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BREEDERS' CUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

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The Turf 'n' Sport

2016 Breeders' Cup Wagering Guide

Top Contenders

Betting Trends

The 2016 Breeders' Cup at Santa Anita

While the Kentucky Derby (G1) is considered the two most exciting minutes in sports, there is no doubt that the Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships is the two most exciting days in sports.

There are 13 championship races over the two-day event, held this year at Santa Anita on Nov. 4-5. Last year American Pharoah won the Breeders' Cup Classic (G1), adding to his Triple Crown to lock up Horse of the Year honors. That might be tough to top, but there is plenty of star power this year.

The 2014 Kentucky Derby winner and Horse of the Year recipient California Chrome is back and better than ever. Undefeated in six starts this year, he will be sent off as the betting favorite.

Standing in his way is the talented three-year-old Arrogate, who ran huge winning the Travers (G1) at Saratoga this summer for Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert.

This year's Breeders' Cup Distaff (G1) features a showdown between three champions—Beholder, Songbird and Stellar Wind.



Runhappy, Wavell Avenue and Mongolian Saturday are all back looking for more Breeders' Cup hardware.

This wagering guide will give you a look at the early contenders and offers up betting trends for each race to get your handicapping started. I will have my [full card reports](#) for the Breeders' Cup available on Nov. 3.

Enjoy these two days of exciting horse betting action and good luck!

Michael Dempsey

Stars Align for 2016 Breeders' Cup

The Breeders' Cup World Thoroughbred Championships always brings out the best from around the world, and 2016 will be no exception.

Over the two-day championship event on Nov. 4-5 at Santa Anita we will see as many as 11 contenders that have already taken home Breeders' Cup hardware back in action.

The queen of the show will be **Beholder**, who took the 2012 Juvenile Fillies and 2013 Distaff and owns three Eclipse Awards.

Sure, she has lost her last three starts, but it took champs to beat her, the 2014 Horse of the Year California Chrome and the 2015 champion three-year old Stellar Wind.

While **Beholder** is still considered the queen, there is no doubt the princess of the Breeders' Cup is the undefeated **Songbird**, last year's champion two-year-old who won the Juvenile Fillies and comes into this year's Distaff perfect in 11 career starts.



Found will make another trip from across the pond to defend her title in the Turf where she defeated the boys. After five straight runner up finishes earlier this year she beat the boys in the de l'Arc de Triomphe, and on Oct. 15 ran second in the Champions Stakes against the boys.

Lady Eli won the 2014 Juvenile Fillies Turf and spent a year on the sidelines battling laminitis.

She has come back as good as ever, running second in the Ballston Spa, her first career defeat, and then won the Flower Bowl. She will make her presence felt in the Filly & Mare Turf.

Wavell Avenue is back to defend her title in the Filly & Mare Sprint, pulling off the upset last year at 10-1. She has made six starts since with just win and she will be a generous price again this year.

That's a lot of star power among the ladies.

Runhappy won't defend his title in the Sprint, instead going into the Dirt Mile off just one start in the last nine months, a fourth place finish in the one mile Ack Ack at Churchill Downs.

Mongolian Saturday is the defending champ in the Turf Sprint, pulling off the upset at 15-1 last year at Keeneland.

He went to Sha Tin, Ascot and Newmarket this year and was not a threat in four starts, then came back to the U.S. and won the Woodford at Keeneland in his final prep.

Nyquist would have been a player in the Classic, but his connections declared him out of the race on Oct. 28. The 2016 Kentucky Derby winner had lost his last three starts and may now be retired.

Catch a Glimpse and **Hit It a Bomb** were also pre-entered this year.

Toss in California Chrome, Frosted, Flintshire, Seventh Heaven and the potential of seeing a future superstar coming out of the juvenile races, and it going to be a fun two days.

We are looking at a very exciting and historic Breeders' Cup and the best part of it is that we can pad our bankroll along the way.



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The 2016 Breeders' Cup Television Schedule



The 2016 Breeders' Cup World Championships will be broadcast live on NBC Sports:

Friday, November 4: 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET on NBCSN

Saturday, November 5: 2:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. ET on NBCSN

Saturday, November 5: 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. ET on NBC

Special: Betting the Breeders' Cup on NBCSN

Tune in for a 30 minute special on how to bet the Breeders' Cup. The show will feature NBC talent Laffit Pincay, Randy Moss, Eddie Olczyk, Bob Neumeier, Matt Bernier and Nick Luck.

Tune In to NBCSN:

Thursday, November 3: 7:00p.m - 7:30 p.m. ET

Friday, November 4: Noon - 12:30 p.m. ET

Friday, November 4 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ET

The 2016 Breeders' Cup Friday Race Schedule

The first Championships race on Breeders' Cup Friday will be the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf (2:25 p.m.); followed by the \$1 million Las Vegas Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile (3:05 p.m.); the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (3:50 p.m.); and the \$2 million Longines Breeders' Cup Distaff (4:35 p.m.).

Wagering Menu Friday, Nov. 4

Race 1	11:25 AM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 5
Race 2	12:00 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	
Race 3	12:35 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 4
Race 4	1:10 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 6
Race 5	1:45 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	
Race 6	2:25 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 4
Race 7	3:05 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 4
Race 8	3:50 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	
Race 9	4:35 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	Sp DD		SupHi 5
Race 10	5:10 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER			

Friday's Guaranteed Pools

Friday's card will open with a \$500,000 Pick 5 on Races 1-5. There will be a Pick 6 on Races 4-9 with a \$500,000 guarantee and an all Breeders' Cup Pick 4 on Races 6-9 with a \$1.5 million minimum guarantee.

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The 2016 Breeders' Cup Saturday Race Schedule

Championship Saturday begins with two stakes races followed by the \$2 million 14 Hands Winery Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies (12:05 p.m.); \$2 million Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (12:43 p.m.); \$1.5 million TwinSpires Breeders' Cup Sprint (1:21 p.m.); \$1 million Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint (2:05 p.m.); \$2 million Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Juvenile (2:43 p.m.), \$4 million Longines Breeders' Cup Turf (3:22 p.m.); \$1 million Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint (4:01); \$2 million Breeders' Cup Mile (4:40 p.m.), and the \$6 million Breeders' Cup Classic (5:35 p.m.).

Saturday, Nov. 5

Race 1	10:15 AM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 5
Race 2	10:50 AM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 4
Race 3	11:25 AM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	
Race 4	12:05 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 4
Race 5	12:43 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	
Race 6	1:21 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	
Race 7	2:05 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 6
Race 8	2:43 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	
Race 9	3:22 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	PICK 4
Race 10	4:01 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER	PICK 3	DD	
Race 11	4:40 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER		DD	
Race 12	5:35 PM	WPS	EX	TRI	SUPER		SupHi	5

Saturday's Guaranteed Pools

There will be a \$500,000 guaranteed Pick 5 on Races 1-5; an early all Breeders' Cup Pick 4 with a \$1 million guarantee on Races 4-7; a \$2 million guaranteed all Breeders' Cup Ultra Pick 6 on races 7-12 and a \$3 million guaranteed all Breeders' Cup late Pick 4, Races 9-12.

Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf



Hall of Fame trainer Bill Mott, who has won nine Breeders' Cup races has a talented juvenile in **Good Samaritan**, who broke his maiden in his debut and then won the Summer (G2) at Woodbine in his last outing.

Other U.S based runners that look strong are Pilgrim (G3) winner **Oscar Performance** for Brian Lynch and With Anticipation (G2) winner **Made You Look** for trainer Todd Pletcher.

The Mark Casse trained **Keep Quiet** won the Bourbon (G3) at Keeneland. He was the runner up in the With Anticipation (G2) in his stakes debut.

Big Score is coming off a big score in the Zuma Beach over the Santa Anita turf course at a mile for trainer Tim Yakteen.

The Euro invaders have been tough, and this year figures to be no exception. Aiden O'Brien has won this race three times, and he sends over **Lancaster Bomber**, second in the Dewhurst (G1) in his last outing at Newmarket and **Intelligence Cross**, fourth in the Middle Park Stakes (G1) in his last outing.

Juvenile Turf by the Digits

(last nine years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$16.96

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$186.71

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 87

Betting Favorites: 1 for 9

2015:

Winner: Hit It a Bomb (\$16.40)

Winner final prep: won E.B.F. Star Appeal Stakes

Runner up: Airoforce

Runner up final prep: won Bourbon Stakes (G3)

Juvenile Turf Betting Trends

Just one betting favorite has one the Juvenile Turf in its nine runnings, Pounced returning \$6.80...The betting favorite has landed second four times including last year with Airoforce... Euro invaders have accounted for six of the nine winners, with the Wesley Ward trained Hootenanny starting his career in the U.S. but making his final prep overseas...

Trainer Aiden O'Brien has won this race in three of the past five years and John Gosden shipped runners to Santa Anita to win back to back in 2008-09...Six of the nine winners were stretching out from a six or seven-furlong race...The Dewhurst at Newmarket was used twice as final preps...Four or five preps is ideal, with Hit it a Bomb the lone winner of the race to have just two previous starts...Seven of the eight winners won at least one of their final two preps...



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Jockey Ryan Moore has won three of the last five editions of the Juvenile Turf.

Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf

The Mark Casse trained **La Coronel** ran a good second to **New Money Honey** in her turf debut at Saratoga, and that foe came back to win the Miss Grillo (G3), a key prep, in her next outing. **La Coronel** came back to win the Jessamine (G3) at Keeneland in her most recent outing on Oct. 12 to become a major player in this race.

New Money Honey was a \$450,000 purchase and will be sent out by trainer Chad Brown, who has won this race twice, with Lady Eli in 2014 and with Maram in 2008, the first year of the race.

It is amazing that just one Euro shipper has won in the eight editions, Flotilla getting the job done in 2012, who paid \$24.80.

That could change this year as there are some promising looking fillies making the trip across the pond.

Aiden O'Brien is 0 for 7 in this race, but that could change this year as he sends over **Roly Poly**, beaten a nose in the Cheverly Park Stakes (G1) at Sept. 24.

Who beat her that day? It was 25-1 longshot Brave Anna, who is also trained by O'Brien., but is not making the trip to the U.S.

Aiden's son Joe will send over **Intricately**, a nose winner of the Moyglare Stud Stakes (G1) at the Curragh in her last outing. The runner up in that race was **Hydrangea**, who is trained by his father and she makes the trip as well. Aiden O'Brien swept the top three spots in this year's Arc, can do the same here?

Juvenile Fillies Turf by the Digits

(last eight years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$18.93

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$141.35

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 87

Betting Favorites: 1 for 8

2015:

Winner: Catch a Glimpse (\$14.80)

Winner final prep: won Natalma (G2)

Runner up: Alice Springs

Runner up final prep: won Tattersalls Millions Trophy

Juvenile Fillies Turf Betting Trends

U.S. based fillies have won six of the eight runnings of this race, with the two Euro wins both coming at Santa Anita in 2012 and 2013 when Lasix was prohibited...The betting favorite has run out of the superfecta four times and has only landed in the exacta three times...The second choice in the betting has gone 0 for 8 and only two have landed in the exacta...Euro Alice Springs did run very well last year in a runner up finish...Euros ran third, fourth and fifth in 2014...

Three of the winners have used the Miss Grillo (G3) at Belmont Park as a prep while three others including last year's winner Catch a Glimpse used the Natalma (G1) at Woodbine...



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Jockey Irad Ortiz Jr. was aboard Lady Eli for her victory in the 2014 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies

Five of the winners aced their final prep, two others ran second and Euro shipper Flotilla ran fourth in her final prep...More Than Real and Lady Eli both won off just two career starts, Catch a Glimpse has three previous starts last year...

All eight of the winners were coming off a route in their last prep, six on turf while Tapitsfly ran second in the off the turf Miss Grillo (G3)going a one turn mile and Stephanie's Kitten won off a trip on polytrack in the Alcibiades (G1) at Keeneland which she won...

Breeders' Cup Juvenile

The Juvenile will produce the early betting favorite for next spring's Run for the Roses, and with Nyquist winning both the 2015 Juvenile and the Kentucky Derby this spring, perhaps we can officially put the "Juvenile Jinx" to bed.

He became just the second (Street Sense was the first in 2006) to win the Juvenile and the Derby the following spring. With many of this year's contenders only having two or three starts under their belts, handicapping the Juvenile has become pretty tricky.

Chad Brown is best known for training top notch turf horses but will be coming into this year's Juvenile with a pair of promising colts in **Favorable Outcome** and **Practical Joke**.

Favorable Outcome was an impressive maiden winner in his debut but could not go with his stablemate and the New York bred **Syndergaard** in a third place finish. The top pair battled on gamely to the wire in the Champagne (G1) at Belmont Park, separated by a nose. The Champagne has produced eight Juvenile winners.

Practical Joke came out on top and is undefeated in three starts, also winning the Hopeful (G1) at Saratoga.

Syndergaard trounced state bred in his first two starts for trainer Todd Pletcher and showed he can handle top notch company. Pletcher will also send out **Theory**, who broke his maiden in his debut and came back to win the Futurity (G3) on Oct. 15, which would be a quick turnaround. Can he win with just two career starts? New Year's Day (2013), Hansen (2011) and Uncle Mo (2010 for Pletcher) did.

Classic Empire wheeled coming out of the gate and dropped his jockey in the Hopeful (G1) and with blinkers added, the Mark Casse trainee looked like a real pro winning the Breeders' Futurity (G1) at Keeneland in a very impressive effort.

John Shirreffs, best known as the trainer of the great mare Zenyatta has a talented juvenile in **Gormley**, who won the Frontrunner (G1) at Santa Anita in his second career start.

Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert, who has won the Juvenile three times, will be represented by **Klimt** who won the Del Mar Futurity (G1) at seven furlongs and was second in the Frontrunner in his first start around two turns.

Juvenile Betting Trends

From 1999 to last year, betting favorites in the Juvenile have gone 3 for 17, the last favorite to win being Shanghai Bobby (\$4.60) in 2012...He was trained by Todd Pletcher who is 2 for 17 in the race, Uncle Mo (\$4.80) in 2010 his other winner...Favorites have won 11 of 32 overall...4 of the last 9 winners took the field gate to wire....The key races are the Champagne (G1) at Belmont Park which has produced eight winners while the Norfolk/Frontrunner (G1) at Santa Anita has produced six...



Nyquist won the 2015 Juvenile and went on to win the Kentucky Derby.

The Breeders' Futurity (G1) at Keeneland has served as the prep for five winners...The last three winners have exited races in SoCal...

It's possible to win the Juvenile off just two career starts, accomplished recently by New Year's Day in 2013, Hansen in 2011 and Uncle Mo in 2010...Uncle Mo won his race in his first trip around two turns...Of the six races run on dirt at Santa Anita, five made their final prep in SoCal...

Juvenile by the Digits

(last 15 years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$23.52

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$171.07

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 97

Betting Favorites: 3 for 15

2015:

Winner: Nyquist (\$11.40)

Winner final prep: won Frontrunner (G1)

Runner up: Swipe

Runner up final prep: 2nd in Frontunner (G1)

Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies



The Juvenile Fillies appears to be a classic showdown between the east and the west, and both coasts will be well represented this year. The Bob Baffert trained **Noted and Quoted** won the Chandelier (G1) in her first start around two turns while **Union Strike** will come into the race off a sharp win in the Del Mar Debutante (G1) in her second career outing for trainer Craig Dollase, who takes training duties from Shelbe Ruis, whose father owns the filly.

Champagne Room, who was third in the Del Mar Debutante and fourth in the Chandelier deserves some respect as does **With Honors**, runner up in the Chandelier.

Among those shipping in from the east coast are **Sweet Loretta**, who finished in a deadheat with Pretty City Dancer, who has an ankle injury and will miss the race.

Christophe Clement will ship in Frizette (G1) winner **Yellow Agate**, who beat Libby's Tail by a head.

The Graham Motion trained **Dancing Rags** pulled off the upset in the Alcibiades (G1) at Keeneland at 12-1 in her stakes debut and looks as if she will be a factor.

The Alcibiades runner up was **Daddys Lil Darling**, who had won the Pocahontas (G2) in her previous outing will be shipping in from her Kentucky base for trainer Ken McPeck.

Juvenile Fillies by the Digits

(last 15 years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$20.36

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$247.18

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 93

Betting Favorites: 2015:

Winner: Songbird (\$3.20)

Winner final prep: won Chandelier Stakes (G1)

Runner up: Rachel's Valentina Runner up final prep: won Spinaway Stakes (G1)

Juvenile Fillies Betting Trends

Since 2002 the betting favorite has won the Juvenile Fillies 10 times in 14 years, with 2014 favorite Angelee Renee (3-1) the lone betting favorite to failed to land outside of the superfecta...Only four betting favorites in the history of the race have failed to land in the super...Overall 18 of the 32 betting favorites have succeeded...

Take Charge Brandi pulled off the biggest upset in 2014, paying \$125.40 and Ria Antonia was placed first via a DQ and returned \$66.60...4 of the last 6 winners of this race went gate to wire... Since 2005, seven of the nine winners have taken the field gate to wire if we exclude the two run on Pro Ride...Going back 10 years, three winners made their final prep in So Cal, three in New York, two at Keeneland, and one each at Calder and Woodbine...

The Frizette has produced the most winners with 11, the Alcibiades next with seven winners... Out of the last 10 years only Beholder was stretching out from a sprint...Three were stretching out from the one turn mile Frizette and Dreaming of Anna came in off a one-mile race on turf...Seven of the last 10 winners came into the race off a win in their final prep...



Songbird won the 2015 Breeders' Cup Juvenile with Hall of Fame rider Mike Smith in the irons.

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Breeders' Cup Turf Sprint



The defending champ **Mongolian Saturday** will be back, and the globetrotting gelding finally got a win in his last outing, winning the Woodford (G3) at Keeneland.

He had made four starts this year previously, a pair of loses at Sha Tin and losses at Ascot and Newmarket, a fifth place finish his best effort. He won at 15-1 last year and could be about the same price in a wide open field.

Holy Lute won the first division of the Eddie Read (G3) in his last outing for trainer James Cassidy and has plenty of experience over the downhill turf course that is important.

The other division was won by **Ambitious Brew** and he

also is a veteran over the turf at Santa Anita, winning five of 10 starts.

Of the east coast shippers, **A Lot** for Chad Brown could be dangerous. He is cutting back from a runner up finish in the one mile Fourstardave (G1) at Saratoga.

Pure Sensation has won three in a row, taking the Belmont Turf Sprint in his last outing. He has won six of his nine career starts on turf , was sixth in this race last year, but has no starts over the turf at Santa Anita.

Turf Sprint by the Digits

(last eight years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$22.45

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$213.28

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 100

Betting Favorites: 3 for 8

2015:

Winner: Mongolian Saturday (\$33.80)

Winner final prep: 2nd in Woodford Stakes (G3)

Runner up: Lady Shipman

Runner up final prep: 2nd in Buffalo Trace Franklin County

Lady Shipman was beaten just a neck in this race last year. Her sixth in the Eddie Read (G2) last out was her first trip over the turf at Santa Anita and remember last year's race was at Keeneland at 5 ½ furlongs.

Celestine is cutting back from a mile where she won the Just a Game (G1) two back and ran third in the First Lady (G1) in her last outing at Keeneland.

There were 28 pre-entered for this race.

Turf Sprint Betting Trends

We have had eight runnings and three winning favorites, the shortest price being Regally Ready at \$6.60...Bobby's Kitten (2014) is the lone three-year-old to win the race...The second and third choices in the eight runnings of the race have only won once...

All of the winners of the races held at Santa Anita have had experience over the turf course...Off the pace types won four of the five runnings at SA, with California Flag the lone gate to wire winner in the five runnings...Mizdirection in 2013 and Bobby's Kitten in 2014 each were cutting back from a route...



The Jim Rome owned Mizdirection won back to back Breeders' Cup Turf Sprints, taking the 2012 and 2013 editions, both at Santa Anita.

Mizdirection broke from the 11 post in both of her wins at Santa Anita...Both of her wins came off layoffs of 4+ months...In the past four years just one Euro invader participated, the Aiden O'Brien trained Starspangledbanner (14-1) who checked in 10th in 2012 at Santa Anita...

Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Sprint



An oddity of the Filly & Mare Sprint is in the nine editions, five of the winners used the exact same path, running in the Presque Isle Masters (G2) and the TCA (G2) at Keeneland. This year's Presque Isle winner was Sarah Sis, but she faded to finish seventh in the TCA and does not look as if she is headed to the race.

The TCA was won by **Irish Jasper**, a Chad Brown trainee who looks back on track after ending a four race losing streak beating optional claimers and stamping her ticket to this race in the TCA. Last year she reeled off three in a row including the Miss Preakness (G3) and Victory Ride (G3), both sprints.

By the Moon ships in from New York for Michelle Nevin off two solid efforts, winning the Bed of Roses Handicap (G3) and running second in the Ballerina (G1) in her last outing at Saratoga.

The upset winner of the Ballerina at 10-1 was the Tom Morley trained **Haveyougoneaway**, who has now landed in the money in 21 of her 26 career starts. She won her first graded stake in her previous outing winning the Honorable Miss (G2), also at Saratoga.

Carina Mia has been knocking heads with Songbird and cuts back from the Cotillion (G1) where she was second beaten 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ lengths. She ran a decent third in the Ballerina (G1) two back at seven furlongs.

Wavell Avenue is the defending champion, pulling off the upset at 10-1, but has won just once in six starts since. She made a mild late bid to finish third last out in the Gallant Bloom (G2).

Curalina would likely go off as the betting favorite but her connections listed the Distaff as her first preference. She was second in the Personal Ensign (G1) in her last outing.

Tara's Tango is cutting back from the Zenyatta (G1) where she was no match for Stellar Wind and Beholder.

Filly & Mare Sprint Betting Trends

There have now been nine runnings of the Filly & Mare Sprint with the betting favorite winning three...None of the nine winners went gate to wire...Five of the nine winners of the race prepped in the Presque Isle Masters over a synthetic surface then the TCA at Keeneland...The TCA was run on polytrack but the surface has been switched back to dirt...

No three-year-old has won the race, with the oldest being six-year-old Maryfield, who won the first running in 2007...



2015 Filly & Mare Sprint champion Wavell Avenue will be back to defend her title.

Four of the last six winners did not come into the race with a Grade 1 win...Eight of the nine winners won at least one of their final two preps, the lone exception Ventura, who ran second in both of her final preps...

The pacesetter has only stuck around to land in the trifecta twice, La Verdad second last year and Free Flying Soul running third in 2009...The race is run at seven furlongs and seven of the nine winners had at least one win at the distance...

Filly & Mare Sprint by the Digits

(last nine years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$15.29

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$129.71

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 102

Betting Favorites: 3 for 9

2015:

Winner: Wavell Avenue (\$22.00)

Winner final prep: 2nd in Gallant Bloom Hcp (G2)

Runner up: La Verdad

Runner up final prep: won Iroquois Stakes

Breeders' Cup Sprint



With the defending champion Runhappy headed toward the Dirt Mile, the Sprint this year is lacking in star power but has a competitive group, with top contenders coming from both coasts.

Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert has a pair of top contenders in **Lord Nelson**, winner of the Santa Anita Sprint Champion (G1) and **Drefong**, who shipped east and won the King's Bishop (G1) in his stakes debut.

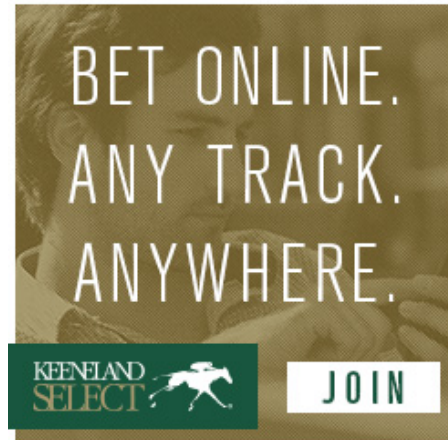
The most accomplished of the east coast sprinters is **A.P. Indian**, who comes into the Sprint riding a six race winning streak, taking the Phoenix (G2) at Keeneland in his last outing. Runhappy won the Phoenix last year and parlayed that into a Sprint win.

Masochistic is looking to do better than his 14th place finish in last year's Sprint and is coming into this year lightly raced with just two starts. He won the Pat O'Brien (G2) at Del Mar going seven furlongs in his last outing.


Limousine Liberal gave **A.P. Indian** all he can handle last out in the Phoenix at Keeneland, coming up just a nose shy in a tough beat. The gelding earned a career top speed figure in that effort for trainer Ben Colebrook.

Noholdingback Bear and **Mind Your Biscuits** both come into the race sharp and will be decent prices. We saw the smallest exacta in the history of the race last year with Runhappy and Private Zone combining for a \$24.40 payoff.

Expect more generous prices this year as the average exacta payoff for the race in the history is close to \$300 bucks.



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Sprint Betting Trends

The betting favorites have won two of the last three but just eight times in the history of the race...The betting favorite has run out of the money 12 times out of the last 19 editions...

Of the six Sprints run on dirt at Santa Anita, four of the winners made their final prep start outside of SoCal...

The two key preps for the Sprint are the Vosburgh at Belmont Park and the Santa Anita Sprint Championship, each producing six winners...

There have been 11 gate to wire winners of the Sprint including three of the last six...

Three-year-olds have won the Sprint eight times including last year with Runhappy...Three winners of the race were six-year-olds and two were seven-year-olds...

In eight of the past 15 years the winner has paid \$17.80 or more...

Among the longshots winning at Santa Anita include Work All Week (\$40.20) in 2014, Trinniberg (\$29.40) in 2012, Dancing in Silks (\$52.60) in 2009 and Cajun Beat (\$47.60) in 2003...



Runhappy and Private Zone combined for the smallest exacta in Sprint history last year.

Sprint by the Digits

(last 15 years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$21.57

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$266.86

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 110

Betting Favorites: 4 for 15

2015:

Winner: Runhappy

Winner final prep: won Phoenix Stakes (G3)

Runner up: Private Zone

Runner up final prep: won Forego (G1)

Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile



Some consider the Dirt Mile the drunk cousin of the Classic, but there is a talented group heading to the gate this year even without Frosted, who is now headed toward the Classic.

Last year many thought Liam's Map should have gone to the Classic, and instead he won the Dirt Mile returning a paltry \$3.00, the shortest price in the nine-year history of the race.

The Bob Baffert trained **Dortmund**, who was beaten by California Chrome in his last three starts, figures to be the betting favorite. He has won five of his six starts at Santa Anita and the cut back to a mile should suit.

One of the biggest puzzles for handicappers is what to do with **Runhappy**. Last year's Sprint champion was on the bench for nine months and returned with a fourth place finish in the Ack Ack (G2) at Churchill Downs.

The Cinderella story off his win last year for trainer Maria Borell has since gone downhill fast, and he is back in the care of trainer Laura Wohlers. The colt has only gone two turns once in his career, a ninth place finish in the Lecomte (G3) in his stakes debut, beaten 21 ½ lengths.

Tamarkuz is coming off a pair of solid runner up finishes in the Forego (G1) and Kelso Handicap (G1) and **Texas Chrome** will take on older for the first time after wins in the Super Derby (G3) and Oklahoma Derby (G3) in his last two starts.

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Dirt Mile Betting Trends

After seven straight favorites getting beaten, we have seen chalky winners the past two years, Goldencents (\$3.40) and Liam's Map (\$3.00)...In fact, none of the first seven betting favorites even landed in the exacta...

Three-year-olds have won this race twice, Caleb's Posse the first in 2011 and Goldencents in 2013...Six of the nine winners were exiting a Grade 1 race, with just Liam's Map winning, taking the Woodward...



Liam's Map won the 2015 Dirt Mile as the shortest priced winner in the history of the race, returning \$3.00.

The other two Dirt Mile races at Santa Anita were contested over the Pro Ride surface in 2008-09...Four of the winners made their final prep in SoCal while three winners exited preps in New York... Goldencents is the lone two-time winner and took the field gate to wire in both of his wins in 2013 and 2014, those trips at Santa Anita...Tapizar in 2012 also won gate to wire, and that effort came at Santa Anita...

Dirt Mile by the Digits

(last nine years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$23.35

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$244.87

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 108

Betting Favorites: 2 for 9

2015:

Winner: Liam's Map (\$3.00)

Winner final prep: won Woodward Stakes (G1)

Runner up: Lea

Runner up final prep: 2nd in Woodbine Mile (G1)

Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf



After a long battle with laminitis **Lady Eli** is back and heading to the Filly & Mare Turf in top form. She came back off the layoff and suffered her first defeat on turf in a runner up finish in the Ballston Spa to Strike Charmer, but came back with a smart looking win Flower Bowl (G1) at Belmont Park. She won the 2014 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1).

She is trained by Chad Brown, will also saddle **Sea Calisi** who was third in the Flower Bowl after winning the Beverly D. (G1) at Arlington Park in her previous outing.

The Euros will be well represented. **Seventh Heaven** will go for the Aiden O'Brien barn and she is coming off a fifth

in the British Champions Fillies & Mares Stakes (G1). She won the Irish Oaks (G1) and Yorkshire Oaks (G1) in her previous two starts.

Last year's runner up **Alice Springs** will be back and won her last two starts, winning the Sun Chariot Stakes (G1) at Newmarket in her last start. Her connections may opt for the Mile against the boys.

Avenge comes in riding a three race winning streak. The Richard Mandella trainee won the Rodeo Drive (G1) in her last outing at 1 1/4 miles and has won four of her seven starts over the Santa Anita turf.

Smart Call ships in from South Africa and will be making her first start since January. She started off her 2016 campaign by winning back to back Group 1 races but will try to win off a nine month layoff.

Catch a Glimpse won her first eight career starts on turf before getting beaten a neck in the Lake Placid (G2) at Saratoga in August. She came back in the Queen Elizabeth II Challenge Cup (G1) at Keeneland and was a disappointing seventh.

Sentiero Italia set the early fractions in the Flower Bowl but was run down late by the brilliant **Lady Eli** in deep stretch, beaten 3/4 of a length. The Kieran McLaughlin trainee was fourth in this race last year.

Filly & Mare Turf Betting Trends

The betting favorite in the Filly & Mare Turf has won just once in the last nine runnings, Ouija Board (\$4.80) in 2006 (she was also the chalk when she won in 2004, paying \$3.80)...The U.S. based runners have held the edge over the Euro invaders, winning 11 while six have come from across the pond...At Santa Anita we have seen six editions, with Euros and the home team each taking three...

There have been a trio of three-year-old fillies that have won the race, all three Euro shippers, the most recent Midday (\$6.60) in 2009...Chad Brown has won three of the last four editions, Stephanie's Kitten last year, Dayatthespa in 2014 and Zagora in 2012...There have been just two gate to wire winners, Intercontinental in 2005 and Dayatthespa in 2014, both U.S. based runners...

Eight of the last 10 winners of the race had won at least one Grade 1 race...The Flower Bowl (G1) at Belmont Park has produced six winners while the First Lady at Keeneland has been the prep for the winner of this race four times...

The last Euro winner Dank ran in the Beverly D. (G1) and won in her U.S. debut, while Midday in 2009 used the Prix de l'Opera at Longchamp (G1), a third, in her final prep...



Michael's Breeders' Cup Reports includes his selections, analysis, fair odds line, and wagering recommendations for every race during the two-day Breeders' Cup from Santa Anita on Nov. 4-5.

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Filly & Mare Turf by the Digits

(last 15 years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$22.83

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$168.83

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 103

Betting Favorites: 4 for 15

2015:

Winner: Stephanie's Kitten (\$17.60)

Winner final prep: won Flower Bowl Stakes (G1)

Runner up: Legatissimo

Runner up final prep: won Fastnet Rock Matron Stakes



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Breeders' Cup Mile

The defending champion **Tepin** is back, beating the boys last year returning \$11.20. She won her next six starts but was finally beaten in her most recent start in a runner up finish to Photo Call who took the field gate to wire to win the First Lady (G1) at Keeneland. **Tepin** won the First Lady last year by seven lengths.

The Mile has had the most repeat winners, a feat accomplished by Miesque, Lure, Da Hoss, Goldikova and Wise Dan.

One horse to watch is **Ironicus**, who came storming home to just miss beating **Miss Temple City** in the Shadwell Turf Mile (G1) at Keeneland. The Shug McGaughey trainee has been solid all year but will need some luck getting a good trip.

Miss Temple City beat the boys last out in the Shadwell Turf Mile and she may have been ducking **Tepin**, who ran in the First Lady the same day. This may be a better spot than the Filly & Mare Turf as she has shown she is better at a mile.

Limato won the Qatar Prix de la Foret (G1) in his last outing at Chantilly at seven furlongs. He also won the six furlong Darley July Cup (G1) at Newmarket. This spot may be better than the Turf Sprint for him.

Another filly to look at is **Alice Springs**, who ran second in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies Turf (G1) last year. She is coming in off a Group 1 win at Newmarket in the Sun Chariot at a mile. She is trained by Aiden O'Brien who is 0 for 14 in the Mile.

Midnight Storm will come into the race riding a three race winning streak for trainer Phil D'Amato. The five-year-old won the Del Mar Mile Handicap (G2) last out and has one Grade 1 victory, the Shoemaker Mile back in June over the Santa Anita turf.

Mile by the Digits

(last 15 years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$28.33

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$354.88

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 108

Betting Favorites: 5 for 15

2015:

Winner: **Tepin** (\$11.20)

Winner final prep: won First Lady Stakes (G1)

Runner up: **Mondialiste**

Runner up final prep: won Woodbine Mile (G1)

Mile Betting Trends



The Mile has been won by females nine times including last year with Tepin...The other eight were all Euro shippers including Goldikova who won three times from 2008-10...Nine three-year-olds have won the race, with only Lure and War Chant U.S. based runners...Five of the last eight Mile winners paid \$5.60 or less but during that span we saw a two big bombers in Court Vision (\$131.60) in 2011 and Karakontie (\$62.00) in 2014...

U.S. based runners have fared well in recent years in the Mile, winning four of the last five since Goldikova reeled off her three in a row and lead overall with 19 wins versus 13 from across the pond...

At Santa Anita the Euros have taken five with three to the home team...We have not seen a gate to wire winner in the race since Lure did it back to back in 1992-93...The key race for the Euros is the Jacques La Marois (G1) which has produced seven winners. .

The key North American preps are the Shadwell Turf Mile (G1) and the Woodbine Mile (G1), each producing six winners...The last two betting favorites ran out of the money, Make Believe fifth last year and Toronado eighth in 2014, both overseas shippers...Before the past two editions, five of the last six winners were the betting favorites, Goldikova and Wise Dan accounting for all five...

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Breeders' Cup Turf



Defending champion **Found** was ninth in last year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1) at Chantilly, ran second in the Champion Stakes (G1) and then won the Turf, becoming the 10th Turf winner to have also run in the Arc.

However, no Arc winner has won the Turf. Oops, Found won the Arc this year at 9-1, so is that a bad thing? She has kept her busy schedule, running a good second in the Champion Stakes (G1). She seeks to give her trainer Aiden O'Brien his sixth win in the Turf.

O'Brien is also sending over **Highland Reel**, who ran a good second in the Arc at 24-1. He looked washed out

before the race which got me off him, but he bounced back nicely off his seventh place finish in the Irish Champion Stakes (G1) at Leopardstown in his previous start. He made a trip to the U.S. in 2015, winning the Secretariat (G1) at Arlington Park.

Erupt made his first trip to North American for the Canadian International(G1) and beat a couple of more highly regarded Euro shippers in **Dartmouth**, who ran second and **Idaho**, the beaten favorite who settled for fifth.

Flintshire remains the likely favorite for the Turf and he ran second in the race in 2014 behind Main Sequence. Since sticking in the U.S. and landing with Chad Brown, he won his first three starts for the barn but then was upset in the Joe Hirsch Turf Classic (G1) over yielding footing he did not seem to care for. He will get firmer footing at Santa Anita.

He was beaten in the Joe Hirsch by the Todd Pletcher trained **Ectot**, who was able to take the field gate to wire. That was his first win since taking the Prix Niel (G2) in Sept. of 2014.

Other U.S. hopefuls include John Henry Turf (G2) winner **Ashleyluvssugar**, Kentucky Turf Cup (G3) winner **Da Big Hoss** Northern Dancer (G1) victor **The Pizza Man**.

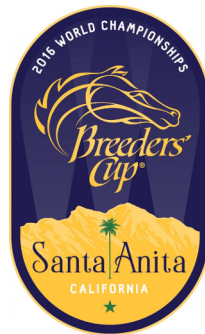
Turf Betting Trends

Euro invaders making their last start across the pond have accounted for 17 of the 32 winners of the Turf including four of the last six...None of those four Euros were the betting favorite or the highest profile runner coming over...Nine three-year-olds have won the Turf and seven of the nine were Euro shippers... Females have won the race three times, Pebbles (1985), Miss Alleged (1991) and Found (2015), all Euro shippers...Three of the last four Turf winners did not have a win at 1 ½ miles coming into the race...

There have only been three gate to wire winners, Great Communicator (1988), Buck's Boy (1998) and Little Mike (2012)...The betting favorite has only won once in the past 13 years, landing second four times during that period... .

The winner of the race the last six years has paid between \$14.40 and \$36.60...Trainer Aiden O'Brien has won the Turf five times...Jockey Ryan Moore has won four of the last eight editions....

Euros have won the Turf four times at Santa Anita, the U.S. five times (there was a deadheat in '03)...The Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe has produced 10 Turf winners but none of those 10 actually won the Arc...The key U.S. races are the Joe Hirsch and Man O' War...



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Turf by the Digits

(last 15 years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$17.65

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$120.79

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 110

Betting Favorites: 3 for 15

2015:

Winner: Found (\$14.80)

Winner final prep: 2nd in QIPCO Champion Stakes (G1)

Runner up: Golden Horn

Runner up final prep: won Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (G1)

Breeders' Cup Distaff



The Distaff field is shrinking, losing defending champion Stopchargingmaria, Cathryn Sophia and Cavorting to the breeding shed and **Carina Mia** and possibly **Curalina** to the Filly & Mare Sprint, but the big three are still set for their showdown.

The undefeated **Songbird** has been brilliant throughout her career, winning all 11 starts and by a combined 60 ½ lengths. She will take on her elders for the first time in the Distaff, but we have seen three-year-olds won the race in three of the past five years.

Beholder already has a couple of Breeders' Cup wins, taking the 2012 Juvenile Fillies and the 2013 Distaff.

She looked unbeatable, reeling off eight wins in a row, but now comes into this race having lost her last three outings.

Stellar Wind, last year's champion three-year-old filly got the best of her in the Clement Hirsch (G1) and Zenyatta (G1) and sandwiched in between those two losses **Beholder** ran second to **California Chrome**. She has won 13 of her 15 career starts over the Santa Anita main track.

With seven wins in 11 starts, **Stellar Wind** is a real danger to win this year's Distaff. She has won four of her five starts over the Santa Anita main track and earned a career top Beyer Speed Figure of 110 in her Zenyatta victory.

Getting completely overlooked in the race are a couple of talented Grade 1 winners, **Forever Unbridled**, a smart winner of the Beldame (G1) at Belmont Park in her last outing, and **I'm a Chatterbox**, winner of the Spinster (G1) at Keeneland in her final prep.

Land Over Sea ran second in the Kentucky Oaks (G1) back in May but has done little since, losing her last three starts by a combined 39 1/4 lengths. She is trained by Doug O'Neill.

While the boys in the Classic is the marquee race, the Distaff is the race many fans and bettors are looking forward to the most.

Distaff Betting Trends

The top three betting choices last year failed to hit the board, with Stopchargingmaria topping a \$155.80 exacta and a \$1,419.40 trifecta...She paid \$16.20 to win, with the highest price among the four previous Distaff winners coming back at \$7.60... 21 of the 32 winners of the Distaff have paid \$8.00 or less...Before last year the betting favorite had won 4 of the last 7 editions...Only Royal Delta has wired the field over the past dozen years...Three-year-olds have won 10 times...

Three-year-olds have won three of the past five editions...The Spinster (G1) at Keeneland has produced the most Distaff winners with 10, the Beldame (G1) at Belmont Park producing nine...Beholder is the lone runner in the last six years to have her final prep on the west coast... Bayakoa (1989-90) and Royal Delta (2011-12) are the only back to back winners of the Distaff...

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The second choice in the betting has failed to hit the exacta in each of the past eight years...The third choice in the betting has landed in the exacta in five of the last eight years...

Unrivaled Belle is the lone winner in the past nine years that did not come into the race with at least one Grade 1 victory...Stopchargingmaria won last year off a 62-day break. The only winner of the Distaff with a longer break was Escena at 71 days in 1998...Trainer Bill Mott has won the Distaff five times...

Distaff by the Digits

(last 15 years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$20.32

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$165.77

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 111

Betting Favorites: 6 for 15

2015:

Winner: Stopchargingmaria (\$16.20)

Winner final prep: 4th in Personal Ensign (G1)

Runner up: Stellar Wind

Runner up final prep: won Torrey Pines Stakes (G3)

Breeders' Cup Classic



It is going to be a long time before we see the excitement like last year where Triple Crown winner American Pharoah completed the so called Grand Slam of racing with his win in the Classic, right?

Paging **California Chrome**.

The 2014 Kentucky Derby (G1) winner had a rough 2015 but has come back this year perfect in six starts including three Grade 1 victory highlighted by a score in the Dubai World Cup (G1). He blitzed Beholder two back in the Pacific Classic (G1), beating her by five lengths which seemed to end any talk of her going to the Classic this year.

He is going to be a short price and is going to face a couple of runners that have run huge figures this year.

Frosted ran huge winning the Met Mile (G1) and only an over confident ride got him beat in the Woodward (G1) in his last outing. His connections are making the right choice by going here instead of the \$1 million Breeders' Cup Dirt (G1).

Arrogate was still a maiden when Nyquist won the Kentucky Derby (G1) but he now may be the most dangerous of his crop. He ran big winning the Travers (G1), earning a Beyer Speed Figure of 122, the highest number we have seen from a three-year-old in a decade.

Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert has won the last two editions of the race and will also send out **Hoppertunity**, who shipped east to win the Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) at Belmont Park in his last outing.

Remember **Keen Ice**? He beat American Pharoah in the 2015 Travers. He comes into the Classic off a uninspiring third place finish against second level optional claimers.

Melatonin is a very talented gelding and winner of the Santa Anita Handicap (G1) and Gold Cup at Santa Anita (G1), but issues have kept him in the barn since June 25.

Effinex ran second in last year's Classic at 33-1 and comes into this year's race off a solid runner up finish to Hoppertunity in the Jockey Club Gold Cup.

Classic Betting Trends

Three of the last four Classic winners took the field gate to wire...Three-year-olds have won 11 of the 32 editions of the race including the last two...Only Tiznow (2000) and Raven's Pass (2008) were Classic winners that did not compete in a Triple Crown race...

Last year American Pharoah was the first betting favorite to win since Zenyatta in 2009...The Triple Crown winner also snapped a streak of eight straight Kentucky Derby winners who lost in the Classic...

The betting favorite has landed in the exacta in 17 of 32 runnings, 4 of 8 at Santa Anita...

Pleasantly Perfect (2003) was the last Classic winner to win without having a previous Grade 1 victory...American Pharoah won last year off a 62-day break, the second longest in history. Invasor won off a 92-day break...

The Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1) (seven winners) has produced the most Classic winners followed by the Woodward (G1) and Awesome Again (G1) each with six...

The shortest exacta in the last 15 years was Blame and Zenyatta in 2010 which returned \$33.20

American Pharoah and Cigar (1995) are the shortest priced favorites to win in history, each returning \$3.40...

The exacta last year with AP and Effinex still returned \$76.40...

Cigar and L'Carriere combined for a \$85.50 exacta...In the last nine years the Classic betting favorite failed to finish in the top three six times...

Classic by the Digits

last 15 years)

Avg. Win payoff: \$20.28

Avg. Exacta payoff: \$158.12

Avg. Beyer Speed Figure: 114

Betting Favorites: 4 for 15

2015:

Winner: American Pharoah (\$3.40)

Winner final prep: second in Travers (G1)

Runner up: Effinex (33-1)

Runner up final prep: third in Jockey Club Gold Cup (G1)

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The official web site of the two-day championship event. Find listings of the races, contenders, news, and history of the event since its inception in 1984.

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America's Best Racing is a multimedia fan development and awareness-building platform, created and funded by The Jockey Club, designed to increase the profile and visibility of North America's best Thoroughbred racing events, with a primary focus on the sport's lifestyle and competition.

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The home for all things betting including the latest updated Breeders' Cup wagering odds. Odds Shark aims to become the global authority for online sports betting odds, whether it be in sports betting, poker, casino games or horse racing.



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[Daily Racing Form](#)

All the latest news for the Breeders' Cup along with past performances. Check out the most powerful interactive Past Performances used by Michael Dempsey. Use the code TENOFF16 which gives you a 10% discount on any DRF Formulator plan that is one month or longer.

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[Santa Anita Park](#)

The official web site of Santa Anita Park, the official home of the 2016 Breeders' Cup.

[Vegas Insider](#)

Michael Dempsey writes the daily column "At the Gate" at Vegas Insider, a leader in sports and horse racing wagering information.

*all photos used in this wagering guide courtesy of Breeders' Cup Ltd.

Turf 'n' Sport



Michael Dempsey

Michael was a partner in the Hampshire Racing Partnership for six years, and as a horse owner racing thoroughbreds throughout the Mid Atlantic region, he knows the sport from trackside to backstretch.

Michael is a freelance writer and full time professional handicapper and horseplayer, and previously was one of the top handicappers for TrackMaster/Equibase for over a decade, consistently picking winners for a loyal base of customers.

In 1999, Michael left his handicapping position at TrackMaster/Equibase to create Turf'nSport. Since then, horseplayers around the world have stopped by Turfnsport for Michael's full-card analysis and selections, and for his opinions on anything and everything to do with horse racing, sports, and gambling.

Michael created and was host and producer of the TurfnSport Radio Network. It was one of horse racing's first Internet web casts dedicated to the sport. During its four-year run, Michael interviewed hundreds of guests in the industry including Hall of Famers Gary Stevens, Mike Smith, Julie Krone, Bill Shoemaker and "Bud" Delp.

Michael is a featured columnist for Bleacher Report, horse racing columnist for Vegas Insider, is a contributor at Oddsshark.com and other gambling publications. He has appeared on dozens of radio shows throughout the country, and has been published in many horse racing and gambling magazines and websites.