

# The 8th Equine Sports Medicine Symposium Schedule Focus on Breathing Easier

Friday, August 21, 2026 & Saturday, August 22, 2026

Sponsored by the Carolina Equine Sports Medicine Education Foundation  
Chatham County Convention Center, Pittsboro, North Carolina  
[www.EquineSportsMedicineSymposium.com](http://www.EquineSportsMedicineSymposium.com)

## Friday Morning, August 21st - Moderator:

8:30-9:00 CESMEF Welcome and Updates

9:00-9:50 Asthma in horses and humans: Understanding Types of Asthma and Why it Matters  
Katie Sheats, DVM, PhD, DACVIM- LAIM, PGCHE

9:50-10:00 Break -Sponsored Speaker

10:00-10:50 Diagnosis of Equine Asthma: From the Field to the Research Lab  
Laurent Couëtil, DVM, PhD, DACVIM- LAIM

10:50-11:10 Break -Sponsored Speaker

11:10-12:00 Strategies for Optimal Management and Treatment of Equine Asthma  
Laurent Couëtil, DVM, PhD, DACVIM- LAIM

12:00-1:00 Lunch

## Friday Afternoon, August 21st

1:00-1:50pm Results from two NC State Equine Airway Studies on Pneumonia and Asthma  
Beth Cooper, DVM, PhD

1:50-2:00 Break - Sponsored Speaker

2:00-2:50 Exploring the latest advances in EIPH  
Laurent Couëtil, DVM, PhD, DACVIM- LAIM

2:50-3:20 Break -Sponsored Speaker

3:20-4:10 Athletic Impacts of Pneumonia: From Diagnosis and Treatment to Outcomes  
Katie Sheats, DVM, PhD, DACVIM- LAIM, PGCHE

4:10-5:00 Panel/Case Discussion (Drs. *Sheats and Couëtil*)

5:00-5:10 Student scholarship award winner introduction

*(Attendees/Sponsors invited to head over to Havoc Brewery, 39 West Street, Pittsboro, BYOD)*

## Saturday Morning, August 22nd

9:00-9:50 Preparing DVM Students for Equine Practice - Current and Future Goals  
Katie Sheats, DVM, PhD, DACVIM- LAIM, PGCHE

9:50-10:00 Break -Sponsored Speaker

10:00-10:50 Tony Sandoval, MS, Exercise Science, Certified Strength and Conditioning  
The Rider's Effect on a Horse's Soundness – A Performance Science Approach to Equine Welfare

10:50-11:10 Break - Sponsored Speaker

11:10-12:00 Tony Sandoval, MS, Exercise Science, Certified Strength and Conditioning  
The Rider's Effect on a Horse's soundness – case examples

12:00-1:00 Lunch

## Saturday afternoon, August 22nd

1:00-1:50 Pete Healey, APF-1 Identifying and proactive farriery for Subclinical Laminitis

1:50-2:00 Break - Sponsored Speaker – Soft-Ride

2:00-2:50 Pete Healey, APF-1 Dealing with common hoof Distortions

2:50-3:10 Break - Sponsored Speaker

3:10-4:00 Pete Healey, APF-1 Case Studies Related to subclinical laminitis and distortions

4:00-5:00 Panel Discussion – Sandoval and Healey