MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Intercollegiate/Interscholastic (I/I) Committee of the United States Polo Association (USPA) is to promote and grow the sport of polo by providing maximum exposure to the sport; recruiting collegiate and scholastic institutions; coordinating activities of member schools and players; providing for organized competition including sponsoring & administering regional and national tournaments with an emphasis on sportsmanship, fairness and safety; and by effectively utilizing funding for the benefit of I/I activities.
I/I COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Chairman: Liz Brayboy
NHTC: Liz Brayboy, Cindy Halle, Miranda Luna, Danny Scheraga, Robert LynKeeChow, Chris Green
Tournament & Regular Season Committee: Cindy Halle, Danny Scheraga, Robert LynKeeChow, Beth Supik, Emma Blackwood and Steve Armour
Program & Club Sustainability Committee: Liz Brayboy, Carolyn Stimmel, Emmalyn Wheaton, Kareem Rosser, Heather Perkins
Funding & Awards Committee: Miranda Luna, Tom Wisehart, Yaz Grotnik and Lezlie Hiner
Coaches’ Representatives: IC: Mark Tashjian, IS: Jenny Schwartz
Staff:
Amy Fraser - I/I Program Director
Emily Dewey - I/I Tournament Manager
Ali Davidge - I/I Program Coordinator

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION
I/I news, updates and reminders will be posted on the I/I pages of the USPA website, uspolo.org. Please check the website periodically for updates and reminders. Email will also be used extensively. Please be sure to inform Ali Davidge (adavidge@uspolo.org) of any email or phone contact information changes.

I/I COACHES’ REPRESENTATIVES
I/I coaches will elect two coaches to serve on the I/I Leadership Group as Coaches’ Representatives. The Coaches’ Representatives will serve for two years on a staggered basis. Elections will occur every year and one representative will be elected to serve a two-year term each year. Clubs that participated in the current year’s tournament season get one vote to be made by that year’s coach. The coach must be the individual that met the yearly requirements as outlined in the I/I Tournament Conditions section H. Coaches’ Eligibility.

The Coaches’ Representative will serve as the communication portal between the I/I Committee and the individual I/I Coaches. Coaches’ Representatives will collect information from participating coaches and present concerns and ideas to the I/I Leadership Group. Information obtained may be included in the yearly I/I Review. Coaches’ Representatives are expected to participate in weekly scheduled Leadership Group meetings. Coaches’ Representatives may also be asked to lead meetings with the coaches in their respective division to address key topics and procedural changes. Communication items will be handled in the following manner: Zoom meetings, teleconference calls, email blasts, and preliminary/regional tournament meetings.

Coaches’ Representatives:
Mark Tashjian, 2022-2023; Jenny Schwartz 2023-2024

APPEALS PROCESS
All appeals regarding the I/I Program should be submitted to the I/I Program Director at afraser@uspolo.org. The USPA appeals process is outlined in the USPA Tournament Conditions and By-Laws.
### REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

#### INTERCOLLEGIATE

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**SECTION 2**

**USPA I/I TOURNAMENT & GAME INFO**
QUALIFIED GAMES
All I/I teams are required to play a minimum of two qualified games against other I/I teams within their region/division. All I/I Regular season qualified games shall be played following all I/I Tournament Conditions, including use of the USPA Arena Rules, on a split string. Teams have the ability to shorten chukkers and/or take walk breaks as needed for the welfare of the horses. One game may be played out of region for both IS and IC or out of division for IS. Competition is available for Intercollegiate (IC) men, Intercollegiate (IC) women, Interscholastic (IS) girls, and Interscholastic (IS) Open (can be all boys, all girls, or combination of girls and boys) teams.

TIME OUTS AND SUBSTITUTIONS
Teams will be allowed one (1), ninety (90) second timeout per half. Unused first half timeouts will not transfer to the second half. Timeouts will not transfer or be awarded during an overtime shootout. A timeout may be used at any dead ball opportunity or after a goal is scored. A team member must ride to the umpires and indicate that he/she would like to use their timeout, or a coach may get an official’s attention from the sideline in order to call the timeout. Coaches may elect to enter the arena or have their team stand near the coaching area. If a coach elects to enter the arena, they must enter immediately after a timeout is requested. Once teams have converged on their coach, or around their captain if no coach is available, the timer shall begin the count down.

Substitutions may only be made during a timeout. The substitute(s) must be ready to play when the timeout ends. No warmup time shall be given to the substitute(s). A team wanting to substitute during a timeout that they have not called must notify the umpire that they will be proceeding with the substitution process.

The full ninety seconds of a timeout will be available to both teams, regardless of which team initiates the timeout. The end of a time out shall be indicated by a horn or the official’s whistle. In the event teams do not return to the area where play shall be resumed in a timely manner or coaches do not leave the arena within 15 seconds of the horn, the umpires shall blow the whistle to indicate improper play and determine the appropriate penalty assessment.

i. A timeout will not be charged if team members need to switch horses within their string.
ii. A timeout will not be charged if a player needs to fix a part of their tack.
iii. A timeout will not be charged if a player must take an injury timeout. A substitution will not be charged if a player must be brought in to take the place of an injured player.
iv. A timeout will not be charged if a team substitutes during their opponent’s timeout.

SHOOTOUTS
All I/I games must end in a win/loss situation. All ties at the end of regulation play shall be broken by a shootout. Shootout procedures can be found in USPA Arena Rule 5. c. 2.

SPORTSMANSHIP
Given the disparity of the level of experience of our teams there may be games that are played during which the outcome of the game is no longer in question and the score can be lopsided. It is considered poor sportsmanship to “run up the score”. In lieu of instituting a “mercy rule” the I/I committee looks to coaches and the teams to use reasonable judgment and sportsmanship during such games. Examples of ways to limit the disparity in the score of a game can be: replacing players with alternates, lowering the aggressiveness of players, allowing the weaker player on the stronger team to take penalty shots, etc. We believe this can be accomplished without humiliating the weaker team.

SUMMER REVIEW PROCESS (SUMMER DEVELOPMENT SERIES)
This sub-committee is charged with the responsibility of reviewing the existing I/I Program’s organization and the existing Tournament Conditions as listed in the USPA Rule Book, Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Tournament Conditions.

This sub-committee also makes recommendations for changes, additions and/or deletions of the existing Tournament Conditions to the I/I Committee, for endorsement and submission to the USPA Tournament Committee. Upon approval, the USPA Tournament Committee will submit the revised I/I Tournament Conditions to the USPA Board of Governors for approval at the Fall Meeting. Upon approval by the Board of Governors, the Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Tournament Conditions will be included in the Intercollegiate/Interscholastic Information Packet and USPA Rule Book and will become effective immediately.

2023 I/I SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Time Outs & Substitutions: Teams will be allowed to substitute on another team’s timeout without using their timeout that half.

Youth Protection Policy: Coaches and high access indivuduals will be required to read and sign off on the USPA’s Youth Protection Policy.

Interscholastic Scoresheet Early Submittal: Interscholastic teams will have a deadline of December 1st to submit their first scoresheet.
TOURNAMENT SITE SELECTION PROCESS
The National Host Tournament Committee (NHTC), with the help of the I/I staff and Tournament and Regular Season committee, shall select national tournament site locations on a biennial, rotating basis when possible. The I/I staff will initiate the national host site selection process by requesting bids from all I/I teams, coaches, and contacts. USPA clubs desiring to host a National I/I Tournament are encouraged to submit proposals requesting the opportunity. Such proposals should detail past experience in hosting National or Regional I/I Tournaments, facilities presently available as well as future facilities that may be available, tournament horses available for use, and general information about the arena. The application will be sent out to all I/I teams, coaches, and contacts at the end of the I/I season for the subsequent year. The Tournament and Regular Season committee will make the final decision on all regional and preliminary tournament site locations. In the event that multiple locations apply for the same tournament, the Tournament and Regular Season committee will make the decision as to which location is awarded the tournament. Tournament locations will be awarded based on the level of competition anticipated at the tournament and the capabilities of the locations that have applied.

I/I TOURNAMENT SEEDING & ASSIGNMENTS
Preliminary and Regional tournament assignments are completed using scoresheets received on or before the scoresheet deadline.

Preliminary & Regional Seeding considerations:
- Win/loss record within the region up to scoresheet due date
- Records against same opponents: ex. Team A and Team B both play Team C. These games can be compared to figure out where the two teams should fall near each other.
- Games played out of region/division
- Rostered players
- Games played with starting players vs alternates
- Score spread up to 15 goals
- Manager, umpire, and committee member input

Score spreads over 15 goals will not be heavily considered in Prelim and Regional tournament seedings or standings.

With these considerations in mind, the I/I staff puts together their own seedings separately. Once complete, they combine the seedings, reasoning through any discrepancies. Once staff has reached a consensus, seedings and tournaments assignments are sent to the Tournament and Regular Season committee for approval along with all game results and any scoresheets the Tournament and Regular Season Committee may request to review. Once the committee approves, teams are notified of their tournament assignment. The committee reserves the right to adjust their seeding up until the tournament schedule is sent to teams, so all teams are encouraged to submit scoresheets after the scoresheet deadline.

Wildcard Considerations:
All teams participating in a regional tournament will be considered by the NHTC to receive a wildcard. Wildcards may be selected based on the following considerations:
- Availability of appropriate horses
- Ability to advance through the National tournament
- Regional tournament performance
- Regular season performance
- Rostered player information
- Manager, umpire, and committee member input

National Seeding
National tournaments will be seeded using the following information:
- Submitted scoresheets
- Records against same opponents (ex. Team A and Team B both play Team C. These games can be compared to figure out where the two teams should fall near each other)
- Regional performance
- Win/Loss record inter-regional play
- Rostered players
- Total win/loss record up to the NHTC meeting
- Committee member, manager, and umpire input

On an NHTC call all teams and all regional results are presented to the NHTC. Staff and the NHTC work to create the final seeding for the national tournament. Teams are seeded to the best of the NHTC’s knowledge.
- Regional champions and wildcards from the same region are allowed to meet in the National Tournament before the National Championship Final. It is not mandatory that these teams be in separate brackets

D1/D2 Seeding: Teams are required to submit at least one official score sheet by December 1st. These scores along with any additional information available to the Tournament and Regular Season committee such as, but not limited to:
- Strength of season
- Rosters
- Umpire/manager/staff/committee member input

This information will be used to determine which teams will be put into Division I and what teams will play through Division II. Teams will have a one week window to appeal their division assignment once they have been announced.

WORK ROUTINES FOR I/I EVENTS
Teams participating in the USPA I/I Program are expected to share the responsibilities of horse care, game preparations and clean-up at all I/I events. The following is a list of guidelines for work responsibilities of I/I teams at USPA events. Different host locations may require additional or varied responsibilities. The tournament manager will assign work duties as fairly as possible.

All participants in any USPA I/I Tournament/Event shall wear suitable shoes when working around horses. All shoes must be closed toed and closed heeled, as stated in the USPA I/I Tournament Conditions.
All players are required to be respectful of the host facility and to clean up after themselves. Violations and penalties for not complying with work responsibilities shall be determined by the NHTC as listed in the I/I Tournament Conditions.

**Playing Teams’ Responsibilities:**

1. Arrive at tournament center at least 1 hour prior to scheduled game time. Report to tournament manager for string assignment.
2. Brush, wrap and tack horses scheduled to play, including spares and umpire horses (according to horse owner/manager instructions). Typically, each team will tack up eight (8) horses each.
3. Be dressed and ready to mount 15 minutes prior to game time.
4. Mount and warm-up when allowed.
5. Submit horse scores to the Tournament Manager promptly after the game. Horses are to be scored 1-10, 10 being best. Horse scores are used to award Best Playing Ponies and Strings for each tournament.
6. Clean and put away tack of played horses and umpire horses promptly after the game. Each team will be responsible for one string’s tack (eight horses).
7. Work duties are not complete until all horses are fully cared for and you are excused by the tournament manager. (This may include blanketting, watering, feeding, etc.)

**Working Teams’ Responsibilities:**

1. Report to tournament manager 20 minutes prior to scheduled game time for string assignment.
2. Each team will be responsible for one string of horses (6 horses plus the spare) and the umpire horses.
3. Duties include: walking, tack time adjustments, getting spare if needed, untacking and washing.
4. First chukker horses and umpire horses should be in the arena walking 10 minutes prior to game time.
5. Horses should be ready to mount (adjust saddles, check wraps, etc.) and by the arena ingate 2 minutes prior to the end of previous chukker.
6. Give players their mounts in the arena. Keep the ingate area clear to allow horses to enter and exit safely. Keep safe distances when helping players mount.
7. Working teams are required to assist with tack time-outs when your assigned horses are playing. Workers must be ready to enter the arena immediately after tack time has been granted by the umpires.
8. Take horses that just played out of the arena to walk in the designated hot walk area. Horses are to continue walking unless otherwise directed by the tournament manager.
9. After the third and fourth chukkers, strip, wash, and walk your assigned horses until directed to put them away by the tournament manager.
10. Alert the Tournament Manager or Equine Welfare Advocate of any concerns or questions about a particular horse’s well being (i.e. injury, respiratory rate).
11. Work duties are not complete until all horses are fully cared for and you are excused by the tournament manager. (This may include blanketting, watering, feeding, etc.)

**Goal Judging, Score Keeping, Lining the Arena:**

1. A minimum of one goal judge at each goal will be needed. When the whole ball crosses the front plane of the goal line, signal a goal scored by flag, light, or buzzer. Ask the tournament manager or umpires if you have any questions regarding what constitutes a goal before the start of the game.

2. Goal Judges are also required to line the arena once it has been dragged. Lime will be available to mark the center, 25 yard, and 15 yard lines. Be prepared to line the arena 20 minutes prior to game time and again at halftime. Ask the Tournament Manager if you have any questions.
3. Scorekeepers and timers will sit in a designated area. This area is for the announcer, scorekeeper, timer, and tournament officials only. The tournament manager will review procedures as needed.

All students must be excused by the Tournament Manager prior to leaving the host facility.

**SCORE SHEETS**

All aspects of the scoresheet must be clearly and legibly filled in.

- First and last names of all players and umpires must be present
- For a qualifying game, coaches must sign the scoresheet at the conclusion of the game
- If, for any reason, it has been agreed upon before a game begins that it will not be considered qualifying, coaches should not sign or send in the scoresheet to the USPA.

**To use the scoresheet:**

1. Record goals next to player’s name in period scored. Indicate with consecutive letters (i.e. if No. 1 for the team on top of the score sheet scores first then write letter A- if No. 2 on the bottom team scores the next goal then write letter B, etc.). This makes it possible to tell from the score sheet what the score was throughout the game. Use letters listed below as reference- cross letters out as they are used. Two-point goals shall be indicated by a double letter (i.e. if the first shot of the game is two points write AA).
2. Indicate fouls by writing the number of the foul called in the fouling players column (i.e. 1,2,3,4,5a,5b).
3. Circle the letter of any goal scored on a penalty shot.
4. Indicate a player was penalized with a yellow or red card or technical with an * in the period it was issued. Note infraction in space on scoresheet.
5. Timeouts and substitutions must be recorded in the chukker they were used in the line designated for timeouts and substitutions.
6. Complete period and individual totals.
7. Use tally marks to indicate goals scored in a shoot-out. The team which scores more goals in the shoot-out shall be declared the game winner by one goal.
8. Record final score.

At the end of the game, scores must be tallied and confirmed with the scoreboard and umpires. All player and horse injuries should be documented on the scoresheet. Once all items have been filled out, each coach receives a copy of the scoresheet.

Each coach is responsible for keeping their own record of games played and should submit their copy of the scoresheet in the allotted 7-day timeline after a game is played. Scores will be added to the I/I scoreboard in a timely manner. Coaches are encouraged to verify that their games have been added to the scoreboard and contact staff if a game is missing.

If a coach has notes about the game that they would like to relay to staff, they should be added in to the “notes” section of the scoresheet submittal online. Additional notes may include, but are not limited to:

- Whether a starting lineup was used for their team
- If a starting player was injured or fell ill during the game and could not continue
- If a game had to be stopped due to weather or loss of daylight

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- Whether a starting lineup was used for their team
- If a starting player was injured or fell ill during the game and could not continue
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DEADLINES

Oct 3: Intent to Compete (IS/IC)
Tentative Rosters (IS/IC)
Coaching Requirements (IS/IC)
Host Club Form (IC)

Nov 14: IC Full Time Student check form

Dec 1: I/I Magazine Advertising deadline
Tournament Entry Fee (IS/IC)
Minimum 1 Official Scoresheet (IS/IC)
Individual Player Forms (IS)
Final Team Roster (IS)
Rules Test (IS)

Jan 1: USPA Club Dues & USPA Membership Dues

Jan 3: Second Scoresheet Deadline (IS)

Jan 31: Second Scoresheet Deadline (IC)
Intercollegiate Registrar Form
Intercollegiate Team Eligibility Form
Rules Test (IC)
Final Team Roster (IC)

TBD: IC Full Time Student check (if advancing to nationals)

May 15: Interscholastic Varsity Letter Application

May 31: Intercollegiate Scholarship Application

June 1: 2024 Host Site Application

October 1: Intercollegiate Funding Application

Rolling: I/I Fundraising Application

Rolling: Regular Season Umpire Support Application

SPORTS ENGINE

All paperwork for the Middle School League and Intercollegiate/Interscholastic program will be run through the SportsEngine site. All players (or their guardian) will need to sign up for a SportsEngine profile. Coaches will have access to all player forms submitted for their team through their team page on SportsEngine. Registrations will be available at https://uspoloregistration.sportngin.com and https://www.uspolo.org/association/programs/intercollegiate-interscholastic.
Hardship is defined as:
objective evidence, for reasons that are beyond the control of the player.
Waiver Sub-committee for reasons of “hardship.” This waiver may be granted, based upon
An interscholastic player may be granted an additional year to the age limit by the Hardship
INTERCOLLEGIATE
extend past six consecutive years in which to complete playing eligibility.
Any request for a hardship waiver will not supersede other Tournament Conditions and eligibility
requirements, such as age and standing with the college/university, and will not in any case
A waiver cannot be granted such that it would allow a player to play past the age of 20.
Guidelines:
A player must not have competed in nor been on the official score sheet of more than two qualified
games during the season the waiver is requested for.

HARDSHIP WAIVERS
INTERCOLLEGIATE
An intercollegiate player may be granted an additional year of competition by the Hardship
Waiver Sub-committee for reasons of “hardship.” This waiver may be granted, based upon
Guidelines:
A player must not have competed in nor been on the official score sheet of more than two qualified
games during the season the waiver is requested for.

INTERCOLLEGIATE
An interscholastic player may be granted an additional year to the age limit by the Hardship
Waiver Sub-committee for reasons of “hardship.” This waiver may be granted, based upon

Guidelines:
A player must not have competed in nor been on the official score sheet of more than two qualified
games during the season the waiver is requested for.
I/I LOGO POLICY
The United States Polo Association, and the I/I Program, reserve the right to use and distribute the I/I Logo(s) in their sole discretion. For use of promotional material by USPA member teams, the Long logo shown below may be used with USPA’s approval, with written instructions to recipients as to how to properly use the logo.

Guidelines:
1) The logo may not be changed or altered in any way;
2) The logo may not be affixed to an article of any other competing brand (eg: Ralph Lauren, NIKE, La Martina).
3) The logo may not be affixed to any item deemed ill-natured or not in good taste; (ie: obscene or hateful imagery)
4) Any article or product that logo is affixed to may not be sold.
The logo may be used for promotional materials, such as flyers, handouts, programs, provided that the material has written prior approval from the USPA.
The logo may be affixed to a jersey or jacket of the team it is representing, following the above guidelines.

The I/I Patch Logo (below left) is reserved for official use by the USPA only.
The I/I Long Logo (below middle) will be available to USPA teams.
The NIC Logo (right below) may be used for purposes related to the National Intercollegiate Championships.

INTERSCHOLASTIC VARSITY LETTER
Varsity Player Letter Requirements per interscholastic season:
• Completed Varsity Letter application
• High School Student - grades 9-12
• Active member of an existing interscholastic program
• USPA Member
• Meets all USPA Interscholastic eligibility requirements
• Logged a total of at least 100 hours of riding, stick & balling, practice and/or game time during the current I/I season
• Played in at least 4 USPA I/I Regular Season games during the current I/I season
• Played in USPA Interscholastic Preliminary, Regional and/or National Tournament during the current I/I season
• Be able to demonstrate a high proficiency in horsemanship, playing ability, skill and arena polo strategy
• A letter from his/her coach acknowledging participation, completion of the above requirements, and noting of any special awards/accolades, ie: Honor Roll, preliminary, regional and/or national sportsmanship & all star awards.

Those who submit a completed application and meet all of the above requirements will be awarded a Varsity patch for the initial year, a letter of recognition from the USPA, and subsequent pins for each additional years earned.
INTERCOLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
The 2023 USPA Intercollegiate Scholarship Fund consists of $100,000 available to award six (6) new $4000 each year.

**Requirements**
- A. Applicant must be a current USPA member in good standing.
- B. Applicant must be or have been an active team member of an interscholastic polo program, competing in at least two of four years of their high school career, with priority going to players who competed in their senior year, as proven by appearing on their team’s USPA official IC Team Roster and on USPA I/I Official score sheets for that team, in an official Qualified game, in which the Applicant played, for each year.
- C. Attending a college or university with an existing intercollegiate polo program.
- D. Applicant must be an active team member of an intercollegiate polo program, as proven by appearing on their team’s USPA official IC Team Roster and appear on, at least 1 USPA I/I Official score sheet for that team, in an official Qualified game, in which the Applicant played, in the current academic year. Current intercollegiate players must also meet the interscholastic polo requirement.
- E. GPA Requirement of: 3.0
- F. In good standing with their college or university.
- G. Two non-relative letters of recommendation:
  - a. One from a registered USPA Member attesting to students: Polo skills, horsemanship, sportsmanship and character
  - b. One from a community member: eg: Teacher, employer.
- H. Essay: 250 words or less, describing a polo experience of choice.

**Selection Process**
- A. Applications will be accepted between April 1 – May 31 of each year.
- B. Only completed applications will be accepted.
- C. Scholarships will be awarded at the start of the Spring Semester of that academic year.
- D. Awards will be chosen via a blind committee organized and chosen by the Scholarship Management Company.
- E. Players will be selected based on 1) Contribution to the sport to include: Playing ability, Horsemanship, and Sportsmanship. 2) Academics 3) Community Service & Character. The management company will utilize a weighted scale, provided by the USPA Intercollegiate Scholarship Task Force.

**Renewable**
Awards are renewable up to three years or until a bachelor’s degree is earned, whichever occurs first, on the basis of:
- A. USPA Member
- B. Active participant on the intercollegiate polo team. Recipient must be an active team member of an intercollegiate polo program, as proven by appearing on their team’s USPA official IC Team Roster and appear on, at least 1 USPA I/I Official score sheet for that team, in an official Qualified game, in which the recipient plays, in the current academic year
- C. In Good USPA standing
- D. In Good academic standing
- E. GPA: 3.0

START UP & ENHANCEMENT FUNDING (IC ONLY)
This document defines the I/I Start-up & Enhancement Program’s intent and purpose, creates the priorities for this fund and outlines an application process. In short, the I/I Start-up & Enhancement Program (I/I S&E) is designed to support projects that:
- Support new Intercollegiate Programs
- Enhance existing Intercollegiate Programs

**The 2022 I/I S&E Funds are available to fund:**
- A. Items such as tack, equipment, mallets, balls, etc
- B. Special ‘need’ items to be approved on a case by case basis (i.e. advertising assistance for fund raising projects that help sustain a program)
- C. Equine Welfare equipment such as Kinsey Leg Brace, Rescue Glide (Cap $2000.00)
- D. All approved items must be reimbursable
- E. The I/I S&E is not available to fund:
  1. Travel Expenses
  2. Transportation of horses
  3. Arena/Horse Rentals
  4. Personal Items
  5. Clinics, Coaches, etc
  6. Arena Building/Improvements
  7. Horse Care/Feed/Board
  8. Team Jerseys
  9. Helmets
  10. Whips & spurs

**Application Guidelines**
This fund will be used as a tool to accomplish the USPA stated goal of supporting those Intercollegiate schools and clubs in need.
- A. The club requesting funds must be a current USPA Club in good standing.
- B. The I/I S&E project must be aimed at the intercollegiate level.
- C. The I/I S&E project must benefit the greatest amount of polo players possible.
- D. A detailed itemized list of requested items, including costs, must accompany the application.
- E. A cap amount of the following items has been issued:
  - 1) Travel Expenses
  - 2) Mallet - $100
  - 3) One Box (10) of Arena Balls/ $160.
  - 4) Complete Polo Bridle - $350
  - 5) Knee Pads - $120.
  - 6) Bits - $100
Approval notifications will be sent on or about November 1st. There will be deadlines and decisions made on an annual basis. Funding requests will be reviewed and approved by the USPA Chief Operating Officer for approval. Form W9 will be required for submission along with the request for reimbursement. Please note that reimbursements can only be made to US Citizens or domestic corporations.

STAY UP & ENHANCEMENT FUNDRAISING
The I/I Start-up & Enhancement Fundraising Program (I/I S&E) is designed to support projects that:

- Support new I/I Programs
- Enhance existing I/I Programs

The 2022 I/I S&E Fundraising Funds are available to fund:

- • Enhance existing I/I Programs
- • Support new I/I Programs

Funding of all I/I S&E applications will require the approval of the USPA Chief Operating Officer. The Chief Operating Officer approving I/I S&E funding will disclose any conflicts of interest and be required to sign the “USPA Disclosure Document” provided as an addendum to these I/I S&E Guidelines.

Application Guidelines
This fund will be used as a tool to accomplish the USPA stated goal of supporting those I/I schools and clubs in need.

A. The club requesting funds must be a current USPA Team in good standing.
B. The I/I S&E project must be aimed at the intercollegiate/interscholastic level.
C. The I/I S&E project must benefit the greatest amount of polo players possible.
D. A detailed explanation of the fundraising event, including an itemized list of requested items, including costs, must accompany the application. The explanation must show expected profit.
E. Applications may be submitted using the online form under the fundraising page on the USPA website (www.uspolo.org) or at any time during the year or by emailing Ali Davidge at adavidge@uspolo.org.
F. Applications must be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the event, to ensure complete review by the committee or 6 month period if considering a tier I project.
G. All applications are reviewed by the I/I Funding & Awards Committee on a rolling basis and will be approved on a first come, first served basis. The committee reserves the right to have any additional comments and/or supporting supplements.
the program re-submit applications to include further detail or information.

H. Funds are available for the calendar year.
I. Individuals associated with the application must be available to answer questions concerning the request.
J. The USPA will strive to distribute I/I S&E funds across geographical regions of the United States.
K. Distribution of I/I S&E funds shall be market driven, not pre-determined.
L. To receive I/I S&E fundraising funds clubs must be active participants in the I/I program-including participating in the regular and tournament season. Clubs new to the organization will work with staff and be approved at the discretion of the committee.

I/I Startup & Enhancement Fundraising Approval Process

USPA Staff will review applications to ensure that applications are complete and fit outlined criteria. Only completed and timely applications will be forwarded to the USPA I/I Funding & Awards Committee for evaluation. This committee is responsible for review and endorsement of I/I S&E applications. Applications endorsed by the committee will be forwarded to the USPA Chief Operating Officer for approval.

Funding of all I/I S&E applications will require the approval of the USPA Chief Operating Officer. The Chief Operating Officer approving I/I S&E funding will disclose any conflicts of interests and be required to sign the “USPA Disclosure Document” provided as an addendum to these I/I S&E Guidelines.

Managing Funded Projects

Approved I/I S&E funds must be utilized by the I/I S&E applicant within the calendar year of the date of the I/I S&E application approval, unless specified in the approved I/I S&E application; or unless a time extension is recommended by the Supplemental Funding Sub-Committee and approved by the USPA Chief Operating Officer. Any allocated funds not requested for reimbursement will remain in the USPA I/I S&E Fund for reallocation to other I/I S&E application funding requests.

The USPA will issue funding based on receipt of approved I/I S&E expenses with receipts submitted for reimbursement to the USPA and no I/I S&E funds will be issued “up front.”

Application Process

The I/I Funding & Awards Committee will receive and process applications throughout the year. Fundraising requests will be reviewed and received on a rolling basis. Funding requests will be reviewed by the Funding & Awards Committee and approval notifications will be sent if approved.

The I/I S&E Application must include:

1) Reasons for needing funding;
2) How funds will enhance the program by increasing members;
3) A detailed list of items to be purchased with individual cost breakdown;
4) Acknowledgment of the responsibility to submit I/I S&E Reimbursement forms;
5) A detailed explanation of the fundraising event, including an itemized list of requested items, including costs, must accompany the application. The explanation must show expected profit.
6) Sponsoring Club or USPA Committee endorsement: If an application is sponsored by a Club, then the Club Delegate should be listed in the application as either an applicant or at least listed as a reference complete with contact information. USPA Committee endorsements in the application must include the Committee Chair as either an applicant or reference;

7) Any additional comments and/or supporting supplements.

Use of IRS Form 1099

Also note that the United States Polo Association is required to issue IRS Form 1099 at the end of each calendar year according to rules set by the Internal Revenue Service. Issuance of a Form 1099 does not necessarily mean the funding amount is income that is taxable to the recipient. You need to make that determination which may require professional advice from your own tax professional. The United States Polo Association cannot offer such advice.

Form W-9 will be required for submission along with the request for reimbursement. Please note that reimbursements can only be made to US Citizens or domestic corporations.

I/I S&E Fundraising application is available on the USPA website (www.uspolo.org) as an online form.

UMPIRE SUPPORT

Funding is available for certified umpires for regular season games. Teams may request an umpire by contacting Bradley Biddle bbiddle@uspolo.org and include the teams, dates and location of the event. Requests and approvals are based on quality of games, national seeding, number of games, and availability of umpires. Requests must be made at least three weeks prior to the event.

USPA I/I MAGAZINE

The I/I Magazine is an annual publication and year book for the I/I Program. Teams are welcome to take out an ad in the I/I magazine to promote their club. Many teams solicit local businesses, family and friends to put in a good luck ad that both promotes the team and program. The Magazine gets distributed to all I/I tournaments throughout the year and gets mailed with Polo Players’ Edition to the entire USPA Membership.

ADVERTISING RATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Advertisement</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Back Cover</td>
<td>$2000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inside Back Cover</td>
<td>$1250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inside Front Cover</td>
<td>$1250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Page</td>
<td>$850.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Third Page</td>
<td>$400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Card-1/6 Page</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INTERNATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE CHALLENGE CUP

USPA I/I and SUPA Britain have been competing for the International Intercollegiate Challenge Cup since 2013, each year rotating which country hosts the event. When in the states, the event is hosted in conjunction with the Townsend Cup and while in England, during their Universities National event. Players apply for the opportunity to compete on the USA team and a selection committee is formed of umpires, managers, and committee members. Team members are selected based on a previously agreed upon handicap level by tournament management. Sportsmanship, horsemanship, and playing ability are all factors to selection, as well as getting a good representation of different schools and regions. Applications are available online, during the fall semester.
SECTION 5

SAFETY

AAAN HEAD INJURY SUMMARY

The following guidelines were adopted from the American Neurology Academy (AAAN) by the USPA Safety Committee and outlines recommended return to polo guidelines following a head injury.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concussion</th>
<th>Incident #</th>
<th>AAAN Guidelines (adopted)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRADE I</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No loss of consciousness</td>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>20 minutes s/s free at rest/exertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Amnesia</td>
<td>Second</td>
<td>1 week symptom free @ rest/exertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Bell Rung”</td>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Terminate Season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confusion</td>
<td></td>
<td>Return allowed in 3 months if cleared by MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRADE II</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No loss of consciousness</td>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>1 week symptom free @ rest/exertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confusion with amnesia</td>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Must be cleared by qualified Medical Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Third</td>
<td>2 weeks symptom free @ rest and exertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Must be cleared by qualified Medical Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Scanning if indicated (residual s/s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Terminate Season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Complete Neurological work up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRADE III</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of consciousness</td>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>Brief LOC: 1 week symptom free at rest and exertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Second</td>
<td>Prolonged LOC: 2 weeks following resolution of signs/symptoms at rest and exertion:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Third</td>
<td>Clearance by medically qualified personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Neurological consult and clearance required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

USPA YOUTH CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

In the event a player receives a blow to the head from either falling from their horse or otherwise, player will be inspected by the onsite EMT/EMS. If the onsite EMT/EMS concludes or suspects that a player has suffered a concussion, the player shall be removed from play immediately and will not be allowed to return to play in the tournament until such time as the player has been examined by a non-relative medical physician at a hospital, medical facility or the physician’s office, and the physician has confirmed, in writing, the player’s good health and ability to safely return to play.

I/1 INJURY PROTOCOL

In the event a player receives an injury during the game from either falling from their horse or otherwise, player will be inspected by the onsite EMT/EMS. The on-site EMT/EMS must clear the player by communicating directly to the on-site tournament manager for the player to continue to compete in the game. If the onsite EMT/EMS communicates to the on-site tournament manager that the player may not continue, the player shall be removed from play immediately and will not be allowed to return to play in the tournament until such time as the player has been examined by a non-relative medical physician at a hospital, medical facility or the physician’s office, and the physician has confirmed, in writing, the player’s good health and ability to safely return to play. If the onsite EMT/EMS refuses to communicate his or her findings with the on-site tournament manager or an onsite EMT/EMS is not present, the player’s parent/guardian, or their team coach, if a parent or guardian is not present, must clear the player to continue by communicating directly to the on-site tournament manager.

Dr. Thorkild Vad Norregaard, Chairman
USPA Safety Committee
LIGHTNING POLICY

Games shall be suspended once lightning has been recognized or thunder is heard. Games may resume 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard. Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count shall reset the clock, and another count shall begin.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event of predicted inclement weather, the NHTC, with advice from the tournament host site, may change a tournament location up to one day before the tournament is scheduled to begin.

If the tournament dates have already been reached, the tournament HTC and host site contact will have the authority to alter game times to avoid inclement weather or allow for facilities to drain.

If tournament games have already been completed, every effort should be made to finish the tournament at the host site. Options include, but are not limited to:
- Moving game times
- Switching game days
- Extending the tournament
- Re-scheduling the tournament
- Moving a final game to the next level tournament
- Changing tournament format (i.e. round robin to single elimination)

If a tournament game is to be canceled and is unable to be re-scheduled, at least two chukkers must have been played to determine a winner.

If it is deemed that an arena will not be suitable to play in, the tournament will be moved to the closest available arena.

STUDENT EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

This form is being provided to I/I Teams for their use only. It is not required to be submitted to the USPA. It is intended to assist schools and clubs with obtaining any medical information deemed necessary.

The USPA encourages programs to obtain emergency contact information on all players and to retain this information for their use if it becomes necessary.

Student’s Name: ____________________________

Date: ____________________________

Emergency Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Home#</th>
<th>Work#</th>
<th>Cell #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Cell #</th>
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Student’s Insurance Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Insurance Provider</th>
<th>Policy Holder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group Number</th>
<th>Policy Number</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

Other Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Physician</th>
<th>Physician’s Telephone #</th>
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</thead>
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<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dentist</th>
<th>Dentist’s Telephone #</th>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other</th>
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</table>

This Form identifies the Player’s medical providers, and provides their telephone numbers. Because you, as the Player’s coach/advisor, will likely be on site in the event that medical treatment becomes necessary, the USPA believes it to be prudent to supply you with this Form and the information listed thereon. Although the Form is being provided to you by the USPA, be advised that the USPA takes no position on whether the information provided in the Form by the Player is accurate, complete or current. Further, be advised that the USPA has not taken any action subsequent to having received the Form from the Player to determine its accuracy, completeness or whether the information is current. If you deem it appropriate, your school or club, should take any and all additional steps and measures to ensure that the Player’s medical information is accurate, complete and current, including verifying whether the contact information for the Player’s medical providers is correct.
SECTION 6
MOUNTS & EQUINE WELFARE

SPLIT STRING FORMAT FOR I/I EVENTS

All I/I Tournaments and Qualified Games will be played using a “Split String”. The intent and purpose of mandating split horse strings in I/I Polo is to create a fair opportunity for both teams to play the same horses under the same conditions. Therefore, all horses shall use the same tack as originally issued in the first period of the game they are played. All tack shall remain the same throughout the entire game except in the case of breakage, in which case similar type tack must be provided (i.e. gag for a gag, pelham for a pelham). Draw reins and straight reins must also stay consistent.

It shall be determined whether whips and spurs are allowed on all mounts prior to the start of the game. This determination must stay consistent for both teams (i.e. if spurs are not allowed on a particular mount in the first chukker, then spurs will not be allowed on that mount in the third chukker).

A string is made up of six horses, plus spare(s). Each string plays two chukkers - one chukker for Team A, one chukker for Team B. Strings will have a chukker of rest between playing.

The horse owner/manager shall balance each string as accurately as possible, so that neither team has a horse advantage in any given chukker. Team A plays three of the horses while Team B is playing the other three horses within a string. For example, the handiest horses should be placed opposite one another as should the two best bumpers or the two slowest or two hottest horses.

Split String Forms are provided in the I/I Info Packet or can be obtained from the USPA. Split String Forms shall be used at all USPA I/I Tournaments.

• A string consists of 6 to 9 horses.
• All strings used in a tournament will be published prior to the start of the event (i.e. at team meeting).
• Tournament management will make all efforts to establish a two string system for all tournaments so as to allow a string from each semi-final to advance to the final game, giving each team in the final an opportunity to have played one of the strings.
• Tournament management and horse providers will make best efforts to keep horses consistent from the semis to the final games.

The following information is required on the Split String Form:

1. Event: Name of the event
2. Match: The two teams competing
3. Date, Time, Place: Include host location
4. Horse string owners: In tournament play, one string will generally come from one team, one string from another team.
5. Horse names: Balanced horses shall be placed opposite each other.
6. Position: The horse owner shall recommend the position horses should play, although it is not required to line the horses up in that order (i.e. some horses do not line up in the #1 position for throw-ins).
7. Spare(s): The string’s substitute horse to be used in case a horse within that string needs to be replaced. For purposes of keeping strings balanced, up to two spares may be designated per game. Each spare will be clearly defined on the split string sheet, prior to the coin toss, as to which position (1, 2 or 3) it is a spare for. Once one spare is used, the remaining horse becomes the spare for the entire string. Substitutions are at the discretion of the tournament/event manager with consideration of all factors, including input from the string owner/manager and Equine Welfare Representative.
Procedure for determining order each team plays the strings of horses:
The Tournament Manager conducts two coin tosses before the game to determine the order in which all horses play and the order in which each team rides those horses.

Toss 1: Determines which string plays in 1st and 3rd, which string plays in 2nd and 4th chukkers (i.e. the manager states that if the coin comes up heads, String 1 will play in the 1st and 3rd chukkers. If heads comes up, String 1 would play in the 1st and 3rd chukkers, String 2 in the 2nd and 4th chukkers). The coin lands tails, String 2 would play in the 1st and 3rd chukkers, String 1 in the 2nd and 4th chukkers). Both sets of chukker boxes are then filled out accordingly. No spurs/No whip boxes shall also be checked.

Toss 2: Determines the order in which each team plays the strings (i.e. the manager states that if the coin lands heads, Team A will play the horses in the order of the top box. Team B would play the horses in the order of the bottom box. If the coin lands tails, the teams would play the reverse of this). Team names shall be entered above the appropriate chukker boxes. The USPA Split String Forms are printed in triplicate. The event manager retains the original and gives each team a copy.

SPARE HORSE PROCEDURE
In the event a spare needs to be brought into the game, the manager will conduct a coin toss to determine which team will ride the spare and which team will ride the horse in the direct opposite position of the removed horse as listed on the split string sheet (i.e. If a horse playing in the #2 position is removed from the game, the tournament manager will flip to see which team rides the spare and which team rides the horse in the other #2 position. The manager will state that if the coin comes up heads, Team A will ride the spare. If the coin comes up heads, Team A plays the spare, and Team B plays the horse opposite, as listed on the Split String Form, regardless if Team B has already played the horse. If it comes up tails, Team B would play the spare and Team A would play the horse opposite). The spare remains with the string as determined by this coin toss. In the event the spare comes in during the first half, the spare remains in that designated string for the duration of the game.

BEST PLAYING PONY & BEST PLAYING STRING
Horse scores are used to determine the Best Playing Pony and Best Playing String at all USPA I/I Tournaments - a way in which to recognize the outstanding horses that play our sport. Split String Forms have a box in which horse scores are to be entered.

The Tournament Manager or designated individual will collect horse scores from all players, after each chukker or at half-time and at conclusion of game (to be stated at start of tournament). Horses shall be scored 1 - 10, 10 being the best score. The tournament manager/RHTC reserves the right to request more accurate horse scores if, in their opinion, a player or team is manipulating the scoring in any way.

The horse receiving the highest average score shall be named Best Playing Pony (BPP) of the tournament. Horses must have played at least two games in the tournament to be eligible for BPP. IC tournaments will award a men’s and women’s BPP. Any ties will be broken by a random draw. All total scores of horses within a string shall be added and divided by the number of games played by that string. The string with the highest average shall be named Best Playing String (BPS) of the tournament. String must have played at least two games in the tournament to be eligible for BPS. IC tournaments will award a men's and women's BPS.

PROTOCOL FOR CHUKKER BREAKS AT I/I EVENTS
When needed, chukker breaks will be taken at I/I events. The protocol (established by the I/I NHTC) for these breaks is as follows:

- Chukkers will be divided by a walking break (rest for horses) approximately half-way through the chukker. At a natural break in play (i.e. goal scored, penalty, tack time-out) the timekeeper shall alert the umpires that it is approximately half way through the chukker (3 to 4 minutes remaining in the chukker). This can be done by quick horn or bell.
- The umpires will assess the horses and make the decision as to whether the break will be taken at that time.
- In chukkers 1 and 2, a break of at least 2 minutes shall be taken. In chukkers 3 and 4, a break of at least 3 minutes shall be taken.
- Length of break will be tracked by the time keeper and umpires will confirm whether the break is over or if more time is needed.
- Players will remain on their horses unless directed by the umpires to dismount.

This protocol will be utilized at all I/I Tournaments and in all games of those tournaments unless the NHTC, or Tournament Committee and Umpires, deems breaks are unnecessary in any particular game. The topic will be discussed by the NHTC, or Tournament Committee and Umpires, with advice from the horse providers and the Equine Welfare Representative and ruled upon by the NHTC, or Tournament Committee and Umpires, prior to the start of each game. The NHTC, or Tournament Committee and Umpires, can enact the protocol at any time.
PRE TOURNAMENT HORSE INSPECTION
All horses appearing in a USPA I/I Preliminary, Regional, or National tournament, playing or umpiring, must provide proof of a negative coggins test if required so by state law and a current health paper to the USPA two weeks prior to the start of the tournament. Coggins and Health Papers need to be current through the completion of travel at the end of the tournament.

All horses will be scheduled for a Pre-Tournament Horse Inspection to be completed by the onsite veterinarian and any HTC members present. Horses will be Body Condition Scored (Henneke Scale), checked for soundness and vision. Horses must be within the 4-6 range on the BCS to be allowed to compete and/or umpire. Any horse(s) the veterinarian and/or HTC deems unfit to play, will be removed from the string and will not be eligible for string or travel reimbursement. Strings will be scheduled to appear at the arena prior to the start of the tournament for their inspection. Estimated time for 1 string of 8 horses is 30 mins. All horses from one string will be led into the arena. One at a time, horses will be presented to the committee, for BCS scoring, and verification of coggins and health papers. At completion of visual and Body Condition Scoring, horses will then perform a jog. Trotting in a straight line away from the committee, a left hand turn, straight past the committee, to a right hand turn, back to the committee. At completion, horses will remain in the arena, until the entire string has been evaluated.

LIMITED HORSE PROCEDURE
In the event spare horses have been used during a tournament game and more spare horses are needed to complete the game, the Host Tournament Committee may elect to use:
> Suitable un-used spares for previously played games.
> Umpire horses from previous games that are suitable for the level of play.
> Qualified tournament horses that are on site, but not scheduled for the tournament.

For a horse to be qualified, it would need to have the appropriate paperwork (negative Coggins result, health paper) and pass a jog by the tournament veterinarian.

If no suitable spare horses can be found to complete the chukker or game, the HTC may decide to continue to play the chukker or game 2v2. The horse opposite the horse being removed on the string sheet will also be removed from the game, and teams will finish the chukker(s) 2v2. The competing teams will decide which of their players will continue in the chukker without being charged for a timeout or substitution. If a player has been ruled out of the chukker or game by the officials, they are not eligible to be selected to play in the 2v2 chukker(s).

HORSE PROVIDER PAYMENTS
Horse providers who have a team entered in the tournament:
Preliminary: $TBD/string/game Regional: $TBD/string/game National: $TBD/string/game
Umpire horse: $40/game
Shipping: $TBD/mile/string/round trip

Horse providers who do not have a team entered in the tournament:
Preliminary: $TBD/string/game Regional: $TBD/string/game National: $TBD/string/game
Umpire horse: $40/game
Shipping: $TBD/mile/string/round trip

I/I SHIPPING GUIDELINES:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Travel Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 100 miles</td>
<td>2 hours before game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 to 200 miles</td>
<td>4 hours before game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 to 300 miles</td>
<td>12 hours before game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 to 600 miles</td>
<td>24 hours before game</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If shipping over 600 miles - a request must be sent to Emily Dewey at edewey@uspolo.org at least two (2) weeks before the scheduled tournament date. A detailed, round trip travel plan must be included, outlining travel times, layovers for horses to be off of the trailer, and planned travel dates. All requests will be sent to the NHTC for approval.

At the completion of the tournament horses should be given time to recuperate following their last game and before their return shipment.

I/I HORSE USAGE GUIDELINES

Nationals: Horses will not be played on consecutive days.

Regionals: If horses played on consecutive days, to have at least 16 hours off. No horses will be played three consecutive days.

*NHTC reserves the right to adjust as appropriate based on the level of tournament play.
Body Condition Score Chart

Areas of emphasis for body condition scoring: thickening of the neck, fat covering the withers, fat deposits along backbone, fat deposits on flanks, fat deposits on inner thighs, fat deposits around tailhead, fat deposits behind shoulders, fat covering ribs, shoulder blends into neck

1 Poor
Animal extremely emaciated; spine, ribs, tailhead, points of hip and buttock projecting prominently; bone structure of withers, shoulders, and neck easily noticeable; no fatty tissue can be felt.

2 Very Thin
Animal emaciated; slight fat covering over base of spine; ribs, tailhead, points of hip and buttock prominent; withers, shoulders, and neck structure faintly discernable.

3 Thin
Fat buildup about halfway on spine; slight fat cover over ribs; spine and ribs easily discernable; tailhead prominent, but individual vertebrae cannot be identified visually; points of hip appear rounded but easily discernable; points of buttock not distinguishable; withers, shoulders, and neck accentuated.

4 Moderately Thin
Slight ridge along back; faint outline of ribs discernable; tailhead prominence depends on conformation, fat can be felt around it; points of hip not discernable; withers, shoulders, and neck not obviously thin.

5 Moderate
Back is flat (no crease or ridge); ribs not visually distinguishable but easily felt; fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy; withers appear rounded over spine; shoulders and neck blend smoothly into body.

6 Moderately Fleshy
May have slight crease down back; fat over ribs fleshy/spongy; fat around tailhead soft; fat beginning to be deposited along sides of withers, behind shoulders, and along sides of neck.

7 Fleshy
May have crease down back; individual ribs can be felt, but noticeable filling between ribs with fat; fat around tailhead soft; fat deposited along withers, behind shoulders, and along neck.

8 Fat
Crease down back; difficult to feel ribs; fat around tailhead very soft; area along withers filled with fat; area behind shoulders filled with fat; noticeable thickening of neck; fat deposited along inner thighs.

9 Extremely Fat
Obvious crease down back; patchy fat appearing.