



SOUTH BAY POLO

2012 SUMMER SEASON RECAP - WINTER INTRO



Opening Day Tournament

On June 23rd, the Nation's newest Polo Club, South Bay Polo, opened to great fanfare. Owner Tim Weston offered up the celebratory toast, cut the ribbon and bowled in the ball to begin the first match. The sidelines were packed with enthusiastic supporters from the local polo community. After two high energy matches, a complementary BBQ was provided to all. The local paper covered the event and a few local politicians came to give their best wishes.

Vision of Club

Opening Day's festivities were a cumulation of Tim Weston's mission and passion to bring affordable polo back to the Bay Area. Polo is not new to Buck-n-Horse Ranch as it was formerly the home of The Silicon Valley Polo Club from 1999 to 2006. Under

the ownership and direction of Gary Pollack and Ted Schlosser the club grew and attracted a number of local players and pros. At its peak SVPC boasted a membership of over 35, and hosted a number of high goal tournaments and events.

Tim brought in Santos Arriola as Club Pro, and Francesca Finato as Club Manager. Over several months, their tireless effort transformed a weed

covered field into tip-top Polo Condition.

The season was quite a success, fulfilling Tim's vision. The club is responsible for developing several new players, and exposing polo to a wider community.

This newsletter will recap the season, and update you on the exciting plans for the Winter Polo Season.



South Bay Polo
1290 Masten Ave.
Gilroy, CA

Owner: Tim Weston
Club Manager: Francesca Finato
Club Pro: Santos Arriola

Winter Arena Polo



South Bay Polo's covered arena is perfect for Winter Polo

South Bay Polo's Covered Arena allows Polo all winter long!

Rain is depressing, it's ever more depressing when it cancels your Polo Match! That will not happen during South Bay Polo's Winter Season, this huge, covered arena solves that problem.

South Bay Polo will be organizing weekly clinics on Thursdays at 4:00pm to help sharpen

your game, and Saturday chukkas at 3:00pm to prove yourself in competition! South Bay Polo also intends to go to Horse Park on Sudays. In addition, private and group lessons can be scheduled anytime.

The arena is quite large with excellent footing, perfect for Polo - and won't be closed for rain!



Winter Polo Schedule

Arena Polo

The Arena at South Bay Polo is well suited for winter polo. No longer will your matches be cancelled due to weather - this Arena is covered! Here's the proposed scheduled for the Winter Polo Program

Thursday Night Clinics

You can't improve your game without working on it.

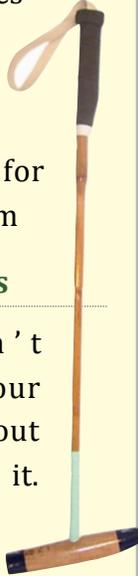
The 4pm Thursday night clinics will help you fine tune your abilities with drills and practice chukkars.

Saturday Chukkars

3PM - What a better way to start your weekend that playing a polo match! The covered Arena guarantees that you will be able to play - no matter the weather.

Lessons

Individual and group lessons will be available during the week. Just contact Francesca at Fran@SouthBayPolo.com



First Annual "Garlic Cup" Tournament



Action during South Bay Polo's first annual "Garlic Cup"

The 'Sport of Kings' in Gilroy??

Gilroy is known for its Garlic, but South Bay Polo is doing everything it can to be the destination for POLO. The First Annual "Garlic Cup" was a resounding success! The competition was fierce with 3 equally matched flights. Flight 1, featuring South Bay Polo Blue v Dungan Red showcased players both experienced and those newer to polo. Both teams had players with less that one years' experience. But you couldn't tell by their level of play, and everyone got a piece of the action. In the end, South Bay Polo Blue was victorious, and enjoyed bottles presented by Burrell School Vineyards - our wine sponsor.

San Luis Obispo (heart of Central Valley Polo) sponsored this years' Divot Stop and guest enjoyed a craft beer while fixing the field for the featured match.

The featured match brought together two top class teams, which have a history of playing against each other. One could say there may even be a bit of a rivalry. Coldwell Banker featured Lyn Jason Cobb, Manny Rodriguez, Santos Arriola, and Ben Kennedy vs. Park Lane featuring Bill Garlock, Carlos Rivas,

Francesca Finato, Doug Bloomenthal and Wheaties Barnaby. After the first day, Park Lane had a big lead, only to have it narrowed to a 11 -11 tie in the last chukkar. A goal by Park Lane with 30 seconds sealed the deal 12- 11.

Everyone enjoyed BBQ's and libation on Saturday and Sunday as the stories of great shots and epic ride-off



Between matches, spectators enjoyed a twist on traditional Divot Stop. Firestone Walker Brewing Company, located in

got bigger and bigger. South Bay Polo recognizes the social aspect of the game off-field is just as important on-field and they pulled out all the stops.

Honey Badger Tournament

Honey Badgers are the fiercest animals on earth. They don't give a \$#!T. They don't care - they are FIERCE.

Inspired by the YouTube Hit "The Crazy Nastyass Honey Badger" : (www.youtu.be/4r7wHMg5Yjg), South Bay Polo's Honey Badger Tournament provided some FIERCE competition. The tournament started just as the sun began to burn off the morning clouds, and soon the battle began. TEAM HONEY BADGER went up against TEAM COBRA in a battle of EPIC proportions. What began as a seemingly equal match-up, TEAM HONEY BADGER soon dominated TEAM COBRA. After 5 Chukkers, the score was 7 – 2. Following the match, all competitors received a complimentary "South bay Polo" hat,

and enjoyed a feast of Santos' famous grilled chicken and carne asada, and of course, plenty of adult beverages! TEAM HONEY BADGER Pictured – Terry Reilly, Santos Arriola, Lyn Jason Cobb, Joe, Madelyn Cobb, Stasia Hurley, Francesca "Frenchie" Finato.



Chukkar Videos



One of the most popular aspects of South Bay Polo is many of the chukkers are video taped and posted on YouTube. Not only does it allow the players to "relive the glory" of that great shot, or wonderful pass, but to use as a training aid as well.

Often, Club Pro Santos Arriola and Club Manager Francesca Finato would review the videos and use them as a training aid, helping players of all abilities to improve their game. The videos will really show if you have sunk your heels into the stirrups or if you mallet hand is too bouncy. Videos of South Bay Polo's Chukkers can be seen on their website at www.SouthBayPolo.com/chukker-videos/

New Players

Though Polo has been around for thousands of years, its future lies in new players. No business, or sport, can survive unless it continues to grow in popularity.

A major focus at South Bay Polo is exposing people, both potential players and spectators to the sport. Gilroy is home to many horse loving people and has many equestrian facilities. This is the perfect location to build a new base of Polo enthusiasts.

South Bay Polo offers an innovative "Intro to Polo" group lesson to the local Pony Clubs, and Summer Equestrian Camps.

Bay View Pony Club came out and had a great time, sending 10 of its members. An equestrian Summer Camp from SLO came and spent an afternoon swinging mallets for the first time. In addition, spectators on the sidelines, many with horse backgrounds, decided to give polo a try.

All came away with positive experiences, and some have continued their lessons and are getting better every week.



Bay View Pony Club



New Player



www.SouthBayPolo.com

South Bay Polo Website

With everyone's busy schedule, South Bay Polo's website provides all the answers.

South Bay Polo's dynamic website allows polo players and supporters and to catch up on all the latest news for South Bay Polo.

The website includes chukkar sign-ups, the schedule, photos from past events, and the ever popular videos of past chukkars.

Future plans include an area for training videos, from learning how to wrap your horses legs to mastering that off-side back shot.

Friday Night Clinics

Friday Night Clinics were quite popular. The instruction provided is quickly realized as you try them out in the instructional chukkars.



Club Pro Santos Arriola helps a student perfect the proper swing.



Head Cam Video A tremendous training aid

South Bay Polo's Head Cam Videos provides a unique perspective not often seen by the average polo player or student. This feature is used as a great training aid for players of all abilities. Reviewing these

after chukkars is often the highpoint of the event. To see examples go to SouthBayPolo.com/chucker-videos/

Come for the Polo - Stay for the Party

At South Bay Polo, the Social Aspect of the game is very important. Every weekend, the players get to relax and relive the plays as they settle down for a traditional BBQ lunch, and plenty of adult beverages. Some have said they look forward to the BBQ chicken or Santos' famous Barbacoa as much as the polo. All are invited to enjoy the feast after the matches. As the liquids pour, the stories of the great plays and ride-offs get more elaborate. One thing of for certain - no one does it quite like South Bay Polo.



South Bay Polo Management

Tim Weston - Owner

Tim actually learned to play the “Sport of Kings” years ago at this same polo field. In fact, the photo here shows Tim riding Greyson on the Silicon Valley Polo field back in 2006; the last year polo was played in Gilroy. Tim’s goal to make polo assessable to all enthusiasts is becoming a reality.



Santos Arriola - Club Pro

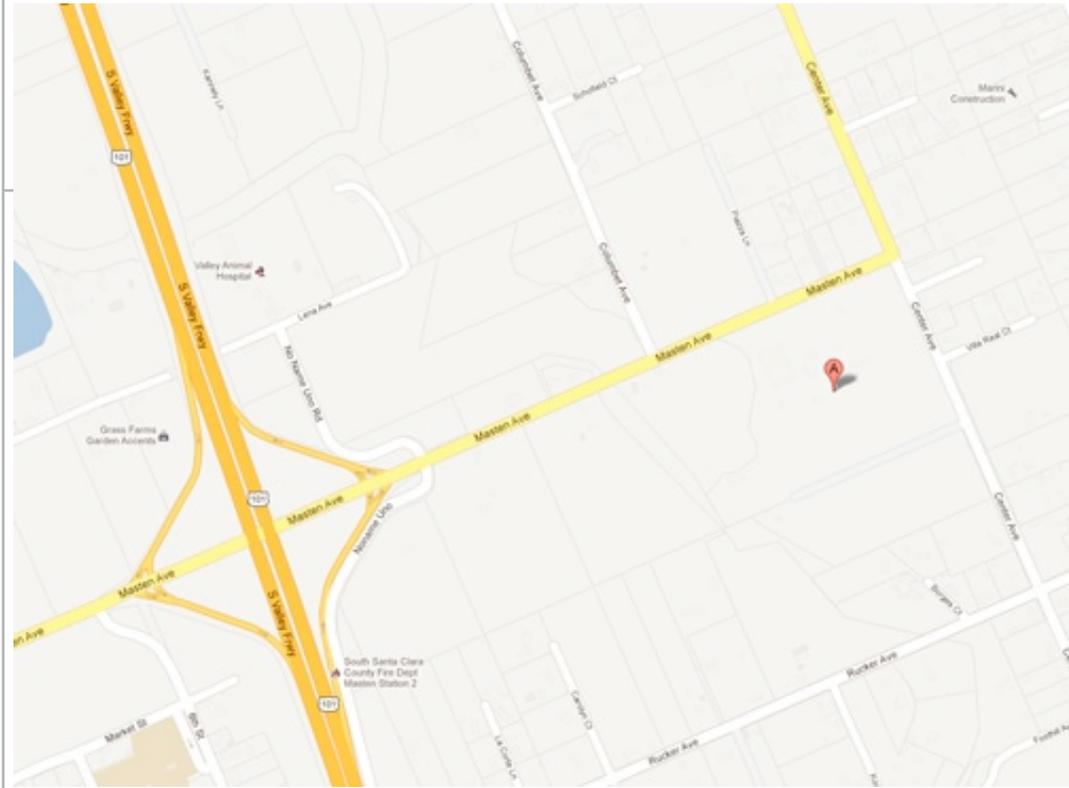
Santos Arriola, a 25-year veteran of the sport, boasts a 2-goal handicap outdoor and a 4-goal indoor. Originally hailing from Mexico, Santos refined his polo skills at San Diego Polo Club. Santos spends his Winters in Indio Ca at the Eldorado and Empire Polo Clubs and heads up many successful teams there each year. Santos has recently become a superior field maintenance technician and has been working hard to provide the best field South Bay Polo has to offer. Contact us today to schedule a lesson with Santos!



Francesca Finato

Originally from Palo Alto Ca, “Frenchie” attended Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo and played 3 years for the women’s intercollegiate polo team. After college, she pursued a career in Construction management, but her passion for polo pulled her away and she began working with the acclaimed Erik Wright of Wrightway Polo RPC in Menlo Park, Indio and Burbank Ca. Erik taught her the intricacies of running a club, teach new and experienced players, and fine tuning horses for optimal play. She also attended USPA Instructor’s Forums where she learned new teaching and development skills. Frenchie has become a fantastic addition to this club, bringing superior teaching techniques and club management skills.





South Bay Polo is located at the Buck-n-Horse Ranch
1290 Masten Ave.,
Gilroy, CA

