



February 2018

Attwood Equestrian Surfaces, Inc

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Attwood and Arab Royalty



Just a few month's back, we gave you a sneak peak into one our most high profile projects in recent times. This month, we are delighted to announce the unveiling of its newest creation, a brand new **Indoor TerraNova Arena for HH Sheikh Sultan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, of the UAE Ruling Family.**

Any new project in a new location is challenging, and this proved to be just that. Working with a customer of the stature of His Highness was both an incredible opportunity for us, as well as a massive challenge. No stone was left unturned in ensuring that His Highness received nothing less than the best footing in the World. Right from ensuring that all our logistics were in place, to preparing and installing the footing, we left no stone unturned in ensuring that we not only matched, but also exceeded the expectations of our client.

Highly acclaimed riding coach Line Moen who rides for His Highness had nothing but excellent things to say about our footing. For more pictures, please visit our [Instagram page](#)

FEI World Equestrian Games Tryon 2018



The FEI World Equestrian Games™, held every four years in the middle of the Olympic cycle, is one of the biggest events on the global sporting calendar, combining eight equestrian World Championship caliber events in a pre-determined location. The FEI disciplines – Jumping, Dressage and Para-Equestrian Dressage, Eventing, Driving, Endurance, Vaulting and Reining – are all included on the competition schedule, while equestrian-focused demonstrations and exhibitions will also be hosted throughout the duration of the event. The 2018 edition of the FEI World Equestrian Games™ will be held in Mill Spring, NC, over thirteen days from September 11-23rd, 2018 at Tryon International Equestrian Center.

Head over to the [official website](#) for the complete schedule. Have you blocked your dates, yet?

Ah-ha! Moment of the Week from Attwood: 'Just Train Better' by Will Faudree

Many eventers have encountered a special horse, had a breakthrough competition, or experienced a revelation during training that changed ... well ... everything. In a new weekly series presented by **Attwood Equestrian Surfaces**, eventers share their ah-ha! moments. This week Will Faudree, whose Gavilan Farm includes an Attwood Ameritrack nine-furlong gallop, recollects a piece of advice that would shape the career of his four-star mount Pawlow.



Will Faudree and Pawlow. Photo by Allie Conrad.

When I think of an ah-ha moment that helped shaped my career my mind goes down a path similar to the one Alice traveled ... filled with trials and tribulations that have helped shaped who I am as a human. It's hard to bring it down to just one but I do have one in particular that currently sits in bold.

At Jersey Fresh in 2005 I was sitting with my dear friend and mentor, Amy Tryon. She was telling me about a young horse she had that she thought would be a good match for me. Off I went to Washington where I met Ernie – better known as Pawlow. Fast forward to 2008, I was being spun at the first jog at Kentucky with the incomparable Antigua (it really was just an abcess) where I was again talking to Amy trying to sell Ernie as an equitation horse because I didn't think he had four-star potential. In Amy's perfect form she looked at me and said, "Why? He runs, he jumps, he moves – learn to ride him better."



Will Faudree and Pawlow. Photo by Jenni Autry.

Flashback to 2006 where I was sitting at Jane Murray's surprise 50th birthday party when the great Karen Stives congratulated me on the WEGs and told me not to expect my next horse to fill his (Antigua's) shoes. Back to the tearful Kentucky jog ... I thought to myself, well, he (Ernie) is going Intermediate, I should take him to a two-star and then decide, I didn't have any other horses keeping me busy. Skip on to that autumn when Ernie finished in the top 10 (I think he was 4th or 6th) in the Fair Hill two-star and I was elated with him and hopeful for his future.

November 2008 was a hard month for me. I did close on my new and current Gavilan farm property which was exciting and scary all at the same time, but lost my sister to cancer on the 22nd, which is a grief I can not convey in words. But now I had a farm, some young horses, a recently retired Antigua, and a very fancy two-star horse that I had to sell.



Will Faudree and Pawlow. Photo by Jenni Autry.

Two weeks after Kristen died I reluctantly went to Holly Hill in Louisiana to teach a clinic, where I met the preeminent Jennifer Mosing – which is an ah-ha moment in itself. I spoke to several people about Ernie and the need to sell him but did not want to with the form he had shown me after my ah-ha moment at the tearful Kentucky jog ... two weeks after that Ernie had a new last name and by fate I got to keep riding him.

Little did I know then what a “ride” he would take Jennifer and I on, and who all he would put in the hospital while attempting being clipped. He moved up to Advanced, went to England, had colic surgery, gave me my first ever FEI victory, tackled Kentucky with a vengeance, had colic surgery again, stormed around Luhmuhlen, fell at Aachen:/, put me on some short list, took me back to Europe, won some more big events, finished 6th at Kentucky in 2013 ... the list could go on and on.



Will Faudree and Pawlow at Rolex in 2013. Photo by Kasey Mueller.

So the big ah-ha moment for me is that top horses come in all shapes and sizes. Ernie could not have been more opposite than Antigua, or the many wonderful horses that I have been lucky enough to be a part of their careers since. But if you believe, show up, train well (and with the right people) great things can happen – greatness comes from determination and perseverance.

Ernie, Jennifer and I would never have gotten to do all the fun things we did without the amazing coaching we had (Bobby Costello, Sandy Phillips, Mara DePuy, John Zopatti and David O'Connor) the support (Doretta Gaudreau, Suzanne Konefel, Nat V-C, Christina Curiale and the amazing vets and farriers that kept him in form) and that ah-ha moment of just train better

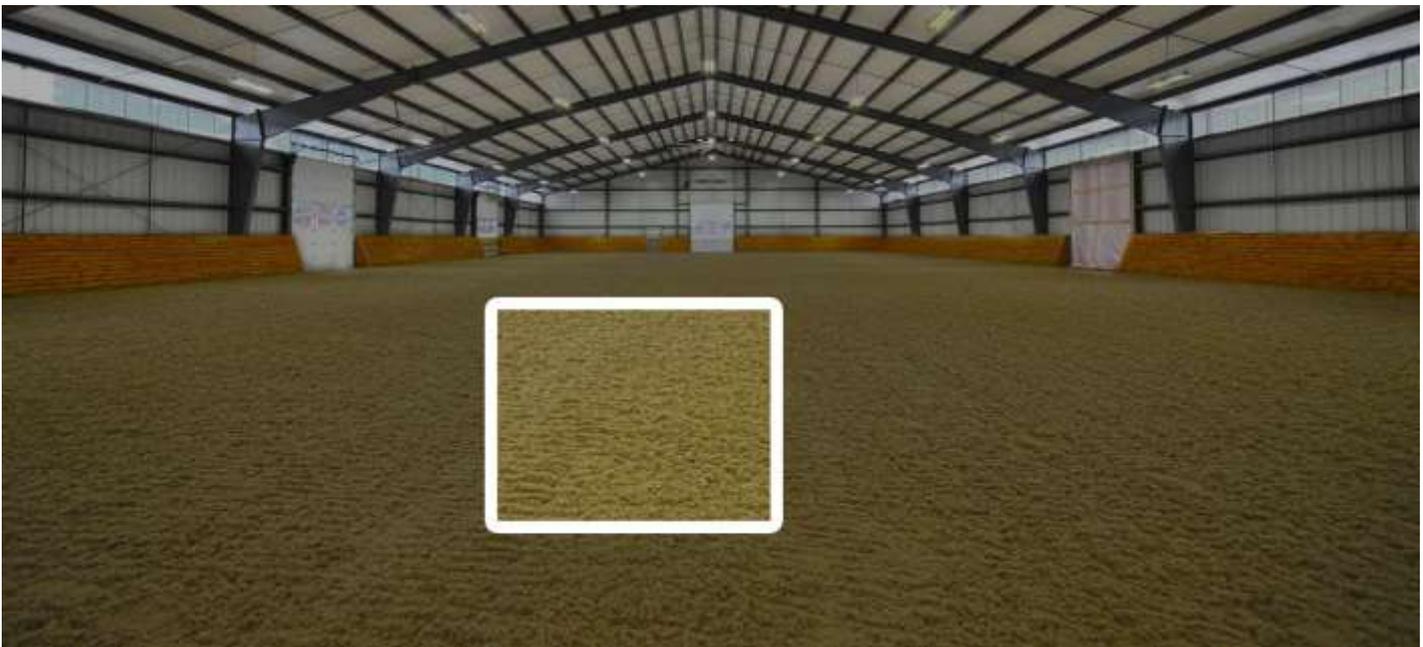
Read more at [Eventing Nation](#).

Terra Nova

Our latest, and most innovative polymer-coated footing. Terra Nova is formulated from high quality silica sand and fibres, and coated with a next generation viscoelastic polymer, giving unrivalled shock absorption, grip, and rebound.

Characteristics of Terra Nova :

- Very economic and competitively priced
- No watering required
- Dust-free and Non-tacky
- Consistent riding characteristics
- Manufactured from premium raw materials
- Reduced concussion with viscoelastic rebound
- Freeze-resistant and stable over a wide temperature range



Focus on TerraNova :

- Attwood's latest polymer-coated footing, TerraNova, truly is a next generation surface. In response to feedback from our customers, we set out to develop a coated surface that offers the same class-leading riding characteristics of our Pinnacle footing, but which has a completely non-stick feel. We achieved this and more, developing an exceptional footing that is even more affordable than Pinnacle.
- Coated surfaces rely on an adhesive coating to bind the sand grains and additives together. This is what helps to give the surface cohesion and support. In the case of waxed surfaces, the wax coating does a reasonable job of binding the components together, but they feel oily and often the sand sticks to just about anything that comes into contact with it! Attwood's first coated footing, Pinnacle, largely eliminates this problem. TerraNova goes to the next stage! Through ingenious design, TerraNova footing binds all the components together, without feeling the slightest bit sticky.



Footing Facts February 2018

Footing Maintenance: Part 1

For the next two months we cover the subject of footing maintenance, a necessary activity but often badly executed, or even completely omitted. Your beautifully level and groomed surface has just been handed over to you, and the last thing on your mind is maintenance - you just want to get out and ride on it! However maintenance should be uppermost in your mind. In fact it should have been up there on the list of considerations when you were making your choice on which footing to go for. Because unless you own, or have access to the necessary equipment, and have the necessary expertise to operate this equipment, you won't be able to consistently realise the full potential of your footing. In this edition of Footing Facts we discuss various aspects of surface maintenance.

Manure removal

A necessary evil, removal of manure is vital to the longevity of your surface. Manure can degrade the surface in a number of ways. Firstly the manure dries out quickly and turns into dust which can reduce the cohesion in a coated (non-watered) surface, and cause a health hazard. Secondly, a high microorganism content can lead to microbial degradation of the components. An interesting fact discussed in the FEI guide to maintenance reveals that an average horse leaves behind 2L manure per session. In a typical well-used commercial arena, in just three years, 50% of the arena surface will be made up of manure!

Harrowing



Whatever type of sand-based surface you have, riding on it makes it compact and become uneven. Compaction will result in a loss of shock absorbency, and if a high quality Attwood polymer-coated surface some loss of rebound as well (poorer quality surfaces exhibit little to no rebound). Unevenness can lead to strain on tendons and joints as the hoof

can land on an inclined surface that is not supposed to be there. So regular harrowing is designed to lift the top 1/2 to 1 inch (1 - 2.5cm), reduce compaction and redistribute into a level surface.



There are many producers of harrows, and designs tend to be fairly similar, most with tines that rip through and lift the footing, and some include a roller (different types, e.g. solid, paddle etc.) which lightly flattens the surface. Operation of the harrow is a fairly specialised job and requires some training, in order to set the depth of grooming, and to cover the arena in a set pattern. This latter point is important in order that surface material is not accumulated in any particular area. Interestingly, once such pattern, the Zamboni pattern, is named after the inventor of the ice rink re-surfacer, Frank Zamboni who deduced this pattern to evenly treat an ice skating surface.

Sometimes a deeper harrow is used to loosen surface further down that has compacted over a considerable length of time. This is particularly true for waxed surfaces because it is thought the wax melts in the summer months and migrates to the lower levels where it hardens.

Levelling

Over time, despite how careful you are with harrowing etc, the level of the surface is lost. Depending on the design of your arena, the surface may have been finished with a slope from end to end, side to side, or even a double vector slope. A crown can also be employed. To regain this design grade requires sophisticated grading equipment, usually linked to a laser system. In this way the machine blade is raised or lowered automatically according to the surface in order to move material to achieve the required grade.

Day-to-day preparation

Better quality surfaces have the potential, through maintenance and preparation to be made to have different characteristics, depending on the requirements of the rider. For instance rolling of a suitable surface followed by shallow harrowing can give the surface firm characteristics liked by jumpers. Conversely a deeper harrow without compaction through rolling tends to be favoured by dressage riders. In our experience poorer quality surfaces do not have this flexibility because the low grade ingredients they contain mean that the surface has to be kept compacted or shear strength (tightness for cornering & landing) is catastrophically low.

Our Social Media Channels



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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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