



Sporting Designs Ltd

Polo Scoreboard specification

Overview:

All our scoreboards feature flip-digits which are visible in bright sunlight and which are controlled remotely by a wireless remote control unit. They are also suitable for a variety of sports as well as polo such as hockey, rugby, football and so on.

Overall size:

The overall size for scoreboards with 18 inch (450 mm) digits is approximately 330 cm wide by 260 cm high when opened up (200 cm high when the top flap is closed). Depth is approximately 15 cm excluding the stand or 160 cm with stand. The size is suitable for the scoreboard to be seen from 200 metres away (the width of a full size field). There are 2 areas for advertisements at the top and bottom (see photograph), 320 cm by 63 cm and 320 cm by 59 cm. The top section hinges down when not in use, covering the top digits and keeping the top title / advertisement clean.

When mounted onto a standard trailer, the overall size is 435 cm long by 189 cm wide by 249 cm high.

For arena polo, 9 inch flip digits are used and frame is proportionally smaller and does not have a moveable flap.

Digits:

The digits are normally white on black, 18 inch (450 mm) high, 7 segment, flip digits. Digits are arranged to display the time (counting down), 2 scores and, for polo, the chukka (period) number. 9 inch high digits are also available for Arena only scoreboards. It is possible to purchase bespoke scoreboards with even larger digits but these would really only be required where there are large grandstands.

There can be three or four digits showing the time. Four digits are useful to show the real time (in-between matches) such as 12:34. The 4th digit is blanked when a match is in progress as the clock starts at 7:00.

Power:

Scoreboards may be powered by one of two methods:

1. Battery. Two 12 volt car (leisure) batteries (to make a 24 volt supply) are sufficient to operate the scoreboard for 7 or 8 days **at least**. The scoreboard may be supplied with a suitable battery charger and even a solar panel is available if the scoreboard is left on all the time.
2. Mains supply. The scoreboard may optionally be supplied by 240 volts or 110 volts ac mains supply. An internal power supply converts the power to 24 volts required internally. A poor quality mains supply should **not** affect operation. If the power fails during operation, all the digits stay at the last values.



18 inch high digits for a polo scoreboard



Polo scoreboard on purpose-built trailer

Remote control unit:

1. Range. The remote control unit has a range of approximately 350 yards when in line-of-sight of the scoreboard.
2. Power. The remote control unit is powered from 2 AAA batteries which should last at least many weeks of normal use.
3. Size. The remote control unit is suitable to wear on the arm and comes complete with elastic strap. It weighs just 140 grams.
4. Operation. The remote control unit has 6 buttons which are used for all operations including:-
 1. Starting the clock
 2. Stopping the clock
 3. Incrementing the score on the left
 4. Incrementing the score on the right
 5. Resetting for the next chukka
 6. Resetting for the next match
 7. Decrementing the score on the left (after an error)
 8. Decrementing the score on the right (after an error)
 9. Sounding the horn between matches
 10. Changing the configuration
5. Buttons. The buttons are raised giving a slight click and positive movement when pressed.
6. Wireless licence. The wireless transmitter is licence exempt.



Remote control unit

Operation of clock:

The clock starts 7:00 for outdoor polo. The clock may be started and stopped by the umpire or timekeeper at any time using individual buttons. It counts down in seconds. When the time reaches zero, there is a bell sound for 4 seconds and the time is then reset to 30 seconds (shown as -:30) and continues to count down until it again reaches zero when the horn sounds for 4 seconds. The clock then stays at zero until reset by the umpire.

Scores:

Each score may be incremented by the umpire at will. For polo, where one team may start with a ½ goal handicap advantage, a separate painted “½” may be hung next to the left hand score. If the timekeeper makes a mistake, holding down the button for 3 seconds reduces the score by 1.

Testing:

When the scoreboard is powered up, it goes through a self-test sequence. This shows each segment as on (white) and then off (black). After a 5 second delay, the scoreboard is ready for operation.

Spare remote control unit:

It is possible to purchase spare remote control units and all remote control units may all be active at the same time (subject to a 15 second delay). Any new remote control unit transmitter has to be registered with the scoreboard receiver and there are simple instructions on how to do this.

Emergency manual control:

There is an option of a duplicate set of 6 buttons on the side of the scoreboard for emergency use in case there is ever a problem with the wireless remote control unit.

Bespoke operation:

Sporting Designs Ltd can re-program operation of the scoreboard to your specific requirements.

Further details:

Further details and a video of operation may be found on the website www.sportingdesigns.co.uk

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