Helpful tips for choosing a horse and making a bet

Read the Program

- First step...the program. There’s plenty of valuable information printed on the front pages such as tips on how to bet, a key to reading the program, current driver & trainer standings, a handicapping guide and other notes. Please consult the page dedicated to reading a Racetrack Program.
- Here are some key pieces of information handicappers use when making their picks:

Follow the experts

- Most racetracks have an expert make selections. At Running Aces, Track Announcer Darin Gagne handles this.
- Tips - Rick’s Pick sells the sheet here for $1. He studies the races, then shares his selections each night.
- The tote board/television screens show the latest odds for the current race. Unfamiliar with how odds work, there’s a chart in front of the program showing the approximate payoff for a $2 wager.

Betting

- Types of bets - We’ll stick to a simple $2 bet.
  - **Win**: You bet the horse to finish first ($2)
  - **Place**: You bet the horse to finish first or second – this type of bet gives you two chances for success, but your payout will be smaller because there’s less risk involved. ($2)
  - **Show**: You bet the horse to finish first, second or third – this type of bet gives you three chances for success and again, the payout will be even smaller because there’s less risk. ($2)
  - **WPS (Win/Place/Show)**: You bet the horse to finish first, second and/or third in each pool. This is three bets on one ticket ($6). If the horse wins, the payouts are win, place, and show for the bet. Finish second and its place and show. Third is show only.

- Placing your bet
  - Live tellers - located at betting windows in the racing area of the facility and outdoors, weather permitting. The tellers will gladly help navigate you through betting.
  - There are several betting machines available where you can place a bet. The machines take cash. Note: They do not give change, so if you put in a $20 bill and only make a $2 bet, be sure you get your $2 bet voucher and the voucher for your remaining $18.

- How do you know if you’ve won?
  - Watch the race, then check the official results with payouts on the tv or infield tote board
  - Take your betting voucher to a teller and have it checked out.

Enjoy the races. Have fun betting. Come back often.

Running Aces and Minnesota Harness Racing, Inc. supports responsible gaming. Must be 18 or older to water. For more information please call 651-925-4600 or visit www.RunAces.com