

# What Really Wins Money

\*\*\*\*\* An Independent Review of Tipsters and Betting Systems \*\*\*\*\*

## "Eat Your Betting Money But Don't Bet Your Eating Money."

*Horseracing proverb*

Hi,

Welcome to June's *What Really Wins Money*. It's an edition jam-packed with profitable betting strategies this month.

As it's summertime (allegedly), I hope you're not 'all red' thanks to the, erm, scorching sun. What you might find of greater interest comes in the form of my 'All Red' betting strategy I introduced you to last month.

This month, we look to increase the strike rate with these bets. There have been few backing strategies for the horse racing: 'All Red' is one; as is another place-only backing strategy which exploits the superb performance of favourites in apparent two-horse races. Read on... a near 80% strike rate for a place-only backing strategy is excellent.

We return to horse racing laying with a look at a logical laying strategy. It's so logical, Spock uses it when he can get an Internet connection in the deeper recesses of space.

I keep you updated with the 'Home-Grown' betting strategies which are all making good long-term consistent profits. The Statman this month investigates the performance of 'beaten favourites' – those horses

who were favourites in their last race, who did not win. How do beaten favourites perform in their next races? I think you'll find they are best avoided!

The Patriarch has found a superb free horse racing predicting tool which collates 60+ factors for each horse in a race. He explains how to get the most out of it. And, of course, we finish with the Systems and Tipsters Update.

Please remember to view the accompanying videos [www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk/resourcepage](http://www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk/resourcepage), and visit me at [www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk](http://www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk) and on Twitter – @whatreallywins (<https://twitter.com/whatreallywins>).

Incidentally, there'll be some exciting developments at [www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk](http://www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk). Some excellent content for paid subscribers really will take your profit-making to the next level.

**But for now, here's a method of picking horses that look like they're going to do well...**

### Racing Strategies

## Follow These 'All Red' Hot Favourites

Have you been popping along to my Twitter page – @whatreallywins (<https://twitter.com/whatreallywins>)?

If you have, I am sure you have noticed me picking nice-priced horses that always seem to be there or thereabouts at the business end of the race.

I have a confession to make. For my reading of the betting markets, I am almost exclusively using my 'All Red' signal strategy that you recently read about in *What Really Wins Money*.

And in recent tweets, I have highlighted the strong

*please turn over...*

#### Inside this issue:

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Tajheez was ‘all red’ – his betting forecast price of 7/2 was shorter in the live market (5/2) and he was the favourite. He won in this case.

Here’s another great example of an ‘all red’ horse, who is not the favourite in the betting forecast, but is the favourite in the live market:

NO.	DRAW	FORM	HORSE	RPR	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5	1/5
					1-3	1-3	1-3	1-3	1-3	1-3	1-3	1-3	1-3
5	1	X	SIR JACK LAYDEN	78	15/8	15/8	15/8	15/8	15/8	15/8	15/8	15/8	15/8
8	6	W	WASHAAR	—	5/2	5/2	5/2	5/2	5/2	5/2	5/2	5/2	5/2
7	5	T	TIGER TWENTY TWO	91	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2	9/2
6	2	K	THE KID	—	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	9	9
3	3	F	FIRE FIGHTING	52	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
1	8	B	BROADCASTER	—	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
2	7	C	CHINESE JADE	—	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
4	4	N	NETWORK PERFECTION	—	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Bookmakers' special offers:   
 Recommended SP: 112%  
 BETTING FORECAST: 7/4 Washaar, 4/1 The Kid, 6/1 Chinese Jade, 6/1 Sir Jack Layden, 6/1 Tiger Twenty Two, 8/1 Broadcaster, 14/1 Fire Fighting, 100/1 Network Perfection.

Sir Jack Layden is 6/1 in the betting forecast, yet 15/8, ‘all red’, and favourite in the live market. In this instance, Sir Jack Layden finished 2nd, and placed.

## Practicalities...

As I said in my original article, I would look at the ‘all red’ signals one minute before the race time – at the latest. If you want to increase your strike rate, focus on horses with ‘all red’ signals who are favourites in the live market. Ideally, place-only betting will really increase the strike rate (but reduce the payout), or you can make a note of the frequency and odds of the winners.

Please do visit me on Twitter – @whatreallywins (<https://twitter.com/whatreallywins>) – where I try to read the markets on a daily basis and actually tell you when there are ‘all red’ signals – particularly when the ‘all red’ signal is a favourite. I am sure you’ll find the strike rate for places and wins impressive.

**Next up is a backing strategy that is useful in two-horse races...**

## Use 2-Horse Races for Winning Placers

I passed this idea by you in May’s edition of *What Really Wins Money*. I have now collated my results and the profit figures are very impressive for the first six months of this year.

With this backing strategy, we are looking at ‘per-

ceived’ two-horse races.

Here’s a refresher from May’s *WRWM*...

I get my ‘perceived’ two-horse races from the *Racing Post* at [www.racingpost.com](http://www.racingpost.com). This information is free.

Here’s how you can access it:

Go to [www.racingpost.com](http://www.racingpost.com), click on ‘CARDS’, where you will gain access to ‘today’s horse racing cards’. Under each meeting, click on ‘show all race cards for this meeting on one page’.

Go through the race cards until you come across a betting forecast which looks like the one below.

**3:30 CALVERTS CARPETS AND FLOORING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS 3) (4yo+ 0-125) Winner £5,393 7 runners 2m5f Good RUK**

Race Conditions: £8,300 guaranteed For 4yo+ Rated 0-125 Minimum weight 10-0 Penalties after May 11th, each hurdle won 7lb Brassick's Handicap Mark 125 Entries 22 pay £ 41 Penalty value 1st £5,393.34 2nd £1,583.64 3rd £791.82 4th £395.91

NO.	FORM	HORSE	AGE	WGt	TRAINER	RTF%	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RPR
1	1/213-	Brassick	151 t	6	11-12	Charlie Longsdon <sup>13</sup>	Noel Fehly	125	114	131
2	5P/40-	Iolith	36	8	11-10	Alan King <sup>60</sup>	Wayne Hutchinson	123	91	129
3	11P38/	Points Of View	360 t	8	11-6	Kim Bailey <sup>80</sup>	Jason Maguire	119	—	—
4	P474-	E Major	262	8	11-3	Renee Robeson <sup>100</sup>	Jimmy McCarthy	116	102	126
5	154-21	Va 'Vite	2	6	11-0	Anthony Middleton <sup>43</sup>	James Banks <sup>5</sup>	113	106	129
6	6551F-	Danceinthelight	120 p	6	10-9	Micky Hammond <sup>50</sup>	Wilson Ranwick	108	105	128
7	04357-	Dizzy River	140 p	8	10-7	Brian Ellison <sup>75</sup>	Danny Cook	106	109	129

BETTING FORECAST: 13/8 Va 'vite, 5/2 Brassick, 6/1 Points Of View, 8/1 Iolith, 10/1 Dizzy River, 10/1 E Major, 16/1 Danceinthelight.

Let’s look a little closer at the betting forecast:

**BETTING FORECAST: 13/8 Va 'vite, 5/2 Brassick, 6/1 Points Of View, 8/1 Iolith, 10/1 Dizzy River, 10/1 E Major, 16/1 Danceinthelight.**

This is a ‘perceived’ two-horse race. Why? Va’vite is the 13/8 betting forecast favourite, and Brassick is the second favourite in the betting forecast at 5/2. Look at the price gap to the third favourite, Points of View:

5/2 – – – – 6/1.

This hints that the race will be dominated by the front two in the betting forecast, or in other words, this is a ‘perceived’ two-horse race.

I say ‘perceived’, because the betting forecast odds are not the actual odds, but are the opinion of a *Racing Post* journalist. The first and second favourites with the bookmakers might not be in the same order as they appear in the betting forecast at the *Racing Post*.

Another easy strategy for you to follow which does not need any form analysis whatsoever!

Having shortlisted these race types, we single out the favourite in the live betting market and place-back that favourite.

But let me back up a moment: **what is place-only betting?**

Are you familiar with each-way betting? It has been

mentioned many times at *What Really Wins Money Towers*. Each-way betting is essentially backing a horse to win with a 1/2 stake, and backing the same horse to place only with a 1/2 stake. Place-only betting refers to the latter part of the each-way bet.

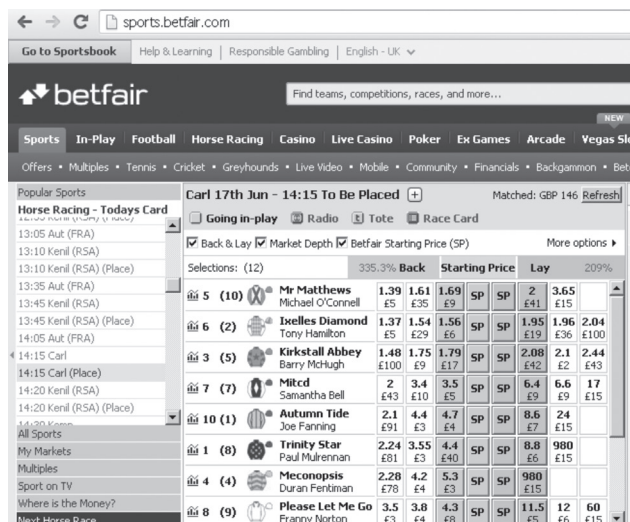
The terms for place-only betting are as follows:

- ✓ In races where there are seven runners or less, a horse will successfully place only if it finishes 1st or 2nd. Do note though that when an eight-runner (or larger field) race is reduced to seven runners, the bookmakers will still pay out place only money on the 1st and 2nd. However, [www.betfair.com](http://www.betfair.com) will pay out on the original three places (see below). This really is worth remembering.
- ✓ In races where there are eight runners or more, a horse will successfully place only if it finishes 1st, 2nd or 3rd.
- ✓ In handicap races where there are 16+ runners, a horse will successfully place only if it finishes 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th.

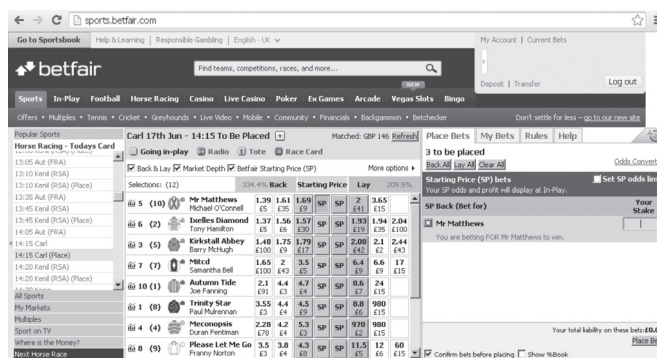
There are three main place-only betting specialists: Paddy Power, The Tote and the Betting Exchanges.

For the purposes of this strategy, we will be using the place-only betting markets at [www.betfair.com](http://www.betfair.com).

This is what a typical place-only betting market looks like at [www.betfair.com](http://www.betfair.com):



In the menu on the left, it is the 'place' market that we will be interested in. Here, I have accessed the place-only market for the 2.15 Carlisle. My results have been collated using the starting price, or 'SP'. If you strike a bet using this strategy, I would recommend using Betfair's SP facility. If we were to place-only back Mr Matthews to SP, we will click on the blue button which says 'SP'.



Once you have clicked on **SP**, the SP bets page will load. Note that you are reminded of the place terms for this particular race: in this case, '3 to be placed'.

Although the SP facility states: 'You are betting for Mr Matthews to win'; do not be confused. You are betting for Mr Matthews to win his **place-only bet** (i.e. finish 1st, 2nd, or 3rd).

Having collated results, I have noted how, on occasion, the Betfair SP market for place-only betting has offered some very good odds. I have concluded therefore that Betfair SP offers the greatest value for place-only backers.

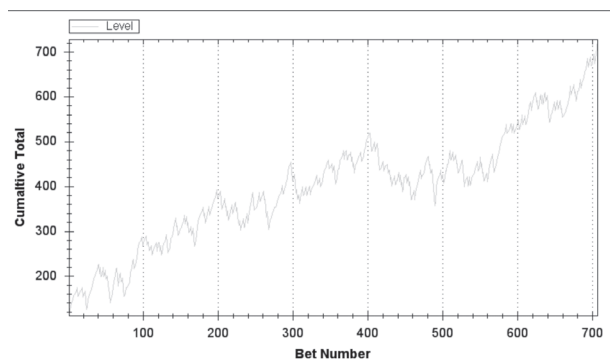
## The profit/loss...

After all, that's what you want to know about.

Having listed 'apparent' two-horse races, we need to wait until the race begins in order to determine the live market favourite. Once you have determined the favourite, place-only bet to Betfair SP.

Since 1 January 2013, there have been 707 bets, a 79% strike rate, and a profit to £20 level stakes of £627.

The graph is the ideal. From bottom left to top right, there's been a steady progression.



## Practicalities...

There are generally several place-only bets daily. The ideal is to wait and see who the live market favourite is from qualifying races, then place-back the horse using Betfair SP.



Please view the accompanying video at: [www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk/resourcepage](http://www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk/resourcepage) for a detailed look at the procedure from picking races to placing bets.

A 79% strike-rate currently ensures there are no worrisome long losing runs. Bets are frequent and bets are frequently successful. Betfair SP ensures at the time that we will get very competitively-priced odds for certain bets.

I'll certainly be monitoring this place-only betting strategy. Although the average for the odds is only 1.35, the profit is very encouraging to level stakes.

**From place-only betting to laying with the CD VULN FAV system...**

### Laying System

## Why Successful Laying is a Numbers Game

I don't know whether it is by accident or design that laying systems seem to be dominating my Home-Grown Betting Systems articles (indeed – as you'll read – the Statman seems to reach the same conclusions as me!).

I suppose it is easier to pick a loser than it is to pick a winner. There are a whole host of other advantages which come with operating a laying system. Here are a few:

- ✓ Laying is lot easier on the psyche. There are long, long 'winning' runs of losing horses!
- ✓ Horse racing is competitive by nature.
- ✓ It is easier to select a horse to lose in a 12-horse race than it is to pick a solitary horse, at odds representing a degree of value, to beat 11 others into first place.
- ✓ More horses lose races than win races. That's an indisputable fact!

It is with the above in mind that I looked for 'logically' competitive horse races where we could lay a market leader and have a good chance of those long winning runs of winning lay bets.

Remember that a main characteristic for my betting systems is that there is no form analysis required whatsoever. You don't even need to know which end of the horse to feed the sugar cube to!

Take a look at this race card below at [www.racingpost.com](http://www.racingpost.com) and I will show you why I see the race

as competitive (and thus a good starting point for laying)...

5:55 32RED.COM HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS 4) (5yo+ 0-110) Winner £3,769 12 runners  
3m2f110y Good ATR

Race Conditions: £3,800 guaranteed For 5yo+ Rated 0-110 Minimum weight 10-0 Penalties after June 1st, each chase won 7lb Call At Midnight's Handicap Mark 110 Entries 21 day 2 lb Penalty value 1st £3,769 2nd £1,106.64 3rd £553.32 4th £276.86

NO.	FORM	HORSE	AGE	WGT	TRAINER	RTFM	JOCKEY	OR	TS	RRR
1	10/08	Call At Midnight	8	11-12	Sarah Humphrey	13	Jack Quintan	110	—	119
2	4/2-2	Leg Iron	8	11-12	Sheena West	100	Marc Goldstein	110	100	124
3	5/45-5	Basoda	10	11-11	Kim Bailey	10	Nick Schofield	109	85	120
4	3/5/4	River D Or	8	11-9	Sophie Lechro	100	Rui Maloney	107	117	124
5	4/45-3	Stansky Des Mottes	7	11-6	Victor Dartnell	100	Jack Doyle	104	110	120
6	1/31-2	Bally Storm	11	11-5	Lawney Hill	40	David Bass	103	88	114
7	4/8-5	Font 1	10	11-4	Lawney Hill	40	DOUBTFUL	102	81	115
8	3/32-3/3	Inner Steel	8	10-11	Lydia Richards	100	Paddy Brennan	95	81	124
9	2/43/3	Days Of Pleasure	8	10-4	Chris Gordon	100	Colin Bolger	88	—	—
10	3/61-3	Sea Cadet	11	10-4	Laura Morgan	100	Richard Johnson	88	77	122
11	4/8/4	Orion Star	11	10-3	Seamus Mulline	100	DOUBTFUL	87	27	112
12	7/21-	Alterantha	9	10-0	Richard Rowe	100	Douge Costello	82	63	120

Long Handicap: Alterantha 9-12  
BETTING FORECAST: 4/1 Sea Cadet, 5/2 Leg Iron, 5/1 Stansky Des Mottes, 13/2 River D Or, 7/1 Basoda, 10/1 Bally Storm, 12/1 Inner Steel, 14/1 Alterantha, 20/1 Call At Midnight, 25/1 Days Of Pleasure.

Welcome to the CD VULN FAV lay strategy...

### CD

The first element of this lay strategy is the 'CD' part – this stands for 'course' and 'distance'. Look at the letters in the screen-shot above – in grey boxes underneath the horses' names (see arrow), usually comprising 'C', 'D', 'CD' or 'BF'.

- » 'C' stands for 'course winner'.
- » 'D' stands for 'distance winner'.
- » 'CD' stands for 'course and distance winner'.
- » 'BF' stands for 'beaten favourite'.

In the race above, seven of the 11 runners were either course winners, distance winners, course and distance winners or beaten favourites.

The more horses which have a combination of those four letters in the race card, the better for the layer. Why? Well, this infers competitiveness.

If we have a race where there are a number of previous winners at the course (C), previous winners over the distance (D) and beaten favourites in their last race (BF), then surely the favourite may be vulnerable?

The second element: the 'Vulnerable Fav' – VULN FAV.

Let's look closer at the Racing Post betting forecast:

Long Handicap: Alterantha 9-12  
BETTING FORECAST: 4/1 Sea Cadet, 5/2 Leg Iron, 5/1 Stansky Des Mottes, 13/2 River D Or, 7/1 Basoda, 10/1 Bally Storm, 12/1 Inner Steel, 14/1 Alterantha, 20/1 Call At Midnight, 25/1 Days Of Pleasure.

This is a typical betting forecast at the Racing Post.

Why does the above betting forecast infer competitiveness?

Let's look closer at the odds. In this betting forecast, the odds progression is 4/1, 9/2, 5/1, 13/2, 7/1, 10/1, 12/1.

Focus on the first four in the betting forecast: 4/1, 9/2, 5/1, 13/2.

The betting forecast relates a possible tight betting market. And where there is a tight betting market, there is 'inferred' competitiveness.

And that's what layers want to see.

With these two signs of a competitive race, I began keeping track of qualifying races, and laying the betting forecast favourite. (Do note this – for this particular strategy I am focusing on the betting forecast and not the live market favourite: they could be different. In the example used above, then, I would have laid Sea Cadet).

I began recording races where:

- i. There were a large proportion of contenders in the Racing Post race card with a 'C', 'D', 'CD' or 'BF' next to their names.
- ii. The first four horses in the betting forecast were close together – the closer the better. The ideal would be something like 4/1, 9/2, 5/1, 11/2. Tolerable would be 4/1, 5/1, 6/1, 7/1. There is a degree of flexibility with the odds. If all of the horses, for instance, have letters next to their names for a race, I would tolerate betting forecast odds like 4/1, 9/2, 5/1, 8/1.

My records go back from the beginning of the year. The profit figures are so encouraging a half-year on, that I wanted to share the idea with you before the July break.

Laying to level stakes (looking to win £10) has turned a £100 betting bank at the start of the year into £801.60. That's a £701.60 profit, which is very impressive.

The Maria Staking Plan is again performing admirably with my lay strategies, and has produced a profit of £1,633 since year-start.

A near 82% strike rate for this lay strategy since 1 January 2013 affords us some confidence for the future.

There have been some 70 selections at odds of 10 and higher. When looking to win a specific amount with laying systems, we must acknowledge **that liabilities will increase, the higher the odds are.**

I set an odds limit here of 10, which I felt was reasonable enough, and that has (thankfully) not

impacted greatly on profits with level stakes laying and the Maria Staking Plan.

## Conclusion...

Looking for horse races with 'inferred' competitiveness can pay off for the layer. With this CD Vuln Fav lay strategy, I first looked for races where a higher percentage of the horses were Course (C) winners, Distance (D) winners, Course and Distance (CD) winners, or beaten favourites (BF).

The more horses with these letters next to their names, the better.

Secondly, I looked for the Racing Post betting forecast to be competitive. How can we tell if the betting forecast infers a competitive race? Look for the first four horses' odds to be very tightly packed together.

I began this article by arguing that laying is a numbers game. And that is particularly applicable to this laying system, which tends to lay horses at all odds (the highest being 44 – and to be honest, I would not be laying a horse to level stakes at these odds!).

Always remember, when laying you will get horses that will win their races – and the layer will therefore lose. This strategy has seen winning horses (therefore losing lay bets) at odds of 9.17, 9.4, 10, 16.78, 20.35, and 10.18, amongst others, yet still, the CD Vuln Fav strategy has turned a good profit.

Why? Simply, the lost liability of these big-priced winners has been swallowed up by the sheer numbers of horses who have lost their races – and therefore resulted in winning lay bets. It's a numbers game when you are not exclusively laying short-priced favourites.

## Latest News

# 'Home-Grown' Systems Updates

Welcome to another month of updates from 'Home-Grown Betting Systems.

I suppose it's no coincidence that the main focus is on laying. Quite simply, laying is what is making the consistent money at this moment in time.

I hint in my 'All Reds' article that a reasonable backing strategy for horse racing can come from reading the live betting markets. Using the live betting markets, for me, is the real ideal when backing horses. It offers the most up-to-date information on potential

gambles. The market is, after all, king in the sport of kings.

I will be looking deliberately at 'Home-Grown' horse racing backing systems as the months progress. I am looking at a place-only betting strategy at the moment, which has great potential.

## Laying the favourite in Irish Bumpers

I feel that Irish National Hunt Flat races, better known as 'Bumpers', will be successful vehicles for us to lay the favourites, if the early signals are a sign of future potential.

After 127 bets since November 2012, simple level-stakes laying (to win a nominal £10), has currently turned an initial £100 betting bank into £250.40. Two recent consecutive winners did not help matters.

This is very encouraging for the future.

I think the choice of Irish Bumpers is an apt one. After all, these are National Hunt Flat races, or to put it another way, a Flat race for potential future Jumps horses. The horses in these races, as with Maidens on the Flat, are generally inexperienced, and these races serve a greater purpose in providing experience, rather than being seen as a 'must-win' from the trainers' perspectives.

A current 70% strike rate is perfectly adequate, given we are laying favourites in these Irish National Hunt Flat races. Average odds at the moment are just over evens, or 3.05 in decimals (as decimals are used by the betting exchanges).

I wrote an article in the near past on the versatility of the Maria Staking Plan on the lay systems I am currently generating for these 'Home-Grown' articles. The Maria Staking Plan works well in laying favourites in these National Hunt Flat races in Ireland.

What I will do in the gap between now and August is to backtrack (not back fit!) the performance of favourites in Irish Bumpers before November 2012, in order to see if there is longevity in the poor performances of favourites in these race types.

As a refresher, look out for race titles such as 'Flat race', 'I.N.H. Flat', or 'National Hunt Flat race'. The races are usually found at the end of an Irish Jumps race card (see below)...

8:20 - Ladies Day At Roscommon On July 8th Flat Race (Div I)

8:50 - Ladies Day At Roscommon On July 8th Flat Race (Div II)

## Lay the favourite in the last race of the day

It's easy to follow this laying strategy. Look for the last race of the day in the UK/Ireland, and lay the favourite on Betfair.

So, has this simplest of lay strategies been profiting since I last updated you?

Let's look at the key staking plans which have maximised profit while ensuring stake risk remains as low as practicable.

## Fixed liability laying:

I mentioned last month that fixed liability laying (where we set our potential losses – liability – to a specific amount, in this case £10) matched a previous high of £200 profit, turning a £100 betting bank into £300. It has broken through this previous high and is now set at £315.

It is a very risk-averse strategy, and one I would advise for those seeking to 'dip their toe' into lay strategies such as this one. I elaborate on the mechanics of each staking plan in the accompanying videos.

## Level-stakes laying:

Laying the favourites in the last race of the day in UK/Ireland, and limiting the odds of those favourites to 4.00 or lower at exchanges such as Betfair (the equivalent of 3/1), really has boosted profits significantly. Since 12 November 2012, looking to win £10 per lay, a £100 betting bank now stands at £579.

This really is good performance considering the simplicity of the lay system. No form reading required at all.

## Maria Staking Plan laying:

The Maria Staking Plan is doing the business with this laying strategy. The Maria Staking Plan traditionally begins with a £3,000 betting bank. It is not compulsory of course, but is the standard around which we measure profit/loss with this staking plan.

With that in mind, £3,000 has turned into £4,500.

As I did last month, here's a quick précis of the Maria Staking Plan...

To summarise, with examples based on a starting bank of £3,000 (if you're reckless enough to try them, you can scale up or down proportionally to your own bank)...

Prices below 3.5: lay to 1% of bank – back-

er's stake £30 (my liability under £75).

Prices from 3.6 to 7.4: lay to 0.6% of bank – backer's stake £18 (my liability £46.80–£115.20).

Prices from 7.5 to 11: lay to 0.4% of bank – backer's stake £12 (my liability £78-£132).

Why don't you note the performances of favourites in the last race of the day in the gap between this newsletter and the next one in August? I hope my argument for opposing these favourites is something you can add to your betting portfolio.

Where would I start here? I think I would lay favourites in the last race of the day looking to win a nominal amount per race (level-stakes laying) and limiting myself to laying favourites at odds of 4.00 maximum. This seems to have insured us against relatively big losses from horses priced at 3/1 fractional odds and higher.

### **Novice Hurdle Third Favourite laying:**

How has laying the third favourite in Novice Hurdles in the UK and Ireland progressed after another month?

I set an odds limit of 7.00 to ensure that liabilities are controlled.

To level stakes, there has been a slight loss from May to June, but since November 2012 laying to level stakes, looking to win £10 per lay has turned £100 into £939.

As we have been delving into the Maria Staking Plan, it has made a profit of £1,879 since November 2012 using the odds limit of 7.00. I will continue to monitor this simplest of lay systems until we get a full year of results to look at.

A slight negative is the need to monitor the betting market in order to ascertain the actual third favourite in Novice Hurdles. Some betting markets can be tight. There is no way to predetermine which horse will be the third favourite in Novice Hurdles.

### **All-Weather Claimers Sellers Maidens:**

I am currently making a note of the performance of favourites at All-Weather race tracks (Wolverhampton, Lingfield, Southwell and Kempton).

The idea is to marry these All-Weather race courses which are chalk and cheese for some horses, along with race types which are less than ideal for the punter, hence the Maidens (normally young, inex-

perienced horses), Sellers (they're not being sold because they're the next Frankel!) and Claimers.

I am looking at this again as a lay strategy. Currently, looking to win £10 per lay bet, a £100 betting bank has turned into £228 – a 12-point profit since the start of the year.

Funnily enough, my good ol' pal Maria and her staking plan are eking out yet another profit. A cumulative profit of £394 since year start using the Maria Staking Plan is encouraging.

This is a lay strategy I think I will report back on intermittently. This is not really the current All-Weather season. This strategy is better seen over a winter.

### **The Statman Presents**

## **Looking for Losers – the Easy Way!**

In this month's article, the Statman looks at beaten favourites in order to decipher whether there is a profitable backing or a laying system which can be uncovered, so it's over to the Statman now...

It is a lot easier to find a statistic that suits the layers than it is to find one that we can use as backers – that's racing for you, I am sorry to say, and goes a long way to explaining why there are no push bikes in the bookmakers' car parks. They have it all as things stand, and reap most of the profits, but there are ways to go against that if you look deep enough in to the old stats!

This month, I have been looking long and hard at just how important the weight of money – and therefore starting price – is.

I have looked at the starting prices in particular of beaten favourites.

The stats to look at involve beaten favourites (BF) next time out covering all courses, all codes, distances, going, grade and so on, and this is what we get for the last 10 years (which, in my case, means 1 January 2003 to now (so, 10 and a half years, roughly).

Basic figures to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
69,881	11,627	16.64%	-£2,869.79	-£11,744.95

Backing beaten favourites next time out is not a profitable exercise, and probably never will be, but if we



dig a little deeper what else can we find?

Taking a rather unique approach next, I decided to look at the race type the beaten favourite ran in last time out. Note that with these next stats, the beaten favourite is not necessarily running in the same race type next time out. (By 'race type' I mean All-Weather, Turf Flat races, Hurdles, Chases and Bumpers (a.k.a. National Hunt Flat races).

All-Weather only, to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
15,471	2,421	15.64	-£1,091.61	-£2,949.57

Flat racing only (NOT All-Weather), to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
27,965	4,731	16.92	-£477.28	-£4,006.23

Hurdles only, to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
13,727	2,326	16.94	-£860.52	-£2,671.78

Chases only, to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
10,559	1,809	17.13	-£272.46	-£1,530.69

Bumpers (National Hunt Flat races) only, to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
2,159	340	15.74	-£241.89	-£568.68

The percentage is close, whatever the code.

Can we fine-tune the stats further to increase our profits? Is there any difference between how these well-backed losers do when they step off the All-Weather on to the Turf – or are they just as good or bad (depending on your viewpoint), whatever the surface?

Beaten All-Weather favourites racing on All-Weather again next time out only, to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
10,179	1,764	17.33	-£965.44	-£1,972.00

Beaten All-Weather favourites racing on Turf next time out only, to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
5,271	654	12.41	-£120.36	-£970.57

Clearly, the often lower-grade All-Weather horses perform at a lower standard when returned to the Turf.

How do beaten favourites off the Turf get on if sent to the All-Weather courses?

Beaten Turf favourites racing on All-Weather next time out only, to nominal £1 level stakes:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
4,359	764	17.53	+£124.49	-£509.00

The lower percentage of beaten favourites off the All-Weather winning on the Turf is countered by their bigger prices.

To reverse the case (at Betfair SP) though, we still have a four out of five (or better) success rate if we simply lay every beaten favourite next time out regardless, and use a sensible staking plan.

What other angles of attack are there?

The first angle could be to look specifically at handicap and non-handicap races.

Option one – beaten handicap favourites racing in handicaps:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
37,094	5,328	14.36	-£1,644.92	-£6,131.90

Option two – beaten handicap favourites racing in non-handicaps:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
4,851	899	18.53%	-£192.73	-£875.00

Option three – beaten non-handicap favourites racing in handicaps:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
6,796	710	10.45	-£734.63	-£1,670.15

Option four – beaten non-handicap favourites racing in non-handicaps

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
18,564	4,315	23.25	-£212.11	-£2,520.75

Non-handicap beaten favourites stepping in to handicaps look interesting, with a nice profit at Betfair SP (if laying) – and a lot less bets to cope with as well!

Another new angle we can look into are the odds themselves.

Option one – beaten favourites sent off as favourites next time out:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
17,831	5,829	32.69	-£319.73	-£1,229.43

Very interesting statistics in this case.

Money certainly talks here.

An eye-catching 32.69% strike rate means that surely a sensible staking plan could make this profitable.

Option two – beaten handicap favourites sent off as favourites next time out:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
10,213	2,816	273.57	-£185.91	-£766.29

Option three – beaten non-handicap favourites sent off as favourite next time out:

Number of Qualifiers	Number of Winners	Winning Percentage	Profit/Loss Betfair	Profit/Loss SP
7,157	2,862	39.99	-£114.23	-£410.90

The percentage of winners climbs quite dramatically when the horse is sent off as a favourite next time out as well, although the percentage is still not big enough to ensure a profit.

## Conclusions:

Money doesn't talk as much as I expected it to!

Beaten favourites are not necessarily as good as those who plundered the market in the first place thought they were.

Although there is insufficient fact to suggest any kind of system based purely on the statistics uncovered, it does look pretty logical to look elsewhere for winners when there is a beaten favourite in the field **unless** he or she is sent off favourite again, in which case be wary.

Those who like to follow staking systems (not my area of expertise) may well be very interested in the high strike rate revealed in the final set of figures – beaten non-handicap favourites sent off favourite again next time out – which must surely be profitable if played correctly; while those who prefer the laying side of the betting coin could do a lot worse than simply laying every horse with 'BF' next to its name, as seen by the £2,869.79 loss made to Betfair SP by the backers!

The Patriarch Presents

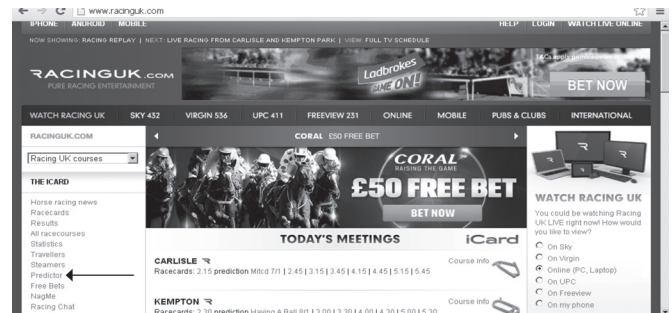
# Profiting With a Free Predictor

Being a thrifty Scot, I rather enjoy finding something good, or even valuable, for nothing; and then it's even more heart-warming when you can share it with others to use too. That's what I think

I've found for this month. Perhaps some of you will be aware of it already, but for the others, here goes.

It's an Internet site for Racing UK (<http://www.racinguk.com>).

Go there and you'll find an extensive menu down the left-hand side of your screen. The page I want to go to first is named 'Predictor'.



Click on that, and up will come all the information about this amazing source – the Icard Predictor.

The Icard Predictor's predictions are found embedded in the race cards at Racing UK, as you can see below:



It analyses the performance of every horse in every race taking place that day in Britain, Ireland and South Africa, and comes up with a detailed forecast for every race.

Before anyone raises the question: 'Why bother with South African racing?', permit me to digress just a little. I have never bet on South African races, but I know two punters who do and they say that it is excellent for betting purposes. They reckon form is much more reliable there, the courses are fairer with fewer variations in the going, and organisation is good – all making for better racing for betting. It would be very interesting to test their theory by comparing the performance of Predictor for South African racing with that for its British counterpart.

The claims for how Predictor operates are pretty impressive. For each horse, over 60 different factors are taken into account. Apart from form performances, the nature of the course on which that performance was achieved is considered, along with direction, going and even wind direction. It can even

alter its ratings right up to the off, taking account of late changes in the going, non-runners, etc.

I'll now give a small sample of Predictor in action – using an extra feature I've incorporated myself. I've just chosen a day at random and a meeting (not in any way cherry-picking). The day is Wednesday 5 June and the meeting is Ayr, the first alphabetically on the day.

Go to the menu on the left, click on 'race cards', and then select your meeting. For every race there the horses to be 1st, 2nd 3rd and 4th are selected. Also there is a tab named 'Expand' and when you click on it, you get the 1, 2, 3, 4 placings again, this time for three separate weightings – being placed, the state of the going, and the jockey-trainer combination.

I decided that I might narrow my selections down by choosing only the ones that were selected to be 1st on all four of these considerations – the original one and the three extra weightings.

From the seven races on the Ayr card, I got four horses that satisfied these requirements. They were Caledonia in the 2.10, Barton Bounty in the 2.40, Mutual Regard in the 3.10 and Awake My Soul in the 4.40.

I backed them on Betfair where the prices were considerably better than SP, but I'll give the results with their trade SPs. Caledonia was 3rd at 2-1, Barton Bounty won at 13-2, Mutual Regard was 2nd at 15-8 and Awake My Soul won at 7-4.

I might add that Predictor also gives a Nap for the day – the horse with the highest ratings advantage over the 2nd selection – and that Nap on Wednesday was Awake My Soul. And for anyone interested in dual forecasts, it gave that in the Mutual Regard race. I have seen other races where their 1st and 2nd selections produced forecasts at very big prices. I am not suggesting that results as good as these will be achieved every day, but I do assure you that the day and meeting I chose were purely a random choice.

But, here is something really uncanny. The very next day, Thursday 6 June, I went back to the site to check on something. When I tried to get the race cards page up on my screen, there appeared a big red warning notice, telling users to keep clear of the page as it had been under attack and going there could put your computer at risk. I hastily closed it down and will have to wait and see what happens next... I'm glad to say that everything returned to normal the following day, Friday. Indeed lots of winners were given, including the Nap for the day.

## One or two final thoughts about Predictor:

I think my idea of choosing horses that are selected as winners on all four of the weightings is a sensible one. And, I'd be inclined to concentrate on races with plenty of form to consider, since that will give the 60-plus factors they operate ample material to work on. I can't see how unraced two-year-olds, for example, could be fully assessed in that way.

A number of experts contribute to the site, but the one I'd like to mention is Peter Naughton. He advertises in the Racing Post almost every day with his paid-for services, and very successful they are. He's made big profits every month this year so far. On a Thursday he writes a page for Racing UK, reviewing the week's racing and drawing attention to horses to note. He also gives selections for the approach weekend. I would suggest that his comments are worthy of your attention.

### Latest News...

## Systems and Tipsters Update

I have no less than 16 reviews and updates for you this month!

### Trends Betting

This is a horse racing service by a chap called Colin Gallagher. I've been monitoring the selections since it launched in November last year and have come to the conclusion this is a really good service.

Colin is a professional bettor who makes his living from betting, and has been widely published. He's also an editorial contributor for *Racing Ahead* magazine and Betting School Insiders Club.

To start, the cost of the service is £57 per YEAR! That's right, one payment of less than £60 and you get the selections for an entire year.

But don't let the ridiculously low price put you off... the service certainly isn't low quality. Quite the opposite, in fact.

Before we get on to the results, let's look at what you get.

Around once a week, Colin emails you with his picks. Sometimes you'll get an email two or three days in a row; sometimes you won't hear from him for a week or so. He's very selective so it's a relaxed

service – ideal for the casual punter as well as those interested in making a profit.

The email is usually short and to the point, but contains a link to the full post in the members' area of the site. It's immediately clear that Colin certainly knows what he's talking about. He goes into great detail why he's chosen his particular selections and it makes for interesting reading. If you're not interested, fine, just bet on the tips in the email, but for the casual punter or enthusiast, it does really add depth to your betting and I've found myself watching the races that he's tipped just to see how they perform. You can also download the trends tables for that day if you wish.

Bets are advised at between half a point up to three points to win.

Simple as that.

Like any successful service, *Trends Betting* concentrates on getting VALUE. This means he picks selections that are priced higher than they should be. But unlike other services that use a scatter-gun approach, betting on ALL value selections, his is more of a sniper-rifle effect, honing in on only quality prey.

Of course this means, as with any value betting, that you get long losing runs together with big wins, and the profit is made from the few winners that do come in at good odds. But the fact that the pace of betting is very slow means it's easier not to get emotionally involved on a losing run, as it's not all happening on the same day or week.

You do, however, get emotionally involved on the winners – especially if you watch it in the bookies.

Another bit of good news... although their published results are to bookie prices, I've noticed that BSP has returned even higher prices on every single winner since it started, so it's perfect for those of us with restricted online bookie accounts as you can use Bet-fair and make even more profit.

Or for the casual punter, this is the sort of service that is perfect for walking in to the bookies and getting those nice big payouts now and then. Nothing quite like them having to open the safe to pay you while the other blokes are collecting their £4.80 win in the 1.15 at Sedgefield.

### **So on to the results...**

The official tally since November is 48 points, which works out at £2,400 profit using £50 per point stakes.

However, as I said, I've been also monitoring the BSP prices and had you bet at BSP you would have

made £3,229.41 profit after 5% commission (or even more if you pay less commission rate). That's just over 64 points profit.

There have been 89 bets, of which 10 were winners giving a strike rate of 11.23%, which is expected from a value betting service.

So there you have it. *Trends Betting* is a relaxed, long-term service. If you want to make profits every month then this is definitely not for you. But if you want to enjoy your racing, and make it pay with some spectacular wins, then you simply must subscribe to this. For £59 it's worth it for the depth of info alone, and to have fun watching the races.

The fact that it makes a good profit on top is a bonus. Definitely one I'm adding to my portfolio, and I'll be doing regular updates on this service going forward.

### **APPROVED!**

## **Football Lays**

The review was extended an extra week as there were no bets in Week 12. It covers the 13-week period from 4th Jan 2013 to 4th April 2013.

Start Bank 250 points

End Bank 260.9 points

Profit +10.9 points

Return on Bank 4.4%

Highest Bank 343.5 pts

Lowest Bank 250.0 pts (at start)

This is a soccer laying service using seven European Leagues on season and four additional European Leagues off season, therefore it can be used all year round. It is **not** a lay-the-draw service. Lays can be placed on the betting exchanges: I used Smarkets.

The cost of the service is £69.97 for the instructions. There is an additional option to obtain a list of potential matches by email twice a week that costs £29.97 a month, or £69.97 for three months. Using the email service, weekend bets take about 40 mins to place and weekday bets about 5-15 mins. Service is very good. All email queries were replied to promptly.

I only placed bets in the markets that fitted the criteria at the time the email bets became available, I did not leave any unmatched bets in the markets.

Betting at £10 per point would have given a profit of £109, but after paying for the instructions that would leave a reduced profit of £49.03. After paying for the email service for three months it would leave a loss of £30.94. You do not need to use the email service,



but the time required to find and place bets would be more than one hour for the weekend bets.

The service official results for 16th May 2012 to 2nd Dec 2012 for off-season leagues showed a return of +253.65 pts.

The service official results for 14th Sept 2012 to 4th April 2013 for on-season leagues showed a return of -22.55 points.

Over a period of almost 11 months from 16th May 2012 to 4th April 2013, the service official results indicate a huge profit return of over 200 pts. However, our 13-week snapshot gave a profit of only 10.9 points, which gave a loss of £30.94 (after paying for the service and betting £10 a point), so I'm awarding this service a NEUTRAL.

## Racing Winners

Racing Winners is a backing system. It is designed to compare the strengths and weaknesses of the top few horses in particular races.

It is a rating-based system, and you basically back the horse with the highest rating. The rules are that you only bet a maximum of two bets per day. There is no reason why you couldn't bet more, but looking at two races per day seems to be a happy medium between spending time finding selections and having enough races to bet on.

The selection process takes between 15-20 minutes per day, and pretty soon you can get quite quick at finding the selections.

Starting with a bank of £500 on 1 March 2012, it currently stands at £2,040 based on BSP odds, and that would have given you a return of over 400% ROI in just 14 months with profit compounding using the Racing Winners methodology.

## Bonus Bagging Arbitrage

I'm going to review the arbitrage software/service from Mike Cruickshank. Mike is well known for his Bonus Bagging service, which has already been approved on Cash Master and I was one of the many that went on to sign up after the review.

It has been quite successful, living up to its claims. So, recently when I started receiving some emails from Mike about his new arbitrage software, I was already interested.

There are some bold claims about being able to 'make 100% profits every day for the rest of your life', so let's see if they hold up.

The arbitrage software is accessed online and there are a series of videos that explain all the features of the software. The videos are all about 2 minutes long, and literally within 10 minutes you are up and ready to go. The software is very easy to use and is completely intuitive. It covers horse racing, football, tennis, cricket and ice hockey.

When you hit the refresh button, the software goes off and looks at all the rates from all the bookmakers and then within a few seconds, lists the arbitrage opportunities.

They are listed with all the appropriate details that you need to know, but no more, so the screen is not cluttered and it is easy to read. There is a very good filter system so that you can easily restrict the list of results to ones that you are more likely to be interested in. You can filter on almost any criteria, so you can limit the bookies, or maybe just football arbs, you can have min or max odds, etc, etc.

The filtering is very good and makes it even easier to see the opportunities you are interested in.

Once you see an arbitrage opportunity that you are interested in, the software provides two links: one for the bookmaker and one for the exchange where the bet will be laid. So, theoretically, you click each of the two links, place the bets, and then simply wait for the event to finish, whereupon, you see the profit.

I have not yet placed any bets, but I have been looking periodically over the last few days and it looks to me like it is doing exactly what it says it is. The links take you straight to the page where you place the bets, so within seconds, you should be all done. When you hit the refresh button, there are opportunities appearing all the time. There is one column that tells you instantly what the percentage profit is likely to be. Typically, the range is anything from 1% to about 15%.

Sounds great, up to 15% profit. Well, don't think for one minute that you can just up the stakes and then see large amounts of money rolling in. It isn't quite like that. There are two elements that really control what you can bet. Firstly, it is the odds. If you have high odds then you will need a very large bank, since the liability at the exchange could be huge. Equally, when you switch to low odds to lower the liability, you need to place a very large bet in order for the profit to be worthwhile, but this is limited by the availability of money at the exchange.

So, it is very much a balancing act. You are trying to find a balance between which opportunities have

enough money in the exchange that makes it worthwhile, against what the odds are and hence how much money you need to invest in order to cover the liability.

Now this is all risk free – you are not losing the money because obviously if you lose at the exchange, then you have won at the bookie. But, tying up several thousand pounds just to make £50, is it worthwhile? That is probably down to each person to decide.

On my first day using the software, I made some notes at a couple of different times about how many bets and how much money would have been needed in order to make £50 profit. The first time, I needed six events, with £895 on bookie bets, £991 laid on the exchange, and a bank in the exchange of £6,576 to cover all the liabilities. So that is nearly £8,500 that I would have needed to tie up to make the £50.

The next time I tried it a few hours later, it was completely different. I would have needed £660 in bookie bets, £674 laid on the exchange and a bank of £1,964 to cover the liability. So, around £3,300 required to make just under the £50.

I have also seen one opportunity requiring a bet of £1,500, lay of £1,630, and a liability of only £326, giving a profit of £48.91. So I need to invest £3,456 for a profit of £49. And that is in just one bet.

Now, I don't know how typical these figures are – they could represent a good day, or a bad day, I simply don't know yet, but I am hoping to find out.

There is another aspect to this that also needs to be considered. You need to have money in several bookies and both Betfair and Betdaq for this to work. If the accounts aren't ready, then when you come to place the bets, you will have to transfer money first and by the time that process is completed, the odds could have changed, or the arb opportunity could have gone completely. Mike says in one of his videos that he chooses about five bookies on any particular day, and puts money into just those accounts. He then filters the arbs to limit them to just those bookies. The point is, you will need to have sufficient money spread across several bookies, and more in the exchanges. Now of course, the amount you need will depend on your target profit and the size of your bets.

So, it is all relative.

I will be monitoring the software over the next few weeks to see how this works for real and what sort of money is required. A big part of the process will be the execution time to get the bets placed, so I will be

using real money accounts. The question will be how much money do I actually need, and how much profit will it make?

## Horse Betting Analyst

I've been receiving the tips for *Horse Betting Analyst* since January this year, so now is a good time to review my results.

*Horse Betting Analyst* is a horse tipping service that has been running since 2009 and has recorded a track record of £120,000+ profit to £100 stakes (which isn't too shabby at £25 stakes either!).

Like any successful racing service, they concentrate on getting value in their selections and making a profit over the long term.

The tips are sent by email each morning and selections are given with a number of points advised to stake on each with the current best odds available at Best Odds Guaranteed bookies. There are win and each-way bets and fairly often you get some overnight ante-post bets given out at very good odds.

An example email is like this:

*For Thursday 9th May 2013 – 2.15 Chester  
DANADANA 6 PT WIN @ 9/2 Hills BOG  
(BOG = Best Odds Guaranteed)*

The communication with the owner is excellent, although I've never felt much need to do so as it's all pretty straightforward.

And so on to the results.

January: 22 bets with 4 winners, 8.8 points profit  
February: 22 bets with 4 winners, -64.37 points loss  
March: 40 bets with 5 winners, 2.8 points profit  
April: 39 bets with 12 winners, 214.88 points profit  
May (to date): 14 bets with 6 winners; 67.5 points profit  
Total: 137 bets with 31 winners (23% strike rate),  
229.61 points profit – £22,961 at £100 a bet;  
£5,740.25 at £25 a bet.

Now anyone that joined at the beginning of this year could be forgiven for thinking this service wasn't up to much, in the first few months anyway. It recorded a loss of 64 points in February and a small 2.8 point profit in March.

But I'm familiar with how this sort of betting operates. This winter was particularly hard on nearly all services that sought value in their betting, so I wasn't at all surprised at the results. And sure enough, come the spring and the results sprang back with a vengeance. 214 points in April is incredible by any

standards and certainly made up for the harsh winter period.

I consider any service that makes 50+ points a year to be a worthwhile service. This has made 229 points in four and a half months and during the toughest winter that I can remember for backing value horses.

I have no hesitation at all in giving this a big thumbs up and am looking forward to how it progresses over the summer months. I will be giving periodic updates throughout the summer.

## The Total Betting Club

*The Total Betting Club* is a mine of information for anyone serious about making betting pay. It's a membership site that has a forum and a TON of systems to try out. You get a monthly newsletter that highlights new systems and results from systems already being tested out or that have long-term results.

Membership allows direct access to all the current systems, downloads, staking plans and articles and use of the forum where you can discuss the various systems being used.

One of the systems that is of particular interest is called LFM (Live Forecast Machine) which has been phenomenal over the last two years.

This system has a golden period that runs from 1st May to 31st Aug.

Here is a summary of the last two years:

Month/Year	Original	Streamlined (Double Stakes)	
May 2011	+76.09	+241.4	
June		+53.77	+192.32
July		+136.92	+259.56
August	+191.19	+243.22	
<b>Total</b>		<b>+457.97</b>	<b>+936.5</b>
May 2012	+138.45	+233.26	
June		+289.56	+452.72
July		+140.83	+283.06
August	+160.96	+130.92	
<b>Total</b>		<b>+729.8</b>	<b>+1,099.96</b>

This year has so far seen some decent profits already so the omens are good.

Also... it can be completely automated using The Bet Engine. Turn it on and it will bet for you indefinitely.

There is a thread in the forum (Current Best Systems) where there is a lot of discussion of this method, and many happy punters!

It's worth taking out a month's subscription just to learn this one method, but you might find that you like the club enough to stay for a while!

## Trainer Trends

This is a tipping service by Mark Foley and is based on his study of trainers and their habits.

I've been following the selections for a month now since the start of the Flat season and have to say, so far at least, I'm impressed.

You get a daily email, or you can login to the members' area for the info, and it makes for an interesting read.

Mark will briefly describe which trainers he's looking at that day and which horses are of interest. He then highlights his specific selections and then explains why he's selected them.

You can, of course, just get the selections and place your bets, but for those that have an interest in horse racing other than just to make money, this adds an extra dimension that enhances the experience.

Some days there can be quite a few bets as you seem to back all the horses by a particular trainer, and so you can be backing 10, sometimes 15 horses on any given day. Other days there may be only one or two. The vast majority of bets are simply 1 point to win but there have been two or three that were half a point each-way.

The results so far, as I said, have been impressive with nearly 50 points profit to 1-point level stakes at SP, up to 11 May. Had you got early prices, a much nicer profit would have been achievable.

I'll continue testing this for another two months but it's looking very good so far.

## The Alternative Punters Syndicate (TAPS)

This service has been around forever. In fact, it's been operating successfully under the same name since 1996, and don't forget the Internet, as we know it, only really started in 1992!

They're now accepting new members on a free trial basis.

## Tennis Picks

*Tennis Picks* is, as the name would suggest, a tennis tipping service.

They offer a 14-day free trial to all new subscribers during which time you can access the 'Todays Picks' members' area and receive the tips emailed to your inbox.

The tips are sent each day between 10am and 12pm

and include a suggested stake as a percentage of your bank.

They aim to make around 20% on your bank per month which is, I'm sure you'd agree, pretty optimistic, but the published results show a return of 18% in January this year, 32% in February and 30% in March!

The website is nice and simple, and the picks are easy to access and easy to understand. You're given the tournament of the bet, the location, the time, the match details, the selection, the bookmaker to bet with, the odds and the amount to stake.

They also offer an analysis of each selection – for example:

*Kohlschreiber has been in great form over the last month or so, and he continued this great run with a decisive win against Raonic yesterday. Kohlschreiber should be able to win this match well and I expect him to win in 2 straight sets.*

It's clear they know what they're talking about.

The staking plan is a percentage of your bank, so if you're using a £1,000 bank and you are advised to stake 2%, that would be £20.

I have been monitoring this service since 1st April and up to now the profit is £96.90 for April and £38.60 profit so far in May, which represents an impressive 13% return in six weeks. Not the 20% per month but still very good indeed.

I'll run this trial for three months in total.

## Stable Lays

We tested this for 10 weeks back in December last year and despite hitting a losing run, managed an impressive profit.

Three months have passed since we approved this system so I felt it was time for an update.

The results for 2013, up to the end of April, show a profit of £5,525 to £100 stakes with the average odds being just 4.00 and a strike rate of 84%.

To remind you, *Stable Lays* costs a one-off \$99 and comes with the selections emailed to you for the first month so you know you're doing it right.

## Catalyst Horse Racing System

I've decided to stop the test now. I was going to run it for longer, but there is a 30-day money-back guarantee where, if you have not made a profit, then providing you can send a list of all the selections,

you can claim your money back. Well, I have been testing this for four weeks and I have had constant losers, so now would be that point where I would be asking for a refund.

Over the test period, by following the rules, I have selected 33 races in total. It is fair to say that the rules are very easy to understand and it is quick to score the races. Unfortunately, that is the only good thing about this system. From those 33 races, I had 51 losing bets and only 15 winning bets.

My bank, which started at 100, was down to only 67.7 points. That is a loss of nearly 35% in just four weeks. It would take some big winners to come back from this and I just don't think it is going to happen.

I think there are a couple of issues with the system. The first is that, because of the staking plan, you will always have at least one losing bet in every race. That is, you are backing two horses in every race, so of course the best you can do is have one winner and one loser. You have to hope that the winner has better odds to offset the losers, and that simply hasn't been happening.

Further, the strike rate of just 22% is just not high enough.

Obviously this is partly because of the staking plan, but the number of winners simply isn't high enough. I can see that periodically, you might have a few races where you get a few winners, but I can't see how the selections will ever provide you with good odds and even if they did, it clearly isn't happening regularly enough to make this a winning system.

I would have continued the test for longer, but given that the money-back guarantee is only 30 days, I think it is fair to stop it now.

So, the *Catalyst Horse Racing System*, whilst being cheap in the first place and also having a money-back guarantee, most definitely has to have a FAILED stamp.

You can see more reviews over on the *What Really Wins Money* resource page at: [www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk/resourcepage](http://www.whatreallywinsmoney.co.uk/resourcepage)