



[August 2017](#)

## Attwood Equestrian Surfaces, Inc

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## Team USA & Jennie Brannigan Triumph at Great Meadow Nations Cup™ 2017

Congratulations to Team USA, who clinched their second win at the Great Meadow International Nations Cup in The Plains, Virginia. Team USA consisted of Lynn Symansky/Donner, Jennie Brannigan/Cambalda, Boyd Martin/Steady Eddie and Phillip Dutton/I'm Sew Ready.

Unionville, Pa based rider, Jennie Brannigan, topped the field for the second time aboard her long time partner, Cambalda, "Ping" who is owned by Tim & Nina Gardner. It was an unforgettable day for Brannigan, winning individually and securing the victory for the U.S team. The pair came into the final day in fourth place and catapulted to the top spot incurring only 1.6 time faults for a three-phase score of 49.8 penalties.



"The first time I came to Great Meadows it was so exciting because it earned me a spot as a traveling alternate for the Pan Am Games, which was quite special to me," said Brannigan. "It's such an honor to get to ride for your country and "Ping" has been an incredible horse in a lot of ways and is wonderful to me. I really appreciate him stepping up to the plate."

Olympic medalist and Attwood sponsored rider Phillip Dutton, rode as the anchor rider for the US team aboard John and Kristine Norton's I'm Sew Ready. "Jackson" scored his personal best of 42.0 in the Virginia heat to take the lead in the

Nations Cup. An unfortunate rail put Phillip into third place but a brilliant cross country run with only 5.6 time penalties contributed to the win for the US team and secured third place for the veteran rider.

Boyd Martin aboard Stead Eddie, owned by Denise Lahey, Pierre Colin, and George and Gretchen Wintersteen, started the weekend with a bit of tension in the dressage but went on to wow the crowds in the very difficult show jumping and cross country phases. Bragging rights go to Boyd and Eddie for being the only horse and rider combination to run double clear in stadium and cross-country to finish on their dressage score.



Three cheers for Team USA and all the horse and riders who travelled to compete in one of the best-run events in the country, Great Meadow International. Attwood Equestrian Surfaces is proud to be the official footing supplier of the only Nations Cup of Eventing in North America.

Individual results for top Attwood riders were as follows:

3rd - Phillip Dutton & I'm Sew Ready

10th - Boyd Martin & Steady Eddie

12th - Kurt Martin & Anna Bella

Team Results:

1st - USA

2nd - Canada

3rd - Great Britain



# Aachen Nations Cup

Germans Win for Home Crowds, USA Falter but Rally for Silver in Aachen Nations Cup.

What started as near disaster for both Germany and the USA was wielded into indomitable grit, and the two teams stood proudly atop the leaderboard in the end. Switzerland showed consistency throughout, ultimately claiming a tie for second with the Americans, and Belgium self-destructed just moments from glory to fall to fourth.

Americans brought their cream of the crop to Aachen looking for a gold medal, but almost immediately, it looked like glory would be hard to find. FEI ranked #1 Kent Farrington and Gazelle headed in first for Team USA and immediately brought home eight faults, as did Beezie Madden and Coach, guaranteeing the best the team would finish was with eight faults - and only if the remaining rounds went flawlessly.

Laura Kraut entered the ring next looking ready to fight aboard Zeremonie, and while she had to really work in a few spots to get the spectacular gray settled into the right spots, her expertise and the Holsteiner mare's pure talent pulled out a much-needed morale boost and clear round, and Laura looked overwhelmingly relieved leaving the ring.

She was followed by McLain Ward aboard World Cup Queen HH Azur, and soft hands and her gifted jump produced the result she's known for, keeping the team's hopes alive. Germany had a nearly flawless outing in the first round and looked poised to leave their fourth man on the bench before disaster struck as Marco Kutscher and Clenur slammed on the brakes at the foot of the open water. They circled and made it over the second attempt, but took the next rail and had four-time faults as well, to put the Germans on 12 for a moment. But fourth man Phillipp Weishaupt piloted the stunning LB Convall to a clear anchor leg to keep Deutschland on zero.

Belgium and Switzerland both produced clear rounds as well in round one, putting the pressure on the bubble teams starting from just outside the mark like the USA and the Netherlands on eight and Italy on five.



## 11th Hour Saves and Disasters!

Into round two, Kent Farrington led off again for Team USA and Gazelle's second trip started with several rubs, but the mare seemed to get her head in the game in the second half and then never came near the poles again, producing a much-needed clear to finish their day.

Beezie's Coach continued to falter, putting a foot in the open water and having down the oxer in the triple with what appeared to be a faint belly rub on the far rail. While Beezie looked disappointed, she was ever the professional, giving a smile for the generous Aachen crowd as she exited the ring.

The pressure was fully on Laura and McLain once again to produce flawlessness, but both pairs seemed happy to rise to the occasion: Laura glowed leaving the ring with all the poles in place, and McLain looked ever the professional after Annie simply sailed over the 1.60m course a second time.

They'd done all they could to finish on eight and now waited to see how things would shake out.

Italy fell from the bubble after only Juan Carlos Garcia could produce a second clear, and the Netherlands had a disappointing second half to fall to fifth.

Germany's riders came in smelling blood in the water and slayed, with Marcus Ehning and Pret a Tout, Maurice Tebbel

and Chacco's Son and Phillip Weishaupt and Convall also putting in flawless rounds and dropping Marco Kutscher's single rail from their final score to end on zero and win in front of the uproarious Aachen crowd.

Switzerland could not replicate their perfection in the first round as Martin Fuchs and Clooney took 2 rails, as did Nadja Peter Steiner and Saura de Fondcombe. They would finish their day on eight, tied with the Americans for third.

Belgium's zero transformed to a 16 after Oliver Philippaerts had a rail, Pieter Devos failed to start, meaning they would have no drop score, and Gregory Wathélet and Eldorado sadly dropped rails and ended their day with an unfortunate crash through the final fence.

This put the Swiss and Americans into a tied second to end the day - a magnificent end for the lone New World team who had started on shaky ground.

"We brought our 'A' team to Aachen," said Chef d'Equipe Robert Ridland. "We have so much respect for Aachen, and we almost pulled it off. It's tough knowing midway through the first round that the best score you can get is eight faults. We were fully confident that we could correct some mistakes and stay on zero the rest of the way and let the field come back to us. The Germans were just a better team today, but not by much. What we saw here today was sport at the very highest level. It doesn't get any better than that. And it is an honor for us to be able to compete here!"

The action continues today through Sunday, with the finale event being the Rolex Grand Prix, part of the Rolex Grand Slam.

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## Menlo Charity Horse Show



We are really looking forward to this year's Menlo show. Every year, it just keeps getting better and better. Proof. More entries than ever before. Don't miss out on a truly special heritage show.

Come visit the Attwood booth at the Menlo Charity Horse Show!



While Nick and the lads are getting the footing prepared for the Menlo Charity Horse Show [#MENLO2017](https://www.instagram.com/menlo2017), everyone is jumping with excitement to get this show going. Please join us August 8th through 13th as hundreds of competitors from all over the country, amateurs to professionals, come to ride for top honors.



Benefiting Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Nick Attwood will be available to answer all your questions on arena footing and care.

[#menlo](#) [#hunter](#) [#jumpers](#) [#nickattwood](#) will be on hand to answer any questions you might have on [#arenafooting](#) [#arenacare](#) [#equestrianfooting](#)

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## Attwood Equestrian Surfaces Congratulates Fair Hill International On Winning CCI4\* Bid

July 25, 2017 – Attwood Equestrian Surfaces would like to congratulate Fair Hill International for receiving the USEF recommendation to be the site of North America's newest four star.



The USEF recommendation to award a CCI4\* to Fair Hill International will now go forward to the FEI for approval this fall. The competition date will be approved as part of the 2019 FEI calendar after review by the USEF Calendar Approval process.

Fair Hill has extensive plans to transform the current venue to accommodate a CCI4\*, with a group effort that combines the Fair Hill Foundation, Maryland Horse Industry Board, Maryland Sports Commission and the Cecil County Government.

Attwood Equestrian Surfaces has enjoyed a long-term relationship with Fair Hill International as a sponsor of the The

Dutta Corp FHI CCI\*\* and CCI\*\*\*. The CCI 3\* event is one of only four 3\* events in the USA. Horses and riders who do well in the 3\* event may qualify to compete internationally or at the Olympics or World Championships.

“We are very happy for our friends at Fair Hill,” said Nick Attwood, president of Attwood Equestrian Surfaces. “Fair Hill has always been a destination event for the North American riders, but now they will be hosting riders from all over the world. Well done FHI!”

For over twenty-five years, AES has been at the forefront of footing technology, installing arenas and tracks around the world. From the Embassy International Riding School in Bangalore, India to the Jockey Club of Newmarket, UK, to the Great Meadow Foundation, The Plains, VA to the Menlo Charity Horse Show at the Menlo Circus Club in California, AES’s dust-free, waterless footing has provided premier surfaces to equestrian athletes of all disciplines.

For more information about Attwood Equestrian Surfaces, their products and services, please contact Andrew Camp at 888-461-7788.

## Temporary Arena

What do you do when you require the best footing, but only for a limited time? Attwood's Temporary Arenas are the solution to this surprisingly common problem. Our highly acclaimed EuroTex footing is laid over a series of custom made mats, and can be removed after the event is over. The footing retains all its properties. The Menlo Charity Horse Show was the ideal platform for Attwood to demonstrate this technology. Since 2014, successive shows have been acclaimed a major success with the footing receiving universal praise.

### Focus on Temporary Arenas

More and more we are being asked whether we can provide a riding arena on a temporary basis for a particular event, where no arena currently exists. We have to consider each case individually, but so far have not disappointed any request. We have to consider many issues.



What is the state of the underlying ground? How will we provide a perimeter? What access is there to the area? All of the temporary arenas we have provided to date are recurring events, so the organising bodies have purchased our footing, and store it between events. We also consider renting footing for the duration of the event, in addition to providing installation, maintenance, and removal services.

# Footing Facts August 2017

## Ageing in wax-coated Surfaces

Last month in Footing Facts we featured polymer-coated dust-free footing and compared it to wax-based coated footings. Attwood's dust-free footings Pinnacle and TerraNova are polymer-coated and we drew attention to the superior performance of them over wax-based surfaces. Just after publication, news emerged of problems with a wax-based racetrack in Australia installed in 2015 at Pakenham Racetrack in Victoria.



Owners and riders complained of significant kick-back, where an overly loose footing is thrown into the air by the trailing hooves of racing horses, causing safety and health issues. Although the surface is only 2 years old, clearly there are cohesion issues with the footing. The racetrack CEO has apologised to the racing fraternity in Australia, and has explained the poor performance in terms of the lack of rain in the area. He said, "The surface did not perform to our expectation and we are disappointed about that. The prominent issue is the lack of moisture in the Polytrack, which is a consequence of a lack of rain and we will be addressing that as soon as possible with a likely strategy being irrigation." This proves our point from last month that as a wax surfaces ages, the wax is lost or degraded and cohesion reduces to such an extent that the footing is no longer dust-free. Then, the only way to hold the surface together is to keep it wet. This is for a surface that is supposed never to need watering! What is most disturbing from Pakenham's point of view is the fact that this is being required after only 2 years.

We re-iterate that Attwood's dust-free coated surfaces are coated with a polymer binder that is significantly more robust than wax coatings. Check out our video on wax melting at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPgP2gnTjRA> to see just how robust the coating is compared to wax.

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## Our Social Media Channels



Continue to engage with us on the social media platform of your choice, [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Youtube](#). We love to hear from you!

You can also contact us at [info@equestriansurfaces.com](mailto:info@equestriansurfaces.com), [info@attwood.in](mailto:info@attwood.in) and [enquiries@aesurfaces.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@aesurfaces.co.uk).

Download our previous newsletters from our [archives](#).

*Attwood Equestrian Surfaces provides meticulously engineered surfaces that benefit both the horse and the rider*



