



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Autumn Polo Classic to benefit NAMI St. Tammany

MANDEVILLE, LA. – [The New Orleans Polo Club](#) and [National Alliance on Mental Illness \(NAMI\) - St. Tammany](#) are hosting its inaugural event, the **Autumn Polo Classic**, held on Sunday, October 29 from 12:00 noon to 5 pm at Summergrove Farm, 16191 Hwy 40 in Folsom.

During the two exciting polo matches, more than 500 patrons will enjoy thrilling horse action, local cuisine, specialty drinks, and a premier silent auction.

Guests are invited to arrive between 11:30 and 12:30. Polo is often a fashion spectacle with many patrons in hats and 'derby attire'. At halftime spectators are invited onto the grass field to help replace divots kicked up by the horses. It is a chance to take photos and experience the size of the playing field.

12:30 pm Opening ceremony

1:00 pm Polo Match

2:30 pm Hat Contest and Silent Auction

3:00 pm Polo Match

4:30 pm Awards Ceremony

The proceeds of this charity event will benefit NAMI St. Tammany, a nonprofit organization dedicated to offering education, support, resources, and advocacy for individuals living with mental illness, their families and the community. Last year NAMI St. Tammany reached more than 30,000 individuals across the Northshore through service, support, and outreach efforts.

"We know that there are a lot of choices when it comes to fundraising in our region, and we are honored that the New Orleans Polo Club chose to partner with us for the Autumn Polo Classic," said Nick Richard, Executive Director of NAMI St. Tammany. "None of our success would be possible without these generous organizations that are devoted to our community. We are so thankful for their commitment and kindness in recognizing that mental health IS health."

The New Orleans Polo Club is comprised of a diverse membership of male and female players united by their passion for one of the world's oldest, most exciting and least understood athletic games. Recognized by the United States Polo Association (USPA), currently the New Orleans group is the only active polo club in the state of Louisiana. The Autumn Polo Classic is their premier charitable fundraiser for 2023.

"The New Orleans Polo Club is proud to showcase the world's most exhilarating sport. Polo is much faster than people assume. It takes power, speed, skill, balance and seamless coordination with the horse. It's a very physical sport that takes 100% of one's attention. Charity is a big part of polo tradition and as a club we are delighted to fundraise for NAMI. Polo players are farmers at heart, we train outdoors, we raise livestock, we support local workers. We believe in healthy communities, and mental health is a fundamental part of this." Dr. Sebastian Koga, President of New Orleans Polo Club

Tickets and sponsorship opportunities for the Autumn Polo Classic are available at nolapolo.org.

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To learn more about NAMI St. Tammany, the resources they provide to the community, or to get involved, visit www.namisttammany.org