

Betting with Confidence

Welcome to Standardbred Racing at Georgian Downs

The object in a horse race is the same as any other race - to see who can get to the finish line first. There is more to know about harness racing, however, and the following information will help you place a bet with confidence.

How Betting Works

Racetrack betting is called parimutuel betting, which is French for “to bet among us”. This is because the money everyone bets is placed into pools and shared amongst winners at the end of the race. You never bet against the track, only against others who have placed similar bets. Each type of bet, Win, Place and Show, has its own pool from which money bet is paid out to customers with winning tickets.



Pick a Horse



First you need a racing program. Most of what you need to know to be a winner is right inside your program. Check out the ‘How to Read a Program’ section just inside the front cover.

Handicapping refers to the process of trying to select winners of a horse race. The most important tool for any handicapper is pertinent information. Different handicappers may have different ideas about what is pertinent, but most would agree that records of the horse’s previous races are basic information sources. These records or “past performances” (chart lines) are found in the race program. Past performance charts show the past six races of each horse: dates, conditions, post position, finishes, times, opponents’ records. The Flamboro Downs Race Analysis Information is provided by our expert handicapper who studies the horses’ performances and evaluates them against critical factors. Check the drivers’ standings listed as Flamboro Downs Driver/Trainer Standings located near the back of the program. Now that you know how to read the program, may we suggest you keep in mind the following factors in making your selections.

1. Check the horse’s record time
2. Check the actual time in recent races
3. Note condition of the track
4. Check the opposition
5. Note the driver’s ability
6. What is the horse’s post position?
7. Has the horse moved up or down in class?



Check The Odds



You’ll see the odds posted on the Tote Board (the big black sign on the infield) and on the T.V. monitors throughout the building. These odds are determined not by the race track but by how many people bet on each horse. The Tote Board shows the payout on a \$2.00 bet. 2-1 are small odds; 15-1 is a long shot. The bigger the odds, the bigger the pay-out. It’s all based on actual betting. Maybe you like the way a horse looks, its name, number, or the colour of its driver’s silks. People use all sorts of methods to make their selection so relax and choose a style that’s best for you.



Three Basic Bets You Can Choose From

Win: Pick the horse that will come first



Place: Your horse may come first or second

Show: The safest bet. You collect if your horse comes in first, second, or third.

Minimum Wager

For win, place, or show bets, the minimum wager is \$2.00, and increases in \$1.00 increments.

Other Bets You Can Choose Daily Double:

Pick the winners of the first two or last two races.

Exactor:

Pick the two horses that will finish first and second in that order.

Triactor:

Pick the three horses that will finish first, second and third in that order.

Exactor Box:

- pick the first two horses to cross the finish line
- your two horses must come in first and second in any order
- a \$2.00 Exactor Box will cost you \$4.00
- a \$1.00 Exactor Box will cost \$2.00 and give you half the pay-out

Triactor Box:

- pick the first three horses to cross the finish line
- your three horses must come in first, second and third in any order
- a \$2.00 Triactor Box will cost you \$12.00
- a \$1.00 Triactor Box will cost \$6.00 and give you half the pay-out

Now It's Time to Place Your Bet



Just go to a teller in the betting area. You'll need five pieces of information in the following order which will sound something like this:

1. Check the horse's record time
2. Check the actual time in recent races
3. Note condition of the track
4. Check the opposition
5. Note the driver's ability
6. What is the horse's post position?
7. Has the horse moved up or down in class?



Our friendly betting clerks will help you if you become lost for words. You can place your bet or collect your winnings at any window. Please exercise common courtesy. Wager as early as possible to avoid that hectic last-minute rush and the possibility of being shut-out. Once you've placed your bet, enjoy the race. If you win, go to any betting window and collect. Don't lose your ticket! Our computer uses it to calculate your pay-out. You can collect your winnings at any time during the night. Any questions? Just ask. Your comfort and enjoyment is our number one reason for being here, and there is nothing we are doing that is more important.

Enjoy your night at Georgian Downs.

Good luck, and remember, harness racing is for fun and excitement - there's a winner in every race!

You must be 18 years of age or older to bet.