





## • PBEC Success Story: Treating All of the

What's in This Newsletter

- **Factors** Watch New PBEC Commercial
- PBEC In the Media
- WEF Circuit Champion
- **PBEC Success Story: Treating All of the Factors**

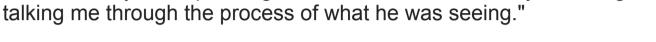
## Horses can injure themselves when you least expect it – sometimes even when they are not being exercised. That was the case for amateur rider

Kelly Berry, who is based in Georgia, and her 13-year-old Thoroughbred

gelding Sunny. Unfortunately, Sunny suffered a lateral collateral ligament injury in the pasture, necessitating eight months of rest. Berry thought they had done everything necessary to help Sunny return to shining form, but after coming back into work, Sunny was not able to stay consistently sound for longer than a month or two at a time. After trying various treatment strategies, it seemed like Berry was running out of options. Still, she was determined to help Sunny regain his show hunter career. Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Specialist Dr. Fernando J. Marqués, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM, Diplomate ACVSMR, of Palm Beach

Equine Clinic (PBEC) in Wellington, FL, was called upon to provide a consult. He used x-rays and ultrasound to investigate the source of the

problem and followed up with nerve blocks to confirm his diagnosis.



recalled Berry. "He spent a great deal of time with Sunny watching him and

"When Dr. Marqués met Sunny, the exam was very comprehensive,"

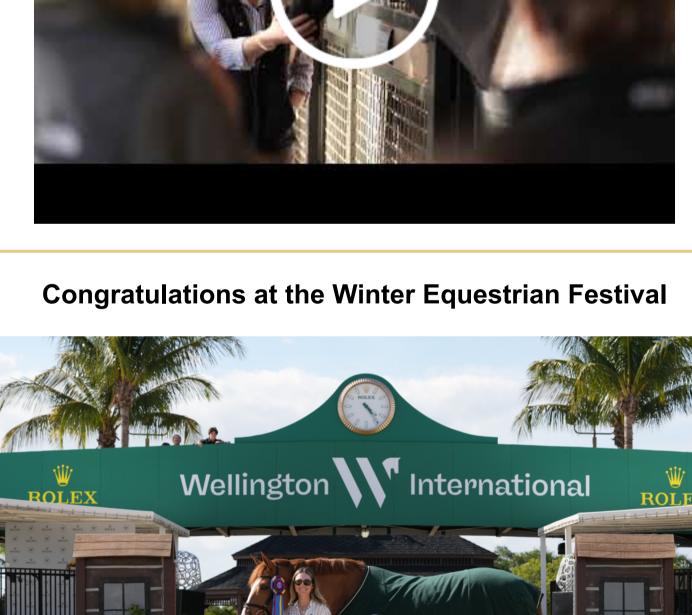
Kelly Berry and Sunny competing over fences. Photo courtesy of Kelly Berry

"I saw from the imaging that Sunny had significant pronounced osteoarthritis on the distal interphalangeal joints in both front legs," explained Dr. Marqués. "I then followed up with nerve blocks because sometimes you find pathologies on imaging, but that might not be what the

problem is. It might seem clear, but sometimes you can be amazed that what you see on ultrasound or x-ray is not what is causing the issue at the moment. We had to make sure we knew exactly where the problem was coming from and get a more accurate diagnosis before moving forward."



Following a successful treatment plan, Sunny returned to competition. Photo courtesy Click below to keep reading about Sunny's success story on The Plaid Horse. Read More Palm Beach Equine Clinic: Make Us a Part of Your Team



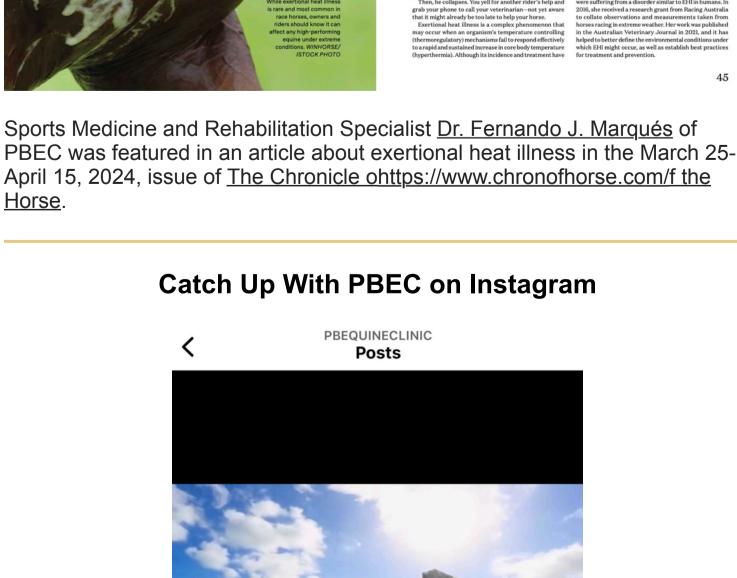
Elea Blue, shown here with groom Kait Quirk, ridden by Katie Dinan, and owned by Grant Road Partners LLC, was the Palm Beach Equine Clinic 1.35m Open Jumper Circuit Champion at the

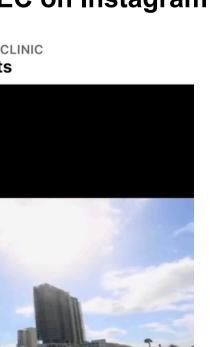
2024 Winter Equestrian Festival. Photo by Sportfot

**PBEC In the Media** 

Winter Equestrian **Festival** CIRCUIT CHAMPION

## You finish your conditioning ride and lead your horse into the barn. You noticed he felt a little underpowered towards the end of your last gallop set, but you chalk that up to the unseasonably hot and humid weather. He wasn't even sweat ting that much, you think, so he must be OK. Once you get him into the barn, however, he starts first shaking his head and then kicking out with a hind leg. He seems irritable, so you look all over for the fly that must be bothering him, but you can't find it. His skin feels extra hot when you touch it, seevest tyou don't have have a work. you, actung panickee and consused, tinen running over the he can't even see. hen, he collapses. You yell for another rider's help and your phone to call your veterinarian—not yet aware it might already be too late to help your horse. vertional heat illness is a complex phenomenon that occur when an organism's temperature controlling rmoregulatory) mechanisms fail to respond effectively yapid and sustained increase in core body temperature erthermia). Although its incidence and treatment have



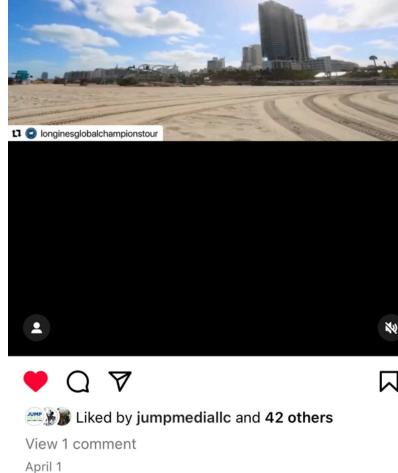


Too Hot To Handle

ataxia and confusion, and sudden collapse. Upon reviewing the literature, she concluded these horses were suffering from a disorder similar to EHI in humans. In 2016, she received a research grant from Racing Australia to collate observations and measurements taken from horses racing in extreme weather. Her work was published in the Australian Veterinary Journal in 2021, and it has helped to better define the environmental conditions under which EHI might occur, as well as establish best practices for treatment and prevention.

of problems for your horse, and quick diagnosis is

By CHRISTINA KEIM



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