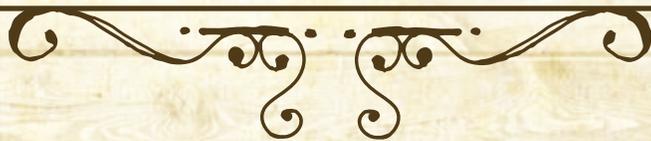


**WAGERING  
MADE  
EASY**



**SUNLAND PARK**

**RACETRACK & CASINO**

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# WAGERING MADE EASY

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## HOW DOES HORSE RACING WAGERING WORK?

Betting in horse racing is called pari-mutuel wagering. What is pari-mutuel wagering? Well, it's French in origin, meaning "to wager amongst ourselves." Fans wagering in a pari-mutuel system are wagering against one another, not against the racetrack.

## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

When a patron places a wager at the track, that money goes into a betting pool. Each type of wager has its own betting pool. The track, serving as an agent or broker, receives a commission or "takeout" for handling the wagers. This takeout is generally divided among the state of New Mexico, purses for horsemen and owners competing at the track, and Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino. The money remaining in each pool is returned to the fans in the form of winnings, which is 81 percent of all win, place or show wagers.

# THE BASICS OF HORSEPLAY

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## THE TWO MAIN TYPES OF WAGERS:

### 1. STRAIGHT WAGERS

(These wagers only involve one horse):

**WIN:** You collect only if your horse finishes first. The minimum wager is \$2.

**PLACE:** You collect if your horse finishes first or second. However, if your horse wins, you only collect the Place payout. The minimum wager is \$2.

**SHOW:** You collect if your horse finishes first, second or third, but you collect only the Show payout. The minimum wager is \$2.

**ACROSS THE BOARD:** You are wagering on a horse to Win, Place and Show. You receive one ticket for all three wagers. If your horse wins, you receive Win, Place and Show payouts. If your horse finishes second, you receive Place and Show payouts, and if your horse is third, you receive the Show payout. Because you are actually placing three wagers, the minimum wager is \$6.

### 2. COMBINATION OR "EXOTIC" WAGERS

(These wagers involve two or more horses):

**DAILY DOUBLE:** To collect, you must select the winner of two races. For example, you must select the winner of the first race and the second race. Of course, you must place the wager before the first of your two races!

**EXACTA:** To collect, you must pick the horses that finish first and second in exact order. For example, if you play a 3-5 exacta, the #3 horse must Win and the #5 horse must Place (come in second) for you to collect.

**EXACTA BOX:** Is made to guarantee the outcome of the first two finishers regardless of which horse wins. For example, if you box the #3 and #5 horses and either the #3 or the #5 horse wins and finishes second, you win.

**TRIFECTA:** Is similar to an exacta, except you must pick the horses that finish first, second and third in exact order. This is a challenging wager that often yields large dividends.

**TRIFECTA BOX:** Is made to guarantee the outcome of the first three finishers regardless of which horse wins. For example, if you box the #3, the #7 and #5 horses and either the #3, #7 or the #5 horse wins, finishes second and third, you win.

**PICK 3:** To collect, you must pick the winners of three consecutive races. Of course, you must make your selections before the first race of your Pick 3 wager. An excellent wager that offers great excitement and opportunity to score Big!

**SUPERFECTA:** Is similar to an exacta and trifecta, except you must pick the horses that finish first, second, third and fourth in exact order. This is also a challenging wager that often yields dividends even larger than the trifecta.

## THE DAILY PROGRAM

As a fan, your one real necessity is the day's Official Program. The program lists vital information about each day's races, including the official numbers of horses for wagering, and helps you make informed wagering selections.

## HOW TO MAKE A BET

Locate a mutuel window and indicate the following:

1. Indicate the track you want to wager on. Because Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino plays host to several tracks, it is necessary to clearly state Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino or any of our other simulcast track names.
2. Indicate the Race Number, unless it's the current race.
3. Indicate the Amount you wish to wager.
4. Indicate the Type of bet you wish to make.
5. Indicate the Number of the horse(s), as shown in the program.  
For Example: "Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino, fifth race.  
Two dollars to win on number 6."

*\* Note – It is very important to check your tickets for accuracy before leaving the window. Once you leave the window and the race begins, you cannot change your ticket. Also, never tear up your tickets until the race has been declared "official."*

## ITEMS TO CONSIDER WHEN WAGERING AT THE RACES

Here are some simple tactics which may be helpful to the newcomer:

1. Wager on the favorite. The favorite is the horse with the lowest odds or the one on which the most money has been wagered. Favorites win approximately one third of the time.
2. Check the local papers, the Daily Racing Form and the program handicapper's selections. The observations and advice of a recognized expert are generally a good guide for the newcomer. They offer a popular shortcut for the newcomer and a helpful learning tool for developing handicapping skills.
3. Purchase a tip sheet. These are prepared by professional handicappers and may provide useful wagering selections.
4. Look in the program for a list of jockey and trainer standings which include the number of wins to date. The top riders generally ride the best horses, and the hot trainers generally have a high win percentage.
5. View the horses. Watch the TV monitors while the horses are in the paddock and in the Post Parade.

## WHERE DO I GO TO COLLECT MY WINNINGS?

So, you've made a winning wager. After the race has been declared official, simply take your ticket to any of the mutuel windows or self-betting terminals to collect. Your winning ticket is good for up to 60 days past the end of the year to be exchanged for cash. Tickets, after 10 days, must be cashed at the designated mutuel information windows.

Now, I just need to know what horses to bet on!

The first thing you need is Sunland Park Today, our official program. Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino has made great strides to provide racing information unparalleled in quality and accuracy. A "How To Read The Program" page can be found in the center of this publication. The program can be purchased at all entrances and includes all the information you'll need to have a productive day at the races. The official program Sunland Park Today includes racing information such as the names of trainers, jockeys and all of the past performance lines. Unique to Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino, our program includes handicapping advice and featured articles about the horse racing scene. In addition, Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino Star Player Guides, our racing/fan education staff, can assist you with any questions you might have about handicapping or racing information in general.

## HANDICAPPING VARIABLES CHECKLIST

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- Fitness
- Class
- Distance
- Post Position
- Running Style
- Jockey
- Trainer
- Present Form
- Consistency
- Weight
- Speed Figures

# PHILOSOPHY OF WAGERING

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In order to be successful at wagering on horses, you must have a philosophy or “game plan.” Just as a successful coach employs a “game plan,” so too must the successful handicapper. With that in mind, here are a few helpful suggestions in planning your wagering strategy.

## 1. DEVELOP A PHILOSOPHY

A philosophy is basically matching your handicapping knowledge with your personality. In other words, what key variable do you place a high emphasis on? Do you only wager on favorites or do you play long shots? Do you never wager on maiden races? Whatever your philosophy, establish one you feel comfortable with.

## 2. DISCIPLINE

Select a daily, affordable dollar amount for wagering.

## 3. BUDGET

Set realistic goals. Establish your maximum wager. Wager only what you can afford.

## 4. GAME PLAN

Develop a game plan for your day’s wagering strategy. A “game plan” is basically how you plan on attacking today’s race card, i.e., How many races will you bet? Will you bet straight win/place/show wagers or exotic wagers?

## 5. MAINTAIN YOUR CONVICTION

Understand that all races are not equal as to betting opportunities, and some should be skipped or played with less enthusiasm. However, once you make your decision, stick to your game plan.

## 6. MONEY MANAGEMENT

Try to spend less on high risk plays, i.e. Exacta, Trifecta, Pick 3, Pick 6, etc. Manage your money and spread it out over the day’s races.

## 7. BE FLEXIBLE

Don’t be afraid to consider other ideas or information. For example, if you never bet on maiden races but a hot trainer who specializes in first-time starters is running a horse in the fourth race – don’t be afraid to take a shot.

## 8. HAVE FUN

Horse racing is great sport and entertainment. Don’t wager more than you can afford to lose and enjoy your day at the races.

# APPROXIMATE PAYOFF

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## APPROXIMATE PAYOFF FOR A \$2 WIN BET

ODDS	PAYS	ODDS	PAYS
1-9	\$2.20	2-1	\$6.00
1-5	\$2.40	5-2	\$7.00
2-5	\$2.80	3-1	\$8.00
1-2	\$3.00	7-2	\$9.00
3-5	\$3.20	4-1	\$10.00
4-5	\$3.60	9-2	\$11.00
1-1	\$4.00	5-1	\$12.00
6-5	\$4.40	6-1	\$14.00
7-5	\$4.80	7-1	\$16.00
3-2	\$5.00	8-1	\$18.00
9-5	\$5.20	9-1	\$20.00
8-5	\$5.60	10-1	\$22.00

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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## A

**Across the board:** A win, place and show bet on a horse.

**Allowance:** A race other than a claiming event for which the racing secretary drafts certain conditions.

**Apprentice:** A jockey who has ridden for less than a year and who receives weight allowances.

## B

**Backside:** The racetrack's barn area.

**Bay:** A color ranging from tan to dark chestnut with black mane, tail and points.

**Beyer speed rating:** A measure of performance popularized by Andy Beyer of The Washington Post.

**Bounce:** An exceptionally poor performance on the heels of an exceptionally good one.

**Broodmare:** Female horse used for breeding.

**Broodmare sire:** A sire whose female offspring become producers of exceptional performers.

**Bullet:** Fastest workout of the day at a particular distance.

## C

**Call to the post:** A special call played on a Bugle used to signal the horses to the starting gate.

**Chestnut:** A color ranging from light gold to deep red. Also, a small, horny growth on the inside of a horse's front legs.

**Claiming race:** A race in which the horses are for sale at a price specified before the race. Claims are made before the race and the new owner assumes possession immediately following the race.

**Colt:** An ungelded male horse 4 years old or younger.

## D

**Dam:** The mother of a horse.

**Distaff:** A race for female horses.

**Driving:** Strong urging by jockey.

## E

**Early foot:** Good speed at the start of a race.

**Entry:** A horse entered in a race is called an entry. On rare occasions, two or more horses are said to be "coupled" and run as an "entry," comprising a single wagering unit. A wager on one horse of an entry is a wager on both.

## **F**

**Filly:** A female horse less than 5 years old.

**Furlong:** One-eighth of a mile or 220 yards. Races are measured in furlongs.

## **G**

**Gelding:** A neutered male horse.

## **H**

**Handicapping:** This is the study of factors in the past performances which determine the relative qualities and abilities of horses in a race.

**Handle:** Money wagered.

## **I**

**Infield Odds Board:** The board in the infield of a racetrack is called the totalisator board and displays up-to-date odds along with the dollar amounts wagered on each horse in a race.

**Inquiry:** Official investigation of rule infractions.

## **J**

**Juvenile:** Two-year-old horse.

## **L**

**Lasix:** Diuretic medication given to horses which bleed.

## **M**

**Maiden:** A horse that hasn't won a flat race in any country.

**Mare:** A female horse 5 years old or older.

**Morning Line:** Approximate odds printed in the program and posted on the Infield Odds Board before wagering begins. This is a forecast of how the morning line-maker believes wagering will occur in a particular race.

## **O**

**Off Track:** A track that is not fast.

**Overlay:** A horse whose odds are greater than its potential to win.

## **P**

**Paddock:** Structure or area at the racetrack where the horses are saddled and viewed prior to a race.

**Pari-mutuel:** System of wagering where all the money is returned to the wagerers after deduction of track and state percentages.

**Post position:** A horse's position in the starting gate, numbered from the inner rail outward.

**Purse:** The amount of prize money distributed to the owners of the first five or six finishers in a race varies.

## **R**

**Roan:** Horse with white hairs mingled throughout its coat.

## **S**

**Silks:** Jacket and cap worn by jockeys.

**Sire:** Father of a foal.

**Stallion:** Uncastrated male horse.

**Stud:** Stallion.

## **T**

**Turf course:** Grass-covered race course.

## **U**

**Underlay:** Horse who is overbet.

## **V**

**Valet:** A person who helps jockeys keep their wardrobe and equipment in order.

## **W, X, Y, Z**

**Weight:** The assigned weight for a horse, including the jockey, equipment and lead weights if needed.

**Workout:** Exercise session at a predetermined distance.

**Yearling:** A horse that is one year old. The universal birth date of horses is January 1.