



NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM

Date: 1/31/2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BRITISH MILITARY TEAM TO PLAY AT NSLM POLO CLASSIC

MIDDLEBURG, Virginia – January 31, 2017 – Major Mark Cann of the British Forces Foundation recently committed to bring a British military polo team to the National Sporting Library & Museum's 7th Annual Polo Classic at Great Meadow on Sunday, September 10, 2017. The British Military Team will take on Team USA in the first match of the day for the Founders Cup.

Major Cann played in last year's Classic alongside Maurice Ormerod, Hector Fair, and Oscar Churton. The British Team lost a close match to Team USA, 4-5. When asked about his team for 2017, Major Cann said he will need to evaluate his opponents and choose players that will be a good match. He will also check who is available to play available to play as most of the team members are active duty in the British military. "We are honored to be asked to play at this year's Classic," said Major Cann. "My priority will be to bring a good, fun team that can win it this year!"

The Polo Classic will take place at Great Meadow in The Plains, Virginia again this year. Great Meadow Polo Manager, John Gobin, is organizing teams to play in both the Founders Cup and the Mars Cup, named in honor of NSLM Board Vice Chairman Jacqueline B. Mars.

Proceeds from the Polo Classic support the NSLM's mission of preserving, promoting, and sharing the literature, art, and culture of equestrian, angling, and field sports. Funds raised in 2016 enabled the NSLM to offer over 70 public programs, host eight art exhibitions, and service more than 10,000 visitors. "The Polo Classic is a celebration of sporting culture and exquisite equestrian athleticism. It is an opportunity for our guests and sporting enthusiasts to experience the exhilarating sport of high goal, international polo in September at Great Meadow," said Polo Classic Chair Juliana E. May.

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Tickets for the NSLM's 7th Annual Polo Classic will be available February 2nd through the organization's website, NationalSporting.org, or by calling the NSLM at 540-687-6542. All proceeds from the event benefit the National Sporting Library & Museum, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

The National Sporting Library & Museum (NSLM) is located in Middleburg, Virginia, the heart of beautiful hunt country. Founded in 1954, the renowned research Library, and fine art Museum highlight the rich heritage and tradition of country pursuits. Angling, horsemanship, shooting, steeplechasing, foxhunting, flat racing, polo, coaching, and wildlife are among the subjects one can explore in the organization's general stacks, rare book holdings, archives, and art collection. The NSLM offers a wide variety of educational programs, exhibitions, and family activities throughout the year, and is open to researchers and the general public. While there is no admission fee to the Library, the Museum charges \$10 for adults, \$8 for youths (age 13-18), and \$8 for seniors. NSLM members and children age 12 and under are free. Library & Museum hours are Wednesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

HI RES PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST



Major Mark Cann plays for the British Military Team in the 2016 Polo Classic.
Photo courtesy of Chris Weber.

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At Players Dinner before the National Sporting Library & Museum's 2016 Polo Classic. From left to right: Maurice Ormerod, Oscar Churton, Nacho Figueras, Jacqueline B. Mars, Major Mark Cann, Hector Fair, and Juan Salinas-Bentley. Photo by Julie Napear



Major Mark Cann (left) accepts the Most Valuable Player award from National Sporting Library & Museum's Board Treasurer Claire Reid (right) at the 2016 Polo Classic Founders Cup awards ceremony. Photo courtesy of Crowell Hadden.

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