

A pocket guide to learning the
basics of horse racing at
Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie.



PLAYING THE PONIES

Wagering

101

Made Easy



LONE STAR PARK
at Grand Prairie®

Pari-mutuel wagering

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& how it works

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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 the racetrack. Lone Star Park does not benefit from any one particular horse winning or losing. 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 Texas, purses for horsemen and owners competing at the track and Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie. The money remaining in each pool is returned to the fans in the form of winnings, which is 82 percent of all Win, Place or Show wagers.

WHAT IS HANDICAPPING?

Handicapping a race is the skill of utilizing resources such as past performances to select winners and make educated wagers. It's fun to win by accident, picking a lucky name or color, but far more gratifying to win by design. There are no inherently "correct" ways to handicap, and lifelong devotees say they learn something new every day. This guide's aim is to explain the fundamentals so that you can begin to pick winners and rightfully feel proud when you do.



What you need

to get started

RACING PROGRAM

The first thing you need is a *Lone Star Today*, the official racing program for Lone Star Park, which contains a tremendous amount of data for you to utilize and hopefully become a winning handicapper.



Near the front of your *Lone Star Today*, you will find a "How to Read the Program" page, which will help you identify what each piece of data supplied for each horse means. That data includes the program number assigned to each horse, the names of the owners, trainers & jockeys and the sex, color, age, equipment, medication & history of the horse. The history of the horse is referred to as the "Past Performances" or "PPs" for short. The PPs contain all of the information mentioned above but for each of the horse's previous races. It is within this information that you will devise your winning strategy!

Unique to the *Lone Star Today* are Rick Lee's *Picks to Click*, a complimentary tip sheet from our very own Track Handicapper and morning line odds maker.

Additional items available from the program seller that you may find useful include:

- Pens
- Daily Racing Form – A national publication featuring multiple tracks and a trademarked past performance style.
- Tip Sheets

Types of wagers

& menu of bets

STRAIGHT WAGERS (Involve only 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 only collect 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. If your horse finishes third, you receive the Show payout. Because you are actually placing three wagers, the minimum wager is \$6.

COMBINATION OR "EXOTIC WAGERS"

(Involve two or more horses)

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.

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.

SUPERFACTA- Is similar to the 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 larger than the trifecta.

SUPER HI-FIVE- Is similar to the Superfecta, except you must pick the horses that will finish first, second, third, fourth and fifth in exact order. In the event there are no winners all the money wagered will carry over to the next Super Hi-Five pool.

BOX - If you have two or more horses that you think will finish in the top spots, but you're not sure of the order, you can Box them. You may Box an Exacta, Trifecta, Superfecta or SuperHi-Five wager. This guarantees that your wager is a winner when your selections finish in the top spots, regardless of the order.

Types of wagers

& menu of bets (cont'd)

MULTI-RACE WAGERS (Involve two or more races)

DAILY DOUBLE- To collect, you must select the winner of two races. For example, you must select the winner of the first race and second race.

PICK 3- To collect, you must pick the winners of 3 consecutive races.

PICK 4- To collect, you must pick the winners of 4 consecutive races.

FORTUNE 6- To collect, you must pick the winners of 6 consecutive races. The 20-cent Fortune 6 will be awarded to one unique wager. On days where there are multiple winners, 60 percent of the pool will be shared equally, while 40 percent goes back into the jackpot carryover. And of course you must make your selections before the first race of your Daily Double, Pick 3, Pick 4 or Fortune 6 wager.

Types of races

& levels of competition

MAIDEN RACE- A race exclusively for horses which have never won a race. Once a horse has "broken its maiden" by winning, it must progress into one of the categories described below.

CLAIMING RACE- The most common of all races, stipulating a price (such as \$10,000) for which any horse in the race may be purchased. In essence, the owners put their horses up for sale, knowing the horses may be claimed (purchased) prior to the running of the race. Once the horses have stepped onto the track, a claimed horse becomes the property of the new owner, although any purse money earned in that race goes to the previous owner. Different claiming levels provide a point of reference to different class levels.

ALLOWANCE RACE- One step above most claiming races, the conditions of eligibility are very similar except that the horses are not for sale. Allowance horses are generally being prepared to compete in stakes events but are eligible for these "conditioned" races.

HANDICAP RACE- A race for which weights have been assigned by the racing secretary after evaluating entrants' past performances. The idea is to burden the horses with the best records, and therefore improve the chances of the less-accomplished horses in the field.

STAKES RACE- The highest class of race reserved for the best horses. Derived from the word "sweepstakes" and along with handicap races, applies to the highest caliber of race offered. Handicap and Stakes races offer the largest purses of all the various types of races.

Facts worth knowing

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The "Morning Line Favorite" is the horse with the lowest odds in the program, as selected by the morning line odds maker. The "Post Time Favorite" is the horse with the lowest odds determined by the betting public. For the stats below, we are referring to the Post Time Favorite.

- The Favorite WINS: 41% of the time at Lone Star Park (34% Nationally).
- The Favorite PLACES (finishing 1st or 2nd): 63% of the time at Lone Star Park (54% Nationally).
- The Favorite SHOWs (finishing 1st, 2nd or 3rd): 75% of the time at Lone Star Park (67% Nationally).

Minimum Cost of Different Wagers

\$2 WIN BET with 1 Horse=\$2	\$1 EXACTA BOX with 2 Horses=\$2	\$0.10 SUPERFECTA BOX with 4 Horses=\$2.40
\$2 ACROSS THE BOARD BET with 1 Horse=\$6	\$0.50 TRIFECTA BOX with 3 Horses=\$3	\$0.10 SUPER HI-FIVE BOX with 5 Horses=\$12

How to make a wager

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with a Self-Serve

HOW TO USE A SELF-SERVE

Self-Serve Wagering Machines usually offer much shorter lines and offer the user the ability to visualize their bet on the machine prior to printing the ticket. The menu buttons on the right-hand side of the screen will guide you through your wager. Start by scanning your *Star Player Rewards* card if you have one. Then, deposit funds with either cash or a voucher. Now you're ready to make your bet:

First – Select Track

Second – Select Race Number

(The machine will default to the current race.)

Third – Select Bet Amount

Fourth – Select Bet Type

Fifth – Select the number of the Horse(s)

Sixth – Select Print (to make current bet and continue betting) or select Finish (to make current bet and end session)



How to make a wager

with a Teller

WHAT TO SAY AT THE WINDOW

If you prefer to place your wagers with a Teller, start by handing them your *Star Player Rewards* card if you have one, then you'll need to say the following in order to properly communicate the wager you'd like to place:

First - The Name of the Track

Second - The Race Number

Third - The Amount of Your Bet

Fourth - The Type of Bet

Fifth - The number of the Horse(s)

Examples:

"Lone Star, Race 4, \$2 to Win on Number 3"

"Lone Star, Race 5, \$2 Trifecta-Box on Numbers 4, 6 and 8"

"Lone Star, Race 6, 50-Cent Pick 3 on Number 4 with Numbers 1 and 4 with Number 4"

- This Last Example represents how to communicate your Multi-Race Wager by clearly stating your horse numbers for each "Leg" or Race.*

**Remember, you're picking the winners of consecutive races.*

Collect winnings!

WHERE DO I GO TO COLLECT MY WINNINGS?

Congrats, 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-Serve Wagering Machines to collect your winnings in the form of cash or a voucher*.

**Self-Serves will provide vouchers only.*



Approximate payoff for a \$2 win bet

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

Talk the talk



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

BLINKERS – A hood with eye cups worn by a horse and designed to limit a horse's vision, thus preventing distractions.

CALL TO THE POST – A special call played by the Bugler used to signal the horses to the track for the start of the race.

DERBY – A stakes race for 3-year-olds only.

DAM – The mother of a horse.

FURLONG – One-eighth of a mile.

FUTURITY – A stakes race for 2-year-olds only (The richest race in Texas is the \$1-Million Texas Classic Futurity, run each November at Lone Star Park).

INQUIRY – Official investigation of a possible rule infraction. The "Inquiry" sign will light up and you will be asked to "Hold All Tickets" until the race becomes official.

OBJECTION – A Jockey, Owner or Trainer may file an Objection immediately following the race. The "Objection" sign will light up and you will be asked to "Hold All Tickets" until the race becomes official.

PADDOCK – The area where horses are saddled before the race and also a great place to get an up-close look at the horses and jockeys before they head out to the track.

PHOTO FINISH – A result too close to call by the naked eye and requires the use of a special finish-line camera to determine the exact order of finish.

SCRATCH – A horse that has been withdrawn from a race for any number of reasons.

SIRE – The father of a horse.

SPEED INDEX – Used in Quarter Horse racing, this figure is a special calculation that can be an excellent indicator of performance for a Quarter Horse.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A THOROUGHBRED AND A QUARTER HORSE?

A Thoroughbred, those racing during our Spring Thoroughbred Season annually from April to July, is a tall, thinner horse that specializes in running long distances and can reach speeds up to 37 MPH.

An American Quarter Horse, those running during our Fall Meeting of Champions annually from September to November, is a short, stocky horse that is a specialized sprinter that can reach speeds up to 55 MPH. Quarter Horse race distances are measured in yards, with 440 yards being the classic distance.

Other resources

Tips & more education

DAILY SEMINAR – A Daily Seminar is available each race day during the Spring Thoroughbred Season to offer you insights into the day's race card from some of our experts. Our experts include the Track Handicapper, Track Announcer and guest handicapping professionals. The seminar begins 1 hour prior to the first race and lasts for approximately 25 minutes.

JOCKEY & TRAINER STANDINGS – In the back of the *Lone Star Today*, you'll find the standings and winning percentages of the Jockeys and of the Trainers for the current season. Using this information often leads to a winning strategy!

PLAYING THE PONIES 101 CENTER – Please visit us at our booth, located in the Paddock area, to ask questions and to gain more insights into the world of Horse Racing. You might even receive a winning tip!

NIGHT SCHOOL – Night School is a national online fan education program for the industry that offers further insights into the sport of kings. Visit HorsePlayerNow.com/Night-School for more information.

LSP BET – With LSP Bet, you can completely skip the betting lines and get right to the action! LSP Bet is a mobile wagering app that you can download to your iOS or Android smartphone or tablet and bet from the palm of your hand.

WHERE TO PURCHASE A PROGRAM –

Program sellers are located at each entrance.

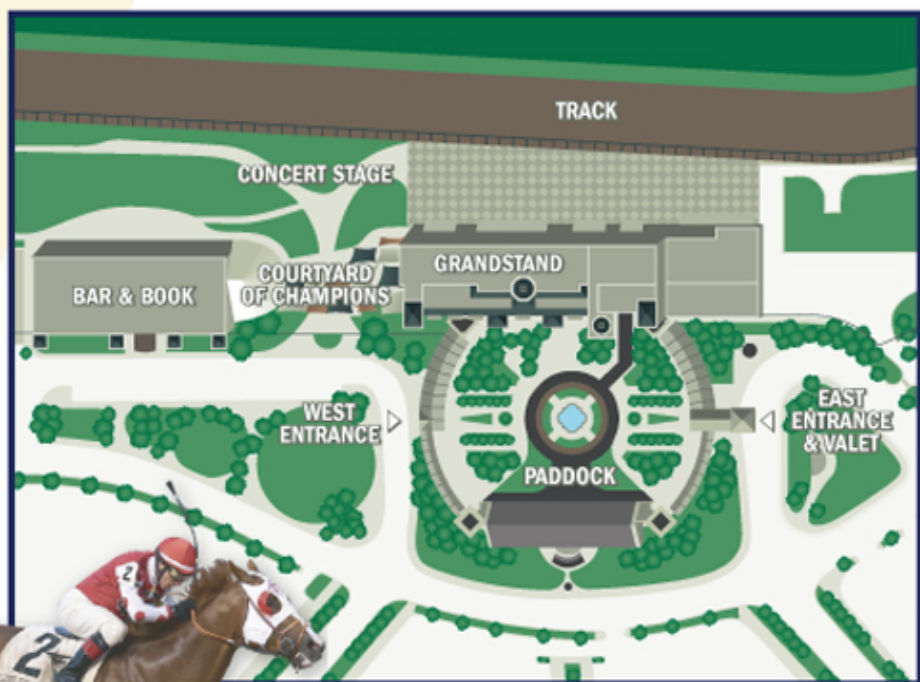
STAR PLAYER REWARDS – The more you visit, bet and eat, the more points you earn towards rewards! Joining *Star Player Rewards* is free and can be done at the *Star Player Rewards* booth, located on the first floor of the Grandstand. Remember, to get credit for your wagers, you must scan your card PRIOR to placing your bet.

BAR & BOOK – Enjoy simulcast horse racing from around the world, seven days a week at the only sports bar in DFW that paid out over \$90 Million in winnings in 2015!



Know where to go

Facility Map



RACING THAT ROCKS YOU



#PlayThePonies

Located 1/2 Mile North of I-30 on Belt Line Road
(972) 263-RACE • LoneStarPark.com