



WINDSOR POLO CLUB MEMBERS

"THE 2008 AUTUMN SEASON".

The Club has just completed a period of what can only be described as outstanding polo.



Robert Archibald, Jack Baillieu, Glen Gilmore [capt], Damian Johnston.

The Test Match between Australia and New Zealand was the highest rated game Australia has seen since the visit of the Argentine team in the 1970s. At 26 goal – plus, the crowd watched superb team polo on the best horses available. We have to thank the horse lenders.



The New Zealand team were mounted by the Australian Polo community

We also have to thank Lew McDonald who again managed the process for about 6 months prior to and on the day. It went well although the crowds were down. We used the day to ask the Emus from the 1972 tour of New Zealand to present the shirts to the Australian team and we presented Lady Pagan with a Life membership for the contribution she has made and that of her husband, Sir John, who was instrumental in asking the Earl Mountbatten to be our Patron.



Mr. Ken Austin, Ros McGilvray, Hugh MacLachlan, Jack Baillieu, Sinclair Hill, Richard Walker & Sandy Tait.

The Morton Cup hosted 20 teams on April 6th and some Australian team players backed up to make that "14" goal polo exciting. Jack Baillieu [7] and Rob Archibald [6] were starters before they took off for the UK, where they played for Australia against England in the last week end of July at Guards, and lost by only one goal.



Ellerston – George Hill, Matt Grimes, James Biem, Neil Craig - Morton Cup



Los Caballeros -, Adam Buchert, Jack Baillieu, Charlie Aitken, Matt Anderson - B grade

The Windsor Tournament hosted a similar number of teams and that occurred even with about 10 teams playing in the southern circuit and 10 teams playing at Scone on the same week end.

So when the State Championship—The Countess of Dudley Cup was held at Windsor, over 25 teams nominated for 5 divisions and over 80 players with some 500 horses were accommodated. There were 8 teams in the 12 goal 'A' grade.



These teams came from S E Queensland, Western Australia; teams had New Zealanders, Chileans & Indian players as well as our own Iranian, Siamach Iikhanizadeh. A young team from Scone came, as well as one from Goulburn, Millamolong, Forbes-Jemalong, Bong Bong, Ellerston, Riverlands & Killarney, as well as Sydney & Kurri Burri, & we look forward to seeing a team from Kurrajong



Dudley cup winners-Jemalong- John Kahlbetzer and, Marcus, Andrew Williams, Richard Rawlings...

The Club has catered for the week end enthusiast as well as the professional team with 3 paid professionals and 30 horses. This is a “balancing act” that requires satisfying everybody, which is not always easy.

The organisation on the day could not have worked if 'volunteerism' were relied upon. The usual committee members work hard. Mike Fitzgerald has slotted in as our professional manager along with his team of Rural Fire Service personnel. The object is to have the day run on time and for those who have official duties, to be made aware of them.



The Club Captain, Dick Doolin and Tony Ryan took all these entries, arranged the draw to fit in with airline time tables, Board meetings, and games where a player wanted to play in 2 teams over, 2 grades. They arranged horse accommodation and 'made it work'. They did an excellent job. Posters were put up in many Eastern suburbs cafes and hotels.



Dinner at the Sydney Polo County Club

This success could not be possible with out the lavish amounts infrastructure the Hawkesbury has been given by Wal and James Ashton, Peter Higgins, Sydney Polo County Club and John Marshall, Kurri Burri Club and Killarney.

These 3 new Clubs give the Hawkesbury the facilities of some 17 first class, irrigated, leveled, and professionally maintained polo fields on which players can play over a 5 day period. Players can play over 3 week ends, as well as during the week in preliminary games and still have a "finals" field unused on the Sunday. This is arguably the best "complex" any where — it far surpasses anything in the UK that I have seen—it certainly ranks with any American set up in the desert or Florida.

As founders 35 years ago, we envisaged owning 2 horses and a 2 horse float and travelling to a few country tournaments — if we could afford it.

But we have work to do—

The Club has to work well with the other Hawkesbury Clubs so polo is the winner. We have to finish the second field and renovate the first field. The Club house needs renovation and the lavatories need money spent on them. The horse yards for over night accommodation are 20 years old and are past their "used by date"

We are improving communications between players on the day.

This Dudley cup is the first to have a video record and in future all players can purchase a copy and see it on the web site.

Importantly **POLO** has to thank those who work for it-

Eugene Marais	Treasurer
Adam Tolhurst	Grounds
Julie McIntosh	Promotion
Lew Mc Donald	Commercial manager
Dick Doolin	Captain –helped by Tony Ryan
Hamish McGregor	Vice President
Leon Reardon	President Australian Polo Council

The Spring Season was again a matter of arranging more "monster" tournaments and this is taking its toll on administrators.

A team of Windsor players—Hamish McGregor, Adam Tolhurst, David Rothwell and Adam Buchert won the State 10 Goal, the Hector King and David won most improved Windsor Player for 2008. This was against the best teams from all parts of the State and congratulations to them.

The 2009 handicaps see some improvement in the ratings of the club. Hugh Parry-Okeden, up to 1 , David Rothwell to 1, among others.

The Windsor Spring Tournament was again competed for by over 24 teams and the use of grounds from the other clubs makes this possible.

The Richmond area continues to add new grounds and there are now some 14.

~ SEE YOU AT THE POLO ~



**John Wayland
President 2008**

“As Mayor of Hawkesbury, I congratulate the Polo Clubs on the contribution they make to the community as a major development to the district.

The landscaping and tree planting by the owners of Sydney, Kurri Burri and Kurrajong are impressive, to say the least and are a significant tourist attraction as well as being a centre for polo.

The economic benefits of any one tournament in the form of accommodation, horse feed, fuel sales and veterinary needs are well recognised.

The foresight of the founders of the Windsor Polo Club, some 35 years ago, in buying club owned land would never have extended to such a complex being centered around that land purchase.

I look forward to developing Council and community support for what is a major activity in the Hawkesbury and I congratulate all the Clubs on this progress.”

Bart Bassett
Mayor, Hawkesbury City Council
