# Introduction

WagerMate uses information from the past performances in the Race Cards to build a mathematical model of every horse in every race.  Then WagerMate uses those models to simulate the race, and predicts the probable winners.

The simulations indicate which horses are likely to win, how likely they are to win, and how many lengths they should win by.

WagerMate downloads the Cards and Charts you select directly from the TrackMaster website.

# Handicapping Factors

Most handicappers rely on one or two of these factors:
    Speed
    Pace
    Post position
    Track quality
    Surface
    Distance, number of turns, length of stretches
    Likelihood of speed duels
    Competition

WagerMate combines aspects of all of these factors into a single, coherent, mathematical model -- and simulates the running of each race to determine the likely order of finish, and an odds line.

Is a horse in post position 12 with the starting gate near the first turn?  Is a horse likely to be stuck behind a wall of horses on the stretch?  WagerMate's simulations account for these kind of situations.

# Typical WagerMate Session

It's easy to use WagerMate.  This is a typical session:
    1) Run WagerMate.
    2) Click **Download Race Cards**.
    3) Select the cards you're interested in.  Click **Download**.
    4) Click on the Handicap tab.
    5) Click **Start Handicapping**.
    6) Click **Print** to send the Best Bets report to your printer.
    7) Exit WagerMate.

# Strategies

A WagerMate "strategy" is a record of your setting for each of these filters:
    1)  Recency
    2)  Minimum Morning Line Odds
    3)  Maximum Morning Line Odds
    4)  Good Last Race
    5)  Minimum Win Likelihood

6) Maximum Win Likelihood
7) Required Victory Margin

You can achieve good results using the default WagerMate strategy, but you can improve the results by customizing the filters to match your experience, style, and needs.  This is how you can bring your expertise and experience into the handicapping process in WagerMate.

You can develop and save any number of strategies.  For example, you might create one strategy for the New York tracks, and a second strategy, with different filters, for the California tracks.

## Best Bets Report

The Best Bets Report has one line for each bet that WagerMate proposes.

The Best Bets report includes twelve columns:
    1) Date, in MMDD format
    2) Track
    3) Race Number
    4) Program Number of horse
    5) Horse's Name
    6) Required odds -- the lowest odds that make this a good bet
    7) Post Time
    8) WagerMate's predicted win likelihood
    9) WagerMate's estimate of ROI, where 100% means "break even"
    10) The Morning Line from the Race Card
    11) Surface (D for dirt, S for Synthetic, T for Turf)
    12) Distance of race



WagerMate Best Bets Report

Print    ☐ Print Double-spaced

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                   Ra Bet                Rqrd Post  Win      Morn
Date Track         ce On  Name           Odds Time   %  ROI Line S Dist
---- ------------- -- --- -------------- ---- ----- --- --- ---- - ------
1206 Camarero,   PR 5   6 DEVA'S WARRIOR   8/5  5:45 45% 117  8/5 D 6
1206 Camarero,   PR 7   5 LUIS FRANCISCO   2/1  6:45 40% 119  2/1 D 6
1206 Calder,     FL 7   4 CUGATCHA         5/1  3:08 17% 158  8/1 T 1 Mile
1206 Fair Grounds LA 9   7 THUNDERING CHANCE 8/5 5:32 45% 405  8/1 T 5 1/2
1206 Mountaineer, WV 3   8 STALWART SON     7/2  7:50 25% 175  6/1 D 5 1/2
1206 Philadelphia PA 1   2 LOOKINTOGETOUT   9/5 12:25 40% 360  8/1 D 1 1/16
1206 Turf Paradse AZ 9   2 YES HE'S A PISTOL 5/2 6:24 31% 140  7/2 D 6 1/2
1206 Zia Park,    NM 8   3 DINKER'S         6/1  5:17 17% 153  8/1 D 6
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# Contenders Report

The Contenders Report has one to four lines for each race that WagerMate handicaps. It lists the most probable winners in order.

The Contenders Report **is not** influenced by the strategy (i.e. the filters you set). The Best Bets Report shows WagerMate's suggested bets, but the Contenders Report includes the best bets **and** horses unlikely to win and horses with very low ROIs.

The Contenders Report can be very useful in helping you pick exactas and other exotic bets.

The Contenders Report contains the same 12 columns of information as the Best Bets Report

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 WagerMate Contenders Report                                        [—] [□] [✕]

  [ Print ]

                    Ra Bet                    Rqrd Post  Win      Morn
 Date Track         ce On  Name               Odds Time   %   ROI Line S Dist
 ---- -------------- -- ---  ------------------ ---- -----  ---  --- ---- - ------
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  1   1 REIN KING         5/1 12:30  18%   54  2/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  1   4 PAX               5/1 12:30  18%   90  4/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  1   6 WON GREAT CLASSIC 11/1 12:30  10%   38  3/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  1   3 EX PAT            13/1 12:30   9%   60  6/1 D 6

 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  2   2 VIXEN'S ROAR       2/1 12:57  36%  110  2/1 D 1 M 70
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  2   7 HEYNA              9/1 12:57  12%   69  5/1 D 1 M 70

 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  3   5 APPIAN WAY         2/1  1:25  37%  259  6/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  3   6 HOLD THAT MEMORY  16/1  1:25   7%   35  4/1 D 6

 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  4   8 FRAZZIE            4/1  1:53  23%   51  1/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  4   1 SHAKE BABY SHAKE   5/1  1:53  17%  158  8/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  4   6 WIND IN MY SAILS  11/1  1:53  10%   52  9/2 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  4   5 SHE'S GOT RULES   33/1  1:53   4%   32  8/1 D 6

 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  5   7 SURFING IAN        7/1  2:21  14%  294 20/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  5   2 WISE STOP          8/1  2:21  13%   65  4/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  5   6 SIETE MACHOS      11/1  2:21  10%   67  6/1 D 6

 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  7   5 SEZZANA            5/1  3:17  20%   88  7/2 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  7   3 INDIAN RUSH        5/1  3:17  18%  108  5/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  7   2 GOOD WILL         11/1  3:17  10%   40  3/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  7   6 INDY'S FORUM      20/1  3:17   6%   72 12/1 D 6

 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  8   3 HEWITTS            2/1  3:45  38%  228  5/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  8   1 CLOSE TO THE VEST 20/1  3:45   6%   39  6/1 D 6
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  8   4 VICIOUS RAPIDS    59/1  3:45   2%   32 15/1 D 6

 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  9   4 IMPRESS THE CHIEF  9/5  4:13  40%  104  8/5 D 1 M 70
 0109 Aqueduct,     NY  9   5 CLOSINGTOTHEWIRE  59/1  4:13   2%   32 15/1 D 1 M 70
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# Back Testing*

Back Testing is an optional step that lets you develop a strategy to use in Handicapping.

During back testing, the information from the Charts (e.g. the payouts for the winning horses) is used to check the accuracy of WagerMate's handicapping.

This process is important for two reasons:
      1) You can use actual data to test WagerMate's accuracy
      2) You can develop your own strategy to improve upon WagerMate's default strategy

The first phase of the back testing process is to collect data:
      1) Download Race Cards from TrackMaster.  That's part of the handicapping process.
      2) After the races are complete, download Charts from TrackMaster.

The second phase of the back testing process is ongoing analysis:
      1) Change your strategy by setting the WagerMate filters.
      2) Click Apply Strategy to update the Back Testing Results Report.
      3) Evaluate the results.
      4) Repeat until you've defined the optimum strategy.

You can see that "evaluate the results" and "optimum strategy" are rather open-ended!  This is a fascinating aspect of handicapping and requires that you make trade-offs.  If you set the filters to be too restrictive, the reports may show an excellent ROI -- but your sample of races may be so small that it isn't statistically significant.  If you set the filters to be too inclusive, the reports may indicate that you have a large pool of races included in your sample -- but the ROI may be poor.

* Back testing requires a separate WagerMate result chart registration.

## Frequently Asked Questions

1) Why does WagerMate mark some races as "Pass"?

There are several possible reasons.  WagerMate does not handicap Quarterhorses.

WagerMate can't handicap races if the horses have never raced before, because WagerMate uses information from the past performances to model future races.

WagerMate does not handicap races shorter than 5 furlongs.

2) Should I simply bet on every horse listed in the Best Bets Report?

Think of WagerMate's recommendations as a starting point for your handicapping.  WagerMate will uncover some prospects you might not have considered.

3) When I use WagerMate, do I get the same recommendations as every other user of WagerMate?

You'll get the same results if you use the default strategy built in to WagerMate.

Ideally, you'll tune WagerMate, and also apply your own judgment to the process.

4) What can I add to the handicapping process?

There are many opportunities for you to add your expertise to WagerMate's.

Here are some examples of factors WagerMate doesn't consider:
      1) Track bias
      2) Track conditions
      3) Races switched from turf to dirt
      4) Horse body language
      5) Trainer intentions
      6) Trips
      7) Angles

Your knowledge of tracks, trainers, jockies, and horses is all still essential -- WagerMate is just another tool to augment your expertise and experience.

You can also use the Best Bets Report and the Contenders Report to improve your approach to exotic bets.

5) How has WagerMate been validated?

WagerMate has been back tested on well over 200,000 races.

6) Can I use WagerMate without back testing?

Yes. Back testing is the best way for you to refine and test the strategy you use with WagerMate, but you can get good results without back testing.

7) How do I see the largest number of bets in the Best Bets Report?

Click the Set to "Any" button and then the Show Bets button.  That will show you the unfiltered list of WagerMate's selections.

8) Which races are shown in the Best Bets Report?

The Best Bets Report shows horses that are projected to win their races **and** be profitable.

The Contenders Report also includes horses that are projected to finish second, third, or fourth. Some of those horses may be good win bets -- if you can get the right odds (the Required Odds, "Rqrd Odds

9) Where do I download the files for WagerMate?

All files are downloaded directly through the WagerMate software program.