



POLO
LUXURY & Country Life Magazine
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ERIC STURDZA

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22nd Hublot Polo Gold Cup Gstaad

Victory at the 4th attempt for Cédric Schweri

The winning team Banque Eric Sturza (from left to right):
Cédric Schweri, Joao Novaes, Marcos Riglos and Nico Lopez Fuentes



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Four times Cédric Schveri already tried to win the Gold Cup. His father even said it might be easier to just buy one rather than try to win it playing the tournament. But Cédric knew the fifth time would be the right one. With his team Banque Eric Sturdza he finally won the trophy and therefore the most important summer tournament of Switzerland: The Hublot Polo Gold Cup of Gstaad.



POLO

Like most finals, today's game was very tense. Pressure, stress, fear of loosing and like Marcos Riglos, Most Valuable Player, pointed out: "The field was not easy to play on after five games. It was difficult to make the ball roll and to control it. It was not an easy polo to play, but we succeeded anyways. I'm proud to have been nominated as Most Valuable Player but this victory truly was a team effort. I am here for the third time and it is an incredible place. The organization is perfect and the atmosphere great."



Pierre Genecand (president of Hublot Polo Gold Cup Gstaad)



Mohamed El Sewedy (Team Riva) and Nico Lopez Fuentes (Team Banque Eric Sturdza)

In front of 4000 people, a rare number for European polo, the game took some time to get under its way. Multiple faults and time-outs and only 4 goals after two chukkers (2-2). With three goals, one of which by captain Cédric Schveri, Banque Eric Sturdza managed to create a small gap during the third chukker but not for long as Riva nearly closed it in the fourth chukker being only one goal behind their rivals (6-5). The game was not yet settled, but in the last minutes Marcos Riglos and Nico Lopez Fuentes sealed the deal: 8-5.

Team Palace Gstaad at the parade with captain Piero Dillier in front





Match between Banque Eric Sturdza and Hublot: Marcos Riglos, Franckie Menendez, Nico Lopez Fuentes



Joy of victory: Marcos Riglos and Joao Novaes



Cédric Schweri (Team Banque Eric Sturdza) and Eduardo Menendez (Team Hublot)

Ranking

1. Team Banque Eric Sturdza (+14)

- Cédric Schweri (0)
- Joao Novaes (+5)
- Marcos Riglos (+5)
- Nico Lopez Fuentes (+4)

2. Team Riva (+14)

- Mohamed el Sewedy (+1)
- Patricio Rattaghan (+3)
- Marcelo Pascual (+6)
- Silvestre Fanelli (+4)

3. Team Palace Gstaad (+14)

- Piero Dillier / Andy Bihrer (0)
- Lucas Labat (+6)
- Juani Gonzales (+5)
- Gonzalo Bernal (+3)

4. Team Hublot (+14)

- Gualtiero Giori (+1)
- Franckie Menendez (+7)
- Eduardo Menendez (+6)
- Riccardo Tattoni (0)

Cédric Schweri could finally hold the coveted trophy, the big face of a Hublot watch: "I am really happy because this is the result of a lot of work and a big organization. I want to thank Eric Sturdza who believed in us. It was hard." The Swiss captain suffered from an injury during the game as a ball hit his elbow. "I applied some ice spray and could play again but it was really hurting. It was difficult to hold my mallet properly!" But the joy of victory rapidly made him forget the pain. "One thing is for sure, I will come back next year to defend my title!" Team Gstaad Palace claims the third place defeating Team Hublot in the first game of the day. During the first three chukkers the teams were tied, but in the last chukker and within a few minutes Gstaad Palace scored three goals in a row, a gap Hublot could not fill, leaving the final score at 10-7.



Violetta Riglos, daughter of Marcos Riglos