



Newsletter, September 30th, 2018

**A GREAT ITALIAN TEAM WINS GOLD AT THE EUROPEAN POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS.
SILVER FOR THE ITALIAN LADIES TEAM**

Thirteen years after winning the championship in 2005 in Amsterdam, Italy has won back the title in the 12th **FIP European Polo Championship–Quantocoin Cup** that came to an end today at the **Villa a Sesta Polo Club** (Ripaltella - Bucine/Arezzo).

In the final match for the gold medal, the **Italian team**, which included **Gualtiero Giori** (captain), **Nicolas Lopes Fuentes** and brothers **Tomas** and **Martin Joaquin**, soundly defeated **Azerbaijan** 8 – 4.



Italy’s victory was never up for discussion as they took a 3-0 lead in the first chukka, with coach **Eduardo Menendez’ team** increasing its lead guaranteeing victory in the third of the four chukkas played. **Nicolas Lopes Fuentes** was the real hero in the match scoring six goals. The other Italian goals were scored by brothers **Tomas** and **Martin Joaquin**.

Media contact: EQUI-EQUIPE by Caterina Vagnozzi
Tel. +39.338.4609287 / +39.06.97271959 / press@equi-equipe.com





Azerbaijan, a team that made its European Championship debut and was the **great surprise** in Villa a Sesta, fought bravely. The skills shown by the 'Land of Fire' team in the four qualifying matches, however, showed their significant technical progress and competitiveness. The Azeris will have an exciting chance to get their own back in two years time at the next **FIP European Polo Championships** that will be played in 2020 in **Azerbaijan**.

In the Ladies final, the **Italian Ladies Team** were able to do little to oppose the powerful German team that won by a convincing 9 - 4 ½ goals.

The girls **Ginevra D'Orazio**, **Ginevra Visconti** and sisters **Vittoria** and **Costanza Marchiorello** – led from the sidelines by coach **Franco Piazza** – fought to the bitter end and won the silver medal. Following last year's gold won in Chantilly, they have now confirmed they are at the top of the ranking for ladies' polo in Europe.

In this **12th FIP European Polo Championship** the bronze medal went to **Ireland** after beating **Germany** 5.5 - 5 in the final for third and fourth place, while the bronze medal in the **2nd FIP European Polo Ladies Championships** was won by **The Netherlands**, who beat **France** 9 ½ - 3.

Facts & Numbers

350 polo ponies in the championship

10 teams playing in the 12th FIP European Polo Championship-Quantocoin Cup

- Group A: Azerbaijan, Ireland, Austria, France and Slovakia
- Group B: Italy, Germany, France, Switzerland and Slovakia

4 teams in the FIP Ladies European Polo Championship

- France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands

10 days of matches

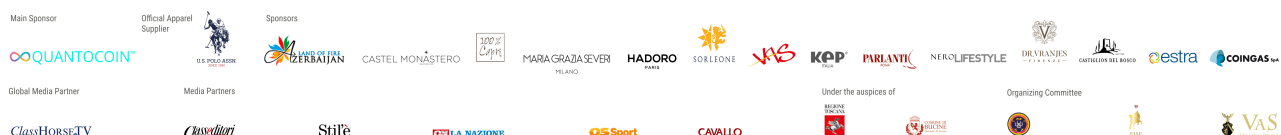
30 matches played

The next **FIP European Polo Championship** will be played in **2020** in **Azerbaijan**

[Click here for results and pictures](#)

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20 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2018 | VILLA A SESTA POLO CLUB - RIPARTELLA PIETRAVIVA, TUSCANY



FIP EUROPEAN POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS

QUANTOCOIN CUP



VAS - Villa a Sesta Polo Club

Founded in 2000, this is one of the best polo clubs in Europe. From the very start, every single project has been planned and implemented with meticulous attention paid to technique, environmental impact and the wellbeing of horses and players.

The VAS has three technically world-class international-sized polo fields (all in Tifton) as well as a practice field. The main no. 1 field measures 260 x 140 metres, field no. 2 measures 245 x 120 metres, and the new Sorleone field (no. 3) measure 276 x 150 metres, with the practice field measuring 120 x 70 metres. Inaugurated in 2017, the "Sorleone" field is not only the largest in Italy but also close to the private lake, an ideal location for drinks and relaxing after matches. The travertine marble grandstand overlooking field no. 1 and a covered and fully equipped 100 square metres large area with an elegant lounge bar make the Villa a Sesta Polo Club an ideal and unique location for international tournaments. The most important event hosted before the 2018 European Championships was the European Play Off for the 2011 World Championships. On that occasion both Great Britain and Spain had also presented their candidature.

Azienda Agricola Tattoni Villa a Sesta Spa

The farm is located in the enchanting setting of the Siena hills, in the heart of Chianti Superiore between Siena, Florence and Arezzo. It is spread over lands of ancient Etruscan origin, near the Ombrone Senese springs, and is an ancient and picturesque village on Chianti's provincial road between San Gusmè and Brolio Castle, in the municipality of Castelnuovo Berardenga (Siena). This estate, which boasts state of the art equipment and significant agricultural production, follows the most ancient Tuscan traditions in wine and olive growing, sectors linked to ancient local customs. The property extends over more than 1,100 hectares of which 55 are reserved for a specialised vineyard.

International Federation of Polo - FIP

Founded in 1982 with headquarters in Buenos Aires, the FIP promotes the organisation and dissemination of polo in the world. Through the work done by national federations, it ensures that rules are respected in all countries in which polo is played, it organises official events such as the European and World Championships as well as sponsoring courses and clinics to encourage the young to approach this sport in a spirit of sporting honesty, friendship, safety and fair play.

Italian Equestrian Sports Federation - FISE

The Italian Equestrian Sports Federation, (FISE), founded in 1926, recognised by the Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI) and a member of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI) as well as the FIP, is responsible for all equestrian sports, including training and competitions as well as recreational and educational activities. As the most ancient equestrian sport, polo is part of this vast range of activities. The Polo Department was founded in 2003.

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