

and all three of the contenders I mentioned can run fast enough to eliminate him. There is just no way he will get a pace he can handle. If he were one of the horses in your "stable," you'd say "not today" and eliminate him.

Broadway Tommy - is just a plain, old slow horse.

Bandwagon Harry - Another horse like Waitlist. Not a "bad" horse, but it has never been able to succeed against the pace it will face today. Another horse that needs a much slower pace to succeed.

Now, let's take the next step and look at our contenders.

Valiant Lark - Coming off a fine effort in a handicap race, the last line seems to represent what the horse is capable of. We'll use it as our pace line.

Waikiki Star - Again, the last line seems to represent the horses true abilities. Let's go with it.

Little Missouri - We can't use the last race, as it is too long to enter into our computers, but it clearly demonstrates that the horse can win against Grade I company. Taking any race other than a good race would be unfair to the horse. I selected the 5 April race from Oaklawn as the pace line to use.

Next, we must establish the pace of the race. Since none of our contenders show that they want the lead at the first call, we must manufacture one. We do this by finding the horse that ran best against the best first call and adding the beaten lengths. We'll use the first call of the race that Waikiki Star ran. Adding 4 1/2 beaten lengths to 45.1 gives us a guesstimate of about 46.1 for our first fraction.

The same procedure is followed for the second call, and using

Little Missouri's race gives us a time of 1:10.3. Since all these pace lines are from 1 1/16 mile races, we'll set a final time at 1 1/16 from Valiant Lark's race; 1:42. Though today's race is 1 1/8 miles, it isn't necessary to establish a time for this distance, but we must be sure to check that all three horses can handle this distance.

If you want to establish a 1 1/8th time, use the projected times as guidelines. Valiant Lark's race of 12 July is the best to use, giving a final time of 1:50. We don't want to use Waikiki Star's race of 30 July because the second call is much slower than today's projected time.

Remember, the projected pace of the race is only a "ball park" figure that gives us something to use in matching the horses up; the actual race could run faster or slower than these times. When we compare our contenders to our projected pace, we find we can eliminate Waikiki Star because his final time is too slow. Little Missouri should have a clear lead at the second call, and should be able to hold on against Valiant Lark and is my pick to win today's race. Should racing luck go against Little Missouri or the horse just not fire for some reason, we also have the second best horse in the race in Valiant Lark. I'm sorry, but I don't have the charts from this race, but Little Missouri did win the race, with Valiant Lark coming on strong at the end to take second.

The Pace Match-Up Graph, using the Match-Up program and the computer printout it generates will show you the Match-Up in graphic form. You should practice making Pace Match-Up Graphs with many races to learn to see how a race will "unfold" long before it is run.