

*New Zealand Polo*  
*Association*

Newsletter  
November 2007

Proudly sponsored by  
**George Wood Mallets**



Secretary  
Diane M Brown

Te Akau  
R.D.1  
Ngaruawahia

Phone: 07 825 4833  
Fax: 07 825 4832  
Email: [piquethill@xtra.co.nz](mailto:piquethill@xtra.co.nz)



**Welcome to the Spring/Summer Newsletter for 2007. Welcome back to all those whom have been overseas and missed our grotty winter. Mind you, some of us went to Penang. Now! If you like serious shopping, go. It is amazing WHAT you can squeeze into suitcase. Ask the Treasurer, "Mr Travel Light"**

I hope you are all bright eyed, bushy tailed (not too bushy!) and raring to go for the 2007- 2008 polo season. It looks as though it is going to be quite a busy one. The England Young Team (Under 21 and a 6 goal team) arrive late January. There will be two International Tests this season against England, one at Christchurch on 3 February and the other at Kihikihi on 9 February 2008. Plans are being made, at this time, for a team to visit from Malaysia, late January, early February. Also, we are gearing up for the FIP World Finals in Mexico, 19 April – 4 May 2008. Plus a full calendar.

F.I.P. World Finals  
 MEXICO  
 19 April – 4 May 2008  
 Anybody interested in joining a group  
 tour for this event  
 Contact  
 Diane Brown.

**New Vice President of NZ Polo**  
 Gordon Gibson was elected Vice President of NZ Polo at the Annual General Meeting at Taupo, 4 October 2007. Ian McKelvie resigned from this position because of his Commitments as Mayor of the Manawatu. Paul Kay has one more season as NZ Polo President. Gordon was President of the Northern Polo Association. Stephen Kay has assumed the role of NPA President.

**Selected F.I.P. Squad for World Finals:**

Craig Wilson	6
Angus McKelvie	5
Robert Watson	5
James Watson	5
Sam Hopkinson	5
Lachie Hunter	4
Michael Henderson	4
David Miller	3
Jonny Coddington	3
Kit Brooks	3
Tom Hunt	3
Guy Higginson	2
Will Hunt	1
James Worker	1

Squad members whose handicaps were raised in England will play off these new handicaps immediately in New Zealand. It has not been decided, yet, how many of the final 10 squad members will travel to Mexico. The Squad coaches are Cody Forsyth, Alan Browne and Stephen Kay. Manager Richard Hunt. Two FIP teams will play in the Dewar at Hawkes Bay. The Final Squad of 10 will be announced on 18 January 2008.



Bayleys Savile Tournament 2008  
Rangitikei Polo at Pukemarama  
Finals Weekend 1 – 2 March 2008.

Any Club wanting caravan sites,  
accommodation information, please  
contact Rachel McKelvie a.s.a.p.

### Goal Ratings for Bayleys Savile

Savile Cup 15 goals 6 chukkas  
ONLY 1 player of 6 goals or more in a  
team.  
Wilson Cup 6 goals 5 chukkas  
No player over 3 goals in a team.  
Riddiford Levin 3 goals 4 chukkas  
No player over 2 goals in a team.  
Mckenzie Salver 0 goal 4 chukkas.

#### **RULE:**

When a Club has entered a 15 Goal  
Team in the Savile Cup and has a player  
of 3 or 4 goals left over, that club may  
make application to NZ Polo for  
dispensation to play that player in the  
lower grade. In this case the 75% Rule  
will apply.

Where a Club is unable to enter a 15  
Goal team and has a 3 or 4 goal players  
left over, they may, also, apply for  
dispensation to enter a team, provided  
the 75% rule applies.

The same rule regarding Player  
Eligibility applies as in 2007 Savile  
Tournament.

### **NEW RULE for POLO In New Zealand**

Players of –2 handicap may only play in  
a Tournament of up to and including 8  
goals.

Players of –1 handicap may only play in  
a Tournament of up to and including 12  
goals.

### Obituaries

NZ Polo Management and Players are  
sad to have lost the following supporters  
over the last year and offer sympathy to  
the families. Mrs Daphne Walker, Mrs  
Angela Keyte, Mrs Joan Hunt, Mrs Jo  
Sherratt, Archie Kay, Lyall McLauchlan,  
Mrs Joyce Peake, Paddy Mason and  
Stewart Wood.

### Umpiring:

John Lane, Head Umpire, believes it is  
time to set up a panel of 6 – 8 Umpires,  
who can be used nationally as paid  
umpires. Anyone interested in such a  
career, please contact John Lane. John  
will, again, travel to Clubs with a  
different test from last season. Clubs are  
urged to attend these Seminars and it is  
hoped that better results will be  
achieved by the participants.

### EQUINE FLU

A real threat to the equine industry in  
Australia and New Zealand. It is hoped  
that all people associated with Polo will  
abide by the Directives sent to all Clubs  
and is, as well, on the NZ Polo website.

[www.polo.org.nz](http://www.polo.org.nz)



### **Overseas Tours over Winter 2007**

A self funding team consisting of Cody Forsyth, Paul Kay, Alan Browne and Craig Wilson traveled to Zambia in June. A great time was had but unfortunately, no wins by the NZ Team. The Zambians were “very handy” (Perhaps they stitched up the Kiwis before hand!)

In October 2007, another self funding team of Paul Kay, Alan Browne, Cam McKelvie and Robert Watson had a week in India. Whilst having a wonderful time, they, too, did not win the silver but may have brought home a bit of gold! Apparently not enough room for rugs.

### **BMW Series 2008:**

South Africa Polo has issued an invitation to New Zealand Polo for a 21 – 22 Goal team to travel to South Africa to play two Tests in the BMW Series, late July, early August 2008. Last played for, by NZ, in 2000, where NZ won the series and also had the most amazing time.

### **F.I.P. Zone Finals: Auckland March 2007:**

Sincere thanks to all those whom lent ponies for the Zone D Finals, the Horse Managers, the time keepers, the grooms, absolutely everyone who helped in any way. It was a spectacle and reflected well on polo in New Zealand and, perhaps, gave the overseas visitors quite an eye opener. The South African Team was pretty formidable but by coming second on points, New Zealand achieved its wish, so Mexico, here we come.

Congratulations to Chris Jones and his team for the huge effort they put in to ensure the event went without too many hitches. New Zealand Polo is grateful to the sponsors as well as Trillian Trust and Lion Foundation for their financial support. Without this support the event would have proved a bit of a financial nightmare.

### **Year Book/Annual Results/News**

The Year Book is increasing in size every year and this is beginning to cause a problem.....pages fall out (due to sheer size of a small book stapled in the middle). The “thinkers” of NZ Polo are debating the logistical and financial implications of making the Year Book, just for contacts for Clubs, phone book etc and having another magazine for results, news, photos and items from Clubs and Associations. This magazine could be funded through advertising or other means. We would be looking for contributors to such a magazine and if you believe, YOU have that talent, please let us know. This is not set in concrete YET but something to think about.

