



Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series

Press Release

Zedan makes it to the semifinals of The McLaren Cup

26th January 2016, DUBAI, UAE: Zedan qualified to the semifinals of The McLaren Cup after defeating Wolves Polo by 9 goals to 8 and remains unbeaten in the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series.

Patron Amr Zedan's team played a great first half to achieve a 5 goal difference to control the game and the score despite of the final reaction of the Wolves team.

Pablo Mac Donough and Pelayo Berazadi were the top scorers in the winning team with 3 goals each and Diego Araya, with six goals, was the top scorer in Wolves Polo team.

Match progression:

Zedan: 2-0/ 5-1/ 5-3/ 7-3/ 9-8

The McLaren Cup will continue next Friday 29th with another double action day at the Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club. Habtoor Polo will be facing Mahra in the brothers Mohammed and Rashid Al Habtoor duel and Zedan will play against Bin Drai.

Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series (Dubai Open), an 18 Goal Handicap competition, enters its seventh year *under the Patronage of HH Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai*. The tournament is now the highest handicap in the UAE.

The Dubai Open has been split into two tournaments. Starting with the McLaren Cup 2016, which runs from Friday January 22, 2016 to Friday February 5, 2016. The second tournament, the Julius Baer Gold Cup, commences on Friday, February 19, 2016 to Friday March 11, 2016.

The Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series is the fourth-largest tournament of its kind after Argentina, the US and the UK. First founded by Mohammed Al Habtoor in 2009, the tournament is the premier regional polo competition of the year, and attracts VIPs, society figures, and senior corporate executives from across the GCC. It has grown in tandem with the city of Dubai and since 2012, it is the only tournament in the UAE to be recognized and certified by the World Polo Tour (WPT). It is played under the banner of the Hurlingham Polo Association (HPA), with the Gold Cup being played according to HPA rules and the provision of umpires is managed under strict international supervision by the HPA.

The participating teams will host some of the top-ranking World Polo Tour players, including Pablo Mac Donough, the 10-goal superstar and two-time 'Triple Crown Champion with La Dolfina'; Lucas Montverde (9-goal handicap); Guillermo Terrera (8-goal handicap), Alfredo Cappella Barabucci (8-goal handicap) and Alejandro Novillo Astrada (8-goal handicap) and many others.



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The Dubai Polo Gold Cup will be held at the Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club in Arabian Ranches.

Six polo teams will be participating in the McLaren Cup 2016 18-goal handicap:

- Mahra Polo – Patron: Rashid Al Habtoor
- Bin Draï Polo Team – Patron: Saeed Bin Draï
- Habtoor Polo Team – Patron: Mohammed Al Habtoor
- UAE Polo Team – Patron: Her Highness Sheikha [Maitha](#) bint Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
- [Zedan Polo Team – Patron: Amr Zedan](#)
- [Habtoor Wolves Polo Team – Patron: Ahmed Mohammed Al Habtoor / Khalaf Rashid Al Habtoor](#)

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About Dubai Polo Gold Cup

The DPGC Series has wrapped up its latest season with resounding success. Each year the tournament reaches new heights. In 2012 the Dubai Gold Cup Series was recognized by the World Polo Tour (WPT) and in January 2014 the WPT committee announce that the Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series' has enabled it's important tournament (Gold Cup) for being the highest tournament in points within the Challenge Cup category by raising to 50 points for the winners. The certificate of entry was presented by the international polo. In 2015 marked the first time ever that the World Polo Tour (WPT) upgraded the Tournament from 'Challenge Cup' to the highly coveted 'WPT Cup', meaning winners received 60 points. The 18 goal handicap competition is now the highest handicapped event in the Middle East, Africa and Asia, ranking it among the best polo tournaments worldwide.

SILVER CUP TITLE SPONSOR:

McLaren:

In support of the sporting spirit of the nation, Al Habtoor Motors – the official retailer of McLaren in the UAE – is proud to announce the Title Sponsorship for the Silver Cup of the prestigious Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series 2016.

Although McLaren's origins are rooted in racing, McLaren today is much more than just a race team. After half a century of innovating to win, McLaren has evolved into a groundbreaking technology group, where related expertise cross-pollinates with truly emotional results. Two areas in which our expertise has truly defined us are carbon fibre and advanced simulation.



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Adopting a ‘no-compromise’ philosophy at its core in vehicle design, McLaren produces super cars that deliver the broadest range of capabilities possible. This means that McLaren super cars – such as the 650S – offer the most thrilling driving experience in its class yet is the most comfortable and refined car in its sector.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Dubai Sports Council:

Dubai Sports Council is the official government body responsible for the development of the sport sector in the Emirate of Dubai. Under the Chairmanship of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, and its 14 Board Members; the Council supervises the work of nine local clubs in Dubai, six of which practice a variety kinds of individual and or team sports, such as football, handball and archery; in addition to the chess club and a club devoted for those with special needs.

Since its inception in 2006, with the vision of creating a unique sporting community, the Council organizes various annual major Sports Championships and Conferences, in cooperation with multiple International/National sports bodies and Dubai Government Entities, such as the Dubai International Sports Conference, Samsung Beach Soccer Intercontinental Cup and the FINA Diving World Series; in an attempt to enhance the culture, knowledge and expertise of professionalism in all aspects of the field; from the overall preparation and/or execution of the event.

Dubai became the first Arab and Middle East city to host the Sport Accord International Convention in 2010, and stages the annual Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Creative Sports Award, the most prestigious Award of the Middle East Region. Though the Council works on various major international sports events, it does not overlook the importance of spreading the awareness of a healthier, more active lifestyle locally; and in order to achieve such objectives, physical activity programs and initiatives, such as the Dubai Pulse Physical Activity program, the Furjan District Championships and the Dubai Beach Soccer League, have all been designed to target the various communities within the Emirate.

Mohammed Al Habtoor, who is also Vice-Chairman and CEO of the UAE conglomerate, the Al Habtoor Group, recently announced that work is underway on a new polo development in Dubai with four polo fields. The Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club, situated in Dubailand, will also feature state-of-the-art stables, a five star hotel and high-end villas. It will become a new destination for horse lovers, and offer multiple disciplines from traditional horse-riding, polo and dressage.

He said, “This helps with our aim to provide first class sporting facilities and to train the next generation of polo players.”

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Polo Coordinator General



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