



Santa Barbara Polo & Racquet Club

2021 Robert Skene Memorial

SANTA BARBARA, CA. (July 11th, 2021) The thrilling summer of high goal at the Santa Barbara Polo Club kicked off with the opening tournament, the Robert Skene Memorial. Players from all over the world and horses from all over the country flocked to the club to play the most competitive polo on the west coast. The first two rounds of polo did not disappoint with the six new teams all coming in strong and prepared to play hard. After one week, Klentner Ranch, Lucchese, BenSoleimani.com, and Farmers & Merchants Bank are still in the running to compete for a spot in the upcoming finals on Sunday, July 18th.

The first game of the day kicked off at 10 AM between two evenly matched teams, BenSoleimani.com and Antelope. The first half went back and forth with both teams displaying strong defense and rapid play. The score stayed low with the moving, defensive polo, finishing the first half at 5-4 to Antelope. The second half was a scoring bonanza, with tensions running high as the time wound down. In the last two minutes of play in the sixth chukker, Inaki Laprida made a crucial play to tie the score up. To follow him up, Tomas Alberdi scored an unreal goal to win the match 12-11 to BenSoleimani.com.

At noon, Klentner Ranch and Santa Clara played each other on Field 1. Santa Clara had two substitutes, Felipe Vercillino and Patrick Uretz, to play for Lucas Escobar and Luis Escobar. This change in players changed the dynamic for Santa Clara, which ultimately led the game to go to Klentner Ranch 15-3.

The featured game took place at 4 PM in the US Polo Assn. Stadium between Lucchese and Farmers and Merchants Bank. The two teams exchanged astonishing plays with two highlight goals from each team in the first half. Jeff Hall stole the ball in the second chukker to go the length of the field on a quick chestnut mare to score. Luquitas Criado had an amazing field goal of his own also going coast to coast full speed like a Derby winner. Farmers and Merchant Bank took the lead 8-5 after three chukkers. They extended this lead through the final three chukkers to win this crucial match 18-13.

On Friday, the 16th, the 10 AM game will essentially host a semi-final with the winner going directly to the finals. The other two games will determine the other finalist teams based on records after the game.

About Santa Barbara Polo & Racquet Club

Santa Barbara Polo & Racquet Club is the premier destination for summer polo. Players and Patrons from all across the globe call Santa Barbara their home for the summer, bringing world class polo to the Southern California coast. No spectators will currently gather for matches due to COVID-19. We are taking all precautions during the 2020 season including weekly testing, face-masks, and social distancing. Please visit the Spectator Information page for more information.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit our website, www.sbpolo.com.