

HUBLOT

POLO GOLD CUP GSTAAD 2025

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BY PASCAL RENAULDON / R&B PRESSE PHOTOGRAPHY JUSTINE JACQUEMOT / R&B PRESSE











TEAMS, SCORES & STATS

FINAL
GSTAAD PALACE
Markus Graeff (0)
Thommy Graeff (3, 2 goals)
Martin Podestá Jr. (7, 4 goals)
Francisco Fucci (4, 1 goal)

ALBINATI AERONAUTICS
Luca Meier (1, 1 goal)
Patricio Gaynor (2)
Santiago Cernadas (7, 2 goals)
Fabian Bolanterio (4, 1 goal)

Progression Gstaad Palace:
1-0 / 3-1 / 6-3 / 7-4

SUBSIDIARY FINAL
KIELDER AGRO GROUP
Antonio Manzano (0, 1 goal)
Juan Pepa (2 penalty goals)
Bautista Bello (4, 1 goal)
Nicolás Pieres (8, 4 goals)

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Jürgen Schröder (0)
Antonio Grabosch (3)
Adrian Laplacette Jr. (6, 5 goals)
Juan Esteban Uribe (5)

Progression Kielder Agro Group:
1-2 / 4-3 / 6-6 / 8-7

Best Playing Pony:
Doma Simoca, 9-year-old grey mare bred by La Irenita, ridden by Martin Podestá Jr.

MVP:
Martin Podestá Jr.

Best Amateur Player of the Tournament:
Juan Pepa, Kielder Agro Group

Top Scorer of the Tournament:
Martin Podestá Jr. – 10 goals

Referees:
Charles Seavill and Oliver Ellis



For 28 years, a highlight of the international polo circuit: the Hublot Polo Gold Cup once again delivered top-level sport in the Swiss Alps, where Gstaad Palace, led by captain Markus Graeff, claimed a commanding victory. In front of an enthusiastic alpine crowd, the team showcased its strength at one of polo's most prestigious mountain tournaments.

The Subsidiary Final

The day began with the subsidiary final at 1:30 p.m., a fast-paced match that contrasted with the tense semifinals. Nicolás Pieres, scoring four goals, found his rhythm and guided Kielder Agro Group to a narrow 8–7 win over Adrian Laplacette Jr. (5 goals).

“This was my first time in Gstaad, and I hope it won’t be the last,” said Pieres. “The place is fabulous, but the field is unique. At first, I struggled to play my usual polo. Once I adapted and played more directly, it worked. If I return next year, I’ll play a very different game.”

The Argentine former 10-goaler now returns to Buenos Aires to prepare for the Argentine Open and the Kazak team’s

Triple Crown campaign. “I’m optimistic,” he added. “It’s a team I really like, and with Pelón Stirling joining, I feel confident.”

Gstaad Palace in Control

The final started cautiously, but Gstaad Palace quickly took control. Their solid defense, orchestrated by Martin “Min” Podestá (7), proved decisive against Albinati Aeronautics. Every player executed his role with precision, beginning with captain Markus Graeff.

At 73, Graeff was the oldest player on the field. “It’s such a pleasure to play here,” he said. “I’m proud of what our team achieved. Polo is a team sport, and everyone played their part. If I’m invited again next year, I’d be delighted to return.”

His son, Thommy Graeff, thrilled the crowd with a spectacular goal that underlined the family’s contribution to the victory.

Awards: MVP and Best Playing Pony

Podestá’s impact was recognized as he was named MVP of the Final. His grey mare,

Doma Simoca, received the Best Playing Pony award.

“She has already won several BPPs, including in the Copa Cámara final,” Podestá explained. “She’s generous, tireless, and easy to ride — I can bring her back into a game several times, and she always gives her best.”

Bred at the prestigious La Irenita stud, Doma Simoca continues a remarkable lineage of outstanding polo horses.

A Unique Alpine Tournament

Beyond the sporting performances, the atmosphere once again set the Hublot Polo Gold Cup apart. Former captains returned as spectators, while loyal fans enjoyed the unique mix of world-class polo and the relaxed alpine setting.

The tournament owes much of its success to Pierre E. Genecand, who has organized it for two decades with Swiss precision, sporting passion, and warm hospitality. Under his leadership, the Hublot Polo Gold Cup has established itself as a distinguished stop on the global polo circuit — a high-level tournament in one of the world’s most beautiful settings.●