

ON COURSE PROFITS

How To: Profile Big Handicaps & Narrow The Field

Fairyhouse: Key Stats & Racecourse Profile

Foolproof In Play Strategy - Gold Issue

Issue 65 April 2020

GOLD EDITION



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Editors Welcome

What strange times we are living in.

First thing to say is I hope you are all well and that all our readers make it through these difficult times.

This month's sponsor is Value Backing Lite, VBL sends free tips most days and are currently tipping on Irish racing and some International bets, if you want quality free tips daily - [Click Here](#)

As you might imagine we plan our articles some time in advance and they are written in the weeks leading up to publication, some of this month's articles are less relevant than they were before UK racing closed its doors.

But there is still value to be had.

We start off with some research from Steve Carter looking at trainers who win in the early part of the season, fast starters as it were.

This has been a sound and winning strategy for a number of years and Steve's research is applicable to May when racing should return.

Next up we have some very interesting research from Dave Renham that looks at in play betting and how we can use a Dobbing process for very straight forward in play profits. I will be looking to apply this to Irish racing which as I type is set to continue throughout the current crisis.

Conveniently our racecourse profile this month features Fairyhouse over in the Republic of Ireland, and John has furnished us with some stats that will point us at some winners at the home of the Irish Grand National.

John has researched a number of April only systems for us which are of little use in the light of the current situation, but they are educational in the processes that are used to research systems and will be a helpful starting point next year.

What will be useful for the Irish racing we get over the coming weeks is John's how to guide for narrowing down big field handicap races, although his example work looks at the Grand National the process can be applied to any big handicap and there are sure to be some on the emerald isle this month.

Let's keep our chins up and never mind the torpedoes and hope everything will be back to normal in the near future.

I hope you enjoy this month's issue.

All the best

Darren Power



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A Flying Start to the Turf

The 2020 Turf Flat Season is due to get underway on Saturday 28th March with the traditional curtain raising meeting at Doncaster. The Unibet sponsored meeting features the Lincoln heritage Handicap worth £100,000 in prize money.

Given the status of the opening Big Handicap of the new season we will begin this edition with the key trends and traits of the past winners of the Lincoln Handicap. With a maximum field of 22 likely to be lining up these trends can be a useful tool come race day to whittle down the runners to a handful with the “winners profile”.

The Unibet Lincoln Handicap (1 mile; Heritage Handicap) Doncaster 3.35pm

In the past there was no obvious pattern in terms of the draw with winners having been drawn right across the track in years gone by. However, 7 of the last 9 renewals have been won by horses draw in stall 10 or above, including the last 5.

The age stat is a strong one with 22 of the 23 winners since 1997 aged 4yo to 6yo.

It is fair to point out that they do make up the majority of the runners but those aged 7yo and older are 1-87.

The classier type tends to win this and 9 of the last 10 winners were allotted at least 9st 1lb and 15 of the last 17 winners were rated 95+.

William Haggas has won this three times from only 7 runners, whilst last year's winner Auxerre made it 2 out of 2 for Charlie Appleby.

Richard Fahey has also won the Lincoln twice but he does tend to fire a lot of bullets (43 runners) at this race and at the meeting in general, which can make it tricky.

21 of the 23 winners since 1997 came from the top 12 in the betting and seeing as around 20 to 22 runners' line up that will help when we come to narrow the field on race day.

19 of the 23 winners had won over a mile or further and all had at least raced over this distance, whilst 18 of the last 23 winners had won a handicap race previously and 17 had won at least 3 of their career starts.

This is not the race where you want to be breaking your maiden tag. In fact, between 3 and 5 career wins looks spot on and accounts for no fewer than 16 winners since 1997.

In terms of preparations for the first big Handicap of the new Turf Season, 19 of the 23 winners since 1997 were making their seasonal debut, which was the case for the last 12 winners. It would seem that a winter prep is the norm these days.

Quite a lot to digest but the profile of the previous Lincoln winners is fairly informative and can be summarised as follows:-

- Aged 4yo to 6yo
- Carrying 9st 1lb or more
- Rated 95+
- Trained by Charlie Appleby or William Haggas
- Top 12 in the betting
- Won over a mile or further previously
- 3 to 5 career wins
- Previous success in a handicap race
- Avoid maidens

Hopefully the aforementioned trends will help us start the new Flat campaign on a positive note with the winner of the Lincoln Handicap.

Early Season Specialists

Next up, we are going to take a look at the records of the trainers, to see if we can hone in on a few that may help us find a few winners, at what can often be a very challenging time of year on the punting front.

To try and keep things refreshed and up to date we have focused on the last 3 campaigns (2017-18-19) and the early months, late March through to the end of May.

In addition we will split the research into age and race types rather than the broad brush approach that can often lead to numerous potential qualifiers, in some cases running against each other.

First up is the Juvenile division with the two-year-olds.

Two-Year-Olds

Generally speaking most racehorses are born between January and April in the Northern hemisphere, and as with all racehorses they turn a year older on the 1st January each year.

The season for juveniles invariably kicks off with the Brocklesby Stakes, a five furlong cavalry charge for mostly unraced 2yo's over Doncaster's straight course, and forms part of the race line-up for the Lincoln Handicap meeting.

The following Table shows the trainers that have achieved 10 winners or more from their 2yo runners over the 2017-19, March-May period.

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	Plc(BF)	Plc%(BF)	P/L(Plc)	Lay(Plc)	MxOdd	A/E
Johnston, M	128	32	25	-14.82	62	48.44	125	25.6	-11.58	-4.88	-3.81	-4.72	-0.55	65	50.78	-5.73	-0.43	21.00	1.01
Fahey, R A	172	29	16.86	1.81	68	39.53	136	21.32	1.05	23.17	13.47	-39.07	-2.06	71	41.28	-6.43	-3.6	34.00	0.95
Hannon (Jnr), Richard	132	23	17.42	-13.49	51	38.64	118	19.49	-10.22	3.46	2.62	-14.83	-1.04	52	39.39	-21.59	14.52	34.00	0.91
O'Brien, A P	89	19	21.35	-25.55	43	48.31	52	36.54	-28.71	-14.9	-16.74	8.5	1.42	43	48.31	-11.29	7.16	17.00	0.74
Appleby, Charlie	42	18	42.86	14.38	26	61.9	39	46.15	34.24	17.83	42.45	-21.23	-16.71	27	64.29	2.39	-4.06	11.00	1.21
Channon, M R	83	15	18.07	-3.3	33	39.76	81	18.52	-3.98	9.64	11.62	-17.13	-1.35	36	43.37	-9.41	5.08	51.00	1.02
Ryan, K A	69	11	15.94	-2.92	24	34.78	67	16.42	-4.23	8.75	12.68	-15.16	-1.66	25	36.23	-3.97	-0.34	51.00	1.11
Cox, C G	45	10	22.22	3.33	18	40	45	22.22	7.4	4.93	10.95	-8.78	-2.27	20	44.44	-7.04	4.84	34.00	1.14

As you can see the likes of Richard Fahey, Richard Hannon, Mark Johnston and David Evans have quite a few of their 2yo's out in the early part of the campaign, but you would be hard pushed to make a profit from following them blindly.

The two trainers that on the face of it would have made a level stake profit are Charles Hills and Charlie Appleby.

Let's take a closer look at each of their respective records starting with Hills:-

Charles Hills

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	Plc(BF)	Plc%(BF)	P/L(Plc)	Lay(Plc)	MxOdd	A/E
2017	21	5	23.81	18.83	11	52.38	20	25	89.67	33.43	159.18	-36.83	-11.58	11	52.38	11.4	-13.03	34.00	1.29
2018	16	2	12.5	-12.08	7	43.75	16	12.5	-75.5	-11.92	-74.5	11.11	7.24	7	43.75	4	-5.13	26.00	0.5
2019	11	3	27.27	14	7	63.64	11	27.27	127.27	22.33	203.03	-24.33	-7.26	7	63.64	9.55	-10.46	67.00	2.16

Two winning years out of the three is a positive but there appears to be a trend showing fewer runners of this type, but overall a yard to keep on your side in the early season 2yo races.

Charlie Appleby

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	Plc(BF)	Plc%(BF)	P/L(Plc)	Lay(Plc)	MxOdd	A/E
2017	14	8	57.14	14.48	9	64.29	12	66.67	103.43	16.01	114.37	-17.47	-31.01	9	64.29	1.56	-2.15	11.00	1.85
2018	9	1	11.11	-6	3	33.33	9	11.11	-66.67	-5.62	-62.39	5.09	18.5	4	44.44	-2.12	1.72	6.50	0.34
2019	19	9	47.37	5.9	14	73.68	18	50	31.05	7.43	39.12	-8.85	-20.47	14	73.68	2.96	-3.63	6.00	1.19

There was a blip during 2018 but clearly it didn't affect plans and the results achieved the following year with close to 1 in 2 juveniles winning their early season races.

Charlie Appleby was appointed as a Godolphin trainer in July 2013, after 15 years working for Sheikh Mohammed as a travelling head lad, stable head lad and assistant trainer.

Having subsequently trained in excess of 600 winners in the famous blue silks he was also responsible for Masar to become the first Godolphin horse to win the coveted G1 Derby at Epsom.

Having just returned from the Winter Carnival over in Dubai, the full focus of the yard can turn to the new Turf season and hopefully, following their 2yo runners through to the end of May, can prove to be a fruitful exercise.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	Plc(BF)	Plc%(BF)	P/L(Plc)	Lay(Plc)	MxOdd	A/E	
88	28	31.82	37.13	51	57.95	79	35.44	42.19	63.67	72.35	-73.18	-8	52	59.09	29.34	-34.58	67.00	1.18	

You currently have 6 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UK/Ireland	United Kingdom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Age Restrictions	2yo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April May

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Appleby, Charlie Hills, Charles
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System 41: Back Charles Hills and Charlie Appleby's Two Year Old runners through to the end of May.

Next up is the 3yo brigade and in particular those competing in handicaps having achieved an Official Rating during their first season.

Three-Year-Old Handicappers

The following Table shows the trainers that have achieved 10 winners or more from their 3yo Handicap runners over the 2017-19, March-May period.

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/c(BF)	P/L(P/c)	Lay(P/c)	MxOdd	A/E	
Johnston, M	254	41	16.14	-45.69	97	38.19	218	18.81	-17.99	-29.78	-11.73	9.49	0.34	100	39.37	9.6	-25.91	34.00	0.96
Fahey, R A	237	34	14.35	-3.44	81	34.18	196	17.35	-1.45	24.14	10.18	-46.24	-1.31	83	35.02	8.88	-25.15	67.00	1.08
Hannon (Jnr), Richard	251	24	9.56	-66.36	67	26.69	196	12.24	-26.44	-37.29	-14.86	15.96	0.41	73	29.08	-51.82	36.28	51.00	0.73
Beckett, R M	63	18	28.57	37.42	30	47.62	63	28.57	59.4	50.09	79.5	-57.34	-9.5	30	47.62	8.32	-12.14	34.00	1.51
Easterby, T D	158	17	10.76	-18	49	31.01	128	13.28	-11.39	22.45	14.21	-38.1	-0.87	50	31.65	47.81	-61.41	101.00	1.06
OMeara, D	101	14	13.86	-14.12	27	26.73	90	15.56	-13.98	1.91	1.89	-10.94	-0.62	28	27.72	-24.52	18.32	101.00	1.04
Cox, C G	73	13	17.81	18.25	24	32.88	69	18.84	25	30.69	42.04	-38.46	-4.6	25	34.25	-13.47	9.25	51.00	1.21
Balding, A M	94	13	13.83	-45.71	45	47.87	92	14.13	-48.63	-43.01	-45.75	36.96	4.69	47	50	27.2	-33.45	26.00	0.69
Gosden, J H M	68	11	16.18	-4.12	27	39.71	62	17.74	-6.06	6.45	9.49	-12.64	-2.91	31	45.59	-6.06	2.58	23.00	0.72
Ryan, K A	87	11	12.64	-15.75	30	34.48	83	13.25	-18.1	-6.06	-6.97	-1.42	-0.11	32	36.78	21.48	-28.25	34.00	0.95

The numbers of runners from the Mark Johnston, Richard Fahey and Richard Hannon yards are staggering, but what catches the eye from the above is the strike rate, and recent profits achieved by the Ralph Beckett yard.

Ralph Beckett

Having originally started in racing at the back end of the 80's, Ralph Beckett's equine career started out as a stable lad. He steadily gained experience working for some well-known trainers before joining Peter Walwyn as his assistant in 1996.

Now based at the Kimpton Down Stables in Andover, Hants, he has achieved success all the way up to Classic level and trained over 1000 winners.

Let's have a closer look at the 3yo Handicapper stats from the last three early season campaigns:-

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/c(BF)	P/L(P/c)	Lay(P/c)	MxOdd	A/E	
2017	17	3	17.65	8.5	7	41.18	17	17.65	50	11.65	68.53	-13.7	-6.53	7	41.18	4.94	-6.23	26.00	1.52
2018	19	7	36.84	23.13	11	57.89	19	36.84	121.74	30.89	162.59	-33.75	-16.06	11	57.89	4.25	-5.29	34.00	1.9
2019	21	6	28.57	6.78	9	42.86	21	28.57	32.29	8.53	40.63	-10.52	-6.84	9	42.86	-0.52	-0.68	17.00	1.25

Three consecutive early campaigns of profit, despite the 2017 period only landing with 3 victories.

The 1.53 A/E gives a strong marker that the yard has performed above the market expectations.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/c(BF)	P/c%(BF)	P/L(P/c)	Lay(P/c)	MxOdd	A/E
57	16	28.07	38.41	27	47.37	57	28.07	67.39	51.07	89.6	-57.97	-10.1	27	47.37	8.87	-12.2	34.00	1.53

You currently have 7 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UK/Ireland	United Kingdom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Handicap/Non	Handicap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Age Restrictions	3yo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April May

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Beckett, R M
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Over the previous full 5 seasons on the Flat Turf Ralph Beckett has averaged a 17% Strike Rate so clearly the 28% achieved with his **early season 3yo Handicappers** is worth taking note of.

System 44: Back Ralph Beckett's early season 3yo Handicappers through to the end of May.

We move finally on to the older category with the 4yo+ Handicappers....

All-Aged Handicaps (4yo+)

The following table shows the trainers that have achieved 14 winners or more from their 4yo+ Handicap runners over the 2017-19, March-May period.

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/c(BF)	P/c%(BF)	P/L(P/c)	Lay(P/c)	MxOdd	A/E
Fahey, R A	350	39	11.14	-66.4	103	29.43	271	14.39	-18.97	-28.82	-8.23	-1.58	-0.02	113	32.29	-12.43	-11.24	67.00	0.94
OMeara, D	275	29	10.55	-26.74	77	28	223	13	-9.72	40.48	14.72	-67.86	-1.57	80	29.09	-30.66	12.26	51.00	0.76
Johnston, M	177	27	15.25	-44.12	62	35.03	148	18.24	-24.93	-20.3	-11.47	5.97	0.24	66	37.29	-18.19	7.76	67.00	0.91
Carr, Mrs R A	241	23	9.54	-74.12	55	22.82	212	10.85	-30.76	-46.09	-19.12	26.14	0.54	59	24.48	-40.65	24.11	67.00	0.86
Dalgleish, Keith	196	22	11.22	21.35	53	27.04	154	14.29	10.89	119.29	60.86	-143.43	-3.59	57	29.08	14.61	-29.64	67.00	0.96
Hannon (Jnr), Richard	104	17	16.35	-5.8	35	33.65	99	17.17	-5.58	1.32	1.27	-10.32	-0.73	39	37.5	-9.64	3.48	51.00	1.11
Appleby, M	177	17	9.6	-86.74	56	31.64	172	9.88	-49.01	-82.33	-46.51	70.24	2.47	60	33.9	-15.05	3.83	67.00	0.7
Fell, Roger	171	17	9.94	-72.12	55	32.16	167	10.18	-42.18	-61.59	-36.02	49.03	1.55	58	33.92	12.87	-25.14	67.00	0.81
Varian, Roger	51	16	31.37	20.39	25	49.02	50	32	39.98	23.32	45.73	-28.14	-10.95	27	52.94	3.63	-6.28	15.00	1.31
Goldie, J S	134	15	11.19	-14.25	38	28.36	119	12.61	-10.63	0.36	0.27	-12.59	-0.41	40	29.85	13.64	-24.01	51.00	1.08
Easterby, M W	138	15	10.87	-48.16	39	28.26	123	12.2	-34.9	-38.84	-28.14	28.26	0.72	39	28.26	-21.11	12.06	67.00	1.04
Easterby, T D	283	14	4.95	-168	62	21.91	219	6.39	-59.36	-122.01	-43.11	100.82	1.21	66	23.32	-51.52	31.96	67.00	0.55
Houghton, Eve Johnson	63	14	22.22	51.75	22	34.92	63	22.22	82.14	67.67	107.41	-76.26	-10.93	24	38.1	-1.58	-2.34	34.00	1.42

If we focus on those trainers that have achieved at least a 15% Strike Rate it narrows the above to Mark Johnston, Richard Hannon, Roger Varian, Gary Moore and Eve Johnson Houghton.

Johnston and Hannon can be discounted given their P&L losses, whilst Johnson Houghton had most of her winners, and profit, during the 2017 period.

That leaves us with a duo to consider more closely:-

Gary Moore

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/c(BF)	P/c%(BF)	P/L(P/c)	Lay(P/c)	MxOdd	A/E
2017	21	5	23.81	47	10	47.62	17	29.41	223.81	71.07	338.42	-76.45	-18.52	10	47.62	18.18	-20.27	29.00	1.91
2018	25	3	12	26.5	11	44	24	12.5	106	47.92	191.68	-52.7	-8.48	12	48	14.57	-16.67	67.00	0.81
2019	29	6	20.69	21.5	9	31.03	22	27.27	74.14	32.31	111.41	-36.37	-4.78	9	31.03	-1.72	-0.24	67.00	1.74

Cracking profits from each of the last 3 early season campaigns bodes well.

If the pattern repeats itself it should pay to follow the Gary Moore runners in the All-Aged Handicaps from the start of the 2020 Flat season through to the end of May.

Roger Varian

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/c(BF)	P/c%(BF)	P/L(P/c)	Lay(P/c)	MxOdd	A/E
2017	12	3	25	-0.75	4	33.33	12	25	-6.25	-0.37	-3.12	-0.53	-0.94	4	33.33	-5.69	5.17	15.00	0.86
2018	23	5	21.74	-0.75	8	34.78	22	22.73	-3.26	0.41	1.79	-2.28	-1.73	10	43.48	-0.21	-1.11	10.00	1.09
2019	16	8	50	21.89	13	81.25	16	50	136.81	23.28	145.52	-25.33	-36.93	13	81.25	9.53	-10.34	9.00	1.9

Whilst 2017 and 2018 didn't set the world alight on the profits front, what it did give notice of was an improving profile and the last campaign achieved a cracking 50% strike rate.

The yard tends to focus on the slow maturing types, and assuming no radical change in modus operandi, we will hopefully benefit from following their runners in all-aged Handicaps (4yo+) for the coming early season period.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/c(BF)	P/c%(BF)	P/L(P/c)	Lay(P/c)	MxOdd	A/E	
126	30	23.81	115.39	55	43.65	111	27.03	91.58	174.62	138.58	-193.66	-9.44	58	46.03	34.66	-43.46	67.00	1.36	

You currently have 7 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UK/Ireland	United Kingdom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Handicap/Non	Handicap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Age Restrictions	4yo+
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April May

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Moore, G L Varian, Roger
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System 48: Back Gary Moore and Roger Varian early season runners in all aged Handicaps (4yo+) through to the end of May.

Summary

Undoubtedly the early few months of the new Flat Season can be tricky punting territory as we try to work out which yards have had decent preparations, and which may have been held back possibly by the terrible winter weather.

The four trainers detailed appear to give us a fighting chance of navigating our way through that period, especially if we take a selective approach and concentrate on the specific types of runners that the research highlighted.

Here's to a flying start to the new turf season.

As we have seen previously we have a select group of trainers that will hopefully provide us with a flying start to the 2020 Flat Turf season by following a specific group of their runners.

But can these figures be improved on? Let's delve a little deeper....

Two-Year-Olds

Charlie Appleby

With the all-powerful Godolphin behind him he continues to have the opportunity to train some high quality individuals and averages a remarkable 26% Strike Rate over the past 5 seasons from all GB Flat runners.

The 2yo's during that same 5 year time frame have won 29% of their races so if we refer back to the early season stats we can see that a 45% Strike Rate illustrates how well the horses are placed to win at that time of the year.

There is however a "Sweet Spot" that can improve both the % Wins and ROI%...

Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	Pic(BF)	Pic%(BF)	P/L(Pic)	Lay(Pic)	MxOdd	A/E
30	16	53.33	22.13	22	73.33	28	57.14	73.77	25.18	83.93	-27.94	-32.56	23	76.67	8.83	-10.01	10.00	1.54

You currently have 7 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UK/Ireland	United Kingdom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Class	Class 3 Class 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Age Restrictions	2yo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2017 2018 2019
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April May

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Appleby, Charlie
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If we focus on the Charlie Appleby 2yo's when they run in Class 3 and Class 4 races the A/E leaps to a cracking 1.54!

System 51 - Back the 2yo runners from the Charlie Appleby yard when racing during March through to the end of May in Class 3 and Class 4 races.

Three-Year-Old Handicappers

Ralph Beckett

As we saw with the earlier figures the yard clearly know the time of day when they send their 3yo's out in the early season Handicaps.

However there are a couple of areas that may help elevate the P&L and ROI% to a higher level.

There aren't too many Class 2 Handicap races for 3yo in the early stages of the Flat season but the yard have tried with 6 runners in such races and they all lost, so based on the past results we can leave these types of runners alone.

There is also a further "Sweet Spot" that of no previous career wins. Basically a horse needs to run at least 3 times for the Handicapper to allot an Official Rating. This provides an opportunity for a shrewd trainer to get some racecourse experience into their juveniles without necessarily being placed to win.

With a winter under their belts they have a chance to grow into their frames and start out life on a workable OR mark, possibly combined with a step up in trip.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/L(BF)	P/L(BF)	P/L(Plc)	Lay(Plc)	MxOdd	A/E	
19	8	42.11	37.13	11	57.89	19	42.11	195.42	44.46	234.01	-47.93	-33.93	11	57.89	6.47	-7.63	15.00	2.29	

You currently have 8 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UK/Ireland	United Kingdom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Handicap/Non	Handicap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Age Restrictions	3yo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2017 2018 2019
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April May

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		H-Win (Career)	Exactly 0
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Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Beckett, R M
-------------------------------------	--	---------	---------------------

System 54 - Back the runners from the Ralph Beckett yard in 3yo Handicaps during March through to the end of May that had not won a race previously (i.e. A Maiden)

All-Aged Handicaps (4yo+)

Gary Moore

The yards figures in the older Handicaps were pretty solid in their own right but there are a couple of areas that may help improve the profitability:-

During the last 3 early season campaigns the yard have only had 2 winners from 21 runners in Class 6 all-aged Handicaps so it seems a sensible to pass on these types for the coming season.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	Pic(BF)	Pic%(BF)	P/L(Pic)	Lay(Pic)	MxOdd	A/E
54	12	22.22	104	23	42.59	46	26.09	192.59	159.31	295.01	-172	-11.21	24	44.44	36.79	-41.81	67.00	1.85

You currently have 8 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UK/Ireland	United Kingdom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Class	Class 2 Class 3 Class 4 Class 5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Handicap/Non	Handicap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Age Restrictions	4yo+
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2017 2018 2019
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April May

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Moore, G L
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One further potential “Sweet Spot” is that Gary Moore appears to target a couple of relatively local tracks from his West Sussex stable, that of Brighton and Goodwood.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	Pic(BF)	Pic%(BF)	P/L(Pic)	Lay(Pic)	MxOdd	A/E
23	7	30.43	59.5	10	43.48	20	35	258.7	87.41	380.03	-93.65	-32.72	11	47.83	13.8	-15.76	26.00	1.95

You currently have 9 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UK/Ireland	United Kingdom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Track	Brighton Goodwood
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Class	Class 2 Class 3 Class 4 Class 5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Handicap/Non	Handicap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Age Restrictions	4yo+
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2017 2018 2019
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April May

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Moore, G L
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System 56 - Back the Gary Moore trained runners when competing all-aged Handicaps (4yo+) during March-May, excluding those in Class 6 races. (You may also wish to consider upping the stakes on those running at Brighton and Goodwood).

Roger Varian

An average A/E of 1.31 over the last 3 year period under review will hopefully stand us in good stead for the coming campaign but a small additional factor will seem to up the ante with the yards runners

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	ROI(BF)	Lay(BF)	ROI(L)	P/c(BF)	P/c%(BF)	P/L(P/c)	Lay(P/c)	MxOdd	A/E
25	11	44	27.51	18	72	25	44	110.04	28.87	115.49	-31.83	-26.11	18	72	11.24	-12.55	12.00	1.9

You currently have 8 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		UK/Ireland	United Kingdom
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Handicap/Non	Handicap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Age Restrictions	4yo+
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2017 2018 2019
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April May

Jockey Data - These categories specify characteristics for the jockey riding the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Jockey	Atzeni, Andrea
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Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Varian, Roger
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System 59 - Back the Roger Varian runners in all-aged Handicaps (4yo+) during the months of March-May when ridden by Jockey Andrea Atzeni.

Enjoy

Steve Carter

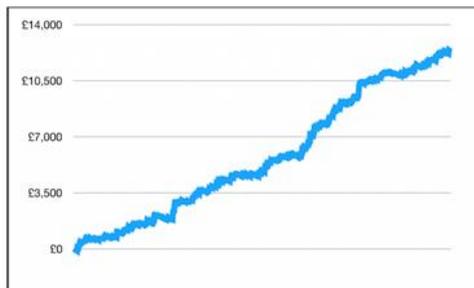
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In Play Betting In Horse Racing

In the last 25 years the gambling industry has changed beyond all recognition. The internet has been responsible for a complete betting revolution.

Back in the 1980s and 90s there were some betting options for punters, but essentially you had to make the effort to get to a betting shop, a casino, a racecourse or a greyhound track. Nowadays you can bet from the comfort of your own home and due to being able to bet on mobile devices, you can virtually bet anywhere in the world as long as you have a signal for your phone.

The options on what you can wager on have also increased markedly in recent years.

You can bet on virtually every single sport and within each sport you often have numerous different markets on which to bet. It is not just sports now that you can bet on. You can also bet on politics, you can bet on who is going to be top of the music charts for Christmas, and you can even bet on who is going to win a particular reality show on TV.

Another huge change in the last 20 years is the advent of the exchanges where you can not only bet, you can ‘play’ bookmaker, and also you can ‘trade’ on sports.

Sports trading essentially means, laying and backing sports betting odds while the event is in progress (in play trading).

Trading each sport potentially requires slightly different methods and strategies as they last different lengths of time. Horse races can last for as little as 60 seconds, when it is a 5f sprint for example; football matches last around 90 minutes (depending on added time), test matches in cricket last for a maximum of 5 days, etc., etc.

Tennis matches on the other hand have no defined time frame. A best of 3 set match could last well under an hour, while a 5 set Grand Slam contest can last several hours. Just ask John Isner and Nicolas Mahut!

The basic ideas for trading remain the same, but it is not a case of ‘one cap fits all’.

On a personal note I have traded in play for many years now – mainly on horse racing and tennis, but also football, cricket and rugby. I enjoy trading as you can use numerous strategies depending on the event and how the event is going. Hence it allows me to hopefully use my understanding of sport to better effect.

This article focuses on in play trading in horse racing.

Now of all of the sports I trade, I find horse racing the hardest. Partly this is down to time – or more to point, lack of time. As more of a flat racing fan, time issues are even more prevalent. As previously stated a 5f sprint takes around 1 minute so if you are trading you need to make quick decisions under pressure. In addition you can only trade effectively in such races if you have some type of trading software.

I believe that with any type of betting, trading requires significant planning and research and hopefully this article will help point you in right direction.

One potential strategy for in play horse racing is called ‘dobbing’. I wrote about dobbing around 6 years ago here on Betting School so it makes sense to explain again what dobbing is.

I am not sure where the word dobbing originates from, but essentially a ‘DOB’ means ‘double or bust’. If the ‘DOB’ is successful, we double our original stake, if we lose we ‘bust’ or lose our stake.

Let me give you a potential ‘in play’ example:

Let us imagine you back a horse at 8.00 for £10; in order to create a potential DOB you try and lay at half the odds for double the stake – so a lay at 4.00 for £20.

If the horse hits 4.00 or lower in play, your lay bet will be matched and regardless of the result you will win £10 (less commission).

Here is the simple maths behind the two potential winning outcomes:

- if the horse goes on to win the race you get £70 returned from the ‘back’ part of the bet; you lose £60 on the ‘lay’ part of the bet giving you that £10 profit.

- if the horse does not go onto win, you lose your £10 stake from the ‘back’ bet, but gain £20 from the lay stake – again giving you a £10 profit.

For this article I have looked at flat racing data from the first 8 months of 2019 (both UK and Irish racing). This has given me over 50,000 horses and their in play data to look at.

Let me first look at how many horses actually dobbed in play:

All Runners	No. of Horses that Dobbed	DOB%
50965	20523	40.27

So roughly 4 in every 10 horses DOB once the race goes in play.

Of course virtually all winners ‘DOB’ which is important to note, but a good proportion of non-winners DOB too – just over 34% from the data I have collated.

Let us see now if there is much of a difference between turf flat and the all-weather:

Race Surface	All Runners	No. of Dobs	DOB%
Turf	35686	14416	40.40
All Weather	15279	6107	39.97

Hardly anything in it – a slight edge for ‘dobbers’ in turf racing but it is not really significant.

Let me breakdown the data by course – firstly the all-weather courses:

Course	All Runners	No. of Dobs	DOB%
Chelmsford City	2437	974	39.97
Dundalk	1454	595	40.92
Kempton	2635	1007	38.22
Lingfield	2121	900	42.43
Newcastle	1888	701	37.13
Southwell	1407	590	41.93
Wolverhampton	3337	1340	40.16

Not a huge difference in the dobbing %s, but there is a 5.30% edge for Lingfield (the course with the highest DOB %) over Newcastle (the one with the lowest %).

This does not really surprise me as I have always felt Lingfield races are generally very competitive and hence more horses are likely to DOB.

Onto the turf courses now:

Course	Runs	No. of DOBs	Dob%	Course	Runs	No. of DOBs	DOB%
Ascot	1003	421	41.97	Leopardstown	922	352	38.18
Ayr	690	285	41.30	Limerick	371	157	42.32
Ballinrobe	140	50	35.71	Lingfield	852	368	43.19
Bath	930	376	40.43	Listowel	72	27	37.50
Bellewstown	326	107	32.82	Musselburgh	753	327	43.43
Beverley	1106	443	40.05	Naas	880	317	36.02
Brighton	823	346	42.04	Navan	578	181	31.31
Carlisle	821	362	44.09	Newbury	1054	436	41.37
Catterick	590	227	38.47	Newmarket (Rowley)	542	212	39.11
Chepstow	817	323	39.53	Newmarket (July)	984	408	41.46
Chester	678	294	43.36	Nottingham	1167	466	39.93
Clonmel	95	42	44.21	Pontefract	726	299	41.18
Cork	597	238	39.87	Punchestown	25	8	32.00
Curragh	1172	431	36.77	Redcar	990	429	43.33
Doncaster	1133	429	37.86	Ripon	951	386	40.59
Down Royal	226	88	38.94	Roscommon	279	108	38.71
Epsom	493	208	42.19	Salisbury	773	330	42.69
Fairyhouse	358	132	36.87	Sandown	585	258	44.10
Ffos Las	208	95	45.67	Sligo	240	82	34.17
Galway	383	134	34.99	Thirsk	1103	396	35.90
Goodwood	1034	439	42.46	Tipperary	393	142	36.13
Gowran Park	786	286	36.39	Tramore	60	25	41.67
Hamilton	754	310	41.11	Wetherby	249	108	43.37
Haydock	962	430	44.70	Windsor	1515	604	39.87
Killarney	424	177	41.75	Yarmouth	1040	455	43.75
Leicester	824	365	44.30	York	1209	497	41.11

Quite a big difference here between the highest dobbing percentage of 45.67% (Ffos Las) and 31.31% (Navan).

It is also worth noting is that UK courses as a whole have a higher overall dobbing percentage compared with Irish courses (41.4% versus 37%). This is probably down to lower liquidity in Irish markets which almost certainly means less in play traders.

One could justifiably argue that to make more of this course data one would need to break it down further into course and distance stats. If you did that the samples would be smaller, but potentially more useful.

Unfortunately breaking all this data down into each course and distance and sharing with you each C & D combination is beyond the scope of this article due to not only time constraints, but the fact it would probably extend the article by around 40 pages!

In terms of distance, I have combined all the courses together to look at the effect of distance in terms of dobbing %. I have also combined the turf and all weather flat data to give the biggest possible samples:

Distance	All Runners	No. of DOBs	DOB%
5f	6311	2376	37.65
6f	9464	3684	38.93
7f	9309	3740	40.18
1m	8976	3602	40.13
1m1f - 1m 2f	7742	3202	41.36
1m3f - 1m4f	5820	2451	42.11
1m5f+	3343	1468	43.91

As the table clearly indicates, the longer the distance, the more chance of a horse has of dobbing.

Now you may be a trader who is not looking for a horse to trade half its Betfair starting price – you may simply be looking for a horse that will trade at a lower price in play. The good news for you is that around 86% of flat horses do trade lower in play at some point in the race.

Again this situation improves as the distance increases as the table below shows:

Distance	All Runners	Horses that traded lower in play	Trade lower %
5f	6311	5080	80.49
6f	9464	7929	83.78
7f	9309	7845	84.27
1m	8976	7703	85.82
1m1f - 1m 2f	7742	6794	87.76
1m3f - 1m4f	5820	5239	90.02
1m5f+	3343	3110	93.03

Quite a significant difference here between 5f races at just over 80% and 1m5f+ races where the percentage is as high as 93%.

Of course of this 93% some may trade just a 'tick' or two shorter, but even so, all the data points to the fact that trading in play is potential easier in longer distance flat races.

If it is 'easier', then it should give 'canny' traders a real edge.

Going back to dobbing, I thought it would be interesting to share one final table with you - a list of horses that have dobbed 75% or more during the period of study.

To qualify a horse must have run at least 9 times:

Horse	No. of DOBs	Runs	DOB
Aquadabra	8	9	88.89
King Crimson	8	9	88.89
Mikmak	8	9	88.89
Second Collection	8	9	88.89
Tigerfish	8	9	88.89
Street Poet	10	12	83.33
Capofaro	9	11	81.82
Landing Night	8	10	80.00
Star Of Southwold	8	10	80.00
Voice of A Leader	8	10	80.00
Yfenni	8	10	80.00
Alfred The Grey	7	9	77.78
Bernie's Boy	7	9	77.78
Brogans Bay	7	9	77.78
Mister Music	7	9	77.78
Texas Rock	7	9	77.78
Toro Dorado	7	9	77.78
Tropics	7	9	77.78
Nonios	10	13	76.92
Emily Goldfinch	9	12	75.00
Oh This Is Us	9	12	75.00
Pink Flamingo	9	12	75.00

King Crimson is the type of horse I personally like to trade. He is a horse that likes to front run and in fact in 8 of these 9 runs he did lead early.

Interestingly he still dopped in races where he finished 7th of 7, 7th of 7 again, 12th of 13 and 9th of 11.

King Crimson is a sprinter who tends to run over 5f, and although we have seen earlier that the overall sprint data for doppers is the poorest of all the distances, front runners in 5f sprints actually DOB around 75% of the time.

Being able to correctly predict front runners, especially in shorter distance races is a tried and trusted method that some in play traders use. Picking the front runner is not always an exact science though and even horses like King Crimson do not lead in every race.

However, any time as a trader you correctly predict the front runner and back it pre-race, the percentages are hugely in your favour in terms of making a good profit on that particular trade. This is because most front runners' contract in price, and clearly the longer they are able to lead the shorter the price tends to get.

For the record, I have cross checked King Crimson's in play data for 2018 as well, and in 13 races he dopped 9 times – this makes 17 successful dops in the last 22 (up to August 21st 2019).

This article has just scratched the surface of horse race trading focusing mainly on the chance of a horse trading half its starting price.

I intend to write more articles on this theme in the coming months and I will be looking at National Hunt races in my next piece.

David Renham

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Fairyhouse Racecourse: Home of the Irish Grand National

Last month, on this tour of Irish Racecourses I was up in the north of Ireland at Downpatrick. This month I'm heading south to Fairyhouse, the home of the Irish Grand National

As before, I will begin by looking briefly at the track's location, history, configuration before highlighting some significant track stats.

History and Location

Fairyhouse one of Ireland's best racecourses, located close to Ratoath in County Meath and just over 23 km from Dublin.

The first race meeting at the present course took place in 1848. That meeting was a point to point run by the Ward Union Hunt. However, within a decade it had become a fully-fledged National Hunt racecourse. With the first running of the Irish Grand National took place in 1870 and was won by horse named Sir Robert Peel.

The race has provided some exciting finishes over the years and tremendous stories. In 1929 Frank Wise won the race on his own horse Alike, despite have a wooden leg and missing three fingers.

Legendary trainer Tom Dreaper saddled the Irish Grand National winner on ten occasions during his training career, including seven races on the trot between 1960 & 1966. With 1964 race being won by the mighty Arkle. That's a record that I doubt will ever be beaten.

In 1990 the English trained Desert Orchid defied top weight of 12-0 to win the race. Despite being an English trained winner 'Dessie's' win one of the most popular of recent years.

The 1998 winner Bobbyjo, trained by Tommy Carberry, went on to win the 1999 Aintree Grand National. And the 2005 winner Numbersixvalverde, trained by Martin Brassil, also went on to win the following years Aintree Grand National.

Since the start of the new century there have been four English trained winners of the Irish Grand National. The last of which was the Jonjo O'Neill trained Shutthefrontdoor in 2014.

The Irish Grand National is run every Easter Monday and is part of the three-day Fairyhouse Easter festival. In 2020 for the first time in recent year's festival will run from Saturday 11th April through to Monday 13th April (subject to Coronavirus restrictions)

Many of the track's biggest races, including the Grade 1 Ryanair Gold Cup, take place at the Easter Festival. Outside that meeting there is the Fairyhouse Winter Festival which takes place in late November/early December and plays host to three Grade 1 races, including Drinmore Novice Chase & Royal Bond Novice Hurdle.

The course holds around 20 fixtures each calendar year, with most of them being over jumps but there are also a very small number of flat fixtures each summer.

For those coming by car Fairyhouse racecourse is easily accessible from Dublin.

For those coming by public transport for the Easter Festival. There are special buses going from the centre of Dublin, for all three days of the Easter Festival.

There's also a shuttle bus that will pick up passengers coming from Dublin Connolly Railway Station by train at M3 Parkway Station and a special bus from Belfast to Fairyhouse on Easter Monday for the Irish Grand National.

On other race days the best way to get the track from Dublin is by Bus Eireann which provides a special bus service from the Central Bus Station on race days. It departs Dublin 90 minutes before the first race and returns after the last race.

The quickest way to get from Dublin to Fairyhouse Racecourse is to taxi which costs 40€ - 55€ and takes around 35 mins.

Track Configuration

The racetrack is a 1m 6 f right-handed galloping circuit, with a 3f furlong straight and a slight uphill finish.

Turf Flat Course

The flat track suits prominently ridden horses. Over the 6f & 7f distances a low draw can be a real problem for hold-up horses

Hurdles Course

Chase Course

The jumps track is wide galloping but fair track. Horses can win from the front or after being held up. Despite the slight uphill finish in the straight the run in from the last isn't too long so you don't want your horse to be too far behind at the last.

The wideness of the chase track means there are few hard luck stories. The fences are some of the stiffest in Ireland and will inevitably find out dodgy jumpers.

Fairyhouse Key Stats

Let's begin by looking at some general stats at the racecourse including clear favourites, winning odds and wins at the track.

The stats below are from Jan 1st, 2015 to the time of writing (07/03/20) and cover all jump meetings at the course.

Once again, I am using the ever reliable www.horseracebase.com for all the stats.

The results below contain 600 winners from 7015 runners 1722 placed

National Hunt

Favourites

Clear favourites have produced the following set of results:

- 212 winners from 556 runners = 38% -£37.11 A/E = 0.95 382 placed 68 %.

Breaking those results down into handicap & non-handicap races gives us:

- Non-handicaps – 169 winners from 370 runners = 46% -£0.65 A/E = 0.99 274 placed 74%.
- Handicaps – 43 winners from 195 runners = 22% -£36.46 A/E = 0.81 108 placed 55%.

Summary: Non-handicap favourites are doing slightly better than the Irish average for the race type (45%) at Fairyhouse.

General Stats – National Hunt

Odds SP: 14/1 & above

- 68 winners from 3794 runners = 2% -£2,236 A/E = 0.51 365 placed 9%.

Summary: Runners sent off 12/1 & under are favoured. Those 14/1 & bigger have won just 2% of all National Hunt races at the track. Once again, big priced winners win races here but it's a very small pool that punters are fishing in.

Wins at Track: 1+

- 102 winners from 816 runners = 13% -£204.91 A/E = 0.87 267 placed 33%

Summary: Fairyhouse isn't a really a 'horses for course' track and those runners with 1+ course wins are performing 13% below market expectations.

Flat

Clear favourites have produced the following set of results:

Favourites

- 47 winners from 176 runners = 27% -£33.38 A/E = 0.75 109 placed 62%

Breaking those results down into handicap & non-handicap races gives us:

- Non-handicaps – 25 winners from 95 runners = 26% -£34.19 A/E = 0.61 63 placed 66%
- Handicaps – 22 winners 80 runners = 28% +£0.81 A/E = 1.02 46 placed 58%

Summary: Rather surprisingly non handicap clear favourites are not doing well and have been performing 39% below market expectations. In fact, handicap favourites have a better win strike rate which you don't often see.

General Stats – Flat

Odds SP: 14/1 & above

- 21 winners from 1078 = 2% -£596 A/E = 0.49 placed 10%

Wins at Track: 1+

- 14 winners from 98 runners = 14% +£1.5 A/E = 1.02 30 placed 31%

Summary: Previous course winners here on the flat are performing better than their National Hunt counterparts and are probably worth closer inspection.

Trainer to Note

Given Fairyhouse is one of Ireland's premier jumps track's you would expect that winning races here is tough and so it is, with the winners being spread around the training community.

Padraig Roche - Padraig Roche is a relatively new to the training ranks but already has a good record with his National Hunt runners at Fairyhouse.

- 7 winners from 18 runners 39% A/E 2.36 9 placed 50%.

Providing his backers with a **£23.50** profit to a £1 level stake.

Given that record, his runners at the upcoming Easter Festival will be worth more than a second look, albeit the competition will be much stiffer.

I hope you enjoyed this brief look at Fairyhouse racecourse. Next month, I will be looking at the home of the Irish Flat Classic's Curragh racecourse.

Until next time

John Burke



Photo by [George Bougakov](#) on [Unsplash](#)

A Q and A with Craig Walker

Hi Craig, and many thanks for joining us this month. First up would you say that you have a “typical” working day, and how would you describe it?

My typical working day is to analyse weekly golf betting stats and data, to constantly gain a value edge over the bookmakers and more recently identifying value edges on exchange markets.

This means I would spend 3-4 hours per day researching and collating stats from weekly completed golf tournaments, then, every Tuesday/Wednesday, I will spend 4-6 hours finalising my weekly golf selections.

This will include writing a detailed analysis/preview of that week’s tournament and the reasoning of which players I’m advising to my members to support.

What do you think of the world of sports tipping in general and what do you think people are in search of when it comes to their hunt for a successful tipster?

I think the world of sports tipping in general is involving, as more betting enthusiasts are turning to sports betting to gain a value edge to profit from different sporting betting markets, rather than stick to more common betting markets i.e. horse racing etc.

This means people are in search of successful sports betting tipsters that can consistently find the value edge in the betting markets to successfully make long term profits

Do you regularly bet yourself? What style of approach do you take to your betting? What do you think of staking plans, loss retrieval systems etc.?

I regularly bet on all my selections I advise to my members. I allocate staking on my weekly selections according to the value edge. Each week I try to outlay the same percentage stake in line with my betting bank, which is important to keep separate from my everyday bank account.

I advise my members to do the same, also I advise members never to chase losses and never bet more than you can afford to lose.

What attracted you to the world of golf and what do you enjoy most about the sport?

I was attracted to the world of golf because of the great Tiger Woods who dominated the game of golf in the 1990s. I really enjoyed watching and winning large amounts of money from Tiger winning tournaments by wide margins.

I also enjoy golf as a sport because it's so technical and I'm constantly in admiration of the ability of the players to perform incredibly difficult golf shots under immense pressure.

What do you feel you can offer golf enthusiasts and punters that other tipsters can't?

I feel I can offer golf enthusiasts and punters a successful weekly golf betting service that will be a trusted, transparent, and well researched. Also my service will have a personal touch, with each member given my email address, so they can contact me with any problems or queries/questions they wish to bring to my attention.

Other tipster services hide behind inflated profits, false promises and don't offer that personal touch.

What traits do you think a good golf tipster should possess and what do you think the average punter is looking for from a tipping service?

A good golf tipster should communicate well with their members, provide in depth analysis of upcoming tournaments, with valid reasoning behind their advised selections and be fair when advising attainable prices etc.

The average punter would like their tipster to provide them with steady profits, with fair monthly subscription rates, provide selections at the same time each week, record weekly results with honesty and integrity. (A professional run service)

New and old punters alike can struggle to make a success of their betting. If you could give them just one piece of advice to improve their profitability what would it be?

My advice to new and old punters to improve their profitability is to do your homework before you commit to stakes.

If you're betting on your own picks/system or using a paid tipster, use paper trading for a good few months to see if the selections are making profit in proportion with your affordable betting bank and this will tell you if investing with your own money, you will make long term profits.

What would you consider to be a highlight of your golf experience to date? Do you have any personal golf experiences which when reflecting back brings a smile, or for that matter any which bring a grimace; you can share with our readers?

My highlight golfing experience to date is watching Tiger Woods winning the 2005 US Masters in a playoff against Chris DiMarco as for me I witnessed the best ever golf shot. Tiger Woods performed an incredible chip shot to birdie the 16th hole, to this day I haven't seen a better golf shot with a major tournament right on the line.

My personal experiences have brought smiles and laughs with friends, as we have tried our best to play this technical game.

I have embarrassed myself on the driving range a few times, either by completely swinging and missing the ball or when connecting not hitting it straight or very far, but on the positive side I'm pretty good at crazy golf, if that counts for putting skills lol.

What about the gambling industry, is there anything you like to see changed there? Many website forums are full of criticisms of the bookmakers and their treatment of their customers? Is this something you have an opinion on?

I think most or all bookmakers treat their customers poorly, especially when people win, they quickly restrict their account or let them have minimal amounts on best prices, also they are quick to cut prices, and offers by bookmakers have too many complicated terms and conditions.

They need to be regulated more by the gambling commission; I have recently been made aware that money held by punters in bookmakers' accounts is not as safe as it should be. Moplay and Betway are examples of this. This has pushed me personally into betting solely on exchanges as I never get restricted and my money is protected.

What do you do to relax and unwind? What interests have you outside the world of golf?

I like to relax with spa days and family holidays, and spending quality time with my family is very important to me. I have an amazing wife and two beautiful daughters.

My interests apart from golf are playing five a side football with my friends and going to watch my favourite football team Leeds United.

Ex Pro Footballer Earns his Living Betting Top Grade Horses in High Class Races

Join Him and **You Can Win Consistently** Without Long Losing Runs Even if the Bookies Have Closed You Down



Brett Love comes from a long line of horse racing experts, pro gamblers and tipsters. So in many ways when he landed an apprenticeship with West Bromwich Albion and went on to sign his pro footballer papers he was letting the family down.

But when tragedy struck and injury cut short his football career there was only one place to turn to replace his players salary. Pro Gambling!

Winning at Starting Prices is the Holy Grail of Horse Race Betting

Fast forward 30 years and Brett is now one of the few people that can make a living from betting on the horses even when he's restricted to starting prices.

Very few can make it pay that way and the vast majority of punters rely on Best Odds Guarantees or snatching prices at Betfair before the market is fully liquid.

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April Acorns: Profitable Flat Trainers in April

This month John takes an alternative look at a couple of the aforementioned trainers for the coming month.

It's been a seeming endless few months of wet and windy weather. Hopefully by April we will have started to see some spring sunshine, warmer weather and the start of the new flat season. Mind you by time you read this horse racing could have brought to halt by the Coronavirus outbreak.

Over the last few months most punters thoughts have been on one thing the Cheltenham Festival. By the time you read this article jumps racing annual spectacular will be over for another 12 months.

April is a busy month for both flat & National Hunt racing. Jumps fans still have the Aintree Grand National & Punchestown Festival's to look forward to. Whilst flat aficionados can look forward to the Craven & Greenham Meetings and with them the first of the season's classic trials.

It can be a tough month for flat punters. It's one of those transition months, which can see heavy ground one week and good to firm the next. Besides the changing ground conditions punters also have to deal with the thorny issue of a horse's fitness in the early months of the season.

That's where our old friends the trainer's come in. Those 'creatures of habit' either have their strings ready to win in the first month of the season or they don't.

This month I am going to look at a handful of trainers whose runners have been worth following in April when returning from a 90+ day absence from the track. As ever the excellent www.horseracebase.com with its mine of detailed information and stats is the starting point for this month's investigation.

To get a decent sample size and also to keep the stats as relevant as possible, I have concentrated on trainers who have had at least 25 runners during the period under research and also taken into consideration only the results since 2016.

The results below contain 1488 winners from 15524 runners

First, let's have a look at the overall record of runners in March/April returning from a 90 day to 365-day absence.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
6406	628	9.8	-1643.77	1759	27.46	1313	47.83	-25.66	-230.82	-345.62	251.00	51.00	18.67	0.84	22.03	748.7	0.99	0.15

You currently have 4 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Horse Last Race Data - Categories relating to the most recent run of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		(LR) Days Since Run	Between 91 And 365
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Summary: 42% of races in the period were won by horses returning from 90 to 365-day layoff from 41% of the total runners.

Now let's look at the top flat trainers numerically in April with ten or more winners.

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
Gosden, J H M	100	26	26	-11.29	51	51	93	27.96	-11.29	-4.56	-2.8	19.00	13.00	4.49	0.86	0.88	30.31	0.92	0.24
Fahey, R A	222	26	11.71	-27.7	68	30.63	181	14.36	-12.48	-1.82	-18.2	101.00	26.00	12.14	0.91	0.26	28.56	1.05	0.08
OBrien, A P	166	24	14.46	-63.14	62	37.35	102	23.53	-38.04	-56.23	44.62	41.00	10.00	7.3	0.64	6.19	37.39	0.71	3.43
Varian, Roger	75	23	30.67	-0.01	37	49.33	73	31.51	-0.01	2.65	-8.13	29.00	9.00	6.28	1.15	0.58	20.07	1.24	1.46
Stoute, Sir Michael	90	22	24.44	19	44	48.89	82	26.83	21.11	36.23	-45.12	26.00	15.00	7.4	1.17	0.7	18.77	1.31	1.95
Weld, D K	88	21	23.86	-0.55	40	45.45	84	25	-0.63	17.77	-25.58	34.00	15.00	7.44	0.95	0.08	22.14	1.05	0.06
Hannon (Jnr), Richard	145	17	11.72	-12.74	42	28.97	129	13.18	-8.79	13	-26.82	101.00	26.00	13.53	0.93	0.11	18.34	1.07	0.09
Ryan, K A	110	16	14.55	-13.24	44	40	104	15.38	-12.04	-3.16	-6.32	101.00	17.00	12.54	1	0	16.08	1.12	0.25
OMeara, D	139	13	9.35	-17.87	41	29.5	126	10.32	-12.86	11.26	-24.78	41.00	21.00	11.46	0.7	1.99	18.67	0.79	0.85
Appleby, Charlie	48	12	25	18.63	23	47.92	40	30	38.81	36.49	-42.1	17.00	15.00	6.53	1.24	0.69	9.69	1.39	1.63
Harrington, Mrs John	78	12	15.38	51.58	26	33.33	74	16.22	66.13	172.46	-188.31	51.00	51.00	15.74	1.44	1.82	8.32	1.78	4.45
Easterby, M W	62	11	17.74	21.75	19	30.65	57	19.3	35.08	25.53	-32.11	67.00	15.00	19.02	2.05	6.46	5.37	2.4	9.67
Channon, M R	58	10	17.24	10.75	24	41.38	57	17.54	18.53	14.29	-19.97	81.00	12.00	15.86	1.43	1.46	7	1.64	2.79
Tate, James	18	10	55.56	20.43	13	72.22	18	55.56	113.5	23.58	-25.64	29.00	7.00	8.23	2.46	11.16	4.07	2.72	13.71
Beckett, R M	65	10	15.38	0.01	29	44.62	64	15.63	0.02	7.3	-13.33	34.00	15.00	9.07	0.82	0.48	12.18	0.91	0.1
Haggas, W J	49	10	20.41	-18.27	26	53.06	49	20.41	-37.29	-14.65	11.42	34.00	6.00	5.55	0.79	0.76	12.67	0.86	0.31
Cox, C G	51	10	19.61	25.63	25	49.02	51	19.61	50.25	40.7	-47.05	51.00	21.00	9.88	1.16	0.27	8.6	1.29	0.77
Lyons, G M	80	10	12.5	0	23	28.75	72	13.89	0	10.99	-18.75	67.00	17.00	10.44	0.84	0.38	11.96	0.96	0.02

A few trainers instantly stand out and look worthy of further research. The first is Roger Varian.

Roger Varian

The top Newmarket based trainer has one of the biggest strings in British flat racing. And he looks like he has horses ready to roll in the first month of the flat season.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
75	23	30.67	-0.01	37	49.33	73	31.51	-0.01	2.65	-8.13	29.00	9.00	6.28	1.15	0.58	20.07	1.24	1.46	

You currently have 5 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Varian, Roger
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Horse Last Race Data - Categories relating to the most recent run of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		(LR) Days Since Run	Between 91 And 365
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You couldn't back his runners blind during the month but is there are profitable angle for us to exploit.

Age:

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
3	46	10	21.74	-16.79	21	45.65	44	22.73	-36.5	-16.25	13.41	29.00	4.33	6.95	0.84	0.39	11.84	0.92	0.08
4	19	8	42.11	10.87	10	52.63	19	42.11	57.21	12.71	-14.51	11.00	9.00	5.2	1.52	1.97	5.26	1.66	2.81
5	6	4	66.67	4.41	5	83.33	6	66.67	73.5	4.54	-4.98	7.00	4.50	3.44	1.79	2.24	2.23	1.85	2.45
6	3	1	33.33	2.5	1	33.33	3	33.33	83.33	2.66	-3	6.50	5.50	4.96	1.47	0.19	0.68	1.56	0.26
8	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	17.00	0.00	17	0	0.06	0.06	0	0.04

Ten of the trainers 23 winners were 3-year-old's but they made up 62% of his total runners in the period under research.

His 4yo+ runners combined produced the following:

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
29	13	44.83	16.78	16	55.17	29	44.83	57.86	18.9	-21.54	17.00	9.00	5.22	1.58	3.86	8.23	1.7	5.06	

You currently have 6 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Horse Age	NOT Exactly 3
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Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Varian, Roger
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Horse Last Race Data - Categories relating to the most recent run of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		(LR) Days Since Run	Between 91 And 365
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A steady profit of £16.78 to a £1 level stake and an excellent ROI. Arguably even more important such qualifiers have performed 58% better than market expectations.

Breaking down those results down by year:

Performance of System Overall and By Year																			
	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
ALL	29	13	44.83	16.78	16	55.17	29	44.83	57.86	18.9	-21.54	17.00	9.00	5.22	1.58	3.86	8.23	1.7	5.06
2019	12	6	50	14.75	6	50	12	50	122.92	15.98	-17.44	9.00	9.00	4.54	1.61	2	3.73	1.72	2.55
2018	8	5	62.5	6.41	5	62.5	8	62.5	80.13	7.04	-7.72	6.50	3.75	3.68	1.99	3.6	2.51	2.15	4.32
2017	4	1	25	-1	3	75	4	25	-25	-0.77	0.5	11.00	3.00	5.97	1.1	0.01	0.91	1.18	0.03
2016	5	1	20	-3.38	2	40	5	20	-67.6	-3.35	3.12	17.00	1.62	8.72	0.93	0.01	1.08	1.01	0

The last two years have provided all the profits but even the two losing seasons didn't result in much damage to the betting bank. Hopefully 2020 will be more 2018 & 2019 than 2016.

System 60: Back Roger Varian flat turf runners aged 4yo+, returning from 90 to 365-day absence in April.

Charlie Appleby

It's another top Newmarket stable that catches the eye. Charlie Appleby is another trainer who seems to have his runners ready in early part of the season.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
89	26	29.21	32.99	45	50.56	76	34.21	37.07	55.34	-64.72	26.00	15.00	6.45	1.27	1.89	20.53	1.39	3.68	

You currently have 4 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Appleby, Charlie
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Now looking at those results you could probably back Charlie Appleby's runners blind in the months of March and April and make a profit. However, the whole purpose of this article is to find much smaller but profitable angles.

As with Roger Varian let's begin by looking at the age of his runners.

Age:

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
2	6	5	83.33	13.27	5	83.33	5	100	221.17	14.28	-15.13	6.00	6.00	3.75	2.56	7.07	1.95	2.69	7.68
3	64	18	28.13	18.72	32	50	56	32.14	29.25	32.88	-39.33	26.00	15.00	6.9	1.26	1.2	14.34	1.39	2.42
4	14	2	14.29	2.5	6	42.86	12	16.67	17.86	9.57	-11.3	13.00	13.00	6.39	0.77	0.17	2.6	0.88	0.04
5	4	1	25	-0.5	2	50	4	25	-12.5	-0.38	0.09	8.50	3.50	4.04	0.71	0.18	1.41	0.77	0.1
7	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	4.33	0.00	4.33	0	0.3	0.23	0	0.27

His record with 2-year-old's is excellent and he's got a good win strike rate with his 3-year-old's, albeit 72% of his total runners were from that age group.

Race Type:

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
Non Handicap	61	18	29.51	25.41	30	49.18	51	35.29	41.66	39.63	-46.13	26.00	15.00	6.75	1.27	1.31	14.22	1.39	2.55
Handicap	28	8	28.57	7.58	15	53.57	25	32	27.07	15.71	-18.59	13.00	13.00	5.8	1.27	0.58	6.31	1.4	1.13

Both his handicap and non-handicap runners are performing better than market expectations.

Race Distance:

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
5f	7	5	71.43	12.27	6	85.71	6	83.33	175.29	13.28	-14.18	7.00	6.00	4.22	2.39	5.78	2.09	2.51	6.36
6f	3	1	33.33	-0.9	2	66.67	3	33.33	-30	-0.77	0.6	5.00	2.10	3.81	1.1	0.01	0.91	1.22	0.05
7f	13	5	38.46	5.16	7	53.85	11	45.45	39.69	6.58	-7.75	17.00	5.00	6.66	1.51	1.16	3.31	1.66	1.69
1m	18	6	33.33	21.25	7	38.89	16	37.5	118.06	30.49	-33.33	15.00	13.00	7.32	2.07	3.95	2.9	2.36	5.49
1m.5f	5	1	20	-0.5	5	100	5	20	-10	-0.01	-0.4	9.00	4.50	5.97	0.74	0.13	1.36	0.8	0.07
1m1f	6	0	0	-6	1	16.67	3	0	-100	-6	5.7	11.00	0.00	6.5	0	1.3	1.07	0	1.14
1m2f	28	7	25	8.88	13	46.43	24	29.17	31.71	18.87	-22.02	26.00	15.00	7.28	1.14	0.16	6.13	1.28	0.52
1m2.5f	4	0	0	-4	2	50	3	0	-100	-4	3.8	12.00	0.00	6.56	0	0.98	0.79	0	0.98
1m4f	4	1	25	-2.17	2	50	4	25	-54.25	-2.11	1.91	6.00	1.83	3.38	0.64	0.34	1.57	0.71	0.18
2m2f	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	2.50	0.00	2.5	0	0.67	0.4	0	0.61

Looking at his runners by race distance his runners in races up to a mile look of interest.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
41	17	41.46	37.78	22	53.66	36	47.22	92.15	49.59	-54.66	17.00	13.00	6.32	1.85	8.5	9.21	2.03	11.18	

You currently have 5 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Distance	Between 5f And 1m
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Appleby, Charlie
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Breaking his results down by year:

Performance of System Overall and By Year																			
	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
ALL	41	17	41.46	37.78	22	53.66	36	47.22	92.15	49.59	-54.66	17.00	13.00	6.32	1.85	8.5	9.21	2.03	11.18
2019	9	4	44.44	5.44	5	55.56	6	66.67	60.44	6.15	-6.99	15.00	6.00	5.74	1.65	1.41	2.42	1.79	1.84
2018	11	5	45.45	7.16	5	45.45	10	50	65.09	8.44	-9.5	7.50	5.00	4.94	1.75	2.19	2.85	1.91	2.84
2017	12	4	33.33	12.33	6	50	11	36.36	102.75	14.43	-16.01	17.00	8.00	8.05	2.02	2.47	1.98	2.27	3.34
2016	9	4	44.44	12.85	6	66.67	9	44.44	142.78	20.56	-22.16	13.00	13.00	6.3	2.04	2.71	1.96	2.29	3.59

Not many qualifiers but they have provided a profit in the last four seasons. It's possible that the market is catching up, as the last two years have seen the profits decline but I think there is scope for another profitable year in 2020. Again, there shouldn't be that many qualifiers so there should be limited damage to the betting bank should this angle underperform.

It's worth noting that some of the Appleby runners could have run at Meydan in the previous 90-days but for the purpose of this exercise I have used runs in the UK & Ireland.

System 61; Back Charlie Appleby flat turf runners in April in races up to a 1m.

James Tate

My third trainer is James Tate who's also Newmarket based. Tate is a trainer on the rise and will have over 100 horses in his yard in 2020. Whether the increase in the size of his yard will lead to a change in his modus operandi is anyone's guess. However, we do know he normally has his runners in good form in the early months of the new flat season.

Looking at James Tate's overall record in March & April

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
44	13	29.55	4.31	24	54.55	42	30.95	9.8	8.66	-12.3	29.00	7.00	7.43	1.39	1.82	9.34	1.58	3.37	

You currently have 4 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Tate, James
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A 30%-win strike rate is not to be sniffed at and they are performing well above market expectations. However, let's compare that with his record with those of his runners returning from a 90+day absence.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
18	10	55.56	20.43	13	72.22	18	55.56	113.5	23.58	-25.64	29.00	7.00	8.23	2.46	11.16	4.07	2.72	13.71	

You currently have 5 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Tate, James
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Horse Last Race Data - Categories relating to the most recent run of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		(LR) Days Since Run	NOT Between 1 And 89
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Breaking his results down by year:

Performance of System Overall and By Year																			
	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
ALL	18	10	55.56	20.43	13	72.22	18	55.56	113.5	23.58	-25.64	29.00	7.00	8.23	2.46	11.16	4.07	2.72	13.71
2019	5	5	100	12	5	100	5	100	240	12.64	-13.31	5.00	5.00	3.4	3.13	10.63	1.6	3.4	12.01
2018	3	1	33.33	1.33	1	33.33	3	33.33	44.33	1.33	-1.6	26.00	4.33	11.44	1.92	0.54	0.52	2.04	0.63
2017	6	3	50	4.1	5	83.33	6	50	68.33	4.53	-5.08	26.00	5.00	7.85	2.13	2.34	1.41	2.31	2.84
2016	4	1	25	3	2	50	4	25	75	5.08	-5.65	29.00	7.00	12.44	1.85	0.45	0.54	2.44	0.95

Once again a profit made in all the last four seasons and last year he was a perfect 5 winners from 5 runners.

It seems clear to be that the trainer has got his runners ready to win after a lay off. The all-important A/E & Chi Boxes are all ticked. The Exp/Wins is slightly under 5 which is normally a cut off point for me but on this occasion I'm happy to go with it.

Not many qualifiers from the micro angle so once again there should be little damage done to the betting bank should the trainer have a poor 2020.

System 70: Back James Tate flat turf runners in April returning from 90+ day absence.

Sir Michael Stoute

I didn't expect to see the veteran Newmarket trainer among the profitable April trainers.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
90	22	24.44	19	44	48.89	82	26.83	21.11	36.23	-45.12	26.00	15.00	7.4	1.17	0.7	18.77	1.31	1.95

You currently have 5 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

Race Code: Flat

Date (Year): 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Date (Month): March April

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

Trainer: Stoute, Sir Michael

Horse Last Race Data - Categories relating to the most recent run of the analysed horse.

(LR) Days Since Run: NOT Between 1 And 89

Sir Michael is winning with almost one in four of his runners returning to the course after a 90+ day absence.

Last time Out Placing:

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
First	16	4	25	0.61	8	50	16	25	3.81	1.86	-3.19	13.00	9.00	7.01	1.24	0.23	3.23	1.36	0.46
Second	15	7	46.67	18.08	11	73.33	15	46.67	120.53	22.46	-24.46	9.00	9.00	4.74	1.71	2.82	4.1	1.89	3.88
Third	7	3	42.86	14.5	4	57.14	7	42.86	207.14	19.05	-20.46	9.50	9.50	6.71	2.5	3.26	1.2	2.88	4.34
Fourth	14	2	14.29	-4	3	21.43	13	15.38	-28.57	-3.21	2.15	26.00	5.50	7.08	0.7	0.33	2.87	0.79	0.14
Fifth	8	2	25	-3.27	5	62.5	8	25	-40.88	-3.24	2.79	11.00	3.00	5	0.93	0.01	2.15	1.01	0
Sixth	7	2	28.57	10.5	5	71.43	7	28.57	150	15.97	-17.32	15.00	15.00	7.86	1.41	0.3	1.42	1.56	0.5
Seventh	5	1	20	-3.17	2	40	5	20	-63.4	-3.12	2.87	21.00	1.83	7.02	0.68	0.2	1.46	0.74	0.12
Eighth	2	0	0	-2	0	0	2	0	-100	-2	1.9	26.00	0.00	17.5	0	0.16	0.15	0	0.15
Ninth	9	1	11.11	-5.25	3	33.33	9	11.11	-58.33	-4.53	3.95	13.00	3.75	9.61	0.79	0.07	1.27	0.95	0
Tenth	2	0	0	-2	0	0	2	0	-100	-2	1.9	26.00	0.00	15.75	0	0.25	0.22	0	0.21
Eleventh	3	0	0	-3	2	66.67	3	0	-100	-3	2.85	9.00	0.00	6.42	0	0.64	0.53	0	0.54
Fourteenth	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	26.00	0.00	26	0	0.04	0.04	0	0.03
Fifteenth	1	0	0	-1	1	100	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	8.00	0.00	8	0	0.15	0.13	0	0.14

Those qualifiers who finished in the first three on their last start have produced the following results:

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
38	14	36.84	33.19	23	60.53	38	36.84	87.34	43.36	-48.11	13.00	9.50	6.06	1.64	4.52	8.53	1.82	6.46	

You currently have 6 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	Stoute, Sir Michael
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Horse Last Race Data - Categories relating to the most recent run of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		(LR) Days Since Run	NOT Between 1 And 89
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		(LR) Placing	First Second Third

Breaking those results down by season:

Performance of System Overall and By Year																			
	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
ALL	38	14	36.84	33.19	23	60.53	38	36.84	87.34	43.36	-48.11	13.00	9.50	6.06	1.64	4.52	8.53	1.82	6.46
2019	11	4	36.36	7.58	7	63.64	11	36.36	68.91	12.1	-13.46	11.00	9.00	5.28	1.46	0.77	2.74	1.62	1.22
2018	6	1	16.67	-4	2	33.33	6	16.67	-66.67	-3.91	3.6	13.00	2.00	8.5	0.93	0.01	1.08	1.02	0
2017	10	5	50	11.38	7	70	10	50	113.8	13.78	-15.02	11.00	9.00	5.71	2.24	4.43	2.23	2.54	5.8
2016	11	4	36.36	18.23	7	63.64	11	36.36	165.73	21.39	-23.23	9.50	9.50	5.82	1.61	1.2	2.48	1.75	1.64

The A/E, Chi score & Exp/Wins boxes are all ticked. And three of the last four years have been profitable. Looking at the number of runners in 2018 compared to the other years it suggests the stable's runners were not quite firing that April.

N.B. His runners making their racecourse debut in the month are 0 winners from 18 runners 3 placed.

System 71: Back Sir Michael Stoute's flat turf runners in April, returning from a 90-day absence, which finished in the first three on their last run.

Before I close, I want to highlight a big name trainer whose runners have tended to perform poorly in April.

Aidan O'Brien

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
154	20	12.99	-77.47	57	37.01	94	21.28	-50.31	-73.47	63.58	41.00	10.00	7.4	0.57	8.35	35.03	0.64	5.27	

You currently have 6 categories with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Race Code	Flat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Handicap/Non	Non Handicap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2016 2017 2018 2019 2020
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Month)	March April

Trainer Data - These categories specify characteristics of the trainer of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Trainer	O'Brien, A P
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Horse Last Race Data - Categories relating to the most recent run of the analysed horse.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		(LR) Days Since Run	NOT Between 1 And 89
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The Ballydoyle runners returning in the month from a 90+day break are clearly not ready to win. Some of them have bigger targets for later in the season, others lack experience and a few are just not very good.

His 3-year-olds with one career run are 1 win from 35 runners 3% - £32.12 A/E = 0.14 11 placed 31%. *If you are a layer on the exchanges you can make some nice profits from the Aidan O'Brien's runners in March/April.*

The weather of course, could play havoc with this month's Acorns but you have to be hopeful that profits can be obtained again this season. Like many methods, the above figures are based on historic data and whilst history has a good habit of repeating itself, it often doesn't.

Until next month.

John

If you would like to receive an email to let you know each time one of our systems has a runner sign up for our alerts service here - <https://www.oncourseprofits.com/systemsreaderoffer>

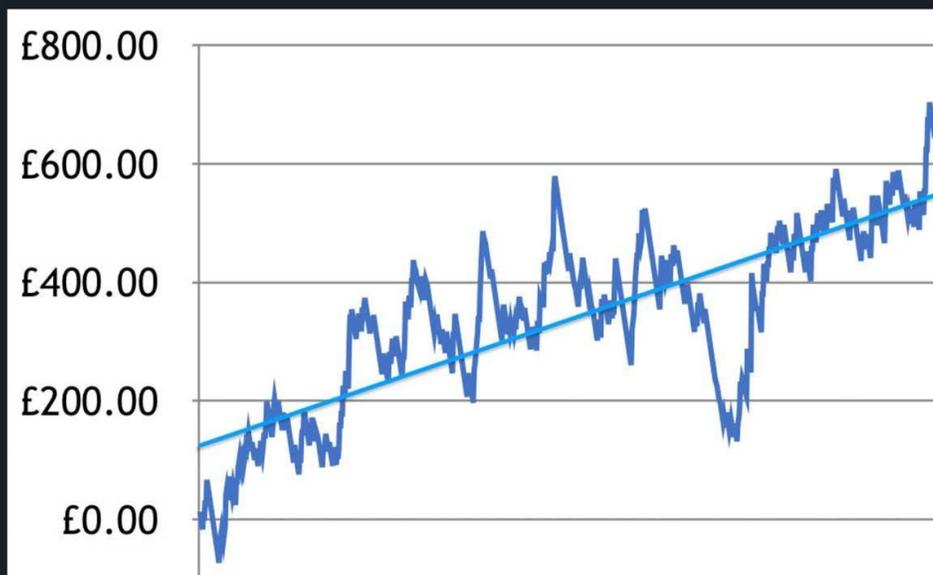
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Narrowing Down A Big Field Handicap Using Horseracebase

"Study the past, if you would divine the future." Confucius.

By looking at the past we can predict the future. Even a Chinese Philosopher was talking about it 2,500 years ago.

We can predict the weather or stock market. In both the cases, there are chances of errors, and the predictions highly depend on the purity of data. But this is science and it's massively used in business, medical, research, etc. And of course, we can do it with horse racing.

If you have been reading my articles over the years, you will know that I like to find the right profiles of previous winners to narrow down big Saturday or festival races, in particular handicaps, to find a manageable group of horses to shortlist for further form study.

That's why I like www.horseracebase.com so much. It has many of the tools required to carry out that task which would otherwise take up far too much of time which I should be using for form analysis.

I'm a "stats man" first and foremost and use trends to find winners. Others disagree with this approach. It's not for everyone and I get it. But it suits my mind set and that's what matters. If you don't like trending then you won't find this article of any use. However, the rest of you will hopefully gain some insights on how to find some nice priced winners by using a database like horseracebase.

Horseracebase isn't only useful for trending purposes you can use it to interrogate the data and build you own systems and that's something I will go into in a future article. But for now, let's concentrate on those big races.

Be Cautious About Trends

As Timeform's Simon Rowlands has pointed out there are reasons why you need to be cautious when looking at big race trends.

Here are a few that are worth highlighting:

- Concentrating on winners alone often results in small samples and questionable findings.
- Trends, where they exist, usually change over time, so be wary of information from a long way back.
- Question seriously any findings that do not seem to obey logic and common sense: they may well be down to chance.
- Disregard trends analysis that assumes all factors are of the same significance and which advocate filtering (e.g. Horse A qualifies on four of five criteria when the missing criterion outweighs all the others combined).
- Understand that many writers on trends, like writers about astrology and things that go bump in the night, have space to fill for a gullible public and jobs to hold down: it is in their best interests to make trends seem more significant than they are.
- The easiest way to make trends seem more significant than they are is to analyse them crudely, such as by considering winners only from the past ten years, with the result that chance happenings appear significant to the credulous.

<https://betting.betfair.com/horse-racing/timeform-premium/simon-rowlands/myth-busting-trends-analysis-040213-43.html>

All those make perfect sense and when looking at big race trends we need to be aware of the potential failings of trends analysis that Simon has highlighted.

Used in the wrong hands they can be pointless and easy to back fit loads of rules to narrow down a field when in fact just a couple will suffice.

What Are the Best Rules?

Let's look at some examples.

The Supreme Novices Hurdle race at the Cheltenham Festival is rarely won by a horse aged older than six and that one stat can knock off 20% of the field in an average year but still leaving the winner within the subset of qualifiers.

You can then look for some further logical filters to enable you to get to a position where you have 70% to 80% of the winners at a healthy strike rate, with high A/E/Chi scores.

You will in all likelihood be left with four or five qualifiers that you can then look at from a form perspective and from which you find one or two bets in a race.

Age is an excellent one. Newbury's Betfair Hurdle held each February has been dominated in the past ten years by horses aged five or six.

Breakdown of Horse Age

The age of the horse

To add in criteria, select as appropriate and press Go. Otherwise click any tab to continue with this system unchanged.

Min	Max	Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	4	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	21.00	0.00	21	0	0.05	0.05	0	0.03
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	5	65	6	9.23	32.75	16	24.62	10	60	50.38	139.21	-152.59	67.00	34.00	21.5	1.29	0.43	4.64	1.6	1.43
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	6	60	4	6.67	-12.5	10	16.67	10	40	-20.83	-3.8	-1.75	101.00	34.00	23.74	0.89	0.06	4.5	1.12	0.05
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	7	39	0	0	-39	6	15.38	10	0	-100	-39	37.05	67.00	0.00	21.85	0	2.51	2.36	0	1.79
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	8	23	0	0	-23	3	13.04	8	0	-100	-23	21.85	51.00	0.00	23.61	0	1.37	1.29	0	0.92
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	9	7	0	0	-7	2	28.57	6	0	-100	-7	6.65	101.00	0.00	41.43	0	0.23	0.22	0	0.14
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	10	3	0	0	-3	0	0	2	0	-100	-3	2.85	21.00	0.00	21	0	0.16	0.15	0	0.1
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	11	1	0	0	-1	1	100	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	67.00	0.00	67	0	0.01	0.01	0	0

Indeed 60% of the race winners from 33% of the total runners have been aged five.

Official Rating (OR) can also be a useful filter. If you can find a 'sweet spot' OR banding you can be onto a profitable angle.

The Ryanair Chase at the Cheltenham Festival is a good example of how you can use OR's to filter a race. The past ten years of the race have seen 10 winners from 110 runners 29 placed.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
52	10	19.23	19.25	23	44.23	10	100	37.02	25.05	-30.68	41.00	17.00	10.74	1.25	0.61	7.97	1.38	1.21

TRENDS - Ryanair Chase

You currently have 3 categories (including trend) with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
			2018	2019	2020					

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Official Rating	Between 161 And 176
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Looking at those results. Not one winner came into the race with an OR of less than 161. Using that filter has kept all ten winners within the subset but eliminated more than half of the runners **Last time out placing** is another filter worth further investigation.

Looking at the Leinster National, run each March at Naas.

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
First	13	5	38.46	22.33	7	53.85	7	71.43	171.77	25.1	-27.24	17.00	11.00	8.53	2.82	6.82	1.77	3.29	9.02
Second	20	1	5	-7	5	25	9	11.11	-35	-2.53	0.71	21.00	13.00	9.69	0.4	1.06	2.53	0.47	0.67
Third	12	0	0	-12	0	0	8	0	-100	-12	11.4	17.00	0.00	10.02	0	1.68	1.47	0	1.36
Fourth	13	1	7.69	21	7	53.85	7	14.29	161.54	85.49	-91.22	34.00	34.00	16.17	0.87	0.02	1.15	1.15	0.02
Fifth	8	0	0	-8	2	25	8	0	-100	-8	7.6	26.00	0.00	10.84	0	1.24	1.07	0	0.96
Sixth	14	0	0	-14	4	28.57	9	0	-100	-14	13.3	26.00	0.00	15.57	0	1.34	1.22	0	1.02
Seventh	6	0	0	-6	0	0	3	0	-100	-6	5.7	34.00	0.00	18.5	0	0.43	0.4	0	0.32
Eighth	4	0	0	-4	0	0	3	0	-100	-4	3.8	21.00	0.00	16.25	0	0.28	0.26	0	0.18
Ninth	2	0	0	-2	1	50	2	0	-100	-2	1.9	21.00	0.00	17	0	0.14	0.13	0	0.09
Tenth	8	1	12.5	-2.5	2	25	5	20	-31.25	-2.31	1.71	51.00	5.50	20.56	1.64	0.27	0.61	1.96	0.5
Eleventh	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	26.00	0.00	26	0	0.04	0.04	0	0.02
Twelfth	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	13.00	0.00	13	0	0.09	0.08	0	0.05
Thirteenth	1	1	100	12	1	100	1	100	1200	17.9	-18.84	13.00	13.00	13	12.5	11.5	0.08	20	19
Fifteenth	3	1	33.33	6	1	33.33	3	33.33	200	8.21	-8.85	26.00	9.00	20.33	5.26	3.69	0.19	7.69	6.09
Sixteenth	4	0	0	-4	0	0	4	0	-100	-4	3.8	51.00	0.00	23.25	0	0.29	0.27	0	0.19
Fell	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	11.00	0.00	11	0	0.1	0.09	0	0.1
Pulled Up	20	0	0	-20	2	10	10	0	-100	-20	19	34.00	0.00	21.55	0	1.24	1.17	0	0.8
Unseated Rider	5	0	0	-5	1	20	5	0	-100	-5	4.75	34.00	0.00	17.6	0	0.4	0.37	0	0.3

In the past ten years, five of the last ten winners of the race had won their last start. That's 50% of the winners from just 10% of the total runners in the Leinster National.

Now this also means 50% of the winners hadn't won their last start but hopefully you can see what I mean about trend 'sweet spots' that are worthy of further investigation.

Trainer Records - I would always suggest you look at the trainer filter to establish if a trainer targets the race.

An excellent example of a trainer's record in a race has come in Newbury's Greatwood Gold Cup.

Look at the record of Paul Nicholls since 2009. He's had 18% of the total runners in the race but 73% of the winners.

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
Nicholls, P F	23	8	34.78	52.83	10	43.48	11	72.73	229.7	72.09	-77.42	23.00	19.00	9.97	2.65	9.45	3.02	2.95	11.71
Mann, C J	3	1	33.33	10	1	33.33	3	33.33	333.33	10.76	-11.53	13.00	13.00	9.83	3.03	1.53	0.33	3.13	1.62
Dickin, R	1	1	100	8	1	100	1	100	800	8.98	-9.45	9.00	9.00	9	9.09	8.09	0.11	10	9
Williams, Miss Venetia	10	1	10	-6	5	50	9	11.11	-60	-6.06	5.45	29.00	4.00	11.8	0.83	0.04	1.2	0.92	0.01

The key factor when it comes to deciding whether to use a filter or not is to consider the strike rate of the filter components.

If you are looking at say the age filter and you see that five & six year-olds have won 10 of the last 12 running's of the race with a strike rate of say 25% and the other two winners have come from other age groups with a strike rate of 8% then don't be afraid to discard those age groups which include the two because they are four times less likely to win.

Other filters that I will use but they tend to depend on the race I'm trending. On the flat I will look at the draw for guidance. Again, depending on the race, I will look at wins in handicaps or career runs in the race type.

As with systems. The more filters you use the more likely you are to be back fitting. The more filters you use the less accurate the trends are likely to be.

If I'm trending a race and I can't narrow the field down to four or five at most then the race isn't usually worth the effort of trending.

Aintree Grand National

For example, purposes let us take the steps through the most famous race in horse racing the Grand National.

The results below contain 10 winners from 396 runners 40 placed.

It's an interesting race to trend because the modifications that took place to the Grand National fences in 2013 and the official handicappers attempt to attract classier staying chasers has changed the complexion of the race in recent seasons.

Using some of the filters I outlined earlier

Age:

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
7	21	0	0	-21	0	0	10	0	-100	-21	19.95	126.00	0.00	48.57	0	0.77	0.74	0	0.49
8	67	3	4.48	-15	10	14.93	10	30	-22.39	-2.72	-3.71	101.00	26.00	37.27	1.02	0	2.93	1.45	0.43
9	112	2	1.79	-73	9	8.04	10	20	-65.18	-74.84	67.49	101.00	34.00	34.2	0.41	1.75	4.85	0.61	0.53
10	99	2	2.02	-73	9	9.09	10	20	-73.74	-61.76	55.06	101.00	15.00	40.43	0.53	0.84	3.74	0.81	0.09
11	56	3	5.36	71	9	16.07	10	30	126.79	142.28	-155.21	101.00	67.00	39.74	1.51	0.53	1.99	2.27	2.19
12	29	0	0	-29	1	3.45	10	0	-100	-29	27.55	101.00	0.00	54.62	0	0.74	0.72	0	0.43
13	9	0	0	-9	2	22.22	6	0	-100	-9	8.55	101.00	0.00	43.89	0	0.29	0.28	0	0.17
14	3	0	0	-3	0	0	3	0	-100	-3	2.85	51.00	0.00	35.33	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.04

Runners outside the 8yo to 11yo age band are - **0 winners from 62 runners 3 placed.**

Career Runs in Chases: 0 to 9 runs.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
75	0	0	-75	5	6.67	10	0	-100	-75	71.25	101.00	0.00	37.49	0	3.46	3.31	0	2.43	

TRENDS - The Grand National (UK)

You currently have 3 categories (including trend) with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date (Year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
			2018	2019	2020					

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	H-Run (NH Race Type)	Between 0 And 9
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24+ runs

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
75	0	0	-75	5	6.67	10	0	-100	-75	71.25	101.00	0.00	37.49	0	3.46	3.31	0	2.43	

TRENDS - The Grand National (UK)

You currently have 3 categories (including trend) with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Date (Year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
			2018	2019	2020					

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	H-Run (NH Race Type)	Between 0 And 9
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Those runners coming into the Grand National with less than ten runs over fences are underperforming, as are those with 24+ starts over the larger obstacles.

Wins in Handicap Chase:

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
0	105	1	0.95	-71	5	4.76	10	10	-67.62	-73.52	66.72	101.00	34.00	44.51	0.29	1.84	3.49	0.41	0.84
1	85	3	3.53	-37	12	14.12	10	30	-43.53	-19.71	12.33	126.00	26.00	36.26	0.85	0.08	3.52	1.25	0.15
2	92	4	4.35	-12	13	14.13	10	40	-13.04	8.41	-17.88	101.00	34.00	37.29	0.98	0	4.07	1.45	0.59
3	59	2	3.39	23	4	6.78	10	20	38.98	80.79	-90.89	101.00	67.00	42.22	0.98	0	2.05	1.48	0.32
4	27	0	0	-27	3	11.11	10	0	-100	-27	25.65	81.00	0.00	34.33	0	1.18	1.13	0	0.74
5	15	0	0	-15	2	13.33	8	0	-100	-15	14.25	101.00	0.00	36.6	0	0.76	0.72	0	0.44
6	7	0	0	-7	1	14.29	4	0	-100	-7	6.65	51.00	0.00	42.14	0	0.17	0.17	0	0.1
7	3	0	0	-3	0	0	2	0	-100	-3	2.85	51.00	0.00	35.33	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.06
8	3	0	0	-3	0	0	3	0	-100	-3	2.85	51.00	0.00	35.33	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.04

Only 2016 winner Rule The World has failed to win at least one handicap chase prior to the race and no winner had won more than three handicap chases.

Wins in All Chases:

Criteria	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
0	8	1	12.5	26	1	12.5	6	16.67	325	23.48	-25.43	101.00	34.00	52.25	4.35	2.65	0.23	6.25	4.5
1	32	0	0	-32	1	3.13	10	0	-100	-32	30.4	101.00	0.00	53.75	0	0.77	0.75	0	0.51
2	52	0	0	-52	6	11.54	10	0	-100	-52	49.4	101.00	0.00	35.55	0	2.07	1.99	0	1.41
3	108	2	1.85	-67	11	10.19	10	20	-62.04	-54.59	46.58	126.00	26.00	39.55	0.45	1.38	4.42	0.66	0.35
4	84	2	2.38	-58	5	5.95	10	20	-69.05	-46.76	40.81	101.00	15.00	40.83	0.63	0.44	3.15	0.98	0
5	61	3	4.92	43	10	16.39	10	30	70.49	106.84	-118.42	101.00	67.00	38.03	1.27	0.17	2.37	1.96	1.45
6	30	1	3.33	4	4	13.33	10	10	13.33	11.31	-14.88	101.00	34.00	34.48	0.79	0.06	1.27	1.19	0.03
7	10	1	10	-5	1	10	7	14.29	-50	-4.32	3.62	101.00	5.00	31.8	1.61	0.25	0.62	2.13	0.63
8	6	0	0	-6	0	0	5	0	-100	-6	5.7	51.00	0.00	29.67	0	0.25	0.24	0	0.13
9	2	0	0	-2	0	0	2	0	-100	-2	1.9	51.00	0.00	42.5	0	0.05	0.05	0	0.02
10	1	0	0	-1	1	100	1	0	-100	-1	0.95	15.00	0.00	15	0	0.08	0.07	0	0.05
11	2	0	0	-2	0	0	2	0	-100	-2	1.9	13.00	0.00	11.25	0	0.21	0.19	0	0.14

Rule The World was a real trends buster. The former high-class staying hurdler, had never won a race over fences during his career, although in his defence he had plenty of experience over the larger obstacles and indeed had finished runner-up in the previous season's Irish Grand National.

Maximum Distance Won:

Rule The World was also the only winner in the past ten years to win the race having not won a race at 3m 1f+.

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
143	1	0.7	-109	8	5.59	10	10	-76.22	-111.52	102.82	126.00	34.00	50.26	0.25	2.31	4	0.39	0.98

TRENDS - The Grand National (UK)

You currently have 3 categories (including trend) with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
			2018	2019	2020					

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Max Distance Won	Between 2m2f And 3m.5f
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Official Rating

The last five winners of the Grand National had an official rating of between 148 to 160

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
180	8	4.44	-29	22	12.22	10	80	-16.11	-0.01	-17.64	101.00	34.00	31.21	0.93	0.05	8.63	1.39	0.91

TRENDS - The Grand National (UK)

You currently have 3 categories (including trend) with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
			2018	2019	2020					

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Official Rating	Between 148 And 160
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Those outside that official ratings banding produced the following results:

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
216	2	0.93	-123	18	8.33	10	20	-56.94	-59.03	40.17	126.00	67.00	46.5	0.3	3.42	6.72	0.44	1.43

TRENDS - The Grand National (UK)

You currently have 3 categories (including trend) with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
			2018	2019	2020					

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Official Rating	NOT Between 148 And 160
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We could have expected 6.72 winners during the period, rather than 2 and the A/E stat suggests punters backing such horses are not getting much in the way of value either.

All ten winners met the following two simple trends:

Age: 8yo to 11yo - Runs Over Fences: 10 to 23

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																		
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
239	10	4.18	5	30	12.55	10	100	2.09	97.96	-126.62	101.00	67.00	37.03	1.04	0.01	9.66	1.55	1.98

TRENDS - The Grand National (UK)

You currently have 4 categories (including trend) with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
			2018	2019	2020					

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Horse Age	Between 8 And 11
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		H-Run (NH Race Type)	Between 10 And 23

0 winners from 157 runners 10 placed didn't meet those trends.

I consider Rule The World to be an outlier as far as the stats is concerned. He may have been a maiden over the larger obstacles and yet to win a race beyond 2m 4f but he came into the 2016 Grand National with high class staying handicap chase form and in a big field.

Taking all that into consideration and adding:

Maximum Distance Won: 3m 1f + - Handicap Chase Wins: 1 to 3

Performance of System Based on Below Set Criteria.																			
Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi	
101	9	8.91	109	17	16.83	10	90	107.92	204.49	-224.69	101.00	67.00	29.78	1.91	4.07	4.72	2.8	10.79	

TRENDS - The Grand National (UK)

You currently have 6 categories (including trend) with specifications in your system.

Race Data - All of these categories specify only the types of races included.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Date (Year)	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
			2018	2019	2020					

Horse Data - These categories specify the individual traits of each horse in THIS race.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Horse Age	Between 8 And 11
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Max Distance Won	Between 3m1f And 4m4f
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		H-Run (NH Race Type)	Between 10 And 23
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		H-Win (Hcap NH)	Between 1 And 3

Performance of System Overall and By Year																			
	Bets	Wins	Win%	P/L(SP)	Places	Place%	Races	Race%	ROI(SP)	P/L(BF)	Lay(BF)	MxOdd	MaxWINOdds	AvgOdd	A/E	chi	ExpWins	BF A/E	BF chi
ALL	101	9	8.91	109	17	16.83	10	90	107.92	204.49	-224.69	101.00	67.00	29.78	1.91	4.07	4.72	2.8	10.79
2019	10	1	10	-5	1	10	1	100	-50	-4.32	3.62	51.00	5.00	26	1.61	0.25	0.62	2.33	0.79
2018	8	1	12.5	3	1	12.5	1	100	37.5	4.88	-5.85	51.00	11.00	25.75	2.56	1	0.39	3.45	1.8
2017	10	1	10	5	2	20	1	100	50	7.26	-8.57	67.00	15.00	27.4	2.22	0.7	0.45	3.57	1.9
2016	9	0	0	-9	0	0	0	0	-100	-9	8.55	51.00	0.00	24.78	0	0.52	0.49	0	0.38
2015	16	1	6.25	10	3	18.75	1	100	62.5	18.15	-20.64	67.00	26.00	32.31	1.52	0.18	0.66	2	0.52
2014	9	1	11.11	17	2	22.22	1	100	188.89	27.15	-29.4	51.00	26.00	30.56	2.7	1.12	0.37	4.35	2.65
2013	5	1	20	62	1	20	1	100	1240	115.82	-122.33	101.00	67.00	49.4	6.67	4.97	0.15	7.69	5.98
2012	10	1	10	24	2	20	1	100	240	31.31	-33.88	101.00	34.00	40.6	2.78	1.18	0.36	4.17	2.47
2011	13	1	7.69	2	3	23.08	1	100	15.38	5.96	-7.51	67.00	15.00	28	1.59	0.23	0.63	2.56	0.98
2010	11	1	9.09	0	2	18.18	1	100	0	7.27	-8.68	41.00	11.00	21.45	1.67	0.28	0.6	2.78	1.18

Grand National Winners Profile

Bringing it altogether, this year's Grand National winner will have the following profile:

- Age 8 to 11
- Have run between 10 & 23 times over fences
- Won a race 3m 1f +
- Won 1 & 3 handicap chases

That's 90% of the winners from 25% of the total runners, with 75% of the field being eliminated using those filters.

Using those trends will narrow the race down to an average of ten runners which you can then look at from a form perspective.

Always remembering...

FORM TRUMPS THE TRENDS!

Personally, I will use those four trends to find my shortlist of horses for the race. Then the hard bit begins as I use form analysis to narrow the field down further to find three or four bets in the race.

Now you can do all this without using a database like this but it's taken me less than 30 minutes to achieve what would take me a day to do otherwise. That's why if you like your race trends you can't be without horseracebase.

I have to stress I'm not getting any financial remuneration for highlighting it how it works. I just think that it's the best value database of its type out there. Yes, there are others like Proform which is also excellent but it comes with a heavier price tag.

I hope all what I have written makes sense and will help you to find this year's Grand National winner.

Until next time.

John

Follow John Burke's Victor Value Service for Long Term Profits

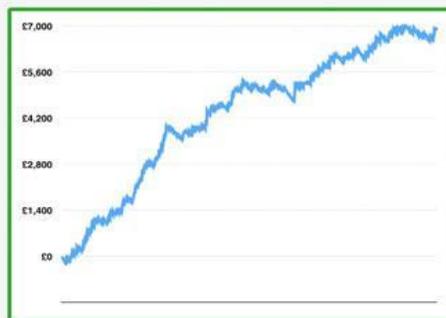
Proven for Over Three Years and Over 2,000 Bets
Producing £7,000 of Profit to £10 Level Stakes

You can't beat a Good Eye for a Great Horse

It's a skill that unfortunately we can't all have and it takes years to develop the skills that allow the race watcher to spot a horse that will be winning soon.

One man that has proven his ability with regards to spotting future winners is John Burke famous for his Victor Value big race selections.

Three Years of Proven Profits



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As well as John's big race analysis and selections you will also receive his weekly list of horses to follow that have identified hundreds of winners and also get John's weekly ante post bets.

Previously these have only been available as part of a more expensive tipping service but now you can get them included with your Victor Value subscription for one small fee

[Click Here to Trial John Burke's Victor Value for £1](#)

Systems Update

The highlight of the recent system results is undoubtedly the bumper National Hunt Acorns article that John Burke wrote for us back in November.

It started off with a run of winners at shortish odds and has been up and down since November and then in February it selected a winner at 110.0 BSP.

We are short on selections at the moment because in the main our systems don't target Irish racing but we have big plans for the systems selections which will when racing returns be part of a much bigger offering that will include selections from top tipping services a daily round up of the best bets from the systems and a whole lot more.

This was all planned for late April but will now have to be delayed until racing returns.

If you have signed up for year long notifications of system selections you will have the choice of extending your alerts for the time lost due to no UK racing or taking the new extended service at no extra cost.

If you are paying for a monthly subscription for system selections you can cancel your subscription or contact our helpdesk and we'll do it for you or you can hang on.

Some early members are on a very cheap subscription and unfortunately we won't be able to offer those prices again in the future, so it may pay to leave the subscription running in which case as promised we will be happy to let you stay forever on your early adopters' price.

It probably makes no sense to sign up for a subscription to system selection alerts right now but if you do it will help us keep this boat afloat and so we will honour the same terms IE if you sign up for a year we will upgrade you to the new On Course Profits Platinum at no extra cost or honour your monthly rate for as long as you keep your subscription active.

If you want to receive an email each night with the systems selections for the next day when racing returns then you can sign up for that here

<https://www.oncourseprofits.com/systemsreaderoffer>

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Product Reviews

PINPOINT RATINGS EXPLAINED

Pinpoint Bankers

Cost: £10.00 per month / £20.00 per qtr. / £60.00 p.a.

The Trial: Following on from the review of their Pinpoint Ratings Dutching service we started a new review of the Punters Pal Pinpoint Bankers daily selections.

You can read about this service [here](#) where there is a link to the detailed results showing that between April 2017 and December last year the starting bank of £1000 increased to £4,546. This equates to a compound interest of around 66% a year.

The selections are sent by email the evening before racing together with the early odds being quoted by Bet365 and Boyle Sports, the only remaining bookies to allow BOG before the day of the race.

The special staking employed in the past results was to stake 2.5% of the bank on each selection. During winning spells the stakes rise and then will fall when there is a run of losers.

As this method results in fractions of a point being staked, which will inevitably alert the bookies that you are being clever and trying to take their money you could expect, at least, the withdrawal of the BOG facility.

You could, of course, round up or down which would help preserve your accounts or use an exchange and that is what I have decided to do and use Betfair SPs.

We'll keep an eye on the advised early prices and the SPs to see whether or not they would make a significant difference.

During January there were 40 selections with 7 winners, strike rate 17.5%, BOG odds were between 5/4 & 3/1 and Betfair SPs between 2.28 & 4.12, not much difference.

Conclusion: A poor start with the 1,000 point starting bank being reduced to a shade over 650 points, and the ongoing stake down from 25 points to 16.28. Here's hoping for a recovery next time. You can find out more [here](#).



Cost: First month £20.00 then £40.00 thereafter

The Trial: This month we conclude our review of this racehorse laying service.

Our final month saw 38 lay selections losing their race 35 times for a 92.10% strike rate so laying at a level 1-point per race gave a profit of just over 9 points. This brings the total over the review period to 116 bets with only 8 being unsuccessful, a strike rate of 93.10% and total profit of almost 31.50 points based on Betfair SP and deducting 2% commission.

As you will know when placing a lay bet, the risk is down to the accepted odds and some of the odds of these tips may be out of your comfort zone.

Although the bookies rated Stynes running in the 8:30 at Kempton Park on the 4th of February a 25/1 shot its Betfair SP was 98.95 (17.49 a place) which maybe is too risky for some, even though it was a successful lay, placed 9th of the 14 runners.

With this in mind we looked at laying the place, especially as this strategy was so successful in the middle month.

Unfortunately, the luck had run out this time as 17 of the 38 lays were placed and level 1-point stakes would have lost just over 9.50 points. However, overall laying the place did make a profit of just over 4.75 points from the total of 116 selections.

Conclusion: A profitable service over the three months of test and may well appeal to layers. A further angle, which we did not pursue further, would be to lay to a liability where you can choose the maximum acceptable odds.

The service publishes up-to-date results which we have found to be accurate. You can find out more [here](#).