

# POLO'S GRANDE DAME



The Life & Times of American Polo Pioneer

## SUE SALLY HALE

Stormie Hale

Polo's Grande Dame is an inspirational story about living an unthinkable dream. Raised in Hollywood, California, the daughter of an Oscar nominated screen writer and a prima ballerina, Sue Sally dreamed of joining a sport that was reserved for men only. With no predecessor and no path to follow, she repeatedly broke down barriers and shattered glass ceilings, blazing a trail that would impact the future of her greatest passion, polo.

Picking up her first polo mallet in the 1940s, Sue Sally doggedly played polo when and where she was allowed, at times disguised as a boy. She was a pioneer, campaigning for more than 20 years to be included in the sport's governing body, the United States Polo Association (USPA), when women weren't permitted.

Sue Sally persevered when she was neither wanted nor accepted, her chosen sport certainly not prepared for her. She was asked to leave the polo field on occasion because an opposing team refused to play against a woman. She had her life threatened, played with a split thumb, a broken leg, played five days before one child was born and three days after another, all because she was never sure there would be another opportunity.

A do-it-yourselfer from a very young age, Sue Sally had a physical hand in everything she did. "Can't" was not a word allowed in her dictionary. A force of nature to be reckoned with, she was driven to pursue her dream come hell or high water. With a passion for polo that guided and sustained her throughout her life, she lived incredible highs and debilitating lows. Through; wealth, poverty, joy, heartbreak, discipline, sacrifice and hard work, Sue Sally Hale became a legend.

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