

Cartier

MAYBACH



Brioni

Julius Bär

1 February 2009 – Finals day at the 25th Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow in St. Moritz

Jubilant Julius Baer leave Brioni snowed under

Julius Baer tasted victory in the side's first ever appearance in the final, producing a masterful display to collect the beautiful new Cartier Mallet d'Or Trophy at the expense of the reigning champions

Cartier - Maybach, 3-2 ½

In another clash which demonstrated just how remarkably competitive this tournament has become, Cartier narrowly ground out victory over Maybach, to record the fifth successive game in which the result of the match was decided by just a single score. Indeed, Maybach can legitimately consider themselves the most unlucky side at this year's Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow: while their record of four games and four losses makes them look like the whipping boys of the tournament, the statistics don't take into account the disruption caused by the injuries to Federico Bachmann and the fact that in all these games they might just as easily have been the victors. Cartier, meanwhile, will feel that the opportunity to lift the subsidiary trophy was the least that they deserved, having won two of their three games in the round-robin stages and missed out on a place in the final on goal difference alone. Once again, Glen Gilmore was their talisman, scoring all three of their goals as he did in their victory on Saturday. Deservedly, he was later awarded the tournament's most valuable player award in the wake of the final for his consistently excellent performances.

Julius Baer - Brioni, 6-3½

Indeed, Gilmore's individual plaudits appear all the more valuable when one considers some of the remarkable performances in the final itself. As in previous years, the tournament decider always seems to inspire one player to rise to a particularly special level of achievement. In 2008 it was undoubtedly J P Clarkin but, in the final of 2009, he was marshalled out of the game by Richard Le Poer, which made space for the 10-goal Argentine Open pedigree of Pablo MacDonough. Alongside an excellent performance from Chile's Jose Donoso, a St Moritz regular, Pablo MacDonough was unstoppable. He went on run after run, tapping the ball, changing direction and adding bursts of pace as though he was on the number one ground at Palermo, not the increasingly difficult conditions of a snow-covered and wind-swept lake in the altitude of the Swiss Alps. Brioni, despite starting brightly, simply couldn't handle it. Largely due to MacDonough's magic, the final was (ironically) the only game in the entire tournament that was won by more than two goals. Patron George Milford Haven was delighted and, having made a deal with his players the night before, their victory ensured the same side will be offered the chance to return in 2010. This is good news for the tournament's spectators too, over 20,000 of whom witnessed a tournament in 2009 that continues to go from strength to strength.

Ranking

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

Sunday, 1 February 2009: Finals Day

Mercedes AMG Cup

Cartier - Maybach, 3-2½ (1-1½, 0-0, 2-0, 0-1)

Cartier: Adriano Agosti, CH; Gaston Laulhé, AR; Alejandro Diaz Alberdi, AR; Glen Gilmore, AU (3 Goals)

Maybach: Philipp Maeder, CH; Augustin Martinez, AR (1 Goal); Pablo Jauretche, AR
Ignacio Tillous, AR

Cartier Trophy Final

Bank Julius Baer - Brioni, 6-3½

Julius Baer: Richard Le Poer, UK; José Donoso, CL (4 Goals) Pablo MacDonough, AR (1 Goal); George Milford Haven, UK (1 Goal)

Brioni: Guy Schwarzenbach, AU/CH; Nacho Gonzalez, UK (2 Goals); John Paul Clarkin, NZ (1 Goal); Johnny Good, UK