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Where the Kings play
"The Sport of Kings"

Celebrating the glory of polo for 24 years...

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Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club P.O. Box 7144 Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Tel: +971 (0)2 562 90 50 Fax: +971 (0)2 562 90 20

www.grpc.ae | www.presidentpolocup.ae | www.pinkpolo.ae

GHANTOOT 25th ANNIVERSARY

RACING & POLO CLUB
SEASON 2018 - 2019



INTRODUCTION

Set in 300 hectares and various polo fields with perfectly-manicured grassland , Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club offers an oasis of calm and tranquility amid the hustle and bustle of desert life.

The UAEs only Royal club boasts world-class polo and equestrian facilities and is recognised as one of the most prestigious clubs of its kind in the world.

Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club sprung up around the vision of the late President, His Highness Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan and is today run under the patronage of his son, His Highness Sheikh Falah Bin Zayed Al Nayhan.

Conveniently located just 40 minutes from Abu Dhabi city centre and 15 minutes from Dubai Marina, Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club often throws open its gates, inviting members of the public to enjoy polo tournaments, sporting events, music concerts and other festive activities hosted at the club.



Where the Kings play "The Sport of Kings"

Where Polo is the ultimate passion ...

The United Arab Emirates is rapidly carving a distinct niche for itself on the world polo circuit, with Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club leading the way. Founded in 1997 Under the visionary chairmanship of Sheikh Falah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, son of the President of the UAE, the Club has been making its presence felt as one of the world's best polo destinations and enhancing the Polo sport in the United Arab Emirates

An Elite Elegant Experience

Fantastically landscaped over 300 hectares on the Abu Dhabi - Dubai boarder. Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club is strategically positioned between the fast growing business community with the best communication and traffic access within a peaceful green environment.

Surrounded by a comfortable modern infrastructure for sports and entertainment ready to suit every social event imaginable. Ghantoot is located between the two high profile cities of Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

Fully Equipped for Polo Championships

The Club claims with pride seven grass polo fields and two stick & ball fields built to international standards, three of which are floodlit, making it one of the most outstanding polo clubs in the world and certainly the best in the Middle East.

A Haven to Horses

Over 250 polo ponies groomed and trained are stable at the premises , in nine air-conditioned stables and eight paddocks, Facilities are available at the club for stabling visiting horses and the Polo school is waiting to train the next top UAE Polo players.

Ghantoot Polo Team

In a very short time span, the Ghantoot polo team has blazed trails all over the competitive arena. Although the Club is one of the youngest in the world, its horse team has established an excellent reputation.





Honoured guests at Ghantoot

Since its founding in 1994, Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club has been graced by some of the most privileged dignitaries well as polo legends of our time. Encouraging UAE young national to dedicate their sporting time to the unique Polo sport.

Royalty and Heads of State

While the visits of the H.H Sheikha Maitha bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, King of Bahrain, Prince Charles, Prince Harry and Sultan of Brunei stand testimony to the regal appeal of the Club and its activities, visits of the heads of state from Belarus and Tataristan have been golden moments for the Club.

Top Players at Ghantoot

The world famous Heguy brothers revered in the world of Polo, and participants at the H.H PRESIDENT OF UAE POLO CUP, have found the Club's facilities and

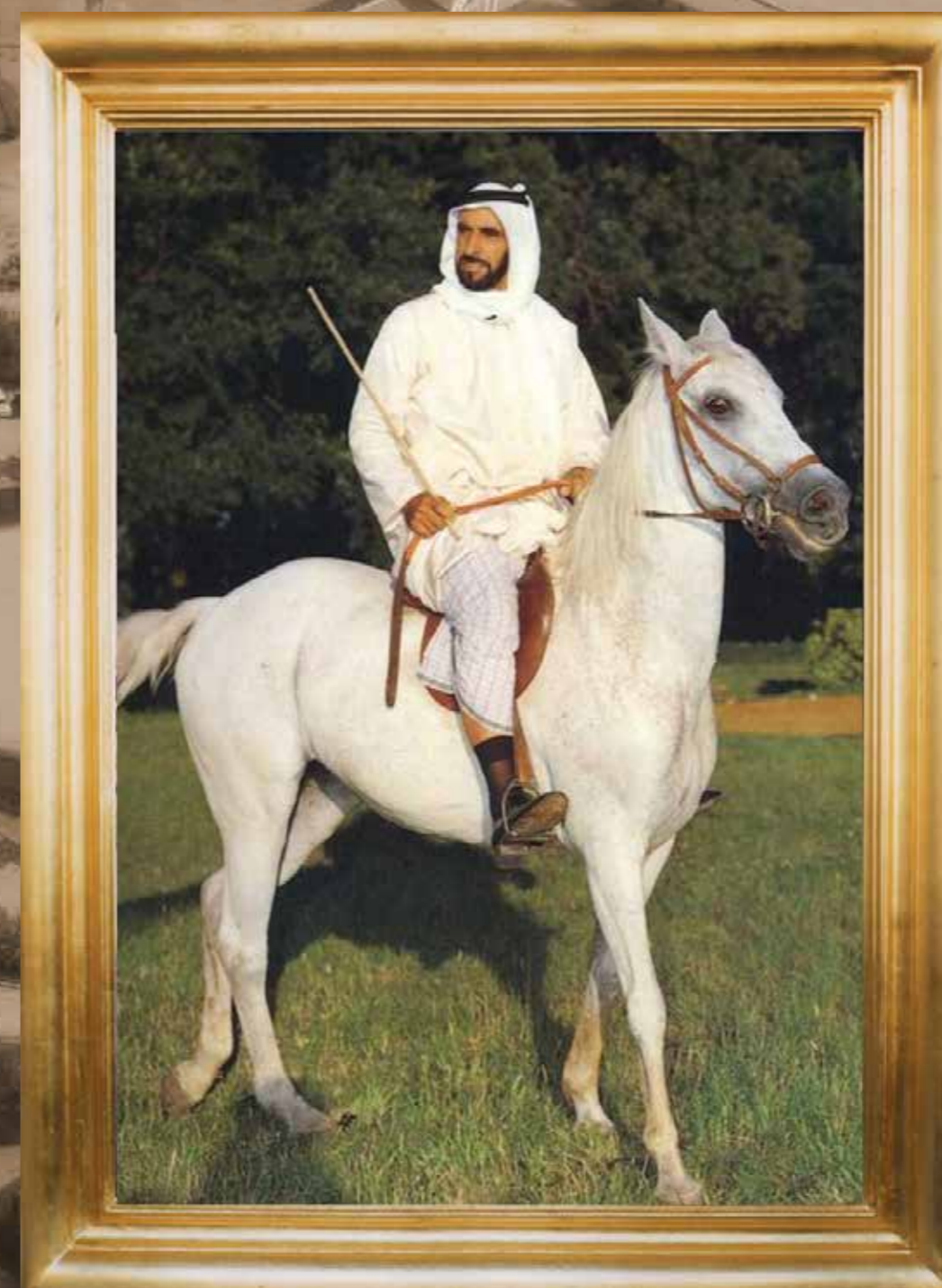
standards worthy benchmarks for nascent polo clubs to follow.

The guest book of Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club is filled with memorable comments and compliments of honored guests from around the world, and the accolades keep coming in...

Entertainment of a different kind

Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club offers you the opportunity to participate in an enduring and emotional experience in terms of sport and brands, combined with the fabulously modern world of UAE.

Top-Class entertainment and a harmonious coordinated program sequence which alternates between exciting dynamics and a day of leisure recall the typical polo lifestyle in its original form — sporting prowess, consummate style,





OUR FACILITIES

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Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club is equipped with a landing area and platform for helicopters close to the Royal Grand stand.

SPECTATORS:

Every Polo tournament can host 2,000 guests and cater for 200 guests, outside caterers are hired for increased numbers.



THE BASIC RULES OF POLO

Usually, a polo match is divided into 4 to 6 periods called chukkers (or chukkas). Each of these is 7.5 minutes long and at 7 minutes you will hear a warning bell before the final bell rings once more at the end of each chukker. However, if a team scores after the 7 minutes warning bell or if the ball touches the sideboards of the polo field, the chukker ends immediately. Since a chukker is rather tiring for the horses, the players have 4 minutes between the chukkers to switch horses. On a very hot day, some players may even change their horses during active play, often seen jumping straight from saddle to saddle without dismounting. If there is an equal amount of goals at the end of the chukkers, there is an overtime (for as many extra chukkers as it takes) in which it becomes a sudden death game.

THE POLO PLAYERS & HANDICAPS

Each outdoor polo team consists of four players numbered 1, 2, 3, 4. Conversely, arena polo is only played with 3 players per team but in this article we have focused on outdoor polo exclusively.

No 1 is generally the offensive player while No 4 plays defense. Players No 2 and 3 are often the most experienced players. No 3 is usually the field captain who delegates the ball, and No 2 is supposed push the play in the offense as well as the defense. None of them act as a permanent goal keeper. With only 4 players per team, each player should cover numerical opponent on the polo field. More so than in many other sports, many players only reach their peak after years of competitive play.



POLO HANDICAPS



Sir Winston Churchill once stated: "A polo handicap is your passport to the world." Considering that polo is played all around the globe and it is not uncommon for top players to travel with their horses to different countries, he was certainly right.

The polo handicap was invented by Henry Lloyd Herbert, the first president of the US Polo Association, in 1890. The idea behind this rating system was to match teams more evenly when pairing players of varying skill levels. A player's handicap is determined by a number of factors like sportsmanship, team play, scoring, and knowledge of polo, strategy and horsemanship.

Players are rated from minus 2, representing the most novice player, to 10, representing the best player. While about two thirds of all ranked players worldwide have a handicap of 2 or below, only about a dozen players are ranked with a handicap of ten. A handicap of 5 is usually only achieved by professional players. Moreover, the ranking in Argentina – the nation that has repeatedly produced many of the world's best polo players – can be slightly different than rankings in the US, for example. In any case, each team's handicap is the sum of the individuals' handicaps; a team composed of 4 players with a handicap of 2 each would have a team handicap of 8, also referred to as an 8-goal team. In a handicap tournament, points are given to the lower rated team before the game even starts based on the difference of handicaps between the two teams. Let's say, the team with the 8-goal team plays a team with a 10-goal team, then the 8-goal team will get a 2 point head start.

However, open tournaments where teams play "on the flat," indicating that the handicap of the teams do not matter with regard to scoring, each game starts at 0-0.

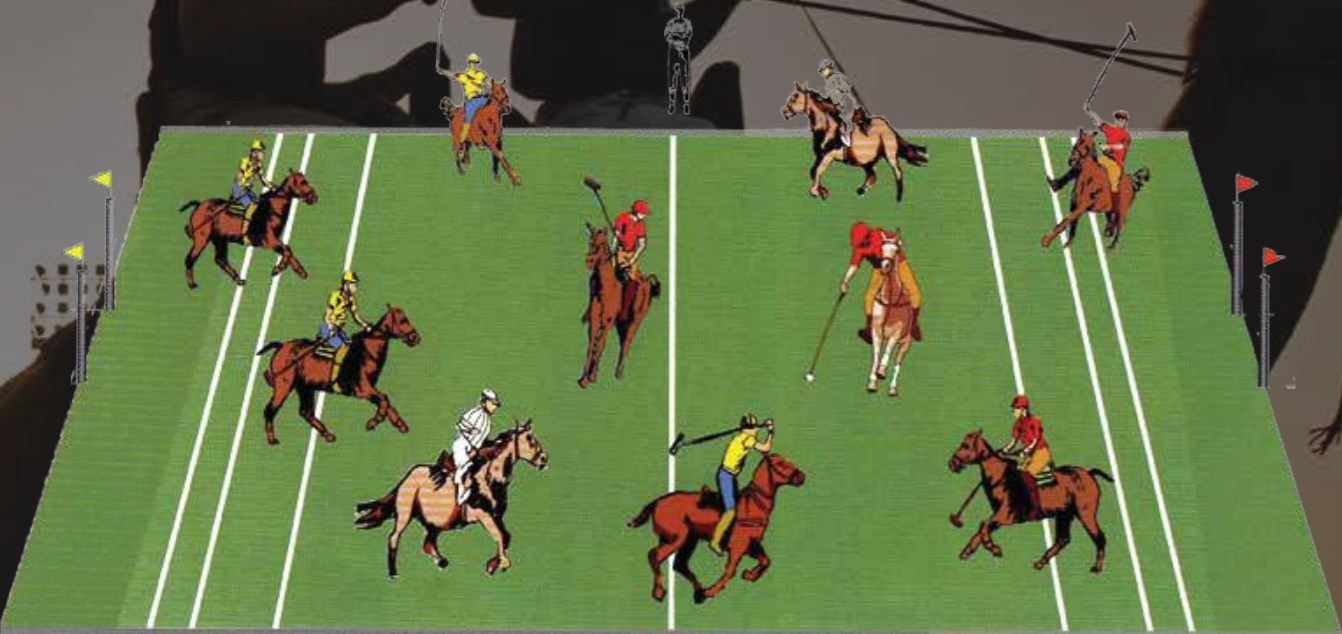


THE POLO FIELD

The polo field is usually 200 yards wide by 300 yards long and the goals are 8 yards wide.

In order to score a point, a player must hit the plastic ball between the goal posts – it does not matter how high or low the ball is. Interestingly, after each goal, the game is resumed from the middle but the teams switch directions and aim for the opposite goal To ensure fair play, two mounted referees – to so-called umpires – are on the field as well, and a “third man” is located near the middle of the polo field to make decisions in case an umpire made a questionable call. Once a foul occurs, the umpire blows the whistle, which stops the clock.

There are several lines on the field indicating where on spot, midfield, 60, 40and 30 yard penalties are taken from.



POLO PONIES



The horses are traditionally called ponies. Most of the time, they come from the race track and have to be trained subsequently to perform in a polo game. Many of the polo ponies are faster on short distances than race horses! Apart from that, polo ponies must be very agile and they are naturally the most essential part of the polo game.



HELMET
THE ONLY PIECE OF EQUIPMENT THAT IS MANDATORY BY THE RULES.

SADDLE PADS
THIS ARE USUALLY USED TO ABSORB SWEAT, CUSHION THE SADDLE AND PROTECT THE HORSE'S BACK.

BRAIDED TAIL
PREVENTS INTERFERENCE WITH THE Mallet.

MALLET
MOST MALLETs ARE MADE OF BAMBOO AND THE HEAD IS MADE UP OF HARD-WOOD. VARY IN LENGTH FROM 49" TO 54" DEPENDING ON THE HEIGHT OF THE HORSE AND THE PLAYERS PREFERENCE.

BANDAGES
USED FOR SUPPORT AND PROTECTION

POLO BOOTS
PROTECTS PLAYERS LEG FROM BUMPS & CONTACT BY BALL.

STIRRUP
for the players feet

PONY
PRIMARILY THOROUGHBRED ALTHOUGH SOME QUARTER HORSE AND OTHER BREEDING CAN BE FOUND.

CLIPPED MANE
PREVENTS INTERFERENCE WITH THE PLAYERS REIN HAND.

SADDLE & BRIDLE
ENGLISH STYLE TACK.

KNEE PADS
COVERS THE KNEES ABOVE THE BOOT.

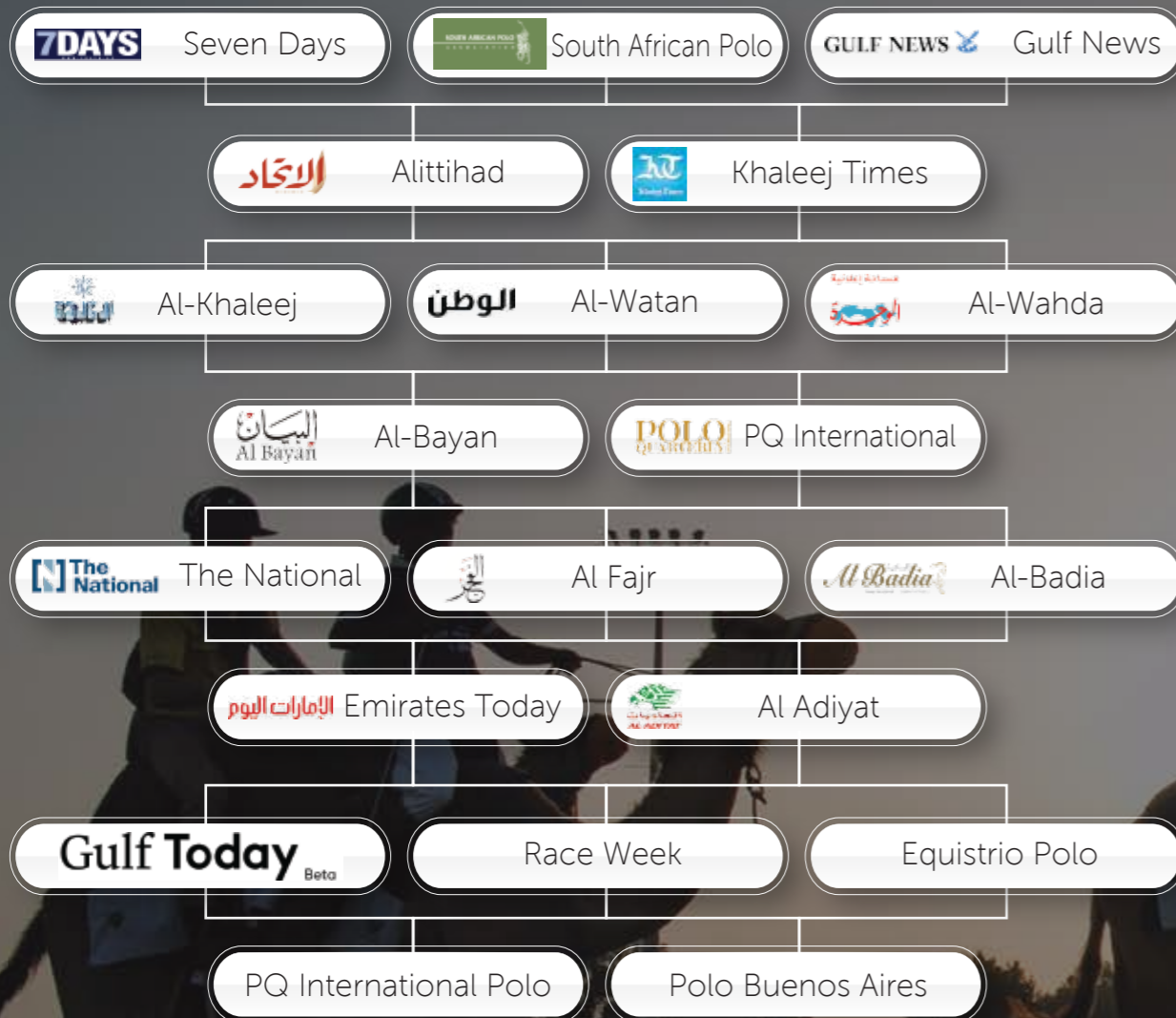
POLO MARTINGALE
INTENDED TO PREVENT THE HORSE'S HEAD FROM GOING UP AND STRIKING THE PLAYERS FACE.

BREAST PLATE
USED TO KEEP THE SADDLE FROM SLIPPING BACK.

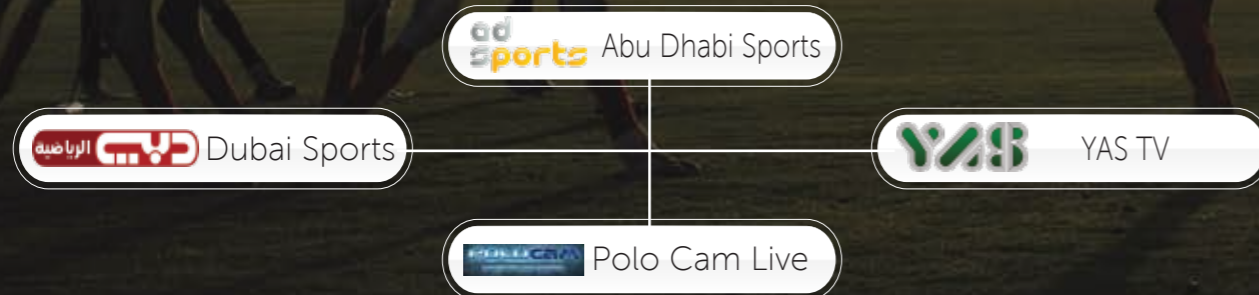
BELL BOOTS
PROTECT THE UPPER PART OF THE HOOV FROM OVER REACHING HIND FEET AS WELL AS OTHER HORSE'S HOOFS.

MEDIA EXPOSURE

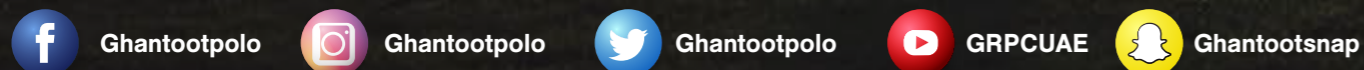
PRINT MEDIA:



BROADCAST MEDIA:



SOCIAL MEDIA:

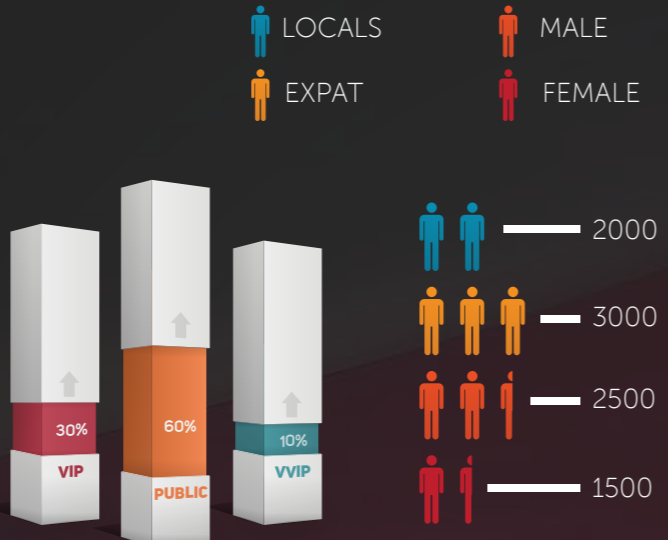


OUR MAJOR EVENTS



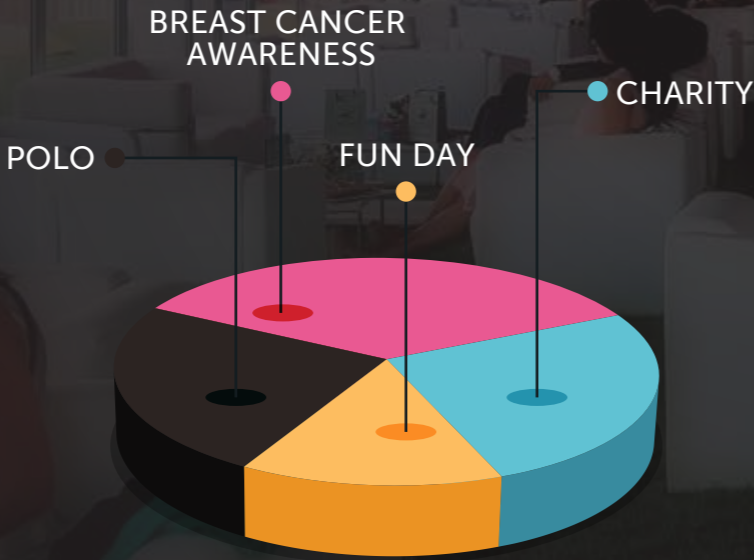
EVENT BRIEF

PINK POLO



ADCB Pink Polo organised by Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club is a fun day out created to support breast cancer awareness in the UAE. Built around a polo exhibition game, the day also hosts various of activities each year; giving a variety of entertainment options for the entire family including camel and pony rides, falcon shows, golf lessons, camel polo, photo sessions with polo players and reserved picnic areas. Apart from all the fun part there was also free screenings and check ups

EVENT PROGRAM



- 1:00 PM Gates Open
- 3:00 PM VIP Hospitality
- 3:30 PM Horse Show – Tent Pegging
- 4:00 PM Fashion Show by the Pool
- 5:10 PM Polo Game Starts
- 6:10 PM Award Ceremony

HIGHLIGHTS





Ghanbat Polo @GhanbatPolo · 1 Nov 2018
 Thanking @yayachfir @yayachfirzki @jira_middle_east for the supporting the Pink Polo Awareness Tours 2018 - and the kind hospitality of @funskybar at @GhanbatPolo



GULF NEWS



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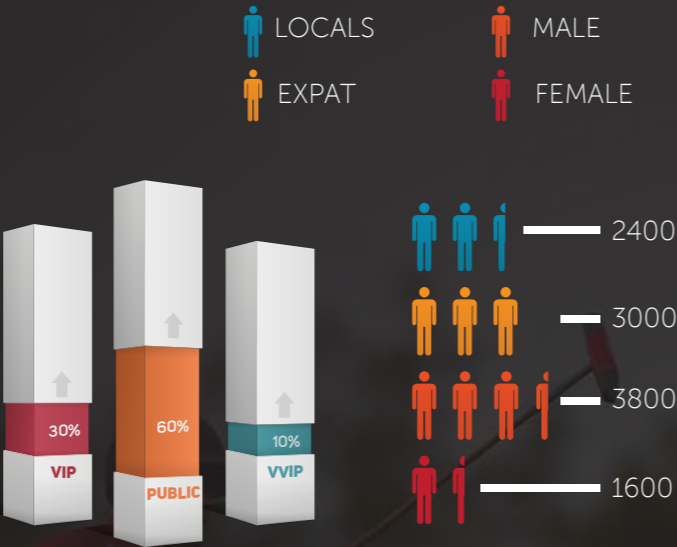
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103.8



180,000 IMPRESSIONS

EVENT BRIEF

AL AMAL POLO DAY



The event is organized by Ghantoot Racing & Polo Club, under the patronage of H.H Sheikh Falah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan; supporting Al Ain Centre for Special Care & Rehabilitation; which is a nonprofit, non-governmental humanitarian organization that provides rehabilitation and care services for children with special needs from all over the GCC.

EVENT PROGRAM

- 2:00 PM - Gates open & Activities start
- 3:30 PM - Horse entertainment performance
- 4:00 PM - VIP Hospitality begins
- 4:50 PM - UAE National anthem & Polo team presentation
- 5:00 PM - Exhibition polo match
- 6:30 PM - Award ceremony - Lucky Draw
- 7:30 PM - Dinner with DJ

HIGHLIGHTS



PRINT MEDIA

AL AMAL POLO DAY



FACEBOOK



TWITTER



SOCIAL MEDIA



INSTAGRAM



BROADCAST MEDIA



GULF NEWS



198,000 IMPRESSIONS



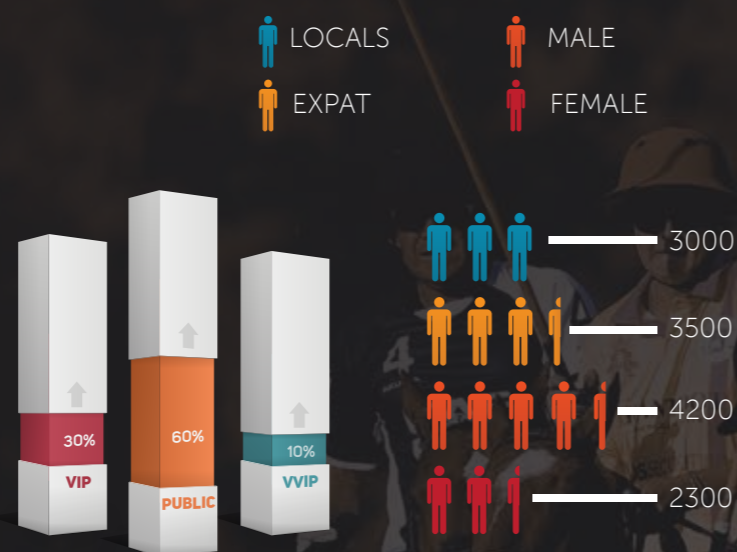
14,000 IMPRESSIONS



180,000 IMPRESSIONS

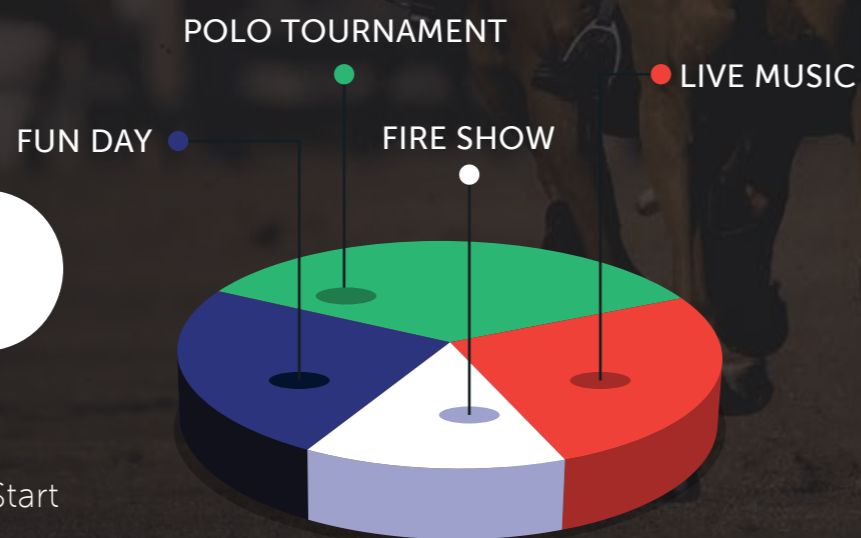
EVENT BRIEF

EMIRATES OPEN POLO CHAMPIONSHIP INTERNATIONAL



Open to all teams in the UAE, the prestigious Emirates Open Polo Championship showcases the very best polo the country has to offer. The tournament brings together both professional and amateur players in a week-long schedule of matches for the coveted championship trophy.

EVENT PROGRAM



- 2:00pm – Gates open & Activities Start
- 4:00pm – VIP Hospitality begins
- 4:15pm – Entertainment Shows
- 5:00pm – UAE National anthem
- 5:15pm – Team presentation & Final Polo Match Kicks off
- 6:15pm – Award ceremony – Lucky draw
- 7:00pm – Firework shows
- 7:30pm – Gala dinner with live music on stage

HIGHLIGHTS



PRINT MEDIA

EMIRATES OPEN POLO CHAMPIONSHIP INTERNATIONAL



FACEBOOK



TWITTER

SOCIAL MEDIA



INSTAGRAM

BROADCAST MEDIA



GULF NEWS



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198,000 IMPRESSIONS



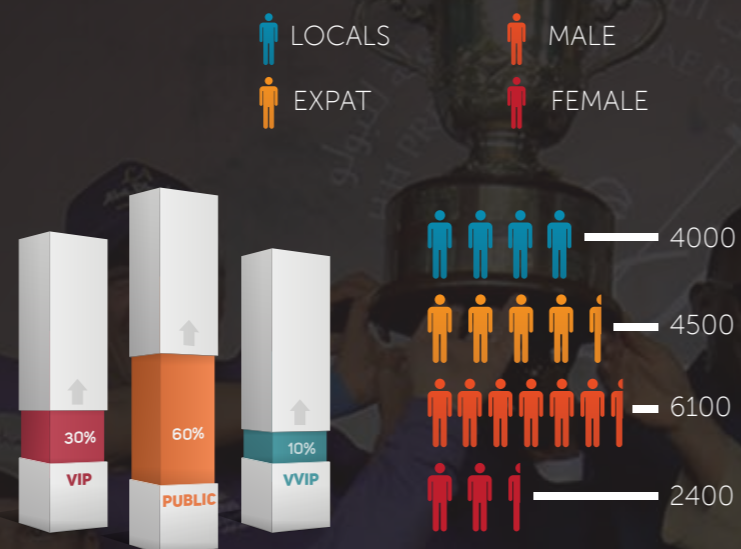
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EVENT BRIEF

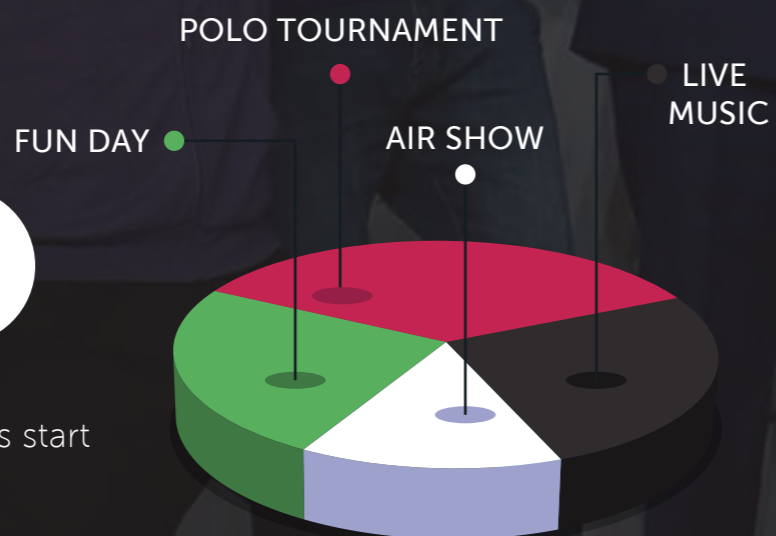
H.H PRESIDENT OF UAE POLO CUP



Bringing the polo season to a close, the HH President of the UAE Polo Cup is our most important and prestigious event of the year. Renowned as a showcase for some of the best polo in the UAE, the tournament attracts a large audience as the event is free for the public to attend and features picnic grounds and free family activities.

EVENT PROGRAM

- 2:00pm – Gates open & Activities start
- 3:00pm – VIP Hospitality begins
- 3:15pm – Horse dance show
- 3:30pm – Jiu Jitsu Show presented by UAE JJ
- 4:00pm – K9 Show presented by Abu Dhabi Police
- 4:30pm – Skydive Show
- 4:45pm – Al Forsan Aerobatic Show
- 4:50pm – UAE National Anthem & Polo team presentation
- 5:00pm – Final Polo Match
- 6:30pm – Award ceremony – Lucky draw
- 7:30pm – Dinner by Jannah Hotels with live music on stage



HIGHLIGHTS



PRINT MEDIA

H.H PRESIDENT OF UAE POLO CUP



FACEBOOK



TWITTER

SOCIAL MEDIA



INSTAGRAM

BROADCAST MEDIA



198,000 IMPRESSIONS



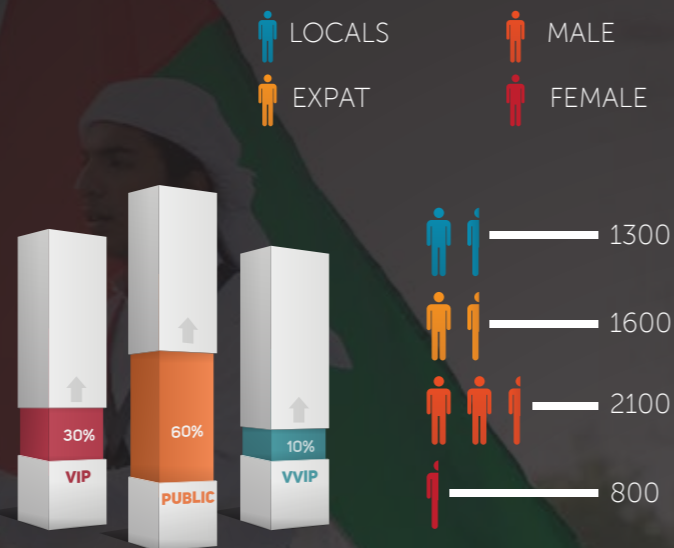
14,000 IMPRESSIONS



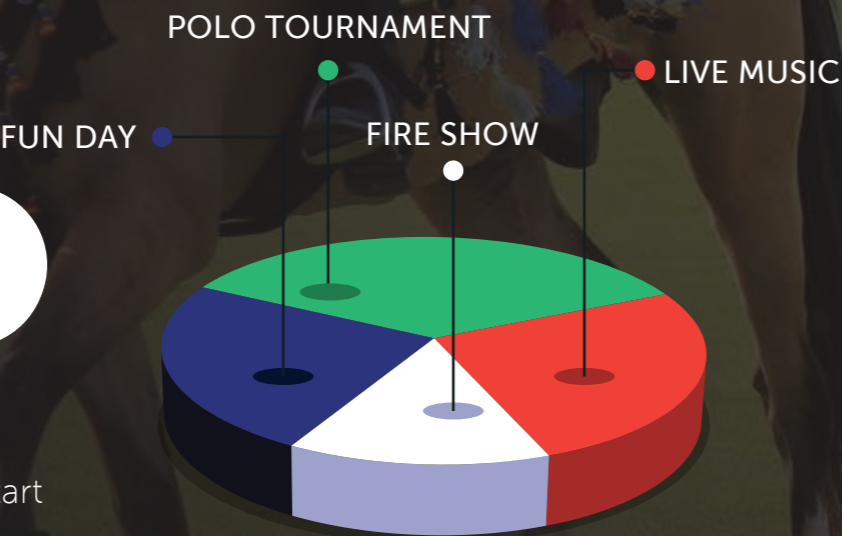
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EVENT BRIEF

RED CRESCENT CHARITY



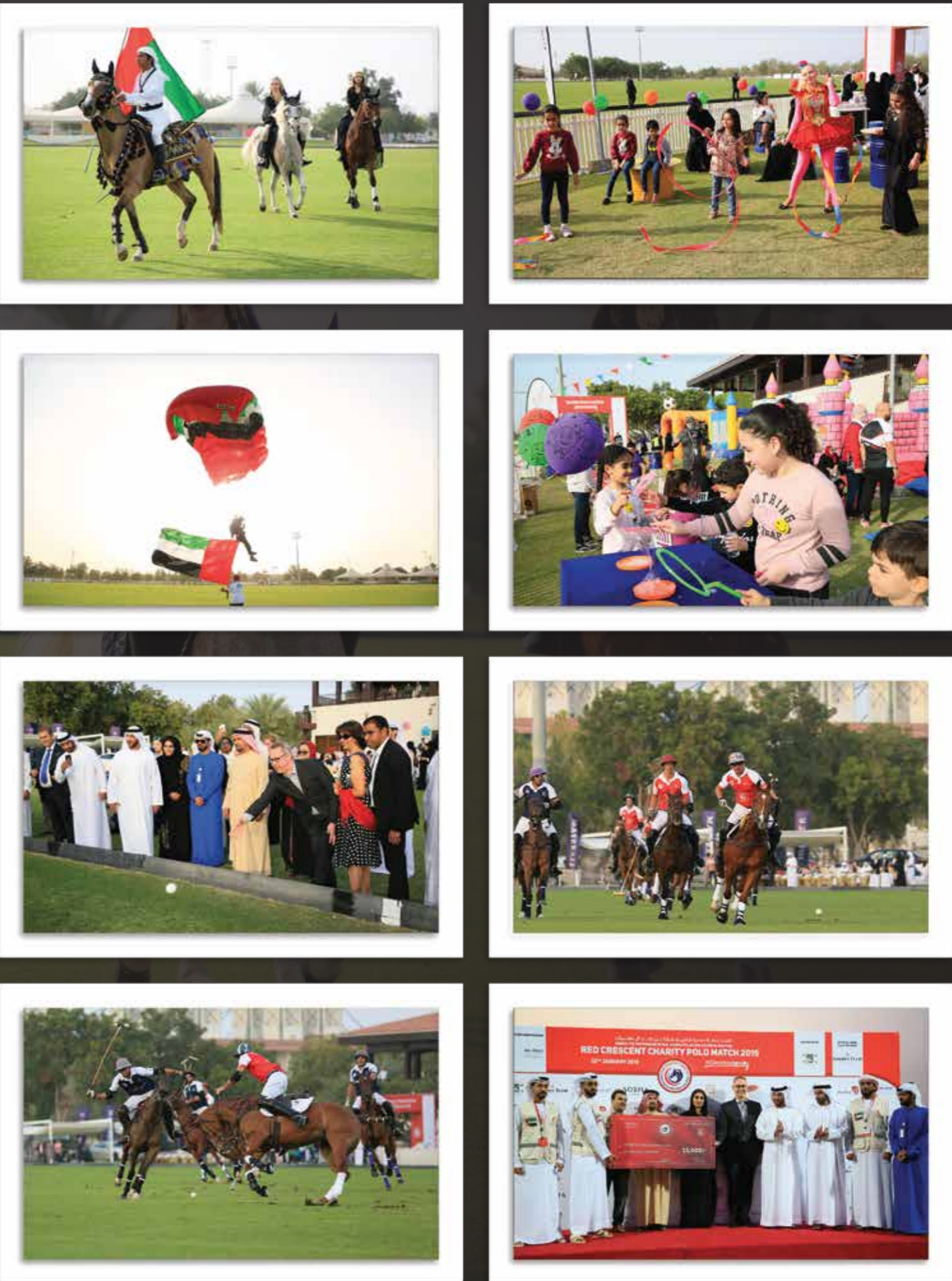
Open to all teams in the UAE, the prestigious Emirates Open Polo Championship showcases the very best polo the country has to offer. The tournament brings together both professional and amateur players in a week-long schedule of matches for the coveted championship trophy.



EVENT PROGRAM

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- 4:15pm – Entertainment Shows
- 5:00pm – UAE National anthem
- 5:15pm – Team presentation & Final Polo Match Kicks off
- 6:15pm – Award ceremony – Lucky draw
- 7:00pm – Firework shows
- 7:30pm – Gala dinner with live music on stage

HIGHLIGHTS



PRINT MEDIA

RED CRESCENT CHARITY



FACEBOOK



TWITTER

SOCIAL MEDIA



INSTAGRAM

BROADCAST MEDIA



198,000 IMPRESSIONS



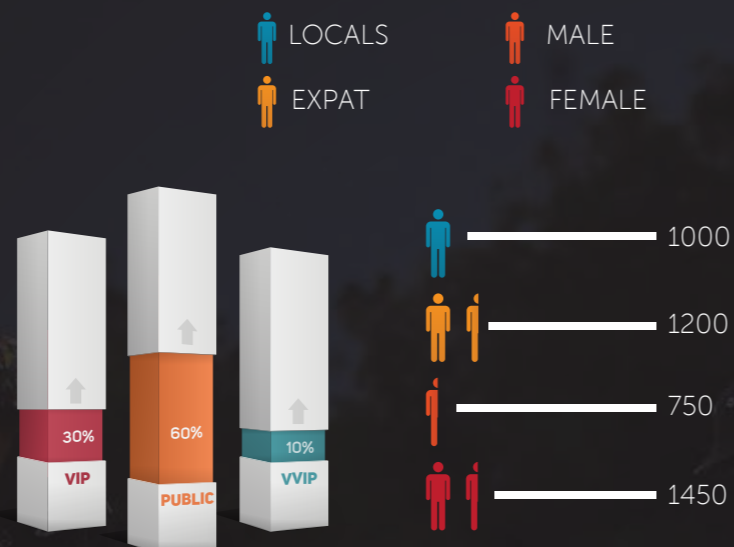
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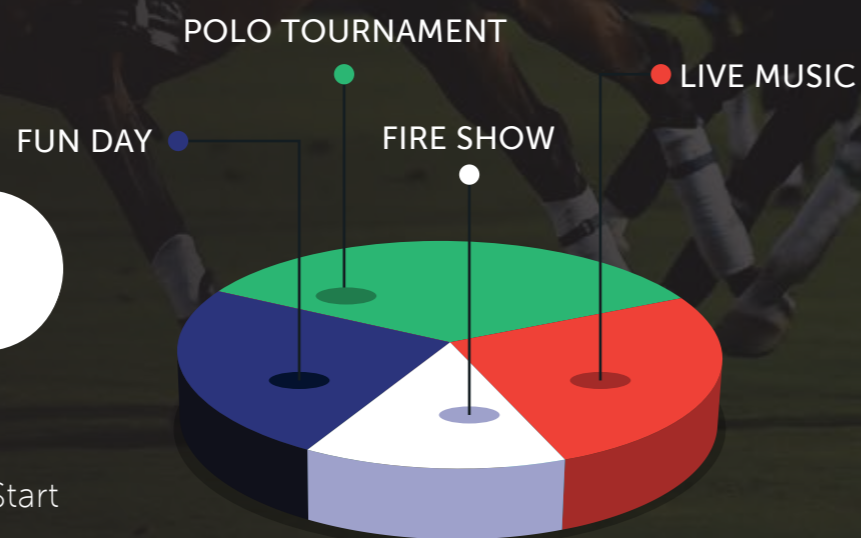
EVENT BRIEF

YEAR OF TOLERANCE



Open to all teams in the UAE, the prestigious Emirates Open Polo Championship showcases the very best polo the country has to offer. The tournament brings together both professional and amateur players in a week-long schedule of matches for the coveted championship trophy.

EVENT PROGRAM



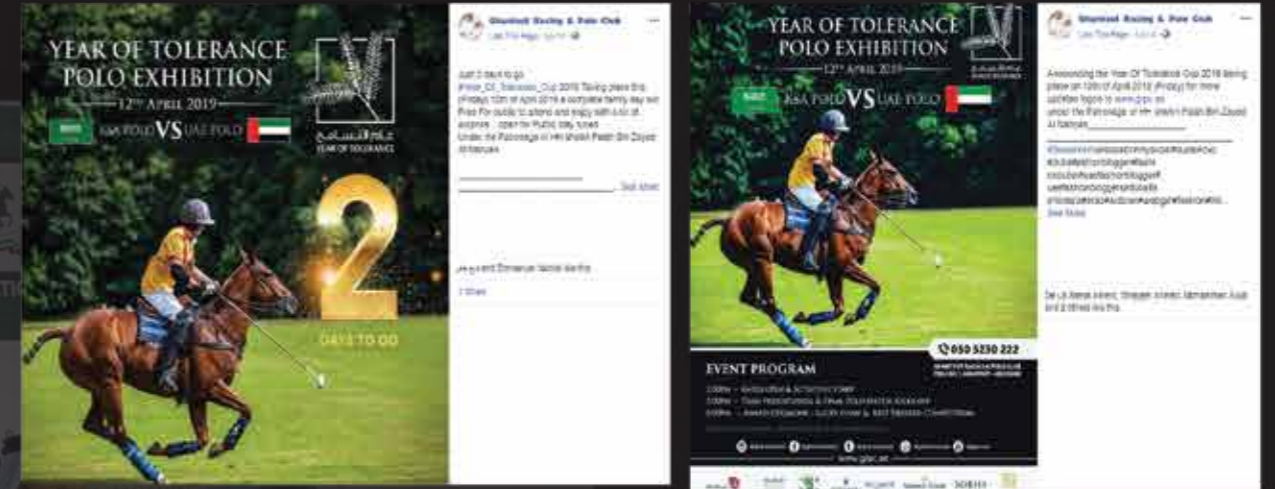
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HIGHLIGHTS



PRINT MEDIA

YEAR OF TOLERANCE



FACEBOOK



TWITTER

SOCIAL MEDIA



INSTAGRAM

BROADCAST MEDIA



198,000 IMPRESSIONS



14,000 IMPRESSIONS



180,000 IMPRESSIONS