



## ***Midland Polo Club***

*(est. 1965)*

# **2023**



This booklet provides a general overview of important information for Midland Polo Club members and visiting players. Club rules, dues/fees, contact lists, along with other general information are included in this booklet.

### **Midland Polo Club**

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1800 Mockingbird Lane  
Midland, Texas 79705

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# General Information

The Purpose of Midland Polo Club (“MPC”) is:

## **LEARN – RIDE – PLAY**

MPC is an active club for polo players, trainers, junior players and families. The members of the club want to cultivate future sustainable polo players and polo ponies to continue the legacy of the sport of polo. MPC strives to provide a quality polo environment with quality fields, club practices, stick and ball facilities, umpire clinics, and skill clinics to suit our member’s needs. Our practice season is virtually year-round with tournaments during the spring and fall.

MPC has an active governing structure that includes member committees that assist the Club Manager. These member committees, together with the MPC Executive Committee, have final ruling on all club matters.

MPC has facilities available for the members including stables, 3 polo fields, hitting cage, exercise track and a first-class arena. Some or all of these may not be available at all times.

MPC has established a set of rules and a code of conduct (enclosed in this manual), which members and guest players are expected to know and follow.

In order to protect paying members, MPC requires dues and fees be paid before participation in any MPC events or seasonal participation. Club dues are used to operate the club, maintain the fields and improve the facility.

## “How do I become a Polo Player”?

**Our most frequently asked question is “How do I become a polo player?” To help aspiring polo players receive a general introduction to the sport, MPC has a polo school, whose mission is to create sustainable and committed members for the MPC.**

## Key Contacts

• President	<a href="mailto:jennihord@hedlocinv.com">jennihord@hedlocinv.com</a>	Jenni Hord	979-885-8236
• Club Manager	<a href="mailto:violetaescapite@gmail.com">violetaescapite@gmail.com</a>	Violeta Escapite	915-539-2053
• Facilities & Grounds	<a href="mailto:danhord@hedlocinv.com">danhord@hedlocinv.com</a>	Dan Hord	979-885-8118
• Finance	<a href="mailto:lisatindol2@hotmail.com">lisatindol2@hotmail.com</a>	Lisa Tindol	432-556-7880
• Club Vet	<a href="mailto:tinvet12@gmail.com">tinvet12@gmail.com</a>	Rogan Tindol	432-686-8540
• Interscholastic	<a href="mailto:ashley-owen@hotmail.com">ashley-owen@hotmail.com</a>	Ashley Owen	713-859-7497
• Marketing	<a href="mailto:meghanberry@gmail.com">meghanberry@gmail.com</a>	Meghan Berry	860-966-4787
• Membership/Social	<a href="mailto:jennihord@hedlocinv.com">jennihord@hedlocinv.com</a>	Jenni Hord	979-885-8236
• Polo School	<a href="mailto:violetaescapite@gmail.com">violetaescapite@gmail.com</a>	Violeta Escapite	915-539-2053
• Tournaments	<a href="mailto:violetaescapite@gmail.com">violetaescapite@gmail.com</a>	Violeta Escapite	915-539-2053

# Dues and Fees Schedule

## Seasonal Dues and Fees

- Tall City Membership** **\$10,000 total or \$5,000 per month**
- Includes all tournament fees for the season
  - Use of club facilities and exercise track during calendar year
  - Eligible to participate in the advanced 6-chucker Tall City Polo League
  - Can substitute a qualified playing groom to fill your spot in a tournament; substitute player must be approved by the club Manager at least one week prior to the tournament start
  - Can participate in all club practice chukkers
  - Option to play in other leagues during the tournament season
  - Covers cost of one to three pros, depending on season format, to participate in Tall City
  - Pro should be handicap of 2 goals or above
  - Pro below 2 goal additional fee
  - All Tall City members and pros must have their USPA membership up to date before the start of each season
- Pro-Am Membership** **\$7,000 or \$3,500 per month**
- Includes all tournament fees for the season
  - Use of club facilities and exercise track during tournament season
  - This is a slower 4-chucker league
  - During the tournament season, Pro-Am members will be responsible for bringing in and pairing with their own pro
  - Can substitute a qualified playing groom to fill your spot in a tournament; substitute player must be approved by the club Manager at least one week prior to the tournament start
  - Can participate in all club practice chukkers
  - All Pro-Am members and pros must have their USPA membership up to date before the start of each season
- Wildcatters Membership** **\$3,750**
- Use of club facilities and exercise track during tournament season
  - Not Included: \$500 per season Tournament Fee (two per season)
  - This is a coaching league that requires one Professional Polo Player per team of three members, who will be provided by MPC; membership cost excludes the cost of one shared Professional Polo Player (2 goals or higher) per team. Each member is responsible for a \$1,400 per season Pro Fee
  - Pros are not allowed to score goals, and may only hit the ball twice consecutively
  - This is a coaching league and may be played on a shortened grass field
  - Participation in 4-chucker Wildcatter-designated practices and tournaments on Saturdays and Sundays
  - All Wildcatter members and pros must have their USPA membership up to date before the start of each season

- Youth Membership** **\$2,500**
- Use of club facilities and exercise track during tournament season
  - Eligible to participate in tournament season and all practice chukkers; league participation will depend on player handicap
  - Members must be under the age of 25
  - Youth members must have their USPA membership up to date before the start of each season

- Playing Groom Membership** **\$2,500**
- Use of club facilities and exercise track during tournament season
  - Eligible to participate in all practice chukkers
  - Tournament league participation will depend on player handicap and league pairing needs
  - Sponsor or employer of the groom is responsible for paying their dues
  - Playing grooms must have their USPA membership up to date before the start of each season

- Arena Membership** **\$1,000**
- Use of exercise track and arena during tournament season
  - Eligible to participate in Arena League
  - Arena members **must** stay off fields, including the stick and ball field, unless a separate Stick and Ball membership is paid
  - Arena members must have their USPA membership up to date before the start of each season
  - **Families-** every additional child (under 18) pays \$500

- Equestrian Membership** **\$600**
- Use of Club exercise track
  - Social Membership

- Stick & Ball Membership** **\$500/month**
- Use of club stick and ball field during tournament season

- Social Membership (Annual)** **\$400 per family / \$300 per individual**
- Receive emails regarding all MPC events and invitation to member-only events (BBQs, etc.)

## Polo School Fees

- Individual / group lesson with polo school horse.....\$120 / \$100
- Adult Polo School Program (6 weeks during season) ..... \$1,200
  - Once per week
  - Horse included
- Kids Polo School Program (6 weeks during season) ..... \$750
  - Once per week
  - Horse included
- Kids individual lesson with polo school horse ..... \$100

## Visitor Fees

### Tall City League

- Weekend Player Fee (incl. MPC membership and tournament fee for one practice and two games).....\$1,000/pair
- Single Day Fee.....\$250/pair

### ProAm League

- Weekend Player Fee (incl. MPC membership and tournament fee for one practice and two games) .....\$750/pair

### Wildcatters League

- Non-Tournament Weekend Player Fee (incl. MPC membership, pro fee, practices on Saturday & Sunday) .....\$675/player
- Tournament Weekend Player Fee (incl. MPC membership, pro fee, practice on Saturday & game on Sunday) .....\$925/player

### Stick & Ball

- Daily Rate .....\$50/player

## Stabling Fees

**Daily Rate (Stalls)** ..... \$10/stall

### Weekly Rates (Stalls)

- Large Stalls (23 count)..... \$60/week/stall
- Stalls with Runs (27 count) ..... \$60/week/stall
- Regular Stalls (45 count) ..... \$50/week/stall

### Annual Rates (Stalls)

- Large Stalls (23 count).....\$1,200/year/stall
- Stalls with Runs (27 count) .....\$1,200/year/stall
- Regular Stalls (45 count) .....\$600/year/stall

### Annual Rates (Barns)

- School Barn (7 Stalls with Runs and 8 Regular Stalls)..... \$9,000
- Short Work Barn (8 Stalls with Runs and 8 Regular Stalls) ..... \$9,000
- Haboob Barn (8 Stalls with Runs and 8 Regular Stalls)..... \$9,000
- Long Barn (4 Stalls with Runs and 21 Regular Stalls)..... \$12,000
- Tumbleweed Barn (7 Large Stalls) ..... \$6,000
- Pumpjack Barn (16 Large Stalls)..... \$18,000

# Club Rules

MPC is a private club operated under the rules and guidance of the United States Polo Association (USPA).

Any violation of the club rules and regulations or failure to comply with the decisions of the Executive Committee and Club Manager may result in a warning, suspension, expulsion or any combination thereof. The type of action taken for a general rules and regulation violation is left to the sole discretion of the Executive Committee and/or Club Manager.

***MPC rules are enforced following this basic procedure:*** 1) Member to Member – holding each other accountable for the code of conduct provided in this booklet and elsewhere, 2) Committee leaders will enforce rules for their area of responsibility if a member does not listen to the other member, and 3) Executive Committee if a member is ignoring the committee leader.

**All members are responsible for the employees they hire. Members will be held responsible for their employees if rules are broken. If an employee is seen breaking a rule, an email will be sent to the member with the specific rule broken. Please be responsible for the people you hire.**

## Barn

- Throw all trash in proper containers. (tail tape!)
- Barn areas should be kept clean.
- Turn off any lights when not in use.
- **Manure may only be dumped in club-designated dumping areas by MPC staff or those stabling in MPC-owned barns or stalls. Please push manure up as you dump, and do not throw wire, strings, bottles, cans or trash in with manure. For MPC members who do not rent club facilities, but who would like to use the MPC dumping area, there is a monthly charge of [ ] due to MPC for this amenity.**

## Field

- No short working on the fields, including stick and ball field (riding singles is allowed, just be respectful)
- No vehicles are allowed on the playing fields or driving between the fields (only staff are allowed on fields)
- UTVs, unless working on the fields and/or MPC equipment are to stay off the playing fields.
- Field closures as posted in emails due to weather or conflicts are to be strictly followed.
- Horse trailers for active players must be parked in the designated trailer parking area and not on the fields or grass surrounding the playing fields. Only members and out-of-town paying guests are allowed to have trailers in trailer parking.

- Speed limit on the roads is 10 mph and must be adhered to for the safety of the members, horses and family members.
- Helmets and appropriate eyewear or face mask must be worn by all players participating in seasonal tournaments, practices, lessons, or any other mounted activity. Effective March 1, 2021, all players in any USPA Event or Club Event are required to wear a helmet that passes the NOCSAE ND050 Standard Performance Specification.
- Helmets and appropriate eyewear must be worn by all umpires.

## Players

- For insurance purposes, all players must be current members of the USPA and provide appropriate waivers annually.
- Club dues/fees must be current before participating in MPC events and any use of club facilities.
- Only members and pros are allowed on the playing fields.
- The umpires and Tournament Committee shall enforce the rules of sportsmanship and appropriate player conduct on the playing fields.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct on or off the playing fields will not be tolerated. Playing rights may be rescinded for any player in violation of this provision.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct includes but is not limited to conduct, physical or verbal, directed to any official, player, spectator or other person or mount on the club grounds that is threatening, assaulting, abusive, demeaning, obscene, profane, belligerent, or dangerous.
- In the event that a professional player that is sponsored or employed by an MPC member is suspended from play, MPC specifically disavows any responsibility cost incurred.

## Umpires

- It is the responsibility of sitting pros to be the second umpire in Tall City games.
- It is the player's responsibility to check emails to see if they are scheduled to umpire a match.
- The umpire should not talk with others while the game is in progress.
- Umpires may send off any horse found to be lame, out of control, and/or dangerous.
- Umpires have the exclusive authority over the entire game.
- It is the umpire's responsibility to report any unsportsmanlike conduct and the circumstances surrounding it to the Club Manager as soon as possible.
- Umpires must be present 10 minutes prior to the game time and must return umpire equipment directly to club manager
- The final decision of canceling a game in progress, due to weather, shall be determined by the umpires and/or tournament officials.



## Dogs

- Dogs can be a major problem at the polo club. They can inadvertently cause danger to the members or their horses.
- All dogs MUST be supervised. Any unsupervised dog must be on a leash. One written warning will be sent out from club management. The second offense will result in a \$100 fine.
- Dogs may never play with polo balls.

## League and Tournament Play

- The opening and closing dates of the polo season are subject to weather and field conditions and may be altered at the sole discretion of club management.
- USPA Rules and Regulations will govern all tournaments, unless otherwise noted. All players are responsible for reading all USPA and MPC rules. The tournament committee has the authority to revise and make rule decisions.
- MPC reserves the right to allow outside teams to enter tournaments.
- Tournament fees are due prior to the tournament beginning.

## Practice

- Practice participants must be MPC members or must pay out-of-town practice fees.
- The Club Manager schedules practice matches weekly for member participation throughout the term of the polo season.
- Members are responsible for signing up for chukkers by texting the club manager by 5 PM the day before.
- Members are responsible for checking emails for their team color and game time. ***If you need to cancel and practice is already scheduled you must find a replacement and alert the manager. The manager is not responsible for replacing a player in a scheduled practice or tournament.***
- ALL players MUST sign a release prior to participating in any MPC events, games or use of the facilities. Any player who is not a paying member must first register with the Club Manager and sign a release prior to playing or trying polo ponies for sale by a member.
- Practice times, umpire assignments, and game flaggers will be emailed to member list. Members are responsible for checking their email.

## Membership and Insurance

- For insurance purposes, ALL players must be current members of MPC and USPA.
- For insurance purposes, ALL players must sign a release waiver prior to playing, participating in any event or using club facilities. This waiver will also be required of grooms, guests, family, and all people who ride on club grounds.
- Members are responsible for and should carry medical insurance for themselves, their grooms and sponsored players.

## Green Horse Polo Code of Conduct

Green horse polo is different than a regular practice chukker or game. The purpose of Green Horse Polo is to introduce polo ponies to the sport and provide a safe environment for training. The following is a guideline for playing Green Horse Polo in Midland. Please respect green horses and their rider's needs when you sign up to play a green horse chukker or game.

- Allow a player's horse to gain confidence.
- No bumping.
- No hooking a player.
- No full swings unless you are in front of the pack by at least 3 horse lengths.
- Do not hit another horse with the ball or mallet.
- No holding the ball unnecessarily.
- No hard running.
- Please use judgment when backing the ball, do not back the ball into a pack.
- No blatant fouls or line crosses at severe angles. Note: Sometimes it is all a player can do to get the horse moving in the general direction of the ball...if you take that potential play away from him it can ruin the confidence of the green horse.
- Put your competitive nature aside and play for the horse, both yours and others'. Green Horse Polo can be a great time to help each other out and build camaraderie.

## Supplemental Information

MPC is very proud of all the committee leaders who volunteer their time and energy to create a quality polo environment. They welcome your questions or concerns. Also please contact any leader if you are interested in serving on a committee.

### **Manager**

Violeta Escapite  
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midlandpoloclub1965@gmail.com

### **Bookkeeper**

Lisa Tindol  
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### **USPA Club Delegate**

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### **USPA Southwestern Circuit Governor**

Paul Jornayvaz  
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