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PBEC Success Story: An Injury With More Than Meets the Eye

As every horse owner knows, even in the most calculated situations, accidents can happen. As accomplished dressage professionals based at their Stoney Lake Equestrian in Stouffville, Ontario, Canada, and in Wellington, Florida, for the winter, Jaimey and Tina Irwin are well versed in horse care on the good days and the bad ones. Tina is a Canadian Pan American Games team gold and individual silver medalist, while Jaimey has also represented Canada at the FEI Dressage World Cup™ Final. Despite their decades of experience, they were still surprised when a training accident became a more serious issue.

One of the horses in the Irwins' stables is Feininger, known as "Feine" in the barn. The Irwins purchased the Oldenburg gelding in Germany as a coming three-year-old in March 2021 with the hope of developing him into a future dressage star. However, during the 2023 winter season in Florida, he suffered a setback.

"Our assistant was lunging Feine when a palm frond fell and it spooked him, causing him to fall on the lunge line," explained Tina. "He seemed okay after the fall initially, but later in the day he had some swelling on his hip. He had a temperature, and his respiration rate was quite high, so we had the vet out right away."

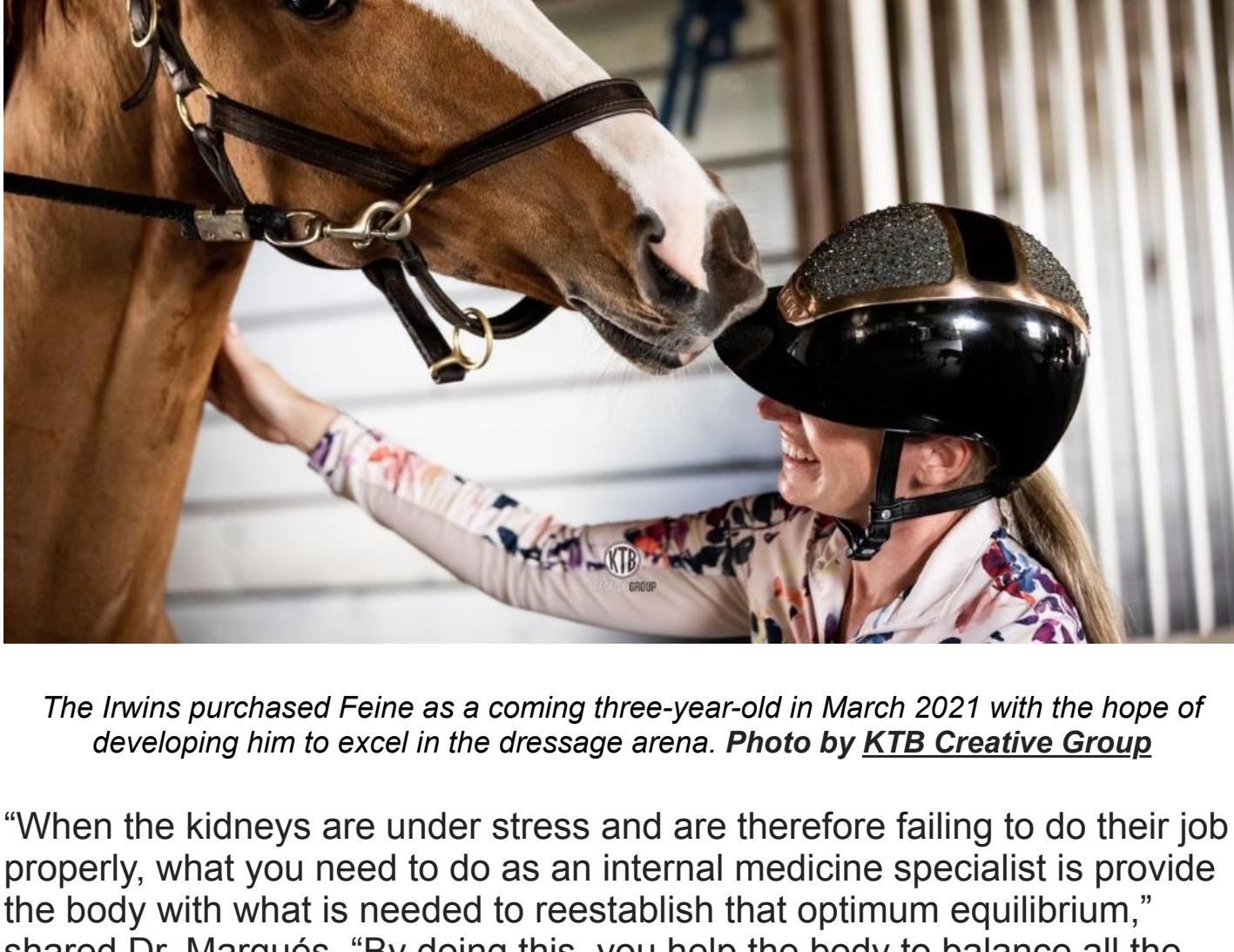


Since his Acute Kidney Injury, Feine competed successfully over the 2023 summer season with Jaimey Irwin. Photo courtesy of Team Irwin Dressage

When the Irwins' regular veterinarian arrived, they checked Feine's blood levels and discovered the kidney values were elevated. At that point, it became apparent something more was going on than a typical lameness, and Feine was referred to Palm Beach Equine Clinic (PBEC), where Internal Medicine Specialist Dr. Fernando J. Marqués, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM, Diplomate ACVSMR, took over the case.

"I ran more specific blood work, a complete urinalysis, and I did a thorough ultrasonographic examination," said Dr. Marqués of his diagnostic investigation. "When I performed the ultrasound, I saw that the horse had a hematoma on the pole of the kidney on the side that he fell. My other tests revealed that the horse was in acute renal failure, further supporting the finding on ultrasound. In sports medicine, we commonly talk about tendons, joints, and muscles, and sometimes we forget that horses have internal organs that can also fail. Just because you cannot see it doesn't mean that everything is fine."

Feine was admitted to PBEC for a few days so he could be properly treated for Acute Kidney Injury. Because the kidneys are such pivotal organs in maintaining the body's balance, called homeostasis, the injury compromised Feine's body's ability to regulate the degree of acidity in the blood, electrolyte and water levels, and other substance concentrations.



The Irwins purchased Feine as a coming three-year-old in March 2021 with the hope of developing him to excel in the dressage arena. Photo by KTB Creative Group

"When the kidneys are under stress and are therefore failing to do their job properly, what you need to do as an internal medicine specialist is provide the body with what is needed to reestablish that optimum equilibrium," shared Dr. Marqués. "By doing this, you help the body to balance all the things that cannot be balanced by the kidneys until the kidneys heal."

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Scenes From the Winter Equestrian Festival

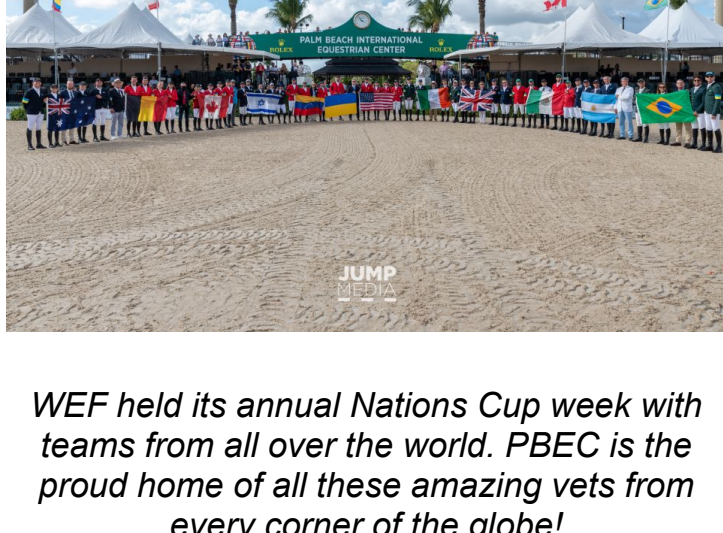


Interstellar and Melanie Dutton competing in the Amateur Jumpers. Photo by Sportfoto



Amira Kettaneh and Nashville Hero flying over the PBEC jump in the \$32,000 BrainJuice U25 Semi-Final Grand Prix. Photo by Sportfoto

Palm Beach Equine Clinic Serves International Roster of Horses at WEF CSIO4* Week



WEF held its annual Nations Cup week with teams from all over the world. PBEC is the proud home of all these amazing vets from every corner of the globe!



Under the guidance of Veterinary Services Manager Dr. Christopher Elliott (pictured with Dr. Jamie Clark and Dr. Richard Wheeler), our veterinarians are ring side providing emergency care to horses if the need arises, and also in the stables. In last week's CSIO competition, this also meant providing services to any nations without a Team Veterinarian. Photo courtesy of Dr. Christopher Elliott

Alongside our core of American vets 🇺🇸 we have vets from: Canada 🇨🇦 (Dr. Allendorf, Dr. Watt, and Dr. Barrett), Argentina 🇦🇷 (Dr. Chunco, Dr. Marqués, and Dr. Demierre), Great Britain 🇬🇧 (Dr. Wheeler, Intern Austra and Intern Ellie), Ireland 🇮🇪 (Dr. Hutton), Australia 🇦🇺 (Dr. Elliott), Columbia 🇨🇴 (Dr. Gomez and Dr. Novoa), Switzerland 🇨🇭 (Intern Carina), Italy 🇮🇹 (Intern Cecilia), and Jamaica 🇯🇲 (Intern Lesley). Photo by Jump Media



Dr. Kathleen Timmins of PBEC was one of the 3 FEI veterinarians on the Veterinary Commission for the CSIO4* competition. 🐾 Her role includes checking horses on arrival to assess they are healthy to enter the stables and conducting the horse inspection, aka "The Jog," which checks that the horses are fit to compete. She is then ring-side and in the stables ensuring the overall health and welfare of all horses competing. Photo by Jump Media



Palm Beach Equine Clinic is the official treating veterinarian for the Winter Equestrian Festival. 🎉 Congratulations to Team Ireland 🇮🇪 Team Canada 🇨🇦 and Team USA 🇺🇸 who prevailed as the Top 3 finishers in the Nations Cup! 🏆 Photo courtesy of Dr. Christopher Elliott



[On the Blog](#)
BarnManager Horse Health Series: Caring for the Senior Sport Horse

PBEC In the Media

Learn more about caring for the senior horse in this second part of a recent blog post on [BarnManager.com](#).

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Catch Up With PBEC on Instagram



Liked by jen_wood_ryder and 91 others
pbequineclinic On this #FoalFriday, we're sending congratulations to Lexi Ray on the arrival of a beautiful new filly from a successful embryo transfer last... more
spycoastfarm She's stunning!! ❤️❤️❤️

1 week ago

