

Inform Racing Free Betting Course – 14

www.informracing.com

Finding your bets on the day can be time consuming but from today I want you to start going through a race as if your life depends on it!

Now that may sound a little dramatic but what about if you are an expert at the Racing Post or a Tipster who has to find winners?

These guys (and girls) need to be able to supply winners on a very regular basis and hey, guess what? We need to find winners on a very regular basis too!

Imagine starting work at the Racing Post and going through your first two weeks without finding a winner.

You would start to feel a little bit nervous about how you are picking your selections and because of this, you would make an extraordinary effort over the next few days.

Agreed?

You would go through a race in so much detail that you knew you had left no piece of form behind and could at least narrow down the race to two or three horses.

In fact, at the beginning, your aim should be to narrow down a race to just two or three and have at least a 50% strike rate from this short list.

If you are not getting anywhere near that then you need to take a look at what you are doing.

Make yourself a checklist

To begin with you may want to write down the most important things that you feel are necessary when going through the form.

The course, the distance, the going? Not for me!

For me, the first thing I look at which may surprise a few people is how the race is likely to be run.

I have written about this before on the website and in a previous lesson but it is so important to know which horses will be suited by the pace or the run style of the race.

Many horses prefer to lead or be prominent, many prefer to be held up and on most occasions, if the way the race is likely to be run doesn't suit your selection, it probably won't win, even if it is the odds on favourite who all the newspapers nap on the day.

Find one horse in a race that likes to lead and it may be able to set the pace and kick at the right point, giving those in behind no chance of catching.

Find one horse that likes to be held up in a race of many front runners and he will be able to pick off those that went off too fast, come through and win.

Where to find this information easily

You can find this info in the previous race comments for each runner, looking for words such as Led, Prominent, or Held Up or Restrained At The Start.

However at Inform Racing: <http://www.informracing.com> we produce our own Run Style figures for every race.

On the Inform Racing card, a 1 means the horse led or was prominent, 2 means it was ridden behind the leaders, 3 it ran in midfield and 4 it was held up.

There is a lot more information on the website about this feature but just by looking at the race cards you can instantly see how each horse prefers to run and make a quick judgment on the race, there and then.

Just doing this, allows me to work through a days racing very quickly, disregarding those races that don't look to give any runners a run style edge.

If a race has half of the field likely to lead and half of the field likely to be held up, I move on to another race as this race could be run in any number of ways and I won't have any edge.

As I said earlier, find one horse in a race that is likely to be the only front runner and you may have found something to go on.

Of course you now need to check the form of this horse but you have at least found a possible edge.

An edge because other punters won't be looking for this and doing what other punters aren't doing is the way to get value on your bets.

So I ignore races rather than horses at first which is probably quite different to how most others go through the cards.

Other important info that is required.

Once I have a race or two that I feel I have something to go on, I can look at other stuff.

But I now only have to look at those horses that will be aided by the way the race will be run.

If a race has four front runners, then I can ignore these horses and concentrate on those that will be coming from behind, the held up horses.

I have immediately cut down the amount of time I spend looking for a decent bet or two.

So what next?

You have the obvious angles such as course form and distance etc and these are worth more than a cursory glance but I like to look at different things - again going against the crowd, against the convention approach.

What is the age of the horse? Over 8 on the flat and I will probably ignore this runner.

What is the horse's strike rate? Or has it even won before? If the horse has won just twice in sixty five starts, I probably won't be backing this one today.

How long has it been since the horse last won? Over a year or a year and a half at most and I won't be backing this one.

Has the horse won in the class of race today? If it has done all of its winning in class 5 races and is running today in a class 4 race where it has previously run ten times without even being placed, then move on.

Of course you must check that the horse has some sort of form on the going and over the distance but what about Trainer form, or the jockey?

It doesn't take long to look through all of this, when you have already narrowed it down to those horses, running in certain races.

All of the above information can be found very easily at the Inform Racing website using the form boxes we produce for each runner and you can literally go through a race in a matter of minutes.

However you go about finding your selections, go through a race in fine detail, as though your life depended on it almost and finding races where you can narrow down the field almost immediately is a great way of saving time as well.

Imagine that you must pick a winner every three races or so and that they must be 3/1 or bigger or something dreadful will happen!

Put some pressure on yourself to be successful and you will be. After all, the experts have to provide a certain amount of winners all year round and they would lose their jobs if they gave out loser after loser.

You may not lose your job but you will certainly lose your money.

Thanks and good luck.

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