



What Really Wins Money

An Independent Review of Tipsters and Betting Systems

Back to The Flat!

Welcome to April's *What Really Wins Money*, just in time for the new Turf Flat season. With that in mind, we kick off with a quick look at the best performers in Ireland, and as you'll see, the best Irish trainers ain't half bad when they hop across the Irish Sea on their UK raids.

Staying with the Flat, the Statman takes a wholly unique look at Flat horses dropping in class. It's interesting and profitable.

When you hear the words 'loss-retrieval', should your automatic response be to run away? Well, there is a free system doing the rounds at the moment, which I take a look at. I'll also be monitoring how this is a new way to back favourites performs using loss-retrieval at www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk.

Did you know that I have been providing football banker bets for free at the website which accompanies this newsletter? They've been making a handsome profit. Some followers have asked about banker bets for other sports. Well, this month I look at how you can select your own tennis banker bets. Of course, yours truly will be picking tennis banker bets and posting them online, as and when I find solid ones.

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We've got the usual 'Home-Grown' Systems Update and the Systems and Tipsters Update.

To start with, welcome to the Flat season!

RACING STRATEGY

Check Out These Punter-Friendly Irish Jockey/Trainer Combos

The Irish Flat season is getting into its stride as I write. Here's a unique approach to picking potential winners...

Look for specific jockey/trainer combinations – do note when certain of these Irish trainers pay a visit to England!

The stats...

A quick look at the statistics yields some very interesting results: to be honest, the big Irish trainers are not the punters' friends in Ireland when their horses are all backed to level stakes.

Overall, Dermot Weld and A.P. O'Brien account for 40% of winners, 46% of two-year-old winners, 35% of three-year-old winners, and 41% of four-year-old winners. In two-year-old races, A.P. O'Brien accounts for 27% of the winners. That's some dominance by these two trainers alone over the last five years – they'll therefore be my main focus.

Looking further into each trainer, note that A.P. O'Brien has produced a 27-point profit in the last five seasons for all of his two-year-olds, **albeit in the UK**.

Tip: visit the following website if you want to know when these two Flat trainers are running horses in the UK: <http://www.irishracing.com/irish-runners-in-uk.html>.

Of his 719 two-year-olds running in Ireland over the last five years, 405 placed. This suggests an each-way

please turn over...

angle. He has, though, only produced one winning year profit-wise for us punters when accounting for all of his runners in the Irish Flat season, and that was back in 1999.

We select our A.P. O'Brien runners carefully and I will discuss later on how we can do that with the jockeys that A.P. O'Brien uses.

Although this is an article on the Irish Flat season, if you want to follow Dermot Weld, well, he has produced 16.25 points profit in the last five seasons when running his three-year-old and four-year-old horses on the Flat in the UK. So far this Irish Flat season, Dermot Weld horses are showing a 25-point profit to level stakes.

On to the jockeys...

There are nine main jockey/trainer combinations which punters tend to latch onto during the Irish Flat season. As you'll read, it may pay to look at the lesser jockey/trainer combos!

The 10 main jockey/trainer combos are as follows (trainer first, jockey second):

Weld/Smullen – This is the long-established coupling of Dermot Weld with Pat Smullen. When this Irish combination have visited England, we see a 16.25-point profit to level stakes over five years. Take note.

In Ireland, this combination is having a superb 2015 with a 32.23-point profit. This is a combination well worth following currently in Ireland. I will be posting my Dermot Weld/ Pat Smullen selections at www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk when I think they are in the right race to give them an above average chance of winning. Here's an idea: use a form of 'sequencing'. With these two in such sparkling form, if they go a few runs without a winner, consider backing their horses using a form of loss-retrieval (see the later article in this month's newsletter).

Under the radar... When Fran Berry rides for Dermot Weld, on the Irish Flat – only nine races – he has shown a 21-point profit in the last five seasons. He has a 10-point profit when riding Dermot Weld two-year-olds (well, only one horse ridden and a 12-point profit when riding Dermot Weld four-year-olds). Take note, therefore, when Fran Berry is on board. It doesn't occur very often but, boy, is it punter friendly!

A.P. O'Brien – The main partner jockeys for Aidan O'Brien include his son Joseph O'Brien, Seamie Hef-

fernan, and joining this season, Ryan Moore. Which of these jockeys is the punters' friend?

In the last five seasons, overall when Aidan O'Brien visits **England**, Joseph O'Brien has a minus-27-point loss to level stakes. It is Seamie Heffernan who you should be focusing on, with a massive 52.67-point profit overall, when riding for Aidan O'Brien. Ryan Moore will be the big race jockey.

Both Joseph O'Brien and Seamie Heffernan have produced a profit when riding O'Brien two-year-olds in England. It's 7.23 points and 41 points for Heffernan.

Heffernan posts encouraging stats with the three-year-olds too when riding in England, as does Ryan Moore. Overall then, while Seamie Heffernan is not the number one or number two jockey, he is the punters' jockey when O'Brien takes his horses to England.

Incidentally, when Donnacha O'Brien rides for his father, take note. They have produced a healthy profit. I suppose it is a case of father giving son some select rides to boost his confidence?

Kevin Prendergast – Chris Hayes and Declan McDonogh are the two main jockeys for trainer Kevin Prendergast, but these guys are not the punters' friend, posting level stakes losses in Ireland.

Under the radar... When Samantha Bell has ridden for Prendergast in the last five seasons, she has produced a 16.5-point profit. Watch out for her in Ireland.

Wachman/Lordan – David Wachman and Wayne Lordan are an established partnership. Wayne Lordan has only a 14% strike rate for David Wachman overall, though. But, when Seamie Heffernan takes the ride for David Wachman, pay attention. A 34-point profit over the last five years is excellent for this 'man for all trainers!'

Oxx/McDonogh – John Oxx mainly employs Declan McDonogh and N.G. McCullagh as his jockeys but, again, punters tend to be distracted by these two while a certain Ben Curtis has produced a 20.44-point profit in Ireland when riding for John Oxx in the last five years. Curtis has been particularly effective on three-year-old horses, with a punter friendly 21.61-point profit to level stakes.

Martin/Berry – Tony Martin is a rare visitor to the Irish Flat racing scene, but when he employs Fran Berry as jockey, take note. In the last five years, Fran

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Berry has produced a 16.75-point profit, and also profited most on three and four-year-old horses.

So when you see Tony Martin at an Irish Flat track with Fran Berry, pay attention.

Here's how these jockey/trainers will look on a typical race card... Can you spot the trainer/jockey combinations?

NO. FORM	HORSE	AGE	WGT	TRAINER	RTF%	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
1 ^a	Dunquin	3	9-5	J S Bolger ^(I)		Kevin Manning	70	76	86
494-7	Cape Cross — Last Resort (GB) (Lahib (USA))								
2 ^b	Father Christmas	3	9-5	A P O'Brien ^(H)		Joseph O'Brien	—	44	64
8-	179 Bernardini (USA) — Christmas Kid (USA) (Lemon Drop Kid (USA))								
3 ^c	Gulf Of Poets	3	9-5	D K Weld ^(I)		Pat Smullen	—	—	—
0	Quizz Dream (GB) — Sandglass (GB) (Zafonic (USA))								
4 ^d	Sacrificial	3	9-5	G M Lyons ^(I)		Colin Keane	87	78	95
23522-	180 Showcasing (GB) — Armanda (GER) (Acalanango (GER))								
5 ^e	Shark Island	3	9-5	A P O'Brien ^(H)		Donnacha O'Brien ^(I)	—	—	—
0	17 Fastnet Rock (AUS) — Lady Lupus (High Chaparral)								
6 ^f	Tuk Tuk	3	9-5	D K Weld ^(I)		Leigh Roche	—	—	—
	Sindar — Shuttle Mission (GB) (Sadler's Wells (USA))								
7 ^g	Angel Bay	3	9-0	Ms Sheila Lavery ^(H)		Ronan Whelan	—	—	—
	Bahamian Bounty (GB) — Walsh Angel (GB) (Dubai Destination (USA))								
8 ^h	Benjalma	3	9-0	Edward Lynam		Billy Lee	—	—	—
	Vale Of York — Blue Reema (Bluebird (USA))								
9 ⁱ	Crystallising	3	9-0	J F Levins ^(I)		Gary Carroll	—	—	37
9	54 Verglas — Sand Crystal (Singspiel)								
10 ^j	Milford Lass	3	9-0	Philip M Byrne		Michael Husey	—	—	67
07	26 Artan — Lithica (Orpen (USA))								

We have Bolger/Manning, O'Brien/O'Brien, Weld/Smullen as the main jockey and trainer combinations.

Bottom line

This article was a bit of an eye-opener for me, I must admit. Here are the main pointers:

- ✓ When **Aidan O'Brien** brings his two-year-old horses to England, pay attention. A 27-point profit over the last five years is a positive to the punter.
- ✓ The **Weld/Smullen** partnership has produced a 16.25-point profit in the last five years in England.
- ✓ **Dermot Weld** horses have produced a 25-point profit already this Irish Flat season.
- ✓ **Fran Berry** has a good profit when riding for Dermot Weld in Ireland, but Pat Smullen has a 32-point profit already in 2015.
- ✓ Follow **Seamie Heffernan** when he rides for Aidan O'Brien in England.
- ✓ **Seamie Heffernan** has a 41-point profit when riding O'Brien two-year-olds in England.
- ✓ **Seamie Heffernan** has produced a 34-point profit when riding for David Wachman in Ireland.
- ✓ **Ben Curtis** is worth following when riding for John Oxx.
- ✓ When **Tony Martin** makes his sometime sojourns to the Irish Flat tracks, pay attention when he employs Fran Berry.
- ✓ **Samantha Berry** is your woman when riding for Kevin Prendergast.

All in all, therefore, the big-named jockeys associated with the big-named trainers typically don't perform

profit-wise for us punters. It is Fran Berry and Seamie Heffernan who are worthy of your attention in the right races this Flat season.

Use the list above and check out my sometime blog posts at www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk, where I'll try and highlight these combinations, as well as looking at the 'best of the rest'. For instance, at Gowran Park on 11 April, Dermot Weld and Pat Smullen won the first, second, fourth and sixth races.

THE STATMAN PRESENTS

A New Twist on 'Dropping in Class' Horses

Another month has flown by and I want to start by thanking those readers who have kindly written in about last month's Statman article, and are making decent money in the first few weeks and months of the season.

Rest assured, I will be revisiting the same concept for the later months in my very next (May) article, but first, it's time for a change this month, and something just a little different.

As is my way these days, I have come up with the concept first and am writing this in an almost blogging style – I am expecting a profitable backing option of some kind, but will not fall over in shock should it end up as a laying system (or even a bit of both). I do find that is the best way to work these things – no back fitting for me. (Where exactly is the fun in that anyway?)

This month we are going to focus on Flat racing (it's that time of year) and horses dropping in class. Naturally, that is a pretty subjective viewpoint, but I plan to start with the race standards and see where that leads us – do hang on for the ride, I will be totally amazed if it isn't worthwhile to us both!

Rules: Last 10 years not including 2015, i.e. 2005 to 2014 inclusive; April to November only:

Turf only (no All-Weather); Flat only (no Jumps, including bumpers); £1 stakes recorded to Industry Starting Price (SP) and to Betfair Starting Price (BSP) after standard 5% commission.

Grades of track are listed according to the current official course list, based on average prize money.

Grade 1 – Ascot, Epsom, Goodwood, Newmarket (Rowley Mile and July course), and York.

Grade 2 – Ayr, Chester, Doncaster, Haydock, Newbury, Sandown.

Grade 3 – Beverley, Leicester, Lingfield, Musselburgh,

Nottingham, Pontefract, Ripon, Salisbury, Thirsk, Windsor, Yarmouth.

Grade 4 – Bath, Brighton, Carlisle, Catterick, Chepstow, Hamilton, Newcastle, Redcar

First up, all horses that ran last time out at a Grade 1 track, wherever they ran on their next performance (all grades of track):

Runners	Winners	Strike rate	Profit/Loss to Betfair SP	Return on Investment Betfair SP	Profit/Loss to Industry SP	Return on Investment Industry SP
59,099	7,036	11.91%	-£2,012.96	-3.41%	-£12,336.15	-20.87%

Not a great start I agree, though we may well be heading toward a decent laying system. But what if we look at them on a grade-by-grade basis? What does that tell us, if anything?

Grade 1 tracks last time out, now running at Grade 2 tracks:

Track	Runners	Winners	Strike rate	Profit/Loss to Betfair SP	Return on Investment Betfair SP	Profit/Loss to Industry SP	Return On Investment Industry SP
Ayr	928	93	10.02%	-£114.48	-12.34%	-£232.64	-25.07%
Chester	1,461	184	12.59%	-£316.30	-21.65%	-£459.23	-31.43%
Doncaster	3,262	332	10.18%	-£253.79	-7.78%	-£780.33	-23.92%
Haydock	2,580	306	11.86%	-£155.27	-6.02%	-£525.98	-20.39%
Newbury	3,214	377	11.73%	-£27.78	-0.86%	-£630.47	-19.62%
Sandown	2,847	340	11.94%	-£111.73	-3.92%	-£542.06	-19.04%
Totals	14,292	1,632	11.42%	-£976.35	-6.83%	-£3,170.71	-22.19%

Nothing exciting there (unless we are heading down the laying route, which may well be the end result), but a good strike rate suggests there may be more to look for...

Grade 1 tracks last time out, now running at Grade 3 tracks:

Track	Runners	Winners	Strike rate	Profit/Loss to Betfair SP	Return on Investment Betfair SP	Profit/Loss to Industry SP	Return On Investment Industry SP
Beverley	865	109	12.60%	-£16.10	-1.86%	-£160.59	-18.57%
Leicester	1,338	203	15.17%	+£80.46	+6.01%	-£150.25	-11.23%
Lingfield	875	114	13.03%	-£96.37	-11.01%	-£260.41	-29.76%
Musselburgh	598	81	13.55%	-£50.64	-8.47%	-£136.69	-22.86%
Nottingham	1,352	163	12.06%	-£285.89	-21.15%	-£434.28	-32.12%
Pontefract	1,174	166	14.14%	-£134.45	-11.45%	-£240.97	-20.53%
Ripon	1,064	119	11.18%	-£106.26	-9.99%	-£271.33	-25.50%
Salisbury	1,590	242	15.22%	+£211.82	+13.32%	-£136.20	-8.57%
Thirsk	810	116	14.32%	+£5.11	+0.63%	-£125.19	-15.46%
Windsor	2,413	298	12.35%	-£156.65	-6.49%	-£511.88	-21.21%
Yarmouth	1,493	215	14.40%	+£196.23	+13.14%	-£134.25	-8.99%
Totals	13,572	1,826	13.45%	-£352.75	-2.60%	-£2,562.04	-18.88%

Grade 1 tracks last time out, now running at Grade 4 tracks:

Track	Runners	Winners	Strike rate	Profit/Loss to Betfair SP	Return on Investment Betfair SP	Profit/Loss to Industry SP	Return On Investment Industry SP
Bath	912	125	13.71%	-£97.84	-10.73%	-£216.63	-23.75%
Brighton	989	136	13.75%	-£113.29	-11.45%	-£236.03	-23.87%
Carlisle	322	42	13.04%	-£70.47	-21.89%	-£95.37	-29.62%
Catterick	577	81	14.04%	-£59.25	-10.27%	-£109.21	-18.93%
Chepstow	467	64	13.70%	-£119.51	-25.59%	-£166.82	-35.72%
Hamilton	446	87	19.51%	-£53.25	-11.94%	-£88.95	-19.94%
Newcastle	953	135	14.17%	+£72.50	+7.61%	-£67.88	-7.12%
Redcar	722	106	14.68%	+£294.50	+40.79%	+£31.36	+4.34%
Totals	5,388	776	14.40%	-£146.60	-2.72%	-£949.54	-17.62%

And to continue to the bitter end...

Grade 2 tracks last time out, now running at Grade 3 tracks:

Track	Runners	Winners	Strike rate	Profit/Loss to Betfair SP	Return on Investment Betfair SP	Profit/Loss to Industry SP	Return On Investment Industry SP
Beverley	1,385	171	12.35%	+£72.32	+5.22%	-£212.02	-15.31%
Leicester	1,539	210	13.65%	+£152.30	+9.90%	-£189.86	-12.34%
Lingfield	728	115	15.80%	+£161.58	+22.19%	+£15.57	+2.14%
Musselburgh	1,625	179	11.02%	-£17.75	-1.09%	-£283.30	-17.43%
Nottingham	1,786	194	10.86%	-£82.05	-4.59%	-£424.31	-23.76%
Pontefract	1,594	192	12.05%	+£12.40	+0.78%	-£233.55	-14.65%
Ripon	1,396	167	11.96%	-£195.87	-14.03%	-£359.11	-25.72%
Salisbury	1,506	192	12.75%	+£69.19	+4.59%	-£221.55	-14.71%
Thirsk	1,461	168	11.50%	-£41.59	-2.85%	-£300.10	-20.54%
Windsor	2,076	278	13.39%	+£338.55	+16.31%	-£170.71	-8.22%
Yarmouth	1,123	163	14.51%	-£200.55	-17.86%	-£304.35	-27.10%
Totals	16,219	2,029	12.51%	+£268.52	+1.66%	-£2,683.29	-16.54%

Grade 2 tracks last time out, now running at Grade 4 tracks:

Track	Runners	Winners	Strike rate	Profit/Loss to Betfair SP	Return on Investment Betfair SP	Profit/Loss to Industry SP	Return On Investment Industry SP
Bath	1,068	154	14.42%	-£127.83	-11.97%	-£226.36	-21.20%
Brighton	614	112	18.24%	+£144.62	+23.55%	+£51.83	+8.44%
Carlisle	914	102	11.16%	+£191.77	+20.98%	-£31.93	-3.49%
Catterick	1,275	152	11.92%	-£109.25	-8.57%	-£276.88	-21.72%
Chepstow	620	86	13.87%	-£66.69	-10.76%	-£136.69	-22.05%
Hamilton	1,686	219	12.99%	+£263.98	+15.66%	-£145.76	-8.65%
Newcastle	1,664	182	10.94%	-£151.69	-9.12%	-£403.77	-24.26%
Redcar	1,608	184	11.44%	+£193.25	+12.02%	-£131.18	-8.16%
Totals	9,449	1,191	12.60%	+£338.16	+3.58%	-£1,300.74	-13.77%

Grade 3 tracks last time out, now running at Grade 4 tracks:

Track	Runners	Winners	Strike rate	Profit/Loss to Betfair SP	Return on Investment Betfair SP	Profit/Loss to Industry SP	Return On Investment Industry SP
Bath	2,889	352	12.18%	+£592.97	+20.53%	-£354.12	-12.26%
Brighton	2,928	358	12.23%	-£46.88	-1.60%	-£488.66	-16.69%
Carlisle	2,047	199	9.72%	-£117.57	-5.74%	-£460.68	-22.50%
Catterick	3,479	357	10.26%	+£151.97	+4.37%	-£728.50	-20.94%
Chepstow	2,110	238	11.28%	+£562.39	+26.65%	-£130.76	-6.20%
Hamilton	2,646	334	12.62%	+£121.61	+4.60%	-£364.11	-13.76%
Newcastle	3,300	334	10.12%	-£360.28	-10.92%	-£854.59	-25.62%
Redcar	4,107	380	9.25%	+£436.64	+10.63%	-£1,120.31	-27.28%
Totals	23,506	2,552	10.86%	+£1,340.85	+5.70%	-£4,492.62	-19.11%

Conclusion:

As you can see, there is something to be said for backing horses who have been dropped from a top-class track (and therefore more competitive contest overall) to a lower grade track for their next race, though we do need to cherry pick to make it work and turn a profit.

This concept does require a little bit of work on behalf of the end user to see where each horse ran last time out (and where it is running today), but it does look financially viable, as per my final profitable chart below which gives all the best facts in one place – though to avoid a waste of time and space, we shall ignore all Starting Price figures and stick with the far more profit-

able Betfair Starting Price option.

Track listings (reposted for ease of use)...

Grade 1 – Ascot, Epsom, Goodwood, Newmarket (Rowley Mile and July course), and York.

Grade 2 – Ayr, Chester, Doncaster, Haydock, Newbury, Sandown.

Grade 3 – Beverley, Leicester, Lingfield, Musselburgh, Nottingham, Pontefract, Ripon, Salisbury, Thirsk, Windsor, Yarmouth.

Grade 4 – Bath, Brighton, Carlisle, Catterick, Chepstow, Hamilton, Newcastle, Redcar.

From and to Grade of Track	Track	Runners	Winners	Strike rate	Profit/Loss to Betfair SP	Return on Investment Betfair SP
1-3	Leicester	1,338	203	15.17%	+£80.46	+6.01%
1-3	Salisbury	1,590	242	15.22%	+£211.82	+13.32%
1-3	Thirsk	810	116	14.32%	+£5.11	+0.63%
1-3	Yarmouth	1,493	215	14.40%	+£196.23	+13.14%
1-4	Newcastle	953	135	14.17%	+£72.50	+7.61%
1-4	Redcar	722	106	14.68%	+£294.50	+40.79%
2-3	Beverley	1,385	171	12.35%	+£72.32	+5.22%
2-3	Leicester	1,539	210	13.65%	+£152.30	+9.90%
2-3	Lingfield	728	115	15.80%	+£161.58	+22.19%
2-3	Pontefract	1,594	192	12.05%	+£12.40	+0.78%
2-3	Salisbury	1,506	192	12.75%	+£69.19	+4.59%
2-3	Windsor	2,076	278	13.39%	+£338.55	+16.31%
2-4	Brighton	614	112	18.24%	+£144.62	+23.55%
2-4	Carlisle	914	102	11.16%	+£191.77	+20.98%
2-4	Hamilton	1,686	219	12.99%	+£263.98	+15.66%
2-4	Redcar	1,608	184	11.44%	+£193.25	+12.02%
3-4	Bath	2,889	352	12.18%	+£592.97	+20.53%
3-4	Catterick	3,479	357	10.26%	+£151.97	+4.37%
3-4	Chepstow	2,110	238	11.28%	+£562.39	+26.65%
3-4	Hamilton	2,646	334	12.62%	+£121.61	+4.60%
3-4	Redcar	4,107	380	9.25%	+£436.34	+10.63%
Totals		35,787	4,453	12.44%	+£4,325.86	+12.08%

Method:

1. See if any of the meetings in the final list above are on each day – no need to waste your time otherwise!
2. Once you find a race meeting, look for the type of race our selections need to come from – for example if Windsor were on this afternoon, we need our runners to have raced at a Grade 2 track on their previous race to be included.
3. Sadly I don't know of a simple way – look in your form guide or online for the last race of each horse and annotate the track. I use www.racingpost.com and see if it fits the grade as per our list above.
4. If it does, place your bets with Betfair at Betfair SP, but do remember our strike rate is approximately one in eight, so you need to expect a losing run before a good-priced winner puts us into profit.

As you will have noticed, to back every horse averages out at 10 bets a day – if that is too many for you time-wise or budget-wise, then do consider cutting the list down even further – maybe to just three to four at Bath, three to four at Chepstow, and three to four at Redcar – just the average of 2.5 bets a day, but still £1,591.70 to £1 profit over the ten years. Why not play around a little and see what suits you best? I just provide the figures; the rest is entirely up to you!

Back over to Clive now.

Practical issues...

As the Statman says, you will have to do a bit of leg-

work in order to find selections.

Here's a quick way to check each horse in a race using www.racingpost.com. Click on 'cards'. Hover on cards and select a race. Here I've selected the 2:55 Newmarket. Beneath the horse's name you'll see 5 small boxes. By clicking on the second box on the left-hand side, you'll bring up the horse's previous form. You can do this with all horses in the one race and check whether the horse's last run was at a correctly graded track.

So, for Azmaam, for instance, this horse's last race was at 'Nmk' – denoting Newmarket. For Cape Clear Island, the horse last ran at 'Naa' – denoting Naas. If you don't know to which course the abbreviations refer, simply click on the last race and you'll get full details.

BETTING STRATEGY

Has Loss-Retrieval Had its Day or Can we Make it Pay?

If you're not fully acquainted with 'loss-retrieval', let me give you a quick definition: it's a method of money management where you seek to retrieve any stake from an earlier lost bet as part of your next bet. Once your losses have been retrieved, you start all over again.

Let's take a simple scenario: loss-retrieval usually involves a target profit per race. To make things simple, we'll have a target profit of £10 and use odds of evens.

Bet 1 – Evens bet. Stake is £10 to win £10. Bet loses.

Bet 2 – Loss-retrieval is in action. Evens bet. Stake is £20 to win £10 target profit and £10 lost stake from Bet 1. Bet loses.

Bet 3 – Loss-retrieval is in action. Evens Bet. Stake is £40 to win £10 target profit, £10 lost stake from Bet 1 and £20 lost stake from Bet 2. Bet wins. We make £40. We have our £10 target profit and our lost stakes from Bets 1 and 2 retrieved.

The key to success with loss-retrieval and horse racing is, apparently, to focus on:

- ✓ **The Betfair favourite** just before the race is off, and not the bookmakers' favourite. This is an interesting new distinction, as the Betfair favourite could be different from the bookmaker's favourite.
- ✓ **The odds.** Don't back every favourite. The free loss-retrieval manual in question suggests we limit our look to favourites priced at odds of 3.00 and higher (decimal odds found at www.betfair.com).
- ✓ UK – not Irish – racing.
- ✓ Have a **stop loss** which coincides with your target profit. So, select your betting bank. Let's say, 200 points: your stop loss should be a quarter of this (50 points). Your target profit should be your stop loss divided by 50. So your target profit per race is, in this case, £1.
- ✓ Ensuring your **target profit** accounts for Betfair 5% commission.
- ✓ The fact that you may have to configure the stakes to ensure you are betting to Betfair's £2 minimum stakes.

Incidentally if you want to paper trade this idea on UK racing, use this website – <http://form.timeform.betfair.com/daypage> – to look through results to Betfair Starting Price (BSP).

Let's take a look at this method of backing favourites by

choosing a day at random, with Betfair SP odds taken from Betfair's results website. A £10 target profit will be used just for ease of illustration. Below you'll see the race time, the final finishing position of the horse, and its Betfair SP decimal odds.

2:10 Carlisle – sixth 4.33 – target £10. Stake £3.10. Bet loses.

2:20 Sthl – fourth 3.12 – target £13.10. Stake £6.30. Bet loses.

2:40 Carlisle – first 5.3 – target £19.40. Stake £4.50. Bet wins. All losses retrieved and £10 target profit secured.

2:50 Sthl – fifth 4.5 – target £10. Stake £2.90. Bet loses.

3:00 Exeter – second 4.95 – target £12.90. Stake £3.30. Bet loses.

4:20 Carlisle – first 4.17 – target £16.20. Stake £5.10. Bet wins. All losses retrieved and £10 target profit secured.

4:30 Sthl – second 5.15 – target £10. Stake £2.50. Bet loses.

4:50 Carlisle – third 3.83 – target £12.50. Stake £4.40. Bet loses.

5:20 Carlisle – sixth 5.3 – target £16.90. Stake £3.93. Bet loses.

5:50 Carlisle – fifth 4.6 – target £20.83. Stake £5.79. Bet loses. We made two lots of £10 target profit but are in 'suspense' until racing begins again the next day with a current £26.62 to retrieve. Out of interest, I will continue into the next day, and see how long it took for this current loss to be retrieved...

2:30 Ffos Las – eighth 5.94 – target £20.83. Stake £4.22. Bet loses.

3:40 Ffos Las – fourth 4.2 – target £25.05. Stake £7.83. Bet loses.

4:10 Ffos Las – fourth 6.94 – target £32.88. Stake £5.54. Bet loses.

4:25 Market Rasen – first 3.85 – target £13.48. Bet wins. £10 target achieved and losses retrieved.

From a practical perspective, I have to deal with Betfair SP, which may be slightly higher than the odds for the favourite in the Betfair market just before the off. The difference should be marginal.

This idea could have legs. I will continue to put this idea through its paces, using, out of necessity, Betfair SP odds as the guide to the potential price of the Betfair favourite. Do remember here that the Betfair favourite may differ from the bookmakers' favourite. We should, also, have a selection when bookmakers have joint favourites. If you want to paper trade, I just want to point you towards the column you need to focus on at <http://form.timeform.betfair.com/daypage...>

16:25 Market Rasen									
Racing UK Profile Returned To Racing Handicap Chase (4)									
Going: GOOD to SOFT Distance: 2m6f 110yds Age: 5yo+ Total prize money: £6100 Runners: 6 Race Type: Chase									
FULL RESULT									
Hide Results Show Results									
Pos (Draw)	Dist	Horse	Age	Wgt (OR)	Eq	Jockey Trainer	In-play High/Low	BSP/ISP (+/-)	Place
1	-	Favoured Nation	8	11-7 (115)	-	Richie McLernon Jonjo O'Neill	12.5 / -	3.85 / 3.75 (-1%)	2.16
2	10	Smart Catch	9	10-13 (107)	-	Lee Edwards Tony Carroll	- / 1.11	8.28 / 7 (15%)	3.45
3	4	Cape York	7	11-6 (114)	b	Brian Hughes Malcolm Jefferson	- / 1.34	4.2 / 4 (1%)	2.56
4	sh	Master Of The Hall	11	11-12 (120)	-	Joe Collier (9) Micki Hannond	- / 6.2	7.18 / 6.5 (7%)	4
5	37	Mr Syntax	11	11-11 (119)	t	Diarmuid O'Regan (9) Chris Grant	- / 8.2	8.72 / 6 (47%)	3.4
6	2 1/4	Mister Wiseman	13	10-10 (104)	t	James Best Nigel Hawke	- / 4.3	7.63 / 7 (5%)	3.26

There are two odds for each horse in this race above. Let's focus on the shortest-priced horse, Favoured Nation. The horse has a BSP (Betfair Starting Price) of

3.87 and an ISP (Industry Starting Price) of 3.75.

We focus on the horse with the shortest BSP, over 3.00 odds, and that may not necessarily be the horse with the shortest ISP. I will be recording the performance to Betfair SP myself over the coming month and report back to you in May. Only then will I decide whether to automate the process via the betting bots that are on sale.

I want to see what happens when we have an uncomfortably long run of losers – for this will happen!

Bottom line

As I say above, there is a betting bot which will automate this process for you. I will, however, look at this strategy using Betfair SP odds in a paper trading exercise initially.

Have we really come across a workable method of using loss-retrieval with favourites?

Or should we all just be sensible boys and girls, and kick loss-retrieval to the curb, girlfriend?

BETTING STRATEGY

Make Money Using Banker Bets on Tennis Matches

With the relative success of my 'Bankers or Blowout' football selections at www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk, and in direct reply to a few emails regarding increasing the selection of banker bets to include other sports, I thought I'd cover some sports other than football. This month's focus is on tennis. Firstly, a quick refresher...

Banker bets

Banker bets are bets placed on hot favourites and are, therefore, expected to bring certain profit. In system bets, banker is a selection that must win in order to guarantee a return. These are usually placed on odds of 1.40 (2/5) or lower and can be placed as singles or combined as part of an accumulator bet.

'Banker bets are seen as almost certain to bring profit by the punters and are usually backed with big stakes. Because of the very short odds, a number of bankers are usually combined to form an accumulator bet.' (Taken from www.soccernews.com.)

The ideal is to aim for a strike rate in the region of the current 85% that I am currently achieving with my football Bankers or Blowout bets at www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk. This strike rate, of course, can decrease if you can consistently pick winners at the upper end of the banker bets' odds scale. Let's begin this month's odds-on cheat sheet with a look at tennis.

Tennis

If you would like to increase your selection strategy to include tennis, then I would recommend the following...

Make sure your tennis selections are taken from a bookmaker in-play coupon or the tennis in-play coupon at www.betfair.com. The ability to bet in-play can help you to lock in profit if you want to. There is that added flexibility.

Looking for that banker tennis bet

As with the football, you get a better strike rate when you know the team (or with tennis, the player). The better quality the player is, the more reliable that player tends to be, particularly (as we'll discuss in a minute) in the big, high-profile tournaments. Stick therefore, ideally, to the top 10 **seeded** players in a specific tournament or top 10 **ranked** players in the world.

Get to know the rankings!

<http://www.wtatennis.com/rankings> provides you with the top 10 in the women's game. This list of course evolves over the year. For example, Carla Suarez-Navarro has now broken into the top 10.

The men's ranking list at <http://www.atpworldtour.com/Rankings/Singles.aspx> is more comprehensive, and I would venture as far as the top 20 players.

The tournaments...

Just as with the football, where we tread warily at the likes of the Conference National and League 2 in England (where teams are not known for their consistency), so with the tennis we can leave the likes of the Challenger Tour alone and, instead, focus on higher profile tournaments which attract the 'premier league' men and women players.

Take a look here (<http://www.atpworldtour.com/Tournaments/Event-Calendar.aspx>) and focus on the top three tours mentioned, i.e.:

1. Grand slams.
2. Masters 1000 series finals (denoted with gold colouring).
3. ATP 500 events (denoted with silver colouring).

It is in the first two events especially, that the top 20 men's players can be assured of performing at their optimum. You know, quite simply, that each player will be giving their all.

In the Women's Tour, I would look at this PDF here – http://www.wtatennis.com/SEWTATour-Archive/Archive/AboutTheTour/TourCalendar_2015.pdf – and focus on those tournaments with the biggest prize money on offer.

The early rounds...

There are potential banker bets aplenty at these major tennis tournaments on the men's and women's circuit, particularly in the first and second-round matches when, oftentimes, we can see severe discrepancies in the rankings of players – something we can exploit with a match-odds banker bet, or better yet, a win-to-nil set betting bet (at better odds).

The markets...

So, we know to focus on the top seeded players in particular higher profile tournaments, as well as the top ranked male and female players.

We know that the early rounds of these tournaments will be where the majority of the banker bets can be found, as oftentimes the difference in class of two players can be huge.

We also have a choice between a straight match-odds bet, or a bet in the Set Betting markets, usually 2-0 to the top-ranked player.

The research...

Identify the matches – As luck would have it, the Monte Carlo Masters Tournament is currently running. Here's a look at some of the men's matches. Can you identify potential banker bets here?

Match	Time	1st Set	2nd Set	3rd Set	4th Set	5th Set	6th Set	7th Set	8th Set	9th Set	10th Set
Tomas Berdych v Sergiy Stakhovskiy	11:00	1.14	1.15	8	8.2	M	I				
Bolletti/Fognini v Rojer/Tecau	11:00		990		990						
Bryan/Bryan v Dimitrov/Mirnyi	11:00	1.25	1.43	3.3	5.2	M	I				
Jeremy Chardy v Roger Federer	11:00	7.2	8.2	1.14	1.16	M	I				
Fabio Fognini v Grigor Dimitrov	11:00	1.2	3.9	1.35	6						
Gilles Simon v Benoit Paire	11:00	1.39	1.47	3.15	3.6						
Haase/Klaassen v Granollers/Lopez	11:00		990		990						
Joao Sousa v Milos Raonic	11:00	5.7	6	1.2	1.21	M	I				
Philipp Kohlschreiber v Roberto Bautista Agut	11:00	2.3	2.36	1.74	1.77	M	I				
Mahut/Roger-Vasselin v Monfils/Tsonga	11:00										
Gael Monfils v Alexandr Dolgopolov	11:00	1.64	1.7	2.42	2.58	M	I				
Rafael Nadal v Lucas Pouille	11:00	1.04	1.05	23	26						

If you identified Tomas Berdych, Roger Federer, Milos Raonic and Rafael Nadal then well done! Incidentally, compare these players to the top 10 ranked players in the world. We have the world's number 8, 2, 6, and 5 from those mentioned above.

The odds – The first aspect of your research is to shortlist matches based on odds (quite obviously). As I did above, I shortlisted the matches featuring Berdych, Federer, Raonic and Nadal.

The rankings – For my banker bets, I like to see a reasonable gap in the rankings between the potential banker bet and his opponent. Using the Tomas Berdych

match, a quick way to check the rankings is to click on 'Head to Heads' for the match at www.betfair.com.

The screenshot shows a 'Head to head' comparison between Tomas Berdych (CZE) and Sergiy Stakhovskiy (UKR). Berdych is ranked 8th and Stakhovskiy is ranked 50th. Both have 4 career titles. The 'Head to head' section shows a 5:0 record in favor of Berdych. Below this is a table of their last 5 tournaments:

Date	Tournament	Opponent	Surface	Round	Results & Sets
2015-04-03	Miami Open	Andy Murray	Hard	Semi-final	0:2 x 4:6 4:6
2015-04-02	Miami Open	Juan Monaco	Hard	Quarter-final	2:0 x 6:3 6:4
2015-03-31	Miami Open	Gael Monfils	Hard	4th Round	2:0 x 6:3 3:2
2015-03-29	Miami Open	Bernard Tomic	Hard	3rd Round	2:1 x 6:7 7:6 6:1
2015-03-27	Miami Open	Hyeon Chung	Hard	2nd Round	2:0 x 6:3 6:4

Under 'ATP ranking' you will see that Berdych is ranked eighth and Stakhovskiy is ranked 50th in the world. That is a reasonable discrepancy given the fact that the top 10 seem to be way clearer than the rest.

The first thing to check is the head to head. At www.betfair.com you can check the head to heads easily enough. To go more in-depth, use the ATP and WTA tennis websites. They have specific head to heads.

Know your surface – The Betfair stats provide you with an option to filter by surface – you have a choice of all surfaces, clay and hard. Make sure you check recent form on all surfaces, as well as form on today's surface. Different players perform differently on different surfaces.

In our featured match, the last five head to heads all went to Tomas Berdych:

Year	Tournament & City	Surface	Round	Winner & Score
2015	ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Indian Wells CA, U.S.A.	Hard	R64	Berdych, Tomas 6-1, 6-4 Stats
2015	Dubai U.A.E.	Hard	Q	Berdych, Tomas 6-3, 4-6, 6-2 Stats
2014	Dubai U.A.E.	Hard	R16	Berdych, Tomas 6-2, 6-1 Stats
2012	ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Indian Wells CA, U.S.A.	Hard	R64	Berdych, Tomas 6-7(2), 6-3, 6-4 Stats
2010	ATP World Tour Masters 1000 Canada Toronto, Canada	Hard	R32	Berdych, Tomas 6-2, 6-4 Stats

Look at the head-to-head results and note how many times the strong favourite won in straight sets. This opens the door for a Set Betting banker bet to enhance the match odds. Here Berdych has won in straight sets in only three of the five matches, but did win in Indian Wells in 2015 in straight sets.

The tournament's website – The tournament website is worth noting for any research you do. It could highlight potential injuries or concerns. It also shows you each player's form so far in this tournament. Look for A) dropped sets; B) 7-6 tie-breakers; and C) an ability for our potential banker bet to come from a set down.

Incidentally, of those four players I mentioned earlier, all four won their matches 2-0. Set betting is a real option for your banker bets early on in a tournament.

Bottom line

As the football season begins to wane and the banker bets become more difficult to find in that arena, step forward tennis, just in time for the European clay swing and, of course, Paris, Wimbledon et al. Please do check out www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk, where I will begin to incorporate tennis banker bets.

You have in your hands, though, a simple step-by-step strategy for finding your own banker bets. To recap:

Focus on the world's top 10 women and top 20 men in the WTA and ATP rankings.

Focus on the major ATP tournaments and Grand Slam tournaments for the men and WTA tournaments with the biggest prize money for the women.

- ✓ Focus on the early rounds of these tournaments.
- ✓ Check the rankings gap.
- ✓ Check head to heads overall and on today's surface.
- ✓ Decide on match odds or set betting win to nil.
- ✓ Oh, and check out www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk.

Now let's see how the 'Home-Grown' systems performed up to April...

REVIEWS:

Home-Grown Systems Updates

Banker Bets – I have already provided you with a simple, logical strategy for finding your own banker bets. Free football banker bets can be found in the 'Bankers or Blowouts' daily posts at the website. I would recommend having a read. But do note that we are entering the business end of the season for so many leagues, where potential shocks do increase (a recent example – bottom-side Parma beat Juventus in Italy; and bottom-side Amkar beat CSKA Moscow 1-0 recently in Russia).

I've achieved a current 88% strike rate from 19 November 2014 to date. Keeping things simple, and backing each selection with 10% of the initial betting bank (note the distinction!) has produced a level-stakes profit of 27 points, which I am delighted with.

Although we cannot rely on past performance as a predictor for the future, on the assumption that an 88% strike rate can be continued, I think we can safely experiment with a number of staking plans.

Here are some options for you...

Thirty-three per cent of the betting bank. Yikes! I mentioned this last month. A wealth warning to you though: the service I modelled this staking plan from has gone bust! It is highly risky but highly rewarding, of course.

Since November 18 2014, my banker football bets have produced an 89-point profit when betting 33% of the initial betting bank.

I would like to put forward another staking plan for you which is far gentler, yet takes advantage of the high strike rate. Here's what we do...

Start backing selections with 10% of your betting bank. If your bank is £100, then your starting stake is £10. Your stake will remain at £10 for 20 bets. On the 21st bet, your new stake will be 10% of the new betting bank. You will bet this amount for a further 20 bets and then re-calculate your new stake.

Here's a real-world example using the 'Bankers or Blowouts' selections:

- » The first 20 bets saw our stake at £10 from a £100 betting bank.
- » The bank after 20 bets became £124.30. Our new stake is £12.43.
- » The bank after 40 bets became £150. Our new stake is £15.
- » The bank after 60 bets became £178. Our new stake is what? Yes, £17.80.

As I mentioned last month, with so many football matches kicking off at the same time, we cannot increase stakes with each match. The approach above is the perfect antidote. Using this approach produced a 92-point profit, which is a vast improvement on simple level stakes.

Do try this adapted staking plan with your banker bets.

Two-horse race placers – Two consecutive years of very good profits using this strategy. Selections are available for you at www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk under the imaginatively entitled heading 'Two-Horse Race Placers'.

What you'll see is something like this: **7 120 Chelmsford Betting Forecast:** 5/6 Zamoura, 100/30 Pin Up, 6/1 Duchess Of Marmite. The '7' at the beginning tells us the number of runners. In this case, the Place-Only market pays out for two places only. The Betting Forecast comes from www.racingpost.com and the information is freely available.

Back the live market favourite in the Place-Only market at www.betfair.com, as long as the Place-Only odds fall between 1.1 and 1.5.

An 8.4-point profit was reported last month. This

month we are currently at 2.1 points profit. This mirrors performances in 2013 and 2014, so I am not overtly concerned. If you recall, we produced a year-end profit of 52 points in 2013 and 31 points profit in 2014.

Riskier staking plans?

I did share some riskier staking plans with you last newsletter (the profits above are to simple 10% of the initial betting bank – i.e. if the bank was £100, then your stake throughout would have always remained £10). I mentioned a staking plan which turned the same selections into a bank of £5,374 from a £100 starting bank in 2013, and which followed that up in 2014 with a profit of £2,177.

The largest stake in 2013 was £307 and that was when the betting bank reached £4,000. I tend to look at the largest stake size when determining which staking plans to choose.

In 2014 the largest stake size was £310, which again is tolerable, given the profits reached.

And what is this staking plan? Well, that's the tricky part, as it forms part of a group of staking plans within www.thestakingmachine.com.

An explanation for this staking plan can be found at <http://www.thestakingmachine.com/pro.php>. This staking plan looks to win a target amount with each bet and employs an element of loss-retrieval. Therein lies your higher risk!

These profits were accrued looking to win £5 per race. Are you willing to take the risk? Do you realise your betting bank may reduce below your starting bank at some stage? Do you have faith in the 2013 and 2014 results being replicated in 2015? If your answer is 'Yes', then increase the risk and potential reward! So far in 2015, the £100 betting bank has turned into £1,273.47.

How about our new-found staking plan as presented with the football Banker Bets? If we look to increase our stake to 10% of the new betting bank every 20 bets, then 2013 saw the profit increase to 479 points with final stakes at £469. In 2014, the betting bank increased to 81 points profit.

This is an interesting staking plan, I am sure you'll agree.

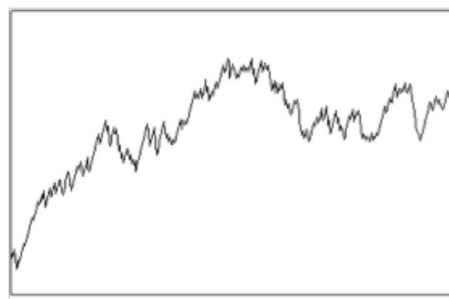
If you have a level stakes betting system, why not look at this new staking plan or a variant thereof (i.e. you can increase the percentage of betting bank, or increase/decrease the frequency at which you recalculate the betting bank).

Laying the top weight in handicaps at All-Weather meetings – Lay the singular top weight in handicap races at All-Weather-only meetings (perhaps avoiding Chelmsford as it is a new venue in 2015).

One caveat: lay any selection as long as their odds are below 10 decimals in www.betfair.com's lay column.

A 104-point profit for 2014 is excellent considering this is such a simple strategy. The profit was made using level stakes laying – i.e. looking to win £10 per bet. In 2015 we are running at a loss of £135.50 to an initial starting bank of £100.

Irish Bumpers – Laying the favourite in NH Flat races in Ireland only was a profitable strategy in 2014. This strategy made 41 points profit, but the profit graph is not as encouraging as the two preceding strategies:



In this case, the beginning of 2014, right through to the summer, produced some excellent results for the layers. The system then plodded from thereon in.

A higher-risk alternative? How about the 1-4 lay staking plan again, which made a 113-point profit, nearly tripling the level stakes profit. This staking plan has produced a current 5.6-point profit for 2015, compared to a level stake profit of 7.9 points.

This strategy is simple to implement and currently working.

The worst-performing favourites on the All-Weather – We focus on All-Weather race meetings. Below you'll see two All-Weather meetings: Lingfield (AW) and Wolverhampton (AW). Guess what the 'AW' stands for? Your next job is to click on the 'favourites' link, and take note of the race types with the smallest percentage of favourites winning. In the case of Lingfield below, which race type has the smallest percentage of winning favourites?

LINGFIELD (AW) A116				Lingfield (AW) 09 Jan 2015 meeting																																																						
MEETING INFO COURSE MAP STATISTICS FAVOURITES				Racecourse phone number: 01242 838200 or 01242 831720																																																						
GOING: POLYTRAC; STANDARD (light cloud)				Clock of the Course: Edward Arl																																																						
STALLS: St - Outside; Remainder - Inside																																																										
118	coral.co.uk Best Odds On Racing Maiden Stakes CS 14																																																									
145	Ladbrokes Maiden Stakes CS 71ty																																																									
215	32Red Fillies' Handicap CS 71ty																																																									
230	Daily Price Boosts At Unibet Handicap CS 55ty																																																									
325	coral.co.uk Handicap CS 1st5f																																																									
355	coral.co.uk Handicap CS 1st5f																																																									
355 Coral Mobile "Just Three Clicks To Bet" Apprentices Here to Show all racecards for this meeting on one page																																																										
WOLVERHAMPTON (AW) A116																																																										
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GOING: TAPETA; STANDARD (light rain)																																																										
				<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th colspan="2">NON-HANDICAP</th> <th colspan="2">HANDICAP</th> </tr> <tr> <th>BY FAVOURITES</th> <th></th> <th>WINS</th> <th>RUNS</th> <th>%</th> <th>WINS</th> <th>RUNS</th> <th>%</th> <th>£1 STAKE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2yo</td> <td>89</td> <td>201</td> <td>44</td> <td>-6.06</td> <td>15</td> <td>51</td> <td>29</td> <td>-12.34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3yo</td> <td>201</td> <td>360</td> <td>52</td> <td>+14.53</td> <td>146</td> <td>439</td> <td>33</td> <td>+53.02</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4yo+</td> <td>116</td> <td>225</td> <td>42</td> <td>-18.18</td> <td>295</td> <td>887</td> <td>33</td> <td>-23.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>406</td> <td>866</td> <td>47</td> <td>-9.72</td> <td>456</td> <td>1377</td> <td>33</td> <td>-77.69</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						NON-HANDICAP		HANDICAP		BY FAVOURITES		WINS	RUNS	%	WINS	RUNS	%	£1 STAKE	2yo	89	201	44	-6.06	15	51	29	-12.34	3yo	201	360	52	+14.53	146	439	33	+53.02	4yo+	116	225	42	-18.18	295	887	33	-23.33	TOTAL	406	866	47	-9.72	456	1377	33	-77.69
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If you answered 'two-year-old handicap' with 29% then you'd be right. Your next step is to note the race times for any qualifying races. A two-year-old handicap is also known as a nursery handicap. On this particular day, there are no nursery handicaps and therefore no

qualifying bets.

When you do find a bet, you become a backer rather than a layer. Yes, I know: you'd have thought that laying favourites in the worse performing races for favourites on the All-Weather would profit well. It doesn't, as you'll see below!

Simply backing the favourite in these qualifying races in 2014 would have produced a 63-point profit which is excellent. Whether it has the consistency to profit again in 2015 we're yet to find out.

How would you like to see a profit graph like the one below?



It looks excellent, doesn't it? And what if I told you that I could turn £100 into £1,093 with a maximum stake of £27.50 and a minimum stake of £10, would that interest you? It certainly piqued my interest.

This is what I look for from a betting system: a steady upwards profit and that the maximum stake is very reasonable. This staking plan is called 'rolling doubles' and a discussion on the plan can be found at http://www.thestakingmachine.com/rolling_doubles.php.

Rolling doubles is a high-risk strategy in and of itself. So far in 2015, using rolling doubles has made a 68-point profit. The hope is that there will be enough winning favourites over the year in these races to ensure another profit.

Higher-risk staking plans? A 129-point profit last year and 37 points profit so far in 2015 augurs well for this loss-retrieval plan, which is called 'the bookies bank', a full explanation of which can be found at <http://www.thestakingmachine.com/bookiesbank.php>.

Maidens, claimers and selling stakes races at All-Weather venues – This betting strategy is easy. At All-Weather ('AW') venues, take a note of all maiden, claiming stakes and selling stakes races. I do include Chelmsford now, despite it being a brand-new All-Weather venue (and thus missing historical data). Put the selections in time order, and lay the favourites.

A 72-point profit has accrued, just laying each favourite to level stakes. Nice, simple, profitable. If you want to limit your risk to a tenner, for example, you'll have still made 63 points profit in 2014 using fixed-liability laying. A 22-point profit so far in 2015. To a tenner fixed liability, the lay strategy has realised a profit of 39.5 points for this year. This is because some of the favourites were short-priced.

Higher-risk staking plans – This staking plan, as mentioned last month, increased a profit to 207 points. It's called the '1-4 lay' staking plan – see <http://www.thestakingmachine.com/lay14.php> for more.

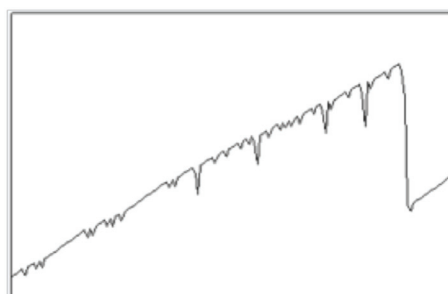
I featured a 'lay ladder' last month. Here's the basic idea: we lay all selections priced at odds of 3.5 or higher.

Bet 1 – Lay Horse A at odds of 3.5 for £10. The horse wins. You lost £25 because as a layer you want the horse to lose.

Bet 2 – Lay Horse B at odds of 3.5 to win £10 and £25 lost from Bet 1. Horse wins. You lose £87.50.

Bet 3 – Lay Horse C at odds of 3.5 to win £10 and £25 lost from Bet 1 and £87.50 lost from Bet 2. The horse loses. You win.

Let's look at the profit graph which exemplifies the quick rewards, but also the risk when we hit three losers:



A £100 betting bank quickly turned into £1,116. Then the moment of truth arrived: we hit a sticky patch of four consecutive losing lays. After the three-bet betting cycle ended, the betting bank was reduced to £453.

£623 is the profit figure for 2014: a reasonable return. The money lost when we hit four losers was OPM (other people's money).

Higher-risk staking plans again boost the betting bank considerably. In 2015, this riskier staking plan has made a profit of £934.50 to a starting £100 betting bank. Higher-risk means quicker profits, but also quicker falls. Accept this and you can make a good profit for a while with a good run of luck.

Laying penalised runners on the All-Weather – I like this very simply laying idea. A penalised horse is a horse which won its last race and has been given, usually, a 6lb or 12lb penalty to carry in its next race.

Take a look at the screenshot below. Colourbearer is the qualifier here. Note the '6x' after the horse's name. This signifies a 6lb penalty.

7:10 BET TOTEQUADPOT HANDICAP (CLASS 5) (4yo+ 0-70) Winner £3,235 8 runners 6f Standard ATR										
Race Conditions: £5,000 guaranteed For 4yo+ Rated 56-70 (also open to such horses rated 55 and below) Weights highest weight 9st 7lb Minimum weight 8-7 Penalties after March 7th, each race won 6lb Colourbearer's Handicap Mark 75 Entries 13 pay £ 25 Penalty value 1st £3,234.50 2nd £362.50 3rd £481.00 4th £240.50										
NO.	FORM	HORSE	AGE	WGT	TRAINER	RTF%	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
1 ³		Colourbearer 6x t	8	9-13	Charlie Wallis	100	Ben Curtis	75	67	81
67-711		2 Pivotal - Centifolia (FR) (Kendor (FR))								

The lay strategy made a reasonable 20-point profit in 2014, which, considering the ease at which selections are made, is a step in the right direction.

As far as a high-risk staking alternative is concerned, well, the staking plan referred to already quite a bit (<http://www.thestakingmachine.com/lay14.php>) has again delivered in 2014. A £100 betting bank turned into £1,306. As with a few of these higher-risk strategies, there was an occasion when the bank dipped below its original starting point.

In 2015 this strategy has made a 4.5-point profit, and, using the 1-4 staking plan, a 32-point profit so far. The betting bank was heavily impacted by a cluster of big-priced penalised horses winning their races. Two 7/1 and two 6/1 winners, for instance, took a lot of potential profit away, yet we still remain above water.

Bottom line

I introduced higher-risk staking to you last month and will continue to update you on higher-risk staking plans. The risks are there, but so are the rewards.

Let me welcome you now to April's Systems and Tipsters Update – a round-up of the rogues and the heroes in this betting world of ours...

REVIEWS

Systems and Tipsters Update

Andy Bell Racing – As I said last month, the eye-catcher is a 452.77-point profit in the calendar year 2014 (January to December), and I think it is important to make that distinction, as you will read about later. This is another confidence-based tipster who tips between 2 and 10 points. At £58 per month, you'd have to insist upon 2014's performance being replicated or bettered this 2015.

A 23.38-point profit to date in 2015 is reasonable, but do not forget that you're paying £58 per month, so profit depends on staking. This masks what has been a poor spell for Andy Bell Racing. Remember, I referred to the 'calendar year 2014'. If we look at the current total betting bank, and the last time the betting bank was at this level, then we have not seen proper growth since July 2014.

Lesson? Calendar year results can be misleading. Those joining in 2015 would be satisfied, but only just. I'll keep monitoring as the Flat season may see better form.

The Gambling Don – Another from www.betfan.com – also employing confidence staking of typically 4/5 points to win and 3 points each way. Like Andy Bell

Racing, 2014 (the calendar year) was excellent, with a 362-point profit. The fee is the same as Andy Bell's and, as you'll read, performance recently has been stagnant.

A 33-point profit for 2015 will assuage 2015 subscribers, but again, this is a service which has not profited since August 2014 to April 2015 in real terms. It's all about when you join a service: only this will determine your outlook on that service. Join in 2014 and you're doing cartwheels. Join in 2015 and, well, you are in profit, but for £58 per month, we expect better. Join in August 2014, and your bank has done absolutely nothing, but you'll have had to pay out the subscriptions.

As with Andy Bell, the Gambling Don's betting bank has grown between April and November for the last two years, so he may sow his seeds for the Flat season.

Each Way Earners – This service is now under the www.tipsterstreet.com banner (formerly Tipsters Warehouse). I had high hopes for Each Way Tipsters but it doesn't seem to be materialising. A 19.22-point loss to date in 2015 and a betting bank which is at the same level today as it was on 18 September 2014 suggests the 'S' word again – stagnation.

So, do acknowledge the 199.45 points profit from November 2013 to March 2015, but note that this is unlikely to be mentioned by the vendors thusly: 'Join us now, and watch as your betting bank stays exactly the same for seven consecutive months.'

As I say with the tipsters above, ever the optimist, I hope that the Flat season will signal an upturn in fortune. For £19.95 per month, you're not paying for any bank growth at all. More needed.

Each Way Statman – <http://winninginformation-network.com/eachwaystatman>. I really am at a loss to explain the dire performance of this second each-way service. For me, each-way betting, when done properly, is a great way to bet. If you can select horses to place only, you will still get a return.

Would you pay £37 per month for a service in free fall? A 25-point loss for 2015 and a betting bank in rapid decline since October 2014. This is a highly inconsistent service. In 2015, January saw a 48.20-point loss, February saw a 53.55-point profit, March saw a 35.65-point loss and April a current 4.95 profit.

February 2015 was good, and glass half full, might suggest something for the future? July to October 2014 was excellent for this service. We are, though, suffering again from a service which is too young – only nine months old.

The Racing Professionals – <http://www.theracingprofessionals.co.uk>. This is the time for the Racing Professionals: the Turf Flat season. What is pleasing about

this service is that we have results from 2012 available for inspection. I would always urge you to inspect results from years gone by: A) to see if this is a tipster suited to you; B) to note the longest losing runs; and C) what kind of a service is this: win only or each way?

The 709 points profit last year came largely thanks to their first bet winning at Betfair SP odds of 607.45 – yes, you read that right. The service has a 30-point profit to date in 2015.

The All-Weather aspect of this service has been very consistent too, with a 244-point profit last year and a current 40-point profit this season. The betting bank is at a 48-point loss this season, so it is quite a turnaround, but a firm notice to you that if you follow this service, then you must follow it to the end.

Betfair SP odds are used and play an important role with this service. The sub costs are £49.99 per month for the main service and £29.99 per month for the All-Weather service. This service, again, is quite expensive. Psychologically, would you really tolerate a 48-point loss having paid for a service (in this case £29.99 for the All-Weather service)? Realistically you would not tolerate this kind of a nosedive, and realistically you would not expect such a turnaround to 40 points profit. The BTTS (both teams to score) and Win service is now no longer in existence, a reaction to what was a poor 27-point loss for 2015?

This is an interesting service, but you must, if joining, realise there are long losing runs which tend to be negated by big winners via Betfair SP odds. Historically they have managed a yearly profit since 2013. Well worth continued monitoring, now that this is their time of the year.

Betting Profits Formula – www.bettingprofitsformula.co.uk. It looks as if this website has been taken down. Good news. Selling something for £50 that you can get for free elsewhere is probably not the best way to attract customers!

Doubling For Dummies – www.doublingfordummies.com. There's a rumour that this ebook is up for a Pulitzer Prize. Seriously, swerve this manual. Made-up testimonials, and a ridiculous ebook.

Tom Nelson Racing – Coming from 'umbrella tipsters' www.bettinggods.com, Tom Nelson Racing is a relatively new service which began in July 2014 and employs what I term 'confidence staking': using a points system between 1 and 6 points; 6 points being the stake used for more confident selections. The 6-point selections tend to derive from 3-point each-way bets.

Tom Nelson therefore employs win and each-way betting. He has had a lot of placed selections, which, when using each-way betting, ensure the betting bank is

protected. I reported a rather stagnant betting bank from 8 January 2015 to 10 March 2015, but it seems that was caused by a particularly poor record from 2 to 7 March, which severely impacted the betting bank.

Since 10 March the betting bank has gradually grown, up to 15 April 2015. I do like to see betting banks which tend to gradually rise over time. Tom Nelson has therefore got over that early 2015 stagnant patch and put together a 79-point profit run.

Negatives? It's new on the market. £29.95 per month is a reasonable cost if the long-term momentum can continue. Good stuff to date and worthy of continuous monitoring.

Unity Racing Club – I am slightly tickled by the headline at the website for this service by www.betfan.com: a few weeks ago, they were proclaiming 'An INCREDIBLE +849 Points Profit In Just 5 Months'. At the time of writing, the headline now reads: 'An INCREDIBLE +717.08 Points Profit In Just 5 Months'. You get the idea!

If you were directed to this website without knowing that this service is in decline, this kind of a profit figure is superb. Check recent betting bank balance against the last time the betting bank balance was the same, and a sorry story emerges. Today's lifetime betting bank balance is the same as it was in September/October 2014. April 2015 is only 15 days old and 50 points in deficit. All this can be yours for only £57 every 28 days!

Lesson? Read between the lines. What if you took the headline at face value but did not have access to the results? It's misleading, isn't it?

Draw Day Demolition – www.drawdaydemolition.com. I have a total lack of confidence in this system after an early, erm, draw day demolition of betting banks using their original methods. One of their methods, the 'Back the Draw' method, blew the betting bank.

This service is being proofed and I will report back, although personally I don't like to be a customer of a service such as this one, whose launch was ill-prepared and not quite in keeping with their adage 'no nonsense, no false promises, no bullsh*t'. I would not recommend joining this service at all, as (again) we face another service with a brand-new set of strategies and therefore no set of past results with which to work from. They seem to be winging it at the moment. £19.99 per month – no thanks.

Value Football Betting – <http://valuefootballbetting.com>. This is an interesting service costing £37 per month and based on the adage that value is the only way to beat the bookie long term.

Value Football Betting uses software which looks at

upcoming fixtures, analyses all the data on each team and comes up with an idea of what the price should be for a number of bets – home win, draw, away win, both teams to score, over 2.5 goals, etc.

It then runs off to Betfair, collects their prices and calculates how much value is present for backing or laying. The software then highlights the best value bets.

There are tips available at the website. These include:

- » First-half bets – 23.35 points profit since 3 March to 15 April.
- » Match odds bets – 24.52 points profit since 3 March to 15 April.
- » 90-minute goal bets – 40.52 points profit since 3 March to 15 April.

What I like about these results is the small losses when there are losses and good-sized profits. Stakes are relatively small. It seems betting at value odds is working, albeit for this short period.

There is another aspect called ‘Kevin’s Selections’, which is not currently performing. The betting bank has been up and down and is now at the same level as 21 November 2014.

There is a lot more here, such as forums and football trading classes. Under the ‘football trading’ section of the website, I’d recommend downloading the free ebooks (although I acknowledge they are predominantly for marketing purposes). They do offer some interesting football betting/trading angles, which are free and might spark some ideas for you.

I do like this whole package but will reserve my season-long membership for the 2015/2016 football season, as football becomes more difficult to gauge at this part of the season.

It has great potential. I will also be looking at sister website www.goalprofits.com.

Back Lucrative – www.backlucrative.com. This is an interesting horse racing tipping service. It is win only, which is a surprise, given the high odds of some of the selections. I do like to see past results and we have them from August 2013.

A 16.64% strike rate with the profit advertised tells you that this service looks to rely on the big-priced winner. There will be long losing runs with a service with a near 17% strike rate. The longest run for this service since August 2013 was 36 bets.

2015 results have been positive, with a 25.8-point profit in January, 44.46-point profit in February and a 17.1-point profit in March.

There were some impressive winners at decimal odds of 13, 11, 10, and 9 from 26 March to 31 March. If this

continues, this service will be well worth joining.

There’s a full 30-day trial for £9 and thereafter it’s £39 per month. If you take out the trial, I would recommend starting at the beginning of the month. As with all tipsters, I would not recommend commitment to a year’s membership.

One other thing of note is that there can be a large number of bets daily, and if a winner is not found when you start with the service, within a few days, you could be reflecting negatively on the service. The long-term must be a factor therefore. Good stuff though at present.

Banker Bets – <http://www.banker-bets.com>. This service picks bets at odds of between 1.1 and 1.47. No ‘value’ bets here folks. ‘Cash in big with our low-risk bets’ is a bit misleading. The bets are not necessarily low risk, as the stake will need to be a decent size to produce the profit which will cover the £27 per month.

In 2015, we’ve seen a 5.38-point profit in January, 0.03 points in February, 2.39 points in March and 1.53 points in April.

I personally love banker bets. I do provide my football banker bets for you at www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk and have written a tennis banker bet article this month. Yet again, I would not recommend quarterly or yearly membership to this particular tipster. Why? Well, it’s too much of a commitment. What if these guys fold? This betting industry is known for disappearing acts. Also, this service is not even a year old. It started in August 2014. It is very new and we don’t know the people behind the service.

I’ll certainly continue to monitor. Banker Bets have potential if the strike rate can be kept above 80%.

Lay the Draw Bot – Ahh, that old chestnut. Laying the draw in football matches is as old as time. Rumour has it that the dinosaurs used to lay the draw until they became extinct. This old strategy for football trading at www.betfair.com has been dragged into the 21st century care of www.winningmore.com. All of the blurb can be found here: <http://www.ltdsoccerbot.com>.

The problem with bot sellers is, quite frankly, that they are not liable for any losses incurred by the end user. This is the case with this Lay the Draw Bot, which does not necessarily come with a list of the best selections.

You are requested to ‘research the games’ yourself. Whilst I would personally research matches in order to lay the draw, others use an odds-based strategy which will lay the odds when the match odds shows certain odds criteria.

So, if you buy this bot, you have to already have (I would suggest) a successful lay the draw strategy of your own; one which this bot will automate for you

– for that is the bot’s purpose. It is not here to select matches and guarantee a profit. It is cold, emotionless and, as with the old ‘garbage in, garbage out’ adage, is only as good as the strategy it is being fed.

The bot has a ‘strategies ideas’ ebook to accompany it. The parameters supplied with the bot include liability staking, a provision for you to set your staking, an option to include the 0-0 correct score insurance bet, and a back bet timer which will trade out of the match at a certain time.

Personally, this is not something I would use. I rarely use a lay the draw strategy unless it is clear from the research that teams tend to avoid draws. Only then will I lay the draw, and not necessarily pre-match.

I don’t think this bot accounts for our abilities to lay the draw in-play rather than pre-match, and this is exactly the lack of flexibility that bots bring with them.

There are matches, for instance, where the score line may be 1-1 or 2-2 in-play, midway through the second half. I would consider laying the draw in these instances, particularly if in-play stats show a propensity for both sides to attack.

Similarly, I will only personally save a pre-match lay the draw strategy for a match such as that played by Amkar and CSKA Moscow recently. Research showed the away side had not had a draw in 11 matches. Laying the draw in this instance is fine, but as I don’t lay the draw that often, then a bot is wasted on me.

It’s all down to those parameters again, isn’t it? Much like www.toptennistips.com and their tennis prediction software.

These bits of kit are as good as the end user.

Do also remember with www.winningmore.com that there is a ‘no refund’ policy, so this re-emphasises the idea that you already have a strategy for laying the draw, and want to automate it or increase its scope over a larger number of matches.

At £59.97 this software will appeal to those of you who already have a lay the draw strategy for football in place and are profiting from it. It is not software that I would personally use, and the reason is that I am firmly hands-on. The software won’t take a profit if, say, there is a threat to your unrealised profit during a match.

Top Tennis Tips – www.toptennistips.com. This is a tennis tipster working via ‘artificial intelligence’, which claims to provide about 5,000 bets per month on all of the major tennis tournament circuits.

Immediately, I am put off by the emphasis on ‘all tennis tournament circuits’. I don’t personally believe that a focus on, say, the challenger circuit with its much lower ranked players and consequent inconsistencies will really pay longterm.

The claimed bet number is of course way too much. And the use of ‘artificial’ intelligence, while cold, calculated and systematic, lacks an element of human flexibility. Will a piece of software note in-form players, or the certain characteristics of certain players? For instance, John Isner, Ivo Karlovic and Milos Raonic possess service games which are extremely hard to break.

There is an option at the website to focus on the ATP top events singularly. This is perhaps what I would prefer.

With the software you can create your own parameters in which to bet. The software will highlight matches which exactly match your pre-set parameters, which you can first back test.

Top Tennis Tips claim a 98.27% ‘accuracy’ strike rate. We need to define what they mean by ‘accuracy’, as this cannot be the strike rate, and how this is measured. It is impossible, unless you are extremely picky, and these guys have told us already that they provide about 5,000 bets per month.

With software products, the seller can claim no responsibility for losses incurred because he will claim that your parameters are causing your losing run – garbage in and garbage out.

In a recent test, using these parameters:

- » a probability of success greater than 75%;
- » odds of 1.1 or higher;
- » bet value of 0.9 or lower.

Practical issues – Some of the lesser events were hard to bet on. They were either highly illiquid at Betfair or their odds were hard to find.

After 150 bets, the strike rate was 75% – 48 bets lost and a loss of 0.9 points accrued.

A lot of work for nothing. The service costs \$69 per week, which is a tad expensive considering you are pretty much left to your own devices as regarding finding those parameters and that edge which will produce a consistent long-term profit.

No doubt it is an excellent idea, to have a database of results, and software which is ‘learning’ distinctions all of the time. What is missing from this software is a selection of staking plans with which to take the back-tested results through. This, I feel, will add greatly to Top Tennis Tips.

I’m going to learn this software on a one-week trial and see if I can find a long-term profitable strategy, which I will share with you next newsletter. Read my tennis article this month though, and you’ll get an idea of how I would prefer to approach tennis betting.

I only wish there was a database like this for the football!