



PRESS RELEASE

University of London, Harvard, Oxford and Cambridge Progress to the Semi-Finals of the Metropolitan Intersarsity Polo 2015 - The London Challenge

Tianjin, China, 23 July 2015 – In the final round of preliminary matches at the Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club today, Harvard Polo Club defeated Yale University Polo Club by 8 goals to 6, while University of London Polo Club dispatched Stanford Polo Club by 10 goals to 4.5. London and Harvard will join Cambridge and Oxford to contest the semi-finals of the Metropolitan Intersarsity Polo 2015 – The London Challenge on Saturday; Stanford and Yale will fight it out for fifth place.

In an all-American varsity contest, Harvard took on Yale in the first match of the day. Going into battle for Harvard were Marion Dierickx, Thomas Waite, Aemilia Phillips and J. Paul Meyer. Their opponents Yale comprised Lucinda Denney, Julian Chernyk, Aurora Edington and Chelsea Messinger.

Yale started the match with a four goal cushion but Harvard's number two Thomas Waite was eager to start chipping away at it, galloping in a score within a minute of the throw in. Yale's Aurora Edington had other ideas, however, and soon restored her side's lead with a smart tap-in. A strong run by Harvard captain Marion Dierickx was rewarded with a goal off the stick of Waite halfway through the chukka, with play yo-yoing from one end of the field to the other as the seconds ticked away. Harvard's Marion Dierickx came closest to scoring, her first shot flashing across the face of goal, and her second, a brilliant back shot, crossing the line a second after the final bell. It wouldn't count: 5 – 2 to Yale after the first chukka.

Harvard pressure told after a minute of play in the second, Marion Dierickx scoring her second of the match. Harvard kept up their breathless attacking tempo, and despite defensive heroics by Yale's Aurora Edington, Thomas Waite found a way through for Harvard to move his side within just a single goal of their opponents, the scores 5 – 4 at the halfway stage.

Play resumed with a penalty two to Harvard, but it was relief for Yale as Aemilia Phillips's shot didn't quite have the distance. J. Paul Meyer made up for it soon after to level the scores, however, then Thomas Waite set off on an upfield charge, linking with Aemilia Phillips who managed to tuck the ball between the posts and send Harvard into the lead for the first time in the match. Play stopped briefly after Yale substitute Caitlin Miller was unhorsed, but thankfully both player and pony emerged unscathed. Harvard continued to turn the screw after play resumed, and it was J. Paul Meyer who was fastest on to the loose ball after a flurry of goal mouth action, scoring to make it Harvard seven, Yale five.

Yale had to produce something special to take the game to Harvard in the final chukka, and they did, courtesy of a splendid goal by Aurora Edington, galloping at full tilt from her own half and displaying

TIANJIN GOLDIN METROPOLITAN POLO CLUB
天津环亚国际马球会

16 Hai Tai Hua Ke Jiu Lu Bin Hai Gao Xin Qu, Tianjin 300384, China 中国天津滨海高新区海泰华科九路 16 号, 邮编 300384
Tel (电话): (86) 22 8372 8888 Fax (传真): (86) 22 8371 7733



great stick work to keep control of the ball and stroke it between the posts. But despite Yale's heroics, Harvard's Marion Dierickx had the last word of the day, scoring with a well taken near-side forehand to make it Harvard eight, Yale six.

In the second match of the day, the form team of the tournament so far, University of London Polo Club, came up against Stanford Polo Club, who had slogged through a difficult defeat against Cambridge. In the saddle for London: Kristina Karailieva, Arthur Cole-Fontayn, James Cooper and Harold Hodges. Meeting the challenge were Laura Kurt, Shivani Torres, Eric Birdsall and Elizabeth Lake. Stanford started with a 4.5 goal cushion to reflect the difference in team handicaps.

London exploded out of the blocks with a marvellous team goal to get the game underway, eventually going in off the stick of James Cooper. Cooper struck again soon after, finishing off a move that was all Harold Hodges. Hodges then got himself on the score board with just over a minute left to play, driving in a fierce penalty shot from sixty yards to make it 4.5 – 3 in Stanford's favour.

Terrific polo in the second chukka saw hard running from both sides, but it was London who capitalised, Harold Hodges thumping in from a tight angle after two minutes to put his side within half a goal of Stanford. James Cooper and Harold Hodges were linking up brilliantly for London, the former setting up Hodges for his third of the match to make it 5 – 4.5 to London going into half time.

London's Hodges sat out after the restart allowing teammate James Cooper to really come into his own, his searching long ball picking out teammate Kristina Karailieva to score under pressure. After a tense passage of play, Cooper broke away on a lightning solo charge, zigzagging across the pitch to score with aplomb. The score going into the final chukka, 7 – 4.5 in favour of London.

London reserve player Lucy Hall got herself on the scoreboard at the start of the fourth chukka, before Harold Hodges, back on the field in place of Cooper, added a ninth with a driving charge and shot. And then it was ten, Harold Hodges again proving why he's the highest goal player in the tournament with another stylish strike. Refusing to bow out gracefully, Stanford kept fighting and forced their best chance of the game with a minute and half left on the clock, but the shot pulled just wide. A near miss by Hodges soon after meant the final scores stood at London 10, Stanford 4.5.

After a well-earned rest day tomorrow, all six times will be back in action on Saturday, contesting the semi-finals of the Metropolitan IntersVarsity Polo 2015 - The London Challenge, along with the fifth-sixth place playoff match.

TIANJIN GOLDIN METROPOLITAN POLO CLUB
天津环亚国际马球会

16 Hai Tai Hua Ke Jiu Lu Bin Hai Gao Xin Qu, Tianjin 300384, China 中国天津滨海高新区海泰华科九路 16 号, 邮编 300384
Tel (电话): (86) 22 8372 8888 Fax (传真): (86) 22 8371 7733



Metropolitan Intersarsity Polo 2015 – The London Challenge

Result

Day 1 July 21, 2015

Yale vs Oxford	3-10
Cambridge vs Stanford	11-4.5

Day 2 July 22, 2015

London vs Cambridge	10-3.5
Harvard vs Oxford	3-8

Day 3 July 23, 2015

Harvard vs Yale	8-6
London vs Stanford	10-4.5

Partners of Metropolitan Intersarsity Polo 2015 - The London Challenge

Organisers:	Tianjin Polo Association Hong Kong Polo Development and Promotion Federation Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club
Official Jersey Supplier:	La Martina
Special Thanks:	Fortune Heights http://www.fortuneheights-tj.com
Media Partner:	多派少儿频道
Official Online Media Partner:	房王 http://www.ihk.com

TIANJIN GOLDIN METROPOLITAN POLO CLUB
天津环亚国际马球会

16 Hai Tai Hua Ke Jiu Lu Bin Hai Gao Xin Qu, Tianjin 300384, China 中国天津滨海新区海泰华科九路 16 号, 邮编 300384
Tel (电话): (86) 22 8372 8888 Fax (传真): (86) 22 8371 7733



About Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club

Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club currently features three standard-sized polo fields, stables for over 260 horses, all-weather training facilities, a riding school and a luxurious Club House and 167-room resort-style hotel. The state-of-the-art equestrian facilities are used and maintained by professionals from all over the world.

Apart from being the host venue of the FIP Snow Polo World Cup, major international fixtures on the Club's annual calendar include various spring and autumn tournaments and matches for different levels of play from youth to professional.

Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club was opened in November 2010 as the sporting and social flagship of "Goldin Metropolitan", a mega-development by Hong Kong-listed developer Goldin Properties Holdings Limited, which will comprise three zones: a Central Business District, home to the 117-storey Goldin Finance Tower; the 898,000 square metres (222-acre) Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club and a low-density luxury residential belt to be launched in the near future.

Contact Details

For more information about the event or request for high resolution images, please contact:

Goh Wee Ling

Director, Marketing and Communications
Email: weelingoh@metropolitanpoloclub.com
Office: +86 022 8372 8888 Ext 7908
Mobile: +86 182 0267 4412

Summer Li

Assistant Manager, Marketing and Communications
Email: summerli@metropolitanpoloclub.com
Office: +86 022 8372 8888 Ext 7902
Mobile: +86 150 2260 6993

Official website:
www.mpc-intersarsity.com

Follow MPC's official Wechat account to get news and information



Official Wechat Account
官方微信订阅号

Our website: www.metropolitanpoloclub.com

TIANJIN GOLDIN METROPOLITAN POLO CLUB
天津环亚国际马球会

16 Hai Tai Hua Ke Jiu Lu Bin Hai Gao Xin Qu, Tianjin 300384, China 中国天津滨海高新区海泰华科九路16号, 邮编 300384
Tel (电话): (86) 22 8372 8888 Fax (传真): (86) 22 8371 7733