

Work out % information developed by “Mitch”, implemented by Ted

The Workout % [RATING] catches these “served notice types” before the surprise comes. With workout % you have an invitation to the surprise party!

BACKGROUND:

Back in the 1960's and 70's there was very little information, unlike today. Those from that era, that would be us old farts, were more attuned to condition of horses, proper placement etc. It's a bygone analysis as everyone now is into instant gratification. Even Sartin practitioners that started doing all his readouts using just a hand calculator tend to do better than those that have it all done for them with instant readouts. We learn by doing and it provides understanding and insights others just can't comprehend. LT1 and I are good examples of this. We both are also open minded to new things and don't stand fast. Those that don't adapt get run over. We also work at the game, as soon as you mention work to a lot of handicappers, they're gone. Sartin material is really difficult to grasp therefore they tend to depart rather quickly. Most trades require years of education and practical application.

Where is the Information Found

It is found in the workouts tab for each horse. It is recommended that you set up RDSS to show the ORIGINAL screen above the WORKOUTS tab so that you can view past races with workout information leading up to today's race. BTW, just click on the gear box or wheel on the right of screen and it'll give you choices or options on panels.

On the WORKOUTS tab, hover the mouse over the % column and it shows that the column means the workout was faster than this percentage of all horses that date, that distance. If faster than 50% of the horses, the **% is in blue** for emphasis. If a horse has a gate workout ('g') it is also emphasized in blue.

You will also find the SR value in the WORKOUTS tab and the ENTRIES tab. As far as the SR verses the workout %. SR workouts are more an indication of soundness and maintenance works, rather than a horse's improvement in form but they can be an improvement in form also.

The SRs are based on a horse working in 12.2 second per furlong or roughly that as they use a parallel time chart. Ray Taulbot the originator of this used 12 second per furlong, Sartin refined it and improved it with his chart deceleration studies etc. The Ray Taulbot and Sartin standard of 12 seconds per furlong was **an indication of soundness, rather than readiness.**

That may be good for a marathon race say 1 1/4 miles and longer but not so much for sprints. With that standard an 80 SR workout is achievable by numerous horses or class of horses. Just not impressive but sort of common. Some of these are questionable as to whether they're really a workout, say 70's. Think about this, a horse ranks 30th of 100 horses' (beat 70 horses) that workout 30/100 it receives a 70%, or a horse works and he runs 4F work in around 51 seconds?

Other Information

In the RDSS TRIP panel you will find post position information, weight carried, and equipment and/or medicine used, things like Lasix use (L), Bute (B), front bandages (f) and blinkers (b).

Also on the main ENTRIES screen to the right of each horse's RX info you again will find weight and Equipment info, but here you may also see "1L" or "2L" it means first or second race with Lasix. This can either be a first ever use or a return to Lasix use if the horse has been racing in jurisdictions that do not allow Lasix. You will see this when a horse who has been racing in stakes drops down into non stakes races and is generally a good indication if the horse raced well while using Lasix in the past and is now running in a lower class. A "b-" means blinkers off and "b+" means blinkers on. Check the TRIP panel to see how many of the horses races have those notations and what happens when those changes are made in the races following.

WHAT YOU ARE VIEWING

Most of these lessons are Mitch answering questions or explaining what he has developed. Occasionally, answers to questions will be shown to establish context for the answers that Mitch gives.

THE BASIC PREMISE

The % workout gives an indication **as compared to others** that have worked the same distance on the same day and same track condition. Not just against the clock. It's much more valuable when compared against others or **a benchmark**. I.e. ranked 10th of 20 = 50% and 10th of 90 = 88.88% or 89%.

I find this is a valuable indicator for long layoff horses such as 90 Days, FTS etc. Is the horse improving or declining in form? The better horses tend to work better. It's a piece of the puzzle that if analyzed properly can reap big rewards. Of course, the best of all worlds is combining it with other analysis, such as trainer intent, good Pace Rating, deceleration, proper distance and surface etc.

A horse's condition is forever changing do to different physical problems. Once over that, their speed in both workouts and a race improve. A change or improvement is important.

It's an art to fit these works into the form cycle and that's where it pays. Of course, a maiden should have a gate work and layoff horses with a 5F work is nice. If a horse is always working a 90 %, its less meaningful than one that doesn't and all of a sudden works a 90%.

Take notice of improved speed, and tools in the box such as %Med. Take notice of a new top in the horses workouts and if you can find a corollary expect it to continue to improve. With a horse like that we don't know what its top Speed Rating will be in a race.

FORM COMMENTARY

For success in this game, we must come to grips with the form factor. The great Ray Taulbot said;
Every race a horse runs either contributes to its good condition or takes away from it.

Like hundreds of angles, nothing works all the time. We must capture those that are getable for success. This workout angle will assist you in accessing the form factor. One has to learn how to use the tools in our toolbox such as %Med. and % of workouts. Only through practical application will you reap the rewards of it. Study it and employ it and you'll gain insights for determining the form factor and whether the horse is improving or declining.

The form factor is the hardest thing to gauge in horse racing because it's in a state of constant change. Consistency is rewarded however even the greats of racing have lost races. Someone stated, "It's like trying to nail jelly to a tree."

For example, a horse works out and finishes 3 of 65 = 95%. The more horses it beats the higher the % i.e. the one that finished 65 out of 65 gets a zero. In this example of 3 of 65 = 95% is a reflection of the horse's ability. The track is only open for a few hours a day for training. Therefore, they all competed on the same track, surface conditions, distance, same variant and against various classes of horses just like a real race. It's an indication of form and readiness.

The best way to put this in perspective is to think of this workout as a mini race with 65 horses entered. No difference than an actual field of 12 in a real race. In a real race the horse that finishes last earns nothing, the more horses that a horse beats the more money it earns and the higher the workout %. If it finishes 1st it gets 100 % and the highest purse money. A horse that beats only 6 horses would get 50% and earn nothing.

Now a horse can get a same rating of 91 for instance an example of (1/11 & 6/65).

Are they equal? Absolutely not because the 6/65 workout horse competed against 65 horses, therefore the degree of difficulty is much greater to accomplish a 91 than against only 11 horses. It's an unknown what the 1/11 horse could have accomplished up against 65 horses. May have finished 11 or whatever. WE can't determine that, a complete unknown. However, there's no doubt it's a much harder task or degree of difficulty.

One way to solve this problem is analysis and **putting these workout % ratings into context. Is this horse entered today at the proper class, distance and surface?** Yes, some work is involved, but easily accomplished by perusing the PP's. If any are entered wrong their 91 rating is meaningless.

Note: there are exceptions to this that I can think of, but they are an exception not the norm.

Bullet works normally occur by the much better horses and or higher class of horses. It's not unusual for a very good horse to have more than one bullet work. We need a way to determine which are better or which is the best one and how that figures into its form cycle.

Obviously, recency of the best one has more importance and how it fits within or spacing of their races.

Note: Mentally a gate work should be given some extra credit because the time is earned from a standing start whereas they're normally traveling along or galloping and then break off into their run or workout. If you have access to the workout info you could possibly develop an adjustment factor for gate works as opposed to non-gate works. **[Mitch, do you have any rules of thumb that might apply here?]**

It's impossible to gauge the effect of a gate work into a rating because some are slow starters whose ESP maybe Sustained while another may be an Early and break much faster. Or it could have broken badly as they sometimes do in a real race, but not always. The workout % ranking basically considers or covers this **but a mental note with extra credit is the best way to handle this**. Like a Doctor's perspective of doing no harm, is the best approach here.

Longer distances (4f and up) and from a standing Gate start or around 'Dogs' can be upgraded at least mentally. Longer distances such as for horses working **5f or longer** are worth a longer look, but be careful. There is no quantifiable way to do this, so keep this in mind as your race analysis progresses to

a bet/no bet status.

Those that can analyze the form factor and consider it through both workouts and actual races enables them to elevate horses and downgrade others and to separate those pesky ties or top 3 or 4 contenders. All horses are either improving "+" or declining "-" in form.

The workout % of horses beaten is better tool because it eliminates those two problems, as it takes place on the same track under same conditions of variant, at similar period of time that day etc. With these workout % figures, the higher the workout % the better the prospect's win potential.

WORKING EXAMPLES

I was asked, can a rating of 55 beat horses of say 90 and 85? The answer is yes. This situation can occur with any factor such as TPR where a horse 10 lengths inferior jumps up and beats the top rank horse or top 2 or 3. But how can that be?

In almost all cases there was some type of improvement. It could be that a horse found its best distance, surface, class such as a drop down that's been racing over its head. First time blinkers on or off, ditto for Lasix. Claims, or trainer changes to a better trainer. How often does this happen, my best guess or estimate is 5 %.

Nobody gets them all. However, with proper analysis we can catch some of these and they pay big. Anytime a horse improves its speed in a workout or all of a sudden shows early speed in a race we need to take notice. Try to ascertain the reason why. Sometimes we even must predict or anticipate an improved performance. And that pays big.

Having all of a horse's workouts rated by workout % of horses beaten shows whether its improving or declining. It helps to interpret the form factor. For every race you win you'll probably lose two due to the form factor. Now betting two horses increases your chances but still, form beats us. We need to do better than just guessing if it will race over the top or will continue their current form.

Take notice of a new top in its workouts and if you can find a corollary and expect it to continue to improve, with a horse like that we don't know what its top Speed Rating will be in a race.

Figure out why and with a valid reason expect it to continue to improve.

Older and Younger Horses

Most horses mature by their 4th year. There are a few late bloomers that mature late. However, young horses such as 2, 3 or 4-year-olds, have upside once they figure racing out, or the trainer and connections figure out the horse.

Some 5 year olds can improve dramatically due to maturing; however, the majority of maturing horses are 2, 3, & 4-year olds.

Older horses (5 or older) that run a top seldom repeat that. When a 5 yr. or older horse's best race in last 10 was its last race what I do is investigate the PP's to find out why.

As an example, if it changed trainers, and it improved I expect it to keep improving. We don't know what

its top is. If I can't find a reason, I downgrade it and, or toss it completely. This is a percentage move; in that you'll be correct more times than you are wrong. As far as lines I would not use that last line unless I found a reason for the improvement and would look for another line. If a reason was found, I would use it.

If an older horse worked out an 89 and ran a good race, it's in form and should improve off that and was probably short of condition. If properly placed it should improve off the workout and race.

Remember when a good race is run, the workouts may stop or they are given very slow workouts for conditioning purposes. With that said, don't assume its staying in its stall, they still gallop or go around in a 2-minute lick. This isn't a recorded work but adds to the conditioning process. Their form can change dramatically in a week of this training, unless unsound or poorly placed.

No factor or angle works 100% but we can do better than the present with an open mind and the use of improved workouts or improved Total Energy, TPR, or Perceptor. Analysis will improve one's bottom line even if only applied to the top ranked horses in the strongest factors of the RDSS program. How many times do you pick the wrong two horses out of your top 4?

By analysis you can compare them to their races and see if there was improvement or decline. They can be a tipoff to a big effort today, especially if coming off a layoff. If there is enough information you might be able to get a good idea of what happens if the horse has similar layoffs. Having all the races rated in RDSS is another way to figure improving and declining horses and form that few pay attention to.

Examples:

Other angles of improvement that you can identify in RDSS are when a horse's best Total Energy, TPR or Perceptor rankings occurred in its last race. But don't just stop there, investigate further. You might find upon further examination that the horse showed it added blinkers in its last. This horse is unknown until it runs at least 3 races with blinkers on. So just that one change is not necessarily a green light to bet.

Example race analysis – proper placement:

In another race, one horse's key workout was the 76 earned since its last race. It was noted that this horse and trainer normally don't work this particular horse fast so for that horse it's an excellent work. It helps to keep in mind, what is a good work for that horse and trainer and where and when it occurs. This is a perfect example where workout % shines. Don't forget context or to note if the horse was properly placed. Distance & surface were fine, plus this one was dropping class, tipped off also by APV. This horse only had 1 race at today's class.

Another horse in the race showed all very slow works but finish positions demonstrated this horse responded to this slow type of training. The trainer may believe in not leaving a horse's race on the training track and saves the horse for the afternoon. Unlike a Bob Baffert who works all horses fast. Also, some trainers hide a workout within a workout. By going very fast early or late and very slow the rest of the workout. Last race distance may have been too far, but today's surface and distance are OK. Note, this horse responded to slow works and has finished in the money in 6 of 8 races with 2 wins, so the slow works were not a negative sign.

Both these horses appear to be properly placed when you look at their BPP, PL, Rx 1-2-33, CSR, or CR.

These workout % ratings should be put in context, which I stated early on in the discussion. **A valid question always is, what is a good work for that horse and where did it occur.** The most important workouts are since last race. However, if a horse finishes in the money after a good workout prior to last race, then the trainer may only give a slow workout as it is in form. Or no workouts. With no workouts since last race it hasn't been staying in the barn. Just doing slow jogs and gallops which contribute and enhance its form.

Remember a good % workout for that horse and using a good factor that's multi-faceted makes it a solid contender.

The public frequently makes mistakes on odds with horses and creates overlays or value every day, especially if a poor race in it's last or an out of the money finish.

Some horses don't respond well to fast workouts and don't have Energy to spare. At times you'll see a very fast work or workout % and the horse fails to respond in the afternoon. Perhaps it took too much out of the horse or made it sore or it's just a Morning Glory. A smart trainer will adapt and follow up with slower workouts which causes a lower workout % against other horses. Others never adapt. Some that work slow run gang buster in the afternoon in a race for love of the competition. A smart trainer will work them with another horse to get them to extend their selves.

The key is how the horse reacts to their training in a race.

Normally I see two slow workouts to follow a fast workout where the horse failed to respond and bang, they run a big race. Sometimes this is deliberate to fool watchful eyes or the public. Like pace lines, they can't see beyond the last one. Or the slower works are at a longer distance to build stamina. Naturally any horse has to be entered at the proper distance, surface and class to be seriously considered. **Cause and effect, how has it responded?**

Normally the higher the workout % are the best horses, but a good workout followed by a couple of slow ones or a race mixed in there and a lower workout % horse can win. No hard and fast rules and there are exceptions to every rule when it comes to horse racing.

Percentage wise the higher workout % horses are best, which are what I go to. But I have learned to look at 2 slow workouts very closely since a high workout % one that failed to show it in a race. Especially if its longer like 5F or more as a stamina builder to go along with that speed.

Beware of horses that have not disgraced themselves at a distance, surface, or class. **Particularity young horses that have not disgraced themselves at today's conditions.** They pay well and have upside.

Some of this sounds more complicated than it really is. **Its rather simple** and the workout % helps tremendously to determine form, which allows us to downgrade contenders or elevate others. Work with it for a while and it becomes 2nd nature and ups your game.

Other/Additional Information

For horses for whom we have **less "other" info** to go by (FTS/2TS [2nd time starters], other Maidens, longer layoffs, etc), and coupled with observations about **changes** today (changed equipment, Trainer, distance/surface) this represents **additional information** to judge potential fitness. Maybe get a few more races at longer prices, take on a few more horizontal bets, maybe downgrade a 'hollow' favorite.

Additional information is another 'angle', IMO with situational use, not necessarily broad use like BLBL/VDC/CSR/PP/PL. Many times, there are too many potential horses in a race with this angle so it gets confusing. A proper study would include all the hits AND MISSES and tally the ROI from legitimate and consistent inclusion of the angle in candidate races at candidate minimum Odds thresholds. Until then, it's anecdotal - which is not nothing! - and you don't have to give the money back when you hit. But you also don't get a refund if you lose by betting indiscriminately!

Also, the existing formula **does** give extra info related to how many horses were beaten (work time was faster than), in that due to the higher denominator in the formula when more horses were beaten (1/35 versus 1/11) the resulting higher workout % will tend to indicate that the effort was better than more other horses the same day and distance.

ANOTHER EXAMPLES: Long layoffs and Maidens

Trainers tend to repeat what has brought them success in the past. They for the most part are creatures of habit. All horses however don't respond in a like manner. A very good trainer adapts to the horse and trains it based on its peculiarities.

Horses just don't jump in and out of form. For an FTS and horses coming off a long layoff it can take 6 weeks to 90 days of preparation to get a horse ready for a race. When we see them on the track that phase of the preparation gets lost from the average player.

Even with humans there are different stages, the 1st is the teardown stage where muscles that haven't been used get sore. Rest has to be given to prevent damage. After that there is a slow build up stage. Even a fit looking young kid has muscles that haven't been used. They go through the same steps.

Therefore, workouts over 40 days are an important clue on horses coming off a long layoff and less important for a horse that been racing and working out. If a horse has been laid off more than 40 days that work can be a very important piece of information. This is common for layoff horses and for them I consider all workouts since the last race. If it's had a couple races since then it less important or meaningful.

Some give a fast workout to see where the horses is at in the process and then some slower works at longer distances to build stamina. Others choose to build stamina and then give a fast workout just before a race. One just can't use a number like 40 days on every horses.

Among the things I consider for long layoff horses is simply odds. I know 90-day horses only win 10% of the time **so one of my qualifiers is to demand 9-1 odds and higher**. Risk and Reward. It compensates for the losing horses even though they meet my other qualifications.

In MSW races with workout % I also look for horses 9-1 and up. At times I have just bet the 2 or 3 highest and hit horses paying \$40 \$50 & \$60. I also lessen the bet and bet more horses.

I have found a distinct difference between MD Clm and MSW type races through some rigorous studies, as to their workout %. **(Mitch, is it just that MSW type train to higher workout % or was there something else?)**

Consider how many contenders, the degree of information in each race or how many unknown factors exist and adjust accordingly. For older horses there is more information to go by so that 9-1 can be lowered. But an older horse race can have unknown factors in them such as a couple of horses stretching out, blinker changes, medication etc.

Example:

Adjust to your assessment of the race. In a recent race at KD there were at least 6 legit horses that could win the race. In most races there are only 3 or 4. **A favorite in this situation is poor risk verses reward.** Demanding 9-1 is not an accurate way of doing this, because some races just are too risky. Winners can be missed both ways. Try demanding 9-1 only on a top RX factor.

Teaching betting is a difficult task, I don't even know how my bet will be until about 5 minutes before the race goes off. I can't give an answer to every betting situation, especially with a number of qualifiers having any given angle. You could demand 7-1 or 8-1 or any other odds. It is not how many winners you get but how you play those winners and make a profit.

What workout % does it take to win a MSW? A second time starter (2TS) that was out of the money in an initial outing gets overlooked? It may have had early speed and even led to the Second call or Stretch **which is as good as a high workout %.** In fact, **even better** because it was from a gate under conditions that don't happen in a workout. It was just a short horse and a couple slow workouts or just daily canter or jog each day maybe all it needs. Would you bet it **if it also did this in its second start?** I would not but to each their own?

Example:

A horse was beaten by 25 lengths in its last race. **Horses just don't go in and out of form that quickly.** The reason for the bad race was the trainer tried to stretch it out in a route. If you looked at it's internal running of the route, it ran faster than its previously 6 furlong race. Today it goes back to a 6 furlong race and since its last race runs a top workout. No doubt it is sharp and ready. In racing, money follows money, a herd mentally exists, or the stable is just not a betting stable.

Those that just look at or only choose the last line are at a disadvantage. Review and confirm your lines. Analyze the form of your contenders. Ask, if you were the trainer of this horse would you have entered it in this race? When a horse runs a good race and then a poor one, figure out why. Start with the comment remarks for the race and then look at distance, surface and proper class. Anytime you can forgive a race you're running loose on the lead and out in front of the other bettors toward success.

Predominately, the higher workout % are the best overall or the majority of the time.

These numbers are best put into **perspective for a given horse.** How does a horse respond to a top? If we don't have that answer. If it fails it'll most likely will respond to slower workouts. Horses for some reason all of a sudden get good. Whatever bothers them heals, or the trainer figures them out.

Some are slow to get it right, the best trainers figure it out quick. For example, a horse that ran in five of its last 10 races were at shorter distances of 5.5 F, not good for a horse that has an ESP of SP & S. They need longer distances to catch the speed and the race to collapse. Also, it had several races on the Turf and sly tracks. This type of horse was very decent at 6F and on dirt. Its last race had its best Total Energy and TPR and a good workout since its last race was a positive sign. Recall I said beware of a horse that runs a new top in TPR or Total Energy, they're in their best form. Sure, they could bounce or if properly placed continue to excel. I always go with momentum or positive.

This particular horse was also the counter energy horse and figured to pick up the pieces in the Match Up. I had him in the place slot for that reason in an exacta. Its 4th place finish in its last race fooled the public. Finish positions are overrated as compared to Total Energy and TPR. The general public just can't get past the last line and finish positions.

Until you become good at analyzing form you are better off taking an hour to do a race and tear it apart, then to mass produce crap. Of course, once good at this, stuff jumps up at you or looms up. It becomes a synaptic response from repetition. They are either improving with every race and workout or going in the opposite direction, even the best.

Ray Taulbot and Sartin standard of 12 seconds per furlong was **an indication of soundness, rather than readiness.**

On FTS horses the workout can be 4 or 5 workouts back. Whatever its top or best % rating is, no matter when it occurred. Better ones also have a workout from the gate and a 5F work also. Ties separate with trainers' ability or best odds.

I key in on horses with **a new top since last race**, I suppose I didn't emphasize this enough. These are the most important ones and most profitable ones.

I use the other workouts to determine a horse's present form as to improving or declining and if the cycle is a new one or an old cycle. They help me to discount horses or elevate them off my final contenders. Hope this clarifies what I look for.

Use of Composite/Compound Factors

How do we actually separate contenders that have these works or other contenders?

First of all, **never use a single factor** such as Total Energy or TPR. They are one dimensional and never will outperform a factor that contains multiple factors.

Plus, any multiple factor is only as good as its weakest component which tears down the power of the overall rating. An example of a composite factor would be BL/BL. It contains the 7 Primary Factors of Pace that Sartin researched for years to come up with.

Now with RDSS we have several very good composite Ratings. They are all not created equal. What you should do is have an open mind and collect data on each one to find the one that gets those longshots prices that are gettable and possible.

I won't give you, my choice; do the work and you'll have more confidence in your choice. That's huge after losing a race, otherwise you'll start zigging and zagging which is worse.

Composite Factors in RDSS are PL, BPP, Rx 1-2-3, BL/BL, CR, CR+, Supp LS, APV, and to some extent V/dc and CSR.

You could say Total Energy is a composite because it has 3 FR.'s in it, TPR as well. I would not call TPR and Total Energy a true Composite because it's all pace and will never outperform the 7 components of BLBL. Supplementary Line Score, supplementary is subordinate to Primary or the 7 Primary Factors. Also, BL/BL has some additional tweaks within it that makes it stronger than just the 7 Primary factors.

BPP and PL are true composites and not one dimensional and are not linked to any RDSS factor. They consider class, pace, consistency etc. You would be amazed how many times longshots are in its top 3.

RX 1-2-3 factors are very good but are to some extent dependent of proper pace line selection with Total Energy. V/DC and a possible faulty CSR rating. An error here is greatly compounded.

V/dc is excellent as a composite, plus it contains the Match UP. But, how good is your pace line selection? If you use only the program picked line they are wrong at times and will skew the readouts. If you are exceptional at it, it's a good Composite Factor.

CR & Cr+ include APV so why not consider them if you find applications where they stand out.

CSR is a composite of the last 4 Speed Ratings, placing more emphasis on recent races. Few review this and it can be faulty with one or more bad or forgivable lines or when marathon races produce low adjusted speed ratings within the last 4 lines. It is still correct a high % of the time and one line can be forgiven but a horse might have two. In races where more than one horse has forgivable lines you cannot see the adjustment in RDSS because the program only adjusts and shows the revised CSR for the most recent horse that was adjusted. However, when none of the horses have forgivable lines the data is very good.

There you have it, test these recommended ones or test them all if you want to when the new RDSS update comes, see what works best for this workout angle and or contenders or ties, particularly the ones that get the longshots in the top 4.

What to do about too many contenders & betting:

How do we handle races with too many contenders using this angle play on workouts, or for that manner on any race?

This occurs in MSW races more so than other races. The reason is they contain many FTS which most can't handle. My experience is that Maiden claimers are much more easily handled because generally there is more information available to make a more informed decision.

Too many contenders can exist in other races such as 2 yr. olds or young 3 yr. olds with few starts, particularly early in the year. Then again, most longshots occur in races for younger horses to include 4

yr. olds as they are still developing.

1. Pass the race.

No one has ever lost money by passing a race. There's a better one coming along in 20 to 30 minutes.

2. Demand higher odds.

Consider the degree of difficulty of the situation. I'm well aware that a horse that's been laid for a year will only win about 10% of the time, therefore I demand higher odds to compensate for this. Ditto for repeaters that only win about 17 %. Now there are also other qualifiers to increase my percentages. Using workout angle where the race contains several qualified horses, consider the risk and reward for the situation. It just doesn't pay to bet low price horses for the situation.

3. Bet less than your normal bet.

If you bet \$10 a race then reduce your bet to perhaps \$5 or a \$2 fun bet.

4. Bet more horses. Say what?

Bet more horses than you usually bet. Spread your bet to include more horses for the situation and degree of difficulty. If you are a two horse better, then bet 3 horses. One can also play more horses and still bet less. If a \$10 better, you can bet 4 horses and still reduce the amount bet. Now there are occasions where I do the opposite of this such as, I have a lock on a horse that may pay \$ 7 or \$ 8 (example) and the connecting race has many contenders, I'll take a shot because the risk reward is big. That FTS could pay \$30, \$40 or more and trigger a big DD.

Success at this game requires adaptability, free thinking, ridding oneself or locking into an unchangeable position because you always did it this way. Yes, adapt or perish.

5. Bet structure.

A save bet. I will make a save bet providing I can get the correct odds. Its not just in a race that is contentious or has many qualifiers. And of course, the horse has to be a legitimate contender and in races where the public is unsure of a favorite. For example, if a horse I like will pay \$6, then I might place \$2 to win and \$2 on 3 other horses. If the \$6 horse wins, I break even however if one of my other 3 win I make money.

I never know how I'll bet a race until about the last 5 minutes or so. At that point I make a decision and get the bet in. Ditto for my Ex and DD combinations as I eliminate short paying ones, again risk reward. Do you ever look at the EX and DD matrix (what the combination will pay)? I also do other things but they are situation dependent. Now this is very easy with home play but if at the track your decision must be made much earlier or risk getting shut out.

Hope this answers some of your questions on multiple qualifiers and some situations. **You learn by doing and it's the best teacher.**