I'm afraid I can only help with the first question you have as I am also new here. I believe stakes are model dependent. For example, if you have two models you can use one as a 'stable' version of your model which you know performs fairly well and use the other model to test your new experiments. This allows you to stake on your stable model so you are more likely to earn money and you don't have to worry about your second model burning your stake if it does not perform well.