

# HowToPickLongShots.com

## Pace Numbers by Christian Blake

My pace numbers are an analysis of a horse's performance at various stages of its previous race: 4 furlong pace, late pace, and combined pace.

Races primarily fall into three pace scenarios:

- (1) Fast to the ½ mile, and then slow
- (2) Slow to the ½ mile, and then fast
- (3) Evenly distributed throughout the race

Here is a description for each of the numbers provided in my pace sheets:

**4f number** – this is the ½ mile pace number for each horse. Look to the #1 and #2 fastest early pace horses in every race to be serious contenders for the win slot regardless of their late pace numbers.

**Late pace number** – this is the pace number for the remaining portion of the race after the ½ mile time.

**Combined number** – this number is a direct comparison of each horse against the other horses in the same race. The higher this number, the better the overall performance.

The 4f pace number and the late pace number reveal horses that gave an exceptional performance over a short distance, such as 2 or 4 furlongs. The combined number helps reveal horses that came from a race with an evenly distributed pace. Horses coming from an evenly distributed race will show neither fast 4f pace nor fast late pace, but their combined number will reveal their overall performance in comparison with the current field.

The early pace (measured at 4f) and the late pace (measured for the remainder of the race after the ½ mile time) can be directly compared against each other. If the top early pace horse has a 90, and the fastest late pace horse is an 80, I would choose the early pace horse with the 90 as the most likely winner. The exception to this direct comparison occurs in sprints where I typically favor the top early pace over the late pace.

The combined number is a direct comparison of horses against each other. This number **cannot** be compared against the 4f pace number or the late pace number. It is a number unto itself, only to be used as a means of detecting horses that came from a more 'evenly' paced race where their 4f pace number and their late pace number will not be a standout figure.

**How to use these numbers** – Basically, respect horses with fastest early, fastest late, and highest combined pace numbers. All three come from different pace scenarios, and

all three must be respected when looking for a winner. These three numbers give you a multi-dimensional approach to analyzing pace. Use them!

### The Quick And Easy Way To Handicap With These Numbers

The simplest way to use these numbers without making things complicated is to take note of the #1 and #2 early pace horse, and the #1 and #2 late pace horse. Those four selections will point you toward horses that have a better than average chance to win the race. More often than not, a few of those horses will be at long odds, and sometimes they'll win.

When you analyze any race, your first step should be to highlight the #1 and #2 early pace and the #1 and #2 late pace, as follows:

Gulfstream				8/13/2015			
R8	Dirt			8			8.5 Dirt Route
114	94	109	18_days			6	RUSSIAN GREEK
87	106	93	10_days			1	SHINNING POWERS
87	99	85	12_days			5	VALID CONCEPT
85	98	83	72_days			4	JOHNNY HANDSOME
84	92	76	51_days			3	HOLY HIGHWAY
83	96	79	18_days			8	RICH DADDY
77	78	56	51_days			2	CAPITAL CITY

**Early Pace horses:** Russian Greek (114) and Shinning Powers (87)

**Late Pace horses:** Valid Concept (99) and Johnny Handsome (98)

Although Shinning Powers has 2<sup>nd</sup> highest early pace (87) and highest late pace (106), you should still take note of the next two Late Pace horses as they are Win threats (Valid Concept and Johnny Handsome).

After you've highlighted those four horses in a race, you're done using my numbers. My pace numbers help you narrow down the list of potential winners. From there, it would be wise to consider other factors such as distance, surface, and trainer/jockey combinations.

For the gamblers that are looking for definitive selections, they don't exist. There is no such thing as the Philosopher's Stone of Horse Racing!

**Fun fact: Approximately 34% of all races are won by either the #1 or #2 early pace horse, and sometimes they win at big prices.**

To view my pace numbers for previous cards, visit my blog at:  
**[www.HowToPickLongShots.com/blog/](http://www.HowToPickLongShots.com/blog/)**

Things to note:

9 Furlong races and longer – I do not provide pace numbers for races at 9 furlongs or longer, or for races under 5 furlongs.

My pace numbers are based solely on a horse's most recent race performance.

Why do some horses have "0" listed for their numbers? If the horse's most recent start is a 9 furlong race or longer, data will not be shown for this horse. Nor will the information be shown if the fractional times are unavailable. While this doesn't happen very often, it does happen, so some horses may not have any pace information available on my sheets.

When a horse races in a race with 'evenly distributed pace', the early and late pace numbers won't be particularly high or low. So, these types of horses are a little more difficult to spot unless you analyze the combined number. Sometimes horses with average early pace and average late pace still have the highest combined number. If that's the case, the horse must be respected as a potential winner.

When a horse gets mixed up in a duel with fast early fractions, the horse will often tire and lose the race by many lengths. My ½ mile pace rating will help you determine how fast the horse was traveling during those first 4 furlongs. Always respect horses with the fastest 4f speed in a race, even if it's late pace number is dismal. A flash of speed is often an indicator of an improving horse, and quite often that horse will win its next race in a wire-to-wire fashion.

Horses that have the highest late pace are very dangerous when dropping class and often win as long shots.

<b>Arlington</b>							<b>8/30/2015</b>
<b>R1</b>	<b>Synthetic</b>			<b>Race 1</b>			<b>8 Synthetic Route</b>
58	65	23	32_days			6	SWIFT CLOSER Show \$5.60
51	84	35	20_days			1	MAGGIE MCSWAIN
50	102	52	20_days			4	TIZ HAPPENING Win \$15.80
49	82	32	27_days			2	SKYLARBDANCING
47	63	10	49_days			3	DENNIE'S DREAM Place \$10.60
47	92	38	20_days			5	MELODY BY MANCINI
<b>Arlington</b>							<b>8/30/2015</b>
<b>R2</b>	<b>Dirt</b>			<b>Race 2</b>			<b>8 Turf Route</b>
88	86	75	9_days			8	SUSPENDED MOON
67	62	29	16_days			4	CARTIAC ARREST Win \$32.40
64	94	58	16_days			5	NIKALUK
64	94	58	16_days			6	DAVID'S LUCKY LADY
63	104	66	15_days			7	FANCY TICKET Place \$4.20
60	92	52	23_days			9	SWEET JESS Show \$3.40
53	104	58	16_days			2	DONNA'S FLY GIRL
46	94	40	16_days			1	MISS LIVINGSTON
<b>Arlington</b>							<b>8/30/2015</b>
<b>R3</b>	<b>Synthetic</b>			<b>Race 3</b>			<b>8 Synthetic Route</b>
94	60	55	21_days	↓		7	BRIAR HILL BARON Win \$7.40
78	78	56	14_days			3	THISBABYSARULER
66	41	7	39_days			5	BELLAMY FEVER
50	107	57	14_days			6	WARRIOR KING Place \$6.00
23	97	20	20_days			1	DRILL SERGEANT Show \$2.80



<b>Louisiana</b>							<b>8/26/2015</b>
<b>R2</b>	<b>Turf</b>			<b>Race 2</b>			<b>8.5 Turf Route</b>
68	84	52	27_days			1	KEVIL KID Place \$5.40
62	66	29	32_days			3	BAYAGO Show \$7.00
57	99	56	27_days			6	TERRE NOIRE Win \$6.40
57	80	37	12_days			4	HEAVENLY ALIBI
56	55	11	27_days			7	GOLDEN LEGS
56	79	35	24_days			8	SUGAR STREET
50	84	34	24_days			2	SASSY N SPECIAL
<b>Louisiana</b>							<b>8/26/2015</b>
<b>R3</b>	<b>Dirt</b>			<b>Race 3</b>			<b>6 Dirt Sprint</b>
102	91	93	17_days	↓		3	SMUDGE
94	51	45	166_days			4	ROWDY RICHARD Win \$18.60
88	80	68	40_days			2	BURNING WARRIOR Place \$6.20
87	92	79	24_days			1	C U TIGER
85	87	73	24_days			5	TOUGH THOMAS Show \$5.80
75	67	42	26_days			6	FIDDLERS DANCE
<b>Louisiana</b>							<b>8/26/2015</b>
<b>R7</b>	<b>Dirt</b>			<b>Race 7</b>			<b>6 Dirt Sprint</b>
90	41	30	56_days			6	CONTRIP Win \$20.20
87	56	43	33_days			2	DANCE CALLER Place \$5.20
72	48	20	41_days			10	COCOA MAX
71	45	16	18_days			4	HERECOMESBERT
71	93	64	25_days			5	KEYSTONES STRIKE
65	96	61	25_days			7	THE ASHMAN
65	97	62	97_days			8	U HUSH
64	93	57	25_days			3	ZARBY'S DERBY DAY
63	100	63	25_days			1	THREE PADRES Show \$6.20
0	0	0	79_days	↓		9	BOB CONSULTATION

<b>Parx</b>								<b>8/30/2015</b>
<b>R3</b>	<b>Dirt</b>			<b>Race 3</b>				<b>8.3 Dirt Route</b>
114	120	134	42_days			5		GOLDEN GLINT
99	109	108	40_days			2		MARKET BLASTER Win \$15.20
85	140	126	98_days			4		SCUBA Show \$2.60
80	141	121	49_days			3		BARTOLOME
68	129	96	33_days			6		KOBEL
65	130	94	33_days			1		CLASSIC GIACNROLL Place \$3.20
<b>Parx</b>								<b>8/30/2015</b>
<b>R9</b>	<b>Dirt</b>			<b>Race 9</b>				<b>6 Dirt Sprint</b>
109	114	123	28_days			2		BUMP START Win \$7.60
107	83	90	48_days			5		DRAXHALL WOODS Show \$4.80
96	87	83	28_days			6		CAST A DOUBT
96	78	74	28_days			1A		SYNCHRONOUS
85	111	96	36_days			8		MANHATTAN MISCHIEF
82	112	94	27_days			10		HERE'S A JETPACK
79	81	59	28_days			7		CITY STEEL
70	99	69	21_days			1		FOREIGN POTENTIAL Place \$3.40

<b>Presque Isle Downs</b>							<b>8/30/2015</b>
<b>R3</b>	<b>Synthetic</b>			<b>Race 3</b>			<b>6 Synthetic Sprint</b>
89	92	81	17_days			6	MR. HONEY BADGER Win \$5.20
77	76	54	17_days			5	SEIZE THE FIRE
75	93	68	12_days			1	COLDWATER FLAT Show \$4.80
72	64	36	20_days			2	TAKIDDM Place \$5.60
60	109	70	17_days			3	EVACUATION ROUTE
53	114	67	26_days			4	OUTRIDERS POSSE
<b>Presque Isle Downs</b>							<b>8/30/2015</b>
<b>R4</b>	<b>Synthetic</b>			<b>Race 4</b>			<b>6 Synthetic Sprint</b>
93	56	49	9_days			4	THE FAZZ MAN Win \$9.60
91	66	56	19_days			5	FACE
88	81	69	23_days			2	SUN TIME
81	58	39	17_days			9	FOUR MORE
80	69	49	17_days			12	THE ATLANTIS STORM
78	76	55	17_days			7	SONG OF EXILE
76	88	63	17_days			10	SIP N ZIP Place \$2.60
71	78	49	13_days			8	TENTH LEGION Show \$10.80
70	68	38	278_days			6	VILLAS STORM
66	83	49	17_days			11	JUSTSOUTHOFHEAVEN
66	89	55	17_days			3	ALFAROOQ
52	47	-1	25_days			1	SKY APPEAL



<b>Saratoga</b>							<b>8/26/2015</b>
<b>R1</b>	<b>Dirt</b>			<b>Race 1</b>			<b>6.5 Dirt Sprint</b>
95	72	67	22_days			2	TIME FOR ANGIE Show \$3.20
90	71	60	19_days			5	COLONEL JUANITA Place \$3.60
89	85	74	13_days			6	D'PRINCESS
80	69	48	75_days			1	KEEP BUSTIN
65	83	48	28_days			4	UNREPENTED Win \$34.60
0	0	0	19_days			7	ROCK SHOW
<b>Saratoga</b>							<b>8/26/2015</b>
<b>R7</b>	<b>Turf</b>			<b>Race 7</b>			<b>8 Turf Route</b>
106	95	101	69_days			6	MR ROSENTHAL Show \$6.10
98	95	93	25_days			9	DEPECHE CHAT
92	112	104	10_days			1A	BRANDED HAND
89	93	82	23_days			5	PERMANENT CAMPAIGN
88	119	108	20_days			2	BIM BAM
77	108	85	47_days			7	COMPLIANCE OFFICER Place \$4.60
74	127	101	157_days			1	LUCKY KITTEN Win \$4.80
68	139	106	9_days			4	MILLS
<b>Saratoga</b>							<b>8/26/2015</b>
<b>R8</b>	<b>Dirt</b>			<b>Race 8</b>			<b>6 Dirt Sprint</b>
96	91	88	29_days			4	SWEET WHISKEY Place \$2.40
96	92	88	10_days			1A	AIREOFDISTINCTION Show \$5.00
92	98	89	20_days			3	WAVELL AVENUE Win \$11.80
91	96	87	316_days			6	KATIE'S GARDEN
87	102	89	92_days			2	MILAM
86	89	75	29_days			5	MEDAGLIA D'ARGENTO
73	80	52	28_days			7	IRISH NUGGETS