

2017 HAWAII INVITATIONAL *of Polo*

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Chris Dawson, Founder of the Hawaii International Polo Association
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THE KAHALA HOTEL & RESORT HAWAII INVITATIONAL OF POLO 2017 **Presented by Cartier**

POLO...`The Sport of Kings' | September 14-17, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HONOLULU, HI (July 11, 2017). The Hawaii International Polo Association (HIPA) is delighted to announce **The Kahala Hotel & Resort, Hawaii Invitational of Polo** (<http://www.hawaiipololife.com/>), is set to gallop into paradise September 14-17, 2017 at the Waimanalo Polo Fields, home of the Honolulu Polo Club. The historic four-day Invitational is an unmatched sporting event for Hawaii, which celebrates a rich and revered history of the original *paniolo* culture dating back to the early 1880's when Polo was heralded as 'The Sport of Kings' under the reign of King Kalakaua. More than thirteen decades later, The 2017 Hawaii Invitational of Polo (HloP) will compete at the highest level of the globally regarded sport by welcoming an ALL-PRO, Highest-Goal Format set at 25 goals per team (collectively 50 goals on the field). This format is unprecedented for polo in the United States. Anticipated to draw thousands, the 2017 Hawaii Invitational of Polo is now on par with elite titles such as the US Open in Florida, The Queen's Cup in the United Kingdom, The Gold Cup in Dubai, and The Argentine Open.

Applauded as one of Hawaii's most sophisticated annual sporting events, **The Kahala Hotel & Resort Hawaii Invitational of Polo, Presented by Cartier** will bring together the best of the best from the world's leading polo associations, entertainment, fashion, gastronomy, spirits and much more. Following the match, there will be a post-player-party boasting high-energy entertainment, live-music and dancing under the stars. For tickets, VIP packages and more information please visit: <http://www.hawaiipololife.com/>.

"I selected an All-Pro format to clearly distinguish our event as a one-of-a-kind, best-of-the-best, polo event that showcases Hawaii as an elite Polo destination. I am extremely proud of this event, and it clearly plants our flag on the international stage of polo. Just as the Sony Open has done for golf, and the Triple Crown has done for surfing.

The Hawaii Invitational of Polo will honor Hawaii's paniolo culture and preserve a polo legacy for generations to come." says, Chris Dawson, Founder and CEO HloP.

This world-class Invitational is the vision and passion of Christopher Dawson, Founder of the Hawaii International Polo Association, (HIPA), and Hawaii Polo Life apparel brand (HPL). Dawson is a prominent Native Hawaiian and business leader and an avid horseman and polo player who served on the Board of the United States Polo Association for more than 10-years. While serving on the national board, he had a unique opportunity to participate in the marketing, branding, and merchandising of polo sport on global scale while simultaneously bringing it to life here in Hawaii.

2017 INVITATIONAL EVENT SCHEDULE

Thursday - September 14, 2017

Red Carpet Media Event and Dinner

The Kahala Hotel & Resort: Waialae Ballroom

6:00pm–8:00pm

Select guests and sponsors will mix and mingle with professional polo players at Hawaii's most prestigious hotel, The Kahala Hotel & Resort and enjoy libations from the resort's top mixologist and perfect wine tastings chosen by the hotel's sommelier. Guests will also dine on unique delicacies prepared by Executive Chef Wayne Hirabayashi. At 8:00pm HPL will announce the team selection at this guest-list only, red carpet media party.

Friday - September 15, 2017 *MEDIA & INVITATION-ONLY EVENT*

Private Polo Practice + Media Meet and Greet

Mokuleia Polo Fields

3:00PM-6:00pm

This is a private, press only, meet and greet hosted by HIPA at the Mokuleia Polo Fields. Photographers will have an opportunity to photograph the practice, the horses and the players. There will be a private Q&A session after the game.

Saturday - September 16, 2017

FLAGSHIP ALL-PRO MATCH: Hawaii Invitational of Polo

Waimanalo Polo Fields

1:00pm-10:00pm

11:00am – Gates Open

3:00pm – 6:00pm Main Event

6:30pm – 10:00pm Concert and After Party

Watch this high-octane match from the comfort of your private cabana, hospitality tent, or under the shade of a branded umbrella. Enjoy a day on the polo field dressed in your best country couture. Join emcees, Mahealani Richardson and Kaiki Ragrajola at what has been described as, "The Most Exciting Polo in Hawaii."

TICKETS:

General Admission Lauhala Lawn: \$25

General Admission: \$50

Hospitality Field Cabanas: available upon request

Tickets available at <http://www.hawaiipololife.com/>

Sunday - September 17, 2017

Polo Awards Ceremony Brunch

The Kahala Hotel & Resort

10:30am – 2:00pm

Celebrate our famous players one last time as they are recognized at our Awards Brunch. Meet the MVP player, learn about our MVP pony, view the latest video of the preceding days' action, produced in partnership with Horse Play Productions.

“The Hawaii Invitational of Polo Premier Package at the Kahala”

4-Night VIP Package: September 13-17,2017

Toll Free (US & Canada): 1 (844) 508.6720

Hawaii: +1 (808) 739.8888

reservations@kahalaresort.com

- One Bedroom Suite or run of Ocean accommodations (4 rate packages)
- Opening Press-VIP reception 9/14 (Kahala)
- Hi Polo Invitational match: 9/16 (Waimanalo)
- Post VIP Awards Brunch (Kahala)
- Transfers to and from Waimanalo
- Total F&B/Ticket price for inclusion: three events: welcome reception, event hospitality and awards brunch
 - Ocean View - \$3,600
 - Oceanfront - \$4,000
 - Scenic View Suite - \$5,200
 - Oceanfront Suite - \$6,000

A Four-Day Invitational VIP Ticket Book (event only, no accommodations) available for \$750 and includes:

- Access to the Thursday Welcome Dinner
- Access to the VIP Hospitality Tent
- Access to a VIP area during the Red Bull Experience, post-concert.

Proceeds from the Hawaii Invitational of Polo will benefit the 501-3© Hawaii International Polo Association's mission:

1. Celebrate polo's unique history in Hawaii dating back to 1880.
2. Establish an Equine retirement program for polo ponies.
3. Develop Hawaii's at-risk youth via horsemanship clinics.

“This year, HIPA is honored to welcome The Kahala Hotel and Resort as Title Sponsor. The Kahala has a unique history in Hawaii Polo through the resort's development partner, Charlie Pietsch, a local polo player who built his dream ranch on O'ahu's North Shore,

Sunset Ranch. This exciting partnership celebrates our mutual rich histories and contributions to community life in Hawaii, and we look forward to working closely together for many years to come.” Said Chris Dawson. “The Kahala will host the visiting professional polo players, and offer an outstanding three-day experience for selected VIP Guests and Clients. The Kahala will also provide travel packages for International Polo Aficionados who will be traveling to Hawaii to attend the Hawaii Invitational.”

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About The Kahala Hotel & Resort

The legendary Kahala Hotel & Resort is an oceanfront, destination luxury property known for its gracious Hawaiian hospitality. Located just minutes from Waikiki, The Kahala offers an exclusive ambiance of a neighbor island experience. The Kahala has been Honolulu's social address for weddings and gatherings since its opening in 1964. World leaders, royalty, rock bands and Oscar winners call the 338-room resort their Hawaiian home-away-from-home. The Kahala is a member of The Leading Hotels of the World and Preferred Hotels & Resorts. The resort is home to *The Kahala Spa*, lush tropical gardens and a natural ocean-water lagoon with the hotel's own resident dolphins cared for by *Dolphin Quest*. The Kahala also has five restaurants: *Plumeria Beach House*, *Seaside Grill*, *The Veranda*, *Arancino* and the award-winning *Hoku's* restaurant. Stay connected with The Kahala via www.kahalaresort.com, on Instagram at [kahala_resort](#) or on Facebook at The Kahala Hotel & Resort and Twitter at [@KahalaResort](#). Share your Kahala moment [#AtTheKahala](#).

About Cartier

Since 1847, the Maison Cartier has been synonymous with beauty, excellence, creativity and a unique savoir-faire. From its jewelry tradition, the Maison has blossomed into the inventor of an iconic and universal style while constantly pioneering new ground. The Cartier style goes beyond time with a unique aim: for today's creations to become tomorrow's treasures. The Maison's creations in jewelry, watches and precious objects honor milestones in a person's life. Driven by its deep-rooted passion, Cartier invites others to partake in the values that underpin its heritage and success: the quest for beauty, a duty of excellence, the freedom to be oneself, and a legacy to share. www.cartier.com

About Hawaii International Polo Association

The Hawaii International Polo Association was founded in 2013. The most reputable polo players in Hawaii serve as advisors and ambassadors, each with more than 20-years of polo experience and contributions to Hawaii. This Association not only celebrates the rich history of polo in Hawaii, but also assures that the next century is even more spectacular. Our challenge now is to ensure polo's place in Hawaii for generations to come. Toward this goal, Hawaii Polo Productions was created to identify unique venues, produce world-class polo events and showcase individual and collective talents. Hawaii should be showcasing world-class polo. In doing so, we celebrate our rich history of polo in the Hawaiian Islands, dating back to 1880 during the reign of our King David Kalakaua, while promoting polo for future generations.

Engage and Experience the Legacy, Culture and Future of HAWAII POLO:

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 @hawaiipololife
 #hiinvitationalofpolo
www.hawaiipololife.com