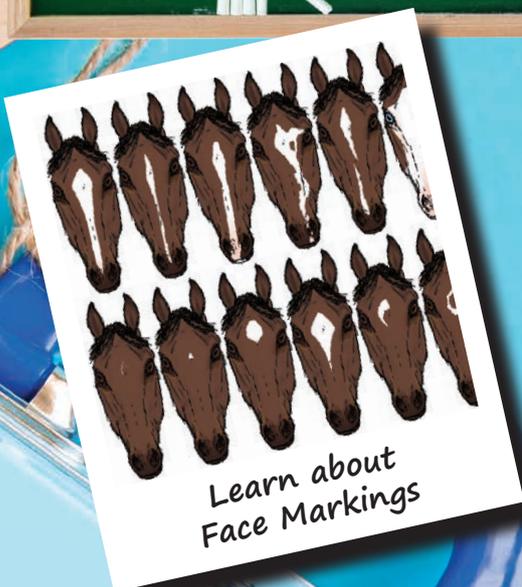
- ✓ Tuesday 4:45pm and 5:30pm
- ✓ Wednesday 4:45pm and 6:30pm
- ✓ Friday 4:00pm, 4:45pm and 5:30pm
- ✓ Sunday 10:00am, 10:45am and 11:30am

Registration fees of \$115+ per year and Rally fees of \$80+ per month

(Above fees are inclusive of a SPC T-shirt and course materials. Fees are also subject to 7% GST and applicable to members and non-members)

### Lessons Plan

- Week 1 - Trotting Up
- Week 2 - Feeding
- Week 3 - Plaiting
- Week 4 - Poisonous Plants
- Week 5 - Fire & Yard Safety
- Week 6 - Bridles and Saddle, Tacking Up
- Week 7 - Dressage Markers and Test Practice
- Week 8 - Easter Egg Hunt
- Week 9 - Turing Out Pony Safety
- Week 10 - Wildlife and Birds
- Week 11 - Cleaning Tack
- Week 12 - Competition Rules
- Week 13 - Free Week
- Week 14 - Grooming Tips
- Week 15 - Breeds
- Week 16 - Quiz for Badge Week
- Week 17 - Practice Week



Sign up now at the  
Riding Office or email  
[ponyclub@  
singaporepoloclub.org](mailto:ponyclub@singaporepoloclub.org)

# SPC YOUNG RIDERS

In this issue, we feature the Eskesen sisters – Bella and Helena. The duo, share with our readers about their riding experiences, future goals and unveil their idols in this sport.



**Anabella Eskesen, fondly known as Bella, is a young rider at SPC Riding Academy who has been riding occasionally since she was 2.5 years old and more consistently for the past four years at SPC.**

As her parents wanted her to take up a second sport, she joined track and field thus reducing her riding lessons. Bella exclaims to us that she is very motivated and organised with her homework. Should her grades slip, her riding lessons would be reduced – this was a pact made between her parents and herself. She strives to find a good balance between her school work and extra-curricular activities, in the hope that her parents will allow her increase the number of weekly riding lessons.

She recalls a not-so-pleasant encounter years back, “I was about seven years old when I had a nasty fall during riding and ended up with 15 stitches in my

head. Nevertheless I still rode, but was extremely terrified. To overcome that ordeal, I took a break for some time for self-healing and it really did help. Look at where I am now!” This moulded her into a stronger and more determined person.

Bella says that Mimo, and Brownie whom she used to lease before she started jumping, are her favourite riding school ponies.

She further shares that British Showjumper Benjamin Richard “Ben” Maher is an idol that she looks up to. She has competed in various SPC shows and has just started jumping on the 75cm to 85cm course. In time to come, she hopes to be able to begin participating in inter-club shows.

Over the last few summers, she joined riding camps in Lake Tahoe located in California, where their family have a home, as well as in Surrey, United Kingdom. The Surrey camp outside of London was most memorable for her as there were three other fellow SPC riders with her. This summer, Bella will be attending a riding camp outside of Florence, Italy. This aspiring teenager hopes to pursue medicine in time to come and would like to be a part of a competitive riding team in university.

We wish her all the very best for her riding and educational endeavours.

**H**er interest in riding was sparked thanks to frequent visits to a large park near their family’s home outside of Washington, D.C., where her family lived when she was younger. She was just two years old when she first began asking for riding lessons, and her mum searched relentlessly for six months before she finally found a school that could take Bella in. Her grandma brought her for lessons which were a 40-minute drive away, twice a week.

Bella started to ride in Singapore at the age of seven at a different riding school, but unfortunately had to take an 18-month break due to a mishap. Staying away from riding was misery for her and she wanted to resume riding. That was when her parents decided to sign up for an SPC membership and she started riding again at SPC Riding Academy. Bella currently leases Mimo for her thrice weekly lessons.





**Helena Eskesen, younger sister of Bella mentions that her sister is her riding inspiration and talks about the one special horse at SPC Riding Academy. Read on to find out who he is.**

**N**ine-year old Helena has been riding with SPC Riding Academy since she was seven years old.

"I spent a lot of time at the Club watching my sister ride, and my interest took flight from there," says Helena. Helena has been watching her elder sister train, pass different phases and acquire better riding skills. "My older sister is my riding inspiration and I have watched her compete at various competitions since I was a young girl. She set a good example for me and I have to admit that I started riding because of her. She's my idol and I am so proud of her."

She loves the close knit bond among the riding community at SPC. Everyone shares the affinity for a common interest – riding and horses.

Helena currently rides once a week and has just started competing in dressage.

She shares with us about how she fared over the past few shows. "My first three shows were disappointing. During my first show, I got bucked off. In the second and third ones, I made mistakes. Fortunately, in the recent show, I got a really high score and even came in first," she says.

She is gearing up to pass her C-test in dressage, to accomplish her longtime desire of leasing a pony and is determined to prove it to her parents through her commitment and hard work. School at the moment does not take a huge toll on her as she is a third grader, but she has extracurricular lessons to cope with aside from riding, but this positive young lady is all set to achieve what her heart desires.

Her favourite riding school pony is Sir James. "He's Danish like me and is the best pony, but I'm a little worried of growing too tall for him.

If that happens, I'm not too sure about whom I would want to ride," quipped Helena.

Though she is not old enough to participate in riding camps, Helena has done a number of trail rides with her family. Riding through the mountains in California is her favourite. Her advice to riders is to stay focused while riding a pony, as she used to get distracted easily when she was young, resulting in falls.

Helena's riding has improved over the years and she aims to continuously improve and further outdo herself so that she can achieve her goals and lease a horse at SPC.

We would like to extend our wishes for Helena to achieve her aspirations.





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**April**

**Month of  
Thai New Year**

**Red Curry with Roasted Duck Breast & Rice \$16**

Roasted sliced duck breast infused with red curry brewed with fresh herbs and spices, accompanied with fragrant Jasmine rice

**Traditional Chicken & Prawn Pineapple Fried Rice \$17**

Wok fried rice with pineapple jus, tender chicken and prawns served in pineapple



Prices are subject to service charge & prevailing taxes for guests / Member enjoys 10% off

**May**

**Middle Eastern**

**Chicken Kebab with Cous Cous \$17**

Boneless skewered chicken rubbed with herbs & spices, grilled to perfection, paired with cous cous



**Harira Lamb & Chickpeas Soup \$15**

Home-brewed Harira soup with traditional recipe with lamb & chickpeas, accompanied with warm toast



**June**

**Viva Italia!**

**Wild Mushroom Risotto with Shaved Parmesan \$17**

Traditional risotto cooked with wild mushrooms, finished with shaved parmesan

**Home-made Pumpkin Gnocchi with Pesto Sauce \$16**

Home-made Pumpkin Gnocchi infused with pesto sauce



*Pictures are for illustration purpose only.*



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YEARS OLD

**Open to Members and Non-Members!**

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Saturday : Session 1 - 12pm to 1pm  
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Singapore 298334



SINGAPORE  
POLO CLUB

# INAUGURAL SPC TRAINING SHOW FOR 2019

Photos by Tom De Geytere

Sian Lexmond and Rambo clinched the second place in the Class 4: 90cm 1 round with jump off art. 238 #2.2



**W**e started the year with a friendly riding show comprising of Dressage and Showjumping categories for our resident riders on 19 & 20 January. It was a great warm-up session for the riders and school horses and looks like they are well prepared for the coming competitions.

Well done to our riders and keep up the good work!

More details of our upcoming riding competitions and shows are posted on our website



Elise Van Stolk and SPC Riding School Horse, Tyrion had a clear round at the Class 2: 50-60cm category

## SECOND SPC SHOW ON 9 & 10 MARCH



Dressage judge Cynthia Ee and SPC Riding Instructor Edric Lee with Naoko Winther who clinched the champion title in the Class 11: EFA Preliminary 1.A (20x60 arena) Restricted (Version 2019)

**W**e had a successful dressage and show jumping event at the second SPC Show held on 9 & 10 March at the Club.

Congratulations to all winners and job well done to all participants. To many more achievements in the coming months.



Happy winners and participants



## Mountbatten Room

*A wine lounge that is part of the Polo Restaurant & Bar. Natural daylight setting that is ideal for business meetings or fun birthday celebrations.*

Seating Capacity: up to 80 persons

Arrangement: U-Shape, Round-Table, Theatre and Cocktail Standing

# Meeting & Event Spaces

*Available for Wedding Solemnisations, Social Events & Corporate Meetings*

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## The Chukka Bar Terrace

*The Terrace is an extension of the Chukka Bar located at the field side of the Polo Ground. Perfect for cocktail parties and social gatherings.*

Seating Capacity: up to 60 persons

Arrangement: Theatre and Cocktail Standing

Corporate Packages start from **\$58++** per person (Min. 10 persons for a full day)

\*\*\*\*\*

Wedding Solemnisation Packages from **\$2,188++**

+ GST applies only for members  
++ GST and service charge apply for non-members



## The Polo Gallery

*A well-equipped room that caters for small group training sessions or workshops.*

Seating Capacity: up to 50 persons

Arrangement: U-Shape, Round-Table, Theatre and Cocktail Standing



## The Committee Room

*A boardroom setting which is suitable for private and exclusive corporate meetings.*

Seating Capacity: up to 14 persons



80 Mount Pleasant Road  
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# CUPID RULES AT SPC



Featuring the participants of the Pony Club D1 and C1 Prelim 1A (20x40 arena) test and SPC Riding Academy Instructors together with renowned visiting clinician Sean Hope.

**S**PC's first inter-club show for 2019 took place on 16 & 17 February, with action packed show jumping and dressage competitions.

Congratulations to all winners and their horses!



Lila Salaria and Mr Percy had a clear round in the Class 2: 55 – 65cm category



Lucas May and Marilyn came in second in the Class 12: EFA Preliminary 1C



Gina Lim and Romeo Niro, winners of the Class 19: EFA Advance 5A

# TENNIS

## SUMMER CAMP IN JUNE



For enquiry and/or registration, please contact SIMON at  
Tel: 9144 5223 or email to [simon@vantagesportsgroup.com](mailto:simon@vantagesportsgroup.com)



### BEGINNER LEVEL

*For children between 4.5 to 9 years old*

Kids will learn basic tennis fundamentals such as Forehand, Backhand ground shots as well as the serve and volley. This will be done using specialized mini tennis nets, shorter court dimensions, and lower-compression balls. This camp is a great way to learn and improve the basics of the game. Emphasis will be on a structured games based approach to provide the kids with maximum fun and optimum learning.

### INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

*For children between 7 to 12 years old*

Junior players will enhance their basic fundamentals, technique, footwork and strategy. This program will be customised to skill level. Emphasis will be on point play, games and rallying. This is a great camp for kids looking to take their tennis to the next level!

### Programme Details For Both Levels

Venue: Singapore Polo Club Tennis Court  
Fees: \$300+GST (4-day lessons);  
\$375+GST (5-day lessons)  
- both packages include prizes on the last day  
Schedules: June 3 - 7, 10 - 14, 17 - 21 and 24 - 28  
(Mon - Fri: 9am - 12pm)  
Ratio: Coach to Student - 1 : 8  
What to bring: Cap, Sunscreen, Drinks, Snacks, Tennis Racket and Swimming Towel



# FIRST WIN OF THE YEAR AT BTSC'S INTER CLUB

**C**ongratulations to Chiara Mei Corbi and Sweet Tart for a successful ride at Bukit Timah Saddle Club's New Year Show, which took place on Sunday, 27 January at the Terra Arena.

Chiara came in 3rd place with 2 clear rounds each in the 90cm and 100cm show jumping classes.

Well done Chiara!



Chiara pictured with Sweet Tart and SPC Riding Academy Instructor, Edric Lee

# BTSC'S VALENTINE SHOW



SPC Riding Academy Instructor Edric Lee with Caedan Paul and Chiara Mei Corbi



Sian Lexmond on Rambo

**O**ur young riders from the Academy clinched good standings at Bukit Timah Saddle Club's Valentine Show on 24 February 2019.

Sian Lexmond and Riding School horse, Rambo finished fourth in the show jumping 90cm class and fifth in the Novice 2A class. This was Rambo's first experience in competing outside of SPC, and we are proud that both did very well.

Over at the show jumping 100cm class, Tia Gabler and Skyhi Even Better clinched the first place followed by Caedan Paul and Riding School horse Red finishing third with a beautiful clear round.

We are ever so proud of our SPC riders. Great job everyone.

# INAUGURATION OF RIDING ACADEMY ROOM



*Happy faces at the event*

**S**PC Riding Academy is thrilled to announce the re-branding and first look of the Riding Academy Room, previously known as the Pony Club Room.

The cosy room, which is now decked out with a fresh coat of paint, bright lights, trendy tableware and decorations aims to be a popular hangout venue for our Pony and Riding Academy students.

A 65-inch wall-mounted television is the centre of attraction at this space. Students from the Pony Academy can now engage in digital learning atop of their hands-on stable management and theory packed lessons.

Through the opening of the room together with an improved curriculum for the Pony Academy, the Riding Sub-committee aims to work hand-in-hand to incept new members to ride with the Academy.

The venue was inaugurated on Friday, 1 March, 3pm by Mr Sylvan Braberry, General Manager of SPC and Head of the Riding Academy, Mr Rickard Hogberg, Convenor of the Riding Academy and Ms Peggy Yeo, Riding Sub-committee Member.



*Custom made agar-agar jelly cake to mark the opening*

A tea break session followed with the attendance of Riding Academy members, children from our Pony Academy as well as our SPC staff.

Best wishes to the Academy, and may they scale greater heights with each passing year!



The room after the revamp



Cute wall murals



Photo memories framed up



Mr Rickard Hogberg, Convenor of the Riding Academy (in light blue long sleeve) taking a "wefie" with the attendees



Sweet treats on display



From left to right: Ms Peggy Yeo, Riding Sub-committee Member, Mr Rickard Hogberg, Convenor of the Riding Academy and Mr Sylvan Braberry, General Manager of SPC and Head of the Riding Academy



Riders from our Riding Academy



Our little guests from the Riding Academy

# MEET SUPER RIDER - FLORIAN ZIMMERMANN

SPC Magazine's editorial team was lucky to grab a quick chat with 38 year-old Florian Zimmermann when he was conducting a riding clinic at the club, as well as enjoying a holiday on our sunny Singapore shores.

**F**lorian is a renowned rider at the Spanish Riding School located in Vienna and Head of Heldenberg Training Centre, which is also owned by the school.

He shared with us about his career, the centre's programme and the beautiful Lipizzaner stallions (which is his favourite horse breed).

Florian, at the age of 15, started his riding career at the Spanish Riding School, without any horsemanship skills or knowledge. He gained his interest through the chief rider of the school, who happened to be a family friend and managed to land a job under his guidance for a day. That very day, he went back and told his parents about his desire to want to start as a rider in the riding school. His parents very much supported his decision together with the school's approval.

It was a dream come true for him as he started as an eleve (student) in 1996. He had to work for at least five years in the stables, learning stable management and how to handle horses while taking up riding lessons in between. Riding lessons commenced through lunging, with a lesson per day. This was needed as one would need to adopt the perfect and correct seat while knowing how to position their legs when mounted on a horse.

The end of this five-year period marks the end of an eleve's career as a student - one should be able to ride



*Florian in full riding gear at the Spanish Riding School  
Photo credit: Spanische Hofreitschule, Facebook  
www.imageequine.com*

a fully trained horse in a performance during the school's quadrille and if the rider attains success, he or she will be promoted to an assistant rider. They are then issued with the school's riding uniforms such as brown tail coats, bicorne-style hats, white buckskin breeches, white suede gloves, and black top riding boots. Swan neck spurs are also part of the uniform.

"You no longer have to work at the stables. Yes! Which means you get an extra hour of sleep every morning and you are back home an hour earlier. As an assistant rider, you will also get your own first young stallion which you train with the guidance of chief riders and riders. You will also need to be able to ride a young stallion. It will take up to another six years for the stallions to be ready for their first school performance, after which you will be promoted to a full rider. This time round, you will have about five to eight horses to train, but the path is tough - it will take about 10 years to achieve this status. A lot of hard work needs to be rendered and usually only one out of three riders make it through this process," he exclaimed.

Florian went on to say that the Heldenberg Training Centre has various clinics taking place where guests can book their preferred slots through their website. The school organises four to five theoretical clinics a year, where the many riding techniques are shown and explained to a maximum of 30 attendees. Attendees also visit their premises for seminars on professional dressage trainings and judging, horse care and more. The school currently accommodates 72 in-house stallions with the training centre accommodating another 40 stallions. The Piber stud farm in Austria holds 250 horses, mares, fillies and several old stallions.

Situated away from the city, the training centre serves as a purpose for the stallions to take an annual break. On a rotational basis, three to four riders from the school would head back to the training centre with their ponies for about four months. Once there, they would ride the horses through the woods, vineyards, paddocks and pastures - activities that are not possible in the city centre of Vienna.

A beautiful white Lippizzaner seen during the Spanish Riding School's quadrilles  
Photo credit: Spanische Hofreitschule, Facebook

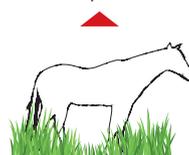


Oldest cultural horse breeds in Europe, which come from Piber, a small town in the middle of Austria

At birth, they are anywhere from brown to grey



Turn white when they are between six to nine years old.



A tradition for Lipizzaners to grow up in the Alps so that their muscles, tendons and joints are healthy.

The best stallions are selected and sent to the riding school when they are 3.5 years old. At this point of time, they only know the grooms and are not used to the environment, riding gear and people and have to be schooled from the start.

Florian says that his horses are his inspiration, especially when he visits them at their stables every morning. The bond that he shares with them is magical, especially so when he had trained them for years and finally sees their progress.

He wants to stay and work in the riding school for as long as he can as he knows no other job besides animals and horses.

He added on to say, the first step to train a stallion is to lunge them, this is to ensure the horse finds its balance and get used to the saddles, bridles and you as the trainer. It takes weeks to mount a new stallion and months to finally be able to ride one.

To be a successful rider, patience is a very important element. One needs to be a 'horse man' and should be able to feel and understand your horse. Riding is also about always learning as every horse and day is different. A good rider is one that can easily tell his horses' mood just from his eyes and ears. "A lot of riders still can't connect with their horses and I can spot that in a second," he said.



Gina Lim at Florian's riding clinic at SPC.

### Dressage movements signature to the Spanish Riding School:



"Capriole" - horse jumps in the air and kicks out with his hind legs.



"Courbette" - horse raises up and jumps for about 5 to 6 times on his hind legs.



"Levade" where the horse sits all his way down on the hind and raises his front legs with a 45 degree angle.

Florian recalled an achievement in the riding school: "I was 18 years old when I got my fourth stallion to train, and my dream was to train him to do the Courbette, as in my opinion, it's a very beautiful move. He was very sensitive and I started training him with Piaf as I recognised that he could lift up easily. After training him for years every day, he eventually raised up and performed a jump – it was a dream come true as I was the sole trainer. The school has 120 horses and all of them are schooled the same way, so in case one retires you still can easily ride another one without having to train them all over again."

As for his personal life? Florian is happily married to a showjumper wife, has two dogs and a Hanoverian horse that he devotes his free time to.



Florian coaching Amanda Fischer

Aside from riding, diving is another passion of his. He desires to head to Raja Ampat since he had heard about how wonderful the place is with the Indian and Pacific Ocean merging to one. His chill out time commences from the moment he's seated on the boat, heading to the dive site. "Diving is a perfect hobby for me as it means I get to head out for a good three weeks during winter. Once I immerse myself into the water, I forget about everything, my mind is clear and calm while I enjoy watching the fishes and reefs."

As for Singapore, Florian said our little island has impressed him very much and he hopes to have a revisit soon. Perfect climate, great food, friendly people are some of the reasons as to why he enjoyed his eight-day stay here. He spent his time trying out various local food and heading to different places of interest.

We definitely hope to be able to have Florian visit us again for a riding clinic and wish him many more years of success.



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This four-day retreat from 22 to 25 August 2019 is perfect for time-pressed senior corporate executives and business owners who are committed to their personal development, and yet also in need of a short getaway. The retreat location is set amidst the lush rice fields of Ubud in Bali, where a small select group of retreat guests will enjoy authentic cultural experiences and outdoor activities too.

It is no surprise that Paresa Collection understands the needs of entrepreneurs, business owners and senior management so well. Paresa Collection is the sister company of Hofer Tan & Partners, a globally respected professional services firm with over 30 years of speciality experience in Board Search, Corporate Leadership and Enterprising Family Consulting.

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# TRAVEL WITH HANDS ON HEART

Travel is beyond sightseeing, shopping and fine dining. Acquire a new skill, make your heart race and create priceless memories.



## RUN FOR IT IN PHUKET

The Thai island of Phuket is more than a resort island. With its year-round balmy weather, it is also a hot destination for world-class sporting events like the Laguna Phuket Marathon. Into its 14th year running, the race in June 2019 is expecting 13,000 runners from over 50 countries for the race weekend.

Offering six distances - 2km Kids Dash, 5km, 10.5km, Half Marathon, Marathon and Marathon Relay, this is an ideal perfect overseas run for the whole family and friends. Children as young as three years old can participate in the Kids' Dash, while adults who wish to qualify for the Boston Marathon can make this race count as it is professionally timed by Sportstats Asia and is certified by AIMS (Association of International Marathons and Distance Races).

You will also be running for a good cause when you participate in this race. Funds raised through this event supports educational and social development of local communities, marine and natural environmental conservation, and emergency relief.

Many participants stay on in Phuket to enjoy the sun, sea and sand after the race weekend. Doesn't this check all the boxes for an easy, yet rewarding, fitness-theme holiday for all ages?

**The Laguna Phuket Marathon takes place on 8 to 9 June 2019 at Laguna Phuket resort. [www.phuketmarathon.com](http://www.phuketmarathon.com)**



photo credit: COMO Hotels and Resorts



## EXPAND YOUR VISION

Can one truly capture the majesty and wonder of Bhutan through a lens that is a fraction of the size of the vast Himalayan kingdom?

COMO Uma Bhutan's Himalayan Photography Expedition with award-winning photographer and Kodak Ambassador, Michael Turek, will enrich and empower you with the knowledge of film photography to capture the soul and purity of the land. With film photography, the limited number of frames requires you to be more thoughtful about every shot before you take it. Michael's film photography workshops will impart the art of slowing down to closely observe nature and shoot with deliberation as you journey deep into the kingdom's heartland.

This expedition will bring you to the gravity-defying Tiger's Nest Monastery, the temple of the Divine Madman, three distinctly different but important valleys, bustling capital of Thimphu with its monuments, museums and markets, the tropical Punakha Valley with its magnificent dzongs and the emerald valley of Paro with its rice paddies and ancient temples.

**The eight-day Himalayan Photography Expedition on 2 to 9 June 2019 starts from USD 7,600 per person for single accommodation or USD 5,800 per person for twin share accommodation. [www.comohotels.com](http://www.comohotels.com)**

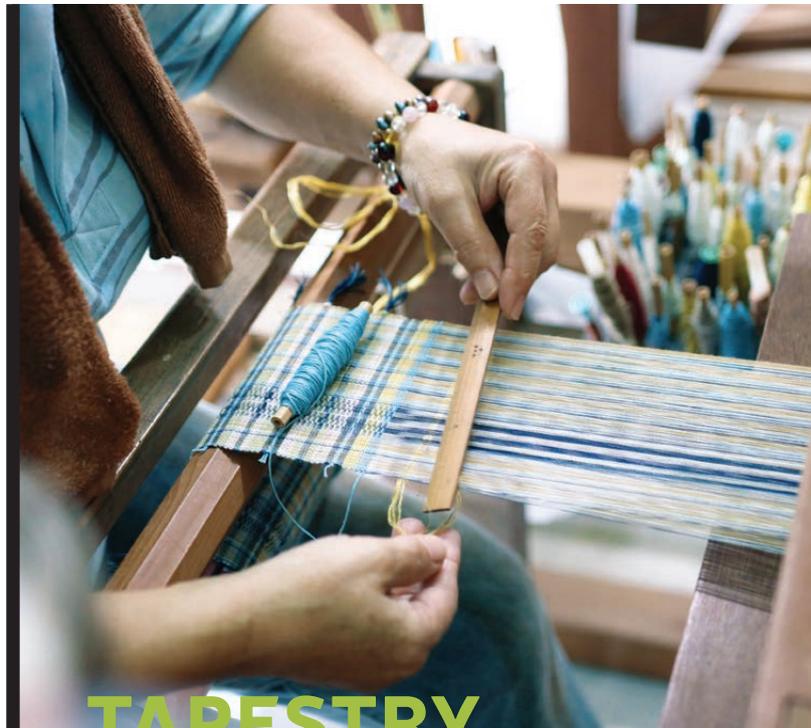
## SURF'S UP

Discover the adrenaline high of riding the waves at your next beach vacation. With the diverse waves surrounding Six Senses Fiji and the experienced personal surf guides from TropicSurf, you are promised a luxury surf camp experience you will never forget.

TropicSurf, a specialty luxury surf company with 25 years under their wetsuit, can tailor a programme for anyone. If you are a beginner, you will discover the adrenaline rush and excitement of learning to surf. There are specialised programmes for children too. For intermediates, you will be able to identify your strengths and weaknesses with your personal surf coach and improve on your skills. And for advanced surfers, you can hit the world-famous reeling barrels of Cloudbreak (#braggingrights). A feature on the World Surf League tour, Cloudbreak is one of the highlights of professional surfers.

In addition to helping build your surf cred, TropicSurf will also look after your accommodation and all transfers, including VIP Helicopter transfers. So, pack your family and friends, hit the waves and achieve a new high together!

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## TAPESTRY OF LIFE

Bring along your creative self on your next trip to Bali, Indonesia. As your hands learn the ancient art of Ikat weaving and dye tradition, your heart and mind will grow to appreciate the local culture and its rich history.

The Ikat backstrap loom weaving and natural dye traditions of the Indonesian archipelago date back over 4,500 years and indigenous weavers are still carrying on this tradition today. For the Balinese, it is a manifestation of ancestral knowledge and the highest form of artistic and spiritual expression.

Through a seven-day workshop, you will learn more about the traditional art and create a weft ikat design and warp a backstrap loom, dye the weft ikat work with indigo blue, tannin browns and Morinda red dyes, and weave your weft ikat textile with your own loom.

Located amidst the tranquil rice fields of Ubud, the workshop is held at the Threads of Life natural dye studio and the Bebali Foundation dye plant garden on the grounds of the Umajati Retreat. Workshop participants have the option to stay at Umajati Retreat's two elegantly restored 100-year old Javanese wooden homes for a truly immersive and memorable experience.

**The seven-day Ikat Weaving and Natural Dye Traditions Workshop on 18 to 24 August 2019 starts from USD 815 per person. [www.threadsoflife.com](http://www.threadsoflife.com)**





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# New Members Night and Lunar New Year Celebrations



*Gong Xi Fa Cai from us to you*

We ushered in the Year of the Pig with our new members, committee, SPC's Head-of-Departments and staff on 18 February 2019.

A cool, evening breeze welcomed everyone who strolled into our premises slightly past 6.30pm. Members and their families were excited about what they could expect for the evening. The first surprise sprang up just moments later, with an appearance by the God of Wealth! He walked around the Verandah handing out sweets and chocolate gold coins. Excited guests took the chance to have a photo opportunity with him.



*Lo Hei session at the Right Verandah*

The highlight of the evening was a traditional Lion Dance and Cai Qing performance which are for prosperity and good luck. The lights at the Polo Bar were dimmed, and in strolled a pair of LED-lit lions which livened the venue with their luminous neon, flashing lights and boisterous moves. As part of the performance, a bunch of lettuce is tied together with a red ang bao packet containing money, which the lion dancers retrieve after overcoming a few obstacles. The lions reached out for the lettuce and retrieved their ang bao hung up on the beam of the ceiling. Children standing in front of the lions were also caught by surprise as the lions flung out sweets and chocolates during the performance. At the end of the performance, the lions presented a scroll to our Guest-of-Honour, Mr Wee Tiong Han, Convenor of Lifestyle, Food & Beverage and Sponsorship.



*Hearty welcome to our new members*





Tossing to a great new year



God of Wealth mascot handing out sweets and chocolates to guests



Cheering the lions on



Face mask changing performance



Beautiful LED lions during the Cai Qing ceremony

The night ended with a Face Mask changing performance. Everyone in the room was thrilled to see the swift moves of the performer, as he changed the masks to upbeat music. Before they could bat an eyelid, the mask was changed!

We would like to thank everyone who joined us at this intimate party and hope to welcome many more of our members at our upcoming social and sporting events. Details of the year's events can be found on our website.

Guests were later ushered to the Mountbatten room for a welcome speech by Mr Wee Tiong Han and Mr Sylvan Braberry, General Manager of SPC. Everyone on the floor toasted to good health, wealth and wished one another for a very successful year moving ahead.

Pre-dinner started with the much awaited Lo Hei ceremony. Many of our guests tried their hands at tossing the Yu Sheng, a maiden attempt for some of them. Laughter and giggles filled the Verandah as our emcee demonstrated the appropriate way to toss the Yusheng and explained the symbolism of every ingredient and action. Yu Sheng is a delicacy consumed during the Lunar New Year period and comprises of raw fish, shredded vegetables and a variety of sauces and condiments. The ingredients are then tossed well with a pair of chopsticks and diners usually raise their chopsticks containing the ingredients while saying aloud "Huat Ah", symbolising auspiciousness. The higher you toss, the more wealth and wishes are gained and granted.

## 5 INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT LUNAR NEW YEAR



-  Lunar New Year marks the start of Spring and a new Chinese Zodiac year.
-  Celebrations last for 15 days.
-  Reunion dinner with your family is a must-do ritual for most Chinese families.
-  Tossing of the Yu Sheng is a customary practice as it is believed to bring in good health, luck and prosperity.
-  Auspicious plants such as pussy willows, mandarin shrubs, cherry blossoms are placed in homes to signify prosperity and good luck.

# Whisky Tasting Dinner with Chef Gary Rhodes

Guests were invited to a memorable evening with Chef Gary Rhodes, OBE, at our first networking night for the year by hosts, Prudential and BMW on 6 March 2019.

Chef Gary is an English restaurateur, Michelin Star chef and author. His 35-year career has set him apart as a chef specialising in British cuisine and he was honoured with an Order of the British Empire (OBE) for services to the hospitality industry. He currently owns a chain of restaurants, internationally and in Europe.

Invited guests of our hosts, Tata Communications, as well as, our friends from the media attended the whisky-paired five-course dinner event.



John Elkovich with Chef Gary Rhodes, OBE



The dinner set-up



Attendees networking at the Mountbatten Room



Chef Gary at work perfecting one of the pre-starters. Pictured in this photo: Beetroot and Creamy Goat Cheese Tower



Invitees from BMW

Guests started streaming in slightly before 7pm and were ushered to the Mountbatten Room for a pre-cocktail and networking session. The well-furnished room displayed white furniture with gold trimmings – a very elegant setup. At the entrance of the room was a bar stocked with various whiskies and gin courtesy of The Lost Distillery. A set of high-end speakers, courtesy of Devialet, sent soothing light music to the room, livening up the ambience. Many of the guests were seen relaxing with cocktails and engaging in small talk.

Mr John Elkovich, Head of HNW Solutions, Prudential Singapore was invited for a welcome speech before the appearance of Chef Gary at the Verandah. The chef himself then introduced the dishes for the evening that were specially prepared. Every dish had a complementary whisky pairing.

The guests were delighted to be able to bring home a box of specially-crafted macaroons, courtesy of BMW. Several of them also had the chance to meet Chef Gary for photo opportunities and a short autograph session.

It most certainly was an evening to remember with great food, drinks, and company all under one roof with a fantastic ambience.



John Elkovich, Head of HNW Solutions, Prudential Singapore with his guests



Guests from Tata Communications



Dinner at the Verandah



Divya Anand (in the middle), Regional Marketing Director of Tata Communications with her guests



Ann Wrightman (left) and Charlotte Sutcliffe (right)



Roast Fillet of Beef with Seared Foie Gras, Mushroom Caramel and Spinach Red Cabbage Jam



Elegance at its finest

# BOUNCY BOUNCY TRAMPOLINE FITNESS

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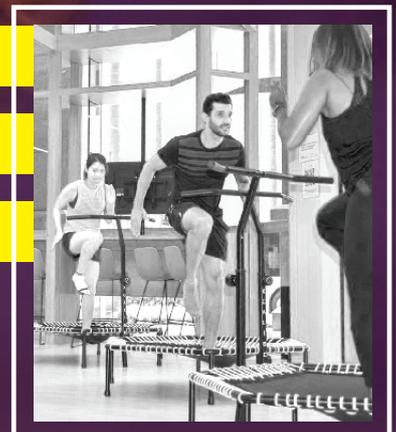
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ZACK'S TACK PTE LTD

Singapore Polo Club 80 Mount Pleasant Road Singapore 298334

T: +65 6854 3990 E: [pololoft@zackstack.com](mailto:pololoft@zackstack.com) W: [www.zackstack.com](http://www.zackstack.com)

New opening times: Tuesday to Sunday - 11am to 6pm

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# Home of the Gold Cup for the British Open

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Don't forget to get in touch to arrange your reciprocal social membership\* to Cowdray Park Polo Club during your trip to the UK. Open to all Singapore Polo Club members.



[cowdraypolo.co.uk](http://cowdraypolo.co.uk)

\*Terms and conditions apply.  
For full details go to:  
[cowdraypolo.co.uk/social-membership](http://cowdraypolo.co.uk/social-membership)