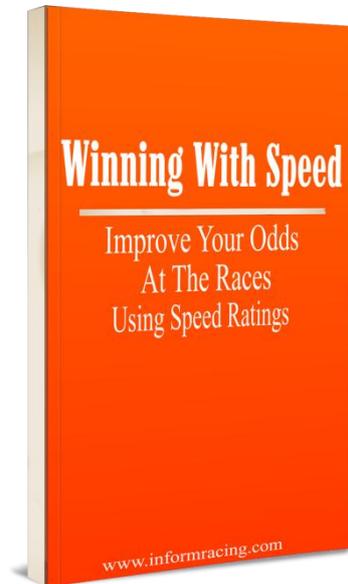


# Inform Racing Speed Ratings



|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Introduction                   | 2  |
| About The Ratings              | 6  |
| Average ratings, 'Par' figures | 7  |
| Standard times                 | 9  |
| The going allowance            | 10 |
| Weight                         | 11 |
| Wind                           | 12 |
| Winning Using the Ratings      | 13 |
| The overall picture            | 15 |
| Digging deeper                 | 16 |
| Form Cycles                    | 17 |
| Pace And Run Style             | 20 |
| Discount Subscription Offer    | 22 |

## Introduction

The idea behind speed ratings is simple:

The easiest way to measure one racehorse against another is by how fast it runs and a speed rating translates performance into an easy to use number.

*How fast horses run is the single most important factor in finding your winners and is the only place to start when looking at a race.*

Normal ratings are compiled using judgement and basic opinion, using outdated and unreliable pounds per length as the variant.

Speed ratings on the other hand are measured by the actual time the horse took to run the race, using time to determine the beaten horses and is an absolute measure of a horse's ability that can be accurately compared to all the other runners in the race.

What's more, Inform Ratings are compiled manually by hand, using an old fashioned calculator, pen and paper as well as human experience and understanding, allowing for any discrepancies regarding goings, track conditions and race class etc. all ironed out at source and applied to the final ratings.

Most other speed ratings available are calculated using a computer programme, feeding in race times and 'official goings', which are often frighteningly wide of the mark and simply cannot be as accurate because it is the understanding of everything other than the clocked time that makes the rating so valuable.

Speed Ratings allow you to compare horses in a race that have run on different goings, (firm, good to firm, soft, etc.) at different courses and over different distances and this allows for a quick and reliable comparison.

If every horse ran over a standard surface at the same distance we could compare their speeds simply by looking at their finishing times and comparing these horses would be practically impossible.

By considering the race time and accurate race conditions, that encompasses everything required about a run and calculating this one speed rating number, now allows you to do this.

For example, a horse that rates 80 over seven furlongs should theoretically run 80 going over a mile and a horse that rates 76 over five furlongs on good ground at Sandown should theoretically get a similar rating over five furlongs on soft ground at Epsom.

A speed rating of 77 from Windsor represents the same level of ability as a speed rating of 77 from York or anywhere else.

Therefore, these numbers can be compared and a decision on the absolute ability of each horse, can now simply be made.

You can now use identifiable and profitable patterns to find value bets every day because the ratings consider each previous run with regards to trip and track etc.

Given the huge variety in British racecourses and goings throughout the year, most horses show preferences for some conditions and speed ratings are the best tool for uncovering these.

Over the years I have found ways to make my speed ratings profitable and every successful and professional punter I have come across at race meetings or those I know from the media, all

use speed ratings as one of their main betting tools and that should inspire you to compile your own look into using the Inform Racing speed ratings already available.

Our data goes back over 20 years and is produced in a simple to view, race card format, with all those in with a chance highlighted for you already.

I believe these are as accurate an assessment of a horse's performance available today and this has been backed up by numerous, positive emails over the years.

## Testimonials

Bearing in mind 98% of punters lose over the long term, breaking even can be called an achievement these days with the average punter losing up to 20% of their bank every year according to reports.

Speed ratings will give you a unique angle and an edge throughout the year and many current subscribers have been continuous members from the beginning, back in 2003.

This offers genuine proof of how useful the speed ratings really are and while nothing can be guaranteed, it must be said that an intelligent use of the ratings will certainly put the odds in your favour.

*“I use IR (Inform Racing) stats every day and base my betting regime around the LTO figures which have proved profitable over the years for me.” Mark*

*“My betting using your M+A ratings is going great guns and I’m already in profit to the tune of over £600 in 4 days.” Mike*

*“The LTO (last time out) ratings with a clear rating of 7+. Since Sun 15/02/15 have virtually doubled my bank using these ratings.” Brian*

Are you ready for a fresh start and a new beginning to your betting with our speed ratings today?

## ABOUT THE RATINGS

So speed ratings allow us to analyse a horse's particular performance in a race simply and easily, without having to worry about what course the race was run at, or what the condition of the ground was during the race.

First however the calculation must be made.

1. The first part we have is called the raw speed rating. This is simply calculated using the finishing time and the distance of the race. These are compared to standard times and par figures to determine how fast or slow the winner of the race actually ran.
2. The second adjustment to the raw speed rating is the going allowance which compensates for different surfaces through from hard/firm ground to heavy which can even vary during a meeting as conditions change, as well as having different goings on different parts of the same course.

It is not uncommon for example for the five furlong straight at Sandown to be quite different from the round course or the hurdle course at Carlisle not to be the same as on the chase course.

These factors combined now produce a single figure which is the final speed rating.

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## Average Speed Ratings or 'Par' Figures

Every race type for each age group has a par figure or average winning speed rating which is the average rating required to win a race of that grade and type and finding those not up to the par, helps narrow down the field to find those selections with the best chance of winning the race.

Determining if a horse has previously or recently raced to the par figure will immediately eliminate those that cannot win. Looking at all past ratings for each horse by using the form guide link for each race, or simply by looking at the Best Ever Rating for each horse in the first form pop up, allows you to compare a horse's best speed figures with the par for today.

Many professional punters use speed figures to quickly identify the real contenders in a race and using par figures in this way will often eliminate false favourites and short priced runners from the reckoning that the public will always over bet.

Yes, the par ratings increase as the class of the races improve, however horses don't just run to the level of the race they are in, they run to the speed that they run to and will therefore rate accordingly.

For example, you can find a horse that has won a Class 4 Handicap or two before but has only ever run to a mid-70's rating, against a horse that has only won in Class 5 company before but regularly rates in the high 70's or low 80's.

The ratings and pars will highlight those horses with a better chance of winning than most punters or experts would have you believe and often at far bigger prices than they should be.

*“Just couldn’t believe a top rated speed figured horse could go off at Betfair 24.19 in a 5 horse race, almost all the indicators screaming back me! Nova Princesse at Lingfield (Won 16/1). Paid the subs and then some. Your figures just keep on producing, get in.” Roger*

*“Hi Ian I had a good day other day backed Last Supper @80/1 also had others so a good day sticking with the M&A (column).” Andy*

*“Just a quick email to thank you for the brilliant ratings as Surf and Turf stormed in at 33/1 and one look at the c/d ratings tell you that’s the one to be on. Top drawer.” Andy*

*“I think yesterday’s start on 2 non handicaps producing 40/1 & 33/1 winners says it all. Best site I’ve ever found.” Lee*

## Standard Times

The first thing we need to establish when compiling our speed ratings are our standard times for each course and distance.

A horse running over the downhill five furlongs at Epsom will run a faster time than one running over the same distance on the uphill finish of the Rowley Mile at Newmarket so a different standard time for each course and distance is needed to level things up for the differences of each course.

The standard time is the median time from a large, constantly updated number of races, that have been run over a given course and distance on good or good to firm going.

It would be easy of course to just use the Racing Post standard times but I have found many discrepancies over the years with these and often no allowance is made when a rail is moved or the distance of a race is changed as it is on quite a few occasions which may surprise some.

Calculating the ratings manually allows me to take all of these changes into account and the more race times we include the more effective our own private standard times will be.

It's a time consuming process, but incredibly worth the effort and all standard times are updated throughout the year to make the ratings as accurate as possible.

## The Going Allowance

The second piece of the puzzle is to calculate the going allowance.

Some tracks are inherently fast or slow, for instance Bath is a track that is notoriously fast and is one of the few that will have the going as Hard during a season.

A horse that runs five furlongs in sixty one seconds at Bath would have to have his figure adjusted downward to compensate for the fast track he is likely to be running on.

Likewise, a horse running on a Heavy track at Ffos Las for example would have his figure raised in compensation.

By taking the difference between the race times to standard times and pars you end up with an initial allowance for each race at a meeting.

It is often the case that the fastest and slowest races on the day are discounted if they are vastly different to the majority and an average of the remainder is used as the going allowance.

You also need to look at certain courses where you will have different goings on different parts of the course and factor this into the calculations and final ratings.

As well as different goings for the Chase course and the Hurdle course on occasions there will also be differences on the straight course or round course at some tracks too.

Speed ratings give you a far better understanding of the going too as you will find that good going at one course means something different at another and I have also seen how often the official

going is 'wrong' compared to my final going allowances on the day and is one thing I would like to see improved by the racing authorities.

For example, I have seen my going allowance at a meeting end up at -0.23 seconds per furlong, generally good racing ground but given an official going of Soft by the clerk of the course.

## Weight

Inform Racing ratings take no account of weight. All the material and literature I came across in the early days ignored the weight carried and this is the way I have always gone.

In a survey I once came across, many horses were looked at to see the affect that weight had on their speed figure performances for every pound more or less they carried on the previous run.

It turned out that for every one pound extra the horse ran a slower figure of 0.4 but interestingly for every one pound less that was carried the horses ran slower again but by 0.3.

Horses running around a tight track can win carrying more weight because they are slowing down more often round the bends than those running on a flat, straight, speed track.

Horses are also very different in size and like humans can carry different weights because of their build and factoring any of this into a rating would be nigh on impossible.

From a personal point of view, I have no real desire to see sectional timings in the future as I believe these just reflect the race that has already been run and have very little bearing on future races for punters.

However, I would dearly love to see a horse's weight on the day published for all to see as this would give far more clues to the horses fitness and readiness to win.

However, don't expect this to happen anytime soon.

## Wind

There are some people who ask whether a strong headwind will slow down the horses or speed them up if it is coming up the straight behind the horses and if I make any allowance for this.

Well, if there is any difference - and I think it would have to be a hell of a wind to make any difference in the first place - it is actually factored into the going allowance automatically if you think about it.

## WINNING USING THE RATINGS

The good thing about speed ratings is that they are used less frequently by punters here in the UK. This means that they are not factored into bookmaker's odds to the same extent as other ratings.

Therefore, those who do use them correctly can gain a definite edge over other punters and value prices in many of the bets that they place

A genuinely high speed figure represents a fast performance irrespective of the conditions on the day, but one high speed figure should not be taken as evidence that the horse can run to this level every time, however if the horse in question has run only a couple of times a very good speed rating can often be relied upon.

Backing the top rated or top three rated horses is a good place to start and from these many good winners will be found.

The Inform Racing top rated horses win an average of 24% of the time, nearly one in every four races and the top three rated win over 50% of all races so if you want a quick method of narrowing down the field then this is certainly as good a place to start as any.

*The top rated horses are taken from the Master column and if you bear in mind that this is simply the best rating for each runner from the last 12 months, irrespective of the course, distance and going where the rating was achieved and we can still achieve these excellent strike rates, then I'm sure you can see how successful you can be if you take a little time to look a little deeper into the ratings.*

By weeding out those that shouldn't be winning or by following some of the patterns we suggest that you look out for you will soon see some improvement in your betting

For example, speed ratings will highlight horses to you that the general punting public will not be looking at. Horses that ran down the field in fifth or worse perhaps but still ran a good speed rating will largely be ignored but these horses are a real potent source of winning bets, especially if they are one of the top three rated horses last time out too.

In fact, the last time out figure (Lto), or latest rating for the horse is often considered to be the most relevant rating as it shows the current form of the horse, its wellbeing and how fit it is, especially when the rating was from a recently run race.

As you can already see when used properly, speed ratings can help make a very positive impact to the fortunes of the shrewd punter.

*"I have tried about everything on the market and nothing compares to the accuracy of the ratings. This is now going to be my only source of information regardless. Week in week out the ratings remain constant. I will definitely be renewing my membership when my subscription expires." Malcolm*

## The overall picture

Ideally you need more than just one single speed figure to give an overall picture of how the horse gained its ratings over the past year or from its full career.

This will give a far clearer picture and allow you to see whether the horse has preferences for a particular type of going, specific courses, field sizes, length of time between runs, class levels and race distances to name a few factors.

Some sites only provide one figure but it is helpful to have a full database of speed ratings which stretch back over at least one season for them to be most useful.

Inform Racing provide the full career ratings for every horse running and a quick check can be done on a whole race or even a meeting in a matter of minutes.

Having a full set of speed ratings will enable you to see if there are any patterns in the horse's speed ratings and will make your decision on whether to back the horse much more informed and more valuable.

In some races it will be relatively easy to separate the contenders from the non-contenders, but in other races you will not be able to separate them no matter what you do.

You will find there are just too many horses in the race that can run similar figures, or you have over the half the race within two or three for their Master rating.

You can look for one that stands out on its latest rating or try to separate them using the better jockey or trainer or some other method but there is no shame, indeed it is good practice, to give the race a miss.

If you can use the speed ratings to regularly narrow a race down to three or four horses and have the winner from these in around half the races that you bet on, you will be well on your way to making consistent profits from your betting!

In fact, I challenge you to do just this over the next week or two and see how many winners you come up with from your shortlist.

Are you up for the challenge?

It is an excellent way to practice discipline and to learn more about the speed ratings at the same time and doing this will only benefit you and your betting bank in the long run.

## Form Cycles

Sometimes unusually high or low ratings will be hard to explain but in many cases the horse is simply going through its normal form cycle. These form cycles, which are many and varied, can be uncovered through deeper analysis of the speed ratings.

However, you will find among mature horses that improving speed ratings can suggest that a horse has already hit its peak at this point and may not be relied upon to continue its progression.

Three improving ratings, such as 68, 73, 79, can mean that the horse has already completed its cycle, despite the decent latest rating of 79.

A horse cannot keep going forever, especially those mature horses that run often in lower class races.

Look for horses that run to the same or similar level of ratings, whatever the form figures tell you, then you can find a horse that can continue to run at the same level again.

Especially if the latest rating is one of the top three ratings last time out and the average rating is also one of the top three in the race.

Here, ratings of 77, 79, 78, or 72, 74, 74, tell you that this horse is likely to run to a similar level again and if the other main contenders in the race have more fluctuating ratings, this could be a good horse to be backing, or looking at in more detail.

Here's another one to look out for. The horse that ran a good race last time out, despite its rating dropping from a peak in the previous race.

Look for a horse that rated say 88 two runs ago, then rated 80 last time but is still one of the top three rated last time out on today's card.

This gives us a horse that has run well last time, without exerting itself to the full, or we could say 'ran easily or easier' than it did in the race previously.

Many will see this as a drop in form but if it is still one of the top three rated last time out, there can be more energy to give this time that it didn't use before.

Try to keep in mind the number of days since it ran last time out and in its two previous races, just to ensure that form can be considered current.

Anything within two or three months should mean that the horse is on its current cycle and ratings can be relied upon.

One more thing is to give other criteria the once over at the same time. A horse ready to go from a stable that hasn't had a winner for weeks cannot be relied upon as one from a stable bang in form.

Handicap marks, extreme goings, jockey bookings and more should all be considered before putting your money down.

However, these horses highlighted above will give you many good bets that win often or run well.

If time allows, analysing the overall pattern of a horse combined with a deeper look at how each rating was achieved will give you some amazing insights into the form, how the horse is likely to run and some excellent betting opportunities too, often in races that would normally be left alone on first inspection.

Occasionally you will find a horse you think is ready to cycle back up to or close to its best rating in the same race as a very short priced favourite with high recent ratings but who is unlikely to run up to its best due to the race conditions perhaps and this can make for a very lucrative betting opportunity.

Those who take the time to understand patterns and how cycles evolve will uncover one value bet after another. These bets won't always win but they will win often enough to make you a profit.

## PACE AND RUN STYLE FIGURES

Is the pace of the race, or how the race will unfold an important part?

Well, the answer is yes and to help you see just how the race is likely to unfold, Inform Racing provides Run Style Figures for every runner and this number shows how a horse ran in the early part of a race.

We take the in running comments and turn this into a number that shows a 1 if the horse led or was prominent, a 2 if it ran behind the leaders, a 3 if it ran in midfield and a 4 if it was held up or slowly away.

A race where you have just one likely front runner, a horse with a majority of 1's and maybe the odd 2, running against horses with mostly or all 3's and 4's, is likely to suit this one horse.

If you have more than one of these front running horses then they are likely to make it a fast pace and this can suit the held up horses much more because the front runners are going to take each other on, run too fast too early and burn themselves out, allowing the horses who started out the back at a steadier pace to come through and win.

On the race card the R/S column gives the most likely run style figure for each horse so you can see immediately how each horse will be positioned in the race.

You can also see all Run Style Figures on the form pop up box, the form guide or In Depth Form Tables too.

*If you find a top or highly rated horse that is either a lone front runner or the only horse likely to be held up then you have an excellent bet as the ratings suggest a good horse and the pace of the race that is likely to suit.*

Most talented punters and professionals in this country are very adept and skilful with speed ratings and is something you want to aim to be too.

As you have seen there are many ways to use the ratings depending on what time you have available.

Not only is this a fascinating subject but it will also give you a very positive betting edge over other punters and a profit to your betting.

*“Ian, I’m speechless for a change, I’ve been around the punting block a few times over the last 4 decades and I’m doing my best to keep a calm level head about your ratings. In a nutshell I’m mightily impressed thank you.” Neil*

*“Even though I have only been a client of yours for a short while I was a customer in the past and I have to say that I cannot understand why I ever left you.” George*

*” Congratulations on making Many Clouds clear top rated, winner of the Grand National at 25-1. Totally unconsidered by the ‘expert tipsters’. Keep up the good work.” David*

## 12 Months Discount Subscription Offer

***Join today for a full year with a 25% discount.***

[Click her to join and use the following coupon code: BE9MZMCD6RS](#)

### The benefits of a 12 month subscription:

- ✓ Access ratings for over 9,000 races every year.
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- ✓ Join for 12 months and use Inform Racing just when required. Dip in and out to gain the information you need, when you need it, or access the ratings and form every day.
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- ✓ Unlimited access to the In Running Trading Tool
- ✓ All features in one place, on one site, for just one subscription fee.
- ✓ Ratings posted before 6pm the night before.

**Start today and let speed ratings become your new winning edge!**

*“I couldn't bet without your superb ratings which help me find big priced winners on a daily basis. Inform Racing really is the secret to value!” Darren*

***Join today for a full year with a 25% discount.***

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