

**Junior Schools National Arena Championships**

**Beginner, Novice & Intermediate**

**Sunday, 4th February 2024**

**Oxford Polo, Kemsley Farm, Akeman St, Bicester OX25 3AA**

**W3W –** [**https://w3w.co/rejoins.slices.dial**](https://w3w.co/rejoins.slices.dial)

**If you are running late please call**

**Caroline on 07889141344 or**

 **Gill on 07887 950414**

We are really looking forward to seeing everyone next Sunday and especially welcoming all our new players. A huge thank you to Oxford Polo for hosting us – please note this site is a work in progress, please park where you are asked to and abide by their rules. Welly boots are recommended.

**VERY IMPORTANT - If you are bringing horses on Sunday 4th you must contact Hector Worsley at** **hector@oxfordpolo.co.uk** **to ensure that there are enough parking and tie up areas – failure to do so will see your lorry/trailers being turned around.**

**Dogs**

If you must bring a dog with you they must be kept on a lead at all times. Owners of dogs who do not keep them on a lead will be fined by Oxford Polo.

**Important Information**

**Please make sure you read all the information in this letter and pass it on to everyone attending (including your horse hirer, coach etc)**

We are paper free and all information for the tournament will be on the “Play Polo App”. Please read the attached document “Instructions for Play Polo App” and scan the code and download the app prior to arrival at Oxford Polo. This is also a brilliant way for anyone unable to attend the event to be able to see how their team is doing!

The ‘Play Polo’ app is available in the App Store for both Android and Apple or you can follow the link here: <https://unitedpolo.page.link/mujE>

**Start Time**

We have spent hours working on the timings for this coming Sunday!

Due to the wonderful number of teams that have entered the tournament we will be starting at 9.30 am with the Junior Novice Lions and Junior Intermediate divisions, which are the two largest divisions.

The remaining divisions are due to start at 12.50, for those of you who are new, we run try to run early, to that end we request that all teams must be on site and available to play at least 1 hour before their start time.

**Important Chukka Info**

All divisions will play 3 x 6 mins chukkas apart from Beginner Swallows who will be playing 4 x 4.5 min chukkas.

On the Play Polo App you will see **the chukka time, this is purely for guidance**, by downloading the App you will be able to see exactly what chukka we are on. If timings change drastically, we will update the app.

We will not be waiting for anyone. Failure to be ready in time will see the other team being awarded a goal for every minute we wait.

It is your responsibility to ensure that your child/children/students are mounted and ready to play a minimum of 1 chukka before they are due to play.

**Warming Ponies Up** – Oxford Polo do have an exercise track, no children may use it without a responsible adult supervising at all times.

**Stewards** – To ensure the smooth running of the day we have a lot of volunteers helping, they will be visible in hi viz vests – please listen to them and always treat them with respect.

**Hats** – Please see the link to the updated hat rules issued by the HPA. All hats must meet HPA requirements and be tagged with the SUPA hat tag, please visit RJ Polo to get this done before getting on any ponies. <https://hpa-polo.co.uk/download/2023-Helmet-Rules-for-HPA-website-v16.pdf>

All hats must be tagged with the blue SUPA tag. Yellow SUPA hat tags are no longer accepted.

**Rules** - Please ensure that you have read the rules on our website <https://www.supa.org.uk/>

**Dress code** – whites, numbered shirts (no hoodies when riding) **knee pads, and long boots or chaps**. Please remember hats must comply with HPA rules. <https://hpa-polo.co.uk/download/2023-Helmet-Rules-for-HPA-website-v16.pdf>

**Prizes** – We would normally run one prize giving at the end of the day but due to the large number of entries we will run 2 prize giving’s. Junior Novice Lions and the Intermediate Division’s prize giving will take place 10 mins after the final of the intermediate division. In front of the control box.

Prize giving for the remaining teams competing will be 10 mins after the final chukka of the day.

Everyone is expected to attend their relevant prize giving.

**Food & Drinks**

The Polo Café will be in the club house serving breakfast, hot drinks, cold drinks and snacks.

We also have the amazing Santina’s Wood Fired pizza with gluten free options too.

So, no need to worry about pesky picnics in this weather!

**Merchandise** – RJ Polo will be in attendance if you require any kit, we recommend you take a look at their website and place and order which they can then bring on Sunday. <https://www.rjpolo.com/>

**Photographer** – Melissa Bastin will be on site as our official photographer.