

Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series

**Press Release** 

# Julius Baer and Ghantoot take their first wins

**23**<sup>th</sup> **January 2016, DUBAI, UAE**: In a another exciting double action day for the Julius Baer Gold Cup, Julius Baer and Ghantoot achieved two important wins at the Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club.

Julius Baer by Habtoor Polo defeated UAE Polo by 9 goals to 6 in a tough match that had in Guillermo Cuitiño the mvp and top scorer of the match after scoring the 9 goals of his team.

Cuitiño led Julius Baer to their first win in the tournament against a really tough rival like UAE that fought till the end but was faced against a solid Julius Baer team.

# **Match progression:**

Julius Baer: 2-1/4-2/5-3/6-5/9-6

In the second match of the day, Ghantoot also had a happy afternoon at the Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club after defeating Mahra by 6 goals to 5 in a testing game.

Team made by Youssef Bin Desmal, Lucas Díaz Alberdi, Tomás Fernández Llorente and Bautista Bayugar suffered till the last minutes to secure the victory. Bayugar was the top scorer of the match with four goals.

#### **Match progression:**

**Ghantoot:** 0-1/2-1/4-1/5-3/6-5

The Julius Baer Gold Cup will continue next friday at the Dubai Polo & Equestrian Club with a double action day.

Starting at 2 pm Zedan will play against Wolves Polo followed by Bin Drai facing Edrees



## Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series

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.

-END-

#### **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.



Dubai Polo Gold Cup Series

## **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."

#### Cristina Gusita

Polo Coordinator General Dubai Polo Gold Cup

E-mail: <a href="mailto:cristina@dubaipologoldcup.com">cristina@dubaipologoldcup.com</a>

For more information visit: www.dubaipologoldcup.com