

HTR Monthly Report
Thoroughbred Handicapping Newsletter
July 2004

Brought to you by –
KM Software
Handicapping Technology and Research

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Each month, the current edition of the HTR Monthly Report is available on the Internet from our members' web site only. This is not a free newsletter; it is included as part of a paid subscription to HTR's monthly download service (\$119/mo). Selected articles can be found on the free HTR web site (see back page for web address). The HTR Monthly Report is normally available by the 5th of each month.

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KM Software 2004

*News and Notes***Seminar Schedule 2004 Wed July 14**

The schedule for the seminar has been formalized. Please plan to arrive in the meeting room by 12:30pm on Wednesday afternoon. If you are late, don't fret, we will accommodate everyone. Food is not provided so be sure you have eaten lunch or breakfast before arriving. Water and coffee will be available and rest-rooms are near by. Salon "A" is the tentative room assignment – look for the sign with "Handicapping Technology and Research" or "HTR" on it. We will pass the hat during the presentations for the small seminar donations (see "notes" below).

12:00 noon – 12:30 pm

Gather, find a seat, chat with friends. Please plan to arrive by 12:30pm if at all possible.

12:40pm – 2:20 pmHTR2 Seminar with KM

- Advanced Handicapping / Analysis Topics.
- New Software Tools.

2:30 pm – 3:20pmBetting Strategies Seminar with Tom Walters at 2:30pm

- Small Bets for Big Payoffs.
- The Fool-Proof Pick-4 Combination Bet.

3:30pm – 4:20pmTournament Strategy Session with KM

- Tournament Strategies for the Gold Coast Contest.
- Cash Prize (\$400) Handicapping Contest.

4:30pm – 9:50pm (dinner break)Access + HTR2 Workshop with Don Nadermann and Mike DeRienzo

- Review of Updated Access manual (important for beginners) and Database Basics
- Updated Newsletter Search Function
- Combine Spot Play Queries into a Single Report
- Build Queries on Queries
- Build Queries on Multiple Tables
- Using the Report Function in Access to Produce A Custom Output
- Moving Data into Excel for Pivot Tables and Graphical Interpretation.
- More.....+ User Requests and Q & A Throughout.

Notes:

We are asking a \$20 donation to offset expenses for the entire seminar – money will be collected at the event. If you attend the Tournament Strategy session and compete in the contest there is \$10/entry fee which will be returned in prize money to the winners. An additional \$10 token is asked for those attending the Access workshop. Non-HTR subscribers are welcome if you want to bring a friend. All sessions will have printed handouts, bring a pen. Bring laptop early if you want to install the latest HTR2 and again if you are attending the Access class at 4:30pm. Water and coffee provided – breaks taken every hour – but food is not provided. Please, for the courtesy of everyone, NO eating or talking (especially on your cell phone) in the seminar room during the presentations. See you there!

Please check page-12 for any late news on the seminar.

*Handicapping with HTR2***The HTR-Consensus Rating**

Last month the software was upgraded with a new version of the HTR-Consensus. Nine diverse factors are used in combination to create the final [HTR] rating. This month we will test the ranking and determine its general effectiveness as well as compare it with the (K).

The factors used in the [HTR]-Consensus are shown below along with the (+) flag for each.

1. **Fr1** Fraction-1 rank. (+)= Horse has "F" running style (*shock speed*).
1. **E/P** Early Pace (2nd Call) velocity. (+)= Rank-1 w/ Fr2
3. **Fr3** Fraction-3 (final fraction) velocity. (+) = Rank-1 w/ L/P(Lv).
4. **A/P** Average Pace velocity. (+) Rank-1 VEL (Velocity Score).
5. **C90** Horse's best Cramer speed figure last 90-days. (+)= Top Last
6. **WKS** Workout ranking. (+)= Workout rating is 85 or greater.
2. **PED** Pedigree ranking. (+)= Pedigree rating above 450.
8. **TRN** Trainer rank. (+)= Trainer rated 400 or higher (super trainer).
3. **JKY** Jockey rank (+) = Jockey rated 350 or higher.

Let's start by looking at Fast Dirt Sprints / non-maidens. The only filter was to remove races with a purse under \$5,000. Note that the number of races in the sample are shown above the test results. This is important with the [HTR]-Consensus as ties are common. While ties can distort the win percentage it has no effect on the ROI as all qualifiers are wagered together. The Long% displays the percentage of winners in that category that paid more than \$15 to win.

Fast Dirt Sprints / Non-Mdn / Purse \$5000 up / Races Tested = 23,390

Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
HTR-1	24369	29%	0.92	47%	05%
HTR-2	23902	20%	0.90	37%	12%
HTR-3	23824	15%	0.82	30%	20%
HTR-4	23540	11%	0.76	25%	28%
HTR-5	23191	09%	0.76	20%	40%
HTR-6	21581	07%	0.65	16%	51%
HTR-7	18218	05%	0.64	13%	58%
HTR-8	13419	04%	0.64	10%	67%
HTR-9	17616	03%	0.55	08%	78%

Analysis – Fast Dirt Sprints (non- maiden)

These results (the top-2 ranks) are excellent and beyond my expectations for the ROI. Likewise those horses at the very bottom of the list are in deeper trouble than expected. Lots of potential here.

It is a bit hard to compare the [HTR] directly with the (K)-rating because of the number of ties. Certainly the (K) is more stable with its top-4 hitting 77% with virtually no ties in the final number as it is a decimal rating. The [HTR] win percentage results are slightly lower than the (K) and it can be degraded even more due to the frequency of ties. I didn't break ties with the [HTR] because I saw no evidence that it would result in better performance.

The ROI is the happy news with the new [HTR] rating. It is roughly 5-cents higher with the top-2 ranks than the (K). In the past, we have tested combinations of the (K) and the Wk or Fr1 = 1 and the ROI rivals the [HTR] in those cases. Yet the filtered (K) samples were greatly reduced due to the necessary factor addition. This test, and the others below, is basically an unlimited sample except for the basic dist/surf categories and minor purse restriction.

On the next page we'll test Fast Dirt Routes and Turf Routes. I used PL-5 in all these tests.

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*Handicapping with HTR2***The HTR-Consensus Rating / Test Results****Fast Dirt Routes / Non-Mdn / Purse \$5000 up / Races Tested = 11,113**

Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
HTR-1	11853	28%	0.93	46%	06%
HTR-2	11365	18%	0.83	37%	11%
HTR-3	11311	15%	0.82	30%	19%
HTR-4	11135	12%	0.84	26%	29%
HTR-5	10975	10%	0.78	21%	37%
HTR-6	10282	07%	0.77	17%	52%
HTR-7	08238	06%	0.74	13%	63%
HTR-8	05998	05%	0.80	11%	69%
HTR-9	06786	03%	0.61	07%	74%

Analysis – Fast Dirt Routes (non- maiden)

The top ranked runners return a respectable 0.93 ROI – excellent for a broad sample. The other rankings seem to have been sacrificed for the top one though, as the remainder are poor returns. The win rates are steady for the top-4 but the relative number of ties are actually greater here than with the sprint test. Keep in mind that these first two dirt tests restrict the track condition to “Fast” and maidens were not included (we’ll look at them on page-5).

Turf Routes / Any / Purse \$5000 up / Races Tested = 4,505

Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
HTR-1	04717	25%	0.89	42%	07%
HTR-2	04622	18%	0.87	34%	14%
HTR-3	04600	13%	0.81	29%	22%
HTR-4	04549	11%	0.81	23%	32%
HTR-5	04512	10%	0.88	20%	41%
HTR-6	04410	07%	0.74	16%	52%
HTR-7	04029	06%	0.75	15%	60%
HTR-8	03602	05%	0.63	12%	72%
HTR-9	06346	03%	0.68	08%	81%

Analysis – Turf Routes

I lumped all grass races into this one test – the \$5,000 purse minimum was the only filter and it isn’t likely there are any turf races carded in North America at less than that amount. Results are ok for the top-2 and it has always been difficult to push the ROI above 0.90 on the grass. The win rates drop compared to the dirt, but the average field size is larger.

Now what can we do with these test results? Recognize that most of our potential profits come from the top-1 or 2 rankings only. There will be abundant overlays to achieve ROI above 0.90 on the dirt with a large sample that includes so many ties. Horses that end up at the bottom of the HTR-Consensus list are poor bets and rarely win – might even be a decent instant eliminator as they win less than 5% of their races. Exotic bettors can use this information to construct ‘top heavy’ vertical tickets in the exacta and trifecta by keying a top-rank that is not the favorite. Speaking of favorites, we’ll test them on page-6 and find out if they are bad bets when not top ranked by the [HTR] and try the same idea by partnering up the (K)-rating.

*Handicapping with HTR2***The HTR-Consensus Rating – Test Results**

In the previous tests, maidens were eliminated. We'll test them here and separate the maiden claimers and maiden special weight. With the Mcl test, the \$5000 minimum purse filter remains in effect, but I raised it to \$10,000 for the Msw group to avoid those phony Msw from small tracks. I tested the maidens with Fast Dirt Sprints (4.5f –7.5f) only.

Fast Dirt Sprint / Mdn Clm / Purse \$5000 up / Races Tested = 6,388

Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
HTR-1	06636	29%	0.90	49%	03%
HTR-2	06527	21%	0.92	38%	10%
HTR-3	06493	15%	0.84	30%	19%
HTR-4	06467	10%	0.71	22%	29%
HTR-5	06335	08%	0.68	19%	48%
HTR-6	06289	06%	0.68	15%	58%
HTR-7	05715	05%	0.68	11%	69%
HTR-8	04814	04%	0.65	09%	74%
HTR-9	08245	02%	0.63	05%	88%

Analysis – Maiden Claimers

Interesting that the second-ranked maiden claimers outperform the top ones with the ROI, despite a pretty good return for the rank-1. This probably indicates that favorites are over bet in many of these races and a logical second choice becomes a tempting overlay. Here we see a near 50% Win/Place percentage for the top ranked, which is higher than all of our previous tests – with half of the HTR-1 runners finishing first or second, that is good news for exacta players.

Fast Dirt Sprint / Msw / Purse \$10000 up / Races Tested = 3,182

Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
HTR-1	03306	29%	0.84	51%	04%
HTR-2	03222	21%	0.85	40%	09%
HTR-3	03225	15%	0.85	30%	19%
HTR-4	03209	11%	0.79	23%	31%
HTR-5	03206	09%	0.66	18%	40%
HTR-6	03094	05%	0.68	13%	60%
HTR-7	02946	04%	0.64	10%	66%
HTR-8	02480	03%	0.55	07%	79%
HTR-9	04462	02%	0.56	06%	81%

Analysis – Maiden Special

Nothing positive here despite the good win percentages with the top-2. These maiden specials winners don't pay much and the public is on to them.

Summary of All Test Results with the [HTR]

Overall results are promising with the top-2 ranks using the HTR-Consensus. The returns with the previous version of the rating were not nearly as strong. With an ROI above 0.90 for the top horses in most cases, the handicapper should be able to locate positive situations with smaller and more localized data samples. You can research the [HTR] using the HTR2 Tester or the HX4 export file for database users. A few more interesting tests will conclude our study of the [HTR] this month – we'll partner up the (K) and the betting favorites and try a spot-play as well.

*Handicapping with HTR2***The HTR-Consensus Rating + K-1 / Tote Favorite**

With an ROI that exceeds the K-1 by about a nickel and beats the tote-favorites by a ton, it will be interesting to view the results of the [HTR] with the most obvious contenders. Perhaps we can discover a demographic that gives us reason to bet against some low-priced runners or find a high-probability single for the pick-3,4,6.

K-1 Only / Any Race / Purse \$5000 up / Races Tested = 60,880

Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
HTR-1	34625	35%	0.90	55%	01%
HTR-2	13958	27%	0.84	48%	02%
HTR-3	06508	24%	0.82	43%	04%
HTR-4	03127	20%	0.76	38%	05%
HTR-5	01541	18%	0.75	37%	07%
HTR-6	00677	17%	0.77	34%	05%
HTR-7	00298	14%	0.66	31%	09%
HTR-8	00110	19%	0.81	35%	10%
HTR-9	00046	20%	0.94	26%	11%

Analysis – (K)-1

While the overwhelming majority of K-1's are also ranked 1 or 2 with the [HTR] it is still amazing to me to find so many top (K) at the bottom rungs of this list. Incredibly, 46 of the 60,000 K-1's were actually ranked dead last with the [HTR]! In any case, the combination of (K)-1 and [HTR]-1 produces a higher win rate than either factor can gain alone. The 35,000+ sample is worth a second look when the win rate exceeds 33%. We would be hard pressed to find a combination of factors that can produce so many plays and maintain a winning record of 35% and still hold a 0.90 ROI. The "Long" percentages are weak here though as few K-1's go off at odds over 6.5-1. Note that there are zero ties in this data sample.

[HTR] + Betting Favorites**Betting Favorite / Any Race / Purse \$5000 up / Races Tested = 60,880**

Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
HTR-1	28247	40%	0.88	61%	00%
HTR-2	13818	37%	0.81	54%	00%
HTR-3	07975	27%	0.76	47%	00%
HTR-4	04749	22%	0.69	43%	00%
HTR-5	02740	21%	0.71	40%	00%
HTR-6	01643	16%	0.58	35%	00%
HTR-7	00852	16%	0.71	30%	00%
HTR-8	00303	13%	0.46	28%	00%
HTR-9	00243	15%	0.69	23%	00%

Analysis – Favorites

We're talking about the final betting favorite here, so the *Longs* column will be all zeroes as there were no winners in a *chalk test* that pay \$15 or more. The public favorites perform far better than normal when ranked-1 or 2 with the [HTR]. The ROI for the top ones is actually amazing for such a large sample of chalk. If the final tote favorite also ranks-1 here, they have a very high probability of finishing in the exacta (61%). Favorites normally win about 33%, but if they are ranked 3rd or worse on the HTR-Consensus they become very bad bets and the basis for instant false-favorite identification. Stay away from low-odds runners that do not rank at least second on the [HTR], they are not dominant enough to gain the usual heavy advantage.

*Handicapping with HTR2***The HTR-Consensus Rating – Spot Play for High % Plays**

Let's go for a very high win percentage by combining these three elements at once →

rHTR = 1

rK = 1

rMLO = 1

nMLO < 3

I'll use a modified MLO parameter instead of the actual tote favorite in this test because we may want to identify these horses well ahead of the wagering (such as locating a pick-6 single). I also switched to a \$10,000 minimum purse for this spot play.

Combine [HTR]+(K)+MLO/ All Races / Purse \$10,000 up					
Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	PlaROI
Combo	11478	42%	0.88	63%	0.95

Analysis

The combination of the [HTR] + (K) + MLO favorites does yield a very high win percentage. We can use these horses to single in the exotics or rack up some rebate money with Place bets. The key thing here is the sample size. With a very large number of races and a win rate over 40%, there is every likelihood that the play will go forward and continue to hit regularly no matter where the handicapper happens to be betting the horses. I'm raised the purse minimum to \$10,000 in this test as these are the races most of us are likely to wager and the mutual pools will be large enough to insure most bets don't reduce the ROI any further.

Important: the ROI is a loser on these high percentage horses, you won't make money betting them straight. Place bets (with rebate), quinellas, exactas, pick-3,4,6 (singletons) are the opportunity here – taking advantage of extremely high hit rates with a plethora of plays.

Incredibly, the test sample showed 3 “Longs”, winners that paid \$15 or more. This seemed impossible considering the strict parameters that favor the heaviest favorites, so my curiosity was peaked and I programmed a search robot to find these races or at least discover if there was an error in my data test. The qualifying winners were absolutely legitimate - and massive overlays! – they are listed below.

Track	Date	R#	Winner	MLO	Win\$
SUF	10 OCT 2003	8	Plinking	5/2	\$20.60
HST	13 SEP 2003	8	Orchids Sp	5/2	\$16.60
MNR	11 FEB 2003	10	Lil Deputy	5/2	\$16.40

*Handicapping with HTR2***Super Trainers and the Workout Rating**

The Workout rating would seem to be a good match with the super trainers as it tends to indicate improving fitness and a “live” effort upcoming. We’ll test the combination of the Trainer + Workout in general and then re-test it with the switch to the super trainer angle hoping to catch those horses that have been suddenly improved by these high percentage barns.

Super Trainer (Trn >= 400) / Any Race / Purse \$10000 up /					
Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
Wk-1	01724	29%	0.93	48%	03%
Wk-2	01747	25%	0.85	45%	03%
Wk-80+	03658	25%	0.86	43%	03%
Wk-85+	01348	27%	0.91	44%	02%

Analysis

Results are strong percentage-wise when the Wk rating is combined with a super trainer. ROI is not bad for the best ones, but suffers from a complete lack of long prices (3% *Longs*, \$15+ winners). The disappointing shortness of longshots is food for thought. Are the horses with solid work patterns getting bet heavily by these high percentage barns? We haven’t seen a major depletion of \$15+ mutuels in any previous test with the super trainers. Something is happening with the betting on these particular horses.

We’ll now test a sub-set of the above and restrict the test to “first start for super trainer”. This means the horse was trained by someone else last time (FTS are not included in this sample) and now the horse is switched to a barn with a trainer rated 400 or higher today. Last month we found excellent results – though the sample size is modest – when testing the trainer change angle.

Switching to a 400+ rated Trainer Today / Any Race / Purse \$10000 up					
Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
Wk-1	00465	29%	0.91	46%	03%
Wk-2	00477	25%	1.01	45%	03%
Wk-80+	00861	25%	1.00	45%	05%
Wk-85+	00352	27%	0.96	48%	02%

Analysis

Returns are descent here but the sample sizes are paltry. The results are improved further if the trainer switch includes a 26-90 layoff since the last start (and the barn change). The layoff time would indicate that the entire workout pattern was induced by the new trainer. This is a critical window into the success of super trainers – their ability to turn around a previously dull form cycle and get a horse in motion again. How this happens we can only speculate, but the workout rating is a valuable predictor.

*Handicapping with HTR2***Super Trainers and Maiden Races**

Let's continue the discussion of the "super trainer" with various stats regarding maiden races and first-time-starters. If you need a primer or definition of the 'super trainer' (TRN >= 400) please read the May and June 2004 issues of this newsletter.

Prolific winning trainers tend to be very consistent with all types of horses. There are exceptions as we noted previously, such as the long layoff angle – even the highest rated trainers were unable to move up horses with layoffs over 180-days. First time starters are another category that produce negative stats for almost all trainers. Take a look at the chart below that relates how all trainers do with FTS in races with purses \$10,000 and up. →

FTS / Any Trainer / Dirt Sprint / Purse \$10,000 up / Msw and Mcl					
Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
FTS-Msw	14627	09%	0.76	18%	21%
FTS-Mcl	11708	08%	0.78	16%	30%

The reason there are more Msw horses in the stats is due to the \$10,000 purse filter. Pretty tough going in general for (all) trainers with their FTS. Now let's separate the 'super trainer' in our next test and find out if they can overcome the negatives.

FTS / Trn >=400 / Dirt Sprint / Purse \$10,000 up / Msw and Mcl					
Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
FTS-Msw	00629	20%	0.87	34%	12%
FTS-Mcl	00326	37%	0.91	31%	14%

Analysis

Keep in mind that there are very few super trainers – yet they influence racing on every circuit due to their typically large stable operations. First time starters would not seem to be one of their specialties as they excel at improving horses already in training. The time and effort necessary to evaluate, purchase and train a fresh youngster is considerable. All this adds up to a modest sample size for the 400+ trainers with first-timers. All told, their results with FTS are excellent compared to the normal returns expected for all trainers and although the percentage of longshots drops considerably, the ROI is pretty good.

Super Trainer and Maiden Claimers

One aspect to high profile trainers is their interaction with maiden claiming races. With a high turnover of stock and a great emphasis on improving horses, do they use the maiden claimer merely as a "dump" or "fire sale" for unwanted and cheap runners that have no apparent upside? Or is the maiden claimer part of the entire process of moving horses into races they can win? The chart below may help us with the answer. It shows the record of super trainers in maiden claiming races with purses >= \$5,000.

Maiden Claming Entrants / Trn >=400 / Dirt Sprint / Msw and Mcl					
Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
Mcl + Trn400	02143	26%	0.90	42%	05%

Analysis

Not surprising, the conventional wisdom usually doesn't relate to the 'super trainer'. They win a high rate and a reasonable return with their maiden claimers. Very few of the winners paid over \$15 though, so not many bettors are getting fooled, or maybe the barns are betting the live ones.

Handicapping with HTR2
Super Trainers and Turf Races

Grass races would seem to be a natural magnet with the best trainers. Higher purse values and a diverse set of conditions on the turf now augment the condition book at most large and medium sized tracks. Competitive races with large fields should reduce the win rates for all trainers though. Let's find out if the 'super trainers' are dominating the grass as much as on dirt.

Super Trainer (Trn >= 400) / Any Race / Purse \$10000 up /					
Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
Turf Sprint	00627	22%	1.04	36%	12%
Turf Route	02106	21%	0.86	36%	11%

Analysis

An excellent ROI pops up with the Turf-Sprints, but the sample size is anemic. The routes did surprisingly average for the super trainers – hitting just above 20% and not returning a good coin. Grass races are tougher to win for a lot of reasons, particularly the random aspects of the trip and trouble encountered; not to mention the larger more competitive fields. The super trainers have to deal with all the same issues on the turf that bettors sweat over. The usual dominance we expect with the 400+ rated trainers is not manifested as clearly in the grass routes. If you are looking for a spot to bet against a low odds horse entered by a super trainer, turf routes are the ticket. Trainer Bobby Frankel is an important exception – he is the key super trainer in America that specializes with high-class grass routers and foreign shippers that run big on turf nearly every time they enter a stakes.

Super Trainer and the Longshot Flag

We'll conclude our 3-month discussion of the super trainers with a look at how they perform with the HTR2 longshot designations (\$) and (\$\$). The \$ and \$\$ are horses with a minimum 5/1 MLO and match one or more proven elements for winning at a price.

Super Trainer (Trn >= 400) / Any Race / Purse \$10000 up /					
Factor	Horses	Win%	ROI	WP%	Long%
\$	00930	10%	0.93	20%	47%
\$\$	01736	16%	1.03	30%	33%

Analysis

Not bad – the money horses are probably over-bet as a whole due to the high profile trainers we tested here, but our super trainers get a decent share of them home at a price. If you want to review 'tote-odds 10/1 or higher' winning percentage, for any trainer, download our daily *Comprehensive Trainer Report* or the *PDF Trainer Report* which include this stat for every trainer entered on the card. Normal trainer win rate for 10/1 up is 3-7%, but you'll notice that some barns are a fat zero despite a plethora of starters at high odds --- might be something worth checking if you are tournament player fishing for bombs.

Conclusion

The super trainers have descended on the 21st century like an avalanche. They permeate nearly every racing circuit and have seriously altered the challenge of handicapping thoroughbreds. Ten years ago it was rare to find barns with win rates above 20% sustained for a 365-day period, and 25% was almost unheard for such a long period. Today such high success rates are common and we have to deal with it. Positive trainer stats in general tend to be small bursts that are rarely maintained – but as we have found while researching the super trainers, the opposite is true and they tend to push forward with consistent results all the time. Jump on this bandwagon while profits are still available.

*Systems and Angles***Route to Sprint Using the Pace Rating**

One of the neat tricks we can use with Quirin style figures (PAC and PER) is using the pace rating to predict performance for a horse moving from route to sprint. We'll try a variation on this using a route PAC figure for a sprint today and comparing with the EPR (estimated performance rating) for the field.

Normally the technique is to compare the PAC figure from the route with the other horses PER ratings and see if it exceeds them. In this case we find our qualifiers by comparing the PAC figure from the last start (a route) with today's EPR. Look at the example below.

Today's Race: 6.5f EPR: 95

Horse	Last Race Dist	PAC	PER
HorseA	6.0f	98	91
HorseB	8.5f	93	91
HorseC	8.0f	99	91

Today's race is 6.5f and the EPR = 95. All three entrants show a PER of 91 and appear equal in terms of last race overall speed. But are they? "HorseA" does not qualify for the route-to-sprint angle as he comes out of sprint last time. "HorseB" exits a route race last time, but his PAC = 93 and that is below the 95 EPR; it does not qualify. "HorseC" is qualifies as a play because it's PAC = 99 and that is well above our EPR benchmark of 95.

Below is the "all burger" stat for these horses. I used Purse >= \$5,000 and fast dirt for sprints for the target races. There are four combinations that can be used with route-to-sprint angles.

Dirt Route → Dirt Sprint (tested here with Fast Sprints only)
 Dirt Route → Turf Sprint (very rare)
 Turf Route → Dirt Sprint (often a comeback race, poor results)
 Turf Route → Turf Sprint (worth exploring, but sample size very small)

Dirt Route to Dirt Sprint - PAC from last start is higher than the EPR.

Plays	Win%	ROI	WP%	Longs%
05988	16%	0.80	30%	16%

No good. But the above test was very generic and done with no other handicapping. I also combined this angle with many of the HTR factors and found some interesting results. The factors below produced the best returns with this angle. I used Purse >= \$5,000 and PL-5 for the velocity numbers.

Dirt Route to Dirt Sprint - PAC from last start is higher than the EPR.

Item	Plays	Win%	ROI	WP%	Longs%
Fr1=1	01003	23%	1.01	39%	08%
Wk=1	00937	24%	1.00	36%	07%
Wk=85+	00610	20%	0.99	34%	08%

Analysis

I'm sorry to report that the route-to-sprint angle using the PAC figure as substitute PER rating does not generally produce good results. Combined with a "live" indicator such as Wk or Fr1 it is a much better play. Many route-to-sprint horses are layoff returnees and making a comeback exercise run. Eliminating those with layoff > 90 days might help the cause.

Late News

Everything is a “go” as of this writing (June 30) for our seminar at the Gold Coast on July 14.

You can get a copy of the updated Access + HTR2 User-Manual on our website in the “HTR Library”. If you are attending the database workshop at our seminar in Vegas, please download it into your laptop for reference during the class.
www.homebased2.com/km/library.htm

Seminar attendees – make your best effort to arrive by 12:30 pm and save a good seat all day. Enter the Gold Coast hotel and look for the banquet and meeting room area, find the sign for the “HTR” or “Handicapping Technology and Research” event room and come on in. Look forward to seeing you there!

Those not attending the seminar - I'll print some of my key handouts and summarize the event in the August newsletter. The HTR2 update will be posted after I return.

I will be out of the office during the 4th of July weekend July 2 – 5 and again during the seminar/tournament in Las Vegas July 12 – 20. Custom work is suspended until after these dates. Please contact webmaster Rick for technical support while I'm away.

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