

Tips on how to win money fast at the track

by Phillip W. Weiss

1. Never bet on a horse with droopy ears.
2. Always bet on a horse that has green or brown eyes.
3. Never bet on a horse that has committed a felony.¹
4. Always bet on a horse that rotates its ears clockwise.
5. Never bet on a horse that never attended college.
6. Always bet on a horse that says it prayers.
7. Never bet on a horse that won't make its bed.
8. Always bet on a horse that smiles.²
9. Always bet on a horse with long eye lashes.
10. Never bet on a horse that has stained teeth.
11. Always bet on a horse that pays its taxes.
12. Never bet on a horse that complains.
13. Always bet on a horse that has traveled overseas.
14. Never bet on a horse that is illiterate.³

¹ The United States Department of Entertainment reports that in 2017 over 4,246 thoroughbred race horses committed serious felonies, none of which were reported to the public since they involved only horses. However, lawyers representing many of the accused claim that these figures are highly inflated and were compiled by disgruntled DOE agents who have lost millions of dollars at the track. (Source: United States Department of Entertainment. *Annual Crime Statistics for Horses, Mules, Donkeys and other Barn Yard Animals*. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC, 2017.)

² According to several reliable sources, including the Center for Animal Happiness, West Palm Beach, Florida, a smiling horse is 8.75 times more likely to win than a horse that does not smile. (Source: Kofkay, Sebastian, Erich Keanisburg and Samantha Carpotski. *The Relationship of Smile to Speed on the Race Track*. Center for Animal Happiness: West Palm Beach, FL, 2011.)

³ Illiteracy is still rampant among horses. Only 17.3 percent of all thoroughbred horses can read a newspaper. However, efforts are currently underway to eliminate this problem through the construction of 3,247 equine academies throughout the United States where horses will finally have the opportunity to develop their minds. Exhaustive research conducted by the National Academy for Equine Arts and Sciences, Hollywood, California, has established conclusively that a horse's level of intellectual development is a key factor in determining whether a horse will be a winner. (Source: Heinkenschein, V. Johann, Sugaru Bothawanasami, and Enid Yochelmeir. *The Effects of Illiteracy on Hors Performance*. National Academy for Equine Arts and Sciences: Hollywood, CA, 2012.)

15. Always bet on a horse that wears a bow tie.
16. Never bet on a horse that speaks only French.
17. Always bet on a horse that says thank you.
18. Never bet on a horse that has an "attitude."⁴
19. Never bet on a horse that makes demands.
20. Always bet on a horse that understands algebra.
21. Never bet on a horse that belches.
22. Always bet on a horse that sips instead of slurps.
23. Always bet on a horse that lived in St. Louis.⁵
24. Never bet on a horse that believes in astrology.
25. Always bet on a horse that prefers silk over cotton.
26. Never bet on a horse that cries when watching a movie.
27. Always bet on a horse that is kind to other horses.
28. Always bet on a horse that contributes to charities.
29. Never bet on a horse that has a scowl.
30. Never bet on a horse that is a show off.
31. Never bet on a horse that refuses to share the winning purse.⁶

⁴ An anonymous study of 8,037 horses with temperaments ranging from placid to outright obnoxious found that horses that were "head cases" were 7.53 times less likely to win a race than horses that were friendly and cooperative. (Source: according to rumors, this study was financed by a grant from the National Horse Racing Administration, Washington, DC.)

⁵ A survey of 7,567 horses from different parts of the United States found that the locale which produced the most winning horses was St. Louis, Missouri. Researchers from Saddle Up University, Brooklyn, New York, attribute this remarkable finding to a recent series of progressive measures enacted by the St. Louis City Council that gave horses and other barnyard animals the right to sue for compensation and file other tort claims. (Source: Dickerstein, Rodney. "St. Louis Ain't Such a Bad Place – If You're a Horse." *St. Louis Post and Dispatch*, 11/12/09.)

⁶ Fourteen scientific studies, including one conducted by the prestigious International Center for the Protection of Donkeys, Mules and Horses, Volgograd, Russian Federation, have demonstrated that a greedy horse is 6.98 times less likely to win than a generous horse. (Source: Vladimirov, Sergei, Nikita Chermachenko and Lyudmila Coskerova. *Greedy Among Horses – A Five-year Longitudinal Study*. International Center for the Protection of Donkeys, Mules and Horses: Volgograd, Russian Federation, 2009.)

32. Always bet on a horse that can sing opera.
33. Always bet on a horse that understands pig-Latin.
34. Never bet on a horse that refuses to wear a hat.
35. Always bet on a horse that trims its hooves.
36. Always bet on a horse that is properly attired.
36. Never bet on a mare that refuses to wear a dress.⁷
37. Never bet on a stallion that is impolite to mares.
38. Always bet on a horse with grandparents that came from Romania.
39. Never bet on a horse that has a talent agent.
40. Always bet on a horse that prefers carrots over apples.⁸
41. Never bet on a horse that cannot count to one thousand.
42. Always bet on a horse that brushes its teeth.
43. Never bet on a horse that has a tattoo on its right ear.
44. Never bet on a horse that smokes cigarettes.⁹
45. Always bet on a horse that subscribes to the *Wall Street Journal*.

⁷ In the horse-racing industry, it is axiomatic that a well-dressed horse is a winning horse. In 2012, Simon Coversly-Jones, President of the International Association of Thoroughbred Horse Owners, said, "The horse racing industry has always recognized the relationship between a horse's attire and its performance on the track." (Source: Hausinger, Pablo. "Simon Speaks about Horses." The Montevideo Free Press: Montevideo, Uruguay, 3/18/12.)

⁸ Researchers are sharply divided over this issue. Those representing the European apple growers' industry assert that there is a direct correlation between consumption of apples and improved performance on the track while those representing the American carrot farmers industry claim that a horse fed at least two bushels of carrots fifteen minutes prior to a race has a 4.612358 times greater chance of winning. Both sides insist that politics plays no factor in this controversy. (Source: Francisco Funcanelli. "Apples versus Carrots: The Debate Never Stops," The Daily Gazette: Rome, Italy, 8/5/15.)

⁹ A recent news expose discovered that 16.76 percent of all horses smoke cigarettes, and that many of these horses consume alcohol as well. The International Association of Thoroughbred Horse Owners is currently investigating this matter. (Source; Susanna O'Connor. "Horses Made to Smoke and Drink - for Money." Lake Hobanaki Bugler: Lake Hobanaki, NJ, 4/9/05.)

- 46. Always bet on a horse that likes oil paintings.¹⁰**
- 47. Never bet on a horse that refuses to take responsibility for losing.**
- 48. Never bet on a horse that lacks confidence.**
- 49. Always bet on a horse that knows it can win.**
- 50. Never bet on a horse that refuses to wipe its mouth after a meal.¹¹**

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¹⁰ In a 1997 study conducted by the Horse-racing Institute, a non-profit think tank dedicated to discovering ways to improve equine performance, 68 thoroughbred race horses were brought to the Metropolitan Museum of Art where they were shown a collection of oil paintings on display. After this visit, 64 of the horses won their next races. Some attribute the results to pure luck while others claim that exposure to the paintings furnished the horses the needed intellectual impetus to win. (Source: Caspari, Vincent, Howard Untermann and Wilford Yarbaroonian. "Do Horses Appreciate Fine Art?" Center for Creative Studies: Mill Point, Utah, 2004.)

¹¹ In 2014 The European Association of Jockeys, Grooms and Trainers published a pamphlet containing 41 pages of instructions on how to teach horses better table manners. (Source: *The Importance of Maintaining Good Table Manners for Race Horses and Other Animals*. European Association of Jockeys, Grooms and Trainers: Vienna, Austria, 2014.)

Other sources

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**Banton, Kirk. *The Day When the Horses Refused to Run.*
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Covington, Dickie. *Losing Can Be Fun.* Popcorn Press: Pacific Cliffs, OR, 2007

**Grabalino, Salvatore. *How to Behave When You Pick a Winner.*
Art Samuels Book Dealers: Roscoe, UT, 2007**

Jones, William. *I Cry Because I Lose – when the losing gets to be too much to bear.* High-Low Publishers: Las Vegas, NV, 2015.

**Junius, Sylvester. *The Story of Speedster – the horse that never won.*
Fast Track Publishing House, San Juan, PR, 2016¹²**

**McCormick, William and Trey O'Reilly. *How to Lose With Dignity.*
Steeplechase Publishers: Golden Rod, AK, 1997**

Moliniccio, Mary. *I Married a Loser.* Bumpkin Press: Laughlin, NV, 2005

Oglethorpe, Vernon. *My Life as a Loser.* Good Luck Press: Las Vegas, NV, 2010

**O'Rourke, Betsy. *Marlene – the Story of a Courageous Mare.*
Bimseed Book Store: Las Panas, NM, 2008¹³**

¹² When Speedster was retired in 2016, his record was 0 wins, 0 places, 0 shows in 356 races. His total earnings were \$763.46. He holds the record for running the slowest mile in this history of thoroughbred racing. When his owner, Mickey Caranelli, was asked why he continued racing the horse, Mickey said, "Because we believed the horse had potential, and still do." Today, Speedster has been put out to stud. As a stud, his performance thus far has been spectacular. So far, he has impregnated 9 mares, 7 jennies, 3 hippopotamus, a crocodile named Matilda, a pig named Beulah, a sheep named Henrietta and a Great Dane named Constance with whom Speedster now co-habits. There are rumors that they may get married.

¹³ Taunted by most owners and trainers for being a "girl," Marlene soon proved that she could outrun any stallion on the track, even when they were in heat. Her performance on the track is now legendary. She set a new record for the most earnings by a mare, \$12,567,453.44, surpassing the previous record of \$8,000,000 held by Hot Momma. When asked to reveal the source of Marlene's success, her owner, multi-billionaire financier Ralph Pennellsworth, smiled and said, "We understand each other." When asked to further elaborate, Mr. Pennellsworth chuckled, gave Marlene a big hug, kissed her on the rump, and said, "Go figure that out yourself."

Rappaport, Susana. *I Love Horses But Horses Don't Love Me – the lament of a perennial loser*. Hirschenbaum Book Merchants: Newark, DE, 2004¹⁴

Ricard, Herman. *The Biography of Albert Kaminsky – the world's heaviest jockey*. Alimentary Books: Kenosha, WI, 2008.¹⁵

Tepenski, Neal, Ralph Littlefield, and Trigor Komanian. *How to Pick a Winner in a One-Horse Race – 3 volumes*. Center for Responsible Wagering: Roanoke, VA, 2017

Tettleton, Cynthia. *The Story of Maria Lipodski – the first woman to lose \$10 million at the track*. Feminist Publishers: Mountain View, TX, 2013

Trabano, Jose. *The Story of Kevin O'Doul – the Jockey Who Never Won*. Horsehair Publishing House: Enid, AZ, 2009¹⁶

Velepsky, Simon. *The Day I Learned that Losing can be Fun*. Crap Jack Book Dealers: Reno, NV, 2016

¹⁴To date Ms. Rappaport has lost over \$390,000 at the track. She has sent the track association scores of letters asking what she has done to turn the horses against her. To win the horses' favor she has sent them numerous gifts, including a diamond studded horse shoe (current whereabouts unknown), a gold plated bridle (current whereabouts unknown), 15 dozen bushels of carrots (later sold at a market), 40 baskets of apples (later sold at a market), an autographed photo of Mister Ed (eaten by a horse named No Can Win), and over 500 love letters proclaiming her eternal love for "the magnificent stallions whose presence fill her with an all-consuming joy" (all converted into horse manure.)

¹⁵ Kaminsky is a 325-pound former offensive tackle who played in the NFL. In 2012 he suddenly announced that he was retiring from football to become a jockey. Today, despite his weight, Kaminsky now is the leading jockey in the United States. His specialty is riding horses that have never broken their maiden. Kaminsky explains, "I empower horses. If a horse carries me, then that horse knows that he can do anything, including win." To date, Kaminsky has taken 2,437 former maiden horses to the winner's circle. His next goal is to find the worst performing horse in the United States and convert that horse into a Triple Crown winner.

¹⁶ In a career that spanned 29 years, O'Doul rode 27,567 mounts, resulting in 0 wins. O'Doul blames this dismal record on the horse racing industry which he claims conspired to give him the worst horses to mount. O'Doul explains that the industry retaliated against him for refusing to quit after being caught allegedly pleasuring two stallions in an obscure section of a field on a farm located in central Kentucky. O'Doul claims that it wasn't what it appeared to be; he was simply checking the horses to make certain that all their parts were working properly. The horse racing commission rejected his argument and ordered him suspended indefinitely. O'Doul appealed and his case eventually went before the US Supreme Court. In the case *O'Doul v. the National Horse Racing Commission*, the court, in a 5 to 4 decision, ruled that since the horses involved refused to testify and there were no other corroborating witnesses, there was insufficient evidence to substantiate the charges and ordered the commission to re-instate O'Doul immediately. Embarrassed and humiliated, the commission complied and then issued a verbal directive ordering all owners and trainers to take whatever measures necessary to ensure that O'Doul never won a race. Of his over 27,000 mounts, almost 24,000 finished in last place, including 74 that failed to make it to the finish line. Only twice did he ever finish in the money, both times in match races where the other horse was pulled after the race began and he was declared winner by default, which did not count as an official win. In 2017, O'Doul was unanimously selected for inclusion in the National Losers' Hall of Shame, Dry Gulch, Alaska.

Waldo, Howard. *The Day I Picked My First (and Only) Winner*.
Crooked Horse Publications: Lexington, KY, 2003¹⁷

¹⁷The date was August 5, 1997. In race 7 at Belmore Park in New York City, Waldo, under the influence of several mind-altering chemical intoxicants, placed a \$1,000 bet on a 75 to 1 longshot, Slow Poke Larry. Under circumstances that defy all odds, after the race began, a thunderstorm developed and the track got hit with lightning which stunned all the horses except Slow Poke Larry who was so far behind the rest of the field that he escaped being struck. As the sole horse to cross the finish line, the "Slow Poke," as he was affectionately called, won the race and Waldo won \$77,000 which in subsequent years he returned to the track. In his book, Waldo blames his subsequent losing streak on the National Weather Service for failing to accurately predict when another lightning storm would develop over the track.