

RACING  
賽 馬 201

How to pick your winning  
horse?



GO  
RACING

# The 3 important steps

## 1<sup>st</sup> Step: Basic View



Form

4

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment



Track and  
Distance

10



Jockey and  
Trainer

21



Draw

28



Class and  
Weight

38



Condition

46



Pace and  
Trend

53

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Step: Final View



Chance  
of Winning  
60

# Horse Assessment Table

|       |      | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |      |                     |           |                   |  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final View |
|-------|------|-------------------------------------|--|------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Horse | Form | Track<br>and<br>Distance            | Jockey<br>and<br>Trainer                 | Draw | Class and<br>Weight | Condition | Pace and<br>Trend |  |                                     |
| 1     |      |                                     |  |      |                     |           |                   |  |                                     |
| 2     |      |                                     |  |      |                     |           |                   |  |                                     |
| 3     |      |                                     |  |      |                     |           |                   |  |                                     |
| 4     |      |                                     |  |      |                     |           |                   |  |                                     |

Mark '+' when the horse has an edge in a particular area; mark '-' when the horse has a disadvantage.

After adding up the '+'s and '-'s, the horse which has the most net '+'s under Final View has the best chance of winning.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Step: Basic View



# Form



# Assess recent starts and trends by reviewing recent form

From the Last 6 Runs(left to right), we can find out whether a horse:

- Recently won or finished in first-3 position.
- Shows any trends from their recent starts (improving or declining form).
- If a horse did not finish in a first-3 position recently, or his trend is getting worse, his chance of winning is lower.

| No. ^ | Horse Name ^   | WIN ^ | PLA ^ | Last 6 Runs ^  |
|-------|----------------|-------|-------|----------------|
| 6     | KINGSFIELD     | 17    | 3.9   | 4 5 3 2 3 1    |
| 7     | SOLAR PATCH    | 2.2   | 1.2   | 2 1 2 1        |
| 8     | STAR SHINE     | 15    | 3.6   | 3 1 3 1 2 7    |
| 9     | HEZTHEWONFORUS | 3.4   | 1.5   | 2 5 1 2        |
| 10    | LOCKHEED       | 50    | 9.1   | 6 6 10 6 3 9   |
| 11    | XIANG BAI QI   | 25    | 5.6   | 3 11 6         |
| 12    | KEEN VENTURE   | 10    | 3.2   | 10 10 10 5 8 2 |
| 13    | TEAM FORTUNE   | 243   | 31    | 14 11 11 4 5 4 |
| 14    | ATTENTION      | 22    | 4.1   | 9 3            |



# Assess the horses' chances of winning by reviewing recent form

Recent starts should be given higher reference values.



For horse debuts in Hong Kong you should refer to overseas records, look at his breeding Sire/Dam/siblings record in Hong Kong, and check his recent barrier trials.



# Fill in your ratings for Form

|       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic<br>View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |                          |      |                     |           |                   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final<br>View |
|-------|--|--|--------------------------|------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Horse | Form                                   | Track<br>and<br>Distance                 | Jockey<br>and<br>Trainer | Draw | Class and<br>Weight | Condition | Pace and<br>Trend |  |
| 1     | +                                      |  |                          |      |                     |           |                   |  |
| 2     | --                                     |  |                          |      |                     |           |                   |  |
| 3     | +                                      |  |                          |      |                     |           |                   |  |
| 4     | ++                                     |  |                          |      |                     |           |                   |  |
| 5     | --                                     |  |                          |      |                     |           |                   |  |
| 6     | +                                      |  |                          |      |                     |           |                   |  |
| 7     | -                                      |  |                          |      |                     |           |                   |  |
| 8     | +                                      |  |                          |      |                     |           |                   |  |



# However if you only analyse and focus on form, and overlook other variables, your outcome is likely to be biased

For example:

- Even though a horse has won, or finished in a first-3 position, in recent races, he might not be able to overcome the challenge of a heavier weight or a rise in class.
- If a horse has not finished in a first-3 position in recent races, he might have been running over the wrong track and distance or started from an unfavourable draw.





## **2<sup>nd</sup> Step:** **Assessing other key factors**



# Track and Distance



# Running over the best distance is a big plus

Each horse's speed, stamina and strength are different; therefore most horses have their own best distance.

A horse who performs well over 1400-1600M may not have the speed required for a 1000M race, nor the stamina required for a 2000M race.

| < Race 2 13:15 |                   | Sha Tin | TURF  | Class 5 | 2000M | GOOD TO FIRM | ... |
|----------------|-------------------|---------|-------|---------|-------|--------------|-----|
| No. ^          | Horse Name ^      |         | WIN ^ | PLA ^   |       | Distance ^   |     |
| 2              | SEMPITERNAL       |         | 10    | 3.3     |       | 1400-2000M   |     |
| 3              | PROUD SKY         |         | 11    | 2.7     |       | 1800-2000M   |     |
| 4              | FORTUNE GIGGLES   |         | 5.7   | 2.3     |       | 1600-2000M   |     |
| 5              | SPORTS MASTER     |         | 24    | 5.3     |       | 1400-1600M   |     |
| 6              | SWEET BEAN        |         | 8.5   | 2.4     |       | 1800-2200M   |     |
| 7              | ROCK THE TREE     |         | 21    | 4.3     |       | 1650-2200M   |     |
| 8              | THE JOY OF GIVING |         | 8.8   | 2.5     |       | 1800-2000M   |     |
| 9              | HALL OF FAME      |         | 6.1   | 2.3     |       | 1800-2000M   |     |
| 10             | LE PANACHE        |         | 4.0   | 1.8     |       | 1600-2200M   |     |



# Example: NOTHINGILIKEMORE

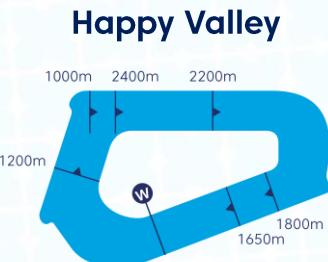
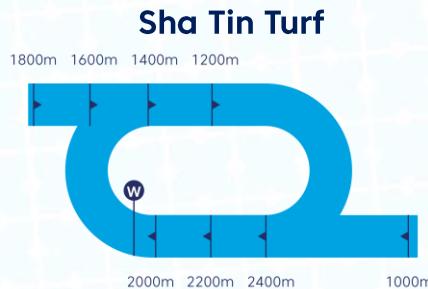
**NOTHINGILIKEMORE** has always finished in a first-2 position when running over 1400M and 1600M.

This means **NOTHINGILIKEMORE** favours 1400M and 1600M but his performance over other distances might not be as good as over 1400M and 1600M.

| Last 6 Runs |                           |                      |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Results     | Date/<br>Racecourse/Track | Class/<br>Distance   |
| 11          | 18/03/2018<br>ST TURF     | 4 Year Olds<br>2000M |
| 4           | 18/02/2018<br>ST TURF     | 4 Year Olds<br>1800M |
| 1           | 21/01/2018<br>ST TURF     | 4 Year Olds<br>1600M |
| 2           | 10/12/2017<br>ST TURF     | Class 1<br>1400M     |
| 1           | 22/10/2017<br>ST TURF     | Class 2<br>1400M     |
| 1           | 23/04/2017<br>ST TURF     | Class 2<br>1400M     |



# Even over the same distance, our 3 different tracks have a big impact on a horse's performance



|                                |                           |  |               |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------------|
| <b>Surface</b>                 | Grass                     | Sand, clay and organic elements                  | Grass         |
| <b>Characteristics</b>         | Flat                      | Kickback may hit horses at the rear of the field | Up-and-down   |
| <b>Turns</b>                   | Relatively moderate turns | Relatively moderate turns                        | Tighter turns |
| <b>Length of Home Straight</b> | 430m                      | 365m   | 312m – 338m   |



# Performance should be compared over the same track and distance

Same track and distance consists of three elements:

- Same racecourse (Sha Tin / Happy Valley)
- Same track (turf / dirt)
- Same distance

A horse that performs well over 1200M at ST may not be as good over 1200M at HV because the two tracks have different characteristics.

|     |                    | Race 7 | 22:15 | Happy Valley | TURF | Class 2 | 1200M | GOOD TO FIRM  | ... |
|-----|--------------------|--------|-------|--------------|------|---------|-------|---------------|-----|
| No. | Horse Name         |        |       |              | WIN  | PLA     |       | Distance Runs |     |
| 1   | MR GENUINE         |        | 12    | 3.5          |      |         |       | 15(3-6-2)     |     |
| 2   | SUPER TURBO        |        | 12    | 2.9          |      |         |       | 12(3-3-0)     |     |
| 3   | CALIFORNIA FORTUNE |        | 17    | 4.8          |      |         |       | 2(1-0-0)      |     |
| 4   | FORTUNE BOOTH      |        | 3.5   | 1.8          |      |         |       | 5(2-0-1)      |     |
| 5   | KINGSFIELD         |        | 9.3   | 2.6          |      |         |       | 3(0-0-0)      |     |
| 6   | TEAM FORTUNE       |        | 19    | 4.3          |      |         |       | 1(0-0-0)      |     |
| 7   | E-SUPER            |        | 15    | 3.6          |      |         |       | 8(2-1-1)      |     |
| 8   | EPTIMUM            |        | 25    | 5.6          |      |         |       | --            |     |
| 9   | MY ALLY            |        | 54    | 7.8          |      |         |       | --            |     |



# Example: SHANGHAI MASTER

SHANGHAI MASTER has finished in a first-3 position 3 times over 1200M at HV, which proves he is good on HV track; however, he could not finish in a first-3 position over 1200M at ST Turf and Dirt track.

Even over the same distance, the horse's performance on different tracks can be very different.

So we should pay more attention to SHANGHAI MASTER when he runs in a 1200M race at HV.

| Last 6 Runs |  |                    |
|-------------|--|--------------------|
| Results     | Date/<br>Racecourse/Track                | Class/<br>Distance |
| 2           | SHANGHAI MASTER<br>09/05/2018<br>HV TURF | Class 3<br>1200M   |
| 4           | 18/04/2018<br>HV TURF                    | Class 3<br>1200M   |
| 1           | 21/03/2018<br>HV TURF                    | Class 3<br>1200M   |
| 3           | 07/03/2018<br>HV TURF                    | Class 3<br>1200M   |
| 11          | 10/02/2018<br>ST ALL<br>WEATHER<br>TRACK | Class 3<br>1200M   |
| 12          | 07/01/2018<br>ST TURF                    | Class 3<br>1200M   |



# Example: EXULTANT

You can consider the horse's running style if there are no track and distance records for comparison.

EXULTANT is a 'late-finisher' that likes to drop back to the rear, and then come from behind strongly in the home straight.

EXULTANT finished in a first-3 position twice over 2000M at ST with his come-from-behind running style; he should therefore be able to perform over a longer distance such as 2200M at ST or even 2400M at ST .

On the other hand, he may not be suited to a shorter distance such as 1400M at ST.

| Last 6 Runs |                           |                      |                  |    |    |   |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----|----|---|
| Results     | Date/<br>Racecourse/Track | Class/<br>Distance   | Running Position |    |    |   |
| 1           | 06/05/2018<br>ST TURF     | Group Three<br>2400M | 6                | 6  | 2  | 1 |
| 2           | 15/04/2018<br>ST TURF     | Class 2<br>2200M     | 8                | 9  | 9  | 7 |
| 3           | 18/03/2018<br>ST TURF     | 4 Year Olds<br>2000M | 13               | 13 | 13 | 3 |
| 2           | 18/02/2018<br>ST TURF     | 4 Year Olds<br>1800M | 9                | 7  | 7  | 5 |
| 4           | 21/01/2018<br>ST TURF     | 4 Year Olds<br>1600M | 9                | 10 | 9  | 4 |
| 1           | 23/12/2017<br>ST TURF     | Class 2<br>2000M     | 8                | 11 | 10 | 4 |



# Track Condition should also be considered

The condition of a turf track is described by the moisture level of the track surface.

Track condition is mostly affected by weather:

- **Turf:** Track condition is likely to be Good To Firm during dry weather or on sunny days; on the other hand, the track condition may change to Good To Yielding or even Yielding after rain.
- **Dirt:** Track condition may be at one of two extremes after rain; Wet Fast which indicates a solid surface, and Wet Slow which indicates a soft surface.



| No. | Horse Name      | WIN | PLA | Draw | Weight (lbs) | Jockey   |
|-----|-----------------|-----|-----|------|--------------|----------|
| 1   | PRETTY BAUHINIA | 8.5 | 2.5 | 1    | 133          | K Teeta  |
| 2   | GREAT HONOUR    | 11  | 2.7 | 2    | 132          | C Scho   |
| 3   | LAND GRANT      | 7.3 | 3.2 | 3    | 117          | C Wong   |
| 4   | LITTLE DRAGON   | 30  | 6.7 | 4    | 120          | H N Wc   |
| 5   | MULTI FACETS    | 10  | 3.3 | 5    | 120          | K C Ng   |
| 6   | THE JUDGE       | 2.8 | 1.3 | 6    | 123          | Z Porto  |
| 7   | CHEERFUL BOY    | 21  | 5.1 | 7    | 121          | S Clippi |
| 8   | HAR HAR HEART   | 5.7 | 2.5 | 8    | 121          | J Morel  |
| 9   | MERRYGOWIN      | 21  | 4.3 | 9    | 120          | U Rispol |
| 10  | HARD BALL GET   | 24  | 5.3 | 10   | 112          | M E Poi  |

GOOD TO FIRM

Bet

Last Update 23/05/2018 17:52



# Each horse may perform particularly well over a specific track condition

**GOLDEN EFFORT:** He won over 1200M at Dirt on Wet Slow. However, he performed less well over the same distance on Good. Therefore, Wet Slow may be GOLDEN EFFORT's favourite track condition.

**MR LUMIERES:** He finished in a first-2 position for three races over 1000M at ST on Good / Good To Firm. However, he could only finish 10<sup>th</sup> over the same distance on Good To Yielding. Therefore MR LUMIERES maybe unfavoured racing on a Good to Yielding track condition.

| Last 6 Runs |                                    |                 |                   |          |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------|
| 10          | GOLDEN EFFORT                      |                 |                   |          |
| Results     | Date/ Racecourse/Track             | Class/ Distance | Course/Going      |          |
| 7           | 02/05/2018<br>ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | --                | GOOD     |
| 1           | 15/04/2018<br>ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | --                | WET SLOW |
| 9           | 25/03/2018<br>ST TURF              | Class 4 1000M   | "A+3" COURSE GOOD |          |
| 13          | 28/02/2018<br>ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1650M   | --                | GOOD     |
| 7           | 10/02/2018<br>ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | --                | GOOD     |
| 5           | 24/01/2018<br>ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | --                | GOOD     |

| Last 6 Runs |                        |                 |                               |  |
|-------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 2           | MR LUMIERES            |                 |                               |  |
| Results     | Date/ Racecourse/Track | Class/ Distance | Course/Going                  |  |
| 1           | 16/06/2018<br>ST TURF  | Class 3 1000M   | "C+3" COURSE GOOD TO FIRM     |  |
| 10          | 15/04/2018<br>ST TURF  | Class 3 1000M   | "C-3" COURSE GOOD TO YIELDING |  |
| 2           | 03/03/2018<br>ST TURF  | Class 3 1000M   | "C" COURSE GOOD               |  |
| 1           | 18/02/2018<br>ST TURF  | Class 3 1000M   | "A" COURSE GOOD               |  |



# Summary: Impact of Track and Distance

| Factors to be considered  | +      | -          |
|---|--------|------------|
| Is the horse running over his favourite distance?   | Yes    | No         |
| Has the horse finished in the first-3 over the same track and distance?   | Yes    | No         |
| If the horse did not run over the same track and distance, estimate from his running style whether he is suited to the track and distance of this race. | Suited | Not Suited |
| Is the horse running on his favourite track condition?  | Yes    | No         |



# Fill in your ratings for Track and Distance

|       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |                          |      |                  |           |                | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final View |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|------|------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Horse | Form                                | Track<br>and<br>Distance                 | Jockey<br>and<br>Trainer | Draw | Class and Weight | Condition | Pace and Trend |                                     |
| 1     | +                                   | +  |                          |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 2     | --                                  | -  |                          |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 3     | +                                   | -  |                          |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 4     | ++                                  | +  |                          |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 5     | --                                  | -  |                          |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 6     | +                                   | +  |                          |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 7     | -                                   | -  |                          |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 8     | +                                   | +  |                          |      |                  |           |                |                                     |





# Jockey and Trainer



# The best jockeys can raise a horse's chances of winning

A jockey's competence can be reflected in their ranking, Win% and First-3%:

- **Z Purton is top jockey who has outstanding figures for Win% and First-3%.**
- **The best jockeys can recover quickly from difficulties such as a wide draw, a knock, or being blocked during a race.**
- **Z Purton is good jockey who can handle horses starting from an unfavourably wide draw.**



**Zac Purton**



# So do not forget to check whether there has been a change of jockey

If there is a change to a better jockey, this will improve the horse's chances of winning, vice versa.

It's particularly noteworthy when there is a change from a lower-ranked jockey to a top-class jockey like Z Purton.

Also, pay attention whether the horse has finished in the first-3 with the jockey in this race

| Last 6 Runs |                           |                    |          |
|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Results     | Date/<br>Racecourse/Track | Class/<br>Distance | Jockey   |
| 3           | 12/05/2018<br>ST TURF     | Class 2<br>1000M   | Z Purton |
| 1           | 25/03/2018<br>ST TURF     | Class 3<br>1000M   | Z Purton |
| 7           | 03/03/2018<br>ST TURF     | Class 3<br>1000M   | H T Mo   |
| 4           | 18/02/2018<br>ST TURF     | Class 3<br>1000M   | H T Mo   |
| 1           | 28/01/2018<br>ST TURF     | Class 3<br>1000M   | Z Purton |



# You can also consider trainers' performances on various tracks

Some trainers may perform well on particular track surface.

|         | J Size          | C Fownes        |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------|
|         | Sha Tin Turf    | Happy Valley    |
| 2017/18 | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| 2016/17 | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 1 <sup>st</sup> |
| 2015/16 | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |



# Do not overlook trainers who are ranked lower overall

Some trainers may have a lower overall ranking, but have good performance on their favourite tracks.

| Trainer last season performance |                  |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Overall Ranking                 | 12 <sup>th</sup> | 6 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Sha Tin Turf                    | 4 <sup>th</sup>  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> |
| Sha Tin Dirt                    | 13 <sup>th</sup> | 1 <sup>st</sup>  |



# Summary: Impact of Jockey and Trainer

| Factors to be considered  | +             | -             |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Is the horse ridden by a leading jockey in this race?               | Yes           | No            |
| Has there been a change to a better/weaker jockey for this race?    | Better Jockey | Weaker Jockey |
| Has the horse finished in the first-3 with the jockey in this race? | Yes           | No            |
| Does this race start on the trainer's favourite track?              | Yes           | No            |

# Fill in your ratings for Jockey and Trainer

|       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |                          |      |                  |           |                | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final View |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|------|------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Horse | Form                                | Track<br>and<br>Distance                 | Jockey<br>and<br>Trainer | Draw | Class and Weight | Condition | Pace and Trend |                                     |
| 1     | +                                   | +  | +                        |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 2     | --                                  | -  | -                        |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 3     | +                                   | -  | -                        |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 4     | ++                                  | +  | +                        |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 5     | --                                  | -  | -                        |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 6     | +                                   | +  | +                        |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 7     | -                                   | -  | -                        |      |                  |           |                |                                     |
| 8     | +                                   | +  | +                        |      |                  |           |                |                                     |





# Draw



# In general, horses starting with an inside draw have a competitive advantage

However, a better approach is to study the draw by analysing it alongside a horse's favourite track and distance, and its running style.



# Study the Win% and First-3% of each draw over each track and distance

Inside draws for 2000M at ST Turf, 1650M at ST Dirt and 1200M at HV have a particularly high Win%.

This is because there is a tight turn shortly after the start, requiring the horses with wide draws to run a longer distance to get closer to the rail.

|           |      | Race 8<br>22:50 | Draw Statistics |         | ⋮     |
|-----------|------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|-------|
|           |      | Happy Valley    | TURF            | Class 3 | 1200M |
|           | Draw | Win %           | Place %         |         |       |
| ■ Inside  | 1    | 19%             | 39%             |         |       |
|           | 2    | 8%              | 32%             |         |       |
|           | 3    | 16%             | 42%             |         |       |
|           | 4    | 11%             | 25%             |         |       |
|           | 5    | 6%              | 21%             |         |       |
|           | 6    | 8%              | 29%             |         |       |
|           | 7    | 6%              | 21%             |         |       |
|           | 8    | 5%              | 21%             |         |       |
|           | 9    | 3%              | 15%             |         |       |
|           | 10   | 5%              | 15%             |         |       |
|           | 11   | 7%              | 18%             |         |       |
| ■ Outside | 12   | 7%              | 27%             |         |       |

Season 2016/2017 to present

# Exception: ST Turf 1000M Straight

Horses that start from an outside draw have a competitive advantage because there is less damage to the track by the Grandstand.



# Impact of draw will be different according to a horse's running style

| Last 6 Runs |                                 |                 |                  |     |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----|
| Results     | Date/ Racecourse/Track          | Class/ Distance | Running Position |     |
| 6           | 23/05/2018 HV TURF              | Class 3 1200M   | 1                | 1 6 |
| 1           | 16/05/2018 HV TURF              | Class 4 1200M   | 1                | 1 1 |
| 1           | 21/04/2018 ST TURF              | Class 4 1000M   | 1                | 1 1 |
| 9           | 15/04/2018 ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | 2                | 2 9 |
| 6           | 28/03/2018 HV TURF              | Class 4 1200M   | 1                | 1 6 |
| 2           | 21/03/2018 HV TURF              | Class 4 1200M   | 1                | 1 2 |

| Last 6 Runs |                                 |                 |                  |      |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------|
| Results     | Date/ Racecourse/Track          | Class/ Distance | Running Position |      |
| 1           | 02/05/2018 ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | 12               | 10 1 |
| 2           | 15/04/2018 ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | 8                | 10 2 |
| 9           | 25/03/2018 ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | 11               | 9 9  |
| 5           | 28/02/2018 ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | 10               | 10 5 |
| 3           | 10/02/2018 ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | 11               | 11 3 |
| 3           | 13/01/2018 ST ALL WEATHER TRACK | Class 4 1200M   | 12               | 12 3 |

## Front-runner

## Late-finisher

Running Position

1 - 1 - 1

12 - 10 - 1

Feature

A horse with good early speed, who likes to run from the front before the home straight

A horse with good stamina, who is better off restrained behind the horses in front

# Starting with an inside draw has an advantage especially for front-runners

A front-runner starting with an inside draw will find it easier to lead in a race. This helps him to win.

However, if he starts with a wide draw, higher speed and more energy are required to get to the inside rail in order to lead. If the horse cannot get to the inside rail, he has less chance of winning.

Happy Valley | 16/05/2018 | 8:15 PM  
Race 3 | Class 3 | TURF - B Course | 1000m  
Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD



Joao Moreira should bounce DRAGON PIONEER straight to the front here and there may not be a lot of pressure for that role. HEALTHY LUCK has useful speed but he's more experienced at the tempo of 1200m racing and may find DRAGON PIONEER a bit too sharp for him. MONEY BOY has drawn low again and can follow the speed through along the rails. AFTER ME hasn't drawn too wide in barrier 6 but his fortunes will be determined by what happens with HEALTHY LUCK --- a 3-wide passage is possible though. COUNTRY MELODY should be mid-rails while GENERAL IRON will be taken back from his wide draw.

# A late-finisher may have an advantage if he starts with a middle draw

A late-finisher who starts from a wide draw can still easily get to the inside rail and be restrained at the back of the field.

It's even better if a late-finisher starts from a middle draw (draw 5-10) because he will be less likely to be blocked and will more easily find space to accelerate in the home straight.

Sha Tin | 02/05/2018 | 8:45 PM  
Race 4 | Class 2 | AWT - AWT Course | 1650m  
Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: GOOD



There are a number of possible pace scenarios here, other than the one illustrated. BLOCKER DEE is the unknown quantity, a sprinter going to the 1650m for the first time, but his natural speed will take him a long way. CLASSIC EMPEROR is versatile that he can lead if required or take a trail in circumstances such as these. PACKING DRAGON is a strong horse with good front-running credentials but jockey Chad Schofield will be mindful of not doing too much early work under topweight of 133 pounds. CALCULATION is another possible pace influence and could be the alternative leader if BLOCKER DEE's rider doesn't want the job. DIVINE BOY has no early speed and will be ridden a waiting race.

# Watch closely when there is any change of draw from the last start

|         | From wide draw to inside draw           | From inside draw to wide draw             |
|---------|---|---|
| Example | From draw 14 to draw 1                  | From draw 1 to draw 14                    |
| Impact  | Advantage – a shorter distance at turns | Disadvantage – a longer distance at turns |

# Summary: Impact of Draw

| Factors to be considered   | +           | -         |
|--|-------------|-----------|
| Is the horse starting from a draw with a higher Win% and First-3%?   | Yes         | No        |
| Do the horse's running style and draw compliment each other? For example:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A front-runner starts from an inside draw</li><li>• A late-finisher starts from a middle draw</li></ul> | Yes         | No        |
| How has the horse been drawn compared to his last start?<br>(Except ST 1000M Straight)   | Inside Draw | Wide Draw |

# Fill in your ratings for Draw

|       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic<br>View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |                          |      |                     |           |                   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final<br>View |
|-------|--|--|--------------------------|------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Horse | Form                                   | Track<br>and<br>Distance                 | Jockey<br>and<br>Trainer | Draw | Class and<br>Weight | Condition | Pace and<br>Trend |  |
| 1     | +                                      | +  | +                        | -    |                     |           |                   |  |
| 2     | --                                     | -  | -                        | +    |                     |           |                   |  |
| 3     | +                                      | -  | -                        | +    |                     |           |                   |  |
| 4     | ++                                     | +  | +                        | -    |                     |           |                   |  |
| 5     | --                                     | -  | -                        | -    |                     |           |                   |  |
| 6     | +                                      | +  | +                        | +    |                     |           |                   |  |
| 7     | -                                      | -  | -                        | -    |                     |           |                   |  |
| 8     | +                                      | +  | +                        | +    |                     |           |                   |  |



# Class and Weight



# Why is weight reduced?

Rating is reduced after a loss and remains in the same class

Rating is increased after winning a race and promoted to the next class



Weight reduced



# Analyse weight carried and chance of winning

| Weight         | Reason  | Recent Start Results                 | First-3 Chance |
|----------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Weight reduced | Weight reduced after a loss in the same class       | Finished in a first-6 position       | Higher chance  |
|                |   | Did not finish in a first-6 position | Lower chance   |
|                | Weight reduced after a win and is promoted in class | Won by 1 length or above             | Higher chance  |
|                |   | Won by less than 1 length            | Lower chance   |

For lighter horses (body weight below 1000 lbs), it is harder to carry a heavy weight.  
So it is beneficial when lighter horses are promoted to the next class and carry less weight.



# Why is weight increased?

Rating is increased after winning a race and remains in the same class

Rating is reduced after a loss and a drop in class



Weight increased



# Analyse weight carried and chance of winning

| Weight           | Reason   | Recent Start Results                 | First-3 Chance |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Weight increased | Weight increased after winning a race in the same class  | Won by 1 length or above             | Higher chance  |
|                  |  | Won by less than 1 length            | Lower chance   |
|                  | Weight increased after losing a race and a drop in class | Finished in a first-6 position       | Higher chance  |
|                  |  | Did not finish in a first-6 position | Lower chance   |



# Example: SOUTHERN LEGEND

SOUTHERN LEGEND lost three races in Jan and Feb. His performance was declining if judged by his finishing positions only.

However SOUTHERN LEGEND finished 4<sup>th</sup> in a Group 1 race, and was beaten by a length by the winner.

SOUTHERN LEGEND won a Class 1 race in his last start. This reflects that he has an advantage over other Class 1 rivals, even if he needs to carry a heavy weight.

| Last 6 Runs |                           |                      |                  |                      |                 |                   |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Results     | Date/<br>Racecourse/Track | Class/<br>Distance   | LBW<br>(Lengths) | 1st                  | 2nd             | 3rd               |
| 1           | 18/03/2018<br>ST TURF     | Class 1<br>1600M     | SH               | SOUTHERN<br>LEGEND   | PINGWU SPARK    | JOYFUL TRINITY    |
| 9           | 25/02/2018<br>ST TURF     | Group One<br>1400M   | 4-1/2            | BEAUTY<br>GENERATION | BEAT THE CLOCK  | FIFTY FIFTY       |
| 4           | 28/01/2018<br>ST TURF     | Group One<br>1600M   | 1                | SEASONS<br>BLOOM     | FIFTY FIFTY     | WERTHER           |
| 6           | 01/01/2018<br>ST TURF     | Group Three<br>1400M | 3-1/2            | FIFTY FIFTY          | BEAT THE CLOCK  | HELENE<br>PARAGON |
| 1           | 10/12/2017<br>ST TURF     | Class 1<br>1400M     | SH               | SOUTHERN<br>LEGEND   | NOTHINGILIKE... | GIANT<br>TREASURE |
| 1           | 29/10/2017<br>HV TURF     | Class 2<br>1200M     | N                | SOUTHERN<br>LEGEND   | MR GENUINE      | MOMENTUM<br>LUCKY |



# Summary: Impact of Class and Weight

| Factors to be considered   | +   | -  |
|--|-----|----|
| <p>Did a weight reduced horse perform well in his recent start? For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Weight reduced after a loss in the same class, and finished in a first-6 position.</li><li>• Won by 1 length or above and with a weight reduction after a class promotion.</li></ul>                      | Yes | No |
| <p>Did a weight increased horse perform well in his recent start? For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Won by 1 length or above with weight added after winning a race in the same class.</li><li>• Weight was added after losing in a race and a drop in class, and finished in a first-6 position.</li></ul> | Yes | No |



# Fill in your ratings for Class and Weight

|       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic<br>View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |                          |      |                     |           |                   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final<br>View |
|-------|--|--|--------------------------|------|---------------------|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Horse | Form                                   | Track<br>and<br>Distance                 | Jockey<br>and<br>Trainer | Draw | Class and<br>Weight | Condition | Pace and<br>Trend |  |
| 1     | +                                      | +  | +                        | -    | +                   |           |                   |  |
| 2     | --                                     | -  | -                        | +    | -                   |           |                   |  |
| 3     | +                                      | -  | -                        | +    | -                   |           |                   |  |
| 4     | ++                                     | +  | +                        | -    | +                   |           |                   |  |
| 5     | --                                     | -  | -                        | -    | -                   |           |                   |  |
| 6     | +                                      | +  | +                        | +    | -                   |           |                   |  |
| 7     | -                                      | -  | -                        | -    | -                   |           |                   |  |
| 8     | +                                      | +  | +                        | +    | +                   |           |                   |  |





# Condition



# A horse's weight can reflect his condition

If a horse's weight has risen or dropped by less than 20 lbs, his condition should be maintained at a similar level to his last start. Therefore, if he finished in the first-3 in his last start, his condition should be good.

Otherwise, compare his current weight to his weight range when he had a first-3 finish.

If the difference is less than 10 lbs, his condition should be good. Otherwise, his condition might have dropped.

The screenshot shows a horse racing application interface. At the top, it displays 'Race 6' at 'Happy Valley' on 'TURF' in 'Class 3' over '1000M' with 'GOOD' track conditions. Below this is a navigation bar with icons for search, help, email, and bet. The main content area features a horse named 'KEEP MOVING' with the number '1'. A red circle highlights the 'Horse Weight' section, which shows '128 lbs (+1)' and '(vs Last Run)'. Other details include 'Age 4', 'Rating 80', and 'Weight 1128 lbs (+23)'. To the right is a 3D model of the horse. On the left, there are sections for 'Relative Ability' (B+) and 'Condition' (B), a 'Comment' box stating 'Has won twice over this trip. Strong form line shows ability.', and a 'Distance' section set to '1000-1200M'. On the right, there are sections for 'Jockey' (M F Poon, Rank 6) and 'Trainer' (P F Yiu, Rank 10), along with 'Place %' (27% and 26%), 'Last 6 Runs' (with a history of 4, 1, 1, 7, 1, 8), and a 'Bet' button. The bottom right corner shows 'Last Update 11/07/2018 16:33'.



# Example: KEEP MOVING

KEEP MOVING's current weight is 1128 lbs, which has risen by 23 lbs. He finished 4<sup>th</sup> in his last start.

KEEP MOVING's weight ranged from 1086 lbs to 1100 lbs when he had a first-3 finish.

Since KEEP MOVING's current weight is 28 lbs more than his highest weight when he had a first-3 finish, his condition may have dropped.

| Last 6 Runs |                           |                    |                       |
|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Results     | Date/<br>Racecourse/Track | Class/<br>Distance | Horse Weight<br>(lbs) |
| 4           | 06/12/2017<br>HV TURF     | Class 3<br>1000M   | 1105                  |
| 1           | 15/11/2017<br>HV TURF     | Class 3<br>1000M   | 1100                  |
| 1           | 05/10/2017<br>HV TURF     | Class 3<br>1000M   | 1098                  |
| 7           | 04/06/2017<br>ST TURF     | Class 3<br>1000M   | 1088                  |
| 1           | 23/04/2017<br>ST TURF     | Class 4<br>1000M   | 1086                  |
| 8           | 26/03/2017<br>ST TURF     | Class 4<br>1200M   | 1072                  |



# Do not miss the horse parade

## Good

**Body:** Firm flat stomach, well-toned muscles with solid lines, and strong neck

**Manner/Appearance:** Calm, relaxed with eager eyes

**Gesture:** Sprinter – active and excited;  
Stayer – calm

## Bad

**Edgy with heavy sweating**

**Bucking frequently which may waste energy**



# **It is important to watch a barrier trial performance**

## **Positive symptoms:**

- The horse finished the barrier trial after a relaxed run without pressure.
- The horse continues to accelerate after the finishing line, showing he has a strong desire to win.
- The horse finishes close to other higher-rated horses, reflecting that he is in top form.
- The finishing time is much faster than another barrier trial over the same distance on the same day, reflecting that the horse has set a high standard.



# Summary: Impact of Condition

| Factors to be considered  | +  | -  |
|---|--|--|
| Compare a horse's current weight to his weight of his last start.<br>If the difference is less than 20 lbs, his condition should be maintained at a similar level to his last start.  | Finished in the first-3 in his last start  | Did not finish in the first-3 in his last start  |
| Compare a horse's current weight to his weight of his last start.<br>If the difference is 20 lbs or more, then compare his current weight to his weight when he had a first-3 finish. | The difference is less than 10 lbs   | The difference is 10 lbs or more   |
| Horse's condition in parade   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well-toned muscles</li> <li>Eager eyes</li> <li>Calm and relaxed</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Edgy, heavy sweating</li> <li>Bucking frequently</li> </ul> |
| Did the horse perform well in his last barrier trial?   | Yes  | No   |



# Fill in your ratings for Condition

|       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |                    |      |                  |           |                | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final View |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------|------|------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Horse | Form                                | Track and Distance                       | Jockey and Trainer | Draw | Class and Weight | Condition | Pace and Trend |                                     |
| 1     | +                                   | +  | +                  | -    | +                | -         |                |                                     |
| 2     | --                                  | -  | -                  | +    | -                | -         |                |                                     |
| 3     | +                                   | -  | -                  | +    | -                | +         |                |                                     |
| 4     | ++                                  | +  | +                  | -    | +                | +         |                |                                     |
| 5     | --                                  | -  | -                  | -    | -                | -         |                |                                     |
| 6     | +                                   | +  | +                  | +    | -                | +         |                |                                     |
| 7     | -                                   | -  | -                  | -    | -                | +         |                |                                     |
| 8     | +                                   | +  | +                  | +    | +                | -         |                |                                     |





# Pace and Trend



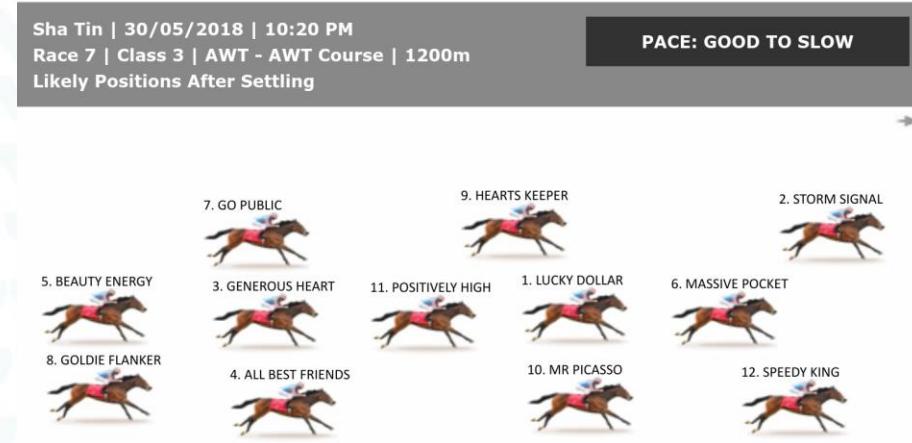
# Estimate the pace of a race with a Speed Map

Race 7  
22:20

Sha Tin | AWT | Class 3 | 1200M

| No. | Horse Name       | WIN | PLA | Like Index |
|-----|------------------|-----|-----|------------|
| 1   | LUCKY DOLLAR     | 8.9 | 2.6 | 1 2        |
| 2   | STORM SIGNAL     | 13  | 5.4 | 1 2        |
| 3   | GENEROUS HEART   | 11  | 3.4 | 1 2        |
| 4   | ALL BEST FRIENDS | 7.2 | 2.8 | 1 2        |
| 5   | BEAUTY ENERGY    | 13  | 3.0 | 1 2        |
| 6   | MASSIVE POCKET   | 13  | 3.6 | 1 2        |
| 7   | GO PUBLIC        | 20  | 5.2 | 1 2        |
| 8   | GOLDIE FLANKER   | 4.2 | 2.4 | 1 2        |

Speed Map | Basket | Odds | Bet



For a Class 3 race at 1200m, the speed up front doesn't look too scary. SPEEDY KING, MASSIVE POCKET and STORM SIGNAL are the quickest horses engaged, in terms of early speed, but none of them could be described as a blindingly fast. Perhaps STORM SIGNAL will be the one to press on, as a more viable alternative to sitting side. MR PICASSO gets the chance to lay up closer, courtesy of a low draw, while LUCKY DOLLAR should also tuck in behind the leading group. Last-start winner ALL BEST FRIENDS and GOLDIE FLANKER will assume their get-back positions, while veteran HEARTS KEEPER seems likely to be caught wide.



# Fast pace benefits late-finishers

In a fast pace race, front-runners run too quick in the early stages and burn themselves out before the home straight. They are then likely to be overtaken by the late-finishers who still have energy.

Sha Tin | 18/03/2018 | 5:15 PM  
Race 9 | Class 2 | TURF - A Course | 1200m  
Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: FAST



In terms of early pace, this should be the race of the day with three very quick horses engaged --- SHAMAL, FORTUNE BO BO and PABLOSKY --- and two more who can assume commanding positions --- GUNNISON and CALIFORNIA FORTUNE. SHAMAL showed his readiness to return to competition with an all-the-way win in a March 6 barrier trial at 800m. MARVEL TRIBE is another that can lead when the opportunity presents itself but, on this occasion, his rider will be more than happy to defer to the quicker horses. Newcomer TAKING AIM missed the start in his most recent barrier trial and his Australian form says he should settle behind the speed.



# Slow pace benefits front-runners

In a slow pace race, front-runners can maintain their leading positions easily throughout the race and at the same time save their energy for a late burst. However, late-finishers have to run even faster than the front-runners if they want to catch up from the rear.

Sha Tin | 12/05/2018 | 4:05 PM  
Race 7 | Class 3 | TURF - C Course | 1600m  
Likely Positions After Settling

PACE: SLOW

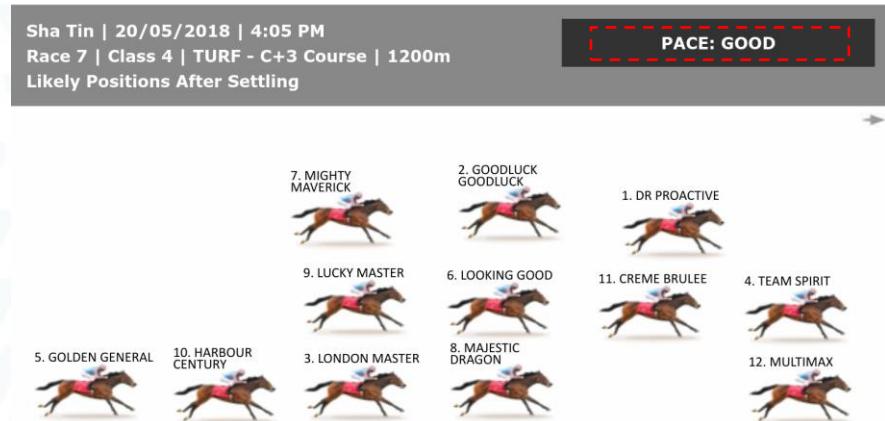


GO BEAUTY GO stands out as the likely leader here and it's hard to find anything capable of going with him. That being the case, Matthew Poon may be left in front without his mount coming off the bridle. NEW ELEGANCE followed the speed last start and is expected to do so again. FAMOUS WARRIOR gets a set of blinkers added to his gear and it looks a positive move; the thing we don't know is how much it will add to his early speed. At least half the field owns a get-back profile and seem incapable of getting into the mix at the front end.



# Other factors become crucial if it is a normal pace race

In a normal pace race, neither front-runners nor late-finishing have significant advantages or disadvantages.



This map seems relatively self-evident, with noted leader MULTIMAX likely to take it up early and pacey TEAM SPIRIT joining him in front. DR PROACTIVE has a strong go-forward profile but seems unlikely to have the natural dash to cross the other two. CREME BRULEE will begin well and take a trailing position on pace. MAJESTIC DRAGON will drop in behind them along the rail, while GOODLUCK GOODLUCK will probably be caught three wide, though hopefully with cover. Newcomer LOOKING GOOD has useful early speed and should settle forward of midfield.



# Summary: Impact of Pace and Trend

| Find out the estimated pace from the Speed Map | +             | -             |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Fast pace                                      | Late-Finisher | Front-Runner  |
| Slow pace                                      | Front-Runner  | Late-Finisher |



# Fill in your ratings for Pace and Trend

|       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |                    |      |                  |           |                | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final View |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------|------|------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Horse | Form                                | Track and Distance                       | Jockey and Trainer | Draw | Class and Weight | Condition | Pace and Trend |                                     |
| 1     | +                                   | +  | +                  | -    | +                | -         | +              |                                     |
| 2     | --                                  | -  | -                  | +    | -                | -         | -              |                                     |
| 3     | +                                   | -  | -                  | +    | -                | +         | -              |                                     |
| 4     | ++                                  | +  | +                  | -    | +                | +         | +              |                                     |
| 5     | --                                  | -  | -                  | -    | -                | -         | -              |                                     |
| 6     | +                                   | +  | +                  | +    | -                | +         | +              |                                     |
| 7     | -                                   | -  | -                  | -    | -                | +         | -              |                                     |
| 8     | +                                   | +  | +                  | +    | +                | -         | +              |                                     |



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Step : Final View



# Chance of Winning



# To recap:

## 1<sup>st</sup> Step: Basic View



Form  
4

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment



Track and  
Distance

10



Jockey and  
Trainer

21



Draw

28



Class and  
Weight

38



Condition

46



Pace and  
Trend

53

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Step: Final View



Chance  
of Winning  
60



# Finalise your Horse Assessment Table

|       | 1 <sup>st</sup> Step:<br>Basic View | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Step: Special Adjustment |                    |      |                  |           |                |        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Step:<br>Final View |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------|------|------------------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| Horse | Form                                | Track and Distance                       | Jockey and Trainer | Draw | Class and Weight | Condition | Pace and Trend |        |                                     |
| 1     | +                                   | +  | +                  | -    | +                | -         | +              | +++    |                                     |
| 2     | --                                  | -  | -                  | +    | -                | -         | -              | -----  |                                     |
| 3     | +                                   | -  | -                  | +    | -                | +         | -              | -      |                                     |
| 4     | ++                                  | +  | +                  | -    | +                | +         | +              | ++++++ |                                     |
| 5     | --                                  | -  | -                  | -    | -                | -         | -              | -----  |                                     |
| 6     | +                                   | +  | +                  | +    | -                | +         | +              | ++++   |                                     |
| 7     | -                                   | -  | -                  | -    | -                | +         | -              | -----  |                                     |
| 8     | +                                   | +  | +                  | +    | +                | -         | +              | ++++   |                                     |

Form a betting strategy for the four horses with the most net '+' marks in the Final View, i.e. No. 1, No. 4, No. 6, and No. 8 in the above example.

