



## NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY & MUSEUM

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### **NACHO AND OTHER TOP PLAYERS RETURN TO PLAY AT NSLM POLO CLASSIC**

**MIDDLEBURG, Virginia – May 15, 2017** – Nacho Figueras and other top polo players will return to Great Meadow on Sunday, September 10, 2017 to compete in the National Sporting Library & Museum's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Polo Classic. 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.

Nacho Figueras, John Gobin, Mark Cann, David Greenhill, Bill Ballhaus, and Ashley Van Metre Busch will come back to play in support of the event. "These marvelous players bring class and excitement to compete in the two Cup Matches. Their spirited competition supports NSLM in its many fine exhibitions and programs throughout the year," said Polo Classic Chair Juliana E. May.

Tickets for the NSLM's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Polo Classic are available through the organization's website,

[NationalSporting.org](http://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, by supporting 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 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

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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.

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## HI RES IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST



**Nacho Figueras** was born in Argentina in 1977 and developed a love of horses and the game of polo by the age of nine. When he was 17, Nacho began his professional polo career playing for the hugely successful White Birch high-goal team in the U.S. From there, he has played polo all over the world. Nacho plays for the Black Watch Polo Team in Bridgehampton, New York in the summer and in Palm Beach, FL during the winter season. He returns to his ranch in Argentina during the spring and fall where he has a successful polo pony-breeding program. *(Photo credit: Headshot by Julie Napear; Action shot by Douglas Lees)*



**John Gobin** grew up in Rehoboth, MA. He began playing arena polo in interscholastic competitions at the age of 15 and soon after trained to become a polo player in Argentina. He won the Camacho Cup on the American team against Mexico in 2009 and has competed on the Team USA against Argentina. Gobin has won the U.S. Arena Championships four times. He has been the manager of the Great Meadow Polo Club in The Plains, VA since 2007. *(Photo credit: Headshot provided by Great Meadow; Action shot taken by Chris Weber)*



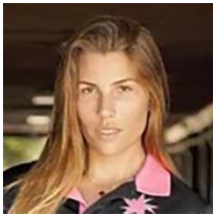
**Major Mark Cann** is the Director of The British Forces Foundation (TBFF) as well as his own Events and PR Company “CU2 Limited.” He is also the Director of The Combined Services Polo Association, which like TBFF is fortunate to have HRH The Prince of Wales as its Patron. He has played in a number of exotic locations including Palermo, Palm Beach, Ghana, India, and Pakistan. He often played with HRH Prince of Wales and his two sons in both The British Forces Foundation and Highgrove teams. *(Photo credit: Headshot derived from image taken by Crowell Hadden; Action shot by Chris Weber)*



**David Greenhill** is the Co-Founder and President of Satcom Direct Communications (SDC), serving the communication needs of military, government, and land-mobile markets. He attended the United States Air Force Academy, and earned a bachelor’s degree in Economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a masters in Philosophy and Theology from Yale University. He is a member of Great Meadow, Banbury Cross, and Palm City Polo Clubs and has trained all over the world including Dubai, Geneva, Paris, and London. *(Photo credit: Headshot provided by Greenhill Winery & Vineyard; Action shot by Douglas Lees)*



**Bill Ballhaus** is a third-generation aerospace engineer by education and has spent the last 15 years leading both publicly traded and privately owned technology-oriented businesses. In 2008, he was named by Forbes as one of America's 21 most powerful CEOs age 40 and under. Bill began playing polo in 2001 and since then has played year round in Virginia, Aiken, Wellington, and Argentina. He competed in the 2015 Sentebale Royal Salute Polo Cup, the Veuve Cliquot Polo Classic in 2014 and 2015, and the NSLM Polo Classic in 2012 and 2013. *(Photo credit: Headshot provided by Beverly Equestrian; Action shot by Chris Weber)*



**Ashley Van Metre Busch**, 26, grew up in Middleburg, VA. She started playing polo at the age of 11 and has played competitive polo in Argentina; Chile; New York; Aiken, SC; Middleburg, VA and England. Ashley, and her Altair polo team, has also competed in several tournaments in Wellington, Florida. Her team has won several tournaments there including the Port Mayaca 14-goal and the International Polo Club (IPC) 12-goal. In addition to being a competitive polo player, Ashley is also a model with Wilhelmina Models, one of the most prominent talent agencies in the world. *(Photo credit: Headshot provided by Ashley Van Metre Busch; Action shot by Julie Napear)*

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