



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Brioni needs overtime to win spectacular battle for the Cartier Trophy**

*St. Moritz, 28 January 2007* - 10 000 spectators follow memorable finals day at the 23rd Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow in St. Moritz. The atmosphere was straight out of a picture book. Blue skies and sunshine turned the lake of St. Moritz and the alpine backdrop into a fairytale landscape, and from the cheers erupting from the sold-out grandstands you could have been forgiven for thinking you were at a football match.

The Cartier team with Swiss captain Adriano Agosti started the match focussed and set off at a blistering pace. Their very first attack on the Brioni goal defended by the two young patrons Guy Schwarzenbach (CH/AU, hcp 1) and Charlie Hanbury (UK, hcp 2) established a 1:0 lead. And goal scorer Pelon Sterling (URG, Hcp.7) wasted no time in doubling his tally. Cartier appeared to have the game totally under control when Stirling completed his hat trick in the second chukker, although Eduardo Novillo Astrada (ARG, hcp 9), world number 2 had managed to narrow the gap to one. The fans, meanwhile, were having a battle of their own cheering on their teams, the Brioni supporters going wild in the third chukker when Guy Schwarzenbach scored a vital goal to narrow the deficit to 2:3.

The game continued to be played at a sensationally high level – polo on snow simply doesn't get better than this – the excitement and speed remaining undiminished. It was undoubtedly the match of the tournament, peaking when Novillo Astrada thwarted the Cartier team's title defence with a goal just before the end of regular time to make the score 3:3. In the extra fifth chukker necessary for a decision, it was the two nine-goalers, Novillo Astrada and Milo Fernandez Araujo, who launched the more efficient attacks. It was one of their forays deep into Cartier's territory that brought the deciding golden goal, scored – logically, one is tempted to say – by Eduardo Novillo Astrada. Brioni thus won the much-coveted Cartier Trophy for the first time, much to the obvious delight of their fans. Thanks to Novillo Astrada, the team also won the Best Player award, with Tia the Best Playing Pony and Charlie Hanbury Best Amateur.

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Team Bank Julius Baer finally get their act together in consolation final Still without a win and going into this match clear underdogs, the Bank Julius Baer team sprung a minor surprise in the AMG Cup against the much-fancied Maybach team of Swiss patron Philip Maeder, playing better than at any other time in this year's Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow. In an exciting, high-class match for places 3 and 4, the Julius Bär team consisting of George Hanbury (UK), Jack Baillieu (AUS), Marcos Di Paola (ARG) and Andrew Hine (UK) finally managed to overcome Maybach 5:4.

Team Maybach's most outstanding player once again was six-goaler Nicolas Espain (ARG) and it was he who took the accolade of Most Valuable Player, i.e. the participant who had consistently played beyond his handicap throughout the entire tournament. Philipp Maeder, Espain and Agustin Garcia Grossi, who were all appearing on snow for the first time in St. Moritz, were a genuine enrichment to this high-goal World Polo Tour event.

**Cartier – Brioni 3 : 4 after overtime (2:1, 1:0, 0:1, 0:1, 0:1).**

Brioni: Hanbury, Novillo Astrada, ARG (3 goals), Araujo, ARG, Schwarzenbach, AUS/CH (1 goal)

Cartier: Agosti, CH, Sterling UY (3 goals), Donoso, CL, Brane, ARG

Best players: Novillo Astrada, Sterling and Araujo

**Maybach v. Bank Julius Baer 4:5 (0:2, 1:0, 1:1, 2:2).**

Maybach: Maeder, CH, Grossi, ARG (1 goal), Espain, ARG, (2 goals), Jauretche, ARG (1 goal)

Bank Julius Baer: G. Hanbury, UK, Baillieu, AU (2 goals), Di Paola, ARG (2 goals), Hine, UK (1 goal)

Best players: Di Paola, Espain

**Special rankings**

Best Player: Eduardo Novillo Astrada (ARG, Hcp. 9)

Most Valuable Player: Nicolas Espain (ARG, Hcp. 6)

Best Amateur: Charlie Hanbury (UK, Hcp.2)

Best Scorer: Nicolas Espain 10 Goals, Eduardo Novillo Astrada 9, Marcos Di Paola 9, Pelon Sterling 7

Best Playing Pony: Tia, Black Bears Stables, ridden by Novillo Astrada

For further information about the St. Moritz Polo Club and the Cartier Polo World Cup on Snow, please visit [www.polostmoritz.com](http://www.polostmoritz.com).

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