

National Sporting Library & Museum Polo Classic FAQs

Event Information

Are tickets transferable?

Yes, tailgate tickets to the Annual Polo Classic are transferable. Tailgate car passes are easily transferable and can be utilized in any car. In order to ensure the proper transfer of tickets and ease of check-in, please notify the NSLM when transferring tickets. Please call (540) 687 – 6542 ext. 35 or email roconnor@nationalsporting.org

How will I know where to park?

Your parking area and the entry gate will be clearly indicated on your parking pass. Parking attendants will be on site the day of the event to help direct traffic.

Can I buy extra tickets at the gate?

No, for the safety of attendees, staff, and players we will be limiting capacity at the event, and as a result will not be selling tickets at the gate this year. Please note: ticket sales will close August 24th.

In the event of the cancellation of the Polo Classic, will I receive a refund for the cost of my ticket?

In the event of cancellation due to weather or COVID-19, ticket purchasers will be offered three options: a full or partial refund of their ticket purchase, the transfer of their ticket purchase amount towards the 2021 Polo Classic, and the opportunity to convert all or some of their ticket purchase into a 100% tax-deductible donation.

Are dogs allowed at the event?

Yes, dogs are encouraged to attend the event, but they MUST be leashed for the safety of attendees, players, and horses. We invite dogs and their owners to join us in between matches for the Dog Divot Stomp sponsored by NUTRO™ and a chance to win The Best Turned Out Dog award!

Are tickets required for children under the age of 12?

Due to capacity limits in light of COVID-19 all attendees regardless of age must have a ticket. This helps us keep track of and limit capacity.

What is the dress code for the event?

Dress code is “garden party” style. Men are encouraged to wear jackets and women nice trousers, skirts, or dresses. Additionally, the event takes place on grass surface with no hard flooring and as such shoes with pointed heels are not advisable.

What steps are you taking to ensure my safety during the COVID-19 pandemic?

NSLM has restructured the format of the 2020 Polo Classic to ensure the safety of all attendees. Tickets are sold on a first-come-first-served basis to limit the number of attendees. Social distancing is encouraged and all attendees are asked to remain within their designated ticket area. This means that General Admission ticket holders are to remain in the General Admission area and tailgate spectators are to remain within their respective tailgates. We encourage all spectators to wear masks when not eating or drinking. Anyone who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 will not be permitted entry to the event.

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General Admission Area

How many entries are included with my purchase?

Tickets purchased are on a per person basis - one entry per ticket.

What are my options for purchasing food in the General Admission area?

Spectators are welcome to bring outside food and drink to the event. There will be no food or beverages available for purchase this year.

Will chairs and umbrellas be provided in General Admission?

Chairs and umbrellas will not be provided. Guests are encouraged to bring their own chairs or picnic blankets. There is shaded space underneath the trees in the General Admission area.

What areas does my General Admission pass allow me to access?

General Admission passes only allow access to the General Admission area. General Admission ticket holders are not permitted in the Tailgate area.

What steps are you taking to ensure my safety during the COVID-19 pandemic?

We encourage all spectators to wear masks while they are not eating and drinking. Additionally, we ask that all General Admission spectators keep a safe 6-foot distance between themselves and others not in their household. We are limiting ticket purchases to ensure that there is ample space for spectators in the General Admission area. Anyone who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 will not be permitted entry to the event.

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Tailgate Area

How many parking passes are included with my purchase?

Tailgate purchases include up to 6 parking passes. Please note that only 6 guests will be permitted per tailgate area. 2 cars may be parked at each tailgate space, and the others are to be parked in the general parking areas.

Will a tent be included in my tailgate package? Can I bring my own tent?

Tents will not be included in the tailgate packages, however ticket holders are encouraged to bring their own pop-up tents. Each space is 15 feet wide and we ask that you kindly limit the size of your tent to fit within the perimeter of the tailgate spot. Additionally, please ensure that your tent is secured to the ground for the safety of the players and other spectators.

What time can I come and set up my tailgate space?

The gates to the event will open at 10:00am, at which point spectators are welcome to start arriving and begin setup of their space.

How many people gain access to the tailgate area with the purchase of my tailgate package?

For the safety of spectators, players, and staff, no more than 6 guests will be permitted in your tailgate space.

Can my friend with a General Admission pass come to my tailgate?

No, General Admission attendees are asked to stay in the General Admission areas at all times.

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Polo Matches

What time does play start?

The first match commences at 11:00am.

What time does play end?

The end time of play varies depending on the speed of each match, but the final chukker is scheduled to finish around 2:30pm.

How many matches are being played at the Annual Polo Classic?

Two matches will be played during the event, at approximately 11:00am and 1:00pm.

When will the parade be taking place?

Due to restrictions surrounding COVID-19, the pre-match parades will be smaller this year. The parade of the Orange County Hounds will occur between matches at approximately 12:30pm.

When is the divot stomp and who is allowed to participate?

The Dog Divot Stomp sponsored by NUTRO™ will occur in between the two matches. The divot stomp is a classic polo tradition rooted in practicality but is a fun way to get onto the field. During the divot stomp, spectators are encouraged to come out onto the field to “stomp the divots,” or use their feet to stomp the grass divots that have been made during the match back in place. This helps to keep the field in good shape for the following chukkers. All attendees and dogs are encouraged to participate in the Dog Divot Stomp sponsored by NUTRO™, but we ask that you practice social distancing while on the field. The Best Turned Out Dog and the Snazzy Hat & Dapper Dresser awards will be judged during the divot stomp.

Can I bring food and drinks onto the field during the divot stomp?

Yes, you may bring food and drink onto the field during the divot stomp. However, for the safety of the horses and players, we ask that you do not bring any glass onto the field or leave behind any debris.

Is there a hat contest during the divot stomp?

Yes, the Snazzy Hat & Dapper Dresser award contests will be judged during the Dog Divot Stomp sponsored by NUTRO™ divot stomp. Additionally, we judge a new award at the same time: The Best Turned Out Dog.

I want to watch the awards ceremony. Where does that take place?

The awards ceremony will take place in the middle of the field after the completion of the second match.

I am a horse lover. Can I pet or feed the players' horses?

No, for the safety of the animals and our attendees we ask that you not try to feed or pet the players' horses.

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Where can I learn more about polo?

The website for the United States Polo Association has lots of helpful information, outlining polo rules and traditions, as well as providing a “spectator guide”. The link to their website is

<https://www.uspolo.org/>