



Santa Barbara Polo & Racquet Club

2021 Robert Skene Memorial Final

SANTA BARBARA, CA. (July 18th, 2021) The much anticipated 2021 Robert Skene Memorial took place on the main field at the Santa Barbara Polo Club. Klentner Ranch made it straight through to the finals to compete against father-son team duo, Farmers and Merchants Bank, that qualified after winning the shoot-out. A full crowd arrived at the US Polo Assn Stadium to watch the action, even some celebrities came to cheer the players on. The match did not disappoint and lived up to the high expectations proceeding it. The two teams traded goals, made big bumps, displayed impressive skills, all while maintaining good sportsmanship the entire game.

Klentner Ranch drew first blood of the game with a penalty conversion from Santiago Tocalino. But, Farmers and Merchants Bank wasted no time to use their dynamic team to their advantage and pull into the lead. Luqitas Criado capitalized off a penalty of their own and patron, Daniel Walker, took the ball himself to score two remarkable field goals in a row.

Tocalino rebutted the lead FMB took in the first by achieving four goals in the second. He continued this power polo play which led to another five goals in the third chukker. The strong team captain, Tocalino, helped Klentner Ranch secure a comfortable lead for the first half, ending it at 10-6.

The tides turned for Farmers and Merchants Bank in the fourth chukker after a good pep-talk from coach, Corky Linfoot, and a machine of a polo pony played by Luqitas Criado. 18 year old Criado mounted Rococo for this chukker to start some momentum for his team with two field goals back to back, both equalling spectacular, going the entire length of the field.

This chukker was not quite enough to pull Farmers and Merchants Bank into the lead however, with Jesse Bray and Santi Tocalino holding the team down with four more goals in the fifth and sixth. Farmers and Merchants Bank had their chances with a couple near misses off the field and missed shots from penalties. But, the consistency and accuracy from Klentner Ranch ultimately secured them a victory with a margin of two goals, 15-13.

After a thrilling game, one player and one pony definitely stood out. Santi Toccalino earned the honor of the MVP award for his 12 goals throughout the game. Luqitas Criado's fourth chukker mare, Rococo, got Best Playing Pony for her speed and agility.

This week, the USPA Silver Cup begins with all six teams starting on a fresh plate with the experience of the Robert Skene Memorial under their belt.

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.