

“Lucky” Ned’s IncrediSystem Sigma!

A Foolproof Guide to Winning Bazillions on Toy Horse Races!

Cata-clop! Cata-clop! Cata-clop! The starting gates fly wide; the excitement soars! Five nags vie for first place! The Two horse leads by a length with the Four sniffing behind! But here comes the Five up along the outside rail! Now the Three pulls ahead! And at the wire, the One horse takes it by a nose! The crowd goes wild! Quarters start to clank and **YOU ARE THE WINNER!**

Hola, mis caballos! Soy Ned “de la Beuna Suerte”! Though my lady friend and I recently settled in Henderson, Nevada—where wagers stay low for the locals—we spend many nights in Las Vegas, where old dogs like me can still learn new tricks! **AND LEARN I HAVE!** A new gambling pastime has come to town: ***Sigma Derby!***

At the Sigma, horses gallop, fans cheer, quarters accumulate! And you enjoy a bird’s-eye view! It’s like watching live horse races from The Goodyear Blimp! The horses look like toys—**BECAUSE THEY ARE!** You don’t have to put up with real animals and the poop they produce. The toy horses are every bit as fun—**AND LUCRATIVE!**—if you know how to bet.

Do **YOU** want to play? Do **YOU** want to win? Yes, you do! But only I, “Lucky” Ned, can teach you how to reap fortunes from the little toy ponies! And that’s exactly what I’m going to do! Because you’re my friend. Despite what they say.

Pick a Horse—BUT NOT ANY HORSE!

You can pick a horse. And you can pick your nose. But you can’t pick a horse’s nose! **OR CAN YOU?!**

With horses as with noses, there are two main techniques for picking a winner. The first technique is to review the facts to determine the best bet for each race. That’s **The Way of the Racing Form—AND IT PAYS BIG!**

Don’t be fooled by the numbers on the Sigma Derby game itself! These show the “unmodified” odds of a given pair of horses coming in first and second. But they don’t tell you the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth! **THEY OBSTRUCT, OBFUSCATE AND OCCLUDE!**

Sigma horses tour the world, running Derbies from Montreal to Melbourne! Some like tropical heat and a cloddy track. Others run better in cool climates or even a light snowfall! Some horses like it when the glass tabletop is a little smudgy. Others choke up if you set a cocktail glass up there.

There are as many racing styles as there are toy horses, but the numbers on the Sigma Derby game don’t account for that! Nor do they factor in each horse’s age, history,

breeding, sex, weight, color, recent performance, hoof condition, temperament, sun sign, diet, foam-factor, or braze loft!

The numbers on the board don't even say anything about THE JOCKEY! HELLO?! How can you pick a Sigma Derby winner without knowing one barleycorn about the toy rider—let alone his weight, nationality, shoe size, breeding, brand preference, marital status, diet, hoof condition, grooming, miff bundle, splay, and feldspar content?!

The Way of the Racing Form tells you ALL THESE FACTS AND MORE! Now you can pick a winner that's sure to WIN (as opposed to one of those winners that always seems to lose).

So here is *YOUR* racing form, created especially for the **1st Annual Big Empire Sigma Derby Handicapper's Challenge Championship** (though you can use it year 'round). Now you can pick the horses that are SURE TO WIN EACH AND EVERY RACE! Just look at all this data I made up!

#	Name	Jockey	Sire	Mare	Oculist	Circuit	wti	%w	fjl	zby	dn%
1	Hardly Able (c)	B. Nimmy (t)	Sirloin Stakes	Love to Shove (y)	J. Fump (j)	MGM Grand	140	12	3w	820	yes
2	Helen Gone (b)	W. Shoe- Maker (p)	Grate Shakes (c)	Quite Contrary	L. Fine (j)	Harrah's (h)	123	56	6w	yes	not likely
3	Spike It Rich (m)	R. Pollard (j)	String Theory	Master Ella (k)	None! Uh-oh!	Laughlin (p)	132	49	4v	n/a	ask later
4	T. G. I. Frieda (f)	J. Tan (h)	Old Gonzo	Barr None (f)	J. Fump (p)	French Riviera	130	20	4v	4.6	could be
5	Barbados Jenny (t)	B. Cohen (r)	Garlic Bagel (w)	Voodoo Lady (r)	B. Nimmy	Cape- town	166	77	7x	5%	59 or so

#	Notes	wti	odds	fr	sym
1	Sophomore year interrupted by setback; aggressive pilot; puts up outstanding numbers; poops like a champion	302	2/1	:39.1	WRI
2	She'll fight to the finish; don't take a short price on this filly; recent work indicates good health; the consummate plodder	299	8/1	:29.9	EW
3	Has the hang of it; old school pedigree; could use a lucky break; tends to hog the center of the track	300	5/2	:23.0	OQO
4	A forty-year-old racing against younger horses; trained by savvy technician; eye-catching this season; rider wears a funny hat	284	20/1	1:23.2	UIN
5	An underdog deep closer; capable of springing an upset from a sprint start; fitness is questionable—do I hear hiccups?	166	5/1	:33.6	FRE

With your racing form in hand, follow these easy steps to pick your exacta (whatever that is):

Step 1. Find the horse's name, jockey, sire, mare, and oculist. Key: a = appaloosa; b = big horse; c = colt or copyright; d = Dalmatian; f = filly; h = has a horsey smell; j = jerk, jerky personality; l = loooking goooood!; m = mare; p = personal friend of mine; r = registered offender; s = something or other; t = too tall to call; u = Underoos; w = waterproof coating applied to horse.

Step 2. Check the horse's circuit. Sigma Derby nags travel all over. Racing under

unfamiliar track conditions, they may struggle! Or, come to think of it, the change might do them good!

Step 3. Look at the horse's WTI, %W, FJL, ZBY and other statistics; then calculate average percent ratios to find your PDR and $O/\%M^2$. *CHECK MATE!*

Step 4. Analyze the horse's recent performance by cross-referencing your breeder's manual. (You *do* have a breeder's manual, don't you?)

Step 5. Check the almanac to see if the mudder is running on the trine Scorpio. **Uh-oh!** Does your horse have a Mercury sun with Jupiter rising? **OUCH!** Is The Mississippi River at low tide? Friend...some things are just not meant to be.

Step 6. Now get a drink. Count the ice cubes (if any) and divide by the IBZ factor listed next to the urinal in the men's room. This may seem like a distinct advantage for male bettors, but females can rely on "women's intuition," and that's often just as powerful!

Step 7. Now read the odds listed on the Sigma Derby Machine, but **DON'T STOP THERE!** Using these numbers alone will lead you down the primrose path to **BAD, BAD THINGS!**

Step 8. Instead, multiply the DN% by the odds ratio provided on the Sigma Derby Track and add about seven. That should do it.

Step 9. Take a break to stretch out your spine. No sense getting stiff!

Step 10. Now take all the numbers you have, and mush them up in a mush-pot!

Step 11. Insert coins!

Step 12. Bet the 2-3 combo. Or 1-5. Those are the ones that always win.

Step 13. Watch the race and **WIN!**

This procedure comprises betting technique #1! **Betting technique number 2 is even better!!!** And that is to **Go with Guts!** Plunk in as many quarters as feels right. Press the buttons that seem to call to your fingertips. Then scream like mad because **THE RACE IS ON! YOU WIN!**

The 7 Habits of Highly LUCKY People

You have learned how to pick horses! So why do you lose almost as often as you win? Why haven't you been able to put a down payment on a little 10-bedroom, 28-bathroom place on the Atlantic seaboard? With one of those showers that has two showerheads? And architectural elements?

That's because I haven't yet taught you **HOW TO BE LUCKY!** With the following steps, you take **KNOWLEDGE** and add **THE STUFF!** You can't win without **THE STUFF!** So adopt these habits (i.e., **THE STUFF!**) and **WIN!**

1. **Lucky people ASK FOR WHAT THEY NEED!** What do *YOU* need? No duh! You need to win! But until you ask, you'll never achieve. When the toy gates open and you hear the sound of hoof beats, the only way to win is to **DEMAND IT!** Yell at your horses to hurry up! Command the other horses to fall over dead! What you yell for has got to be about **56% more likely to happen!**
2. **Lucky people USE THEIR CHARM!** A horseshoe. A lucky penny. A rabbit's foot. One of those waving cats from a Chinese junk shop. Good luck charms didn't become good luck charms without a good reason! Use them and watch

your winnings increase. Lookie here: If you don't have your lucky medallion, lucky keychain, lucky scarf, and lucky Buckeye nut on your person as you play Sigma Derby, then you're wasting your time—AND MINE!

3. **Lucky people CROSS THEIR TOES!** Posers cross their fingers.
4. **Lucky people EAT RIGHT!** Once I played craps with a man who ate a ham-and-cheese on rye before every game, and I never saw him lose! I am not here to tell you what your lucky meal is, but I think it includes pepperoncinis. Whatever it is, eat it every day, and eat again **JUST BEFORE YOU PLAY!**
5. **Lucky people CONSULT ADVISORS!** You can't be lucky alone! That's why you came to me. Congratulations: you can now check this step off your list of things to do. If you want to check in with other "luck consultants," you can find them in newspapers, on television, and in back alleys. But be careful not to mix too many sources of luck advice! That's a strategy that can backfire when the juju from burning a green candle interferes with the aura from Madam Zelda's "fortune nugget" in your pocket! Whoops! Maybe you need to consult a luck advisor about which luck advisors to consult! Get **META-LUCKY!**
6. **Lucky people RITUALIZE!** If a black cat crosses your path, spin in a circle and spit straight up in the air. If you spill the salt, toss some of it over your left shoulder, and some black pepper over the right. Put some cayenne in your shoes. When you wake up, be sure the first thing you say is "Rabbit, rabbit." **BOOM!** You're lucky! Simple as that.
7. **Lucky people WIN!** The best way to be lucky is to win bets! If you lose, you simply aren't lucky. So try to win more, and you'll be luckier!

Now you should be winning every single Sigma Derby race (not to mention all other gambling games)! If not, you must be doing something wrong! I thought I saw someone fidgeting and **NOT PAYING ATTENTION!** Go back and read it again!

For the rest of you, get your gear together and get read. Here's what you need:

- 1) a roll of quarters,
- 2) a tall drink,
- 3) chips and dips,
- 4) your lucky talismans,
- 5) a change of clothes, and
- 6) for those of you with a "techie" lifestyle, your laptop computer.

Then sit yourself down at the **Sigma Derby!** Because it's more fun than a sigmoid endoscopy! **IF YOU WIN!**

IncrediGaming to thee and thine,

"Lucky" Ned