

POLO NEWS



Cartier

MAYBACH



Brioni

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THE TWO FAVOURITES MAKE IT TO THE FINAL

The third and last of the qualifying rounds for this year's Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow in St. Moritz drew thousands of spectators onto the frozen lake of St. Moritz despite slightly overcast skies and the bitterly cold weather.

The excitement about who would make it to the final was maintained until halfway through the second game. In the end, the two teams cast in the role of favourites ahead of the tournament, Brioni and last year's winners Cartier, qualified for the final relatively safely after overcoming some stiff resistance.

Eduardo Novillo Astrada shows why he's the world's number two

Team Brioni got off to a dream start in the 'Das Magazin' Trophy match when nine-goaler Fernandez Araujo scored from the first promising attack on the opposing goal. The game remained balanced in the third and fourth chukker, although the advantage was clearly with the team led by the two amateurs Charlie Hanbury (UK, hcp 2) and Guy Schwarzenbach (CH/AU, hcp 1) playing with the technically brilliant Araujo and Eduardo Novillo Astrada (both ARG, both hcp 9).

In Team Bank Julius Baer it was Marcos Di Paola who converted two penalties to ensure that the Brioni team's lead did not become too daunting. However, it was the inspired Charlie Hanbury who finally sealed the fate of the Julius Baer team, captained by Englishman Tony Pidgley: cheered on feverishly by the spectators he scored a much applauded goal to make the final score 4:2 in favour of Brioni. Thanks to a good goal difference, Brioni was thus very close to qualifying for the final even before the next game started.

Swiss patron Philipp Maeder's team comes close

It could have hung on a pretty complex calculation, deciding which of three possible teams (Cartier, Brioni, Maybach) was going to make it to the final by virtue of a better goal difference.

The game for the Nespresso Trophy was enormously fast and competitive from the start and the first chukker ended even 2:2, although in the final end Maybach would have been awarded an extra half goal because of its handicap. In both the Cartier team (with Uruguayan Pelon Stirling, Hcp. 7) and the Maybach team (with Argentinean Nicolas Es-



Cartier or Brioni?

The unbeaten team Cartier, eight-times winner at St Moritz, will face the formidable Brioni, which fields two of the world's best players, in today's final at 2.30pm. Cartier is dominated by an alliance of South American players who are close friends, which shows on the field. With them is Switzerland's own Adriano Agosti, who scored a superb goal in the final minutes of yesterday's decisive game against Maybach. Brioni has two nine-goal professionals in the middle, and two young, capable patrons at the front and back.

When the teams met on Thursday, in an uncharacteristically low-scoring game, Cartier won 2-1. But how will they fare today?

Doug McGregor, manager at Brioni, said he was pleased with how the team had improved during the tournament. 'In our first match, against Cartier, on Thursday, we were half asleep,' he said. 'Then the boys got their act together and they've gone from strength to strength.'

Adriano Agosti, patron of Cartier and vice-president of St Moritz Polo Club, said: 'All three of our games went well. We played according to the tactics we'd planned, and we're going into the final with confidence.' *yc*

pain, hcp 6), there was a player who looked as he might literally explode, unleashing one offensive after another on the opposing goal.

Goals from J.J. Brane (ARG, hcp 8) and Jose Donoso (Chile, hcp 7) in the second chukker brought the turning point and from then on Team Cartier, captained by Adriano Agosti, never relinquished control of the match again. Ultimately, it was Captain Adriano Agosti who sealed the Cartier team's entry into the final with a well-prepared goal that led to the final score of 6 to 4. *fw*

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A lot of glamour at the Polo-Galanight at the Badrutt's Palace Hotel



ON SNOW, 'TIA' IS MY FAVOURITE PONY

The Argentine Eduardo Novillo Astrada, has won every major tournament in the world, including last year's Cowdray Park Gold Cup, Europe's premier grass title, with Urs Schwarzenbach's Black Bears side. Pony 'Tia' is one secret of success.

Perhaps his greatest achievement was in 2003, when, with three of his younger brothers, Miguel (10), Javier (9) and Ignacio (9), he won the Argentine Triple Crown, the polo capital's series of 40-goal fixtures. Last year, the same team of brothers, called La Aguada, was runner-up in the Argentine Open. Eduardo is also highly experienced playing on snow. Here, he talks about Tia, his grey mare who is a star in St Moritz

'Tia is eight years old and was bred in Australia. She lives at the Black Bears base, at Henley-on-Thames in Oxfordshire. On the field, she's extremely handy and courageous, which is ideal for polo on snow. She also has a fantastic, calm temperament and the snow and wintry conditions don't make her too excitable.

On this surface she is my favourite pony, although on grass she is not the fastest in the world. Here in St Moritz I usually play her in the final chukka. In England, I've played her in the Queen's and Gold Cups, the most important high-goal tournaments.' *yc*

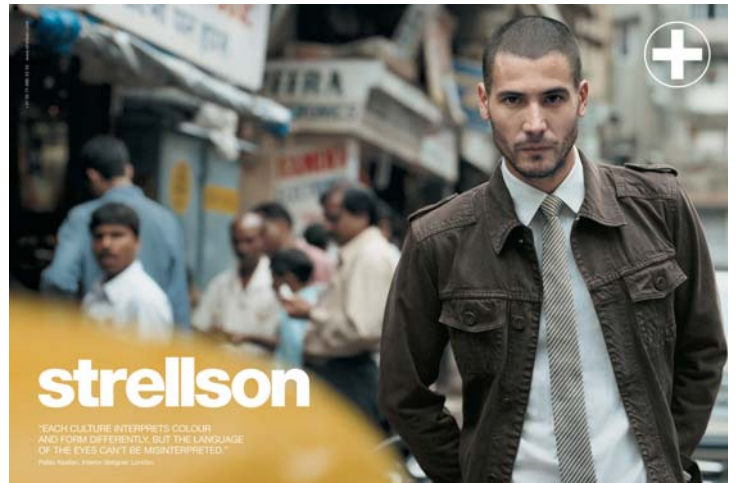


Tia with groom Kate Mason

TAILORED AND PHYSIQUE

The international fashion brand is this year's exclusive supplier of shirts for all polo teams.

Strellson is one of the great success stories of recent years in men's fashion. The company has established itself as a global player and is represented today in 40 countries worldwide: an innovative and self-



assured brand for a new generation. Fashion for men who know what they stand for and express it in the clothes they wear. Men who take as much pleasure in an active intellect as a tailored physique. Who are aware of trends but only allow the essence of them into their lives. Fashion for men who thrive on the feeling of knowing they are doing the right thing.

And that is precisely what Strellson has done here in St. Moritz, equipping each of the teams exclusively with their well-known and much-coveted polo shirts. The team shirts are not only made of the very finest materials but also come with an impressive array of embroidered features, applications, badges and prints that will satisfy even the highest expectations. Each model is made in limited numbers and can be purchased only through www.poloshop.ch or at Ender Sport in St. Moritz, an official Strellson outlet.

As exclusive clothing suppliers to the tournament, Strellson sponsored the Strellson Trophy, the prize Brioni won on Friday. The trophy was presented to the winning team by Strellson proprietor Jochen Holy. Further information about Strellson can be found at www.strellson.com

Strellson

BORN ON THE RACETRACK

Exclusive high performance, precision and perfection in one: Mercedes-AMG is a partner at the 23rd Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow in St. Moritz.

Mercedes-AMG will be on hand as official vehicle supplier to guarantee the mobility of guests at the 23rd Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow. 'This top society event is the perfect occasion for us to pinpoint our target groups,' explains Mario Spitzner, Director of Branding, Marketing & Sales with Mercedes-AMG GmbH. 'The unique ambience against the magnificent Swiss alpine backdrop and the glitter of the occasion in St. Moritz ensure that our cars are seen in exactly the right light. And we're delighted by the enormous public interest in our AMG models.' The shuttle service in St. Moritz is ably handled by two powerful AMG off-roaders: the ML 63 AMG and the G 55 AMG.

AMG has been an active sponsor in St. Moritz since 2001 and plans to maintain its involvement in the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow in the years to come.

Mercedes-AMG GmbH, founded in 1967, is the high-performance brand from Mercedes-Benz. AMG stands for dynamism, individuality and self-assurance combined with technological innovation. The current range consists of 16 AMG high-performance vehicles. Every year, AMG goes back to its roots on the racetrack, experiencing all the thrills and excitement of the German Touring Car Championships. *Mercedes-AMG*



Mobility on snow with AMG

A JEWEL AMONG POLO TOURNAMENTS

Sun, snow, elegantly clad women, intrepid riders on fleet-footed ponies, all etched against a breathtaking mountain backdrop. No, this is not a film set in Hollywood: this is the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow in St. Moritz.

Polo, a noble and extremely versatile sporting discipline with a tradition going back many centuries, brings together elegance, passion, dynamism and skill, horsemanship and courage. Polo's appeal is universal; it is a vital and living tradition.

Part of this tradition is the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow, which will be acted out for the 23rd time on the snow-covered ice of the lake of St. Moritz. The tournament is not only one of the most important on the World Polo Tour but also one of the most beautiful and exclusive events to take place in the snow-covered mountains anywhere on earth. Cartier has actively promoted the sport of polo for many years now because the value it embodies harmonize perfectly with the philosophy of our own House. Which explains why Cartier is, once again, the title sponsor of this, the 23rd Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow St. Moritz: the jewel among polo tournaments. *Cartier*

'ABOUT 45 LAYERS OF CLOTHES...'

Who are the black-and-white-striped Michelin men on the field? They are the umpires – Oliver Ellis (GB), Chris Bethell (GB) and Rob Cudmore (AUS). We caught up with Oliver Ellis to find out more about his job here.



How do you prepare for each day?

I put on about 45 layers of clothing, because although we stay warm to a degree by moving around, we don't go with the same speed or energy as the players. I dress for practicality, with short boots and calf-length chaps, rather than proper polo boots, which are cold and slippery, plus sunglasses and a good hat.

What are your duties?

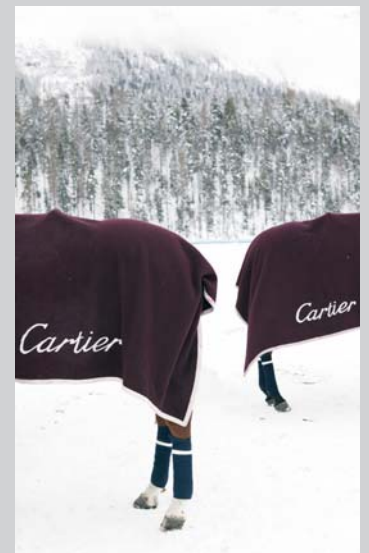
We arrive at the pony lines half an hour before the game, having organised our rota as to who's doing what for which chukkas – two of us umpire, on the field and the other referees from the stands, in case the umpires can't reach a decision. Each team has to bring an umpire's pony. If a problem arises we help solve it, with the Polo Club committee.

What is the difference between umpiring on snow to on grass?

Chukkas are a minute shorter, at six and a half minutes, because of the altitude. Penalties are different, and various arena polo rules apply, relating to the side-boards. If players want to change horses mid-chukka, at an appropriate interval, we stop the game – on grass, when they change, the game continues. Also, because the ball here is light, it doesn't always go in the direction you expect – it curves and bounces – so we give the players some leeway with line of the ball and right of way.

How do you enjoy St Moritz?

It's the most magical setting, especially when the sun comes out. Umpiring in a blizzard can feel bleak, but it's bearable if you've put enough clothes on. I also love the hotel, Badrutt's Palace. We don't really get a chance to ski, as we're on duty from 10.30am to 4pm – but we usually go tobogganing. *yc*





HIGH-CLASS PERFORMANCES

Polo has been played on the lake of St. Moritz for 23 years now and what has been achieved in terms of calibre and cosmopolitan flair during this time is unparalleled worldwide.



However, it was this year in particular which reminded us that our best and most persuasive argument for holding this fabulous tournament here in the unique natural surroundings of the Engadine is none other than Nature itself. Unique and unpredictable. As was demonstrated by the unseasonably mild and rainy period preceding the tournament, weather that placed an enormous burden of responsibility on the organizing team.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt respect and gratitude. Given the circumstances, we are all the happier that the 23rd Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow in St. Moritz produced one thing in particular: smiles on the satisfied faces of all the people involved, inspired and invigorated by the superb matches and the natural environment.

This year, once again, we have been able to watch some of the best players in the world in action. Their high-class performances in some enthralling games have kept us royally entertained throughout. Bank Julius Baer celebrated its debut in St. Moritz this year, joining our three other sponsors of many years' standing, Cartier, Maybach and Brioni to complete the quartet. We look forward to a successful cooperation in every respect.

But I should also like to thank all those visitors and polo fans who find the sporting attraction and enchanting surroundings of the Engadine reason enough to come to St. Moritz year after year and who, by their presence, help to give the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow the exclusive atmosphere that makes it so unusual.

All that remains for me to do is wish us all lots of excitement and entertainment in the game for third place as well as the final between defending champions Cartier and Team Brioni. And, of course, to wish you a pleasant day out in the fresh air with good friends and unforgettable memories of St. Moritz

Yours Urs E. Schwarzenbach
President St. Moritz Polo Club

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Rankings after two days play

1. Team Cartier 3 points
2. Team Brioni 2 points
3. Team Maybach 1 point
4. Team Bank Julius Baer 0 points

3rd Qualifying Round, 27 January 2007

Brioni vs. Bank Julius Baer 4:2 (1:0, 0:0, 2:2, 1:0)

Brioni: Hanbury (UK) (1 goal), Novillo Astrada (ARG) (2), Araujo (ARG) (1), Schwarzenbach (AUS/CH). **Bank Julius Baer:** Pidgley (UK), Baillieu (AU), Di Paola (ARG) (2 goals), Hine (UK)

Beste Spieler: Novillo Astrada, Araujo, Di Paola

Cartier vs. Maybach 6:4.5 (2:2, 3:1, 0:0, 1:1)

Cartier: Agosti (CH) (1 goal), Stirling (UY) (2), Donoso (CL) (1), Brane (ARG) (2). **Maybach:** Maeder (CH), Grossi (ARG), Espain (ARG), (3 goals), Jauretche (ARG) (1)

Beste Spieler: Donoso, Brane, Espain

2nd Qualifying Round, 26 January 2007

Maybach vs. Brioni 3:7 (1:1, 1:2, 1:2, 0:2)

Maybach: Maeder (CH), Grossi (ARG) (2 goals), Espain (ARG) (1), Jauretche (ARG). **Brioni:** Hanbury (UK) (1 goal), Novillo Astrada (ARG) (3), Araujo (ARG) (3), Schwarzenbach (AUS/CH).

Best Players: Novillo Astrada, Grossi, Hanbury

Cartier vs. Bank Julius Baer 5:4 (2:0, 0:1, 0:2, 3:1)

Cartier: Agosti (CH), Stirling (UY) (1 goal), Donoso (CL) (2), Brane (ARG) (2). **Bank Julius Baer:** Pidgley (UK), Baillieu (AU) (1 goal), Di Paola (ARG) (3), Hine (UK). **Best Players:** Di Paola, Brane, Stirling

1st Qualifying Round, 25 January 2007

Maybach vs. Bank Julius Baer 6:3 (1:1, 1:2, 3:0, 1:0)

Maybach: Maeder (CH), Grossi (ARG) (1 goal), Espain (ARG) (4), Jauretche (ARG) (1). **Bank Julius Baer:** Pidgley (UK), Baillieu (AU), (1 goal), Di Paola (ARG) (2), Hine (UK). **Best Players:** Espain, Di Paola

Cartier vs. Brioni 2:1 (1:0, 1:0, 0:0, 0:1)

Cartier: Agosti (CH), Stirling UY (1 goal), Donoso (CL) (1), Brane (ARG) **Brioni:** Hanbury (UK), Novillo Astrada (ARG) (1 goal), Araujo (ARG), Schwarzenbach (AUS/CH). **Best Players:** Stirling, Brane, Novillo Astrada

Team Cartier

1 Adriano Agosti (CH) (hcp 0). 2 David Stirling jr. (UY) (hcp 7). 3 José Donoso (CL) (hcp 7). 4 Juan José Brane (AR) (hcp 8). Total 22

Team Maybach

1 Philipp Maeder (CH) (hcp 0). 2 Agustín García Grossi (AR) (hcp 6). 3 Nicolas Espain (AR) (hcp 6). 4 Pablo Jauretche (AR) (hcp 8). Total 20

Team Brioni

1 Charlie Hanbury (UK) (hcp 2). 2 Eduardo Novillo Astrada (AR) (hcp 9). 3 Milo Fernandez Araujo (AR) (hcp 9). 4 Guy Schwarzenbach (CH/AU) (hcp 1). Total 21

Team Bank Julius Baer

1 Tony K. Pidgley (UK) (hcp 1). 2 Jack Baillieu (AU) (hcp 7). 3 Marcos Di Paola (AR) (hcp 8). 4 Andrew Hine (UK) (hcp 6). Total 22

Sunday, 28 January 2007

11.00 am Mercedes AMG Cup: Maybach vs. Bank Julius Baer
02.30 pm Cartier Trophy: Cartier vs. Brioni