

THE PINEHURST OUTLOOK

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SANDHILLS POLO CLUB MAKES ITS BOW

IMPROMPTU GAME FRIDAY DELIGHTS PINEHURST

WHILE one-half of Pinehurst has been peacefully strolling around the golf links with its thoughts solely on the ancient game, and the other half of Pinehurst has been out watching the Field Trials, a certain few, quietly and energetically, have been hard at work down at the Race Track, setting the stage for polo. And the leader of them and the moving spirit in this plan to produce a polo field and a polo club, almost overnight, is Captain A. Loftus Bryan, of the British Army. Under his capable direction a practice polo field has been built, inside the Race Track, and a playing field, nearby, is now practically completed. He has organized the Sandhills Polo Club, and after carefully marshalling his forces he startles Pinehurst by producing some capital polo.

Under a perfect sky, and with society gathered at the Polo Field on two hours notice, the newly formed Sandhills Polo Club made its debut Friday, February 1st. All things considered, the affair was a wonderful success. The Sandhills Club is the most modest organization in the world. They promise nothing more than plenty of fun, for both members who participate in the game and for spectators who watch from the side lines.

The organizers are laying the foundations for a good club. Their program, this year, calls for nothing elaborate; they are not promising more than they can deliver; they are experimenting; they have their eyes on next year. Captain Bryan states that in 1921 he expects a large influx of players with their own ponies. Excellent extra stabling will be completed for them, and a third field will be ready for play. At present there are thirty trained ponies at the polo field. They were brought down by Mr. Preece, of Westbury, L. I., and they are for hire or sale. Guests at the hotels, and others, who wish to play are cordially invited to do so, and are requested to communicate with Capt. Bryan, at The Carolina Hotel. For those who wish to learn to play polo every advantage and opportunity is offered. An indoor Polo Practice House is being built in the rear of the Carolina Hotel. In the centre of the saucer-shaped floor, about 24 by 13 feet, a wooden shaped horse offers a perfectly safe and steady mount for those who wish to practice driving the ball, and the presence of netting on all sides, together with the peculiar construction of the floor, insures the return of every ball to the pupil. In this cage players



Mr. E. J. Ridgeway

soon learn to hit the ball, and apart from the practice offered, it provides pretty strenuous exercise as well.

In the opening game Friday, six chuckers were played and the following members of the club participated: Capt. A. Loftus Bryan, Mr. J. A. Tuckerman, of Boston, who we understand has played with the Myopia Club, Mr. Nat Hurd, of Pittsburgh, Mr. James Boyd and Mr. Jackson H. Boyd, both of Southern Pines and Philadelphia, and Mr. Godfrey Preece and his two sons, of Westbury, L. I.

While this game was scheduled merely to exercise the ponies and to provide practice for the players, it soon became evident in watching the players that they had, in the excitement of the fray,

forgotten their instructions to go slowly. They rode hard and fast. There was no pause nor let-up. There was no quiet ambling about the field and easy, leisurely hitting. They played like veterans, and the beginners contributed their share in the day's work and received loud praise from Captain Bryan. He was completely satisfied, and judging from this try-out, he says, there is no reason why a first-class polo team cannot be developed, which will put Pinehurst on the polo map and be ready in a short while to send a challenge to Aiken and Camden.

Have you tried your hand at the Monday Morning Bridge Parties at The Carolina?

SOME SPLASH!

Pinehurst ordinarily is not much of a place for aquatic sports and a "plunge in the lake" is not advertised on its program of attractions. There is, however, on Course No. 2 a small pond, which, heretofore, has to our knowledge been patronized as a bathing place only by small boys in the summer time.

But we have with us this winter a fair golfer who goes in for the Annette Kellermann stuff in reckless fashion.

It appears that, in playing the 10th hole, the aforesaid golfer made from the tee two terrific drives, but each drive unfortunately landed the ball in the pond just below. While the young lady's companion and her caddy were engaged in fishing out one ball, Annette herself boarded a raft moored at the other end of the water hole, and put out to sea for the Ball Number Two, which had, meanwhile, drifted out into deep water.

It is, of course, a nautical axiom that if a vessel's cargo be suddenly shifted from one side to another, the craft will instantly manifest a dangerous list on the side affected. But the fair pilot, evidently unmindful of this principle and considering merely the high price of golf balls, blithely bore down on the starboard side with her whole weight and in reaching for the floater upset the raft, lost her balance and took to the chilly waters as gracefully as possible.

Then began the mermaid business. It was very sudden, and it was short; but it was highly successful, and need we say that for her companion, who rushed to her rescue, that it was one of the most harrowing moments of his young life?

On gaining the bank of the pond, the lady, undaunted and unabashed, insisted on playing to the fair green and continuing the match. But her partner demurred. They sought shelter in the nearest farm-house, and as soon as an automobile and a partial change of raiment could be procured, journeyed back to the hotel.

As far as can be ascertained the young lady is none the worse for her experience; she suffers principally from loss of dignity and the game. She retains the ball.

The match will be resumed next Sunday. Life preservers have been distributed at all water hazards on the course.

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