

FOUNDATION Get involved!

66 Our Vision is for Polo to be played by young athletes in every county in Ireland **77**

HOW IS POLO IN IRELAND FUNDED?

Currently there is no Government funding for Irish Polo. All the clubs are selffinancing. The Polo Foundation has been established to generate funds through securing philanthropic donations, corporate giving and sponsorships.

This money will be used to fund the training of young people to play Polo.

WHERE DO THE FUNDS GO? HOW IS THE MONEY SPENT?

Money is spent on teaching young riders to play and enjoy Polo. The Foundation provides grant funding for Pony Club and junior Polo, schools and universities Polo, women's and girls' Polo and international athletes. We currently have six Polo training centres which are based in Tyrella (Downpatrick), Wicklow, Kildare, Wexford, Waterford and Cork. We wish to expand to the Mid-West and to the West of Ireland,

by getting existing equestrian centres involved in Polo training.

Funding provides for:

- Quality coaching time
- Providing equipment that meet the latest EU standards.
- Subsidising the cost of entry fees, travel costs and accommodation that are currently paid by the players and their families.
- Taking part in Schools and University Polo Association (SUPA) competitions in Ireland, the UK and other countries where Polo is played globally.
- Gaining access to International Training Programmes and competitions.
- Financially assisting the Polo centres who train Irish thoroughbred horses to become Polo horses, to ensure an ongoing supply of Polo horses for the existing and new market

WHAT IS THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE? WHO DETERMINES WHERE AND HOW THE FUNDS ARE SPENT?

We have a Governance committee that takes responsibility to ensure the Foundation operates within the Sport Ireland Governance procedures. This committee works closely with the Board of Directors to ensure that the annual financial budget is reviewed against the policies of the Foundation before approval.

On an ongoing basis there is a detailed discussion and analysis of each programme where the expenditure is challenged and approved. The accounts are audited each year by external auditors. Quarterly updates of the funding levels are sent to

WHERE CAN I GET REGULAR INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENTS OF THE POLO PROGRAMMES?

Everyone who invests in the Foundation and the future of Irish Polo will receive regular updates through our website. We are committed to maintaining a sense of community with all those involved where we can develop a connection with the day to day happenings and successes of the polo players and programmes.

HOW CAN I HELP?

We are seeking financial commitments over a 3 - 5 year period. Our goal is to raise €1 million over a 5 year period.

ARE THERE TAX INCENTIVES AVAILABLE?

Advice will be available from our Tax advisors as requested.



66 Our mission is to bring Polo opportunities to young players through skills development, to achieve maximum potential in competitions at home and abroad 7





You don't need to own a pony to play,
ALL WELCOME!