



EL-GOUNA BEACH POLO SILVER CUP 2019

IMPRINTING EGYPTIAN POLO ON THE WORLD MAP

By Menna Loutfy

THE TOURNAMENT OF EXCEPTIONAL POLO FEATURED SEVEN MATCHES OVER THE FOUR-DAY PERIOD FROM 24 TO 27 APRIL; WITH FOUR TEAMS COMPRISING LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS IN THE INCREDIBLE OUTDOOR POLO FACILITY IN EL-GOUNA AND THE AMAZING VIEW OF THE RED SEA IN THE BACKGROUND.



Photos courtesy of Cairo Zoom and Haitham Farouk.



Farouk Youness and Patrick Hermès



Celebrity actress Shereen Reda



Farouk Youness and Patrick Hermès during the exclusive reception at La Maison Bleu



Game play - Kings Polo and Mangroovy



Team Mangroovy - Winners



Young students of Kings Polo Academy.

The third edition of Kings Polo Silver cup attracted about 1,000 VIP guests and 1,800 members of the public. One of the very exquisite highlights of this year's edition is the attendance of French sports entrepreneur and polo legend **Patrick Guerrand-Hermès**, the Honorary President of the International Polo Federation and the former chairman of Hermès

*"I've been in charge of world polo and here I encounter beautiful horses and good players. The teams are of a very good level. It's probably one of the best outdoor polo that I've ever seen. The president and founder **Mohamed El-Sewedy** has really done a tremendous job!"*

Patrick Hermès performed some kickoffs during the tournament.

"My very favorite moment in Polo is always the start; when the first ball moves now we know it's on and there's going to be a great show ahead"

He wouldn't have had better company during the tournament than **Farouk Youness**; the former president

of the Egyptian Polo Federation who everyone calls uncle Farouk around the Polo Family, and who is also known as the god father of polo in Egypt.

"An event like this is highly important to the future of polo in Egypt. As you can see there are teams of young players of 7,8,10 and 12 years old. In addition to the participation of women and men; all coming to this world class event." _Farouk said

And because Polo is sport of kings, royalty was another highlight to the tournament, with the presence of her Royal Highness **Princess Kholoud Ben Saud** of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Celebrities of the Polo family like **Hussein Fahmy**, **Shereen Reda** and **Tamer Habib** where also one of the stars shining among the audience.

The first day was the opening of the tournament and at night the polo family and friends gathered on a sizzling BBQ dinner and spent a beautiful night at Mangroovy beach bar.

The second day started with a polo match that carried a lot of excitement and thrill to all the audience. Later at night it was time to suit up for the exclusive reception at **La Maison Bleu**, ElGouna that saw the signing of a partnership between Mangroovy Residence - El Gouna and Campbell Gray Hotels.

On that night the tournament's players were honored, with the pleasure of Patrick Hermès sharing his thoughts about the sport in Egypt

"What's very important is the young starting; who will be the champions of tomorrow. There's a school in Cairo called Kings Polo Academy for the young; that is very well established and I consider this is as a very important step. I really wish I had more of these while I was president. But I am very glad to be here, I love Egypt and this is a great experience."

Day three started with an amazing polo parade in the Marina featuring the championship players and horses with the crowds gathering to enjoy that joyful vibe. At 3 pm the game play started which was quiet a thrill seeing

teams Kings Polo and Mangroovy proceeding to the final round for a glorious clash of kings.

On the final day **Mangroovy team** won the first place, followed by Kings Polo team in second, Afreximbank team in third, and Mercedes-Benz in fourth.

After the winners were named, everyone gathered for an unforgettable night of celebration with performances of world-class entertainers, Tyga, Inna and Nelly. 🎉

