**Media Release**

04 May 2016

**South Africa to compete against Uruguay in the 2016 BMW International Polo Series.**

**Midrand** – The 27th annual BMW International Polo Series promises all the thrills, sophistication, prestige and uncompromised style that have become synonymous with this annual two-match Test Series. Guests will be treated to an adrenaline-charged showstopper, as South Africa take on Uruguay with the first test taking place at the Shongweni Club in Hillcrest, Durban on Sunday, 4th September 2016. The second match will take place the following Sunday, 11th September 2016 in Johannesburg, at the high-status Waterfall Polo Estate in Sunninghill.

“Globally, BMW has a long history of being involved in sports which require a unique combination of power, precision and efficiency to succeed. The BMW International Polo Series is one of the longest-running sports sponsorships in South Africa and this speaks to the attributes of the sport and how it encapsulates the same values BMW embodies, says Tim Abbott, CEO BMW South Africa and Sub-Sahara”. “As the BMW brand, we are proud to be associated with this series.”

Anticipation is especially high among polo lovers this year as Uruguay and South Africa have not faced each other in this Test Series since 1989. This will be Uruguay’s second tour to South Africa, with the international competitors reigning champions of the previous tournament.

The annual BMW International Polo Series not only brings together polo devotees, fans and socialites; guests will also see all the action live and be treated to a showcase of BMW’s finest vehicles as part of the day’s proceedings.

SA Polo President Mark Davies is excited that the South African polo team will be playing the South Americans in this year's BMW International Polo Series. "We look forward to welcoming the 23-goal team which consists of players who have participated in several Sotogrande Gold Cups and will be a strong challenge which our home side will relish facing," said Davies.

"It is only the second time that a Uruguayan team has played in South Africa although many polo fans may remember the legendary Juan Miguel Secco who played in the first tour, which the visitors won," added Davies.

The South African team will be announced after the Prince of Wales Cup, due to be played from 12 - 14 August at Waterfall Polo Estate.

**Ticket Information**

First test match: Sunday 4 September 2016, Shongweni Club in Durban.

Ticket prices are R55 per person for East Bank General Admission and R85 per person for West Bank General Admission. These will be available for pre-purchase on iTickets as well as at the gates on the day of the event.

Second test match: Sunday 11 September 2016, Waterfall Polo Estate in Johannesburg.

Ticket price is R250 per person for General Admission.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** These tickets will only be available for pre-purchase on iTickets as no General Admission tickets will available for purchase on the day of the event.

Children under the age of 12 will be able admitted free of charge at both venues.

General admission tickets will be available on [www.sapolo.co.za/international-polo/bmw-international-polo-series](http://www.sapolo.co.za/international-polo/bmw-international-polo-series) and [www.itickets.co.za](http://www.itickets.co.za) from the 1st June 2016.

**For further information, please visit:**

<http://www.sapolo.co.za/international-polo/bmw-international-polo-series>

-Ends-

**For queries regarding this press release, contact BMW Group South Africa Corporate Communications as follows:**

Mr Diederik Reitsma

General Manager: Group Communications

BMW Group South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Tel: +27-12-522-2525

Mobile: +27-71-666-2525

Email: [diederik.reitsma@bmw.co.za](mailto:diederik.reitsma@bmw.co.za)

Or

Ms Lindsay Pieterse

Manager: Planning, Steering and Lifestyle Communications

BMW Group South Africa (Pty) Ltd

Tel: +27-12-522-2210

Mobile: +27-83-297-1240

E-Mail: [Lindsay.pieterse@bmw.co.za](mailto:Lindsay.pieterse@bmw.co.za)

**The BMW Group**

With its three brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce, the BMW Group is the world’s leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. As a global company, the BMW Group operates 31 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries and has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2015, the BMW Group sold approximately 2.247 million cars and nearly 137,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax for the financial year 2015 was approximately € 9.22 billion on revenues amounting to € 92.18 billion. As of 31 December 2015, the BMW Group had a workforce of 122,244 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout

the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

**BMW Group websites:**

[**www.bmwgroup.com**](http://www.bmwgroup.com/)

[www.bmw.co.za](http://www.bmw.co.za)

[www.mini.co.za](http://www.mini.co.za)

[www.bmwmotorrad.co.za](http://www.bmwmotorrad.co.za)

[www.bmwdrivertraining.co.za](http://www.bmwdrivertraining.co.za)

**Social Media Pages:**

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/BMWGroup> (BMW South Africa, BMW Motorrad SA, MINISouthAfrica)

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/BMWGroup> (@BMW\_SA, @BMWMotorradSA and @MINISouthAfrica)

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/BMWGroupview> (BMW South Africa and BMW Motorrad SA)