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Attwood Equestrian Surfaces, Inc

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ROAD TO GREAT MEADOW INTERNATIONAL PAVED IN ATTWOOD FOOTING



You could say the road to Great Meadow International 2018 was paved in Attwood footing. Well, maybe paved would not be the right word but you get the gist. Looking back at that competition, it was truly inspiring to know so many of the competing athletes were prepping on Attwood Surfaces.

From the newly expanded arena at Dutton's True Prospect Farm, to multi rings and gallop at the Martin's Windurra USA to Liz Millikin's lovely Lion's Gate Farm to Faudree's spectacular Gavilan Farm. That's a lot of footing! Because these riders depend on us so much they are much more than clients, they are our family.

We believe that a horse's health and soundness can be greatly impacted by its daily training surface. That's why we are constantly testing our footing to find innovative solutions for safety and performance. Want to know more about the most advanced footing solutions on the market today please call Attwood Equestrian Surfaces.

FAIR HILL UNVEILS PLANS TO BECOME TOP LEVEL INTERNATIONAL VENUE



Whether spectator, Olympic-level competitor or rider aspiring to reach the upper echelons in the sport of three-day eventing, Fair Hill International has long loomed large as the venue of champions. But the dream of so many that the northeast Maryland facility rises to the level of one of the premier eventing sites in the world recently took a major step toward becoming a reality.

The FEI last fall endorsed the United States Equestrian Federation's recommendation to designate historic Fair Hill as a four-star event site, over a bid submitted by Great Meadow in Virginia. By 2020 Fair Hill will stand as one of two four-star eventing sites in North America and among only seven such top locales in the world.

"The state is committed to bringing this world-renowned equestrian eventing competition to Cecil County and Fair Hill," said Maryland Natural Resources Secretary Mark Belton in a press release. "Working together with our friends and partners in the private and public sectors, we will make Maryland the premier destination for equestrian and equine events, and add yet another chapter to our storied horse racing history and legacy."

A unique public/private partnership was key to the successful bid to win the four-star designation, organizers say. Among the entities involved were Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Stadium Authority and Maryland Horse Industry Board, along with Cecil County and the Cecil County Fair Board. The proposed improvements at Fair Hill will update and upgrade the park's equestrian facilities and infrastructure by 2020.

Design improvements include an irrigated turf race course, a new timber racing course, a cross country component, a graded grass field on the infield, a new training area and an equine campground. The grandstand overlooking the turf track will undergo a renovation and tunnels built to provide safe pedestrian travel under Rt. 273.

The design phase of the project is projected to cost about \$2 million, divided equally between the state and the Fair Hill Foundation, Inc. The completed cost is estimated at \$18 million. Ann Haller said the ageing tracks were in need of improvements including better grading and footing, and wider turns. Infrastructure for spectators and media also will be improved, such as parking lots closer to the courses and arenas, permanent bathrooms, and improved WiFi to allow for live streaming.

The property features a 3 ½ mile steeplechase track and 7/8 mile turf track, which host just a handful of races each year, but the idea is that racing will be expanded with the improvements, Haller said. Under the proposed design, the dressage and stadium jumping arenas will be located in the infield of the turf track.

Currently, there is only one four-star event in North America -the Land Rover (formerly Rolex) Three- Day Event held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington each spring.

Whether called a four-star or five, the top designation will elevate Fair Hill to the level of Badminton and Burghley in the United Kingdom, draw top international riders, quadruple the number of spectators and expand the economic impact of equine sports to the area.

Read more [here](#).

IN MEMORIAM: TRIBUTE TO OLYMPIC GREAT HANS GÜNTER WINKLER (GER), 1926 - 2018



Legendary German Olympic Jumping athlete, Hans Günter Winkler, passed away overnight after a long illness. He was 91. Born on 24 July 1926 in Barmen, Germany, he was one of the most successful German Olympians of all time, and the only equestrian in any discipline to compete and win medals at six Olympic Games. He claimed five Olympic golds, a silver and a bronze, together with back-to-back World Championship titles in 1954 and 1955 during his extraordinary career. Hans Günter was best known for his partnership with the great mare, Halla, who, quite literally, carried him to team and individual Olympic glory in Stockholm (SWE) in 1956 against all the odds.

He sustained a painful groin injury in the first round of the individual competition but he didn't want to let either his team or country down and persevered throughout the remainder of the competition, just managing to stay in the saddle thanks to the honesty of his great mare and his own immense courage and tenacity.

He went on to win team gold at the 1960 Olympics in Rome (ITA) and the 1964 Games in Tokyo (JPN) and led Germany to team bronze in 1968 in Mexico City. He claimed team gold again at the 1972 Olympics in Munich (GER) and team silver in Montreal (CAN) in 1976.

Just before his 60th birthday, in July 1986, Hans Günter rode his last lap of honour at his favourite venue in Aachen (GER). However, his relationship with the spectators at the iconic Soers arena never diminished and their cheers were as loud as ever during his 90th birthday celebrations there in 2016.

Read more [here](#).

Ameritrack: Product Profile

This complete race track system is specifically designed and formulated for horse safety and injury reduction. AmeriTrack is engineered with a free-draining base and all-weather cushion. It incorporates a vertical drainage system which eliminates movement of the cushion to the rail and results in a consistent, no bias track. Unlike most coated surfaces, AmeriTrack is manufactured without wax. AmeriTrack remains stable in extreme temperature conditions. During high temperatures, it will not melt or become soft, and during extreme cold, it will remain soft and pliable, rather than become hard and brittle.

Product Highlights:

- Dust-free and non-tacky.
- Consistent going
- Manufactured from premium raw materials
- Engineered for thoroughbred training and racetrack
- Reduced concussion with viscoelastic rebound
- Freeze-resistant and stable over a wide temperature range

Focus on Ameritrack:



Synthetic surfaces in the horse racing industry have received mixed press over the years. In 2006, motivated by evidence that synthetic surfaces resulted in a decrease in fatalities, the California Horseracing Board decreed that all racetracks in the state should switch to synthetics. Nine years later, all except one have been axed. Add to that several others throughout the United States, and the prestigious Meydan race track in Dubai, all being removed, tells a devastating story. All of these racetracks were installed with wax-based surfaces, and their problems have done untold damage to the reputation of synthetic surfaces. It is widely accepted that the wax coating could not cope with the temperature variations throughout a day, and throughout the year, riding hard and fast in the colder parts of the day/year, and soft and slow in the hotter parts of the day/year.

Maintenance was, therefore, a real headache for the racetrack managers, and inconsistent times were a problem for riders and trainers and racegoers. Had the racetrack owners turned to Attwood back in 2006, they would have encountered our polymer-coated synthetic surface, which is proven scientifically to vary considerably less than wax surfaces. This is because the waxes used for equestrian surfaces are crystalline solids, and as such melt when they get warm (think of candle wax). This melting can occur at normal outside temperatures, turning from solid in the morning, to liquid in the afternoon sun. This change has a devastating effect on the properties of the footing, hence on the 'going' of a racetrack. Attwood's Ameritrack polymer coating is not crystalline and does not melt in this way, so footing properties are maintained constant throughout the day, and throughout the seasons



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You can also contact us at info@equestriansurfaces.com, info@attwood.in and 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



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