



380Guide

The Perfect Shot for Charity 380Guide Community Challenge Cup

October/November 2008

Speeding to Help

TMS Pays Tribute to the Military

A Golfer's Dream Course

Tribute Plans New Golf Course

More than Just Another Pretty Face

Oak Point Artist Rhonda Unnerstall

The Perfect Shot for Charity

By: Ann Harmon

Since 1968 Prestonwood Country Club has provided its members with lush fairways, breathtaking scenery, tennis courts, swimming pools and casual dining rooms to entertain friends and family. The Creek Clubhouse in Dallas, located on Preston Road just north of Arapaho, was the first to open. Twenty years later in 1988, Prestonwood followed the Dallas growth path and went north by adding the Hills Clubhouse in the exclusive Hills of Prestonwood development in West Plano. Now 20 years later, Prestonwood again moves north with a third clubhouse planned for Oak Point, Texas, located north of Plano and west of Frisco. Not only will the clubhouse have the same amenities as the other two, but it will be located on the pristine land of the previous Oak Point Polo Farms overlooking 100 acres of lush polo fields, trees and lakes.

The plans include a luxury equestrian community with thirty-five 1 acre home lots, horse bridal paths, 100-stall state-of-the-art horse barn and an indoor and outdoor arena. The Country Club completion is scheduled for late 2009 with 1 acre home lots ready in the Spring. There will no other country club like it in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. In the meantime, the polo facility is up and running, with games open to the public every Saturday. The polo field is situated with the sun to your back and an elevated viewing area, with a lovely view of gorgeous trees and lakes on the far side. Tailgate or sit under the tent, BYOB and picnic or purchase food and drinks from WISH catering. Prestonwood Polo Club & Country Club in Oak Point, TX not only offers some of the best polo in Texas, but works with the Ladies Polo Auxiliary of Texas to support local charities. November 8, 2008 the 380Guide Community Challenge Cup will be played at the 4th Annual Polo on the Midway benefiting Bryan's House, a program to assist children with serious medical issues, will be held at Prestonwood Polo club field from 2-5pm. In addition to the polo match, families can enjoy carnival games, petting zoo, pony rides, bounce houses, shopping in the arts & crafts market, silent auction, champagne divot stomp and much more. Attendees are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch with

the beverages of their choice. A concession stand will be available to guests.

Bryan's House is an amazing organization that gives support and funding to families with children who have HIV/AIDS and other serious medical issues. They provide medically-managed child care, adolescent programming, and community-based, family-centered support services. They are the only special-care facility in Dallas for children and teens affected by HIV/AIDS. Bryan's House offers full range of medical, education, and psychosocial services 24 hours a day, seven days a week. All proceeds from the 380Guide Community Challenge Cup will be donated to this nationally acclaimed program. Visit www.bryanshouse.com for more information on Bryan's House and Polo on the Midway.



Another charity that the Ladies Polo Auxiliary holds close to their hearts is The Family Place. Polo on the Lawn is an annual event held to raise money for this organization. It is an afternoon full of polo, champagne divot stomping and side-line socializing. Guests can purchase a box lunch at the event or bring a picnic of

their own. There is also a live auction, silent auction, live music and dancing. Prizes are awarded to the "Best Dressed" lady, gentleman, couple and child, as well as "Best Picnic" and "Best Tailgate". The event goal is to introduce the public to the game of polo and raise much needed funds and awareness for The Family Place. The 8th annual Polo on the Lawn event will kick off the Spring polo season at Prestonwood Polo Club.

The Family Place is the largest family violence service provider in the Dallas area. They reach thousands of victims of family violence each year with their award winning programs. They are constantly working to end family violence with intervention, emergency shelters and crisis counseling for the whole family. For more information on The Family Place, visit www.familyplace.org.

Prestonwood Polo Club strives to offer exciting polo events and provide much needed support and funds to local charities. Come to a polo match in Oak Point to discover the fabulous world of polo and support families in need. Prestonwood Polo Club is located at 525 Yacht Club Road in Oak Point, TX. Visit www.OakPointPolo.com or call 972-628-7955 for more information on polo matches and other upcoming events.

Learn to Play Polo



972-628-7955



PRESTONWOOD
POLO & COUNTRY CLUB
OAK POINT, TEXAS

www.oakpointpolo.com

Polo 101

By: Andrea Hikel

When you ask most people what they think of when they hear the word “polo”, they would probably say a fashionable line of clothing and a man named Ralph. Before I witnessed a polo game, I have to admit my answer would have been the same. After watching a polo match in Oak Point I realized there is more to the word “polo” than Ralph could ever offer. The game was amazing, but I still lacked the knowledge to fully understand and enjoy the sport.

In order to fully enjoy polo you will need to know some history behind the sport. Polo originated in China about 2,000 years ago. The first recorded game took place in 600BC between the Turkomans and Persians (the Turkomans won). It was first played in the United States in 1876. It was introduced by James Gordon Bennett, who had first seen the game played in England. Bennett went on to become “The Father of American Polo”, after organizing players, equipment, and Texas horses to play the first game in the United States. The sport became popular in New York and Newport, Rhode Island. As players and teams developed, the sport was in need of a governing body. This is when the United States Polo Association came about. This organization planned games and created and enforced rules. The sport attracted thousands of spectators, survived the great depression and saw outstanding players come and go with the years. Today, the sport is still thriving with skillful players and is right around the corner in Oak Point, TX.

Now, how do you play the game? Polo teams consist of four players each. The playing area is 300 yards long and 160 yards wide (9 football fields). The goal posts that are positioned at each end of the field are eight yards apart. A full game is six periods or “chukkas”, similar to periods or quarters in other sports. Each Chukka last seven minutes and near the end a horn will blow once for thirty-second warning and twice to end the chukka. Teams will change directions after every goal so that the wind conditions will equally affect both teams. In polo

there are two umpires on the field at all times making sure that the players obey the many rules designed to keep the sport safe. A typical foul occurs when a player “crosses the line” of another player, that is, a player who has the ball, has the right-of-way, and no other player may infringe upon it. The whistle is blown when a foul occurs and play is stopped, at which time the Umpires will award a penalty, or if they cannot agree, refer to a “third-man” watching from the sideline. There are intervals of four minutes between Chukkas to allow players to switch horses, a fresh horse is needed for each chukka and players will usually bring seven or eight horses to a game. Halftime occurs after the third chukka and is fifteen minutes long to allow for the famous “champagne divot stomp” as seen in such movies as *Pretty Woman*. This is when spectators are allowed on the field to stomp the horse divots down while sipping champagne and mingling with the other spectators.

A polo player’s equipment consists of a helmet, long boots, knee guards, gloves and a mallet. The mallet is made of bamboo and is about 52 inches long. The pony’s gear consists of an English saddle (no saddle horn!), double-reins, and leg bandages to protect their lower legs and their tails are tied to keep them out of the way. The polo ball is made of a unique hard plastic material and is about the same size as a baseball.

Two exciting aspects of the game are the “bump” and the “hook.” Any player may bump another player and force him off the ball so long as he is riding parallel and at the same speed as the other player. A player may also hook the mallet of any player who is swinging at the ball in order to stop him from hitting it.

Polo is an exciting sport with skillful players, beautiful horses and a fun and relaxing atmosphere. Join us every Saturday at Prestonwood Polo Club in Oak Point. The matches are open to public.

Saturday, October 11 at 4pm Gate opens at 3:00 pm, Polo Match begins at 4 pm. Tailgating is free.

Saturday, October 18 at 4pm 380 Community Challenge Cup: Savannah vs. Providence. Gate opens at 3:00 pm, Polo Match begins at 4 pm. Tailgating is free.

Saturday, October 25 at 4pm 380 Community Challenge Cup: Paloma Creek Vs. Cross Oak Ranch. Gate opens at 3:00 pm, Polo Match begins at 4 pm. Tailgating is free.

Saturday, November 1 at 3pm 380 Community Challenge Cup: Eagles Landing Vs. Emerald Sound. Gate opens at 2:00 pm, Polo Match begins at 3 pm. Tailgating is free.

Saturday, November 8 at 2pm 380Guide Community Challenge Cup: Finals at Polo on the Midway benefiting Bryan’s House. Gate opens at 1:00 pm, Polo Match begins at 2 pm.

OAK POINT POLO
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.