



Horsewin Report Guide and Handicapping Tips – Revised July 15, 2016

Horsewin Mission:

To provide horseplayers with an innovative, simple, and effective way to analyze horse races.

The Author:

William White qualified to the National Handicapping Challenge in 2014 and 2015. He finished in the top 50 of 600 contestants in 2015. In July 2014, he won the Woodbine-Saratoga Handicapping Challenge. In 2015 (NHC16), three Horsewin clients qualified for the NHC and 2 finished in the top 50. Four Horsewin Clients competed in NHC17, (January 2016).

What is Horsewin?

Horsewin clients receive either a single track report or a multiple track report with a compact and easy way to read the ratings of the horses in a race by various factors. Not all tracks reward the same factors to the same degree and daily track conditions can produce biases. Horsewin allows its clients a simple way to identify the factors that are affecting today's races and focus on those specific factors.

Horsewin also ranks horses on a relative basis based upon the entrants in today's race. Horsewin clients are not required to deal with fractions or to be able to understand Beyer figures or Moss ratings. They can see with a glance which horse has the best pace numbers, the best speed, and whether the horse is competitive in today's field.

Finding value is the key to successful horse playing. The ability to select winning overlays is paramount to tournament success. With this in mind, the ***Horsewin Total Track Report*** has been designed to provide greater focus on factors that can produce winning results for occasional players and tournament players alike.

Throughout 2015, a major review and analysis of race results was undertaken to help identify additional methods and factors that can assist with identification of contenders that can win at higher odds. It is also important to know which horses may be tough to beat, whether they are the favourite or not.

How To Read Your Horsewin Report

Horsewin reports provide clients with six categories of analysis:

1. Overall Ratings
2. Pace Analysis based on the most recent race and the horse's best race.
3. Key Horsewin factors.
4. Pedigree
5. Trainer
6. Profiles

The first five areas read from left to right on the report. The sixth is indicated through the highlighting of either the name of the horse or the program number of the horse.

Most Horsewin categories are based upon the horses rank relative to the other horses in the race. Horses with a 1 in any category are rated the highest of the horses in that particular race. If there are seven horses in a given race, they will be ranked within most categories from a 1 to a 7 with the 7 being the lowest ranked horse in that race.

Explanation of Horsewin Report

Overall Ratings

Prg:

The program number of the horse.

Name:

The name of the horse. FTS, within this area indicates a first time starter and FNA indicates first North American race.

ML:

The morning line odds of the horse as determined by the track handicapper.

Win %:

WIN % uses a range of handicapping measures including speed and pace to create individual rankings. Favourites, either Morning Line or betting, are obvious and Horsewin emphasizes opportunities to beat the choice with the WIN Selection. The rankings represent a horse's performance ability in today's race. Hidden factors often boost the rankings of some horses where it doesn't appear that any other factors support the horse. Consequently some horses with high odds rank very high in this column which represents a source of value. Often, a single horse represents the best angles and is low odds. In this case, the ratings confirm the favourite. The win rate for this column is below what strict betting of the favourite will accomplish but the average winning odds are higher and therefore the Return on Investment (ROI) will be higher.

Win ANG:

The Win Angle calculation is computed with a mix of standard handicapping measures such as speed and pace but includes key handicapping angles that may fit the conditions of today's race. It produces lower win percentages but higher odds.

Both Win % and Win Ang rankings include powerful FTS rankings that use a different set of factors to predict the success of first out horses and ranks these horses against horses that have started already.

Score:

The Win rankings are based upon the Score which is the result of the proprietary Win formula. You can readily see if the entrants for the race are rated closely or if the top rated horses are significantly above the other runners.

ITM:

IN-THE-MONEY employs a set of independent measures to identify other abilities that may affect the outcome of a race. Speed is downplayed in this method. Under some track conditions, these rankings may start to dominate - usually a sign of a track that is not favouring early speed.

Pace:

The Pace rankings are generated from a formula with greater emphasis on Pace Factors.

Speed:

Speed represents more traditional Speed and Class handicapping factors and produces results which are very close to any handicapping benchmark. The contrast between the WIN and speed rankings pose a serious challenge for the handicapper - the top speed ranked horses may look strong but can they get beat by the other contenders identified in the WIN rankings. You have to use your own analysis to make this decision but often the best value (higher odds) are obtained by playing the less obvious choices in the WIN column. Depending on the type of wagers that you make, contenders from both WIN and SPEED may be included in Part-Wheels and Multi-Race Plays.

X:

A yes/no indicator that identifies if the horse has run fast enough in the past to win at today's class. An "X" indicates yes.

Class:

An indicator that identifies if the horse is running today for a purse that is $\geq 10\%$ less than it did in its previous race. Horses dropping in class have the potential to "wake-up". An "X" in the column indicates that the horse meets this qualification.

Pace and Speed Ratings

The following categories use the horse's most recent race and its best race and compares their respective running lines. The two categories can use the same running line depending upon the past performances of the individual horse.

E1:

The relative ranking of each horse's running time to the first call (2f in sprint races and 4f in route races) of its most recent race and its best race.

E2:

The relative ranking of the each horse's second call (2f in sprint races and 4f in route races) based on most recent race and its best race.

CL:

The relative ranking of the each horse's late pace based on most recent race and its best race.

PF:

A unique Horsewin pace indicator that spots key Pace Plays. The pattern of E1-E2-CL rankings can help determine if the horse employs a running style suitable for today's surface and distance. Horses that are fast enough and rank well on PF must be seriously considered.

RSP/VAR – BSP/VAR:

Ranks the overall speed of the horse in both its most recent and its best race and measures speed against the average speed of today's field. The first figure is the ranking of the horse's speed on a relative basis to the other runners in the race. The second number measure the speed variance with a + or - number:

The majority of winners come are positive on either recent race or prior race and are considered "Fast Enough to Win" with a Speed "X".

Basic Speed Handicapping can be used to identify contenders from these rankings alone. PSP and RSP win at about the same %, with RSP usually slightly higher. A challenge for handicappers is to decide which is the best play today when selecting a single horse. Some generous payoffs are achieved by the top pick in either column when bettors are overlooking these factors.

Key Horsewin Factors

PPI:

This factor assesses whether the horse is likely to run an improved race today when compared to its most recent effort.

Projected Performance Improvement is notated for the top three qualifying horses with “+” and next ranked by “*”. High PPI ratings are noted by “++”. The top 4 PPI horses are designated 1-4.

T/t:

A “T” or a “t” signifies a profile of a horse with improvement prospects and high odds. Multiple horses may fit this profile in a larger field. This indicator is more effective when only 1 or 2 horses qualify for a “T/t” in a race. T’s may overlap with other profiles and represent an important flag which should prompt further investigation in your handicapping.

ABCX:

This column is designed as a preliminary screen to identify horses for multiple race play such as Doubles, Pick 3’s, Pick 4’s etc. A’s, as a group, have a higher probability of winning. In many races, too many contenders are identified for a viable play. Additional screening is often required to refine the preliminary screen designation in the report. On most days only one C or X horse is likely to win.

ESP++ and LSP++:

ESP++ and LSP++ are 2 unique indicators of Early and Late Speed that predict with good reliability horses’ early and late abilities. These indicators are best applied when race conditions (surface, distance), track profile (promotes an early or late style) or track bias shows an advantage for Early or Late styles. These indicators are developed independent of Speed Ratings and sometimes surface winners at big prices that would not be considered by traditional indicators.

Sharp:

Noted fast workout leading up to today’s race.

Pedigree

Pedigree is not a factor in all races. It should have some utility in assessing a field of experienced runners but handicappers are often faced with the challenge of assessing horses’ potential under new conditions or with none or few past performances. In these circumstances, pedigree can be a useful indicator of potential. However, assessments have to be relative to the demonstrated ability of the competition. Overall, past

performance rankings will predict more winners but pedigree is another tool that can help identify horses that may run better than their previous performances.

Over 25,000 winners have been analysed to measure the results for sires on both sides of the pedigree. Assessment of Pedigree are presented in 6 categories which represented in 6 columns on the right side of the report.

The Dirt and Turf columns are ranked A+, A, B+, B, C and D with A's and B's representing the strongest pedigrees.

FTS :

Sires are ranked based on First out wins on turf or dirt. Currently the data used may under represent first and second crop sires but data updates will capture success of these sires over time but profiles of young sires will also be developing. Projections have also been made for some likely successful new sires.

MDN :

Ranks sires who are successful in 2nd to 5th start and applies a pedigree A-D for horses making starts in this category. Some pedigrees need a start or 2 to show their ability and this column captures these types of horses.

DIRT:

Ranking of pedigree on this surface and distance. RED highlighted horses indicate horses who have limited experience on this surface and distance. A good ranking and RED highlight may signal a horse ready for improvement or a reason to doubt performance if trying something new depending on the overall strength of the field and other factors.

DIRT SY/MY:

Ranking of pedigree for sloppy and muddy conditions.

TURF:

Ranks pedigree for this surface and distance and RED highlights represent the low experience

TURF YL/SF

Ranks pedigree for yielding and soft turf.

Trainer

J/T:

J/T (Jockey/Trainer ranking) weighs unique data to provide a success ranking in today's type of race, independent of the horse's abilities. Many value plays/overlays can be mined from these rankings alone. The rating includes more factors than just the win percentage of the Trainer and the Jockey.

TR Q:

Overall ranking based on Win% for today's key conditions. 1 = performance $\geq 18\%$ 2 = performance $\geq 11\%$ 3 (Blank) = $< 11\%$

Ang1:

Ranking on "new to trainer" angles such as 1st or 2nd start with trainer or 1st or 2nd after claim based on same 1,2,3 indicators as Column 2

Ang2:

Ranking of trainer with First and 2nd time starters (inexperienced runners) using same % indicators 1,2,3.

In the TR Q, Ang 1 and Ang 2 columns, all 3's are blanked out to highlight the top 2 rankings. Therefore, Blank = 3 ranking.

Profiles

Horsewin offers three profile indicators which are easy ways to see at a glance horses that are of interest:

Red Highlight of the horse's name indicates a strong win profile. An "A" or a "B" provides an indication of extra strength with "A" horses representing stronger plays. While many favourites fit this profile, it is not unusual that good value is available on these plays which could be considered as keys for exotic play.

Blue Highlight of the horse's name indicates a potential win at higher odds

Gold Highlight of the Program Number indicates a Pace Profile with a good chance to score at a price.

Strikethrough and Black Bold are emphasis factors that point to slightly more favorable profiles

Achieving Success with Horsewin Rankings

Here are some recommended approaches to effectively use the Horsewin ratings:

- **Use the Rankings in conjunction with Past Performances.** Other factors to consider in making selections are best determined by a review of the horse's' past performance. Some examples may be horses trying something different for the first time or horses that have had a series of races under adverse conditions like off tracks and finally getting a fast track today. Most of the successful players using Horsewin either handicap with traditional past performance lines and then look for confirmation with the Horsewin rankings or determine contenders with the Horsewin rankings and then look for confirmation in the past performance lines. Either way, the thousands of calculations per race represented in the Horsewin Report can save valuable time and effort and provide insight not achievable by simply reading past performances.
- **Pick the Low Hanging Fruit.** RED highlighted horses are solid plays that have achieved close to 35% win rates at reasonable odds . These are good plays at 2-1 odds or higher and sometimes "A" or "B" Picks have won at higher than 5-1 odds. Don't be swayed if one of these selections is overlooked in the betting.
- **Keep Records of Winning Profiles** under various conditions at the tracks that you play. For example, a sample of Santa Anita 1 Mile Turf races under firm conditions showed the dominance of early speed (ESP++ 1 or 2). Longer distances were fairer to all types of runners with some bias to closers (LSP++ 1). Patterns that emerge on a single day such as a front running speed bias or longer term patterns can be determined with the Horsewin Rankings and help solve some of the complex race puzzles.
- **Early Speed** is a universal track bias in North American racing (often stated by Andy Beyer). A great example is 5 to 5.5 F Dirt Races. Use the Pace Factors or ESP++ indicator to determine who should get the lead and play that selection if the odds are reasonable. Other Distances and surfaces may display dominant tendencies.
- **PPI "+" or "++"** is a strong positive for any contender and a great aid to finding value.
- **Lone Factors** - most of the profiles are most effective when only a Single Horse is highlighted. Watch for a lone GOLD, BLUE, or an "X" in the Class column.
- When scanning the Horsewin Report, top contenders stand out but many of those horses are the wagering favourites. Look for less obvious horses that rate well but are not the top horse in any rated category. These types can be ignored by the betting public and drift up in odds from their morning line, making them good value plays.

Horsewin Advantages

Horsewin is always improving its rating algorithms and measuring results. Clients receive the benefit of bulletins on how the results of individual tracks are performing with respect to Horsewin ratings and indicators.

Horsewin also accepts and encourages feedback from its customers in its never ending cycle to improve its product to meet the needs of its customers.

Whether you're an experienced and committed horseplayer or you're off to spend a casual afternoon at the races with friends that will be more social than analytical, Horsewin represents a useful tool in your play. The Total Track Report will allow you to play multiple tracks in a simulcast setting with a simple glance. Whatever your need, Horsewin can be a useful tool in your enjoyment of the Sport of Kings.

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