

IN SUPPORT OF THE OU POLO AND EQUESTRIAN CLUB



Once home to the winningest team in college polo, the University of Oklahoma is again making a run for polo glory. The University of Oklahoma Polo and Equestrian Club is a nonprofit student organization aimed at making available the very expensive equestrian sports & the sport of polo to everyone wishing to participate. Through the growth of the polo & equestrian teams, we will bring a unique experience, unique venues, prestige, and economic growth to the community of Norman and the University of Oklahoma. Ultimately, we wish to educate the public about these fascinating sports on a national level growing polo & equestrian to be prominent sports of our younger generation.

To facilitate this lofty goal, the OU team is led by award-winning coaches, including Robert Hefner IV, Sunny Hale (the #1 ranked woman in the world), and the nationally ranked Dale Smicklas (former 8-goal player).

The student players are committed to the sport, both on and off their polo ponies. The OU club is designated as a club sport and therefore receives no funding from OU. That means the students and alumni boosters provide nearly all the financial support for the horses' upkeep, feed, and veterinary bills, as well as other expenses, such as traveling to compete with other schools.

The team provides all the care for the polo horses, including visiting the barn daily before 9:00 a.m. to muck stalls, change water, and condition the horses. Those chores are repeated each day after the 5 p.m. polo practice. That dedication has led to OU's polo ponies being recognized nationally as among the best.

The students' "sweat equity" also helped make possible the new \$20,000 arena where they play. With limited funds available, arena construction was handled internally by alumni and student-athletes who spent long hours working on the project. Finished spring 2007, the arena is located at Norman's Broad Acres Polo Club – host of the OU Polo team.

With history, hard work, and an amazing coaching staff on their side, polo club members and boosters are seeking sponsors to help achieve the dream of winning the national polo title in four years.

The University of Oklahoma and the Polo and Equestrian Club respectfully asks your consideration of a gift to support the polo team's many expenses, including equipment, travel, and a groom to ensure consistent horse care. All gifts would be recognized prominently, and donations of \$10,000 or more would be honored with:

- ❖ A large area made available for advertisement in the goal of the new arena at Broad Acres Polo Club
- ❖ Being featured on the oupolo.com web site's main page as well as sponsor page; currently has over 125 hits per day on average.
- ❖ Being featured in all club publications including The Monthly Chukkar that reaches the hands of over 100 of our prominent alumni in the surrounding community.
- ❖ Free riding or polo lessons for family on specified days reflected on the OUpolo.com schedule

Additionally, businesses with logos that become sponsors could have their logos placed on the polo club's banner, which is hung at any event.

The University of Oklahoma has already made history with polo, establishing a team in the early 1920s that was the first in the conference and one of only five competitive sports at OU. That proud tradition is being carried on by a new generation of young players, with the assistance of devoted alumni and enthusiasts.

Your investment will help continue that tradition of excellence. We deeply appreciate your consideration of a sponsorship to the OU Polo and Equestrian Club.