

THE MISSING LINK?

AN astonishing number of punters seem to believe that backing horses is a quick and easy way to make a fortune, if they could find the right system of course. They can be knocked down time and time again only to stagger up and push on amazingly confident that each broadside they suffer is nothing more than a setback and with an unshakable belief that one day their boat will come in.

For most punters it never does, but backing horses can become an addiction and if you are in this situation the first thing to tackle is yourself. From the outset the odds are stacked high against the punter and the first and greatest handicap is always one's self. If overcoming this fence is something beyond your capabilities the best advice is to unpack your bags because you are not going anywhere.

We may all want to get to the same destination, but there is no obligation to board the same transport or go via the same route, what matters is that you arrive. Whatever decision you make it is advisable to read the small print on the ticket before setting out because the odds are that it will contain things which are not at first apparent. I know the majority who decided to try my way neglected to do this and it has brought them a great deal of needless frustration.

Formula

When I first began to explain the way I do things, various aspects were singled out for readers to digest and on one occasion, because some were unable to grasp what I was saying, the following formula was presented. Consistent Form + Ability + Capability + Probability + Hard Work = Winners. After some time Tony Peach asked me to put everything together and this was done.

The whole concept was explained piece by piece and it was shown how and why each element had been chosen to fit into the method. Calculating consistent horses, ability ratings and everything else providing you **READ WHAT WAS THERE**. The last in capitals because it was all there although a vital factor, call it the missing link if you like was not deliberately pointed out. It is there for you to see and it was not covered up but until you approach the problem in the right way the odds are it will remain obscure. Once you find it everything will be so clear that you will wonder how on earth you could miss it and you will have the same horses as myself.

It came as no surprise when publication of the above brought a vicious attack from a Brighton reader in which he displayed all the attributes of a bigotted loser. Complete lack of temperament and absolutely no idea what constitutes form or else he would have seen that in every, repeat every illustration the winner was the class/form horse. These were Little Owl 4/5, Sunset Christo 5/1, Gay Chance 11/1 and Kenis 11/4. These were the five races which the text indicated for application of the method as I use it and you will see everything is true when you find that missing link.

All the races featured last time I wrote were analysed by me exactly exactly as those of March 28th 1981 and although there will doubtless be many who find it difficult to accept that six winners out of ten can be achieved, as demonstrated for Boxing Day, I can assure them that it is nothing unusual.

The weather has brought racing to a standstill and prospects for the immediate future looks anything but promising so to illustrate a few points I will use the last available card, Sandown

**Consistent Form,
Ability,
Capability,
Probability,
Hard work
=Winners.**

G VAN DER WHEIL

Saturday 5/1/85. Because my own ratings have caused some concern in the past I have used those provided by the press which can be checked by anyone. The 1.0, 2.30 and 3.30 are races which I would not normally give any attention to, so to save space these will receive just a few comments which may prove useful. Just a couple of general points. Note five of the six racers were won by CONSISTENT horses. This was just one of the factors against Buckbe which I mentioned last time I wrote. It is also helpful to see which horse can't lose rather than which can win. The first doubt should be enough to leave well alone.

The forecast and first set of ratings are taken from the Sporting Life (S.L.) and the second set of ratings the Daily Mail (D.M.)

Form	Horse	Ability	Cons	S.L.	D.M.
1.30					
11	The Hacienderos	22*	3*	36	78*
4-11141	Just Alick	13*	6*	34*	74
222F-13	Lucky Rascal	22*	6*	36	76
130-711	Man About Town	12	9	0	54
1211	Wing and a Prayer	31*	4*	26*	77*
417	417 Crocsox	12	12	55	50

Result, Wing and a Prayer won 5/4

Forecast. 7/4 Wing And A Prayer 5/2 The Hacienderos 4 Just Alick 11/2 Lucky Rascal 16 Man About Town 33 Crocsox. No question about the class/form horse Wing And A Prayer in this one. Everything goes his way and with a pull of half a stone it would be a shock if he blotted the book. Class, consistent pull at the weight, all three wins over this distance, has been running in better class than the remainder. For good measure both time and form ratings also put him out front.

2.00

872-221	Canny Danny	75*	5*	13	78*
12P-412	Lean Ar Aghaidh	18	7*	11	72
8729-63	West Tip	15	18	6*	75
422315	Bold Yeoman	38*	9*	13	68
8-03310	Little Polveir	21*	14	7*	76*

Result, West Tip won 11/4

Forecast. 11/10 Canny Danny 3 Lean Ar Aghaidh 7/2 West Tip 10 Little Polveir 16 Bold Yeoman. I am pleased a race such as this is on the card because it shows a situation where it is unwise to bet. Weight is a great leveller and the class/form horse Canny Danny faces the opposite of Wing And A Prayer in the previous race. Not only does he give over a stone in actual weight to the next in the handicap but almost double that to the horse (West Tip) which has half a stone in hand of him at the framed weight.

However good a horse is they don't overcome this handicap often enough to carry my money. To bet in this situation is bucking the odds, this sort of race is a punters' graveyard. If you refer back to his previous race you will note the difference. Here he does not give significant actual weight and in fact has a pull of 3lbs on handicap. A very fine wager and he did carry my money.

3.00					
533-211	Cool Gin	17*	4*	21*	78*
P-121LF	Our Fun	14*	13	26	76*
3222-42	Claude Monet	10	8*	37	71
1-6121U	Duesenberg	11	4*	36	73
1P-4443	Gratification	17*	11	18*	72
1-8F2F3	Perhaps Lucky	4	13	43	66
6/09333	Celtic Beauty	10	9*	38	56

Result, Cool Gin won 4/1

Forecast. 11/4 Cool Gin 7/2 Gratification 4 Duesenberg 11/2 Our Fun 13/2 Claude Monet 12 Perhaps Lucky 16 Celtic Beauty. The class/form horse Cool Gin has nothing to fear from Gratification which, as expected, has been running like a donkey this term and with nothing else in the field worth a mention was a good bet. Just for information this should have been Mr Spiers last wager to date.

Back to the 1.00 race. Not a lot to be said, Ryeman not by any standards consistent. Note penultimate race. . . . last of four and beaten out of sight in a race that should have been no problem. It is not difficult to envisage Brave George in the winners enclosure. Consistent in much better class but not a race to bet in. Again in the 2.30 the class/form horse wins and when you look at the class Beat The Retreat has run in compared to the rest of the field the bonus of a stone in hand would not be needed. To lose would cause more than eyebrows to be raised. I would not wager on it myself but that does not detract from the facts.

**REAL SUCCESS
BEGINS WITH
TEMPERAMENT**

**'Let the first
few months
go by . . .'**

The odds which weigh so heavily against the punter at the outset can be shifted strongly the other way if haphazard ways are dispensed with. Real success begins with temperament the rest follows as a matter of course. It may sound strange but when temperament has been achieved you receive a gift which guides and the wise person listens and takes heed. The Flat is just around the corner and many are they who will rush in with rash abandon. Don't be tempted, let the first few months go by before putting your money down. Many years of experience are needed to know which horses won't live up to expectations and there is nothing like present form.

There are many ways to come out on top and this particular one has served me well for many decades but you need to be ever alert because there are numerous pits to fall into. I hope that at least it will make your racing a happier pastime and wish those who follow a prosperous 1985.