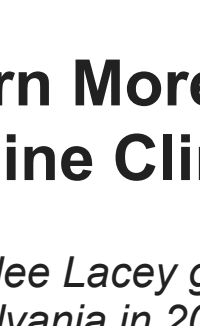


What's in This Newsletter



PALM BEACH
EQUINE CLINIC

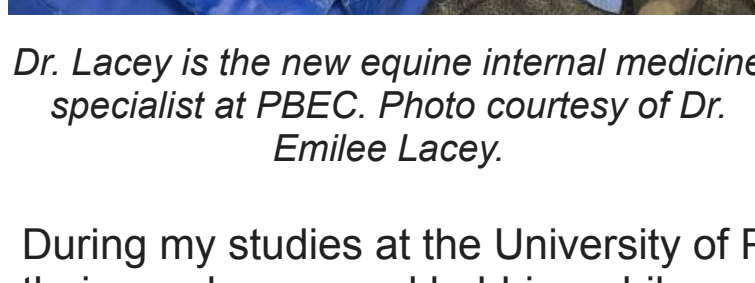
- Meet Dr. Emilee Lacey
- An Inside Look at LGCT New York
- Wellington Winner
- Make Us a Part of Your Team

Learn More About Dr. Emilee Lacey, Palm Beach Equine Clinic's New Internal Medicine Specialist

Dr. Emilee Lacey grew up in California, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2021, and completed an internship at Sports Medicine Associates of Chester County in Cochransville, PA. She has been immersed in the sport horse world her entire life, but her passion for managing fevers, respiratory disorders, and neurologic disease led her away from lameness exams and toward internal medicine. Dr. Lacey completed her large animal internal medicine residency and obtained a Master's of Science in Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA, this summer. She joined Palm Beach Equine Clinic in August 2025.

What first sparked your love of horses?

My love for horses started at a very young age, but it was really nurtured by my horse-loving grandmother, aunt, and mom. After what felt like years of begging, my mom finally put me in horseback riding lessons when I was in grade school. After about a year of consistent riding, I convinced my mom to let us buy my aunt's horse, Chili, an off-the-track Thoroughbred (OTTB) that was barely restarted and literally lived across the country in Maryland. She came off the trailer in California like a typical green OTTB: head straight up in the air, nostrils flared, and breathing like a dragon. I was only seven years old at the time, and I thought this was the BEST DAY EVER. My trainer had very different thoughts. This mare not only taught me to ride; she also taught me valuable horsemanship skills I still utilize today. Many other horses have come after Chili, but this mare will always be the spark that truly ignited my love for horses.



Dr. Lacey is the new equine internal medicine specialist at PBEC. Photo courtesy of Dr. Emilee Lacey.

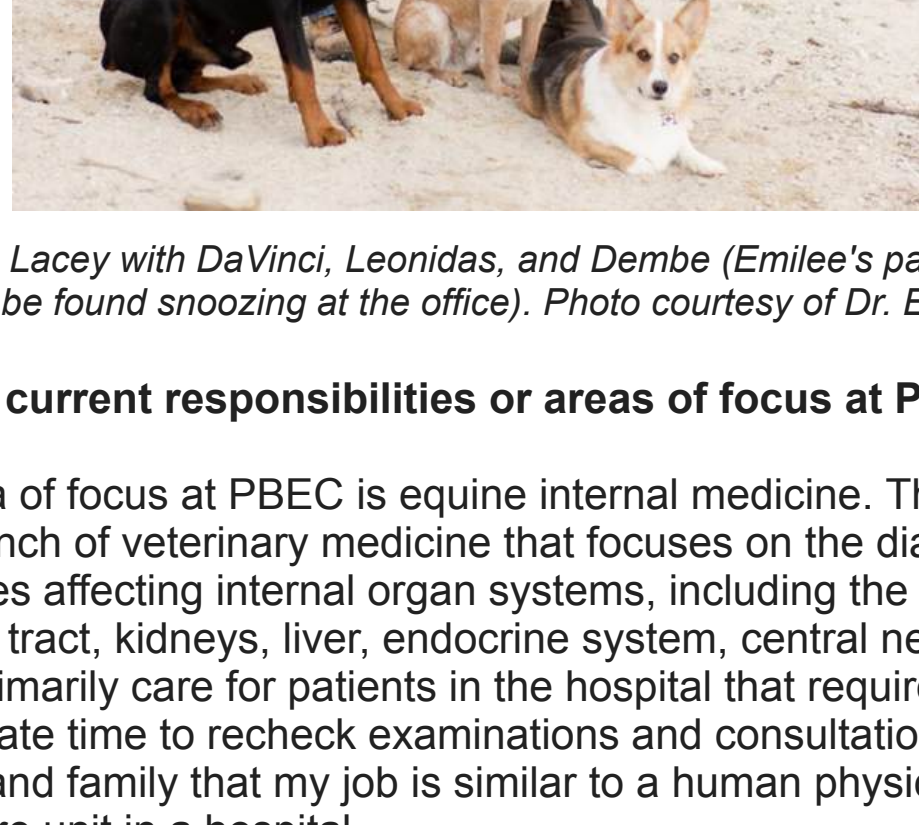
What inspired you to become a large animal veterinarian?

I've known I wanted to be a veterinarian since I was three years old. I halfheartedly joke that the words "I want to be a vet" were actually my first coherent words. I spent my childhood years obsessed with every TV show or movie that even slightly mentioned veterinary medicine, earned every Girl Scout patch remotely related to veterinary medicine or animals, and volunteered as much time as I could in any clinic or with any equine veterinarian that would take me.

When I finally made it to veterinary school, I was convinced I had to be a small animal veterinarian to have time for my own horses. I was so wrong!

During my studies at the University of Pennsylvania, I met many vets who had their own horses and hobbies while maintaining an excellent work-life balance. I also realized that not only was I more interested in large animal medicine, but I was also better at it because I could connect with the owners. I am a horse owner first, and a veterinarian second. I understand how these special animals can become a part of your family.

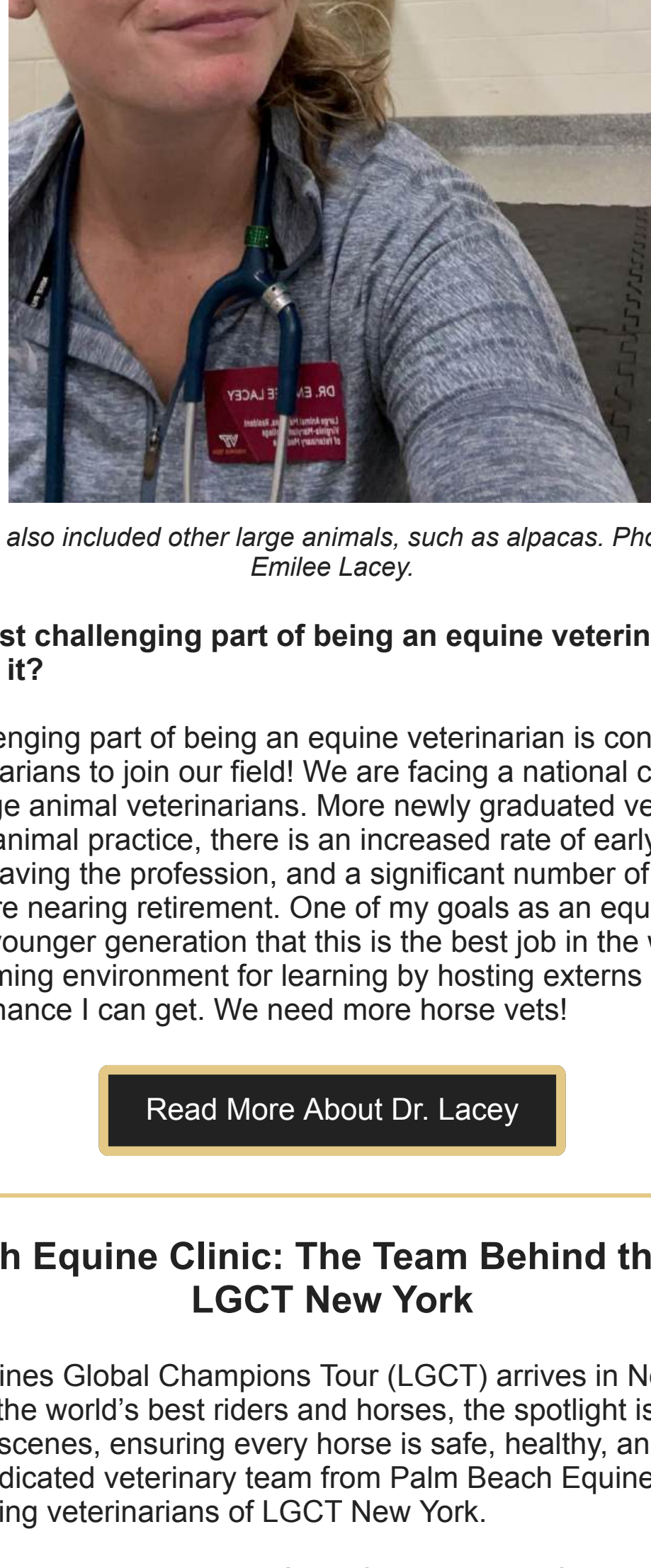
After veterinary school, I completed an internship with Sports Medicine Associates of Chester County in Pennsylvania. I developed a special interest in managing poor performance that is not related to lameness. Diseases like Equine Asthma, myofibrillar myopathy, gastric ulceration, chronic hepatopathy, and heart murmurs all pulled me away from lameness exams and toward internal medicine. After my internship, I was humbled and honored to complete a large animal internal medicine residency at the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine in Blacksburg, VA. This three-year-long opportunity was a lot of hard work, but I loved every minute. When you love what you do, it doesn't feel like work. I truly have the best job in the world!



Mike and Emilee Lacey with DaVinci, Leonidas, and Dembe (Emilee's partner in crime that can usually be found snoozing at the office). Photo courtesy of Dr. Emilee Lacey.

What are your current responsibilities or areas of focus at PBEC?

My current area of focus at PBEC is equine internal medicine. This is a specialized branch of veterinary medicine that focuses on the diagnosing and treating diseases affecting internal organ systems, including the heart, lungs, gastrointestinal tract, kidneys, liver, endocrine system, central nervous system, and others. I primarily care for patients in the hospital that require intensive care, but I also dedicate time to recheck examinations and consultations in the field. I tell my friends and family that my job is similar to a human physician working in an intensive care unit in a hospital.



Dr. Lacey's work also included other large animals, such as alpacas. Photo courtesy of Dr. Emilee Lacey.

What's the most challenging part of being an equine veterinarian, and how do you handle it?

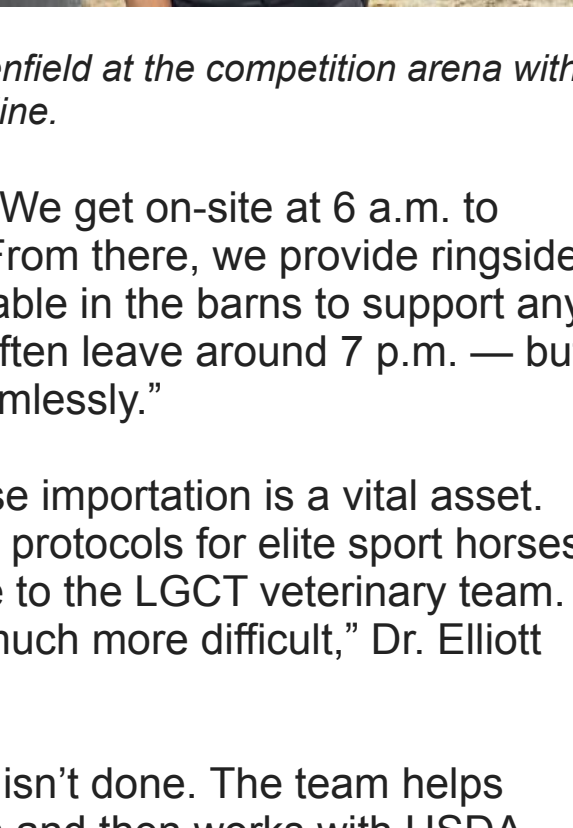
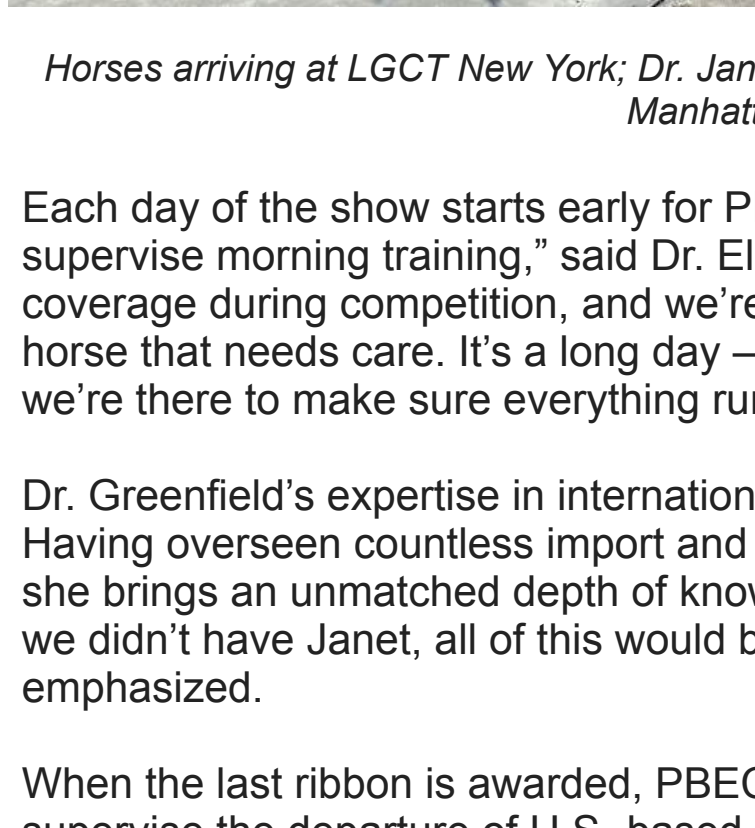
The most challenging part of being an equine veterinarian is convincing young, aspiring veterinarians to join our field! We are facing a national crisis due to the shortage of large animal veterinarians. More newly graduated veterinarians are entering small animal practice, there is an increased rate of early-career equine veterinarians leaving the profession, and a significant number of equine veterinarians are nearing retirement. One of my goals as an equine veterinarian is to show the younger generation that this is the best job in the world. I try to create a welcoming environment for learning by hosting externs and teaching interns every chance I can get. We need more horse vets!

[Read More About Dr. Lacey](#)

Palm Beach Equine Clinic: The Team Behind the Horses at LGCT New York

When the Longines Global Champions Tour (LGCT) arrives in New York, bringing with it the world's best riders and horses, the spotlight is on the sport. But behind the scenes, ensuring every horse is safe, healthy, and competition-ready, is the dedicated veterinary team from Palm Beach Equine Clinic (PBEC), the official treating veterinarians of LGCT New York.

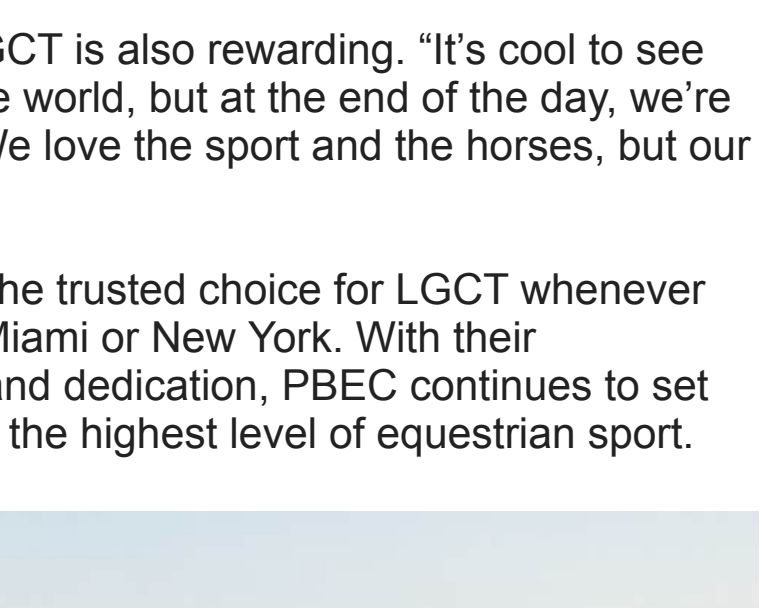
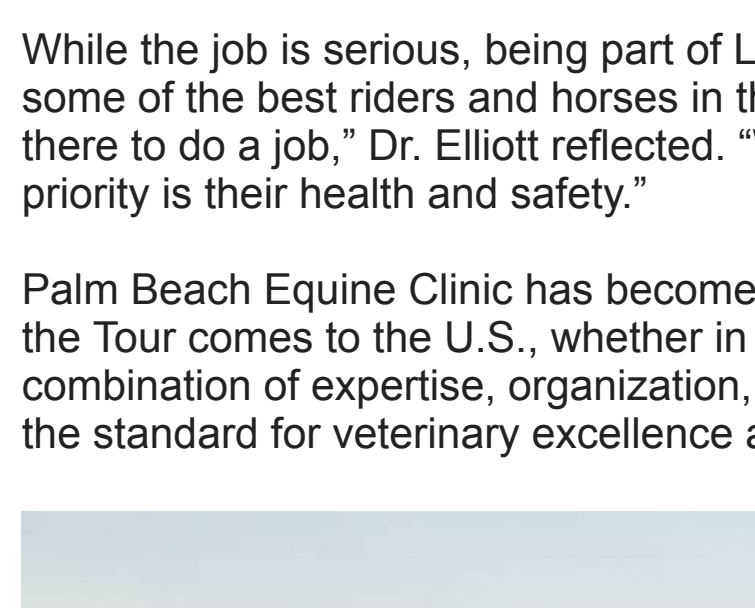
Dr. Christopher Elliott and Dr. Janet Greenfield lead PBEC's operations at the iconic venue, working closely with the LGCT management, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the event's FEI veterinary delegate to ensure everything runs smoothly. Their role begins long before the first hoof touches American soil.



Dr. Christopher Elliott and Dr. Janet Greenfield were the Palm Beach Equine Clinic representatives as the Official Treating Veterinarians of the Longines Global Champions Tour New York.

"It starts a long time before horses ever arrive," explained Dr. Greenfield. "We're involved in the planning well in advance, liaising with USDA veterinarians and state officials, as well as the LGCT organizers, to make sure the stabling complex and importation protocols meet all requirements for temporary entry."

European horses begin their journey at JFK's Animal Reception Center (ARC), where they undergo strict quarantine procedures for 48 hours under USDA supervision. Once cleared, the USDA and PBEC veterinarians ensure protocols remain in place at the showgrounds, keeping international and domestic horses separate and healthy throughout the week. "Our job is to bridge the gap between the USDA requirements, the competition organizers, and the horses themselves so everyone is ready for a phenomenal competition," explained Dr. Greenfield.

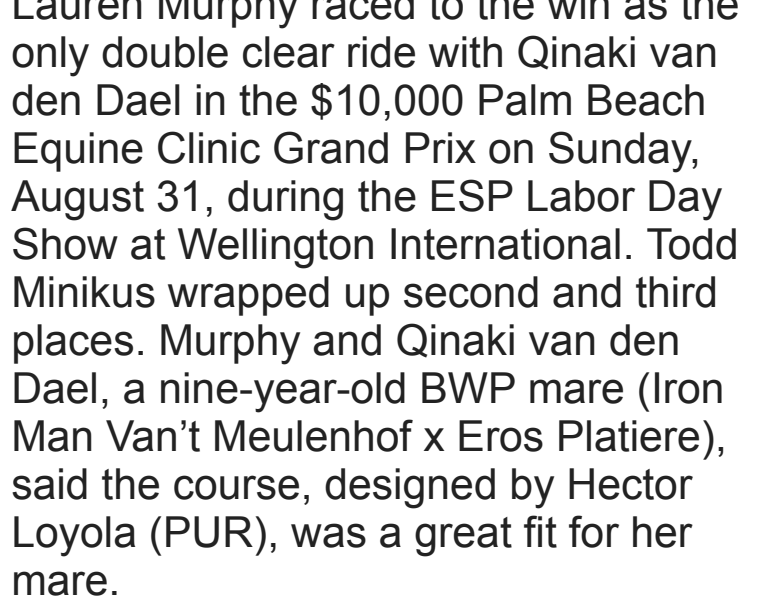


Horses arriving at LGCT New York; Dr. Janet Greenfield at the competition arena with the Manhattan skyline.

Each day of the show starts early for PBEC. "We get on-site at 6 a.m. to supervise morning training," said Dr. Elliott. "From there, we provide ringside coverage during competition, and we're available in the barns to support any horse that needs care. It's a long day — we often leave around 7 p.m. — but we're there to make sure everything runs seamlessly."

Dr. Greenfield's expertise in international horse importation is a vital asset. Having overseen countless import and export protocols for elite sport horses, she brings an unmatched depth of knowledge to the LGCT veterinary team. "If we didn't have Janet, all of this would be so much more difficult," Dr. Elliott emphasized.

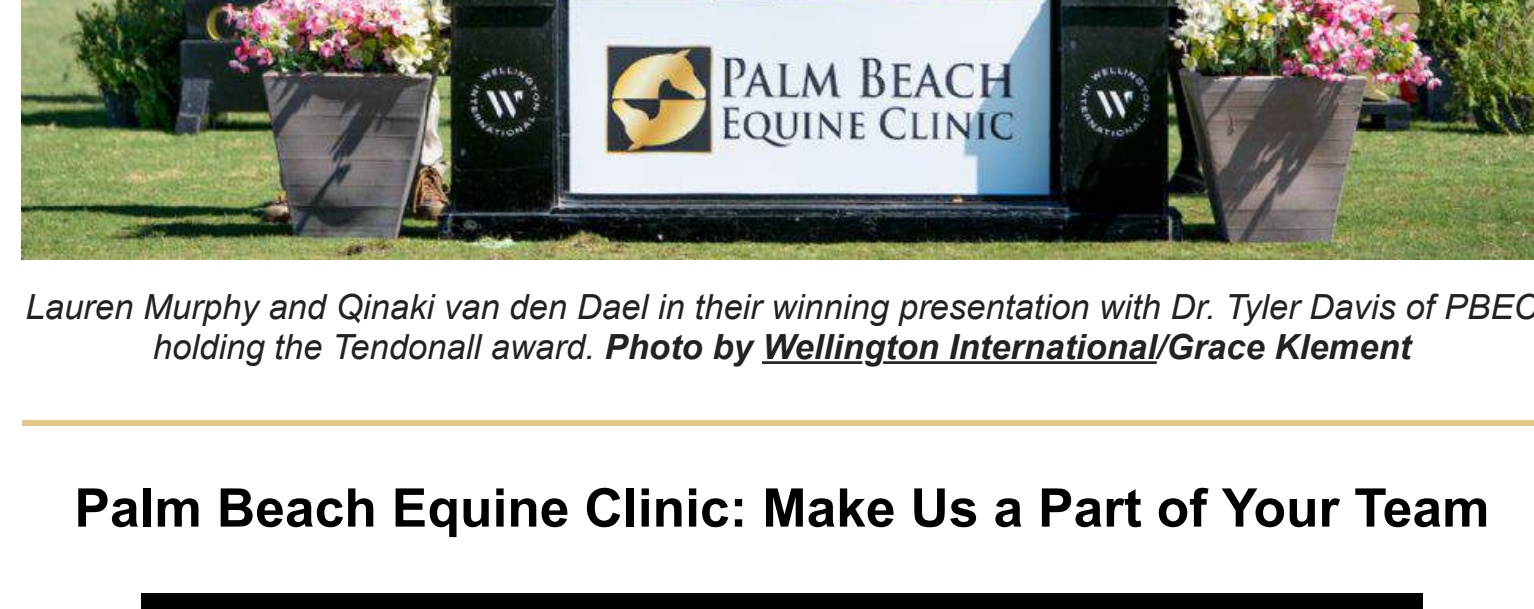
When the last ribbon is awarded, PBEC's job isn't done. The team helps supervise the departure of U.S.-based horses and then works with USDA officials to prepare international horses for their return flights, confirming identities, checking microchips, and ensuring paperwork is correct.



The horse inspection with Lady Liberty as the backdrop; PBEC vets were ringside for the entire event.

While the job is serious, being part of LGCT is also rewarding. "It's cool to see some of the best riders and horses in the world, but at the end of the day, we're there to do a job," Dr. Elliott reflected. "We love the sport and the horses, but our priority is their health and safety."

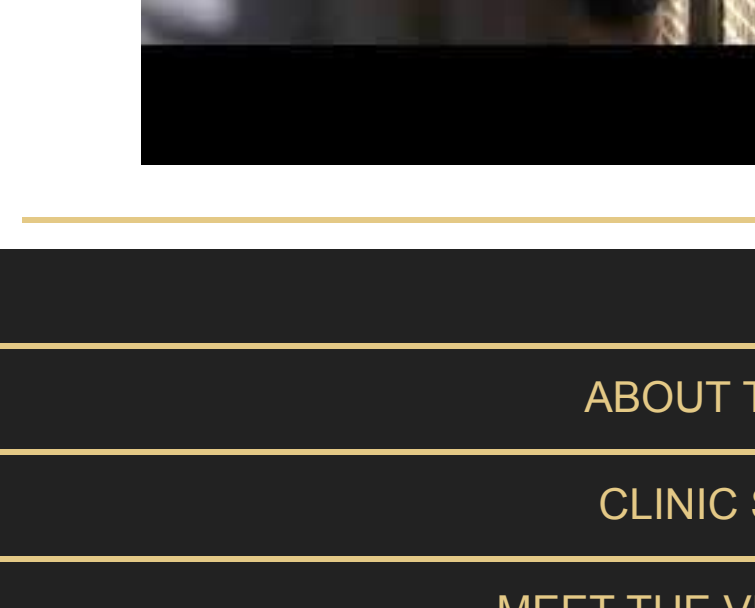
Palm Beach Equine Clinic has become the trusted choice for LGCT whenever the Tour comes to the U.S., whether in Miami or New York. With their combination of expertise, organization, and dedication, PBEC continues to set the standard for veterinary excellence at the highest level of equestrian sport.



Dr. Janet Greenfield and Dr. Christopher Elliott on the final day of competition. All photos courtesy of Drs. Greenfield and Elliott.

For more details, read the article in PBEC's series on international horse importation and quarantine, featuring Dr. Janet Greenfield, in the October 2025 print issue of [The Plaid Horse magazine](#).

Wellington Winner



Lauren Murphy and Qinkai van den Dael won the \$10,000 Palm Beach Equine Clinic Grand Prix as the only double clear. Photo by Wellington International/Grace Klement

Lauren Murphy raced to the win as the only double clear ride with Qinkai van den Dael in the \$10,000 Palm Beach Equine Clinic Grand Prix on Sunday, August 31, during the ESP Labor Day Show at Wellington International. Todd Minikus wrapped up second and third places. Murphy and Qinkai van den Dael, a nine-year-old BWP mare (Iron Man Van't Meulenhof x Eros Platiere), said the course, designed by Hector Loyola (PUR), was a great fit for her mare.

Murphy and "Kiki" stepped up to the 1.50m level this summer and were happy to show on the grass field. "We're really excited about her. We love doing on the field here, producing our younger ones so they're ready for the international sport come winter," she said.

Lauren Murphy and Qinkai van den Dael in their winning presentation with Dr. Tyler Davis of PBEC holding the Tendonall award. Photo by Wellington International/Grace Klement

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

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