



# g r a n d p r i x e q u i n e

To the clients of Dr. Jim Meyer,

We are excited to announce as of April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Dr. Jim Meyer's practice will be merging with Grand Prix Equine, LLC. Dr. Meyer and his wife will be available to ensure that this transition proceeds smoothly, as they look forward to spending more time in upstate New York, a possibility that this merger provides. We know that Dr. Meyer has a devoted following on Long Island, having provided care for your horses for decades. Rest assured the veterinarians and staff of Grand Prix Equine will prioritize maintaining these long-standing relationships and we look forward to meeting many new faces, horse and human!

As the largest privately-owned equine practice in the New York metro area, we provide the best care to our patients and exceptional service to our clients. We are thrilled to introduce you to our experienced practitioners, Drs. Mel Batterton and Nicole Zitzmann, who both reside on Long Island and will be available for appointments on the eastern end of Long Island.

If you have questions about this transition or need an appointment, please don't hesitate to contact us by phone at (203) 733-0789 or by email [info@grandprixequine.com](mailto:info@grandprixequine.com). The doctors and staff at Grand Prix Equine are eagerly anticipating this new chapter and warmly welcome you to our practice.

Sincerely,

The team at Grand Prix Equine



*Dr. Meyer with Dr. Zitzmann*

## Meet Our Long Island Doctors



**Dr. Nicole Zitzmann** is originally from Long Island, NY, where her passion for the equine athlete began while growing up riding and showing hunter/jumpers as well as working as a groom at a busy lesson/show barn. She earned her Bachelor's in Animal Science from Cornell University in 2017, while also riding for their varsity equestrian team. She loved the Ithaca area so much, she stuck around to earn her veterinary degree from Cornell as well. While in veterinary school, Nicole was a student technician for the large animal surgery department and was a leader of multiple student organizations including SAVMA, AAEP and the Sports Medicine Club. She was also inducted into the Phi Zeta honor society as a fourth-year student.

After graduating veterinary school in 2022, Nicole completed a one-year rotating internship at Fairfield Equine Associates in Newtown, CT and Wellington, FL. During her internship she developed a wide variety of skills working with high level performance horses as well as companion horses in an ambulatory and hospital setting. Under mentorship from multiple board-certified surgeons and sports medicine practitioners, Nicole was able to progress her professional interests in sports medicine and pre-purchase examinations, emergency medicine, gastroscopy, and general wellness care for the equine athlete. She also underwent extensive training to become certified in animal chiropractic by the IVCA. Outside of work, Nicole enjoys running, riding, cheering on her favorite NY sports teams, and spending time at the beach or exploring wineries/breweries with friends and family.

**Dr. Melissa Batterton** discovered her love for horses from an early age while growing up in Newbury, Massachusetts. This involved not only riding hunters and jumpers, but a love for their general care. Her studies then brought her west where she received a BS in both Biology and Biomedical Sciences from Colorado State University, as well as completing their Honors Program.



Following undergraduate, Dr. Batterton remained in Colorado and completed her Doctor of Veterinary Medical Studies in 2018. She was honored to receive the "Outstanding Student" award in Equine field Medicine and Surgery during her clinical year of study. After graduation, Dr. Batterton returned to the east coast to complete a one-year rotational internship at Rhinebeck Equine where she trained under board-certified surgeons, internists, ophthalmologists, and theriogenologists to become well rounded in her equine medical skills.

Since completing her training, Dr. Batterton has been in private practice, with passions for lameness/poor performance evaluation, diagnostic imaging, and gastroscopy. She also enjoys emergency medicine and incorporating all aspects of equine medicine to prolong the career of our equine athletes. In her free time, she enjoys CrossFit, all manners of outdoor activities, and spending time exploring the area with her dog, Aspen, family and friends.

To learn more about our practice, please visit our website [www.grandprixequine.com](http://www.grandprixequine.com)