

Northeast Association
of Equine Practitioners



An Invitation to Excellence

Podiatry Symposium Topics & Speakers

14 CE Hours
September 24th - 25th, 2009
Groton, Connecticut

Welcome to the Podiatry Program portion of the NEAEP's 2010 An Invitation To Excellence Annual Symposium. The NEAEP understands the importance of developing and maintaining a strong working relationship between veterinarians and farriers as one of the key components to a successful equine practice. In our continuing efforts to foster and promote this relationship, the NEAEP is proud to announce the program for the Podiatry portion of our Annual Symposium. Last year's program was a resounding success and we look forward to continuing to improve on that experience with this year's new list of speakers and topics. The NEAEP Board of Directors includes several farriers - Dave Birdsall, Drew Golden, Bob Pethick, and George Fitzgerald - making us unique among current equine organizations. We are excited about the unique perspective we gain from the direct input from our farrier Board Members, such as the development of this year's farrier program. We look forward to seeing you in Connecticut this year!

Speakers & Topics



Meike van Heel, Phd
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Development and Influence of Uneven Feet on Limb Loading and Performance of Warmblood Horses

Overall body conformation and especially distal limb conformation is related to the ability to perform as to the susceptibility to injuries. The modern Warmblood horse that acts as an athlete in various equestrian activities evolved in less than 50 years from a much heavier and robust, rustic horse that was mainly used in transport and agriculture. One commonly encountered conformational fault is the occurrence of two differently shaped and sized front feet, or uneven feet. The clinical significance of uneven feet is unclear but is often related to lameness, but is also commonly encountered at pre-purchase exams in sound horses. In this presentation the development of (uneven) feet from foal to adult and the possible consequences for symmetrical performance will be addressed

Trimming and Shoeing Today's Equine Athlete with Special Emphasis on Front Feet

Most dropouts in equestrian sports are the result of lameness problems in the horse and these are often the result of overload injuries. These injuries occur when the loading of a limb exceeds the loading capacity. In a time where the human market is filled with specific shoes for each sport, most horses still perform on shoes that are essentially the same as those invented more than 2000 years ago. For the optimization of shoes and shoeing techniques for today's sport horses it is essential to know in detail the effects of normal trimming and shoeing. Based on the results of these studies and discussions with a reference group the question was raised to study a new shoe was that could benefit the horse's limb loading and movement.

Effects of Trimming and Shoeing on Limb Movement and Loading in Hind Feet

Trimming and Shoeing are proven to influence the horse's limb movement and loading. Especially in front feet the results of various scientific studies have gained knowledge about the effects and the importance of proper trimming and shoeing. For the front feet it is proven Equi-Librium shoes; shoes with a rounded toe, smoothen the process of hoof-unrollment, which improves the co-ordination of this process, and lowers peak loading of the distal limb. For hind feet such effects have not been studied yet although shoes do effect the limb loading and movement as well. Although the anatomy of the distal hind limb is similar to the front, the function of the hind limb is quite different. But what features a hind shoe and how can the horse benefit from shoes in hind feet? Before starting a study the question was discussed in a reference group which consisted of farriers, veterinarians and scientists. Out of this discussion we derived research questions, to see how shoes affect hindlimb loading and movement.



Bob Pethick, CJF

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An evidence based discussion of shoeing variables and the effect on hoof balance Part 1

This presentation will focus on what we consider "balance" in the medial/lateral plane. We will be taking a close look at management of the hoof capsule for sheared heels and quarter cracks.

An evidence based discussion of shoeing variables and the effect on hoof balance Part 2

This presentation will focus on what we consider "balance" in the anterior/posterior plane. We will be discussing management and shoeing options for high/low syndrome to facilitate the best movement possible for the individual and at the same time promote function of the hoof capsule.



Michael E. Miller, MD, CJF, FWCF

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The Mirage of the Natural Foot

Farriers and horsemen have discussed a debated methods of equine foot care for hundreds of years. Recent new advocates for barefoot and "natural" hoofcare have strongly stated opinions, but little data to support their recommendations. This is a review of 200 years of history, and techniques recently suggested for "natural" equine foot care. The results of the only known controlled comparison study of trimming techniques to date casts doubt on the idea of a single ideal model for the healthy foot. "The Problem of 'Breakover'": There is much controversy over the concept of "breakover" as it relates to the gaits and biomechanics of the horse in motion. A great many techniques have been suggested to alter "breakover" without ever defining the term itself. This talk reviews various concepts and definitions of "breakover". We will also discuss the ability and limitations of farriers, trainers, and veterinarians to alter breakover in a measurable way.

The Problem of Breakover

Farriers and veterinarians have been talking about "breakover" of the horse's foot for many years, but have never clearly defined the term. "Breakover" is described as an anatomical point on the equine foot, a mechanical action, or a point in the gait cycle and in other ways. We speak of altering the speed or direction of breakover with manipulations of the foot with no clear evidence that we can have any effect at all on the basic gait of the horse. Recent evidence suggests that, except in extreme cases, different techniques of shoeing or trimming have minimal practical effect on the equine gait.



Philippe Benoit, DVM, MS

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Podoblock X-ray Equipment

How to Read Feet X-rays

This lecture will describe the different views of the foot used for farrier and veterinary practice. Different tools will be describe in order to evaluate the structure and the contour of the bone, as well as the margins the joint.

Examples of Abnormal Images

As the second part of reading front feet X-rays, different type of common lesions will be shown and discussed so farriers can recognize a series of front feet pathologies.



Bill Bradley, DVM

Diseases and Injury to the Hoof Capsule

This presentation will focus on gross anatomy of the hoof capsule, Histological anatomy of the hoof capsule, Laminitis/founder, There will be some discussion of the histopathological changes which occur in acute laminitis and the timing at which these changes occur. There will be a very brief discussion of therapy for both acute and chronic disease. Quarter cracks, Keratomas, Sub-solar contusions, hematomas, and abscesses (including third phalangeal sequestration), Hoof capsule and coronary band trauma (including penetrating wounds)

Caudal Foot Pain

The clinical presentation of various causes of lameness emanating from the posterior portion of the foot. Diagnostic tools available to the practitioner with an emphasis on comparison of different imaging modalities. Therapeutic options (with an emphasis on those diseases which are best defined by MRI)



Derek Poupard, CJF, Dip WCF

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An alternative Glue on Shoeing technique - The Innovative QuixShoe

Introduces the QuixShoe, a new in-situ horseshoe mold as an alternative therapeutic application. This presentation will include a step by step on applying and the positive results of this innovative application.



Scott Lampert

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Equine Gait Analysis and Documentation in Your Practice

Scott Lampert will discuss the business and financial advantages of utilizing Analysis, Documentation and Reporting software. Several examples will illustrate the practical applications including: Pre/Post shoeing, Prescriptions, Quarter Cracks, Lameness and Pre-Purchase exams. For over two decades, Scott Lampert has shod top-level Hunter/Jumpers, National Arabians Champions and World Champion Cutters. A graduate of the Kentucky Horseshoeing

School, Scott uses a practical approach when shoeing performance horses. Shoeing horses worldwide, Scott gained a passion to studying the effects of shoeing and the benefits toward improving soundness. This dedication was the driving force for Scott to develop the ONTRACKEQUINE software. Using the slow motion feature of the videos and the detailed documentation of pictures, Scott developed a clear way to identify and illustrate common hoof distortion.

Podiatry Schedule

Friday 24th, 2010

7-8 am - Symposium Registration

Marriott Ballroom D

8-8:50am - An evidence based discussion of shoeing variables and the effect on hoof balance Part 1
Bob Pethick, CJF

9-9:50am - An evidence based discussion of shoeing variables and the effect on hoof balance Part 2
Bob Pethick, CJF

10-10:50am - Hoof Wall Separation Disease & Injury - **Dr. Bill Bradley**

11-11:55 - Break in Exhibitors Room (Mystic Ballroom A-D)

12-12:50pm - Caudal Foot Pain Imagine & Therapy - **Dr. Bill Bradley**

1-2:30pm - Lunch (Mystic Ballroom A-D)

2:30-3:20pm - Trimming and Shoeing Today's Equine Athlete with Special Emphasis on Front Feet
Meike van Heel, Phd

3:30-4:20pm - Effects of Trimming and Shoeing on Limb Movement and Loading in Hind Feet
Meike van Heel, Phd

4:30-5:20pm - Equine Gait Analysis and Documentation in your practice - **Scott Lampert**

7:30pm - **Transportation to Downtown Mystic**

Saturday 25th, 2010

Marriott Ballroom D

8-8:50am - The Mirage of the Natural Foot - **Michael E. Miller, MD, CJF, FWCF**

9-9:50am - The Problem of 'Breakover' - **Michael E. Miller, MD, CJF, FWCF**

10-10:50am - How to read feet X-rays - **Dr. Philippe Benoit**

11-11:55 - Break in Exhibitors Room (Mystic Ballroom A-D)

12-12:50pm - Examples of abnormal images - **Dr. Philippe Benoit**

1-2:30pm - Lunch (Mystic Ballroom A-D)

2:30-3:20pm - An alternative Glue on Shoeing Technique - **Derek Poupard, CJF, Dip WCF**

3:30-4:20pm - Development and Influence of Uneven Feet on Limb Loading and Performance of Warmblood Horses - **Meike van Heel, Phd**

4:30-5:20pm - (Farriers and Veterinarians working Together in Clinical Situations and Environmental Surroundings) **Mike Miller, Drew Golden, George Fitzgerald, Dave Birdsall, Bob Pethick, Dr. Kit Miller, Dr. Stephen Soule, Dr. Bill Bradley**

7:20pm - **Transportation to Downtown Mystic**