

Rutland Polo Club - March 2010

We are all looking forward to the coming season, hopefully with lots of fun, thrilling games and social activities. Some club members have already started work on their ponies, getting them fit ready for chukkas in April and matches starting on 1st May.

We have a full season planned for 2010.

Tom Collie will be the Polo Manager. Once again he is geared up to help organise all our polo activities and to build on last year's successful season. We are also planning for Henry Browne to help out at chukkas – and to be available on Wednesdays for:

- Group instruction
- Individual lessons
- Pony schooling
- Game theory and tactics

Our social calendar begins with a “Start of Season” party on Friday 30th April and the Rutland Polo Ball on Saturday 15th May. Last year the ball was great fun so please do invite your friends and organise a table before it is too late. Members' lunches will also be arranged on the following days: Sunday 16th May, Sunday 27th June, Sunday 11th July, Sunday 8th August and Monday 30th August.

There will also be various parties at the main tournament weekends – full details on all social events to follow from Henry in due course, and do remember to keep checking the RPC website too!

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Easter Monday 5th April at Edmondthorpe Social Club, 18 Main Street, Edmondthorpe LE14 2JU. There will be food available after the meeting and the bar will be open from 6:00 pm. If you want to eat, Camilla Speed will be providing Bangers and Mash and it will help to pre-book so please contact Julian Deeming (details below) with your orders.

At the AGM, the committee will be reporting on last year's activities, the finances and plans for this year. There will be elections for Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. If you are interested in serving on the committee then please give your nominations to Julian Deeming before 22nd March. The AGM will also be an opportunity to ask the committee any questions, discuss any concerns or club issues and to meet all the members.

Last year we all agreed to have compulsory personal accident insurance. For many this insurance was not really suitable and so this year the committee will recommend that this insurance is not included. This will be discussed at the AGM.

Grounds: Some consider our grounds 1 and 2 to be the best of any of the UK low goal clubs. Of course we recognise this and intend to continue their excellent maintenance. The Number One ground has been renamed The Colonel's Ground in honour of Colonel Gilks. Furthermore, the club is also improving our ground 3 and we overseeded and fertilised it at the end of last season to improve the grass cover.

The HPA fees for 2010 remain at the same levels as for 2009

Paying tournament fees. One of the most onerous and yet most important jobs for the Treasurer is collecting tournament entry fees, especially from visiting teams. This year, when entering a team, the Captain/organiser will have to enter his/her debit or credit card details on the entry form. The tournament fee will then be charged only after the end of the tournament and there will be no charge for a day if the day is rained off. If each team member is paying individually, it will be up to the team Captain/organiser to get the entry fees from the other 3 team members. We want to do this to reduce the huge effort it takes to collect entry fees, which is especially difficult when teams are coming and going all day.

Members' benefits. Our 2010 subscription rates will be ratified at the AGM but we intend to include some extra benefits for playing members such as tournament discounts and these too will be discussed at the AGM.

New to Polo? The club can put you in touch with instructors, pony hire and general advice. Please contact the Secretary, Julian Deeming: contact details below.

Bicycle polo. Last year we had a few very enjoyable (if energetic) sessions organised by Paul Girdham. If enough people are interested, more sessions will be arranged; you only need a bicycle, and non members are most welcome. Contact Paul Girdham on 07860 303 217 or treasurer@rutlandpoloclub.co.uk.

Club members' handicaps. The following member's handicaps changed at the end of the 2009 season:-

Issy Parsons	from	0 to 1
Henry Gilks	from	-1 to 0
Sian Barnacle	from	-1 to 0
Angus Marlow-Thomas	from	-1 to 0
Nick Winterton	from	-1 to 0
Danny Carroll	from	-2 to -1
Shuif Hussain	from	-2 to -1

Well done to all of them.

Contact details:-

Secretary: Julian Deeming secretary@rutlandpoloclub.co.uk 07889 366 043.
Treasurer: Paul Girdham treasurer@rutlandpoloclub.co.uk 07860 303 217
Polo Manager: Tom Collie 0777 204 0668
Henry Browne 07920 521 285