



PREMIER EQUESTRIAN®
The Arena Company



Operating Manual for Premier Groomers

Premier Pro • Premier Pro Lite • Premier Mini Pro

Sept 2019

PREMIER GROOMERS

GENERAL INFORMATION

The purpose of this manual is to give you information to safely operate your Premier Groomer. Please read and understand the ENTIRE manual before you set up, operate, perform maintenance, or store your Premier Groomer.

DO NOT operate your Premier Groomer without first understanding the stated safety and operating guidelines. Doing so will increase the risk of injury to operator and equipment and may void the warranty.

Proper operation of your Premier Groomer provides better results, creates a safer work environment, and increases the life of your Premier Groomer.

This information is current at this time of printing. We continually improve and upgrade our products. For current product updates visit PremierEquestrian.com. Premier Equestrian, Inc. specifically reserves the right to make changes to our engineering and design of the Premier Groomer without any notification.

Read operator's manual and safety warnings prior to operating.

Table of Contents

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| General Information & Safety | 2 |
| Groomer Features | 4 |
| Receiving your groomer | 6 |
| Settings & Adjustments | 8 |
| General Grooming Techniques . . . | 10 |
| Groomer Maintenance | Back |

GROOMER DETAILS

Premier Pro



| Groomer Size | Groomer Weight | # S-Tines | # Coil Tines | Minimum Vehicle Power | Min. Vehicle Wheel Width | Item # |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------|
| 8' wide x 75" long | 1,250 lbs | 19 | 19 | 50 HP tractor | 86" | 5-517C |
| 7' wide x 75" long | 1,150 lbs. | 17 | 17 | 40 HP tractor | 74" | 5-516C |
| 6' wide x 75" long | 1,050 lbs. | 13 | 13 | | 62" | 5-515C |

Premier Pro Lite



| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|----|----|---------------|-----|--------|
| 6' wide x 68" long | 750 lbs. | 13 | 13 | 24 HP tractor | 62" | 5-521C |
| 5' wide x 68" long | 700 lbs | 11 | 11 | | 50" | 5-520C |

Premier Mini Pro



| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----------|----|----|-------------------------------|-----|--------|
| 6' wide x 68" long | 650 lbs. | 13 | 13 | 700cc UTV/ATV or 24HP tractor | 62" | 5-511C |
| 5' wide x 68" long | 550 lbs. | 11 | 11 | 700cc UTV/ATV or 18HP tractor | 50" | 5-510C |

Your groomer should be *at least* as wide as the tire width of your tractor to ensure tire treads are covered.



SAFETY WARNINGS

Your safety, as well as the safety of others, is very important. THE USE OF A PREMIER GROOMER IS SUBJECT TO CERTAIN HAZARDS WHICH CANNOT BE PREVENTED BY MECHANICAL MEANS, PRODUCT DESIGN, OR SAFE OPERATION.

The important safety messages, warnings, and instructions in this manual **MUST BE FOLLOWED**. Please read, understand, and follow the safety messages, warnings, and instructions in this manual.

If a problem arises or you have any questions about the use of the Premier Groomer, please consult Premier Equestrian at 800-611-6109. Premier Groomers are designed to give safe and dependable services when operated in accordance with proper instructions. Failure to operate properly **MAY** lead to serious injury, death, loss of limb, or equipment damage.

Please adhere strictly to the following safety warnings, as well as other warnings throughout the manual.

General Warnings

- Using a Premier Groomer requires special training on your part.
- Never permit operation of a Premier Groomer by anyone who is not trained and has not read the manual.
- Accidents are most likely to occur when a Premier Groomer is loaned or rented to someone who has not read the operator's manual and is not familiar with the proper operation of a Premier Groomer.
- Please read and follow the instructions provided in this manual when using a Premier Groomer.
- For proper and safe operation of a Premier Groomer, periodically inspect all parts for excessive wear. Replace worn components with factory-authorized parts.
- Unauthorized modifications to a Premier Groomer may impair the function and/or safety and reduce its life. If equipment has been altered in any way from original design, the manufacturer does not accept any liability for injury or warranty.
- The parts of a Premier Groomer have been designed and tested for rugged use. However, they could fail upon impact with heavy, solid objects such as steel guard rails and concrete abutments. Such impact could cause the broken objects to be thrown outward at very high velocities. To reduce the possibility of property damage, serious injury, loss of limb, or even death, never allow the machine to contact such obstacles.
- Do not remove any warning labels, safety guards, or other safety devices.
- Ensure you are using proper equipment to pull a Premier Groomer. Know how to safely operate your equipment and know how to stop quickly in an emergency.

Before Use

- Before each use of a Premier Groomer, always conduct a pre-operation inspection. Always carefully check all bolts, lock collars, and bearings as they may vibrate loose from transport and usage.
- Inspect bolts, lock collars, and bearings after the each 10 hours of use.
- Never work under a Premier Groomer unless it is blocked securely.
- Inspect the area to be groomed and clear away any objects such as stones, sticks, or other debris from the grooming area.

Rules for Safe Operation

- **DO NOT** operate under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- **OPERATE** only when alert and not tired or ill.
- **ONLY OPERATE** a Premier Groomer with proper lighting either natural or artificial.
- **NEVER** put feet or hands or any other body part near a Premier Groomer when it is in operation.
- **NEVER** operate barefoot and always operate with proper footwear such as boots or sturdy work shoes.
- **OPERATE** at a safe speed taking into consideration the terrain. It is best to operate at a slow speed until you become familiar with the operation of a Premier Groomer.
- **NEVER** leave the pulling equipment unattended while the engine is turned on.
- **ALWAYS** stop the pulling equipment, set brake, shut off the engine, remove the ignition key, lower implement to the ground before dismounting the pulling equipment. Never leave the pulling equipment unattended with its engine running.
- **USE** extreme care and maintain minimum ground speed when grooming on a hillside, over rough ground and when operating close to ditches or fences. Be careful when turning sharp corners.
- **DO NOT** attempt to operate the equipment in areas with steep inclines, ditches, large rocks, stumps, or holes which may endanger the operator or cause damage to the equipment.
- **DO NOT** back up with tines down. Severe damage can occur to the equipment.
- **USE CAUTION** when operating a Premier Groomer in inclement weather including any icy, wet, or snowy condition.
- **DO NOT** use a Premier Groomer on roadways, highways, or public thoroughfares. Premier Groomers are designed for off road use only.
- **AVOID** turning on a sloped surface.
- **BE ALERT** for hidden hazards.
- **DO NOT** use near people or pets as objects may be thrown from a Premier Groomer.
- **DO NOT** allow pets, children, or anyone else to ride on a Premier Groomer.

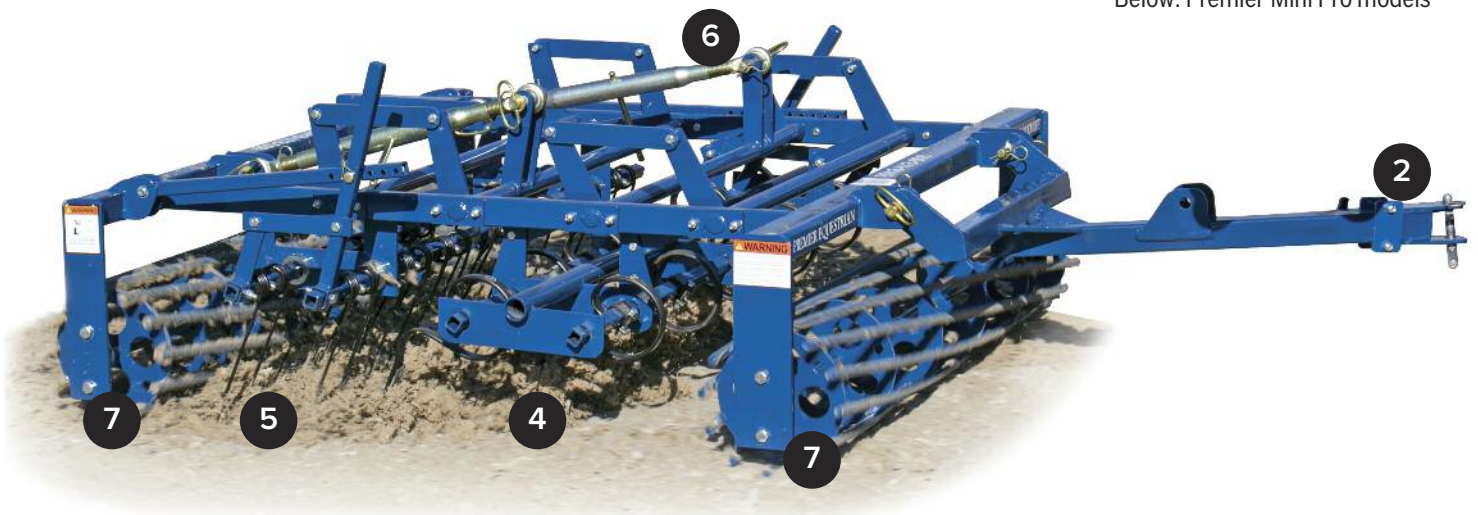
DANGER: operation of a Premier Groomer could lead to SERIOUS INJURY, LOSS OF LIMB, or DEATH

PREMIER GROOMER FEATURES



Above: Premier Pro and Pro Lite models

Below: Premier Mini Pro models



Premier groomers contain all the features and adjustability you'll ever need for mixing, maintaining, and perfecting your arena surface. Great for all types of footing and safe for the base, landscape liners, and base mats.



1. 3-Point Swivel Hitch

The Pro Groomer and Pro Lite have a 3-Point Swivel Hitch which allows the groomer to track and swivel behind the tractor, helping to eliminate sand piling into the corners.

2. Single Point Hitch

Tow the Mini Pro groomer behind a utility vehicle.

3. Transport Lock Pin

On Pro and Pro Lite models, lock down the pin to keep the groomer from swiveling during transport. Unlock when grooming to allow the groomer to swivel behind the tractor.

4. S-Tines: For digging and mixing

- Two rows of S-Tines have adjustable depth and can be rotated 45 degrees, forward or back.
- Position the S-Tines forward to dig compacted soils, or for lifting, mixing and blending the arena surface.
- Position the S-Tines back to fluff and level the arena surface. This position is also advised to protect base mats or separation layer cloths.



S-Tines rotated forward



S-Tines rotated back

5. Coil Tines: Create a vibrating action

- Two rows of Coil Tines have adjustable depth and can be rotated 45 degrees in the forward or back position.
- Position the Coil Tines forward for blending the arena surface.
- Position the Coil Tines to angle back to smooth, finish, and fill in grooves from S-tines. This position will also press and pack down surface.



Coil Tines rotated forward



Coil Tines rotated back

6. Turnbuckles: Raise and lower tine sets

Easy height adjustment for S-Tines and Coil Tines.

7. Double Rollers: Stabilization and extra compaction

The rollers keep the groomer stationary, eliminating the chance of tines digging too deep into the surface. Rollers aid in extra compaction when needed.

PREMIER PRO GROOMER

RECEIVING YOUR GROOMER

Premier Groomers are delivered by a freight truck. When the trucking company calls you to schedule a delivery appointment, be sure to talk to them about the size of the truck and how to get in and out of your property.

Groomers are shipped on a pallet with a freight truck that may include a lift gate for offloading. The 7' and 8' Groomers may be too large for the lift gate. In that case, you will need a forklift (or equivalent) to offload your groomer. Your equipment used for offloading will need to lift at least 1,500 lbs.

Remove shrink wrap and shipping straps.



NOTICE: Before attaching to tractor or grooming, check all bolts, lock collars, and bearings. These can vibrate loose from transport and usage. Check after receiving your groomer. Also check the first 10 hours of use and every 40 hours of after that.

PRO & PRO LITE 3-POINT HITCH

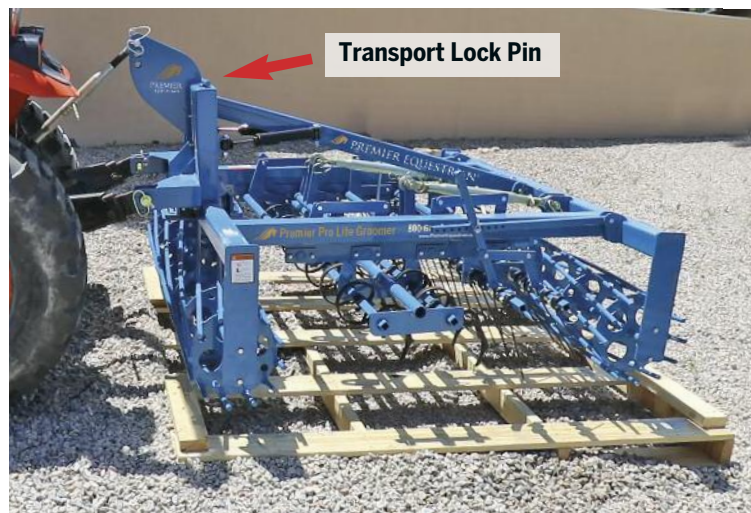
The Pro and Pro Lite Groomers attach to a 3-point hitch tractor. Refer to the tractor user's manual to connect your groomer to the 3-point hitch.

Transport Lock Pin

The Premier Pro and Pro Lite Groomers feature a swivel hitch with a Transport Lock Pin.

When transporting your groomer into or out of your arena, assure the Transport Lock Pin is in place to keep the hitch from swiveling.

When grooming your arena, unlock the Transport Lock Pin so the groomer can swivel.



Transport Pin Locked



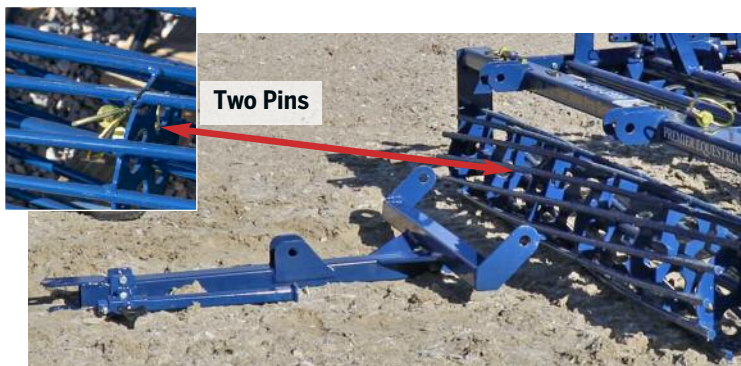
Lift and Turn to Unlock



Swivel Hitch Unlocked



MINI PRO SINGLE-POINT HITCH



Assemble the hitch system

The hitch ships unassembled. Two pins will be attached to the front roller. With a helper align the hitch system holes and insert the pins.

To set the kickstand, remove the pin, take out and rotate the kickstand, and reinsert the pin.



Getting the Mini Pro Groomer off the pallet

Before moving the Mini Pro Groomer off the pallet, make sure the S-Tines and Coil Tines are positioned up and back so that they don't catch on the pallet. See page 10 on how to make these adjustments.

Connecting to equipment

Connect the groomer to your UTV, ATV, or tractor using the hitch pin, and secure the kickstand up.



ADJUSTING YOUR PREMIER GROOMER

Tine Depth – Raise and lower S-Tines and Coil Tines

Turnbuckles allow you to raise and lower the tine sets. One turnbuckle is for S-Tines, the other turnbuckle is for Coil Tines.



Loosen the lock



Rotate turnbuckles to raise and lower tine sets. Set the lock to hold the turnbuckles the position.



WARNING: Adjust the tines in small increments to prevent going too deep. If the ground is hard, move tines down in stages as you groom. Grooming hard packed ground with the tines too deep will damage your groomer.

Tine Angle – Rotate S-Tines and Coil Tines

Remove the pin on the tilt arm. Adjust the handle forward and backward to get the desired angle of the Tine Set. Replace the pin to lock in place.



Remove the pin to adjust tilt arm



Adjust handle forward or backward



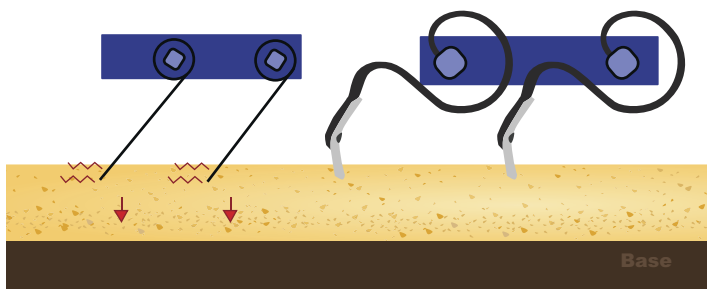
Replace pin to lock



Same adjustments apply for the S-Tines Tines. Replace pin to lock.



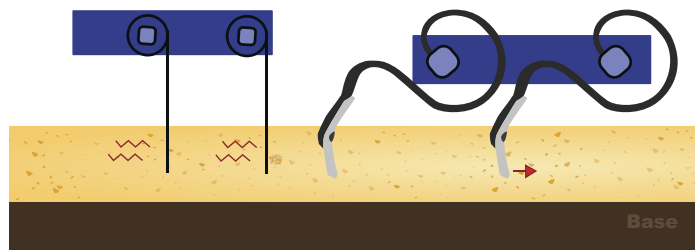
Here are some of the ways you can set your groomer



Daily Refresh

S-Tines and Coil Tines angled back and set shallow

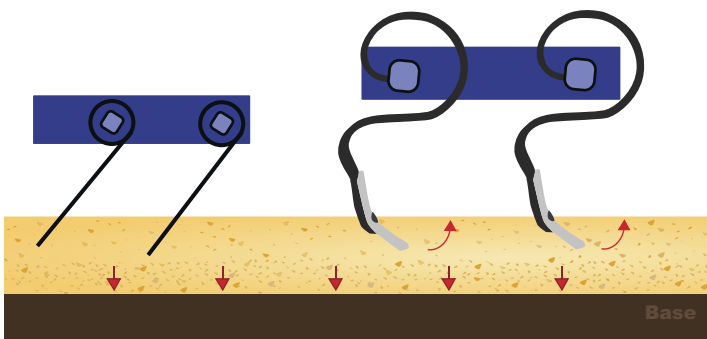
Position the S-Tines back to level and fluff the top layer of the arena surface. S-Tines will fill in the hoof prints and help level the surface. Coil tines fill in the grooves from S-Tines and help to compact the mid-base.



Weekly Maintenance

S-Tines angled back, Coil Tines angled forward, both set deep

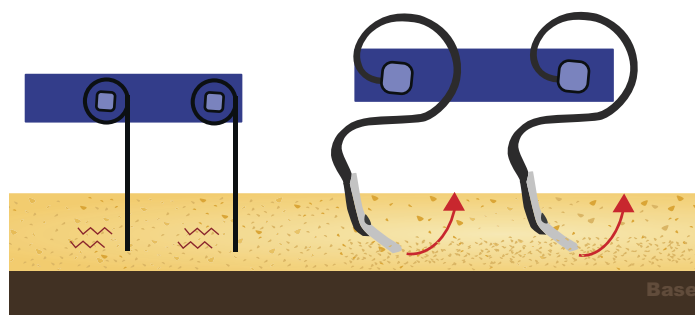
S-Tines will scrape hard spots in the base. They also loosen and redistribute material and sand to level the surface. Coil tines will break up chunks and help mix and blend the arena surface.



Pack a Loose Surface

S-Tines angled forward, Coil Tines angled back, both set shallow

S-Tines will mix the top of the surface while compacting the mid-base. Coil tines will push material down to help pack. They also vibrate, filling in the grooves from the S-Tines.



Mixing & Lifting

S-Tines and Coil Tines angled forward and set deep

S-Tines will lift small particles that have settled near the base. They also mix footing additives. Coil tines will break up chunks and help mix and blend the arena surface.



Finishing & Compacting

For additional compaction, raise all the tines and finish using just the rollers.



WARNING: NEVER put feet or hands or any other body part near a Premier Groomer when it is in operation.

ALWAYS stop the pulling equipment, set brake, shut off the engine, remove the ignition key, lower implement to the ground before dismounting the pulling equipment. Never leave the pulling equipment unattended with its engine running.

ARENA GROOMING MAINTENANCE

Grooming and maintenance are key factors in achieving quality arena footing. Grooming enables you to maintain a consistent riding surface for your equine athlete, avoid footing irregularities, and condition your sand and footing additives. Regularly mixing and leveling footing prevents problems. Your arena conditions and grooming goals will affect how you set up the groomer. To avoid damage to your groomer and to your arena, make lots of subtle adjustments and lower the tines in stages.



Your Arena Base

1. Prevent damage to your base, arena mats, or separation cloth by digging to find out the maximum depth you may set the tines.
2. Make adjustments in small increments.
3. Pull forward a few feet, and check the depth. Allow for the width of your index finger between the point and your base.
4. Check for the base depth throughout your arena because there may be high and low spots.

NOTICE: Improper use of your S-Tines will destroy your arena base. Always check the depth of the tines before grooming. Maintain at least ½" above your base to prevent damage to the base.

GENERAL GROOMING TECHNIQUES AND SETTINGS

The speed at which you groom will be affected by what you're trying to accomplish. We recommend not going above seven miles-per-hour or 1,800 rpm.

Daily Maintenance

Daily grooming goals include cleaning up foot prints, removing ruts on the rail and around jumps, and keeping the surface level and consistent.

- Daily grooming is best. However, if there are only a few rides each day, then every other day may be sufficient. If there is no use in the arena, the footing should still be groomed at least once a week to keep it primed.
- Arenas with textile additives require a consistent dampness to keep the sand and textile properly mixed. Watering should be done daily, or at least on an as-needed basis.
- Always remove organic material (manure, urine and leaves) from your arena. As it breaks down it will create dust, introduce bacteria and change the consistency of your surface over time.





Weekly Maintenance (Deep Conditioning)

Deep conditioning sessions may be in order if you have heavier traffic, you've had wet weather, or if the arena hasn't been used or groomed in several days (or longer).

- If you have a footing additive, digging and mixing a bit deeper once a week will help maintain a proper blend. Hand raking the corners, edges or hard-to-reach spots is also a good weekly practice. See settings on the next page for mixing adjustments.
- If your arena has jumps, move them around and thoroughly condition the take-off and landing spots.

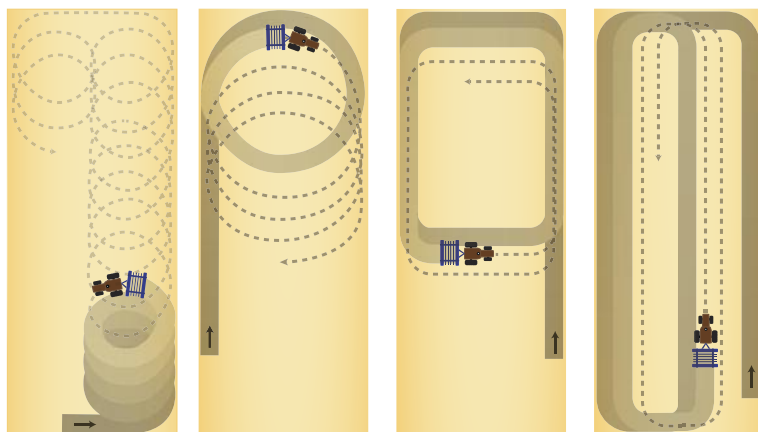
Yearly Maintenance (Flipping)

"Flipping" your surface once a year is beneficial if your arena has settled over a long period of time, or if regular maintenance has not been performed. This involves scraping up the footing above the base or base mats and flipping the sand and footing to re-blend the surface.

This is also a good time to examine the quality of your sand and footing additives. Sand breaks down over time and creates dust. You may need to incorporate some new sand and/or refresh your footing additives.

Mixing footing additives

- **Mixing and blending:** Set S-Tines in the back position. Start at a 1" depth. As footing material mixes in, lower the tine depth for consistent blending. This will blend the sand and textile. Once the footing material is blended, raise the S-Tines and set in the forward position. Depth should be about 1".
- **Lifting and Mixing:** Set the S-Tines and Coil Tines in the forward position to lift and mix, helping to draw lower soils up.
- **Filling Holes, Breaking Clods:** Set the S-Tines to forward position and set the Coil tines to the back position.
- **Fill in Gaps and Compact surface:** Set Coil Tines in back position. Raise S-tines off the surface.
- **Daily arena maintenance settings:** Set S-Tines in back or middle position at ½" – 1" depth. Set Coil Tines in back position at 1/2" – 1" depth. This setting will encourage compacting of the mid-base, enhancing stability.



Grooming Patterns

Change up the pattern each day so that the tractor doesn't create compaction. Be sure to not always drive on the rail. Here are some suggested patterns.

Things to keep in mind:

- Put tines all the way up before transporting your groomer to and from your arena.
- The Mini Pro Groomers transport on the rollers. Please be aware of the noise.
- Lower your tines in stages to prevent damage to your arena and to your groomer.
- Be very cautious about not going too deep if you have base mats or a separation cloth.
- If you start to pull your footing, make adjustments and MOVE forward – Do not lift the groomer as you will leave 'hills'. Turning in a sharp circle can help to avoid pulling footing.
- Keep track of the settings that work for **your arena** so you can repeat it next time.

GROOMER MAINTENANCE

Keep your groomer out of the weather when not in use, covered if possible.

Weekly Maintenance



Check all nuts and bolts for tightness



Grease Zerk fitting at pillow blocks



Grease Zerk fittings on Tine Axles

S-Tine chisel points

- Rotate the S-Tine chisel points when there is evidence of wear. Simply flip each point around for a clean edge.
- Replace chisel points when both side have been used and are worn.
- Coil Tines will need to be replaced when worn or if they are bent.

*Visit PremierEquestrian.com for replacement groomer parts,
or call 800-611-6109*



PREMIER EQUESTRIAN
The Arena Company

www.PremierEquestrian.com 800-611-6109