

## 2016 Thoroughbred Makeover Polo Division Champion, Buck Schott, Partners with TheraPlate and Returns to Defend his Title



*Lexington, KY (October 3, 2017)* — After winning the Polo Division Championship in last year's Thoroughbred Makeover, Buck Schott is coming back for more. Schott will be competing two horses at this year's Thoroughbred Makeover, to be held on October 5-8, 2017 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky. The Thoroughbred Makeover and National Symposium is a nationally popular initiative of the Retired Racehorse Project. The annual competition features hundreds of professional horse trainers who have spent only 10 months or less training off-the-track Thoroughbreds to perform in completely new disciplines. TheraPlate Revolution, the Official Therapy Plate of US Equestrian, is sponsoring Schott and his Thoroughbred Makeover horses to help them enter the competition in excellent health and fitness.

Buck Schott, who operates River Mountain Farm Polo alongside his father Trey Schott in Versailles, Kentucky and Sarasota, Florida, grew up in a family of polo players and horse trainers. Schott himself started playing polo seriously in college, and now is a successful trainer. Last year was his first venture into the Thoroughbred Makeover competition, which offers \$100,000 in prize money in efforts to educate the public on the versatility and trainability of off-the-track Thoroughbreds. Schott and his Thoroughbred filly took top honors in the

competition's polo division. As the 2017 Thoroughbred Makeover is about to begin, Schott is ready to defend his title.

"This year, I will be competing two horses in the Thoroughbred Makeover. I am also training two other horses that my dad will be riding. The horse that has been the most fun to work with is Bella Facci, who came from New Vocations and is a very smart, quick mare with a great mouth. She loves polo, and really seems to have a lot of potential for playing competitively," Schott reported. "I'm feeling good about the competition - the horses are really doing well and enjoying their polo training."

Schott has found that training recently retired racehorses is a process that requires careful planning. "The fitness and wellness routine for the horses changes throughout the process," he said. "When I first received the horses, they required a diet geared toward slowly gaining weight while doing light work and focusing on their understanding of a new job. As time goes on, you slowly increase the amount of work and their weight levels out. It is important to focus on how their muscles develop and not overdo it."

Throughout the process, Schott has turned to TheraPlate, an easy-to-use platform that uses dynamic movement to increase circulation, reduce pain, and many other benefits while causing zero impact on the horse. The non-invasive platform has proved to be a perfect tool for strengthening and relaxing the Thoroughbreds.

"The TheraPlate is an integral part of the horses' wellness routine," Schott said. "The horses go on the TheraPlate before and after their workouts. It helps the horses relax while recovering from any previous stress or pain, and prepares them for further training. The TheraPlate helps prevent injury and reduces muscle soreness, which allows me to feel confident while increasing their training and testing their abilities."

With TheraPlate as a partner in preparing for the Thoroughbred Makeover, Schott and his horses feel ready to take on the event's polo division. "We have seen great results from using the TheraPlate. The horses really enjoy their time on it, allowing them to relax and recover simultaneously. The TheraPlate is very helpful through each stage of the training process to keep the horses sound and their muscles recovering properly. It's been a great tool in supporting them as they get stronger and master their new job as polo ponies."

Both TheraPlate and Schott are excited to promote a better future for Thoroughbreds by taking part in the competition. "It's nice to be surrounded by

like-minded people with a passion for progressing off-the-track Thoroughbreds in any discipline. You meet great people in this environment, and it is fun to see what everyone's horses are capable of," said Schott.

To learn more about how TheraPlate platforms make an excellent tool for horse trainers of any discipline, visit [www.theraplate.com](http://www.theraplate.com) or call toll-free (800) 920-3685 or direct (817) 629-5171.

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Photo 1: Polo champion Buck Schott will be competing two horses in this year's Thoroughbred Makeover competition to be held on October 5-8 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky (Photo courtesy Buck Schott)

Photo 2: Professional polo player and horse trainer Buck Schott relies on the TheraPlate to keep his horses in top condition (Photo courtesy Buck Schott)