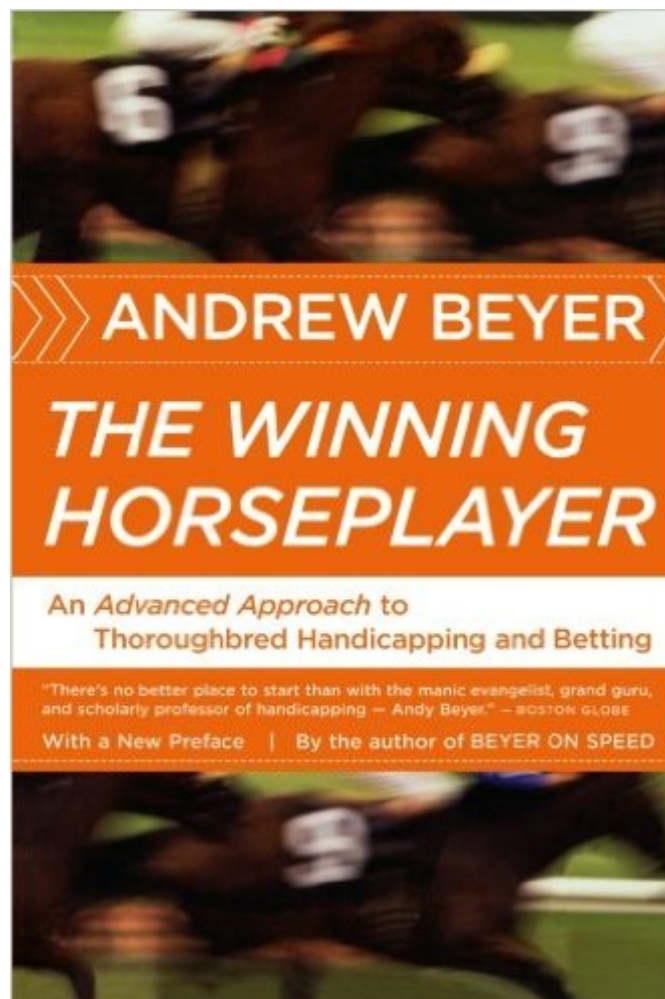


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The Winning Horseplayer: An Advanced Approach To Thoroughbred Handicapping And Betting



Synopsis

In *The Winning Horseplayer*, Andrew Beyer builds on the strategy of speed handicapping that he detailed brilliantly in *Picking Winners* by introducing the concept of trip handicapping. Through an unbeatable combination of case studies and lively anecdotes, Beyer shows the smart bettor how to combine past performance data with an understanding of trips, track bias, and pace. This advanced guide to handicapping, which includes a new preface by the author, offers a generous dose of the wit and wisdom that have made Beyer a legend in the sport.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've read each of Beyer's books and while he may not be the best handicapper he certainly is the best writer in the horse racing world. If I'm not mistaken he studied English Romance at Harvard and clearly took with him the skills to entertain a reader---no others even come close on the subject. Beyer's speed figures are constantly evolving and he teaches the reader how to consider trips and pace/track biases as an integral part of any speed figure. I don't have the time to watch many replays before I play a card but after reading this I certainly will scrutinize speed figures if they are the leading component of a bet I'm considering. While most of us don't watch replays as much as Beyer, this book convinced me its worth taking the time to look at more replays and take notes after watching each race.

Andrew Beyer revolutionized Thoroughbred handicapping in the 1970s with the introduction of the Beyer Speed Figure. Found in most racing forms, the speed figure gives the handicapper a guide to

how the runner rates against others in the field that day no matter if they competed in races at different tracks and/or against a variety of levels of competition. In *The Winning Horseplayer*, Beyer takes his analysis to trip handicapping, which takes into account the type of journey a Thoroughbred has in a race, with a focus on being compromised due to any trouble in the start and turns, what path was taken around the track and if there was any stress due to the pace. What has been perhaps the most subjective handicapping tool is given a firm foundation by Beyer, which can be utilized by horseplayers who take the time to take trip notes from replays of previous races. In an updated version of the book that was originally published in 1994, there are numerous case studies and witty anecdotes, along with a new preface penned by Beyer. This is not a book for beginners to handicapping races. But for those with experience - and are looking for a possible betting edge or simply a great read on handicapping - this is the winning ticket.

One of the better handicapping books, Beyer, a great turf writer, goes into detail about some of his plays, excellent learning tool that touches on important things like Track Bias and Trip Handicapping.

Until reading this and other books by the author I never knew how complicated horse racing was. Now I know what data is important and where to find it. Hopefully when I go to the track now I'll have more success. The key is to always be observant and realize that any successful system you set up is always going to have to be tweaked in the future. The game is always changing and you have to stay on top of it.

This is a great book on handicapping or punting as we call it in Australia. Sure it has been around for many years now but much of the wisdom contained in its pages has universal application especially in relation to 'trip handicapping'. Beyer has an always engaging writing style and the book is replete with anecdotes many of them humorous to underscore his assertions. Applying just a few of his pearls will surely increase your odds of beating the game. For my money one of the best books of its type I have ever read.

Everyone will find useful information from this book. Pick it up and read it. It doesn't give you a laid out manual of what to do to make money it provides you the information on how to use all of the tools put them together yourself and separate from the chalk.

Must reading if you are a student of horse wagering.

As a part-time horse player this book is just not a good fit. To benefit from everything this book offers you would have to be a full-time handicapper. There are some great hints and tips that can be pulled out for any horse player, but to truly implement everything involved in this book you would have to be at the track every day. Maybe when I retire and I can be at the track every day I can pull out this book and use it to pick winners all day long, but until that point just 2 stars. A great book for the part-time player is Brad Free's book Handicapping 101.

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