

Jeep®

portsea
POLO 2012

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Jeep | portsea POLO FOR THE SPECTATOR

POLO is very straightforward as a spectator sport, generally there are six periods (Chukkas) of seven minutes. There are four players in each team. The No 1 and 2 are basically forwards. The No 3 and 4 are equivalent to five-eight and back in Rugby. The players should mark their opposite number; that is the No 4 should mark the No 1, preventing him from scoring by hooking and riding off.

There is no "offside" rule. The rules are common sense based on a player having the "right of way" in order to eliminate danger. Therefore, no player shall play with his left hand. Play starts from a line up in the center by one of the two umpires throwing the ball. The team that scores the most goals wins. Behinds don't count.

The umpires will award penalties depending upon the severity of the infringement. When a penalty is given a goal is signaled and a throw in occurs 10 yards out from the penalized team's goal mouth.

The essence of the game is team work.

- PENALTY II** – 30 yards free hit
- PENALTY III** – 40 yards free hit
- PENALTY IV** – 60 yards free hit
- PENALTY V(a)** – Free hit on the spot
- PENALTY V(b)** – Free hit from the middle of the ground

Like any royal court, the Portsea Polo has a storied past and a glittering present. In the here-and-now, buzzed about guests, among them Jess and Ashley Hart, Kris Smith, Nathan Buckley, Zoe Badwi, Grant Smillie and this year's official DJ, Ruby Rose, swap summer's bikinis and beach towels for Willow, Ralph Lauren and sass & bide. Come to think of it, quick eyes may even spy sass & bide, Sarah Jane Clarke and Heidi Middleton that is, enjoying the hospitality of any number of marquees. Jeep, this year's naming rights sponsor, hosts today's marquee-to-be, the Jeep Grille, where ruggedness meets luxury.

It wasn't so long ago that the Portsea Polo was a place where ruggedness met . . . well, it wasn't luxury. This event, this place, has a military past. In the mid-1950s, when the Quarantine Station at Point Nepean was used by the Australian Army as an officer cadet training academy, cadets honed their horsemanship playing polo on the same stretch of turf you see now.

The first spark, the idea, for today's incarnation of the Portsea Polo came from David Calvert-

A ROYALLY GOOD TIME

Jones, the grandson of the incomparable Dame Elisabeth Murdoch. 11 years ago, Calvert-Jones and a group of friends resolved to hold the polo as a charity fundraiser for the Portsea Surf Life Saving Club. "Back in those days the players had to mow the grass themselves and paint the lines on the field!" explains Josh Mantello, the Chairman of the Portsea Polo Committee.

It's different now, but alongside the fizz and fashion, the gossip and the glamour, the Portsea Polo maintains

"Back in those days the players had to mow the grass themselves and paint the lines on the field!"

its charitable objective. This year's beneficiaries are the Murdoch Children's Research Institute, which discovers ways to prevent and treat conditions affecting babies, children and adolescents, and Cool Australia, an organisation taking a stand for our environment. Mantello says, "First we just believe this is a very special event for Melbourne - every year I walk through the crowd and get the most amazing

feedback. The other reason we do it, though, is for charity."

"We cap the crowd at 5000, which makes for a much more intimate, and much more laidback, event. And it's a chance to get up close and personal with the sport."

Like Derby Day by the sea, there are those here for the horses and the on-field spectacle - "We've got the very best players in the country, that's why everyone's here, isn't it, for the polo?" Mantello laughs - while others will find diversion and delight among conversation and canapés.

Either way, it's a very happy kingdom.

Jeep | portsea
POLO 26

GAME 2 FIVE CHUKKAS

STELLA ARTOIS vs JEEP

<p>Jeep Portsea Polo 2012</p> <p>WILLIAMS Andrew AUSTRALIAN Handicap [8]</p>	<p>Jeep Portsea Polo 2012</p> <p>GILMORE GLEN AUSTRALIAN Handicap [7]</p>
<p>Jeep Portsea Polo 2012</p> <p>KEYTE GREG NEW ZEALAND Handicap [5]</p>	<p>Jeep Portsea Polo 2012</p> <p>DONNELLY NALL IRISH Handicap [4]</p>
<p>Jeep Portsea Polo 2012</p> <p>HINE ANDREW BRITISH Handicap [5]</p>	<p>Jeep Portsea Polo 2012</p> <p>MCLACHLAN GILL AUSTRALIAN Handicap [4]</p>
<p>Jeep Portsea Polo 2012</p> <p>GIBBS CORIN BRITISH Handicap [5]</p>	<p>Jeep Portsea Polo 2012</p> <p>GAIRDNER SAM BRITISH Handicap [4]</p>

HANDICAP

TOTAL [Eighteen]

TOTAL [Nineteen]

Jeep | portsea POLO 19

A ROYALLY GOOD TIME

It is a principality all its own, the Portsea Polo. Each January the game of kings calls the princes and princesses of the social swirl, and the establishment's boldfaced names, to Point Nepean for Australia's best-known polo tournament. They arrive by car, by chopper or simply stroll out of their holiday home, but for one sunny day all roads lead to Portsea.

ARTICLE COURTESY OF MIK GRIGG

