



November 2018

Attwood Equestrian Surfaces, Inc

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Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires

The Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018 brought sporting, cultural and social achievements in Argentina that will remain as a living memory of those 12 unforgettable days. The Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games took place from 6-18 October 2018. The YOG Equestrian events were held at the historic Club Hipico Argentino, founded in 1909, and nestled in the Buenos Aires' Green Park district, famous for its forest and lakes.

Talents from 30 nations from across the world had been selected to travel to the world's largest multi-sport youth event in Buenos Aires, Argentina. It brought together almost 4,000 talented young athletes aged from 15 to 18 from 206 countries around the world for a 12-day period.





In the thrilling competition in Argentina, Team Europe took the silver after a two-way jump-off, while a very contented Team Africa claimed the bronze. The victorious North American team was made up of riders from Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama and USA.



Italy's Giacomo Casadei claimed Youth Olympic Games gold following fantastic five-way jump off.

"Representing your country at a young age, at such a prestigious event, is an undeniable honour," said FEI President Ingmar De Vos. "The YOG is a springboard to the Olympic Games and to the FEI World Equestrian Games. The

international equestrian community wishes all our YOG athletes the best for this very important equestrian career stepping stone!”

Read more about the event [here](#).

Belgium Wins thrilling FEI Nations Cup Final

The FEI Nations Cup™ series is equestrian sport’s oldest and most prestigious team challenge, with national teams from around the globe competing for one of the most coveted prizes in this Olympic discipline. The series aims to unite nations and foster a lifelong enthusiasm for the world of horses. Its global format means that more countries can host qualifiers at world-class venues and aim to win the FEI Nations Cup™ title by acquiring qualifying points according to their placings.



We'd like to congratulate Team Belgium for securing the Longines FEI Jumping Nations Cup™ title. Belgian Chef d'Equipe Peter Weinberg said: "We call ourselves the "Never Give Up Team" because in the middle we had two with 12 faults already but still we were fighting to the last rider, so this victory means a lot to us!" Other top eight nations competing were Sweden, who finished on 20 points for sixth place, followed by Austria in seventh on 20 points and Switzerland on 32 for eighth.



For more details on the event and results visit [here](#)!

Attwood riders dominating top spots at Fair Hill International

Fair Hill International celebrates its 30th anniversary this year and is still considered the best preparatory event for horses seeking to make the move up to the Kentucky Three-Day Event in the spring. The CCI3* field this year has quite a few heavy-hitters, and talented newcomers should also make for an exciting mix in Maryland this weekend.



Boyd Martin and Christine Turner's On Cue clinched the mare's second CCI2* win of the season with a super clear show jumping round at Fair Hill International. On Cue completed on her dressage score of 23.7 to take the Dutta Corp/USEF National CCI2* Championship.



Emily Beshear and Olney Uncle Sam. Photo by Jenni Autry.

Attwood is proud to celebrate Boyd and all the riders that train on Attwood that had great runs at Fair Hill. These riders include Boyd Martin, Will Faudree, Phillip Dutton, Lauren Kieffer, Sara Gumbiner, Caitlin Silliman, Annie Goodwin, Mike Pen, Dominic Schramm and Jenny Caras.



Boyd Martin and Long Island T. Photo by Jenni Autry



Will Faudree

Read more about the event [here](#).

Product Profile: Green Footing

Our footings are now available in a green shade. This 'Green Pinnacle' as we refer to it has all the properties of our high performing Pinnacle footing. Additionally, the colour resists fading, and does not wash out in rain.

Because our Green Pinnacle contains very pure fibres and polymeric coating, and no carpet scrap or recycled rubber which turns the footing black, we believe we are the only company capable of supplying a quality green product that will remain green throughout its life.



Product Highlights:

- Green Pinnacle now available
- Same exceptional properties as regular Pinnacle
- Attractive natural green colour
- Helps in cases of difficult local planning restrictions
- Green TerraNova and Eurotex in the pipeline

Focus on Green Footings:

When we developed our Green Pinnacle footing, one property we knew at the outset it should have, is that the green colour should not wash out in the rain. This was a challenge since our Pinnacle footing is used outdoors in wet climates, and the constant abrasion of sand and fibres could easily lead to loss of the colour. To simulate these conditions we adapted a test we developed many years ago to measure the longevity or lifetime of coated surfaces. The test inflicts the type of wear suffered by outdoor footing subject to the vagaries of weather, in regular use for many years, but takes place in the lab in a manageable timeframe. Thanks to the test we have been able to prove that the Green Pinnacle product we have developed does not lose any of its colour over the typical lifetime of Pinnacle footing.

Footing Facts - November 2018

Freezing Arenas



With winter approaching (at least in the Northern Hemisphere), we turn to a particular problem associated with the cold weather, that of a frozen riding surface. *** is where synthetic surfaces can score over turf. Particularly in the northern parts of the northern hemisphere we hear of race meetings postponed because of a frozen course, and of course for those football clubs without underground heating postponement of matches can be common. A properly constructed and maintained artificial riding surface can withstand the vagaries of cold weather much better than traditional turf. So let's look at the problem and solutions in more detail.

The obvious offender of a frozen surface is water. When pure water reaches zero degrees celsius it turns from liquid water to solid water known as ice. What perhaps isn't realised is that water does not necessarily need to be 'free' to freeze - there does not need to be a pool of water for it to freeze. This may seem obvious but is often overlooked. For instance water contained in moist soil, which is not obviously there as free water, will nevertheless freeze and give the impression that the soil has frozen. Similarly, water within a sand-based riding surface, whilst necessary to bind the sand grains together, will still freeze, rendering the surface hard and unforgiving.



To help mitigate the effects of freezing temperatures, a textile additive will help to provide some cushioning to a frozen surface. However there is only so much a textile can do. One possible, but controversial solution is to essentially apply an 'anti-freeze' to the surface. The product most often used is magnesium chloride, which is used as a de-icer on roads. A salt such as magnesium chloride works by dissolving into the water thereby reducing the temperature at which it freezes. For instance a 5% solution of magnesium chloride freezes at -5°C , whilst a 20% solution freezes at -35°C . So doing some quick maths, if a typical surface contains about 15% moisture then applying around 3% magnesium chloride will reduce the freezing point of the water contained in the surface to -35°C . A couple of potential problems associated with its use: firstly it will wash away in rain or irrigation so is pretty much confined to indoor arenas and will have a limited life before re-

application is required. Secondly, whilst magnesium chloride has been deemed safe for use on roads, it nevertheless is caustic and contains chloride which can accelerate rusting, and both iron and aluminium are attacked by magnesium chloride. There have been some reports of problems with the drying out of hooves, suggesting attack of keratin.

Of course one way to protect a surface from freezing is to keep the level of water to a minimum. This is where coated surfaces (should) come into their own, because they should not rely on the presence of water for their normal functioning. Attwood's polymer coated surfaces, Pinnacle and TerraNova, do not require watering so routinely contain no water if used indoors, or very little water if outdoors. However we find time and time again that our competitors' wax-based surfaces do freeze badly, and this is because they contain a lot of water. The reason for this is that wax on its own does not give the footing enough cohesion, plus it quickly wears off, so the customer is advised to water their wax arena in order to hold the surface together. When the cold weather comes along the surface freezes as badly as any uncoated surface.

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.

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

