Beginner's Guide to Pari-Mutuel Wagering

PARI-MUTUEL WAGERING

Pari-mutuel wagering means, literally, a mutuel wager or "betting among ourselves". It is similar to a stock transaction. When you buy a \$2.00 ticket on a horse you are, in effect, buying one share in the horse's performance in the race. The race track merely acts as the broker for the transaction and deducts a commission fixed by the state and shared by the state, track, and horsemen. The track's takeout remains the same, regardless of whether a favorite or a longshot wins.

TYPES OF WAGERS

WIN - To collect, your selection must finish 1st.

PLACE - To collect, your selection must finish 1st or 2nd.

SHOW - To collect, your selection must finish 1st, 2nd, or 3rd.

DAILY DOUBLE - To collect, you must select the winners of two consecutive races.

DAILY TRIPLE - To collect, you must select the winners of three consecutive races.

EXACTA - To collect, you must pick the first two horses to finish in the exact order.

QUINELLA - To collect, you must pick the first two horses to finish, but not in the exact order.

TRIFECTA - You must pick the first three horses to finish, in the exact order they finish.

PICK SIX - Selecting the winners of the last six consecutive races. You must make your Pick 6 wager prior to the first Pick 6 race.

Where your on-track betting dollar goes:

Back to the betting public: 79%

State of Maryland: .32% Maryland Million Fund: 1.5%

Maryland Horse Breeders Association: 1.1%

Maryland Race Track Employee's Pension Fund: .25%

Purses: 9.04% Track: 8.79%

Total: 100.00%

Approximate Win Payoffs

(based on a \$2 wager)

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



A SAMPLE PROGRAM PAGE

- 1 Types of wagering
- 2 Distance
- 3 Type of Race
- 4 Prize Money
- 5 Race Conditions
- 6 Track record for this distance
- 7 Entry (one bet covers both)
- 8 Program number for betting
- 9 Jockey18 Horse Color, Sex, Age, Sire & Dam How to Wager (and Win?)
- 10 Horse
- 11 Owner
- 12 Trainer
- 13 Morning Line
- 14 Claiming Price
- 15 Weight
- 16 Color of saddle cloth
- 17 Color of jockey's silks
- 18 Horse Color, Sex, Age, Sire & Dam

Clerk

You tell the clerk five things:

- 1. what track
- 2. what race
- 3. how much you want to bet
- 4. what kind of bet you want, for example: win, place, show, exacta, etc.
- 5. the number of the horse, for example: "Bay Meadows, race three, \$2.00 to win on the number four."

SAMS*/Self Service Terminals

- 1. First you need a voucher which may be purchased from any clerk or voucher machine.
- 2. After you insert the voucher in the machine, the machine will ask you what track you want to bet on (Bay Meadows, Del Mar, Woodbine, etc.).
- 3. Once you have designated the track, the machine will ask you how much you want to bet.
- 4. Finally, the machine will show you a variety of wagerings that may be made.

If you need assistance, there are customer service representatives located in the general area of all SAMS. (*Screen Activated Machines)

Racing Words

Across The Board - Three equal bets, to win, place and show, on a single horse. Blinkers - Headgear worn by a horse to limit his vision and prevent distractions. Breezing - A horse working under restraint.

Claiming Race - A race for horses that are eligible to be purchased for a specified price by the licensed owner. This tends to equalize the level of competition because an owner is unlikely to enter a \$10,000 horse in a race for \$5,000 claimers and risk having it claimed.

Colt - A male horse under the age of five. Dam - Mother.

Driving - Running under extreme urging. Entry - Two or more horses with the same owner or trainer that run as a single betting interest.

Filly - Female horse under the age of five.

Furlong - One eighth of a mile. Originally a "furrow long" or the length of a plowed field.

Handle - Amount of money waged on a race or in a day.

Gelding - A castrated male horse. Handicap Race (HCP) - A race for better quality horses in which weight carried is assigned to the horses by the Racing Secretary based on an assessment of their past ability. Better horses get higher weights to enable horses with a lesser record to have a chance to win. Handily - A horse working or racing with ease and without urging.

Inquiry - Investigation by the stewards of a foul or violation which occurred during the running of a race.

Lasix - Medication used to stop nose bleeds.

Maiden - A horse that has not yet won a race

Mare - Female horse five years old or older.

Morning Line - The track handicapper's estimate of the probable odds for each horse at post time.

Paddock - The area where the horses are brought before the race to be saddled and mounted by their jockey's.

Photo Finish - Results of a race so close that placing judges cannot decide the order of finish with the naked eye and must consult the official photograph. Post Time - The scheduled start of a race.

Purse - The amount of money distributed to a designated number of finishers in a race.

Route - A distance race of one mile or longer.

Sire - Father.

Sprint - A race of seven furlongs or less. Stewards - Racing officials designated to uphold the rules of racing at the race track, answerable to the state racing commission.