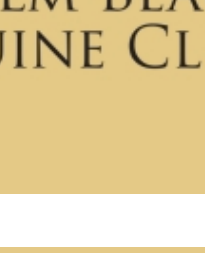




What's in This Newsletter



PALM BEACH
EQUINE CLINIC

- Exceptional Care for International Horse Arrivals
- Meet Madison McGee
- Join PBEC at OEPS!
- Make Us a Part of Your Team

PBEC Provides Exceptional Care to International Athletes from Runway to Show Ring

From the Rolex US Equestrian Open Grand Prix in Wellington, FL, to the Global Champions Tour (GCT) destinations in Miami and New York City, the United States is home to some of the most prestigious international jumping competitions in the industry, attracting horses from around the world to compete on American soil. Veterinarians from Palm Beach Equine Clinic (PBEC) in Wellington, FL, have extensive experience caring for horses arriving from other countries for these exciting events and maintaining their health during their stay at competitions.

Once the plane touches down at the airport, the journey to the show ring is just beginning. As each international horse steps off the plane, a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) veterinarian draws blood to test for equine piroplasmiasis, dourine, glanders, and equine infectious anemia (EIA) before the horse is moved to a USDA quarantine facility where it will stay for about 72 hours.



Horses must have blood drawn when they enter the United States. Photo courtesy of Dr. Janet Greenfield Davis

Dr. Janet Greenfield Davis of PBEC recommends that horses arrive in the U.S. at least three days before the FEI jog at their competition venue to ensure enough time to clear quarantine and travel to the show venue, while also confirming their arrival time lines up with the opening of FEI stabling.

Another factor to consider is whether the horse will quarantine for Contagious Equine Metritis (CEM). All mares and stallions will be quarantined and tested within the U.S. unless they are entering a CEM waiver tent on the show grounds. Mares will spend approximately 21 days in CEM quarantine, and stallions will stay approximately 35 days. Stallions will breed two mares as part of the requirement.

All eligible breeding equines, including mares and stallions, not entering CEM quarantine arriving from other countries to the show must be stabled in the CEM waiver tent, a separate, secure barn at the horse show, to avoid any potential accidental exposure to CEM, although that is a rare event. This area is regulated by the USDA and under restriction and monitoring.

Horses are not free to move about the show grounds unattended. It is not offered at every horse show; it is mostly used for horses who will spend a short amount of time in the U.S. If Dr. Greenfield Davis had to choose, she would bring her horses in early and partake in quarantine.

Biosecurity and horse health for these international athletes remain a priority throughout the event. Temperature checks are performed upon entry to FEI stabling and twice a day, and any horses with a fever are quickly isolated and treated. FEI stabling areas are closely monitored to ensure animal health and welfare is top priority. For horses in CEM barns, a USDA representative will accompany the horse to and from the riding areas.

Veterinarians from PBEC often travel to top horse shows in the U.S., including the GCT New York, which is scheduled for September 19-21 this year, to provide on-site care to the equine athletes. Luckily, Dr. Greenfield Davis reports that many international horses are accustomed to traveling long distances, and cases presented upon arrival tend to be mild.



PBEC veterinarians can be on hand to meet international horses when they arrive in the country. Photo courtesy of Dr. Janet Greenfield Davis

"Dehydration is the most common complication. Occasionally, a horse will develop cellulitis on one of their legs from a nick or cut. Some of them may arrive with a little bit of respiratory distress, but the airplanes are pretty well ventilated," Dr. Greenfield Davis shared, recommending that horses are closely monitored by caretakers for signs of inappetence, dehydration, or lethargy so that fluids or antibiotics can be administered if needed.

While there are many things to consider when it comes to equine health while traveling for international competition, Palm Beach Equine Clinic is committed to providing world-class care throughout the entire process to keep equine athletes performing their best. Reach out to us at 561-793-1599 for any questions about the importing process for international athletes.

Meet Madison McGee of PBEC

Madison McGee has held various positions at Palm Beach Equine Clinic (PBEC) in Wellington, FL, during the past four years, but she has settled into her current role in the hospital billing department. The barrel racer and trail rider is a Florida native and an integral part of the team.

Q: Where are you from, and what is your background with horses?

A: I am from Indiantown, Florida, and I've had horses since childhood. I began barrel racing at the age of 10 and still enjoy competing today. I also trail ride in the mountains with a string of mules behind me.



On the trail with Madison McGee

Q: When did you start working at PBEC and why?

A: I joined PBEC in 2021 because I've always had a strong interest in the medical and care side of the equine industry. I wanted to expand my knowledge and get more involved in this part of the field. Over the past four years, I've had the opportunity to take on several roles within the clinic. I first started as an imaging technician during the winter season, then worked as an ambulatory technician with Dr. Santiago Demierre for about two years. After that, I transitioned into an overnight hospital technician role before moving into my current position in the hospital billing department.

Q: How did you get into your current role of hospital billing?

A: While in Colorado, I had a skiing accident that resulted in a torn ACL and required surgery. Upon returning to work, I had to opt for a role that was less physically demanding than the responsibilities required of a hospital technician. Fortunately, the transition was seamless, as I had prior billing experience from my time working with Dr. Demierre, along with a solid understanding of hospital operations from my technician role. I quickly adapted to the new position, mastered the necessary systems and processes, and developed a strong proficiency in billing workflows and financial documentation.

Q: What is most rewarding for you about working at PBEC?

A: One of the most rewarding aspects of working at PBEC is seeing patients — especially critical or long-term care cases — recover successfully and return home healthy to their owners.



Madison McGee and her horse Cisco. Photo courtesy of Madison McGee

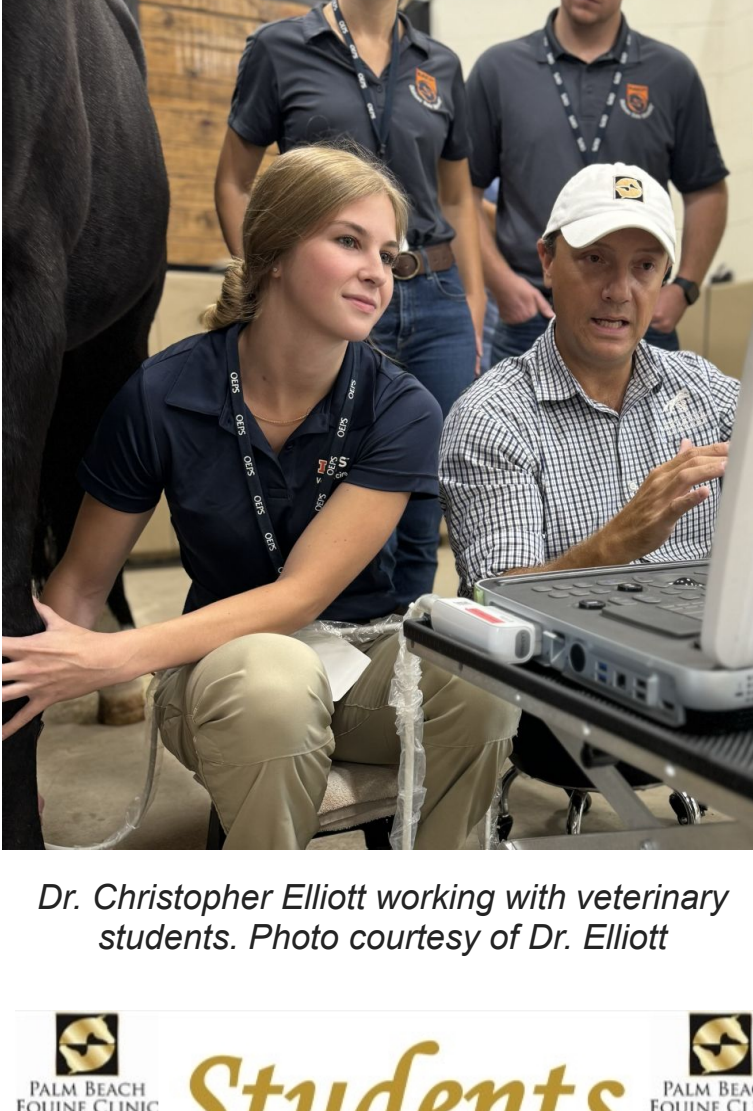
Q: What is a typical day like for you at work?

A: A typical day in my current role begins with collecting and sorting hospital documents from the previous day or weekend. I join morning rounds with the doctors and interns to stay updated on current cases. From there, I review each patient's notes from doctors, interns, and technicians, bill appropriately, and review invoices with the medical team. I also communicate with clients regarding their horse's hospital stay and invoicing procedures.

Q: What do you do in your free time?

A: Outside of work, I enjoy riding my horse and spending time outdoors, whether that's in the woods or at the beach with my dogs.

Join PBEC at OEPS!



Dr. Christopher Elliott working with veterinary students. Photo courtesy of Dr. Elliott

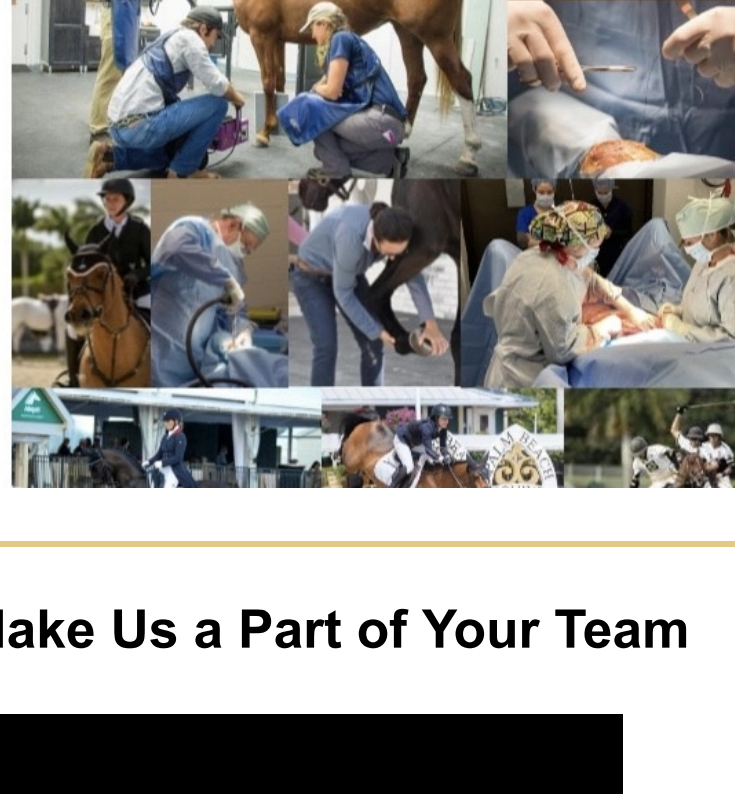


Students

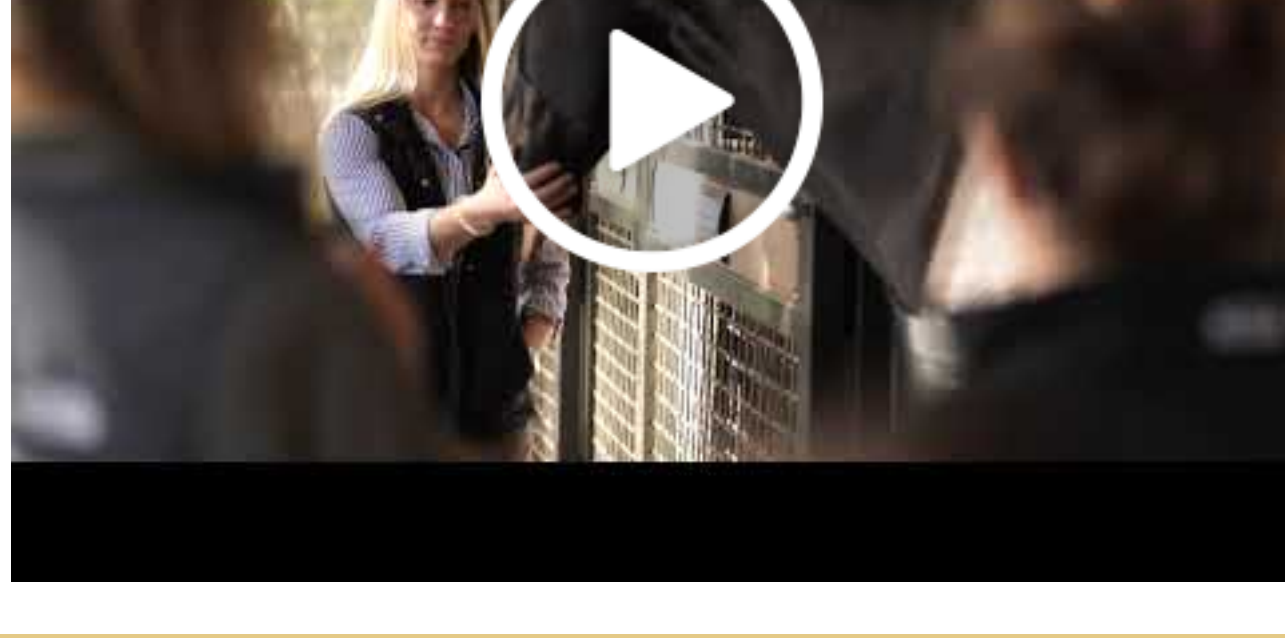
Palm Beach Equine Clinic welcomes veterinary students all year

- Busy Season is October – May
- Elite Level Jumping, Dressage & Polo
- 30+ Vets including several Board Certified Specialists
- Surgery, Medicine, Diagnostic Imaging, Sports Medicine
- Ambulatory & Hospital
- MRI, CT, Scintigraphy, Ultrasound, Radiography
- Acupuncture, Chiropractic, Laser & Regenerative medicine
- Official FEI vets for the Winter Equestrian Festival
- Freestyle Dressage Friday nights
- Grand Prix Jumping Saturday nights
- High Goal Polo Sunday afternoon
- Internship, Internships & Residency programs

"Come for the Weather – Stay for the Learning"



Palm Beach Equine Clinic: Make Us a Part of Your Team



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