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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Racing Secrets Exposed.

When I first wrote this guide, way back in 2006, it was focused towards laying horses on the betting exchanges.

The betting exchanges were still a relatively new phenomenon and there was massive interest in winning money from laying horses.

However since then I've had a lot of questions from punters who are only interested in backing horses and so I decided to write a new version that focuses on finding horses to back.

First though, let me introduce myself and tell you a little how this all came about.

My name is Kristian Jackman, and like the majority of punters I used to lose a lot of money from betting on the horses.

Sure I had winners but the losers were so numerous I was losing money hand over fist.

My luck changed when I had a fortuitous meeting with a freelance odds compiler.

He happened to purchase his copy of the Racing Post from my friend's newsagents and my friend put me in touch with him.

He agreed to meet for a coffee and we had a cracking chat regarding all things horse racing.

In all honesty he was quite a peculiar man but he certainly knew his onions.

He really opened my eyes to exactly how I should be reading form and made me respect value over everything.

After our meeting I was buzzing and I wrote up all of my notes into a more logical form.

Those notes became the basis for the first edition of this manual way back in 2006.

Since then it's been downloaded over 5000 times and I've had great feedback from many, many customers.

I really hope you take the time to actually read this manual and put it into action.

Please don't let it sit on your hard drive gathering dust.

The first part of this guide is all about the Racing Post.

If you want to get good at reading form you can't rely on a regular newspaper.

You simply have to use a dedicated racing newspaper and the Racing Post is the very best.

I'll show you how to study race cards and form with particular reference to the Racing Post website (which is very similar to the print newspaper).

In the second part of this guide I'll go through the key factors of form reading you have to study if you ever want to make money betting on horses.

I've included examples so you can see exactly how I go about this process.

I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed putting it together.

Let's crack on.

THE RACING POST

In order to study the form we will be using the Racing Post.

Although other papers include race cards in their horse racing sections they do not contain enough information for us to carry out the necessary study.

You can either buy the Racing Post newspaper everyday or use their website. I prefer the website just for convenience.

If you are picking your selections the night before then you will need to use the website.

I imagine most people will be using the website and so I have included this section which details how to navigate around it.

To be able to access all the data you will need to buy a subscription.

Don't worry it's very cheap and costs under 40p a day.

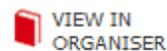
The website can be visited by clicking on the link → <http://www.racingpost.com>

UNDERSTANDING RACE CARDS

A typical race card will look like this...

« **4:30** » **Newcastle**
TUESDAY, 21 MAY 2013

VERTEM HANDICAP (CLASS 4) (4yo+ 0-80)



Winner: **£4,690**

Runners: **8**

Distance: **1m2f32y**

Going: **Soft**

Channel: **ATR**

£7,250 guaranteed **For** 4yo+ Rated 66-80 (also open to such horses rated 65 and below) **Weights** highest weight 9st 7lb **Weight raised** 2 **Minimum weight** 8-7 **Penalties** after May 11th, each race won 6lb **Mean It's Handicap Mark** 78 **Entries** 20 pay £ 36 **Penalty value** 1st £4,690.02 2nd £1,395.62 3rd £697.45 4th £348.73

STANDARD CARD **AT-A-GLANCE CARD** ODDS COMPARISON LATEST SHOWS

NO.	DRAW	HORSE	AGE	WGT	TRAINER	RTP%	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
1 ⁶	21-2	Mean It ³⁶ BF	4	9-7	David Simcock ⁵⁹		Graham Lee	78	84	95
2 ¹	4286-3	I'm Super Too ¹³	6	9-4	Alan Swinbank ⁶²		Robert Winston	75	82	92
3 ²	5530-8	Joshua The First ¹⁶	4	8-11	Keith Dalglish ⁴⁷		Tom Eaves	68	86	93
4 ⁷	03138-	Triple Eight ²⁴⁶ b	5	8-11	Philip Kirby ¹⁰⁰		Michael O'Connell	68	88	92
5 ⁸	34-507	Morocco ¹⁵	4	8-9	David O'Meara ⁵¹		Graham Gibbons	66	65	82
6 ⁴	37/544	Arc Light ³⁶	5	8-9	Tim Easterby ³⁰		Duran Fentiman	66	75	89
7 ⁵	4-2317	Titus Bolt ¹⁰ GD	4	8-8	Jim Goldie ⁶⁴		DOUBTFUL	65	77	93
8 ³	0-4264	Blue Maisey ¹⁰	5	8-7	Edwin Tuer ³³		Royston Ffrench	63	87	93

Long Handicap: Blue Maisey 8-6 **Recommended SP: 112%**

BETTING FORECAST: 2/1 Mean It, 5/1 I'm Super Too, 6/1 Arc Light, 10/1 Joshua The First, 10/1 Morocco, 14/1 Blue Maisey, 16/1 Triple Eight.

Notice I have selected the 'AT-A-GLANCE CARD' as I find it the easiest on the eye.

The other option is the 'Standard Card' which is more colourful but not as compact.

The very top of the card shows the information about the race itself starting with date, time and course.

Just under that in capitals you'll find the name of the race. After that in brackets you'll see the class of the race, the age restrictions and if it's a handicap race the official ratings restrictions.

Under that is the prize money on offer, the number of runners, the distance and the going.

OK now onto the main section of the card.

There are ten main columns to the card (NO., FORM, HORSE, AGE, WGT, TRAINER RTF%, JOCKEY, OR, TS and RPR) and I'll go into more details on each of them below.

NO.

This is the number of the horse on the race card (also shown on the horse's saddle cloth).

Unlabelled column

These figures represent the finishing positions of the horse in its last 3 runs. A dash indicates the start of the current season, bold type indicates a result on a different surface to today's race, ex indicates an additional weight penalty to be carried, d indicates disqualified.

HORSE

Obviously this is the horse's name. The numerical figure after the name represents the number of days since the horse last ran.

Immediately next to that there may be a letter 'p', 'F' or 'J'. A 'p' simply means the horse's last race was a pointer (a very low standard race not recognised by the BHB), an 'F' means the current race is a jumps race and that horse's last race was on the flat and a 'J' means the current race is a flat race and that horse's last race was over jumps.

Now next to that (still in the **HORSE** column) there may be a 'D', 'C' or 'BF' in a box. A 'D' means the horse has won a race over that exact distance before in its career, a 'C' means that horse has won a race at that course before and 'BF' means that horse was a beaten favourite last time out.

AGE

This is obviously the age of the horse (horses' birthdays are officially deemed to occur on the 1st of January in the year of their birth).

WGT

The official weight the horse must carry (stones and pounds) in this particular race.

TRAINER RTF%

This is the name of the trainer. The number after the name represents the percentage of the stable's runners that have run to form in the last 14 days based on the Racing Post's Ratings.

JOCKEY

This is the name of the jockey riding the horse in this race. The number after the name represents any weight allowances due to age or inexperience expressed in pounds (to be deducted from the official weight).

OR

This stands for Official Rating and is the official handicapper's rating of the horse's race speed. They are used to determine the weights horses will carry in handicap races.

TS

This stands for Top Speed and is the Racing Post's own assessment of each individual horse's race speed. The ratings are measured in pounds and aim to remove the effect of the going on the race times.

RPR

This stands for Racing Post Rating and literally is the Racing Post's own rating of the horse. The figure is expressed in pounds (lbs) so a horse rated at 125 is regarded as 5 lbs better than a horse rated at 120.

That's the main race card explained.

Underneath the main card you will find the betting forecast for the race. These odds are simply early prices (known as tissue prices).

Everyday all the bookmakers will send their tissue prices to the Racing Post and the paper will take an average and these become the tissue price.

They are a good indicator but the starting price odds will often be different.

UNDERSTANDING THE POSTDATA TABLE

Underneath the main card you will see several headings...

VERDICT COMMENTS MY NOTES STATS POSTDATA OR RPR TOPSPEED SELECTIONS PAST WINNERS

We are interested in the 'VERDICT', the 'COMMENTS' and the 'POSTDATA' tab.

The 'Verdict' is simply the Racing Post's brief summing up of the race, including the main runners and the predicted winner.

The 'Comments' tab has a more detailed summary of each runner's career and prospects in the race.

The 'Postdata' tab brings up a table which is meant to let punters read form at a glance.

Once clicked on this will bring up a table which is a good indicator of the ability of the horse.

An example of the postdata table can be found below:

VERDICT	COMMENTS	MY NOTES	STATS	POSTDATA	OR	RPR	TOPSPEED	SELECTIONS	PAST WINNERS	
RPR	TS	OR	HORSE	TRAINER FORM	GOING G	DIST 9.0F	COURSE	DRAW	ABILITY	RECENT FORM
94	82	77	King Of The Danes	✓	✓	✓	?	—	✓✓	✓✓
93	89	80	Zamoyski	?	✓	✓	✓	—	✓✓✓	✓✓
93	85	80	Mysterial	✓	✓	?	?	—	✓✓	✓✓
93	79	79	Swift Bounty	✓	?	?	?	—	✓✓	✓✓
92	75	80	Lamusawama	✓	✓	?	?	—	✓✓	✓✓
91	87	78	Erodium	✓	✓	?	?	—	✓✓✓	✓✓
91	84	77	Strong Conviction	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	✓✓	✓✓
91	63	77	Aussie Lyrics	✓	✓	?	?	—	✓✓	?

The important thing we want to look at here are the columns after the horses' names; TRAINER FORM, GOING, DIST., COURSE, DRAW, ABILITY, RECENT FORM.

TRAINER FORM

This is the Racing Post's own analysis of the trainer's current form.

One tick = in form

Two ticks = in very good form

? = form open to question

X = out of form

- = no runners last 14 days

GOING

This is the Racing Post's own analysis of the horse's ability on the relevant going.

One tick = proven form on forecast going or on easy/fast ground if going is soft/firm

Two ticks = proven form on forecast going of soft/heavy or firm/hard

? = unproven on forecast going

- = debut

DIST.

This is the Racing Post's own analysis of the horse's ability to cope with the race distance.

One tick = proven form around this distance

? = unproven around this distance

- = debut

COURSE

The Racing Post's own analysis of the horse's ability over the race course.

One tick = proven form on this course

Two ticks = two or more course wins

? = unproven on this course

- = debut

DRAW

The Racing Posts own analysis of the effects of the draw.

One tick = good draw

Two ticks = very good draw

X = bad draw

- = draw neither good nor bad

ABILITY

The Racing Post's own analysis of the horse's ability.

One tick = some form within last year

Two ticks = PM or TS rating within 7lb of PM top

Three ticks = PM and TS both within 7lb of PM top

? = last run more than a year ago AND no PM rating

X = no adequate form

- = debut

FORM

The Racing Post's own assessment of the horse's most recent form.

One tick = Some for within the last 60 days

Two ticks = PM or TS rating within 7lb of PM top achieved within last 60 days

? = last run more than 60 days ago

- = debut

At the very bottom of the table you will see POSTDATA SELECTION. This is the horse which scores highest on all the attributes in the table.

STUDYING A HORSE'S RACING HISTORY

To bring up a detailed history of a horse's races simply click on the horse's name in either the race card or the Postdata table.

A new window detailed below with open up as below:

The screenshot shows a horse racing profile for ZAMOYSKI. The top section includes the horse's name, age (3-y-o), sex (ch g), sire (Dutch Art), dam (Speech), trainer (Jeremy Noseda), owner (Mrs Susan Roy), and breeder (N C Appleton & Cheveley Park Stud). There is an 'ADD TO MY HORSE TRACKER' button. Below this is a navigation bar with 'RACE RECORD', 'PEDIGREE', 'MY NOTES', and 'PHOTOS'. The 'RACE RECORD' section shows 'Flat placings 71-43' and a table of lifetime records. Below that is another navigation bar with 'FORM', 'WINS', 'MY RATINGS', 'STATISTICS', 'ENTRIES', 'RELATIVES', 'SALES', and 'QUOTES'. The 'FORM' section contains a table of race results with columns for DATE, RACE CONDITIONS, WGT, RACE OUTCOME, JOCKEY, OR, TS, and RPR. A footnote at the bottom explains that TopSpeed and Racing Post Ratings are part of a members' club and that details for horses trained outside GB and Ireland or born prior to 1986 may be incomplete.

LIFETIME RECORD	STARTS	WINS	2NDS	3RDS	WINNINGS	EARNINGS	BEST TS	BEST RPR	OR†
Flat Turf	4	1	0	1	£3,235	£4,798	80	84	80
Rules Races	4	1	0	1	£3,235	£4,798	—	—	—

DATE	RACE CONDITIONS	WGT	RACE OUTCOME	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
11May13	Hay 8GS C33yHc 8K	8-9	3/7 (2¼L Hay Dude 9-2) 13/8F	William Buick	80	66	83
22Apr13	Wdr 8Gd C43yHc 4K	9-6	4/12 (2L Sea Shanty 8-13) 7/2	Ryan Moore	80	80	84
26Sep12	Goo 75ft C52yMd 3K	9-3	1/8 (1¼L Pythagorean 9-3) 7/2	William Buick	—	79	80
08Sep12	Asc 7GF C42yMd 5K	9-3	7/17 (7L Snow King 9-3) 20/1	Eddie Ahern	—	46	69

* TopSpeed and Racing Post Ratings are part of racingpost.com Members' Club.
Details of horses trained outside GB and Ireland or born prior to 1986 may be incomplete. OR Rating is the latest published.

The page is divided into 3 clear sections.

The top section gives us simple information about the horse like name, age, owner, trainer etc.

The middle section shows us the horse's history from a stats point of view.

The final section details every race the horse has competed in. It is this section that is most useful to us as it gives us good information about the horse's abilities on different surfaces and distances.

There are 8 columns here; DATE, RACE CONDITIONS, WGT, RACE OUTCOME, JOCKEY, OR, TS and RPR.

DATE

The date of the race.

RACE CONDITIONS

This column tells us the track, the distance, the going and the type of race. The distance is measured in furlongs (there are 8 furlongs in a mile). The type of race tells us what class it is (For example C5 means class 5 etc.), Hc means it was a handicap, H means it was a hurdle race, CH means it was a chase. The number at the end is simply the amount of prize money that was on offer.

WGT

This is the weight the horse had to carry in stones and pounds. 9-2 means 9 stones and 2 lbs.

RACE OUTCOME

This tells you the horse's position out of the number of runners, the distance it lost (or won) by, then the name and weight of the winning horse. If you click on this column it brings up the full race result with full Racing Post analysis. This analysis can be a good source of information about how the horse ran.

JOCKEY

The jockey on board the horse

OR

Official Rating for that race.

TS

Topspeed for that race

RPR

Racing Post Rating for that race.

QUICK GUIDE TO FLAT RACING

These races are run over distances ranging from 5 furlongs (5/8 mile or 1000m) to 20 furlongs (2 1/2 miles or 4000m) and are started from stalls.

As the name suggests there are no obstacles in flat racing. The flat season runs from mid-March to mid-November although flat races do still take place in the winter.

Flat horses mature quickly and start running as 2 or 3-year-olds.

Flat races are either run on turf or All Weather (AW) tracks. The AW tracks are comprised of sand and are a completely different kettle of fish to the turf tracks.

There are several different types of races on the flat:

Maidens: These are for horses that have never won a race before.

Sellers: These races are usually involves pretty poor horses. The winner of the race is offered at an auction afterwards.

Classified Stakes: This type of race is for horses who have run 3 or more times and won at least once.

Conditions Races: Once a horse has won a maiden it can compete in conditions races. These races are more prestigious with better quality horses.

Listed Races: Once a horse has won a conditions race it can be entered into a listed race.

Group Races: These are the most prestigious races for a horse on the flat. There are three groups 1, 2 and 3. Group 1 races are the most prestigious and carry the most prize money.

Handicaps: In handicaps all the horse's carry different weights depending on their ability as assessed by the official ratings. The better the horse the more weight it has to carry. Theoretically every horses has the same chance of winning.

Nurseries: These are handicaps for 2 year old horses only.

QUICK GUIDE TO NATIONAL HUNT (JUMP) RACING

In National Hunt racing the horses are made to jump a number of obstacles throughout the course.

The courses are at least 2 miles (16 furlongs) long. Jump horses mature more slowly and don't run until they are 4 or 5-year-olds.

Jump racing goes on all year round but its main season runs from November until the end of April.

There are 2 main types of jump race, each with different sized barriers.

Steeplechases (Chases) - In these races the horses are made to jump 'fences' which vary in size. These are the biggest obstacles a horse will have to face. The Grand National is the most prestigious steeplechase event in the U.K.

Hurdles - In these races the horses are made to jump over obstacles measuring about 3 feet 1 inch in height.

In jump racing there are also handicaps and non-handicap races.

Like on the flat there are different types of races depending on the quality of the field.

Maidens: As with the flat maidens are run by horses who have never won before.

Novices: These are for horses who have not won a race prior to that season. When a horse wins a novice race it can still compete in novices for the rest of that season but it has to carry a weight penalty.

Bumpers: Also called National Hunt Flat Races. These are special flat races for young jump horses.

Point to Point Races (or Pointers) - These races are run over fences on designated farmland throughout the country in the Spring and Autumn. This is basically the nursery for young jump horses who will progress to jump over hurdles and fences. We will not be looking at laying horses in point to point races.

FINDING WINNERS

In this guide I'm going to explain how I go about finding winners at the top end of the market.

I'm going to focus on favourites for a couple of reasons.

Firstly the betting market has done the hard work for us.

Favourites win a greater percentage of winners than other horses, so if you want to pick regular winners it makes sense to start with them doesn't it?

Secondly I'm able to keep a high strike rate when betting favourites.

And a higher strike rate means one simple thing: regular profits.

I know a lot of punters struggle with losing bets so betting on favourites is the best place to start.

However not all favourites are created equal.

Some are favourites based on hype.

The hype surrounding a horse can be heightened by several different factors:

1. The trainer

Trainers are always talking up the chances of their horses.

Some trainers are worse for this than others but I've learnt over the years to ignore what a trainer says publicly.

I'm much more interested in what they say privately but unless you have some serious contacts this is a very difficult thing to find out.

Horses that are trained by trainers who are considered the elite are almost always over bet, especially if they're at the top in the betting.

For example, over the past 10 years, blindly backing all favourites would have seen you lose around 6p in every pound staked.

But in that time blindly backing all favourites trained by Paul Nicholls (probably the leading National Hunt trainer) would see you lose twice as much (around 12p in every pound staked.)

The reason for this worse return on investment is simple...punters over betting his horses.

On any given day they'll be horses that are favourites simply on account of who their

trainer is.

2. The jockey

Jockey bookings are also a major factor in where punters place their bets.

Don't get me wrong, a jockey has a massively important part to play in a race and can be the difference between a winner and a loser.

But the major jockeys are almost always over bet especially if they're on the favourite.

As an example let's take Frankie Dettori one of the most well known and respected jockeys.

During 2012 if you were to back every favourite he rode you would have lost around 26p with every pound you staked.

This is solely based on hype and punters over-betting his runners especially when they are at the top of the market.

3. Journalists

Journalists are also very much to blame for the hype surrounding certain horses. It's practically their job to whip up excitement regarding every race.

They all have their own opinion that they like to expound, hoping they will look like an expert if the horse ends up winning.

Tipsters in the newspapers have to tip a horse in every race. They obviously haven't got time to study every runner in every race and as such often take just a cursory glance at the form.

However these tipsters will often have an affect on punters' betting habits.

Punters often won't check it see if the horse is a decent favourite they'll just lump their money on.

4. Recent Form

One final thing that causes punters to over hype horses is recent form.

Punters love nothing more than to look at the last 3 form figures for a horse and see 1's, 2's and 3's.

I have one rule...

Never back a short priced favourite to do something it has never done before.

(I don't mind deviating away from this rule when backing longer priced horses though.)

I'm only interested in cold hard facts.

As far as I'm concerned there are four fundamentals in horse racing and for me to back a short priced horse it must have proven form over each of them.

The reason is simple.

If I can determine that a horse always runs to par or better over each of the four fundamentals of today's race, then I can assume it will again today.

And if the horse is a short priced favourite then I know I have a great chance of a winning bet.

The four fundamentals are: Going, distance, class and course.

So how do you judge if a horse has run to par?

The first thing is to look at its finishing position in relation to its position in the odds market.

Did it finish in the position it should have done?

Another layer I like to add, usually when dealing with a horse that was placed and was expecting to place, is the distance it lost by.

Did the horse finish within half a length per furlong of the winner?

This means in a 6 furlong race the horse should finish no more than 3 furlongs behind the winner.

In a 7f race the horse should finish no more than 3 ½ furlongs behind the winner.

Here's my process in a nutshell...

Look for a race where a short priced favourite has proven form over the four fundamentals and where the second favourite has a question mark over at least one of them.

I'll now go through each of those factors in turn and show you exactly what I look for.

THE 4 MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS IN FINDING WINNING BETS

GOING

The going simply describes what the ground conditions are like on the course. The descriptions are as follows;

Hy = heavy,
Sft = soft,
GS = good-to-soft,
Gd = good,
GF = good-to-firm
Fm = firm
St = Standard (for All-Weather tracks).
Sl = Slow (for All-Weather tracks).

As far as I'm concerned the going is the most important factor in any horse race.

There is a big difference even between good-to-soft and good-to-firm going. And there is a big difference between turf racing and AW racing.

Some horses can run equally well on any type of going/surface but many have a preference.

A horse may be a top performer when the ground is firm but make it run on soft ground and it could be very ordinary.

If I'm backing a horse I want it to have proven form over the going.

As I said a couple of pages back I use two 2 variables to judge form...

1. Did the horse perform as expected in relation to its position in the odds market?
2. Did the horse finish within half a length per furlong of the race winner?

The half a length per furlong method was devised by a man called Van Der Weil and is actually used by odds compilers.

If it's good enough for them it's good enough for me.

The reason I use these two variables is simple: it gives us a much more accurate analysis of a horse's form.

For example let's say we're looking at a race on heavy ground.

And let's say the favourite has run on heavy ground before and finished 3rd.

A lot of punters would quickly peruse the horse's history, see that the horse has been placed on heavy ground before and assume the horse is fine on the mud.

But what if in that previous race on heavy going the horse was a short priced favourite and finished well behind the winner?

For me that would represent an under par run and it may have been the going that caused it.

A lot of punters claim that backing favourites on heavy going is unwise as the sticky ground makes for more random results.

However there's nothing really in this claim.

The table below shows the results based on backing all favourites for the past 10 years in different ground conditions.

	BETS	WINS	STRIKE RATE	ROI
STANDARD	18141	6015	33.00%	-6.73%
FIRM	2066	761	37.00%	-4.46%
GOOD-TO-FIRM	20136	7046	35.00%	-4.09%
GOOD	20798	6829	33.00%	-7.32%
GOOD-TO-SOFT	11410	3805	33.00%	-7.42%
SOFT	9699	3247	33.00%	-8.80%
HEAVY	3691	1327	36.00%	-6.72%

As you can see favourites have a better strike rate on the extremes of going: firm and heavy.

But just looking at ROI you can see that you lose less money blindly backing favourites on firm and good-to-firm ground.

DISTANCE

Distance is another vitally important factor in a horse race.

As a general rule horses start off in the sprints and move up in distance.

Some horses are good over a variety of distances others can have speed or stamina issues and only have a chance at specific distances.

Journalists are always harping on about how a horse will benefit from a step up in trip.

But as you've probably gathered by now I'm not interested in guess work. Just cold hard facts.

As with the going I will only back a short priced horse if it has proven form over the

race distance.

The table below shows the ROI based on backing favourites at SP with the number of runs a horse has had at that distance.

Runs at that distance	ROI (based on backing horse at SP)
0	-7.30%
1	-7.17%
2	-5.36%
3	-4.64%

There is a clear correlation between the profits when backing horses and the number of runs a horse has had at that distance.

If you're backing a horse that is running the distance for the first time then you're simply hoping it will run well.

You don't really know how it will take to the extra furlong(s).

But if the horse has run over that distance a few times before and has run well, then you know the distance will not pose a problem.

CLASS

There are different categories of race depending on the quality of the entrants.

It probably won't surprise you to know that favourites who are moving up in class have a worse strike rate than those either staying in the same class or dropping in class.

And if the horse is running in that class for the first time then it's even worse news for backers.

What you may find is a horse being a short priced favourite in its first conditions race simply because it won its maiden comfortably.

However it may well find itself up against horses who have also won their own maidens.

As well as races being named like maidens and conditions they are also given a class category depending on the prize money available.

The table below summarises the different classes for flat races:

<i>FLAT CLASS SYSTEM</i>							
Cls 1	Group 1.....	3yo+ £200k	2yo £165k	Cls 3	76-95.....	3yo+ £12.5k	2yo £11k

FLAT CLASS SYSTEM							
Cls 2	Group 2.....	£90k	£70k	Cls 4	66-85.....	£8.5k	£7k
	Group 3.....	£50k	£40k	Cls 5	56-75.....	£5k	£5k
	Listed incl 96-110 heps..	£28k	£23.5k	Cls 6	46-65.....	£3.5k	£3.5k
	Heritage open heps.....	£45k	-	Cls 7	0-50.....	incl regional bands A-D	£2k
	Nurseries.....	-	£20k				
	86-110.....	£18k	£13k				

The table below summarises the different classes for jump races:

JUMP CLASS SYSTEM						
		Chase	NovChs	Hurdle	NovHur	NHFlat
Cls 1	Grade 1.....	£100k	£50k	£75k	£40k	£25k
	Grade 2 incl limited heps.....	£50k	£32k	£40k	£28k	£20k
	Grade 3 open heps.....	£50k		£45k		
	Listed	£25k	£20k	£22k	£18k	£15k
Cls 2	Open heps	£23k		£18k		£18k
	0-140+.....	£20k		£14k		£14k
Cls 3	0-115/135.....	£10k		£8k		£8k
Cls 4	0-100/115.....	£5.5-10k		£4.5-8k		£4.5-8k
Cls 5	0-85/95.....	£3.5-5.5k		£3.2-4.5k		£3.2-4.5k
Cls 6	HuntCh & NHF.....	£1.6 – 3.5k				£2.5-3.2k

The lower the class number the better quality the horses are and the more prize money available. Class 1 being the best horses and Class 7 the worst.

We're going to follow the same process that we did for the going and the distance.

A horse must have proven form in the race class otherwise I'm not interested.

When judging class I try to look for form in the same specific race type.

For example, if a horse I was interested in backing was running in a class 5 handicap I would judge the horse based on its form in class 5 handicaps rather than all class 5 races.

COURSE

UK horse racing courses vary wildly in their nature and as such is a massively important factor that needs close study.

I'm sure you've heard of the term “Horses For Courses” before. Basically some horses will only ever run well if it is suited to the course.

You could literally spend hours studying a horse's form on different courses.

However I like to keep it simple.

I like to look at three different areas when it comes to course suitability.

1. Size and running style of the horse

Some horses are large and natural gallopers with big strides. They are perfectly suited to the flat, galloping tracks with easy bends.

They are not suited to undulating tracks as they can become unbalanced. Nor are they suited to sharp tracks with tight bends.

On the other end of the scale are the smaller, well-balanced, nippier horses.

I've divided the UK racecourses into 2 types which will suit each extreme style.

Not all courses are listed below as some are considered fair tracks that don't favour a particular style.

For example Chepstow is considered a galloping course but it is very undulating and as such does not particularly suit the big striding horse.

The table below shows details which tracks I consider galloping and which are sharp.

Galloping Courses	Sharp Courses
Ascot	Aintree (Mildmay)
Doncaster	Bangor
Ffos Las	Brighton
Haydock	Cartmel
Huntingdon	Catterick
Newbury	Chester
Newcastle	Epsom
Nottingham	Fakenham
Redcar	Folkestone
Salisbury (up to 1m)	Fontwell
Sandown	Goodwood
Wetherby	Kelso
Wincanton	Lingfield (Turf)
Worcester	Market Rasen
Yarmouth (up to 1m)	Newton Abbott
York	Perth
	Plumpton
	Pontefract
	Sedgefield
	Taunton
	Warwick
	Wolverhampton

If a horse is running on a galloping course I like it to have proven form on galloping courses.

And if the race is on a sharp course I like it to have proven form on sharp courses.

2. Stiffness of the course

Some courses are considered a real test of stamina. These are usually the ones with a long uphill finish or courses where the ground is very sticky.

The table below shows the courses where stamina is a valuable attribute...

Ascot
Carlisle
Cheltenham
Chepstow
Exeter
Hamilton
Hexham
Leicester
Newcastle
Pontefract
Salisbury
Sandown
Sedgefield
Towcester

If a horse is running on a stiff course I like it to have proven form on a stiff course.

3. Stiffness of the fences

The fences at the NH courses also vary wildly. Some are known to be easy whilst others are renowned as being very tough.

The courses in the table below are those courses where the fences are known to be very stiff...

Ascot
Cheltenham
Chepstow
Doncaster
Hereford
Huntingdon
Musselburgh
Newbury
Newcastle
Wetherby

Once again if my horse is running over stiff fences it must have proven form running over stiff fences.

THE FINAL STEP – ELIMINATING THE OPPOSITION

Once I have found a short priced horse that has proven form over the four fundamentals I then take a look at the opposition.

Now I want to keep this process quick so I don't look at the whole field – that would take far too long.

I'm only interested in looking at the second favourite really.

Sometimes I look at the third favourite as well if it is a short price.

What I basically look for is the second favourite to have a question mark over one of the four fundamentals.

The best way to show you how it all comes together is to go through a few examples.

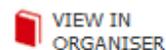
So over the next few pages you'll find examples of my process in action.

EXAMPLE 1:

« 3:35 » Doncaster

FRIDAY, 05 JULY 2013

REBECCA DADE & SAMANTHA PRICE CARDSAVE HANDICAP
(CLASS 3) (3yo+ 0-90)



Winner: **£7,439**

Runners: **9**

Distance: **7f**

Going: **Good To Firm**

Channel: **ATR**

£11,500 guaranteed **For** 3yo+ Rated 71-90 (also open to such horses rated 70 and below) **Weights** highest weight: 4yo+ 10st; 3yo 9st 6lb **Weight raised 2** **Minimum weight** 8-9, 3-y-o 8-1 **Penalties** after June 22nd, each race won 6lb **Weight for age** 3 from 4yo+ 8lb **Glen Moss's Handicap Mark 87** **Entries** 36 pay £ 57 **Penalty value** 1st £7,439.35 2nd £2,213.75 3rd £1,106.30 4th £553.15

STANDARD CARD **AT-A-GLANCE CARD** ODDS COMPARISON LATEST SHOWS

NO.	DRAW	HORSE	AGE	WGT	TRAINER	RTP%	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
1 ³	37-204	Glen Moss ³⁴	4	9-13	Charles Hills ⁶³		James McDonald	87	84	99
2 ²	741-10	Amazing Amoray ³⁴	5	9-12	David Barron ⁵⁷		DOUBTFUL	86	—	95
3 ⁵	41-230	Fils Anges ⁶²	3	9-6	Michael Bell ⁵²		Hayley Turner	88	86	96
4 ¹	50002	Otto The Great ²⁰	4	9-5	Richard Fahey ⁵⁴		George Chaloner ⁵	79	85	97
5 ⁷	468101	Creek Falcon ³²	4	9-5	David O'Meara ⁴⁷		Daniel Tudhope	79	82	99
6 ⁹	6709-7	Hadaj ³⁶ h ¹	4	9-5	Clive Brittain ⁵⁰		Robert Winston	79	85	96
7 ⁶	16-000	Emkanaat ¹³	5	9-3	Amy Weaver		Dane O'Neill	77	66	96
8 ⁴	4316	Defendant ²⁰	3	9-3	Sir Michael Stoute ⁵²		Shane Kelly	85	65	90
9 ⁸	479948	Showboating ⁶ tv	5	9-0	Alan McCabe ³³		Harry Bentley	74	83	93

BETTING FORECAST: 5/2 **Creek Falcon**, 7/2 **Defendant**, 7/2 **Glen Moss**, 4/1 **Otto The Great**, 10/1 **Fils Anges**, 14/1 **Hadaj**, 20/1 **Emkanaat**, 20/1 **Showboating**.

VERDICT COMMENTS MY NOTES STATS **POSTDATA** OR RPR TOPSPEED SELECTIONS PAST WINNERS

RPR	TS	OR	HORSE	TRAINER FORM	GOING GF	DIST 7.0F	COURSE	DRAW	ABILITY	RECENT FORM
99	84	87	Glen Moss	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	—	✓✓	✓✓
99	82	79	Creek Falcon	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	✓✓	✓✓
97	85	79	Otto The Great	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	✓✓	✓
96	86	88	Fils Anges	✓	?	?	?	—	✓✓	?
96	85	79	Hadaj	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	✓✓	X
96	66	77	Emkanaat	X	✓	✓	?	—	✓✓	✓
95	—	86	Amazing Amoray	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
93	83	74	Showboating	X	✓	✓	✓	—	✓✓	✓✓
90	65	85	Defendant	✓	✓	✓	?	—	✓	✓

At the time of writing Glen Moss had been backed down in price to being 5/2F and seemed to be fancied by the market.

So that's the horse I'll be concentrating on.

The race is a class 3 event on good-to-firm ground, over 7f at Doncaster.

So let's see if Glen Moss has proven form over those 4 fundamentals.

(A quick note here. I don't simply rely on the postdata table as I find it's not 100% accurate. I like to do my own research by looking at a horse's racing history myself.)

Here's Glen Moss' racing history...

DATE	RACE CONDITIONS	WGT	RACE OUTCOME	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
 01Jun13	Don 7Gd C2Hc 12K	8-11	4/15 (3¾L Diescentric 8-12) 12/1	James McDonald	88	83	91
 11May13	Asc 7GF C2Hc 52K	8-6	12/26 (8¾L Excellent Guest 8-10) 16/1	William Carson	89	46	76
 13Apr13	Kem 7St C2Hc 12K	8-8	2/15 (1¾L Grey Mirage 8-8) 11/2	William Buick	89	70	98
 13Jul12	Nmk 6Sft C23yHc 62K	8-10	7/16 (6½L Fulbright 9-2) 6/1	Michael Hills	90	71	79
 16Jun12	Yor 6Sft C23yHc 51K	8-12	3/17 (8L Sholaan 8-9) 8/1	Michael Hills	90	69	85
 26May12	Hay 7Fm C33yHc 8K	9-6	2/13 (1L Hamza 9-3) 9/2	William Carson	87	72	93
 10May12	Chs 8Sft C23yHc 14K	8-7	4/7 (2½L Arnold Lane 9-5) 4/1	Matthew Lawson	87	81	90
 31Mar12	Kem 7St C5Md 2K	8-13	1/10 (3¾L Bartolomeu 8-13) 6/1	Paul Hanagan	81	86	88
 03Oct11	War 6GF C52yMd 3K	9-3	2/8 (1L Jinker Noble 9-3) 4/6F	Michael Hills	83	76	77
 16Sep11	Nby 6GS C42yMd 4K	9-3	2/11 (2¼L Accession 9-3) 15/8	Michael Hills	—	68	72
 05Aug11	Hay 6GS C52yMd 3K	9-3	2/10 (4L Gusto 9-3) 8/13F	Michael Hills	—	59	75
 24Jul11	Asc 6Gd C22yMd 12K	9-0	2/7 (¼L Poetic Justice 9-0) 15/2	Michael Hills	—	83	86

1st Fundamental - Going

Glen Moss has raced on good-to-firm ground twice previously.

Here's a breakdown of the results (in reverse order)...

12th (joint 8th in the betting with 6 other horses) 8 ¾ lengths behind the winner.
2nd (when 4/6F) 1 length behind the winner.

So in its last race on good-to-firm ground it came 12th which is pretty much par.

It was 8th in the betting with 6 other horses so it was expected to finish anywhere from 8th to 14th.

It finished more than half a length per furlong behind the winner but I don't use that rule when judging the form of horses when they are far down the betting.

Glen Moss was 16/1 in this race and was not expected to finish that close to the winner.

On its other run on good-to-firm it came second although it was an odds on favourite.

However it only lost by 1 length which is well within the half a length per furlong rule.

But it was obviously expected to win, was it the ground that made it under perform?

If so I would want to avoid backing this horse.

In this situation I like to look at the Racing Post's analysis of the race in question.

(To see this simply click on the specific race in the 'Race Outcome' column on the horse's history page.)

The analysis from that second place on good-to-firm ground was...

Glen Moss again did little wrong on the fastest ground he's tackled to date, so shouldn't be judged harshly despite now having four seconds next to his name.

I'm looking to see if the Racing Post highlights the ground as a possible reason. But as you can see above it doesn't seem so.

So these are the only two races the horse has had on good-to-firm, but if we have a quick look at the horse's racing history again we can see that it has run well on firm ground before (coming second, one length behind the winner) and on good ground before (coming second, just behind the winner).

So taking all this analysis into account I don't think the ground will be a problem for the horse and I expect it to run at least to par.

2nd Fundamental - Distance

Glen Moss has raced over 7f 5 times previously.

Here's a breakdown of the results (in reverse order)...

4th (when joint 7th in the betting) 3 3/4 lengths behind the winner.

12th (when joint 8th in the betting with 6 other horses) 8 3/4 lengths behind the winner.

2nd (when 2nd in the betting) 1 3/4 lengths behind the winner.

2nd (when 2nd in the betting) 1 length behind the winner.

1st (when 3rd in the betting) won by 3 1/4 lengths.

So Glen Moss has won over 7f before (when not favourite) and seems to run well over 7f so the distance shouldn't be a problem.

3rd Fundamental – Class

Glen Moss has previously raced in one class 3 handicap before.

The result...

2nd (when 2nd in the betting) 1 length behind the winner.

So it performed exactly as expected.

The horse has actually been running in class 2 events and is now being dropped in class.

Let's have a quick look at its record in class 2 handicaps...

4th (when joint 7th in the betting) 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths behind the winner.

12th (when joint 8th in the betting) 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths behind the winner.

2nd (when joint 2nd in the betting) 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths behind the winner.

7th (when 3rd in the betting) 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lengths behind the winner.

3rd (when joint 2nd in the betting) 8 lengths behind the winner.

4th (when 2nd in the betting) 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lengths behind the winner.

2nd (when 4th in the betting) $\frac{1}{4}$ length behind the winner.

It has finished quite a way back in a couple of races but these were in high class races with a lot of prize money on offer.

But overall it has performed OK in class 2 races, pretty much performing as expected.

I see no reason why this horse would be outclasses in a class 3 handicap.

4th Fundamental - Course

Looking at the tables in the course section a few pages back you can see I consider Doncaster a galloping course so I'd like to see proven form over other galloping courses.

(Doncaster is not considered a stiff course and the race is not over fences so this is the only course factor I need to consider.)

Glen Moss has run on galloping courses 6 times previously.

Here's a breakdown of the results (in reverse order)...

4th (when joint 7th in the betting) 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths behind the winner.

12th (when joint 8th in the betting) 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths behind the winner.

3rd (when joint 2nd in the betting) 8 lengths behind the winner.

2nd (when 2nd in the betting) 1 length behind the winner.

2nd (when 8/13F) 4 lengths behind the winner.

2nd (when 4th in the betting) $\frac{1}{4}$ lengths behind the winner.

Again it's pretty much run to par on galloping courses.

Most interesting is when it ran at Doncaster previously and it finished 4th when joint

7th in the betting so it over performed considering its position in the odds market.

So I don't expect the course to prove a problem to Glen Moss as it has showed it can run to form on a galloping course.

Overall looking at all the evidence for Glen Moss I don't think it will be caused a problem by either the going, distance, class of competitors or the course.

So if it runs to form (as it has before over these fundamentals) then it has a great chance of winning being that it is favourite.

But to really cement the selection I like to make sure the biggest danger (usually the second favourite) has a question mark concerning at least one of the four fundamentals.

The second favourite at the moment is Creek Falcon.

So let's take a look at his racing history...

FORM	WINS	MY RATINGS	STATISTICS	ENTRIES	RELATIVES	SALES	QUOTES	
DATE	RACE CONDITIONS	WGT	RACE OUTCOME	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR	
03Jun13	Lei 7Gd C5Hc 2K	9-5	1/12 (2 ³ / ₄ L Exceedexpectations 9-1) 3/1F	Daniel Tudhope	73	67	87	
11May13	Asc 6GF C4Hc 5K	8-9	13/25 (7 ¹ / ₄ L Gabbiano 8-13) 5/1F	David Bergin	73	33	60	
26Apr13	Don 7GF C5Hc 2K	8-10	1/14 (1 ¹ / ₂ L It's My Time 8-13) 6/1	David Bergin	66	73	81	
06Feb13	Sth 8St/Slw C6Cl 2K	8-8	8/8 (33L Caledonia Prince 8-12) 12/1	Raul Da Silva	67	—	—	
25Jan13	Wol 9St/Slw C5Cl 2K	8-11	6/7 (5L Toymaker 8-12) 6/5F	Graham Gibbons	69	42	70	
15Jan13	Wol 7St C4Hc 4K	8-8	4/12 (4 ¹ / ₄ L Atlantis Crossing 9-7) 7/1	Raul Da Silva	69	65	71	
05Oct12	Dun 8St Hc 4K	9-8	9/14 (7 ¹ / ₄ L Paene Magnus 9-11) 4/1J	Marc Monaghan	71	59	66	
27Sep12	Dun 8St Hc 3K	8-12	1/13 (1 ³ / ₄ L Xsquared 9-13) 12/1	Chris Hayes	63	65	73	
06Aug12	Naa 7Sft 3yHc 4K	9-9	9/15 (8 ¹ / ₂ L Roja Dove 8-13) 5/1F	Ronan Whelan	65	46	52	
27Jul12	Dro 7Gd 4K	9-5	3/14 (3 ⁴ / ₄ L Russian Soul 9-7) 8/1	N G McCullagh	—	59	66	
27Jun12	Naa 6Y 5K	9-5	6/12 (10L Alkazim 9-5) 13/2	Chris Hayes	—	45	61	
03Jun12	Lis 8Sft/Hy 3y 6K	9-5	5/10 (11 ¹ / ₂ L One Fine Day 9-0) 14/1	Chris Hayes	—	47	61	

You can quickly see that on the 26th April 2013 Creek Falcon won over 7f on good-to-firm ground at Doncaster (when it was a 6/1 shot) so it would have no problem with the going, distance or course.

But have a look at the class of race it has run in.

Whilst the favourite has been holding his own on class 2 events, Creek Falcon has mainly been taking part in class 5 events.

Today's race is a class 3 event and this horse has never raced in such a high class race before.

It has raced in a couple of class 4 events so let's investigate how it performed...

13th when favourite (so a big under par performance)
4th when 5th in the betting (slightly over performing)

To be honest there's nothing there to show me the horse is ready to compete in class 4 events let alone a class 3 race.

For me the class is a definite black mark against this horse.

Let's look at all the facts...

Glen Moss has run to form previously over the going, distance, class and course. Creek Falcon has serious doubts over his ability at this class level.

Overall I think Glen Moss is a solid selection and would be a bet at 5/2.

The result...

Doncaster Result

05 Jul 2013

WATCH RACE - 25p

« 3:35 » REBECCA DADE & SAMANTHA PRICE CARDSAVE HANDICAP
(Class 3) (0-90, 3yo+) 7f Good To Firm
£7,439.35, £2,213.75, £1,106.30, £553.15

RESULT RATE RACE

Hide all comments in running Show all pedigrees

	HORSE/SP	AGE	WGT	TRAINER/JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR	RATED
« 1 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glen Moss (IRE) 5/2F	4	9-13	Charles Hills James McDonald	87	97	97	

Tracked leading pair, headway over 2f out, led well over 1f out, driven inside final furlong, kept on well towards finish (op 9/4 tchd 3/1)

GLEN MOSS was down to the lowest grade he had contested since going handicapping and it paid dividends, despite racing keenly enough in a handy position. He was always doing just enough after leading over a furlong out and this first turf win at the 11th attempt should boost his confidence for a step back up in grade.

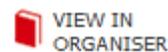
Glen Moss won easily by 3 lengths and it seems will be moved back up in class next time.

EXAMPLE 2:

2:20 » Catterick

WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY 2013

YORKSHIRE-OUTDOORS.CO.UK CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS 6)
(2yo)



Winner: **£2,386**

Runners: **10**

Distance: **5f**

Going: **Good To Firm**

Channel: **RUK**

£3,500 guaranteed **For** 2yo, each claimable at their advertised claiming price **Weights** colts and geldings 9st 7lb; fillies 9st 2lb **Allowances** for each £1000 below the maximum advertised claiming price of £15000 1lb **Minimum claiming price** £3,000.00 **Entries** 12 pay £ 15 **Penalty value** **1st** £2,385.95 **2nd** £704.55 **3rd** £352.45

STANDARD CARD **AT-A-GLANCE CARD** ODDS COMPARISON LATEST SHOWS

NO.	DRAW	HORSE	AGE	WGT	TRAINER	RTF%	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
1 ⁷	3	Black Treacle ⁸	2	9-7	Keith Dalgleish ⁵⁰		Graham Gibbons	—	47	69
2 ⁴	5	Baltic Spirit ¹¹	2	9-2	Keith Dalgleish ⁵⁰		DOUBTFUL	—	60	61
3 ¹⁰	2165	Money Team ¹¹	2	9-2	Bill Turner ⁵⁰		Ryan While ⁷	—	88	92
4 ⁹	85	Barleycorn ⁵²	2	8-13	Tim Easterby ⁵¹		Rachel Richardson ⁷	—	25	65
5 ³		Madame Giry ^h 1	2	8-11	David O'Meara ⁵⁶		Daniel Tudhope	—	—	—
6 ⁶		Marsden Cuckoo	2	8-11	David O'Meara ⁵⁶		Julie Burke ³	—	—	—
7 ⁵	694	Patisserie ⁷ p	2	8-11	Ann Duffield ⁵⁶		P J McDonald	—	70	79
8 ¹	485	Porsh Herrik ²⁸ v 1	2	8-11	John Quinn ³³		Michael O'Connell	—	54	74
9 ⁸	886	Kindanyce ²⁶	2	8-7	Richard Fahey ⁶¹		Tony Hamilton	—	59	70
10 ²	7	Lady Alaska ²¹	2	8-5	John Quinn ³³		James J Doyle ⁷	—	27	62

BETTING FORECAST: 5/4 Money Team, 6/1 Patisserie, 7/1 Kindanyce, 7/1 Porsh Herrik, 12/1 Black Treacle, 12/1 Lady Alaska, 14/1 Madame Giry, 16/1 Marsden Cuckoo, 20/1 Barleycorn.

VERDICT COMMENTS MY NOTES STATS **POSTDATA** OR RPR TOPSPEED SELECTIONS PAST WINNERS

RPR	TS	OR	HORSE	TRAINER 1ST TIME	TRAINER FORM	GOING GF	DIST 5.0F	COURSE	DRAW	ABILITY	RECENT FORM
92	88	—	Money Team	—	X	✓	✓	?	—	✓✓✓	✓✓
79	70	—	Patisserie	—	✓	?	✓	?	—	✓	✓
74	54	—	Porsh Herrik	—	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	✓	✓
70	59	—	Kindanyce	—	✓	✓	?	?	—	✓	✓
69	47	—	Black Treacle	—	✓	?	?	?	—	✓	✓
65	25	—	Barleycorn	—	✓	?	?	?	—	✓	✓
62	27	—	Lady Alaska	—	✓	?	?	?	—	X	X
61	60	—	Baltic Spirit	—	✓	?	?	?	—	X	X
—	—	—	Madame Giry	X	✓	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	Marsden Cuckoo	X	✓	—	—	—	—	—	—

POSTDATA SELECTION: **Money Team**

6/5

Bet now

This is a class 6 at Catterick on good-to-firm ground over 5f.

The horse I'm interested here is Money Team.

Let's have a look at its racing history...

FORM	WINS	MY RATINGS	STATISTICS	ENTRIES	RELATIVES	SALES	QUOTES			
DATE	RACE CONDITIONS	WGT	RACE OUTCOME	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR			
 29Jun13	Chs 5GS C42yNv 6K	8-12	5/6 (4¾L Suzi's Connoisseur 9-2) 9/1	Ryan While	—	64	71			
 01Jun13	Eps 6Gd C12yL 17K	9-0	6/11 (7L Thunder Strike 9-0) 12/1	Jim Crowley	—	32	79			
 24May13	Mus 5GF C42yMd 4K	9-5	1/4 (2¼L Rural Celebration 9-0) 11/4	Joe Fanning	—	76	80			
 15May13	Bat 6GS C52yMd 3K	9-0	2/6 (2¼L Riverboat Springs 9-5) 12/1	Michael J M Murphy	—	50	76			

1st Fundamental – Going

Raced on good-to-firm once and won. No problems there.

2nd Fundamental – Distance

Raced over 5f twice.

5th when joint 5th in the betting

1st when 2nd in the betting

Again no problems here. Runs to form over 5f.

3rd Fundamental – Class

Today's race is class 6.

Money Team has never run in a class 6 race.

But it has won a class 4 race before so it should have no difficulties competing in this class.

4th Fundamental – Course

If you look at the table in the course section a few pages back Catterick is a sharp course.

Money Team has run on sharp course before...

Chester - Finished 5th when joint 5th in the betting

Epsom – Finished 6th when 7th in the betting.

It's run to form on sharp courses before and so I don't foresee any problems here either.

Conclusion

The horse has run to form over all the four fundamentals before so it should have no problem doing so again.

But as always I like to have a look at the second favourite before I place my bet.

The second favourite is Black Treacle...

FORM	WINS	MY RATINGS	STATISTICS	ENTRIES	RELATIVES	SALES	QUOTES			
DATE	RACE CONDITIONS	WGT	RACE OUTCOME	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR			
 02Jul13	Ham 6Gd C52yMd 3K	9-5	3/5 (6L Overstep 9-5) 8/1	Silvestre De Sousa	—	40	62			

This horse has only raced once before.

It has never raced on good-to-firm ground nor over 5f before nor on a sharp course.

It hasn't raced in a class 6 race before but it came 3rd in a class 5 race.

Is this a good result?

Well looking at that race in more detail Black Treacle was 2nd in the betting and finished a long way back from the winner.

I'm guessing punters are backing this horse hoping it will have come on for its first ever run.

But as I said before I'm more interested in cold hard facts and I think the favourite has an excellent chance here.

The result...

Catterick Result

10 Jul 2013



2:20 >> YORKSHIRE-OUTDOORS.CO.UK CLAIMING STAKES

(Class 6) (2yo) 5f Good To Firm

£2,385.95, £704.55, £352.45

RESULT RATE RACE

Show all comments in running

Show all pedigrees

	HORSE/SP	AGE	WGT	TRAINER/JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
<< 1 10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Money Team (IRE) 6/5F	2	8-9	Bill Turner Ryan While 7	—	*	*
<< 2 1 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Porsh Herrik 22/1	2	8-11 v 1	John Quinn Michael O'Connell	—	*	*

With the two newcomers making no impression, this looks weak form, although it should be noted that **MONEY TEAM** proved he was different class to his rivals even after emerging from the widest stall. Recording RPRs between 71-80 previously, he can be a decent type in low-grade events if continuing to contest them.

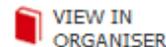
An easy victory by 5 lengths. The sign of a worthy favourite.

EXAMPLE 3:

« 2:30 » Lingfield

WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY 2013

BHEST RACING TO SCHOOL SELLING STAKES (CLASS 6) (3yo+)



Winner: **£2,045**

Runners: **5**

Distance: **1m2f**

Going: **Good To Firm**

Channel: **ATR**

£3,000 guaranteed **For 3yo+** **Weights** 3yo colts and geldings 8st 9lb; fillies 8st 4lb; 4yo+ colts and geldings 9st 6lb; fillies 9st 1lb **Penalties** in 2013, a winner 6lb **Weight for age** 3 from 4yo+ 11lb **Winner to be sold by auction for a minimum of £3,000.00 Minimum claiming price £6,000.00 Entries** 10 pay £ 15 **Penalty value** 1st £2,045.10 2nd £603.90 3rd £302.10

STANDARD CARD **AT-A-GLANCE CARD** ODDS COMPARISON LATEST SHOWS

NO.	DRAW	HORSE	AGE	WGT	TRAINER	RTF%	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
1 ²	134466	Delightful Sleep ³⁹	5	9-12	David Evans ⁴⁴		Richard Hughes	60	54	69
2 ¹	231783	Matraash ¹⁹ eb	7	9-12	Daniel Mark Loughnane ⁸⁶		Shane Kelly	68	54	64
3 ⁵	0	Hilden ²³ b	4	9-1	William Muir ⁶⁴		Martin Dwyer	—	33	42
4 ⁴	375173	Handsome Stranger ¹² v	3	8-9	Alan Bailey ⁴⁰		Tim Clark ⁷	60	63	73
5 ³	609U	Youmaysee ⁵	3	8-4	Mick Channon ⁶³		Sam Hitchcott	38	—	49

BETTING FORECAST: 6/5 Handsome Stranger, 5/2 Delightful Sleep, 4/1 Matraash, 7/1 Hilden, 14/1 Youmaysee.

VERDICT COMMENTS MY NOTES STATS **POSTDATA** OR RPR TOPSPEED SELECTIONS PAST WINNERS

RPR	TS	OR	HORSE	TRAINER FORM	GOING GF	DIST 10.0F	COURSE	DRAW	ABILITY	RECENT FORM
73	63	60	Handsome Stranger	?	✓	✓	?	—	✓✓✓	✓✓
69	54	60	Delightful Sleep	✓	✓	✓	?	—	✓✓	✓
64	54	68	Matraash	✓✓	✓	✓	?	—	✓	✓
49	—	38	Youmaysee	✓	?	?	?	—	X	X
42	33	—	Hilden	✓	?	?	?	—	X	X

POSTDATA SELECTION: **Handsome Stranger**

11/10

Bet now

This is a class 6 race at Lingfield on good-to-firm ground over 10f.

Handsome Stranger is the one I'm interested in here.

Let's look at his racing history...

FORM	WINS	MY RATINGS	STATISTICS	ENTRIES	RELATIVES	SALES	QUOTES
DATE	RACE CONDITIONS	WGT	RACE OUTCOME	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
28Jun13	Nmk 10Gd C4Hc 4K	7-8	3/7 (4½L Paris Rose 9-2) v 40/1	Noel Garbutt	63	41	65
20Jun13	Lin 12St C53yHc 3K	8-1	7/9 (11L Pivotal Silence 9-4) v 25/1	Tim Clark	55	41	51
12Jun13	Yar 9Gf C63ySl 1K	8-7	1/8 (10L Claude Greenwood 8-13) v 3/1	Noel Garbutt	56	55	64
06Jun13	Bri 10Fm C63yHc 1K	9-0	5/8 (9¾L Big Thunder 9-3) v 12/1	Adam Kirby	58	20	50
28May13	Lei 7Gd C63yCl 1K	7-12	7/9 (7½L Claude Greenwood 8-5) v 33/1	Noel Garbutt	56	8	44
21May13	Bri 7GF C63yHc 1K	9-3	3/11 (1¾L Lincolnrose 8-11) v 10/1	Adam Kirby	56	44	55
03May13	Lin 8St C63ySl 2K	8-5	2/4 (1¼L Sutton Sid 8-12) p 9/4	Eoin Walsh	56	29	54
28Jan13	Wol 9St C63ySl 1K	8-12	4/4 (7¾L Mick Dundee 8-12) v ¹ 3/1	Graham Gibbons	58	12	46
10Jan13	Kem 8St C63yHc 1K	9-7	5/7 (11L Taxiformissbyron 8-9) 4/1	Adam Kirby	60	30	42
09Jan13	Lin 7St C63yHc 2K	9-7	6/9 (5½L Sweet Force 8-9) 7/2	Adam Kirby	60	52	55
22Dec12	Wol 6St C52yMd 3K	9-3	4/7 (7¼L Rene Mathis 9-3) 12/1	Tom McLaughlin	—	38	54
12Dec12	Kem 8St C52yMd 3K	9-3	8/11 (7¾L Ningara 9-3) 50/1	William Carson	—	40	56
08Dec12	Lin 7St C52yMd 3K	9-3	12/13 (9¾L Staffhoss 9-3) 33/1	Adam Kirby	—	23	49
16Jun12	Lim 7Gd/Y 2y 7K	9-5	6/7 (7¾L Probably 9-5) 16/1	Pat Smullen	—	—	64

1st Fundamental – Going

Run on good-to-firm twice.

Won (when 2nd in the betting) and came 3rd (when joint 5th in the betting) so he seems to like the ground.

2nd Fundamental – Distance

Run over 10f twice.

Results:

5th when 5th in the betting.

3rd when 7th in the betting.

Again no problems here, seems to run to form over 10f.

3rd Fundamental – Class

Run in 3 class 6 selling races before.

Results:

1st when 2nd in the betting.

2nd when 2nd in the betting.

4th when 3rd in the betting.

The class doesn't seem to be a problem for him either and he seems to run to form in these type of races.

4th Fundamental – Course

I don't consider Lingfield to be particularly favourable to galloping or sharp horses and the course is not stiff so the course should not be a problem.

In conclusion, based on its previous results, Handsome Stranger should run to form and if he does he's in with a great chance of winning.

The second favourite is Delightful Sleep so let's just check his racing history...

FORM	WINS	MY RATINGS	STATISTICS	ENTRIES	RELATIVES	SALES	QUOTES	
DATE	RACE CONDITIONS	WGT	RACE OUTCOME	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR	
01Jun13	Lin 10St C6Hc 1K	11-0	6/13 (4¼L City Ground 11-7) 8/1	Miss H Doyle	61	36	60	
23May13	Hay 10Gd C5Hc 2K	8-9	6/8 (4½L Jordaura 8-6) 10/1	Eoin Walsh	62	52	62	
06May13	Lan 10Gd Hc 1K	10-12	4/5 (3½L I'm Harry 10-11) 4/5F	Richard Evans	—	—	—	
25Apr13	Wol 9St C6Hc 1K	9-7	4/10 (2¼L Final Delivery 9-5) 15/8F	Adam Kirby	60	45	65	
20Apr13	Wol 9St C5Hc 2K	8-7	3/11 (1½L Idol Deputy 9-5) 5/1	Silvestre De Sousa	61	48	67	
06Apr13	Wol 9St C6Hc 1K	9-2	1/10 (2L Qeethaara 8-11) 4/1	Adam Kirby	55	20	66	
18Mar13	Kem 12St C6Hc 1K	9-2	3/8 (3½L Arashi 9-4) 7/2	Adam Kirby	55	43	58	
13Mar13	Kem 12St C6Hc 1K	9-0	9/11 (12L Midnight Sequel 8-13) 9/2	Rob J Fitzpatrick	55	26	43	
04Mar13	Kem 11St C6Hc 1K	8-8	2/12 (2½L Scary Movie 9-7) 16/1	Rob J Fitzpatrick	54	51	62	
25Feb13	Wol 9St C6Hc 1K	8-9	3/12 (1½L Chosen Forever 9-5) 10/1	Eoin Walsh	55	37	62	
21Feb13	Kem 8St C6Hc 1K	9-7	7/13 (13½L Flamborough Breeze 9-13) 5/1	Adam Kirby	55	19	40	
29Jan13	Wol 9St C6Hc 1K	9-5	8/13 (12L Fighter Boy 9-7) 6/1	William Carson	58	29	43	
25Jan13	Wol 9St/Slw C7Hc 1K	9-5	1/9 (2L Under Par 9-4) 6/1	William Carson	50	44	62	
16Jan13	Kem 8St C7Hc 1K	9-7	2/13 (¼L Commercial 9-7) 7/2F	William Carson	50	57	56	
03Jan13	Lin 10St C6Md 1K	9-5	4/7 (4L Sporting Gold 9-3) 20/1	Adam Kirby	44	47	55	
19Dec12	Kem 8St C6Hc 1K	8-4	7/13 (7½L Lord Of The Dance 9-4) 6/1	Eoin Walsh	46	4	39	
04Dec12	Wol 9St C6Hc 1K	8-7	6/10 (3¼L Count Ceprano 8-8) 4/1	Kirsty Milczarek	46	21	47	
01Nov12	Lin 7St/Slw C6Hc 1K	8-2	4/13 (1¼L North Central 9-0) 6/1	Matthew Hopkins	46	26	49	
27Feb12	Wol 9St C5Md 2K	9-11	6/7 (21L Bint Alzain 8-2) 100/1	Richard Evans	—	2	32	
20Feb12	Wol 9St C5Md 2K	9-9	6/11 (18L Cape Savannah 8-5) 50/1	Richard Evans	—	3	42	
15Feb12	Lin 13St C5Md 2K	9-3	8/8 (46L Kayalar 9-3) 50/1	Richard Thomas	—	—	—	

A quick glance shows he has a question mark over the going.

Only two of its races have been on the turf and this was on good ground not good-to-firm.

So the horse has no form whatsoever to check over today's going.

Furthermore its results on turf haven't been great...

6th when 6th in the betting.

4th when odds on favourite.

This would be a big concern for me as a backer.

It's also run very averagely over the distance as well.

It's not run a class 6 selling race before but it has won a class 6 handicap.

But it has enough black marks over the four fundamentals to make Handsome Stranger a bet.

The result...

Lingfield Result
10 Jul 2013

WATCH RACE - 25p

« 2:30 » BHEST RACING TO SCHOOL SELLING STAKES
(Class 6) (3yo+) 1m2f Firm
£2,045.10, £603.90, £302.10

RESULT RATE RACE

Show all comments in running Show all pedigrees

	HORSE/SP	AGE	WGT	TRAINER/JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR	RATED
« 1	1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matraash (USA) 11/4	7	9-12 eb	Daniel Mark Loughnane Shane Kelly	68	—		
« 2	5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hilden 25/1	4	9-1 b	William Muir Martin Dwyer	—	—		
« 3	4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Handsome Stranger (IRE) 6/4F	3	8-9 v	Alan Bailey Andrea Atzeni	60	—		
« 4	3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youmaysee 25/1	3	8-4	Mick Channon Sam Hitchcott	38	—		
« 5	2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delightful Sleep 7/4	5	9-12	David Evans Richard Hughes	60	—		

Handsome Stranger, who isn't very big, plugged on without threatening the first two.

Youmaysee, keen early, struggled on the downhill run, while **Delightful Sleep** ran poorly and may have found conditions too quick (reportedly lame on his left fore afterwards). [Steffan Edwards]

Well a poor run from my selection and it never threatened. It just shows you can't win them all.

No matter how much form study you do you can't be certain of victory, even with a short priced favourite.

I can take small satisfaction in predicting that Delightful Step wouldn't like the ground and in the end it came way back in last.

WHERE TO START

I don't recommend trying to go through a whole days racing.

It will take too long and I doubt you'll have the concentration to make good decisions.

It pays to specialise when betting on horse racing.

It's better to be an expert in one discipline rather than a jack of all trades.

Your area of focus could be handicaps, or sprints or maybe just class 5 and 6 races.

You'll find if you focus you'll be better at judging the form and deciding whether a horse is a decent bet or not.

When first starting out you might like to simply start with the shortest price horse of the day and work up.

After all the market has deemed them the best favourites of the day.

Or you might look at which horses are the most napped by the daily newspapers and start your analysis with those.

There are lots of different ways to use the information in this guide. I'll let you decide which one suits you the best.

GETTING THE BEST PRICE

This is one of the most important aspects of betting.

If you don't get the best price for your selections then you're throwing money away.

You really should have an account with all the best odds guaranteed bookmakers.

But more important than that is having a Betfair account.

By and large Betfair have the best odds on the majority of horses.

So if you don't have a Betfair account, you really should set one up right now.

It will take less than 2 minutes and will save you a lot of money in the years to come.

FREE £25 Bet With Betfair

If you'd like a free £25 bet with Betfair simply open a new account using the promo code **HKVKENPGW**.

[Click Here To Sign Up Now](#)

<https://account.betfair.com/account-web/registerAccount.html?promotionCode=HKVKENPGW>

Just a reminder that Betfair have produced several video tutorials that take you through the basics of their site.

If you're new to Betfair I highly recommend you give them a quick watch.

Check them out here...

<http://learning.betfair.com/en/videos/welcome-to-betfair.html>

CONCLUSION

I've hoped you've enjoyed this free guide.

In it I've taught a few techniques of how I go about picking short priced horses to back.

Remember not all favourites are created equal.

The market gets it right about 33% of the time, but if you ignore the favourites that are based on hype and just bet on the ones with proven form you can do better.

Remember make sure you're backing a horse that has proven form over the four fundamentals: going, distance, class and course.

If a horse has run to par previously in those conditions then chances are it will do again.

Of course there are more than four factors that affect a horse race (pre-eminent professional gambler Patrick Veitch reckons there are up to 80!) but in my view these are the four most important.

I'm currently writing an article in which I go into detail on a few more of these factors.

I'll send you an email with a link to it when I've finished (probably in a few days).

Hopefully it will improve your selection method even further.

Good luck and I hope you've enjoyed reading,

Kristian Jackman