KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

The **BEST** first-timers’ guide to betting on—and winning at—the races you’ll **EVER** encounter

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WELCOME TO THE RACES!

- If you’re new to the **sport** of harness racing, there’s a good chance you’re new to the **game** of pari-mutuel wagering, too.
- Don’t let all the numbers and statistics in the racing program and on the tote board intimidate you—**they’re your keys** to a better shot at **winning** at the races!
- This PowerPoint presentation, while it can’t be as interactive as a trusted friend who just happens to be a seasoned racetracker, will walk you through some key things to look for to make your first time at the races a lot less confusing, a lot more fun, and hopefully **PROFITABLE**!
WAGERING

The element of harness racing that puts YOU in the action!
WHAT KIND OF BET SHOULD I PLACE?

- A quick perusal of the program page can often eliminate a few horses from consideration, narrowing your options without much effort.

- If there’s one horse you’re drawn to heavily over the others, a straight **win, place, or show bet** may be your best bet.

- If you like a horse to win and one or a few other horses to finish second and/or third, an **exacta or trifecta bet** can yield you a greater dividend.

- **REMEMBER:** There is no rule that forces you to bet every race on the card! If you’re more comfortable “picking your spots”, by all means, do it!
In exotic wagers (exacta, trifecta, superfecta), you can cover more combinations by boxing and wheeling horses.

**Boxing** horses will give you every possible combination with the horses involved, while **wheeling** and **part-wheeling** horses enables you to choose what horses to back for each position in the wager.

There’s a tradeoff, though ... while using more horses on your ticket will **increase your chances of winning**, the cost of your ticket **increases** based on the **number of combinations** you’re covering.

**Fret not**, however! A lot of tracks offer trifecta and superfecta combinations for a **fraction of a dollar** (50¢, 20¢, or even sometimes 10¢), allowing you to spread your tickets out without exhausting your entire bankroll for the day’s races.
**BOXES AND WHEELS - EXACTA**

- **To box** an exacta ticket and play each combination for $1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horses</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 horses</td>
<td>3 x 2</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 horses</td>
<td>4 x 3</td>
<td>$12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 horses</td>
<td>5 x 4</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 horses</td>
<td>6 x 5</td>
<td>$30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 horses</td>
<td>7 x 6</td>
<td>$42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **To wheel** one horse over the entire field and play each combination for $1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horses</th>
<th>1st</th>
<th>2nd</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 horse race</td>
<td>1 x 5</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 horse race</td>
<td>1 x 6</td>
<td>$6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 horse race</td>
<td>1 x 7</td>
<td>$7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 horse race</td>
<td>1 x 8</td>
<td>$8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REMEMBER:** Posted dividends are based on a $2 wager, so your winnings will be one-half the posted amount.
**PART WHEELS - EXACTA**

- If you’re narrowed down to a few horses, play a part-wheel ticket with a $1 base wager:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combination</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A / BC</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A / BCD</td>
<td>$3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A / BCDE</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combination</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB / ABC</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB / ABCD</td>
<td>$6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB / ABCDE</td>
<td>$8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB / CD</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB / CDE</td>
<td>$6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REMEMBER:** Posted dividends are based on a $2 wager, so your winnings will be one-half the posted amount.
**BOXES AND PART-WHEELS - TRIFECTA**

- **Trifecta boxes: ($1 combination)**
  - Horses | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | Amount
  - 3 horses | 3 | 2 | 1 | $6
  - 4 horses | 4 | 3 | 2 | $24
  - 5 horses | 5 | 4 | 3 | $60
  - 6 horses | 6 | 5 | 4 | $120

- **Trifecta part-wheels: ($1 comb.)**
  - Combination | Amount
  - A / BC / BC | $2
  - A / BC / BCD | $4
  - A / BCD / BCD | $6
  - A / BCDE / BCDE | $12
  - AB / ABC / ABC | $4
  - AB / ABC / ABCD | $8
  - AB / ABCD / ABCD | $12

**REMEMBER:** Posted dividends are based on a $2 wager, so your winnings will be one-half the posted amount.
**BOXES AND PART-WHEELS - SUPERFECTA**

- **10¢ Superfecta** boxes:
  - Horses | Amount
  - 4 (4x3x2x1) | $2.40
  - 5 (5x4x3x2) | $12
  - 6 (6x5x4x3) | $36
  - 7 (7x6x5x4) | $84

- **10¢ Superfecta** part-wheels:
  - Combination | Amount
  - A / BCD / BCD / BCD | $0.60
  - A / BCDE / BCDE / BCDE | $2.40
  - AB / ABCD / ABCD / ABCD | $1.20
  - AB / ABCDE / ABCDE / ABCDE | $4.80
  - AB / ABC / ABCD / ABCDE | $1.60
  - AB / AB / CD / CD | $0.40
  - AB / AB / CDE / CDEF | $1.80

**REMEMBER:** Posted dividends are based on a $2 wager, so your winnings will be one-twentieth the posted amount.
WHAT DO I SAY?

When you go to the window to place your bet, here’s what you ask for:

- The name of the **track** (for example, “Meadowlands”).
- The **race number** (“race 6”).
- The **base amount** of your wager (“$5”).
- The **type** of wager (“win”, or “win and place”, or “exacta”).
- The **horse or horses** involved (“#1”, or “2-3”, or “2,3 with 2,3,5”, depending on what you want to do!)

This gives us: “Meadowlands, race 6, $5 to win on #1, please.”
WHAT DO I SAY?

- If you want to bet a **box**, make sure you say “**box**” along with the type of wager (“exacta box”, “trifecta box”), then the numbers of all the horses you’re using.

- If you’re betting a **wheel or part-wheel**, or a **multi-race wager**, use the word “**with**” to separate positions in the wager. For example:
  - $1 exacta **box**, #5, #6, #8
  - $1 trifecta, 2 **with** 3 **with** ALL
  - $1 exacta, 2,3 **with** 2,3,5,7
  - 10¢ superfecta, 1,2 **with** 1,2,3,4 **with** 1,2,3,4 **with** ALL
  - $1 pick three, 1,2,3 **with** 1 **with** 1,2,3,4,5
GOOD LUCK! (AND WE MEAN IT!)

When we say “have fun and win money”, **we mean it!** We want you to make educated wagers (hence this lesson in our sport and our game), and we want you to cash on those wagers, because **winning is FUN!**

Remember, you’re betting against each other, **not the track**. (So we really do want you to have a profitable night at the races.)