



July 2016

Attwood Equestrian Surfaces, Inc

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ArenaMat

In Attwood's consistent effort to provide meticulously engineered surfaces that benefit the horse and the rider, we introduce the perfect ingredient to best Arena Footing- ArenaMat!

ArenaMat equestrian mat system is designed to deliver the latest in arena surface technology. This economical system provides many advantages over traditional arena base design. Because of the stability provided by the mats, less sub-base material is required, whilst a thinner layer of top footing material is also facilitated, especially if you choose one of Attwood's top quality, supportive footing products. Finally a membrane between base and footing is not required.

In cases where you want a temporary facility, ArenaMat can even be placed directly onto reasonably level ground such as turf. All of this helps to reduce cost.

Featuring advanced design, drain channels allow excess water to easily move to the sub-base layer, whilst 'cups' hold water to release it back to the footing layer, significantly reducing watering.

The grid system helps to hold footing in place, improving grip. The slightly elastic nature of the mat also provides extra cushioning, protecting limbs from injury.

ArenaMat base mat system is specially designed for arena construction.



Benefits include:

- Cost effective
- Less sub-base material & thinner footing layer
- Will not clog like membrane layer
- Improves drainage
- Significantly reduces watering
- Improved shock absorption/concussion
- Improved grip
- Simple installation
- U.V., rot resistant, and environmentally friendly material
- Allows easy de-installation of footing
- Can be used without a drainage base for temporary facilities

Tested by the highest level of experts of equestrian sport, ArenaMat has consistently proven it's efficiency. Not just safety and comfort, horses need the perfect spring to perform their best. And that's exactly why ArenaMat is undoubtedly the best choice!

Special Introductory offer on Attwood ArenaMat. Drop us a line at info@equestriansurfaces.com to know more!

Technical Data :**Outdoor ArenaMat**

This mat is for outdoor riding arenas, paddocks, hotwalkers and is made from 100% elastic PVC material.

- **Length:** 3.94 feet
- **Width:** 2.72 feet
- **Height:** 1.58"
- **Weight:** 44 pounds
- **Drainage:** 190 holes/mat
- **Coverage:** 10.72 sq ft = 1.19 sq yards
- **Water storage capacity:** 0.1 gal/ft² (4L/m²)

Interlocking Arena Base Mat System

Ideal for building short-term show arenas on grass, indoor arenas and Western Pleasure arena construction.

- **Length:** 3.28 feet
- **Width:** 2.78 feet
- **Height:** 1.58"
- **Weight:** 36-40 lbs
- **Drainage:** 168 holes/mat
- **Coverage:** 9.12 sq ft = 1.00 sq yd

About Attwood Equestrian Surfaces:

Since 1992 Attwood Equestrian Surfaces has been at the forefront of footing development. We are the original manufacturer of dust-free footing (polymer coated sand) in the USA. Our premier equestrian surfaces are engineered from meticulously selected sand, blended with micro poly-fibers and coated with a viscoelastic polymer. Our years of experience in working with textiles and sand have provided us with the knowledge to produce consistent high performance equestrian surfaces. We formulate for all equestrian disciplines who train in a wide range of climates. It's this experience and our continuous innovation that keeps us at the forefront of equestrian footing development. We understand the need for carefully engineered surfaces that benefit the horse and rider. Our dust-free equestrian surface product offerings are Ameritrack, Pinnacle, and Terra Nova. Our sand-blend water dependent equestrian surface product offerings are comprised of Euro Tex and GGT Footing™ textiles.

Boyd & Silva Martin, Windurra Farm, Cochranville PA. Pinnacle and Sand Blend Arenas

Pinnacle Dressage Arena:

This is a regulation 20m x 60m arena . Silva, who is a Dressage rider wanted **Pinnacle** because it offers exceptional cushioning - this was considered important by Silva since in dressage there is a great deal of repetitive movement so a possibility of Repetitive Strain Injury (RSI).

Jumping arena, Eurotex

Boyd wanted maximum control over tightness of the footing, achievable through moisture content and dragging - our Eurotex footing offers this flexibility. He prepares the surface tighter when top level riders are jumping, and looser for other kinds of work. Boyd chose Eurotex over GGT as the additive as it has

slightly more cushioning. The arena was fitted with a good deal of drainage to keep it rideable, but Boyd has access to water so this is not disadvantageous during dryer spells of weather.



Team USA Eventers Meet Mainstream Media, Unintentional Hilarity Ensues

Over the past couple weeks the FEI has been cultivating quite the build-up for a live Facebook event to “formally introduce the U.S. Olympic Eventing Team.” To whom were we introducing them – the media? The general public? The details seemed a bit hazy but we figured we probably ought to watch.

The mystery event took place today at a stable in New York City’s Bronx borough, which while perhaps not a major horse hub is at least accessible to the country’s largest per-capita journalism population. It featured all four members of the squad plus chef d’équipe David O’Connor and was attended by a small number of non-horsey journalists trying to wrap their heads around this thing we call “eventing.”

Things started off innocuously enough, with David making an opening statement and the riders introducing themselves and their horses. Then they started fielding questions from the media present as well as questions submitted via Facebook.

“How long does it take to train a horse?” the press asked intrepidly. “Do they have roads and tracks in the Olympics or is that gone?”

The riders soldiered on like the great ambassadors for our sport that they are, never skipping a beat.

If you could be a spectator of a different Olympic sport, what would it be?

Lauren, without a second’s hesitation: “men’s water polo.”

If you could go on a trail ride with any three people, living or dead, who would it be?

Boyd, bless him: “Donald Trump, Hilary Clinton and Kramer from *Seinfeld*.”

Finally, 41 minutes and 54 bizarre seconds later, it was over. Time to move on to the eventing demos!

First, we were treated to this “exclusive demo of eventing dressage.” Pretty sure that is NOT an event horse, but if it is, maybe it’s not too late to stick it on the team?

The best, however, was yet to come. Later in the day TIME magazine posted a video of the event, demonstrations and interviews with the squad, narrated by a very intrepid, extremely awkward journalist named Sean.

“Are you afraid? How do you get over the seeming dangers of this sport?” says the helmet wearing journalist. “These horses are trained, right? They’re used to having humans on their back?”

“This may be a stupid question but do the horses get medals, too?”

If you’re short on time, we recommend skipping to the final 10 minutes in which Boyd gives the journalist a “riding lesson,” even popping him over a cross country jump or two by the end.

“Just hold on, mate. Just stay there, you’ll be alright!”



Screenshot via the *TIME* Facebook page.

The grand finale is when Boyd, who can't stop laughing by this point, jokes to the reporter that he's going to freeze his semen before Rio as a precaution against the Zika virus... and the reporter actually believes him.

You can follow this [Link](#) to check out more on the event.

Team USA Named for 2016 Olympic Games in Rio



The USEF has just named the U.S. Eventing Team for the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The announcement reads as follows:

The United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) has named four athlete-and-horse combinations to the U.S. Olympic Eventing Team and one traveling reserve for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Four direct reserve horses have also been named. A direct reserve horse would be an automatic replacement should the original horse on which an athlete was named need to be substituted. Eventing competition at the Olympic Games will take place August 5-9, 2016, at the Deodoro Olympic Equestrian Center in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The following athlete-and-horse combinations will compose the Team (in alphabetical order):

- **Phillip Dutton** (West Grove, Pa.) and Caroline Moran, Simon Roosevelt, and Thomas Tierney's **Fernhill Cubalawn**, a 2003 Holsteiner gelding

Direct Reserves

HND Group's **Mighty Nice**, a 2004 Irish Sport Horse gelding

Ann Jones and Thomas Tierney's **Fernhill Fugitive**, a 2005 Irish Sport Horse gelding

- **Lauren Kieffer** (Middleburg, Va.) and Team Rebecca, LLC's **Veronica**, a 2002 KWPN mare

Direct Reserve

Marie Le Menestrel's **Meadowbrook's Scarlett**, a 2007 Thoroughbred cross mare

- **Boyd Martin** (Cochranville, Pa.) and Blackfoot Mystery Syndicate, LLC's **Blackfoot Mystery**, a 2004 Thoroughbred gelding

Direct Reserve

Gloria Callen's **Welcome Shadow**, a 2005 Thoroughbred cross mare

- **Clark Montgomery** (Tetbury, England) and Holly and William Becker, Kathryn Kraft, and Jessica Montgomery's **Loughan Glen**, a 2003 Irish Sport Horse gelding

Team USA! From top left clockwise: Phillip Dutton and Fernhill Cubalawn (photo by Jenni Autry); Boyd Martin and Blackfoot Mystery (photo by Jenni Autry); Lauren Kieffer and Veronica (photo by Jenni Autry); Clark Montgomery and Loughan Glen (photo by Libby Law Photography).

The following combination has been named as the traveling reserve:

- **Maya Black** (Clinton, Wash.) and Dawn and Jonathan Dofelmier's **Doesn't Play Fair**, a 2005 Holsteiner gelding

The following athlete-and-horse combinations have been named as reserves (in alphabetical order):

- **Matthew Brown** (Cochranville, Pa.) and Blossom Creek Foundation's **Super Socks BCF**, a 2006 Irish Sport Horse gelding
- **Sinead Halpin** (Oldwick, N.J.) and the Manoir de Carneville Syndicate, LLC's **Manoir de Carneville**, a 2000 Selle Francais gelding
- **Lynn Symansky** (Middleburg, Va.) and the Donner Syndicate, LLC's **Donner**, a 2003 Thoroughbred gelding
- **Elisa Wallace** (Jasper, Ga.) and the Simply Priceless Syndication, LLC's **Simply Priceless**, a 2001 Thoroughbred gelding.



Congrats to everyone who made the team!

To recap the selection process: Olympic hopefuls had the opportunity to qualify at one of the 22 events that served as selection trials. The selection period started at Rolex in 2015 and ended earlier this month with Bromont and Bramham. Horses were vetted after competitions throughout the selection period, and the final team vet evaluations were held last weekend, June 18 and 19, in Virginia.

The mandatory team outing will take place at Great Meadow International on July 8-10. The final team, which includes one traveling reserve combination, will be confirmed on July 18.

Go Team USA, and Go Eventing.
You can follow this [link](#) to check out more on this.

[Footing Facts](#)

Equestrian Arenas around the World Part 1: California

This month we begin a mini-series exploring some of the world's geographical areas and how certain local aspects impact on equestrian pursuits. The first region we look at is California in the United States of America.



California is the most prosperous region of the United States, and in global terms ranks 6th in the world, sitting between France and the U.K. (2015 figures). This prosperity leads to a lifestyle for its inhabitants that combines commerce with a significant leisure element. The leisure opportunities in California are seemingly endless, with a superb Pacific coastline, and more rugged geography offered by the Sierra Nevadas, and the Mojave Desert. Add to this the cultural delights that can be found in the major cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles it is little wonder California is seen as a superb place to live, and visit.

The warm climate in one way certainly enhances the pursuit of outdoor interests. However the droughts of recent years leading to wildfires, and problems for the agriculture industry has presented a very serious problem. California has a strong equestrian following but the drought is beginning to seriously interfere with that pursuit, since the upkeep of equestrian facilities can require significant amounts of water, both for landscaping and arena irrigation.

California has long suffered from intermittent water shortages, but the last five year shortage has tipped the state into drought conditions. Although the last two years has seen El Niño effects cause rain and snowstorms, this has only been a 'band-aid' over the true scale of the situation, and drought conditions persist.



We have seen a significant increase in enquiries from Californian customers looking for solutions to the problem of irrigating equestrian arenas. One idea, but by no means a complete solution is an ebb/flow system, where the irrigation water is supplied from beneath the footing. This can save perhaps 30% of the water used in conventional over surface spraying systems, where a significant loss occurs through evaporation and over-spray. However, considerable amounts of water still need to be supplied to the arena, where water loss through evaporation from the surface can easily exceed 0.02gal/sq ft/hr, equivalent to 258gal/hr for an average size arena.

A coated surface negates the need for irrigation so in theory is a solution to the water problem. However the coating needs to be robust because California sees a lot of sunshine and typical wax coatings do not fare well in such conditions. Couple this with local high temperatures under which wax coatings can typically melt, leaving the surface without cohesion and riding deep. Attwood's polymer coated surfaces, Pinnacle and TerraNova, do not suffer from this problem since the polymer coating does not melt in this way, and the U.V. resistance is superior.



Some customers initially balk at the higher price of Pinnacle compared to conventional watered surfaces, but become convinced once they can completely eliminate an irrigation cost from the equation. Furthermore, for those with covered or indoor arenas, TerraNova surface offers an even more economical solution, and the very latest in viscoelastic polymer technology. Just ask the growing number of customers in California choosing this world-beating solution.

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, 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

