

GENERAL GUIDE
FOR
THOROUGHBRED INVESTORS

by
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***“A horse runs with its lungs,
perseveres with its heart
and wins with its character.”***

FEDERICO TESIO

THE THOROUGHBRED

The Thoroughbred, the fastest and noblest of the many breeds of horse, is actually a hybrid. The breed evolved in Great Britain in the 17th and 18th centuries—the result of crossing native “running horses” with oriental stallions.

The most popular “running horses” were the now extinct Scottish Galloway. Sturdy, swift and spirited, these sure-footed ponies seldom grew taller than fourteen hands. The oriental foundation stallions were the Byerly Turk (1689), the Darley Arabian (1704) and the Godolphin Arabian (1728).

From this cross breeding came the four main Thoroughbred sire lines: Eclipse, Matchem, Herod and Herod’s son, Highflyer.

Thoroughbred sport as we know it today began with the ascension of Charles II to the throne of England in 1660. An enthusiastic horseman, Charles II was a great supporter of the race meets at Newmarket. He rode his own horses in races, frequently and well; established rules; was adjudicator and appeal-court. (The eight- furlong Rowley Mile, site of the British Classics, the One Thousand and Two Thousand Guineas, derives its name from the King’s favourite riding horse, Old Rowley.)

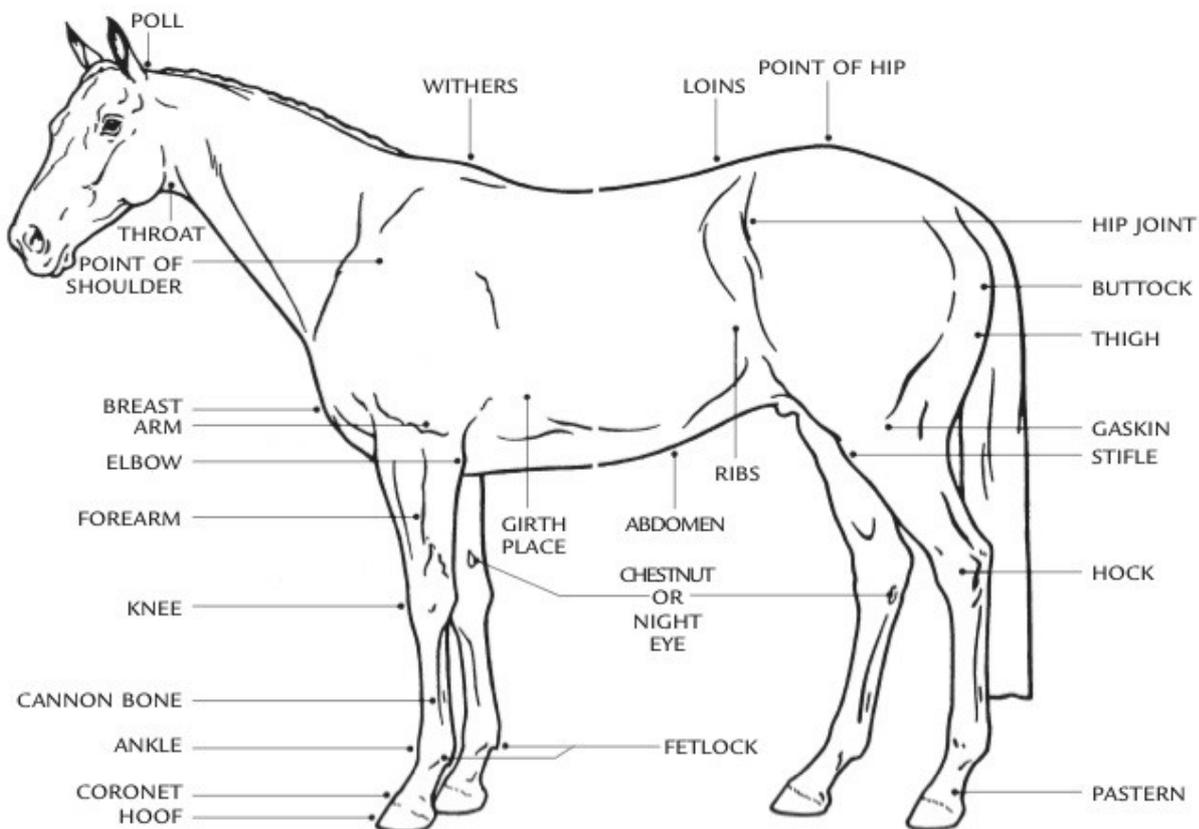
CONFORMATION OF A HORSE

No horse is conformed perfectly. Remember that in examining horses the purpose is to exclude those with physical faults your team considers unacceptable.

OVERALL CONSIDERATIONS

- Balance Is the horse well proportioned? Does the frame suit its muscle?
 - Bone Does it appear to be substantial — not too light?
- Intelligence Does the horse seem in control, aware of its surroundings, alert?
 - Athleticism Does the horse look physically fit and capable?

POINTS OF A HORSE



LATERAL OR SIDE VIEW

Feet

A horse's hooves must be able to withstand a great deal of pressure. Consider the proportion, substance, and size of the hoof. The underside of the hoof should have a round, slightly oval shape, with some depth. Some believe that larger feet indicate an aptitude for turf racing.

Pasterns

Pasterns should be at a 45-degree angle. The length should be proportionate; too long a pastern could indicate weakness and tendon strain, while if too short it may absorb too much concussion, thus stressing the bone structure.

Ankle

As with the pastern, the ankle joint size should be proportionate to the rest of the leg. Beware of the spread or prominent sesamoids.

Cannon bones

Ideally, the cannon bone should be short, strong and have mass. The bone should exit the lower knee or hock cleanly and be well centred.

Knee

Bones in and leading to the knee should line up in a balanced manner, not tilting forward (“over at the knee”) or back (“behind at the knee”), nor severely to one side or the other.

Shoulder

Should have the same slope or angle as the pastern. Stride length is largely determined by the conformation of the shoulder.

Neck

Should be sufficient in scope as to provide adequate wind for the horse and be well tied in at the withers, while not being too low or “ewe necked.” In short, does the neck fit the rest of the body?

Head

Generally, the distance from the back of the jaw to where the head ties into the neck should be about the size of a fist. Nostrils should be of adequate size.

Eye

Should be big and bright. Look for an “intelligent,” keen eye.

Back

The distance from the withers to top of croup or hips should match the length of the horse’s neck from the poll to the withers.

Hip/Buttocks

The croup or hip should have a gentle slope, not too steep or flat — and good width. The gaskin should depict strength and should complement the muscles of the quarters.

Hocks

A horse’s hocks should not be straight as a post, nor curved so deeply as to be “sickle-hocked,” but somewhere in between.

Stance

Does the horse stand with hocks tucked up underneath the body, “sickle-hocked,” or behind the body like a German Shephard?
The horse should be standing balanced and straight.

FRONTAL VIEW

Feet

Look for balanced feet on both sides or symmetry.
Avoid misshapen, dished, or cracked feet.

Cannon bones

From the front, the cannon bones should appear straight and be of the same length.
Keep an eye out for splints under the knees, on the front of cannon bones.

Knees

It is best if the knees are set squarely on top of the cannon bones,
not off to one side or another: "Offset knees."

Chest

A horse's chest should be broad and appear powerful. Narrow chest
or slab-sided horses are said to lack power.

Shoulders

Look for balance, symmetry and good muscling.

REAR VIEW

Hocks

From the rear, the hocks should appear to point straight at you and not turn in or out.

Hip/Buttocks

Much of the horse's athleticism and power comes from behind.
Definition and development are key attributes.

WALKING STRIDE

Front/Rear view

The horse should move straight forward and away from you.
Observe whether the horse toes-in or toes-out as it walks.

PURCHASING A THOROUGHBRED

AUCTIONS

While anyone can attend an auction, establish credit, and bid, there are so many options to consider in a short time.

It is wise to go with your bloodstock agent. Please be advised no license is required to be a bloodstock agent. An auction company can suggest names of trusted agents in the area. Ask about the bloodstock agent's fee prior to entering into an agreement.

Your agent, knowing your goals and budget, can analyze the sales catalogues and give you a list of horses that are within your price range. It is advisable to go to the sales barns ahead of time, in the company of your agent, to examine the horses. You can request a veterinarian's examination before the sale, at your expense. Many sales companies offer a repository that holds radiographs (xrays), which can be viewed before purchasing a horse.

It is wise to have a veterinarian examine a horse after purchase and if any of these conditions are spotted, the horse can be returned. There are some examples of "LIMITED WARRANTIES," these are stated in the front of the catalogue. These warranties generally expire soon after the sale and once a horse is removed from the grounds.

The main kinds of auctions are yearling sales, two-year-olds in training, mixed sales (horses of all ages) and breeding stock sales.

Here we have outlined the differences for you.

YEARLING SALES

Purchasing a yearling can be one of the least expensive ways of acquiring a great racehorse. It is also a gamble. You are buying purely on pedigree and conformation. Because a yearling is completely untried, once it matures, it may be disinclined to race, or it may be the next Northern Dancer.

"Select" yearling sales are the pick of the crop and the prices go accordingly. At the "non-select" sales, there are youngsters of every kind and every price range, and many great race horses have been purchased at yearling sales, e.g., Fusaichi Pegasus, Nijinsky, etc.

Since "birth dates" of all Thoroughbreds in the Northern Hemisphere are, technically, Jan. 1 of the birth year, the "yearling" can be anywhere from 10 to 18 months old. Thus, you may have up to a year of care and schooling before the horse enters its first race.

Horses mature at different rates. A "late foal" (May or June) may take more time to grow before being ready to race. Is it better to have an early (March or April) foal or a late foal? Opinions vary.

Northern Dancer was offered for sale as a yearling for \$25,000. No one wanted to buy him, so E.P. Taylor and his Windfields Farm held onto him. He won the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness, the Queen's Plate and nearly \$500,000. At the end of his days as a stallion, people paid \$1 million for a one-time, no guarantee breeding to the famous stallion.

TWO-YEAR-OLD IN TRAINING SALES

Generally held early in the year. Horses have been ridden and have experienced some training and can be seen galloping or breezing. These animals are close to starting in their first race.

Since their soundness and fitness has to some extent been demonstrated and since their owners have invested more time in keeping and schooling them, the two-year-olds are usually more expensive than the yearlings.

Some of these horses may have been bought by a “pinhooker,” who buys yearlings and attempts to turn a profit on the horses as two-year-olds in training.

MIXED SALES

These are usually held November-January. Horses of all ages and stages auctioned as dissolution of partnerships, settlements of estates, or simply horses no longer desired by their owners. This type of sale also includes yearlings that did not qualify for Select Sales. A veterinarian examination is essential.

BREEDING STOCK SALES

At a breeding stock sale, you can buy weanlings as well as broodmares. Buying a mare in foal is an opportunity to obtain horses of race potential.

CLAIMING

Buying a horse from a claiming race is one of the quickest ways to become a racehorse owner. Claiming races constitute approximately three-quarters of all races run. Claiming races serve to categorize approximately 70% of racehorses unable to run in top levels of competition.

One of the most difficult concepts new owners have to deal with is the fact that very few of their new acquisitions, regardless of how much money, time, and effort is invested in them, will be stakes calibre horses. The trainer will then have to break the news that the horse must run for a “tag.” Thus begins the entry into the claiming ranks, and with it, the risk of losing your horse, often for less money than you have invested in it. If you are fortunate, you may be able to recoup your investment by running your horse “where he belongs.”

Claiming works like this. If you want to run a horse at the bottom of the claiming ladder, say €12,000, you must be willing to lose him for that price. In the minutes before the race is run, anyone can put up €12,000 to claim your horse. If the horse wins, you get the purse money, but the horse now belongs to the owner who put in the claim.

A claim must be entered 15 minutes prior to post time and the money for the claim must be in the owner’s account at the track. The claim slip must be filled out, put in a sealed envelope; time stamped and put in the claim box by the clerk of scales. Once again, this is a process where your trainer will assist you.

HOW TO READ A SALES CATALOGUE PAGE

Sales catalogues are prepared in a standardized format, which includes the horse's name, colour, gender, foaling date, 3-generation pedigree, sire (and his year of birth), 1st dam (and her year of birth), 2nd dam (and more where space allows), stakes winners in bold upper case, stakes placed horses in bold upper and lower case, steeplechasers/hurdlers in italics, engagements (nominations to specific races), where foaled, vaccinations, covering stallions (and whether the mare is believed to be pregnant or is open), and date of last cover. Where a mare is described as "sister to," she has the same sire and same dam as the named horse, and where she is described as "half-sister to," she has the same dam as the named horse. Abbreviated race records, produce records and sire records are provided where applicable.

SIRE INFORMATION

Factors to consider:

- Number and size of foal crops
 - Percentage of progeny that are starters, winners, and stakes winners
 - Type of horse the sire produces: turf or dirt, colts or fillies
 - Precociousness of his foals — does he produce better 2-year-old runners or do they develop more slowly?
 - Age of the stallion — has he had the chance to prove himself?
- (The equine gestation term is 11 months, thus it takes 4 years from the time a horse enters stud and his first crop are running as 3-year-olds.)

GALILEO (IRE), Bay horse, 1998, by Sadler's Wells (USA), out of Urban Sea (USA), by Miswaki (USA). Champion 3yr old in Europe in 2001. Won 6 races, value £1,621,110, at 2 and 3, from 1 mile to 1 1/2 miles, Budweiser Irish Derby, Curragh, **Gr.1**, King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes, Ascot, **Gr.1**, Vodafone Derby Stakes, Epsom Downs, **Gr.1**, Derrinstown Stud Derby Trial Stakes, Leopardstown, **Gr.3**, Ballysax Stakes, Leopardstown, **L**, also placed second in Ireland The Food Island Champion Stakes, Leopardstown, **Gr.1**. Retired to Stud in 2002, and sire of the winners of over 803 races, and £25,404,603; including **CAPE BLANCO (IRE)** (Presidium, Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby, **Gr.1**, Irish Champion Stakes, **Gr.1**), **MAHBOOBA (AUS)** (Red Ransom (USA), Golden Slipper, **Gr.1**), **MISTY FOR ME (IRE)** (Storm Cat (USA), Moyglare Stud Stakes, **Gr.1**), **RIP VAN WINKLE (IRE)** (Stravinsky (USA), Juddmonte International Stakes, **Gr.1**, Queen Elizabeth II Stakes, **Gr.1**, BGC Sussex Stakes, **Gr.1**), **SANS FRONTIERES (IRE)** (Shirley Heights, Irish Field Irish St Leger, **Gr.1**), **ALANDI (IRE)** (Darshaan, Irish Field Irish St Leger, **Gr.1**, Qatar Prix du Cadran, **Gr.1**), **CIMA DE TRIOMPHE (IRE)** (Danahill (USA), Derby Italiano, **Gr.1**), **LUSH LASHES (GB)** (Anabaa (USA), Coronation Stakes, **Gr.1**, Darley Yorkshire Oaks, **Gr.1**, Coolmore Fusaichi Pegasus Matron Stakes, **Gr.1**), **NEW APPROACH (IRE)** (Ahonoora, Emirates Airline Champion Stakes, **Gr.1**, Vodafone Derby Stakes, **Gr.1**, Darley Dewhurst Stakes, **Gr.1**, Tattersalls Millions Irish Champion Stks, **Gr.1**, Bank of Scotland (Ire) National Stakes, **Gr.1**), **RED ROCKS (IRE)** (Machiavellian (USA), Man O'War Stakes, **Gr.1**, John Deere Breeders' Cup Turf, **Gr.1**), **SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (IRE)** (Erins Isle, Juddmonte Coronation Cup, **Gr.1**, Budweiser Irish Derby, **Gr.1**), **SOUSA (NZ)** (Last Tycoon, Thrifty Spring Champion Stakes, **Gr.1**), **ALLEGRETTO (IRE)** (Caerleon (USA), Prix Royal-Oak-Principaute de Monaco, **Gr.1**), **NIGHTIME (IRE)** (Indian Ridge, Boylesports Irish 1000 Guineas, **Gr.1**), **SIXTIES ICON (GB)** (Diesis, Ladbrokes St Leger Stakes, **Gr.1**), **TEOFILO (IRE)** (Danahill (USA), Darley Dewhurst Stakes, **Gr.1**, Laing O'Rourke National Stakes, **Gr.1**), etc.

DAM INFORMATION

Factors to consider:

- Racing and produce record of the female side, going back at least two generations
- Performance of her foals on the track — how many made it to the track and started
- What was their race record, i.e., number of starts, wins, and purse money earned?
- Number of full and/or half-siblings that are stakes performers

YEARLING, consigned by Lodge Park Stud, Ireland



Will Stand at Park Paddocks, Highflyer Paddock AA, Box 687

59 (WITH VAT) A BAY FILLY (IRE) Foaled May 11th, 2009	}	Galileo (IRE)	{ Sadler's Wells (USA) { Urban Sea (USA)	{ Northern Dancer { Fairy Bridge (USA) { Miswaki (USA) { Allegretta
		Alluring Park (IRE) (1999)	{ Green Desert (USA) { Park Express	{ Danzig (USA) { Foreign Courier (USA) { Ahonoora { Matcher

E.B.F./B.C. Nominated.

1st Dam

Alluring Park (IRE), won 1 race at 2 years and £15,201 and placed 3 times including third in Aga Khan Studs Blenheim Stakes, Curragh, **L.** and Rochestown Stakes, Leopardstown, **L.**; Own sister to **SHINKO FOREST (IRE)**;

dam of **three winners** from 3 runners and 4 foals of racing age including-
CHAMPAGNE SQUALL (IRE) (2005 c. by Daylami (IRE)), won 2 races at 4 years, 2009 in Japan and £22,381.

JANOOD (IRE) (2008 c. by Medicean (GB)), won 1 race at 2 years, 2010, his only start.

2nd Dam

PARK EXPRESS, Champion 3yo filly in Ireland, 1986, Jt. Champion 2yo filly in Ireland in 1985, won 5 races at 2 and 3 years and £346,894 including Phoenix Champion Stakes, Phoenix Park, **Gr.1**, Nassau Stakes, Goodwood, **Gr.2** and Lancashire Oaks, Haydock Park, **Gr.3**, placed 7 times viz second in Yorkshire Oaks, York, **Gr.1**, Blandford Stakes, Curragh, **Gr.2**, Leopardstown Stakes, Leopardstown, **Gr.3**, third in Champion Stakes, Newmarket, **Gr.1**, 1000 Guineas Trial, Phoenix Park, **Gr.3**, fourth in Pretty Polly Stakes, Curragh, **Gr.2** and Ribblesdale Stakes, Royal Ascot, **Gr.2**;

dam of **eight winners** from 11 runners and 13 foals of racing age viz-

NEW APPROACH (IRE) (c. by Galileo (IRE)), Champion 2yr old in Europe in 2007, Champion 3yr old in Europe in 2008, won 8 races at 2 and 3 years and £1,992,070 including Champion Stakes, Newmarket, **Gr.1**, Derby Stakes, Epsom Downs, **Gr.1**, Darley Dewhurst Stakes, Newmarket, **Gr.1**, Irish Champion Stks, Leopardstown, **Gr.1**, Bank of Scotland (Ire) National Stakes, Curragh, **Gr.1**, Galileo EBF Futurity, Curragh, **Gr.2** and Tyros Stakes, Leopardstown, **Gr.3**, placed second in Irish 2000 Guineas, Curragh, **Gr.1**, Guineas, Newmarket, **Gr.1**; sire.

DAZZLING PARK (IRE) (f. by Warning), Champion 3yo filly in Europe in 1999, won 3 races at 2 and 3 years and £168,482 including Trusted Partner Matron Stakes, Curragh, **Gr.3** and Bluebird Platinum Stakes, Cork, **L.**, placed second in Champion Stakes, Leopardstown, **Gr.1**, C L Weld Park Stakes, Curragh, **Gr.3**, third in Irish 1000 Guineas, Curragh, **Gr.1**; dam of winners.

GLINTING DESERT (IRE), won 1 race at 2 years and £5,293 and placed twice; dam of **ALFRED NOBEL (IRE)**, won 3 races at 2 years, 2009 and £244,633 including Camas Park/Ashtown House Studs Phoenix Stakes, Curragh, **Gr.1** and Railway Stakes, Curragh, **Gr.2**, placed 3 times.

SHINKO FOREST (IRE) (c. by Green Desert (USA)), won 9 races at 3 to 6 years in Japan and £1,756,254 including Hankyu Hai, Hanshin, **L.**, Takamatsumiya Hai, Chukyo, **L.** and Hakodate Sprint Stakes, Hakodate, **L.**, placed 6 times including third in Takamatsumiya Hai, Chukyo, **L.** (twice) and Silk Road Stakes, Kyoto, **L.**; sire.

Tycoon King (IRE) (c. by Last Tycoon), won 9 races in France and £182,148, under both rules placed second in Prix Montenica, Evry, **L.**

Park Heiress (IRE), unraced; dam of winners.

Devout (AUS), winner in Australia, second in Select Heritage Stakes, Rosehill, **L.**
SILENT HEIR (AUS), 1 race; dam of **YOUNG PRETENDER (FR)**, won 2 races at home and in France and £56,337 including Prix La Rochette, Longchamp, **Gr.3**.

3rd Dam

MATCHER, ran twice at 2 years;

dam of **seven winners** from 10 runners and 11 foals of racing age including-

MYRA'S BEST, won 4 races at 2 and 3 years including Firth of Clyde Stakes, Ayr, **L.**, placed fourth in Lowther Stakes, York, **Gr.2**; dam of winners.

FOREST EXPRESS (AUS), won Coolmore Vanity Handicap, Flemington, **Gr.3**, placed second in Magic Night Stakes, Rosehill, **Gr.2**.

WAKY NA (IRE), won Hamburg Dresden Pokal Holsten Trophy, Hamburg, **L.**; dam of **WAKY NAO (GB)**, won 10 races including Premio Vittorio di Capua, Milan, **Gr.1**; grandam of **WAKY LOVE (GER)**, won 2 races at 3 and 5 years, 2009 in Germany including Grosser Preis von Hannover 96, Hannover, **L.**

IN-BREEDING

“In-breeding” is when the same ancestor appears two or more places within the first four generations. For example, if the same ancestor appears in the third generation and again in the fourth, the horse is referred to as being “in-bred 3x4.” This significance of in-breeding is that the ancestor to whom the particular horse is in-bred may have greater influence, thus emphasizing certain characteristics. It is considered unconventional for a horse to be in-bred closer than 3x3.

LINE-BREEDING

Mating horses having a common ancestor to accentuate a certain feature.

OUT-CROSSING

The opposite of in-breeding, there is not a repeat presence within four or more generations. An out-cross is believed to offer greater variety and avoids concentration on good and bad characteristics.

BOLD FACE

Upper case letters indicates that the horse won a stakes race (added money event); bold face lower case indicates that the horse was stakes-placed (finished second, third, and sometimes fourth in a stakes race).

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Action *Describes a horse's manner of movement.*

Added Money *The purse of a race added by the racing association (or sometimes by a breeding fund) to the amount paid by owners in nomination, eligibility, entry and the starting fees.*

Also Eligible *In the event a horse is scratched, the next horse moves into its place. This information appears on the overnight entries, program and the Daily Racing Form.*

Apprentice Allowance Weight *concession to an apprentice rider: usually 10 pounds until the fifth winner, seven pounds until the 35th winner and five pounds for one calendar year from the fifth winner.*

Apprentice Rider *Rider just beginning his/her career, who has not ridden a certain number of winners within a specified period and receives an apprentice allowance.*

Asterisk (*) *Used beside a rider's name in the program, to indicate an apprentice. One asterisk = 5lb allowance. Two asterisks = 7lbs. Three asterisks = 10lbs.*

Back at the Knee *Leg that appears to have a backward arc (with its center at the knee) when viewed from the side.*

Bald (or Bald Face) *White face of horse, including eyes, nostrils or part of the latter.*

Bandages *These wrappings are often used as protection and support for a horse's legs during a race or in a stall. Usually consisting of an “under padding” made of cloth or synthetic wrap. Racing bandages are thinner and stretch tighter than regular bandages.*

Barrel *The body part between the forearms and the loins of a horse (torso).*

Bay (B.) *Bay horses have a brownish body coat and black “points” — mane, tail and lower legs.*

Bit *Metal bar that fits in a horse’s mouth and is attached to the reins.*

Black (Bl.) *Frequently a very dark brown cast. True blacks are distinguishable by the fine black hairs on the muzzle.*

Black Type *Designation for a stakes winner or stakes-placed horse in sale catalogues.*

Blanket Finish *Group of horses that finish so close together that, figuratively speaking, could be covered by a blanket.*

Blaze *White markings on the face of a horse — a patch, vertical stripe, or combination.*

Bleeder *Horse who bleeds during or after a workout or race due to a ruptured blood vessel.*

Blinkers *Piece of racing equipment that usually contains two hood eyecups, which restrict a horse’s vision and prevent distraction. This use is denoted in the program or in the Daily Racing Form as an “equipment change”.*

Blister *Counter-irritant to ease pain or to treat an ailment.*

Blow Out *Timed workout at a short distance. Designed to maintain the horse’s condition, usually a day or two before a race.*

Bone Spavin *Bony growth inside and just below the hock joint.*

Book *The mare “booked to” a stallion for breeding in any given year.*

Bottom Line *Thoroughbred’s breeding on the female side or the bottom half of an extended pedigree diagram.*

Bowed Tendon *Rupture of the sheath enclosing the tendon from the knee to the fetlock joint, giving it a bowed appearance.*

Brace *Rubdown liniment used on a horse after a race or a workout.*

Break *1.) The start of a race 2) To train a young horse to accept saddle, bridle and rider.*

Break Maiden *Horse or rider winning first race of career.*

Breeze *Working a horse at a moderate speed (i.e. using less effort than “handily”).*

Broodmare *Female Thoroughbred used for breeding.*

Brown (Br.) *Sometimes difficult to separate from black or dark bay. This colour can usually be distinguished by noting finer tan or brown hairs on the muzzles of flanks.*

Bridle *The bridle is made up of a bit, headstall and the reins.*

Broken Winded *Horse with respiratory problems.*

Bute (or Butazolidin) *Trade name for phenylbutazone, a commonly used analgesic for horses.*

Card *Describes a particular day's racing events.*

Chart *Statistical "picture" of a race (from which past performances are compiled), which shows the position and margin of each horse at designated points of call (depending on distance of race), age, weight carried, owner, trainer, purse, conditions, pay-off prices, odds, time and other data.*

Chestnut (Ch.) *This colour may vary from a dark liver to a reddish- gold, copper or light yellow. Manes and tails are sometimes variations of the coat colour, as in flaxen, but are usually identical.*

Claiming Box *The box in which claims are deposited before the race.*

Claiming Race *Race in which a horse is entered at pre-determined price and can be "claimed" or purchased by another owner. All claims are honoured regardless of performance. Any winnings go to the former owner and the horse goes to a new stable. Claiming races keep horses of similar abilities or talents running against each other. Too low a level of claiming race and the horse may be sold for less than its worth. Too high and it has little chance of earning any purse money.*

Classic Race *of traditional importance.*

Clerk of Scales *An official whose chief duty is to weigh the riders before and after a race to be sure proper weight is carried.*

Climbing *Fault in a horse's stride in which, instead of reaching out, his action is abnormally high.*

Closer *Horses that run best in the latter part of the race, coming from off the pace.*

"Coggins" *This refers to a test, named after its inventor, which detects carriers of a disease known as E.V.A. (equine infectious anemia). A "negative Coggins" is always required for the transport of any racehorse to any venue.*

Colours *The colourful shirt and cap cover worn by a jockey, which signifies the owner or stable of the horse they are riding. Also commonly referred to as "silks".*

Colt *Complete male horse up to and including age 4.*

Condition Book *Pamphlet issued by a Racing Secretary that sets forth conditions of races to be run.*

Condition Race *An event with conditions limiting it to a certain class of horse. Such as: fillies, 3-year- olds, non-winners of two races other than maiden or claiming, etc.*

Connections *Person identified with the stable, such as an owner, trainer, rider, or stable employee.*

Cooling Out *Restoring a horse, usually by walking, to normal temperature after becoming overheated in a race or workout.*

Corner *Last part of the turn into the homestretch.*

Cover *Expression used to describe the mating of a stallion and a mare.*

Cow Hocks *Points of hock turned in.*

Cribber (or wind sucker) *Horse that clings to objects with his/her teeth and sucks air into its stomach.*

Curb *Sprain at back of hock.*

Dam *Horse's female parent (mother).*

Dark Bay/Brown (Dk. B or Br.) *This coat appears brown, with areas of tan on the head, flanks and shoulders. The horse may be dark brown with areas of tan only on the flanks and muzzle. The mane, tail, and legs are black.*

Dead Heat *The photo finish camera takes a picture of the horses crossing the finish line. The race is so close that a winner cannot be determined and the race is declared a "dead heat" or a tie by the judges or stewards.*

Dead Weight *Tack and lead slabs that bring a rider up to the horse's assigned weight.*

Deep Stretch *The area very near the finish line of a race.*

Draw *The method (an actual "live" drawing of lots) by which every horse's post position in every race is determined.*

E.I.A. *The initials refer to "equine infectious anemia: a virus-carried disease that attacks the central nervous system, causing a dangerous reduction in the numbers of red blood cells and in the levels of hemoglobin. Survivors of the disease can become symptomless carriers — thus the "Coggins" test was developed to regularly monitor the blood of all active racehorses for the EIA antibody.*

E.I.P.H. *Exercised-induced pulmonary hemorrhage (also known as bleeding).*

Eased Up *The horse is gently pulled up during a race.*

Eligible *Qualified to start in a race according to conditions.*

Engagement *Stake nomination or riding commitment.*

Entire *Term used for a male horse that has not been gelded (castrated).*

Entry *Describes a horse that is eligible to race or entered in a race on a day's card of racing.*

Exercise Rider *Rider who is aboard a horse in a workout.*

Farrier *Also known as a blacksmith.*

Fast *Condition of the racetrack when it is determined to be at its best.*

Fault *Weak points in the conformation of a horse.*

Filly *Female horse up to and including age 4.*

Firm *Condition of a turf course corresponding to "fast" on a dirt track.*

First Turn *Bend in the track beyond the starting point.*

Flag Signal *held by a man stationed a short distance in front of the gate at the exact starting point of a race. (Official timing starts when the flag is dropped to denote a proper start.)*

Flat races *Refers to races without obstacles such as hurdles or water hazards.*

Flatten Out *When a horse drops his head almost on a straight line with body this may indicate exhaustion.*

Foal *Term for a newborn horse. Foaling refers to the act of giving birth.*

Front Runner *Horse who usually leads (or tries to lead) the field for as far along as possible.*

Furlong *1/8th of a mile. Originally the length of a plowed field or "furrow long".*

Gelding *Castrated male horse. Genuine An honest horse; one, which gives everything it has in races. Get Progeny of sire.*

Going *Term used to describe the condition of the ground i.e. fast, muddy, firm and yielding.*

Going Away *To win while increasing lead.*

Good Bottom *Track that is firm under the surface.*

Graded/Group Race *Races designated as the most prestigious in the world (Group I, Group II, Group III).*

Grand Dam *Grandmother of a horse, dam of the horse's dam.*

Grandsire *Grandfather of a horse, sire of the horse's dam.*

Grey (Gr.) *The coat colour is mostly a mix of black and white hairs. The mane, tail and legs may be either black or grey.*

Groom *Licensed handler responsible for the daily care of one or many horses.*

Half Sister or Half Brother *Horses born of the same dam but by different sires.*

Half-Breed *Generally a cross between a cold-blooded breed and a Thoroughbred.*

Halter *Part of a horse's equipment placed over its head much like a bridle without a bit. This is used to attach a shank so the horse can be handled or walked.*

Hand Ride *Urging a horse with the hands and not using the whip.*

Hand *English unit of measurement to determine height of a horse, by placing one hand over the other from the ground to the withers (just in front where saddle sits).*

Handicap Race *The Racing Secretary determines the amount of weight a horse is to carry. The extra weight helps to level the field and the winning potential of each horse. The weight is added to pockets under the saddle called a "lead pad."*

Handicapper *One who assigns weights for a handicap race. In addition, one who makes selections based on the horse's past performances.*

Handily *Horse that is racing or working with ease is said to be going "handily".*

Heavy *Track Running surface drier than "muddy" and quite slow.*

High-weight *Handicap Race in which the top-weight is assigned no less than 140 pounds.*

Home Stretch *The stretch of track from the final turn to the finish line.*

Homebred *Horse bred by his owner.*

Hoofpick *Metal "hook" used by a groom to remove packed-dirt from the underside of a horse's foot.*

Hung *Horse tiring, but holding position.*

Inner Rail *The moveable pipe-fence that designates the "inside" (left-hand) boundary of a race's course.*

Inquiry (Objection) *Claim of foul lodged by a rider, patrol judge or other racing official. It may include forms of interference such as bumping, abrupt changes of course, veering in or "lugging" out that occurred in a race.*

Irons *Another name for stirrups.*

Jockey Agent *One who secures riding assignments for a jockey in return for a percentage of the jockey's earnings.*

Juvenile *2-year-old horse. Knee Spavin Bony growth at back of knee, or inner side.*

Laminitis *Inflammation under "horny" wall of foot.*

Lead Pad *Saddle pad with pockets to hold lead weights; inserted to bring jockey up to assigned weight.*

Length *A term used to describe distance between horses in a race.*

Light of Bone *Serious fault consisting of insufficient bone below the knee to hold the weight of the horse and rider without strain.*

Loins *Area on either side of the spine just behind the saddle.*

Maiden *Horse of either sex that has never won a race.*

Mare *Female horse that is 5 years old or more.*

Mash *Moist mixture, hot or cold, of grain and other feed given to horses.*

Mealy *Muzzle Beige coloration around the mouth and nostril area.*

Medication List *List kept by the track veterinarian and published by the track.*

Morning Glory *Horse that works fast in the morning, but fails to perform to expectations when racing in the afternoon.*

Mudder Horse *that prefers “muddy” or “sloppy” tracks.*

Muzzle *Nose and lips of a horse. In addition, a guard placed over a horse’s mouth to prevent it from biting.*

Navicular Disease *Corrosive ulcer on the navicular bone, usually in the forefront.*

Near Side *Left side of a horse, side on which it is mounted.*

Neck *Unit of measurement for purposes of racing (a little less than 1/4 of a length).*

Nose *To win by a nose, means that the horse has beat their closest competitor literally by a nose’s length.*

Oaks *Stakes events for top 3-year- old fillies.*

Off Side *The right hand side of a horse.*

Official *1) Sign displayed when result is confirmed. 2) Racing official.*

On the Leg *Horse that has disproportionately long legs.*

Open Knee *Condition among young horses in which the bones of the knee are not yet fully developed.*

Open Lane *The opposite of being “boxed-in.” Implies that there is room for a jockey to maneuver a horse.*

Overweight *Weight over the amount officially assigned to a horse because the jockey is too heavy.*

Pace *The tempo set by the leaders in the early or middle stages of a race.*

Paddock *Enclosure where owners assemble, their horses are saddled, mounted by their jockeys and paraded before the race.*

Past Performances *Compilation in Racing Form of a horse's record, including all pertinent data, as a basis for handicapping.*

Penalties *Extra weight a horse must carry, especially in a handicap.*

Photo Finish *When two or more horses finish so close together that the stewards or judges must examine a photograph to determine the order of finish.*

Place *Type of wager which pays out if the horse finishes first or second. This also refers to the second place finisher in a race.*

Pocket *Boxed in, shut off. Running in a position with horses in front and alongside.*

Post *1) Starting gate. 2) The time a race will begin.*

Post Parade *Horses going from the paddock to starting gate past the stands.*

Prep (or Prep Race) *Workout or a race to prepare a horse for future engagement.*

Public Trainer *Trainer that trains for more than one owner.*

Purse *The total amount of money that can be won in the race. This once had a literal meaning when the prize money was placed in a purse and hung on a wire crossing the finish line.*

Quarter *1) 1/4 of a mile, 440 yards and 1,320 feet. 2) Also the side of the hoof.*

Racing Secretary *The racing official that determines the conditions for particular races and assigns individual weights for handicap races.*

Rail *Barrier or railing running around the entire inside and outside perimeter of the race course.*

Ridden Out *Finishing a race without a rider urging the horse to do its utmost, even though it has a wide margin over the second horse.*

Ridgeling *A colt with one or both testicles that have not descended.*

Roan (Ro.) *Most of this horse's coat is made up of red and white hair. The mane, tail and legs may be black, chestnut or roan.*

Rundown Bandages (wraps) *Bandages on the hind legs, usually with a pad inside, to keep a horse from "burning" or scraping his heels when he races.*

Saddle *The jockey never sits while racing, used only for support; it weighs less than 2 pounds. It is little more than scraps of leather with stirrups.*

Saddle Cloth *A cotton cloth that goes under the saddle to absorb sweat. It usually displays the horse's program number — in major races the name of the horse.*

Scale of Weights *Fixed imposts to be carried by horses in a race according to established criteria.*

Scratch *Horse that has been removed from the entries of a race due to injury or sickness. There is a deadline for scratches, after which permission must be given from the appropriate officials.*

Shadow Roll *Thick noseband attached to the noseband of the bridle used to prevent the horse from seeing shadows on the ground causing it to jump.*

Silks *The colourful shirt and cap cover worn by a jockey, which signifies the owner or stable of the horse he is riding. Also referred to as “colours”.*

Sloppy *Track Running surface “wetter” than good but not as thick as “muddy” or “heavy.”*

Socks or Stockings *White leg markings.*

Sprint *Short race — 7 furlongs or less.*

Stayer *Horse capable of running long distances.*

Step Up *When a horse moves up in class to face stiffer competition.*

Stewards *Racing officials are responsible for enforcing the rules of racing.*

Tack *All equipment, saddle, bridle and blinkers. (To “tackup” is to put saddle & bridle on the horse).*

Take Back *To restrain a horse back of the pace.*

Teaser *Horse used at breeding farms to find out if the mare is ready to receive the stallion.*

Tongue-tie *Cotton band tied around a horse’s tongue and jaw to keep the bit above the tongue: to prevent the tongue obstructing air passages during a race.*

Trip *Each individual horse’s performance in a race — especially pertaining to degree of difficulty.*

Turf *Grass racing surface.*

Urinalysis *Testing urine of horse for drugs or medication.*

Weanling *Thoroughbred after being weaned until he/she is deemed a yearling on New Year’s Day following his/her foaling.*

Weaving *Swaying motion in stall, or act of “threading way” through field in a race.*

Weight-for-Age *The fixed scale of weights carried by horses according to their age and sex, distance of the race and the season of the year.*

Weights 1) The “weight” a horse is assigned to carry; the race’s conditions, and the horse’s age are factored in. 2) The combined weight of jockey and gear (saddle, and any extra weights added to bring total “weight” up to a particular race’s specified conditions.)

Whistling Result of overstraining of horse’s lungs and respiratory muscles.

Wind The term used to indicate a horse’s capacity for breath, thus its endurance.

Wobbler Neurological disease due to compression of the spinal cord. Seen principally in 2-year-olds and 3-year-olds.

Yearling Thoroughbreds between the first New Year’s Day after being foaled and the following Jan. 1st.

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