

ELDORADO POLO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2008

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



Greetings! My name is Jan Hart and I have been hired as your General Manager. I am looking forward to meeting all of you in the coming months as the Polo Season commences. I grew up on a 1500-acre horse and cattle ranch in Northern Idaho. I would herd cattle alongside my father and show horses in Western Equitation, which has left me with many fond memories. I can't express to you enough how excited I am to be here. This lifestyle pumps through my veins and I am falling in love with Eldorado more each day.

Before coming to Eldorado Polo Club I was at Palm Springs National Golf Club (PSN), where I spent 8 great years as their General Manager. Prior to PSN, I was at Tamarisk and The Springs Club in Rancho Mirage. I came to the Desert from Hayden Lake Country Club in 1990 (close to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho). Please stop by and say hello when you arrive at Eldorado. I look forward to meeting all of you.

Best wishes,

Jan Hart
General Manager

WHAT'S NEW AT ELDORADO?

*"Just because everything is different
doesn't mean that everything has changed."*

~ Irene Peter.

The grass is now greener at Eldorado Polo Club. We have undergone a transformation and we are starting anew. A new staff, healthier polo fields, league revisions and renovations to the facilities are all part of the "new" Eldorado Polo Club.

It may seem like everything is different at Eldorado as we begin our 2008 - 2009 season. A lot has changed, but the essence of who we are remains the same. Eldorado is still one of the largest polo clubs in the country in terms of our membership base. We offer more levels of polo than most other clubs. Eldorado is also one of the least expensive polo venues in California. These facts have not changed as we enter our 52nd year of play.



photos by: L. Bremner/PolozONE.com

When you drive onto the Club grounds for the first time this season, the sprawling green fields will catch your eye, as will a new white fence that runs between Avenue 51 and the track, where sets are walked. The Cantina has also undergone a few changes. The addition of new seating, a coat of fresh paint and an updated décor have renewed the ambiance of our favorite watering hole.

Change takes time and the Club will encounter some bumps in the road as we forge ahead. Eldorado is in a strong position to push through a tough economy and to make this year one of the best polo seasons yet. So dust off your boots, pack your mallet bags and come out to Eldorado and enjoy polo as we know it, desert-style.

ELDORADO POLO CLUB WELCOMES NEW STAFF

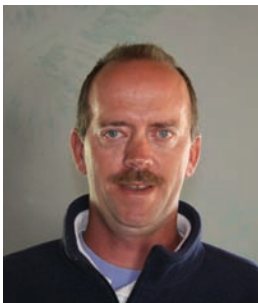
This season you will see a few new faces along the sidelines and in the Club's offices. Please take a moment to introduce yourselves to the new staff when you arrive.

Janet Hart was recently hired as the new General Manager at the Club. Her experience managing membership-based clubs and golf courses will provide a natural segue into the world of polo.

Scott Gundlach

has been hired as the new Polo Manager. He has played polo professionally for many years at Eldorado Polo Club.

Most of you already know Scott, but if not, please stop into the polo office to meet him. He will be overseeing the stabling, organiz-



ing the daily game schedules and managing the tournaments.



Brenda King

has been brought on board as the Assistant Polo Manager. She started in polo in 1994 after a lifetime of working with

horses in other disciplines. Brenda will oversee the field set-up, help organize the game duties, game schedule and assist with stable management.

Anthony Schieffer

is the new Social Director. He comes from a background in Golf Club Management. Tony is a transplant from Nebraska and he has been living in the desert area for the past 20 years. He



will be overseeing the social events, sponsorship sales and marketing projects for the Club.



Kim Brack is the new accountant. She has 30 years of experience in banking, accounting, purchasing and management. Kim manages the invoicing, billing and Club

accounts. If you have any questions or if you need assistance with your Club account, Kim is the person to call.

Sissel Aasland

has joined the team as the receptionist for the polo office. Her background is in real estate and banking administration. You may have already spoken with Sissel on the phone, as she is the friendly voice that greets you when you call in.



photos by: L. Bremner/PoloZONE.com

FROM THE POLO OFFICE

We Need Your E-Mail Address!

We are updating our database to include e-mail addresses as well as to confirm that the contact information we have on file for you is correct. We plan to distribute our newsletter and Club updates via e-mail. You can send this information by e-mail to eldoradopoloclub@verizon.net

If you do NOT have an e-mail address let us know and we will mail you a copy of the newsletter by regular mail. Please fax your contact information to 760-342-0269 or call in with your information to 760-342-2223.

ELDORADO POLO CLUB LAUNCHES NEW WEB SITE

Eldorado Polo Club has a new Web site: <http://www.eldoradopolo.com>. The newly designed site includes several new features that players will find useful, including a daily game schedule blog and a news blog.

The daily game schedule will be posted on the Eldorado Polo Club Web site each evening before game days. You can find the daily game schedule on the home page of Eldorado's Web site in the top right column. Once the season starts, players can log onto the Web site to access game times, field assignments and game duty assignments. It will be similar to the schedule normally posted outside of the polo office and recorded on the game schedule phone line.

News and event updates will be posted on Eldorado Polo Club's Web site via a news blog. Club news, reminders of upcoming events and other related information will be posted on a regular basis. Be sure to check back frequently for the most current updates. If you have not yet submitted your e-mail address to the Club office, please do if you would like to be added to the e-mailing list. E-mail your contact information to eldoradopoloclub@verizon.com.

If you have questions about the upcoming season, you can contact the Eldorado Polo Club at 760-342-2223 or via e-mail at eldoradopoloclub@verizon.com.

LEAGUE UPDATES

As of October 10th, seven teams have committed for the 4-Goal League and five teams are committed in the 8-Goal League. The 12-Goal League has four teams signed up for January, and more teams committed for February. The Pro Pool still has room for teams. If you have not yet signed up for a league, call the Club to reserve a space for your team.

LEAGUE CHANGES

The Club has implemented a new limit on the number of teams per league. The 4-, 8- and 12- goal leagues will have space for eight teams each per month. The Pro Pool League will have a limit of four teams per weekend. The limit on teams does not apply to the month of March. In addition, if there is a league with fewer than eight teams, those spots can be applied to other leagues as needed.

All membership fees need to be paid in advance in order to reserve a spot for your team in the 4-, 8- or 12-goal leagues. The sign-up for Pro Pool is by player, not by the team. If for some reason you are not able to obtain a spot in one of the leagues during the months of January and February, the Club will be able to accommodate additional teams and players in March. All league limits will be lifted in March to enable more players and more teams to compete in the end-of-season tournaments.

Crossover fees have been eliminated this season. A full membership fee is required

for each league that a player participates in.

A NEW LEAGUE

The Club is excited to announce the addition of a new Pro Pool League to the season schedule. The purpose of the Pro Pool League is to provide a weekend league that is a stepping-stone between the Coaching and 4-Goal Leagues. This league will replace the former 2-Goal League.

There has been some confusion between the Pro Pool and Coaching Leagues, so we have formulated league descriptions that you can read below. The Club is currently recruiting pros and players for the Pro Pool League. If you are interested, contact Scott Gundlach in the Polo Office at 760-342-2223.

ABOUT THE PRO POOL LEAGUE

The Pro-Pool League (0-4) is structured as the first level of tournament play for new players who have advanced beyond the Coaching League. It is also an appropriate level of play for returning players to get back into the saddle after a hiatus, the older player, and players who cannot commit to a full month of polo in another league. Players at this level are consistently encouraged to play to their potential and advance to the next level of tournament play.

The Pro Pool Tournaments will vary in level depending on the participating pros available. Level of play in this league will range from 0-4 goal polo.

We plan to place one pro per team with three amateur players who have handicaps that range from -2 to 0. Pairs of friends or family members who wish to play together can be accommodated when handicaps permit, but teams will be changed for fairness each weekend.

Pro Pool League Membership is available by the season or by the weekend. Membership fees are \$7,000 (\$6,000 if paid before Nov. 1st '08) or \$700 per weekend.

ABOUT THE COACHING LEAGUE

The Coaching League is an instructional vehicle for introducing new players to polo. Its slower speed and regulation play mirrors match format with one important exception: play is stopped when infractions occur to provide coaching. When an infraction is observed, a whistle is blown, the error is explained and players are coached on what would have been the better play.

The goal of this unique program, led by Vicky Owens and Billy Ramos, is to prepare players for the first level of tournament play. It is an ideal forum for riders who have taken private lessons or polo clinics, those with previous riding experience who want to learn polo and the novice.

Coaching League memberships are available by the season or by the chukker. Membership fees are \$4500 for the season or \$50 per chukker.



FIELD MAINTENANCE REPORT

– October 2008 –

By Andrew Perkins, Director of Agronomy

It's time to over seed here at Eldorado Polo Club, and this year we will not be scalping. Instead we will leave as much Bermuda grass as possible to provide a good base. We are taking the Bermuda grass down to a height just below 3/4". This should allow the winter rye grass to germinate and the Bermuda base to make a recovery, insuring good turf conditions for polo. We are currently filling and leveling the stabling areas to provide improved conditions for the horses. This season we are changing our approach regarding polo field set up. "No more Chalk lines will be used on the field!" Instead we will paint all end lines, tees and penalties to give the fields a cleaner look. That means goal posts will be straight and set at the correct width, and tees and penalty lines will be placed at the appropriate positions. Overall we are going to have a cleaner, more professional look on all of our fields.

Instead of mowing down divots, we will replace them by hand and fill the holes with sand and pre-germinated rye grass seed. As many of you may already know, the Bermuda grass is dormant in the winter and the Rye grass does not spread and fill back in the holes. We will be aggressive with our approach to this problem and do everything we can to fight the battle of the bouncing ball. We can use your help too. If you see a divot on one of the fields, please replace it. Our goal for this season is to keep the polo fields as smooth as possible to keep the horses and players sound and healthy.

If you have any questions or feedback on how the Club can improve the fields, please feel free to discuss them with me. Your feedback is important and it will be taken seriously!

We look forward to the upcoming season and to seeing all of you again.

ELDORADO POLO CLUB

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing Address:
Eldorado Polo Club
P.O. Box 1720, La Quinta, CA 92247

Club Address:
50950 Madison Street, Indio, CA 92201

Tel. 760-342-2223
Polo Office Fax 760-342-2391

Admin. Fax 760-342-0269
E-mail: eldoradopoloclub@verizon.net

General Manager - Jan Hart
Polo Manager – Scott Gunlach
Asst. Polo Director – Brenda King
Social Director/Marketing & Sales –
Anthony Schieffer
Director of Agronomy – Andrew Perkins
Accounting – Kim Brack
Receptionist – Sissel Aasland

Eldorado Polo Club
P.O. Box 1720
La Quinta, CA 92247