

AUSTRALIA CLAIMS WORLD TITLE IN WORLD'S BIGGEST & BEST POLOCROSSE EVENT

Australia has regained its title as Best in the World at the Adina Polocrosse World Cup, defeating current world champions, South Africa, 34 to 21 in a hard-fought battle at Warwick on Sunday 28 April.

Australia entered the Championship Final undefeated, having outplayed Zimbabwe 24 v 11, the USA 29 v 14, Zambia 25 v 8, and NZ 29 v 15. According to two-time Australian World Cup coach Ross Shepherd, the dominance of the Australian women was a highlight of the game.

"They did it and they did it well! The dominance of the Australian women was the highlight of the game and the event; they played perfect polocrosse."

Ross went on to say how exceptional the purpose bred Australian Stock Horses performed at this elite level. "The success of the Berrago Stud horses at this event shows how important it is that we continue to breed purpose bred polocrosse horses. These horses competed incredibly well on the world stage" he said.

With record crowds, the 2019 World Cup has been the largest international sporting event ever to be held in rural Australia. Despite being one of Australia's most underrated – yet thrilling - sports, the crowd numbers at the World Cup Finals on Sunday exceeded those that attended the Cowboys vs Bulldogs NRL game at ANZ Stadium in Sydney on Saturday 27 April.

Taking place in Warwick, QLD from 22 to 28 April, the event attracted over 50,000 spectators from all over Australia; the other seven competing countries of USA, UK, Ireland, NZ, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe; and other countries including Mexico, Canada, Norway and Holland.

For a town of 15,000 that has been struggling with drought for many years, the flow on impact of the event for Warwick has been significant. It is estimated that the economic impact of the event on the region will exceed \$5 million.

Accommodation was at capacity for the week of the event, and businesses have reported record trading and an electric atmosphere around the central business district due to the international visitors.

Peter Wright of Rose City Meats cannot believe how much impact this event has had on his local butchers' business. "We have had the best trading week we have ever had" commented Peter.

Trade sites at Morgan Park have recorded record trading over the week, including rural small business Cannard Hats who was on the verge of closing due to the struggle of drought. Chris Cannard of Cannard Hats said that this event has injected the necessary cash and confidence he needed to get the business back on track.

“The last six months in business has been tough with the drought. This event has given me the confidence in my hats, and the ability to invest the necessary funds back into the business. I am so grateful to the organisers and excited to get back into making my hats” commented Chris.

The event’s live stream provided those that could not attend with a piece of the action, with 1,050 viewers from over 15 countries (Australia, UK, South Africa, NZ, USA, Ireland, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Canada, Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Belgium, France, Spain), 32,000 views and 12,000 hours of viewing.

Generous horse owners loaned 150 of Australia’s best mares and geldings to the event for players to compete on, resulting in one of the largest horse recruitment drives in Australia’s peace-time history. It was not uncommon for the volunteer horse support crew, who looked after the horses during the event, to walk 20-30km a day running horses to and from stables, stretching the horses out sunrise and sunset and general stable and feed duties.

Over 300 volunteers and community groups supported the event in a variety of roles, from the committed organising committee, which has contributed thousands of hours to the event over the past two years, to the gate staff, canteen and bar staff, car parking, horse handlers, photographers, operations and rubbish management.

FINALS RESULTS & HIGHLIGHTS

Supporting images can be [viewed here](#) and are available as high resolution without watermarks by contact the marketing team on 0439 192 193 or marketing@polocrosseworldcup.com.au

Video highlights from the week can be viewed on the [YouTube channel here](#).

Final championship placings for the event are:

World Cup Champions:	Australia	Fifth:	UK
Second:	South Africa	Sixth:	Ireland
Third:	New Zealand	Seventh:	Zimbabwe
Fourth:	Zambia	Eighth:	USA

WORLD CUP FINAL RESULTS

USA V ZIMBABWE

Sunday 28 April, 10am

Final score: Zimbabwe 26 def USA 25

Awards: Male Player of the Match (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Danie Swan (ZIM)
Female Player of the Match (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Sophie Sargeant (ZIM)
Men’s Horse of the Match (sponsored by Black Toyota): Berragoon Bloss (#126)
Women’s Horse of the Match (sponsored by IOR Petroleum): Hawthorne Matilda (#8)
Overall Champion Male Player (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Braxton Hamlin (USA)
Overall Champion Female Player (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Sophie Sargeant (ZIM)
Overall Champion Men’s Horse (sponsored by Black Toyota): Berragoon Bloss (#126)
Overall Champion Women’s Horse (sponsored by IOR Petroleum): Hawthorne Matilda (#8)
Champion Men’s Australian Stock Horse (sponsored by Australian Stock Horse Society): Future Sunbeam (#52)
Champion Women’s Australian Stock Horse (sponsored by Australian Stock Horse Society): Lealucas Candy Girl (#92)

ZAMBIA V NEW ZEALAND

Sunday 28 April, 12pm

Final score: New Zealand 33 defeated Zambia 19

Awards: Male Player of the Match (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Jarrod Richardson (NZ)
Female Player of the Match (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Kyla Hill (NZ)
Men's Horse of the Match (sponsored by Black Toyota): Jade (#107)
Women's Horse of the Match (sponsored by IOR Petroleum): Belldiva Josie Acres (#97)
Overall Champion Male Player (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Beau Moore (NZ)
Overall Champion Female Player (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Beth Peaker (NZ)
Overall Champion Men's Horse (sponsored by Black Toyota): Blazer (#17)
Overall Champion Women's Horse (sponsored by IOR Petroleum): Jaylyn Downs Perth (#75)
Champion Men's Australian Stock Horse (sponsored by Australian Stock Horse Society): Berragoon Scarlett (#109)
Champion Women's Australian Stock Horse (sponsored by Australian Stock Horse Society): Belldiva Josie Acres (#97)

Championship Final

AUSTRALIA V SOUTH AFRICA

Final score: Australia 34 defeated South Africa 21

Awards: Male Player of the Match (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Lance Anderson (AUS)
Female Player of the Match (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Suzette Thomas (AUS)
Men's Horse of the Match (sponsored by Black Toyota): Berragoon Beaches (#110)
Women's Horse of the Match (sponsored by IOR Petroleum): Sailor Moon (#93)
Overall Champion Male Player (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Jim Grills (AUS)
Overall Champion Female Player (sponsored by Carroll Truck Sales): Lucy Grills (AUS)
Overall Champion Men's Horse (sponsored by Black Toyota): Berragoon Beaches (#110)
Overall Champion Women's Horse (sponsored by IOR Petroleum): Action Man (#84)
Champion Men's Australian Stock Horse (sponsored by Australian Stock Horse Society): Berragoon Shifty (#117)
Champion Women's Australian Stock Horse (sponsored by Australian Stock Horse Society): Sailor Moon (#93)

Full event details can be found on the official event website at

www.polocrosseworldcup.com.au

Media enquiries: Linda Tillman, 0439 192 193 | marketing@polocrosseworldcup.com.au