



The Basics of ONLINE RACETRACK BETTING with Horse Racing Glossary

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THE EXPLOSIVE GROWTH OF ONLINE RACETRACK BETTING

There is no doubt that the growth of online horse racing betting has seen a tremendous amount of growth in the last few years. Total MONTHLY Internet Sports Wagering is now in the hundreds of millions of dollars and growing! The ability to place exciting horse racing bets on any race on racetracks around the world from the comfort of your computer or mobile device continues to fuel the growth of Online Sports Betting. What was once a regional sport has become an international wonder. In addition, the full range of horse racing bets are also available online.



THE TYPES OF AVAILABLE ONLINE HORSE RACING BETS

With Online Casino gambling, either the house or the bettor wins. Betting on Online Casino games are different from horse racing betting. Racetracks use parimutuel betting. With parimutuel betting, all bets are placed into a pool, the house takes a percentage off the top, and payoffs are determined by dividing the remaining money for whatever horse finishes first. In any case, the house gets their cut. While all horse racing betting uses a parimutuel system, the number of ways to wager has skyrocketed in recent decades.

BASIC HORSE RACING BETS

WIN This is the simplest, most common horse racing bet. You win only if your horse finishes **FIRST**.

PLACE You win if your horse finishes **FIRST** or **SECOND**.

SHOW You win if your horse finishes **FIRST, SECOND, or THIRD**.

MORE HORSE RACING BET TYPES

TRIFECTA A wager where you pick the first THREE finishes in exact order.

SUPERFECTA A wager where you pick the first FOUR finishes in exact order.

BRIDGE JUMPER A person who bets an unusually large sum of money on a single horse.

ONLINE SPORTSBOOKS WITH RACETRACK BETTING



When accessing any online betting platform to place your horse racing bets, you should utilize an **established** company with many ways to deposit and withdraw your winnings with a choice of currencies including cryptocurrencies which are gaining in popularity. They should also allow you to bet on horse races from many racetracks. We have listed two below that have 24/7 customer service, additional gaming opportunities such as full-service sportsbooks to bet on all the sports lines, traditional casino games such as roulette, slots, and video poker. The two below are equipped to handle all of your gambling needs.

BOVADA CASINO & SPORTSBOOK

Since 2011 Bovada has been offering a complete online gaming experience with sports betting, horse racing, poker, live dealers, classic table games, and an impressive number of online slots and video poker games. [Click here for Bovada Casino & Sportsbook](#)

BETONLINE CASINO, RACEBOOK, & SPORTSBOOK

Since 1991 BETONLINE Casino, Racebook, and Sportsbook has been providing an exciting and dynamic experience in online gaming with Live Dealers, Poker, Sportsbook, Racebook, a great selection of traditional casino games and bonuses. [Click here for BETONLINE Casino, Racebook, and Sportsbook](#)

On the following pages you will find our Horse Racing Glossary. BETONLINE and Bovada Online Casinos also provide additional information and help on placing your secure online bets.

Horse Racing Glossary

A

ACEY-DEUCY-Uneven stirrups, popularized by Hall of Fame jockey Eddie Arcaro, who rode with his left inside iron lower than his right. A riding style in which the jockey uses a longer stirrup on the left or inside leg.

ACROSS THE BOARD-A bet on a horse to win, place and show. If the horse wins, the player collects three ways; if second, two ways; and if third, one way, losing the win and place bets.

ACTION-A horse's personality or manner of moving.

ADDED MONEY-Money added to the purse of a race by the racing association (or sometimes by a breeding or other fund) to the amount paid by owners in nomination, eligibility, entry and starting fees.

AGENT-A person empowered to transact business of a stable owner or jockey. Also, a person empowered to sell or buy horses for an owner or breeder.

AIRING-Not running at best speed in a race.

ALL-AGE RACE-A race for 2-year-olds and up.

ALL OUT-A horse that is trying to the best of his ability.

ALLOWANCE RACE-A race other than claiming for which the racing secretary drafts certain conditions to determine weights.

ALLOWANCES- Weight permitted to be reduced because of the conditions of the race or because an apprentice is on a horse. Also, a weight females are entitled to when racing against males.

ALSO-ELIGIBLE-A horse entered in the race, but who cannot start unless another horse is scratched.

ALSO-RAN-A horse who finishes out of the money.

APPRENTICE-Rider, normally under contract to a stable, who has not ridden a certain number of winners within a specified period of time.

APPRENTICE ALLOWANCE- Weight concession to an apprentice rider: usually 10 pounds until the fifth winner, seven pounds until the 35th winner and five pounds for one calendar year from the fifth winner. Also, three pounds are sometimes permitted for an additional year when riding for original contract holder. This rule varies from state to state.



Horse Racing Glossary

B

BABY RACE-A race for 2-year-olds.

BACKSTRETCH-Straight of far side of track between the turns. Also stable area.

BACKSIDE-Stable area, the race track's barn area.

BAD ACTOR-Fractious horse.

BAD DOER-Horse with poor appetite

BADGE HORSE-Single horse in stable entitling owner to admission badge.

BAD KNEES-Natural infirmity or due to injury.

BALD (or **BALD FACE**)-White face of horse, including eyes, nostrils or part of the latter.

BALL-Medicine administered to a horse orally; commonly a physic.

BANDAGE-Strips of cloth wound around the lower part of a horse's legs for support or protection against injury.

BAY-Color of horse varying from yellowish tan (light bay) to brown or dark, rich shade of mahogany (sometimes listed as dark bay or brown) with black points- black mane, tail and shadings of black low on the legs.

BEARING IN (or **OUT**)-Deviating from a straight course. May be due to weariness, infirmity, punishment by rider or rider's inability to control mount.

BELL-Signal sounded when starter opens the gates or, at some tracks, to mark the close of betting.

BEYER SPEED RATING - A measure of performance popularized by Andy Beyer of The Washington Post.

BILL DALY (On the)-Taking a horse to the front at the start and remaining there to the finish. Term stems from "Father Bill" Daly, famous old-time horseman who developed many great jockeys.

BIT-Metal bar in horse's mouth by which he is guided and controlled.

BLACK-Body, head muzzle, flanks and legs are covered with uniform black hair.

BLACK TYPE-Designation for a stakes winner or stakes-placed horse in sales catalogues.

BRACE (or **BRACER**)-Rubdown liniment used on a horse after a race or a workout.

BLANKET FINISH-Horses finishing so closely together they could be covered by a blanket.

BLAZE-White patch on face of a horse.

BLEEDER-Horse who bleeds during or after a workout or race due to ruptured blood vessel.

BLIND SWITCH-Being caught in a pocket or such a position behind or between horses that a free course cannot be pursued.



Horse Racing Glossary

B

- BLINKERS**-Device to limit a horse's vision to prevent him from swerving from objects or other horses on either side of him.
- BLISTER**-Counter-irritant to ease pain or to treat an ailment.
- BLOODHORSE**-A thoroughbred.
- BLOOD WORMS**-Parasites that get into the blood stream.
- BLOWOUT**-A short, final workout, usually a day or two before a race, designed to sharpen a horse's speed.
- BOARD**-Totalisator board on which odds, betting pools and other information is displayed.
- BOBBLE**-A bad step away from the starting gate, usually caused by the track breaking away from under a horse's hoof and causing him to duck his head or nearly go to his knees.
- BOG SPAVIN**-Puffy swelling on the inside and slightly in front of the back, usually caused by overwork or strain.
- BOLT**-Sudden veering from a straight course.
- BONE SPAVIN**-Bony growth inside and just below the hock joint.
- BOTTOM**-Stamina in a horse. Also, sub-surface of racing strip.
- BOTTOM LINE**-Thoroughbred's breeding on female side. The bottom half of an extended pedigree diagram.
- BOWED TENDON (a BOW)**-Rupture of the sheath enclosing the tendon from the knee to the fetlock joint.
- BOUNCE** - An exceptionally poor performance on the heels of an exceptionally good one.
- BREAK (A horse)**-to accustom a young horse to racing equipment and methods, and to carry a rider.
- BREAKAGE**-In pari-mutuel payoffs which are rounded out to a nickel or dime, those pennies that are left over. Breakage is generally split between the track and state and, in some cases, breeding or other funds, in varying proportions.
- BREAKDOWN**-When a horse suffered an injury; lameness.
- BREAK MAIDEN**-Horse or rider winning first race of career.
- BREATHER**-Restraining or easing off on a horse for a short distance in a race to permit him to conserve or renew his strength.
- BRED**-A horse is bred at the place of his birth. Also, the mating of horses.
- BREEDER**-Owner of dam at time foal is dropped.
- BREEDING FUND**-A fund set up by many states to provide bonus prizes for state- bred.
- BREEZE**-Working a horse at a moderate speed; less effort than handily.
- BRIDGE JUMPER**- a person who bets an unusually large amount of money on a single horse.
- BRITTLE FEET**-Excessive dryness of the horn.



Horse Racing Glossary

B

BROKEN WIND-Breakdown of the air vessels of the lungs.

BROODMARE-Female thoroughbred used for breeding.

BOODMARE SIRE - A sire whose female offspring become producers of exceptional performers.

BROWN-Sometimes difficult to separate from black or dark bay. This color can usually be distinguished by noting finer tan or brown hairs on the muzzles or flanks.

BRUSH-Injury to the fetlock caused by striking of other foot.

BUCKED SHINS-Inflammation of front of cannon bone to which young horses are particularly susceptible.

BUG-Apprentice allowance. Apprentice rider.

BULLET (WORK)-Best time for the distance on the work tab for a given day at a track.

BULL RING-Small racetrack.

BUTE (or BUTAZOLIDIN)-Trade name for phenylbutazone, a commonly used analgesic for horses.



Horse Racing Glossary

C

CAULK-Projection bottom of shoe to give horse greater traction, especially on a wet track.

CALL (the)-Running position of horses in a race at various points.

CALL TO THE POST - A special call played on a Bugle used to signal the horses to the starting gate.

CALLER-One who calls the running positions of horses in a race.

CANKER-Softening of the horn of the foot, generally starting in the frog.

CAPPED HOCK-Injury to hock caused by kicking or rubbing.

CAST-A horse in such a position he cannot rise.

CENTER OF DISTRIBUTION-The balance point of speed and stamina influences in a horse's pedigree.

CHART-A statistical "picture" of a race (from which past performances are compiled), which shows the position and margin of each horse at designated points of call (depending on distance of the race), age, weight carried, owner, trainer, purse, conditions, pay-off prices, odds, time and other data.

CHECKED-A horse pulled up by his jockey for an instant because he is cut off or in tight quarters.

CHEF-DE-RACE-Designation for superior sires, which fall into five categories-Brilliant, Intermediate, Classic, Stout, Professional-according to the speed and stamina they impart to their offspring.

CHESTNUT-Varies from light, washy yellow to dark liver color, between which comes red, gold and liver shades. A chestnut never has black points, mane or tail. Also, a small, horny growth on the inside of a horse's front legs.

CHUTE-Extension of backstretch or homestretch to permit straightaway run from start.

CLAIMING-Buying a horse out of race for entered price.

CLAIMING BOX - Box in which claims are deposited before the race.

CLAIMING RACE-Race in which horses are entered subject to claim for a specified price. Claims are made before the race and the new owner assumes possession immediately following the race.

CLASSIC-Race of traditional importance. In the U.S. specifically the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont stakes for colts, and Coaching Club American Oaks for fillies.

CLERK OF SCALES-An official whose chief duty is to weigh the riders before and after a race to be sure proper weight is carried.

CLIMBING-A fault in a horse's stride in which, instead of reaching out, his action is abnormally high.

CLOCKER-One who times workouts and races.

CLOSER-A horse who runs best in the latter part of the race, coming from off the pace.

CLUBHOUSE TURN-Generally, the turn closest to the clubhouse.

COLORS-Racing silks-jacket and cap-worn by riders to denote the owner(s) of horse.

COLT- An ungelded male horse 4 years old or younger.



Horse Racing Glossary

C

COMPANY-Class of horses in a race. Members of the field.

CONDITION BOOK-Pamphlet issued by racing secretary which sets forth conditions of races to be run.

CONDITIONER-A trainer. a workout or race to enable a horse to attain fitness.

CONDITION RACE-An event with conditions limiting it to a certain class of horse. Such as: Fillies, 3-year-olds, non-winners of two races other than maiden or claiming, etc.

CONNECTIONS-Persons identified with the stable, such as owner, trainer, rider, employees.

CONTRACT RIDER-Jockey under contract to a stable.

COOLING OUT-Restoring a horse, usually by walking, to normal temperature after becoming overheated in a race or workout.

CORN-Result of pressure from the shoe identical to human corn.

CORNER-Last part of the turn into the homestretch.

COUGH-Broadly, a cold. More prevalent in spring among young thoroughbreds.

COUPLED-Two or more horses running as an entry in a single betting unit.

COW HOCKS-Points of hock turned in.

CRACK-Top-notch horse.

CRIBBER (A WIND SUCKER)-A horse who clings to objects with his teeth and sucks air into his stomach.

CROPPER-When a horse or rider falls. Usually applied to steeplechase races.

CUP-Trophy awarded to owners of winners. Also, distance race of a mile and a half or more.

CUP HORSE-One qualified to engage in distance races.

CUPPY (TRACK)-A surface which breaks away under a horse's hoof.

CURB-Sprain at back of hock.

CUSHION-Surface of track or a layer of the track.

CUT DOWN-Horse suffering from injuries from being struck by the shoes of another horse. Or, due to faulty stride, a horse may cut himself down.



Horse Racing Glossary

D

DAILY DOUBLE-Type of wager calling for the selection of winners of two consecutive races, usually the first and second.

DAM-Mother of a thoroughbred.

DAMSIRE (BROODMARE SIRE)-The sire of a broodmare.

DEAD-HEAT-Two or more horses finishing in an exact tie at the wire.

DEAD TRACK-Racing surface lacking resiliency.

DECLARED-In U.S., a horse withdrawn from a stake in advance of scratch time. In Europe, a horse confirmed to start in a race.

DIPLOMA (Earning a...)-Breaking a maiden, winning for the first time.

DISQUALIFICATION-Change of order of finish by officials for an infraction of the rules.

DISTAFF (DISTAFF RACE)- Female. A race for fillies, mares, or both.

DISTANCED-Well beaten, finishing a great distance behind the winner.

DOGS-Wooden barrier (or rubber traffic cones) placed a certain distance out from the inner rail, to prevent horses during workout period, when track is wet, muddy, soft yielding or heavy, from churning the footing along the rail.

DOPE-Slang term for past performances (To dope out a race). Also, illegal drug.

DOSAGE DIAGRAM-A diagram showing the number and placement of chefs-de-race in a horse's pedigree.

DOSAGE INDEX-Mathematical reduction of the Dosage Diagram to a number reflecting a horse's potential for speed or stamina.

DQ-Disqualified.

DRENCH-Liquid administered through mouth.

DRIVING-Strong urging by rider/jockey.

DROPDOWN-A horse meeting a lower class of rival than he had been running against.

DWELT-Tardy in breaking from the gate.



Horse Racing Glossary

E

EASED-A horse allowed not to continue to contest race.

EARLY FOOT - Good speed at the start of a race.

EASILY-Running or winning without being pressed by rider or opposition.

EIGHTH-A furlong; 220 yards; 660 feet.

ELIGIBLE-Qualified to start in a race, according to conditions.

ENGAGEMENT-Stake nomination. Riding commitment.

ENTRANCE FEE-Money paid to enter a horse in a stake.

ENTRY-Two or more horses owned by the same stable or (in some cases) trained by the same trainer and thus running as a single betting unit.

EQUIPMENT-Whip, blinkers, etc. Gear carried by a horse in a race.

EQUIVALENT ODDS-Mutuel price horses pay for each \$1 bet.

EVENLY-Neither gaining nor losing position or distance during a race.

EXACTA (or PERFECTA)-A wager in which the first two finishers in a race, in exact order of finish, must be picked.

EXCUSED-Withdrawal from a race (sometimes on a veterinarian's recommendation) with consent of stewards.

EXERCISE RIDER-Male or female rider who is aboard a horse in workout.

EXTENDED-Forced to run at top speed.

EXTRA WEIGHT (ADDED WEIGHT)-More weight than conditions of race require.

F

FALTERED-Used for a horse that was in contention early and drops back in the late stages. It is more drastic than weakened but less drastic than stopped.

FALSE FAVORITE-Horse who is bet down to favoritism when others would appear to outclass him on form.

FALSE QUARTER-Horizontal crack in the hoof caused by injury to the coronet.

FALSE START-Unofficial start, from which horses are recalled to the barrier.

FARRIER-Horseshoer.



Horse Racing Glossary

F

FAST TRACK-Footing at best, dry, fast and even.

FAULT-Weak points of a horse. Deficiencies.

FEATHER-Light weight.

FEES-Amount paid to rider or the cost of nominating, entering or between the front of the stands and the racing strip.

FIELD-The horses in a race.

FIELD HORSE (or MUTUEL FIELD)-Two or more starters running as a single betting unit, when there are more entrants than positions on the totalisator board can accommodate.

FILLY-Female horse up to and including the age of 4, but less than 5 years old.

FIRING-Applying a searing instrument, hot iron or electric needle to an injured portion of the leg to promote healing of injury or infirmity.

FIRM-A condition of a turf course corresponding to fast on a dirt track.

FIRST TURN-Bend in the track beyond the starting point.

FLAG-Signal held by man stationed a short distance in front of the gate at exact starting point of race. Official timing starts when flag is dropped to denote proper start.

FLAGMAN-One who drops the flag to denote official start.

FLAT RACE-Contested on level ground as opposed to hurdle race or steeplechase.

FLATTEN OUT-When a horse drops his head almost on straight line with body. May indicate exhaustion.

FLOAT-Piece of track equipment dragged over racing strip to squeeze off surface water.

FOAL-Newly born thoroughbred, or until weaned. Male or female.

FOUNDER-See Laminitis.

FOUR FURLONGS-Half a mile; 880 yards; 2,640 feet.

FRACTIONAL TIME-Intermediate time recorded in a race, as at the quarter, half, three-quarters, etc.

FRESH (FRESHENED)-A rested horse.

FREE HANDICAP-A race in which no nomination fees.

FREE LANCE-A rider not under contract to a trainer or stable.

FRONT-RUNNER-A horse who usually leads (or tries to lead) the field for as far as he can.

FURLONG-One-eighth of a mile; 220 yards; 660 feet.

FUROSEMIDE-Generic term for a medication for the treatment of bleeders. Most common trade name is Lasix.



Horse Racing Glossary

G

.GAIT-The ways in which a horse can move-walk, trot, canter, gallop, run, etc.

GALLOP-A type of gait, a fast canter. Also, to ride a horse at that gait.

GARRISON FINISH-Drawing a fine finish on a winner, usually coming from off the pace, from "Snapper" Garrison, old-time rider given to that practice.

GATE-Starting mechanism.

GELDING-Castrated/neutered male horse.

GENTLEMAN JOCKEY- Amateur rider, generally in steeplechases.

GET-Progeny of sire.

GIMPY-Lame, sore.

GOOD BOTTOM-Track that is firm under the surface, which may be sloppy or wet.

GOOD TRACK-Condition between fast and slow.

GRADED RACE-Races designated as the most prestigious in the United States and Canada (Grade I, Grade II, Grade III).

GRADUATE-Winning first time, horse or rider. Also, graduate of the claiming ranks-a horse, that has moved up to allowance, stakes or handicap racing.

GRANDDAM (SECOND DAM)- Grandmother of a horse.

GRANDSIRE-Grandfather or a horse, sire of the horse's dam.

GRAY-A mixture of white and black hairs.

GROOM-A person who cares for a horse in a stable.

GROUP RACE-European equivalent to North American graded races.



Horse Racing Glossary

H

HALF-Half a mile, four furlongs; 880 yards; 2,640 feet.

HALF-BROTHER, HALF-SISTER- Horses out of the same dam but by different sires.

HALTER-Like a bridle, but lacing a bit. Used in handling horses around the stable and when not being ridden.

HALTER (TO)-To claim a horse.

HALTERMAN-One who claims horses.

HAND-Four inches. Unit used in measuring height of horses from withers to ground.

HANDICAP-Race for which a handicapper assigns weights to be carried. Also, to handicap a race, to make selections on the basis of the past performances. This is the study of factors in the past performance which determine the relative qualities and abilities of horses in a race.

HANDICAPPER-One who assigns weights for handicap race. One who makes selections based on past performances.

HANDICAPPING-One who assigns weights for a handicap race. One who makes selections based on past performances

HANDILY-Working or racing with moderate effort, but more effort than breezing.

HANDLE-Amount of money wagered in the pari-mutuel on a race, a program, a meeting or a year.

HAND RIDE-Urging a horse with the hands and not using the whip.

HARD BOOT-Kentucky horsemen.

HEAD-A margin between horses. One horse leading another by the length of his head.

HEAD OF THE STRETCH- Beginning of the straight run home.

HEAT-A race in which more than one running is required to decide the winner. More common in harness racing.

HEAVY-Condition of track similar to, but even slower than, muddy.

HIGHWEIGHT HANDICAP- Race in which the topweight is assigned no less than 140 pounds.

HOME BRED-A horse bred by his owner.

HOPPED-A horse who has been illegally stimulated.

HORSE-Generally speaking, in any thoroughbred regardless of sex. Specifically, an entire male 5 years old or older.

HORSING-Mare in heat.

HOT WALKER-Person who walks horses to cool them out after workout or races.

HUNG-Horse tiring, but holding position.

HURDLE RACE-Contested over obstacles. A jumping race over lower fences than steeplechase races.



Horse Racing Glossary

I, J, K

ICING-Standing a horse in a bucket of ice or applying ice packs to the legs to deaden pain.

IN FOAL-Pregnant mare.

IN THE MONEY-Finishing first, second or third.

INFIELD-Area within the inner rail of the racetrack.

INFIELD RACING (SPORT)-Turf racing.

IN HAND-Running under moderate control, at less than best pace.

IMPOST-Weight carried or assigned.

INTER-STATE (Wagering)- Wagering on a simulcast of a race from another state.

INTER-TRACK (Wagering)- Wagering on a simulcast of a race from another track within the state.

INQUIRY-Reviewing the race to check into a possible infraction of the rules. Also, a sign flashed by officials on tote board on such occasions.

IRISH RAIL-Moveable rail.

IRONS-Stirrups.

JOCKEY FEE-Sum paid to a rider.

JOG-Slow, easy gait.

JUMPER-Steeplechase or hurdle horse.

JUVENILE-Two-year-old horse.

KNEE SPAVIN-Bony growth at back of knee on inner side.



Horse Racing Glossary

L

LAMINITIS-Inflammation under horny wall of foot.

LASIX-See furosemide. Diuretic medication given to horses which bleed.

LATE DOUBLE-A second daily double offered on the latter part of the program. (See Daily Double)

LEAD-Strap attached to halter to lead a horse.

LEAD (or LEAD PAD)-Weights carried to make up the difference when a rider weighs less than the poundage a horse is assigned to carry.

LEAD PONY-Horse or pony who heads parade of field from paddock to starting gate. Also a horse or pony who accompanies a starter to post.

LEAKY ROOF CIRCUIT-Minor tracks.

LEG UP-To help a jockey mount his horse. Also a jockey having a mount. Also to strengthen a horse's legs through exercise.

LENGTH-Length of a horse from nose to tail, about 8 feet. Also, distance between horses in a race.

LISTED RACE-A European race just below a group race in quality.

LOCK-Slang for a "sure thing" winner.

LONG END (of purse)-Winner's share.

LUG (in or out)-Action of a tiring horse, bearing in or out.

LUNGE-Horse rearing or plunging.



Horse Racing Glossary

M

MAIDEN-A horse who has not won a race in any country. Also applied to a non-winning rider.

MAIDEN RACE-A race for non winners.

MAKE A RUN-Charge by a horse in a race.

MARE-Female horse 5 years old or older. Also, female of any age who has been bred.

MARE'S MONTH-September. Suppos-edly because mares who have not run well during the summer often "wake up" in September.

MASH-Moist mixture, hot or cold, of grain and other feed given to horses.

MEDICATION LIST-A list kept by the track veterinarian and published by the track and Daily Racing Form (when provided by track officials) showing which horses have been treated with phenylbutazone and/or furosemide.

MIDDLE DISTANCE-Broadly from one mile to less than a mile and an eighth.

MINUS POOL-A mutuel pool caused when one horse is so heavily played that, after deductions of state tax and commission, there is not enough money left to pay the legally prescribed minimum on each winning bet. The racing association usually makes up the difference.

MONEY RIDER-A rider who excels in rich races.

MONKEY-ON-A-STICK-Type of riding with short stirrups popularized by old-time riding great Tod Sloan.

MORNING GLORY-Horse who performs well in morning workouts but fails to reproduce that form in races.

MORNING LINE-Approximate odds quoted before wagering determines exact odds. The starting odds set by the track handicapper.

MUDDY TRACK-Deep condition of racetrack after being soaked with water.

MUDDER-A horse who runs well on muddy tracks.

MUDLARK-Superior mudder.

MUZZLE-Nose and lips of a horse. Also a guard placed over a horse's mouth to prevent him from biting.

N

NAVICULAR DISEASE-Corrosive ulcer on the navicular bone, usually in the fore feet.

NEAR SIDE-Left side of a horse, side on which he is mounted.

NECK-Unit of measurement, about the length of a horse's neck; a quarter of a length.

NERVED-Operation that severs vital nerve to enable horses to race without pain. Illegal in most jurisdictions.

NOD-Lowering of head. Winning in that manner.

NOM DE COURSE-Assumed name of owner or racing partnership.

NOMINATOR-One who owns a horse when he is named to a feature.

NOSE-Smallest advantage a horse can win by. In England called a short head.



Horse Racing Glossary

O

OAKS-A classic stakes event for 3-year-old fillies.

OBJECTION-Claim of foul lodged by rider, patrol judge or other official. If lodged by official, it is called an inquiry.

ODDS-ON-Odds of less than even money. In England it is simply called "on," thus a horse "5-4 on" is actually at odds of 4-5.

OFFICIAL-Sign displayed when result is confirmed. Also racing official.

OFF SIDE-Right side of horse.

OFF-TRACK BETTING-Wagering on horses at legalized betting offices run usually by the state or the tracks, or, in New York, by independent corporations chartered by the state, with wagers commingled with on-track betting pools.

ON THE BIT-When a horse is eager to run.

ON THE BOARD-Finishing among the first four.

ON THE NOSE-Betting a horse to win only.

OSSELETS-Bony growth on the fetlock or ankle joint resulting in inflammation of the enveloping membrane of the bone.

OPEN KNEE-A condition among young horses in which the bones of the knee are not yet fully developed.

OUT OF LINE-Price not consistent with a horse's ability.

OVERCHECK-A strap that holds the bit in place.

OVER-REACHING-Toe of hind shoe striking forelegs on heel, or back of coronet.

OVERLAND-Racing wide throughout, outside of other horses.

OVERLAY-A horse going off at a higher price than he appears to warrant based on his past performances. A horse whose odds are greater than its potential to win.

OVERNIGHT LINE-Prices quoted night before the race.

OVERNIGHT RACE-A race in which entries close a specific number of hours before running (such as 48 hours), as opposed to a stakes race for which nominations close weeks and sometimes months in advance.

OVERWEIGHT-Surplus weight carried by a horse when the rider cannot make the required weight.

PADDOCK-Structure or area where horses are saddled and kept before post time.

PADDOCK JUDGE-Official in charge of paddock and saddling routine.

PARI-MUTUELS-A form of wagering that originated in France in which all money bet is divided up among those who have winning tickets, after taxes, takeout and other deductions are made.

PAST PERFORMANCES-A compilation in Daily Racing Form of a horse's record, including all pertinent data, as a basis for handicapping.

PASTEBOARD TRACK-Lightning fast racing strip.

PATROL JUDGES-Officials who observe progress of race from various vantage points around the track.



Horse Racing Glossary

P

PENALTIES-Extra weight a horse must carry, especially in a handicap.

PHOTO FINISH- A result so close it is necessary to use a finish-line camera to determine order of finish.

PICK SIX (or more)-A type of wager in which the winners of all the included races must be selected.

PILL-Small numbered ball drawn to decide post positions.

PINCHED BACK-Horse in close quarters and forced back.

PIPE OPENER-Exercise at a moderate speed. Also a breeze.

PLACE-Second position at finish.

PLACE BET-Wager on a horse to finish first or second.

PLACING JUDGES-Officials who determine the order in which horses reach the finish line.

PLATTER-Claiming horse. Also a farrier.

PLATES-Shoes horses wear in races. Racing plates.

POCKET-Boxed in, shut off. Running in a position with horses in front and alongside.

POLE-Markers at measured distances around the track, marking the distance from the finish. The quarter pole, for instance, is a quarter of a mile from the finish, not from the start.

POOL-Mutuel pool. Total sum bet on a race or even, such as the win pool, daily double pool, exacta pool.

POST-Starting point or position in starting gate.

POST PARADE-Horses going from paddock to starting gate past the stands.

POST POSITION-Position of stall in starting gate from which a horse starts.

POST TIME-Designated time from race to start.

PREFERRED LIST-Horses with prior rights to starting for various reasons.

PREP (or PREP RACE)-A workout or a race to prepare a horse for a future engagement.

PROP-Refusing to break with field from gate. Standing flat-footed. Also, when a horse suddenly stops running a full speed by extending his forefeet as "brakes."

PUBLIC TRAINER-One whose services are not exclusively engaged by a single stable and who accepts horses from a number of owners.

PURSE-A prize of money to which owners do not contribute.



Horse Racing Glossary

Q

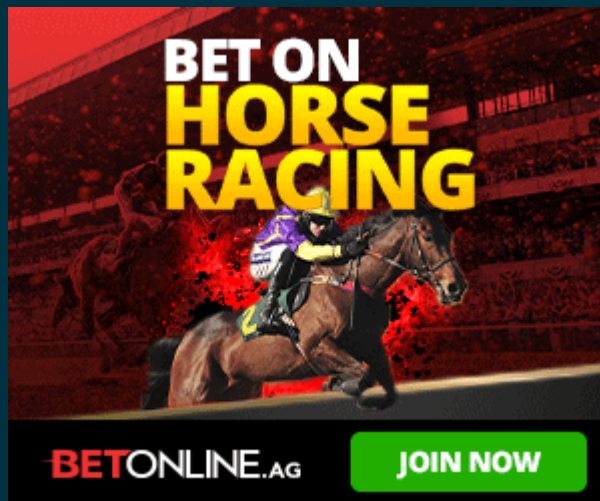
QUARTER-One-quarter of a mile; 440 yards; 1,320 feet.

QUARTER CRACK-Crack in wall of hoof running downwards from coronet.

QUARTER HORSE-Breed of horse especially fast for a quarter of a mile, from which its name is derived.

QUARTER POLE-Marker one-quarter mile from the finish.

QUINELLA-Wager in which first two finishers must be picked, but payoff is made no matter which of the two wins and which runs second.



Horse Racing Glossary

R

RACING SECRETARY-Official who drafts conditions of races and assigns weights for handicap events.

RAIL RUNNER-Horse who prefers to run next to inside rail.

RECEIVING BARN-Structure at which horses entered are isolated for a certain period of time before a race.

RED BOARD-Old-time method of declaring a race official, by posting a red flag or board on the tote board.

REFUSE-When a horse will not break from the gate. In jumping races, balking at the jump.

RESERVED-Held for a particular engagement or race. Also, held off the pace.

RIDDEN OUT-Finishing a race without rider urging him to do his utmost, even though he has a wide margin over the second horse.

RIDE SHORT-Using short stirrup leathers.

RIDGLING-A horse with one or both undescended testes.

RING BONE-Bony enlargement at top of hoof or near the pastern bone.

ROAN-Mixture of white and red (or brown) hairs.

ROARING-Deep, prolonged cough, generally when a horse is galloping.

ROGUE-Ill-tempered horse.

ROGUE'S BADGE-Blinkers.

ROMP-Running (or winning) with utmost ease.

ROUTE-Race distance of a mile and an eighth or longer.

ROUTER-Horse who performs well at distance races.

RUCK-Rear end of the field.

RUNDOWN-A horse with weak pasterns.

RUNDOWN BANDAGES (or WRAPS)- Bandages on the hind legs, usually with a pad inside, to keep a horse from "burning" or scraping his heels when he races.

RUN-OUT BIT-A special type of bit to prevent a horse from bearing out or in.



Horse Racing Glossary

S

SADDLE CLOTH-Cloth under the saddle on which number (and sometimes horse's name) denoting post position is displayed.

SALIVA TEST-Laboratory test to determine if a horse has been drugged or overdosed with permitted medication.

SAND CRACK-(See **QUARTER CRACK**.)

SAVAGE-To bite another horse or a person.

SCALE OF WEIGHTS-Fixed imposts to be carried by horses in a race according to age, distance, sex, and time of year.

SCHOOLING-Accustoming a horse to starting from the gate and to teach him racing practices. In steeplechasing, more particularly to teach a horse to jump.

SCHOOLING LIST-List of horses required by the starter to school at the starting gate before being permitted to race.

SCRATCH-To be taken out of a race.

SECOND CALL-A second engagement of jockey who already is listed for a mount in a race.

SECOND DAM-Grandmother; granddam.

SELLING RACE-A claiming race.

SESAMOIDITIS-Inflammation of the bone above and at the back of the fetlock joint.

SET-A group of horses working together.

SET DOWN-A suspension. Also, put to a drive, or asked to run by a jockey.

SEVEN FURLONGS-Seven-eighths of a mile; 1,540 yards; 4,620 feet.

SEX ALLOWANCE-Fillies and mares, according to their age and time of year, are allowed to carry three to five pounds less when meeting males.

SHADOW ROLL-Usually a lamb's wool roll half way up the horse's face to keep him from seeing his own shadow.

SHANK-Rope or strap attached to a halter or bridle by which a horse is led.

SHED ROW-Stable area. A row of barns.

SHORT-A horse in need of more work or racing to reach winning form.

SHOW-Third position at the finish.

SHOW BET-Wager on a horse to finish in the money; third or better.

SHUT OFF-Pocketed. Unable to improve position.



Horse Racing Glossary

S

SILKS-Jacket and cap worn by riders which designate owner of the horse.

SIMULCAST-Televising a race to other tracks, OTB offices or other outlets for the purpose of wagering.

SIRE-Father of a foal.

SIX FURLONGS-Three-quarter of a mile; 1,320 yards, 3,960 feet.

SIXTEENTH-One-sixteenth of a mile; 110 yards, 330 feet.

SKINNED TRACK-Dirt racing strip as opposed to a turf or grass course.

SLOPPY-Condition of footing. Wet on surface with firm bottom.

SLOW-Footing that is not fast, between good and heavy.

SNIP-Small patch of white hairs on the nose or lips of horse.

SNUG-Mild restraining hold by rider.

SOLID HORSE-A contender.

SOPHOMORE-Three-year-old horse.

SPAVIN-See bog, bone and knee spavin.

SPEEDY CUT-Injury to knee or hock caused by a strike from the opposite foot.

SPIT BOX-Receptacle for saliva taken from a horse for testing.

SPLINT-Bony growth on the side of the splint bone.

SPRING HALT-Involuntary elevation of the hind legs.

STAKES-PLACED-Finishing or third in a stakes race.

STAKE-A race (usually a feature race) for which owner must pay up a fee to run a horse. The fees can be for nominating, maintaining eligibility, entering and starting, to which the track adds more money to make up the total purse. Some stakes races are by invitation and require no payment or fee.

STAKES HORSE-One capable of competing in such events.

STALLION-Entire male horse.

STALL WALKER-Horse that moves about his stall and frets rather than rests.

STARTER RACE-An allowance or handicap race restricted to horses who have started for a specific claiming price or less.

STARTING GATE-Mechanical device having partitions (stalls) for horses in which they are confined until the starter releases the doors in front to begin the race.



Horse Racing Glossary

S

STATE-BRED-A horse bred in a particular state and thus eligible to compete in special races restricted to state-breds.

STAYER-Stout-hearted horse who can race long distances.

STEADIED-A horse being taken in hand by his rider, usually because of being in close quarters.

STEPS UP-A horse moving up in class to meet better runners.

STEWARDS-Top officials of the meeting responsible for enforcing the rules.

STEEPLECHASE-A jumping race over high obstacles.

STICK-A jockey's whip.

STICKERS-Calks on shoes which give a horse better traction in mud or on soft tracks.

STOCKINGS-White legs below the knees.

STRAIGHT-Betting to win only.

STRAIGHT AS A STRING- Descriptive of a horse running at top speed.

STRETCH-Final straight portion of the racetrack to the finish.

STRETCH CALL-Position of horses at the eighth pole, usually about halfway down the stretch.

STRETCH RUNNER-Horse who finishes fast.

STRETCH TURN-Bend of track into homestretch.

STRIDE-Manner of going. Also distance covered after each foot has touched the ground once.

STRIP-Markings of a horse. White hairs running part-way down the face.

STRIPE-A white marking running down a horse's face to bridge of nose or below.

STUD (stallion) - Male horse used for breeding. Also breeding farm(stud farm).

STUD BOOK-Registry and genealogical record of the breeding of thoroughbreds maintained by The Jockey Club.

SUBSCRIPTION-Fee paid by owner to nominate horse for a stakes race or to maintain eligibility for a stakes race.

SUCKLING-Thoroughbred still nursing.

SULK-When a horse refuses to extend himself.

SUPERFECTA-A wager where you pick the first FOUR finishes in exact order.

SUSPEND (or SUSPENSION)- Punishment for infraction of rules. Offender denied privileges of racetrack for specified period of time. If permanently suspended: Ruled Off.

SWAYBACK-Horse with a dipped backbone.

SWIPE-A groom.



Horse Racing Glossary

T

TACK-Riders' racing equipment. Also applied to stable gear.

TAKE (or TAKEOUT)- Commission deducted from mutuel pools which is shared by the track and local and state governing bodies in the form of tax.

TAKEN UP-A horse pulled up sharply by his rider because of being in close quarters.

TEASER-A horse used at breeding farms to find out if the mare is ready to receive the stallion.

TELETHEATER-Special facility for showing simulcast races.

THOROUGHPIN-Similar to spavin, with swelling going clear through.

THRUSH-Inflammation of the cleft of the frog.

TIGHT-Ready to race.

TIMBER TOPPER-Jumper or steeplechase horse. More properly horses jumping over timber fences.

TONGUE STRAP-Strap or tape bandage used to tie down a horse's tongue to prevent it from choking in a race or workout.

TOP LINE-Thoroughbred's breeding on his sire's side.

TOPWEIGHT-Highest weight assigned or carried in a race.

TOTALISATOR-Machine which sells and records betting tickets and shows odds. Also figures out and displays payoff figures.

TOUT-Person who professes to have, and sells, advance information on a race.

TRACK RECORD-Fastest time at various distances recorded at a particular track.

TRIAL-A workout.

TRAPPED EPIGLOTTIS- Condition, correctable by surgery, in which a flap of tissue interferes with a horse's breathing.

TRAIN OFF-Become jaded after attaining racing fitness.

TRIFECTA (or TRIPLE)-A wager picking the first three finishers in exact order.

TRIP-A horse's race.

TRIPLE CROWN-In the United States, the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and Belmont Stakes. In England the 2,000 Guineas, Epsom Derby and St. Leger.

TURF COURSE-Grass course.

TWITCH-A device usually consisting of a stick with a loop of rope at one end, which is placed around a horse's nose and upper lip and twisted to curb fractiousness.



Horse Racing Glossary

U

UNDER CONTRACT-A trainer or rider formally signed for a specified time and compensation.

UNDERLAY-A horse racing at longer odds than he should; horse whose odds are more promising than his potential to win.

UNDER PUNISHMENT-Horse being whipped and driven.

UNDER WRAPS-Horse under stout restraint in a race or workout.

UNTRIED-Not raced or tested for speed. Also a stallion who has not been bred.

UNWIND-Gradually withdrawing a horse from intensive training.

URINALYSIS-Testing urine of horse for drugs or medication.

V

VALET-Person who attends riders and keeps their wardrobe and equipment in order.

VAN (The)-Front of field. Head end.

VIRTUAL HORSE RACING - This refers to Internet Horse Racing and also to computer-generated horse racing.



Horse Racing Glossary

W

WALK HOTS-To cool a horse out after a workout or race.

WALKOVER-Race which scratches down to only one starter who merely gallops required distance. A formal gesture required by rules of racing.

WARMING UP-Galloping horse on way to post.

WASHY-Horse breaking out in nervous sweat before race.

WEANLING-A thoroughbred after being weaned and until he becomes a yearling on the New Year's Day following his foaling.

WEAVING-Swaying motion in stall, or act of threading way through field in race.

WEIGHT - The assigned weight for a horse, including the jockey, equipment and lead weights if needed.

WEIGHT-FOR-AGE-Fixed scale of weights to be carried by horses according to age, sex, distance of race and season of year.

WINDED-Breathing with difficulty after workout or race.

WHIP-Instrument, usually of leather, with which rider strikes horse to increase his speed. Also called bat and gad.

WHISTLING-Result of overstrain of horse's lungs and respiratory muscles.

WIN-A bet where you win only if your horse finishes first.

WINNER-TAKES-ALL-Winner receiving all the purse or stakes.

WOBLER-A neurological disease due to compression of the spinal cord. Seen principally in 2-year-olds and 3-year-olds.

WORK-To exercise a horse.

WORK-OUT -- Exercise session at a predetermined distance.

WRONG-Go amiss.

XYZ

YEARLING- A horse that is one year old. The universal birthdate of horses is January 1. Horse between the first New Year's Day after being foaled and the following January 1.



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