

America's most attended polo event

Westworld event sponsored by Bentley, Barrett-Jackson and Raven Events

The 11th Annual Bentley Scottsdale Polo Championships Presented by Talking Stick Resort were held on the Polo Field at Westworld of Scottsdale in November. There is a considerable automotive presence at the event, from title sponsor Bentley Scottsdale to additional sponsorships including Barrett-Jackson Auction Company, Earnhard Genesis North Scottsdale and Sanderson Lincoln. Cars are brought on site for display by sponsors, local car clubs and individuals with a passion for horsepower of every type. New in 2022, Flightworks also brought an airplane on site, and Pavati showcased a boat alongside the polo festivities.

Other longtime and marquee sponsors for the event include Molina Fine Jewelers, Russ Lyon Sotheby's International Realty, Hensley Beverage Company, Breakthru Beverage Group, Raven Events and Diageo.

Over 12,000 fans turned out to welcome polo teams from Arizona, the United Kingdom, Aspen Valley, Palm Beach and El Paso. Four action-packed matches entertained crowds throughout the day—featuring top players including polo legend Nic Roldan, Melissa Ganzi, Jason Crowder and other top players from around the world.

The team of Grant Ganzi, Melissa Ganzi and Nic Roldan defeated Palm Beach Polo Team (Juan Bollini, Jason Crowder and Scott Wood), 7-5, to win the coveted Molina Cup in the featured match of the day. Melissa Ganzi scored six goals for team, with Nic Roldan scoring the other.

In other matches, The King Charles III Salute Match pitted the Royal County of Berkshire Polo Club against the Wales Polo Team. King Charles is a member of both clubs and has played with each club, which sent many of the players who par-

ticipated in Scottsdale's Polo Party. On this day, it ended in an 8-8 tie. Pete Webb scored the most—five goals—for his Wales team, while Jamie Morrison scored four for his team.

Another exciting match-up of the day came when retired National Hockey League and Arizona Coyotes star Shane Doan made his polo debut representing the Arizona Polo Club. Doan played in two chukkers, helping his team beat the USA Women's Team 8-3, with Martin Morey scoring four goals.

In this year's Horses & Hounds Charity Match, benefiting Arizona Equine Rescue and Fetch Foundation, EPR Polo was victorious over El Paso Naranjo with a 10-5 win. Jared Sheldon scored six of EPR's goals—but it was the charities who won big in this match. EPR Polo won \$6,000 for Arizona Equine Rescue organization, and El

Paso Naranja won \$4,000 for Fetch Foundation, a dog rescue.

Sponsored by Edmiston, Aspen Valley, the nation's fastest growing polo club, won an unprecedented seventh title, in front of the largest crowd of the day.

In addition to polo, other luxury events appealing to the same audience included a Canine Couture Fashion Show by Lugari Pet Salon, the World's Longest Catwalk Fashion Show, produced by Phoenix Fashion Week, and the Riot House Polo DayClub. Fans also enjoyed performances by the Phoenix Opera, Four Legs on Set, accomplished saxophonist and composer Neamen Lyles, the Phoenix Boys Choir, the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show and a preview of Barrett-Jackson's 2023 Collector Car Auction.

Ticket revenue for the 2022 event was up 12 percent over a record 2021, as were food and beverage sales. Guests enjoyed new culinary and beverage treats like Harkin's Theatres' Prosecco and Popcorn, Grimaldi's Pizza Disco and Chandon Garden Spritz Garden Party.

The Polo Party date for 2023 will be announced in the coming months. ■

