

Understanding the MOVING column and its contents

I developed these sheets for my own use, so the nomenclature is a little cryptic. The symbols in the "MOVING" column, for example, each stand for a certain factor in the horse's last race that may give some indication of how he will run today. All don't appear in every horse's line, of course. Here are the definitions.

Y or N Was the horse in contention at some point in its last race, yes or no

Class Change. If minus, the horse is moving down; if plus the horse is moving up.

BTL means Better Than Looked. The horse's last race was better than it appears. Often this means the horse lost by fewer lengths than his finish position. Finished 3rd, for example, but only one and a half lengths behind the winner.

ESP early speed horse. If the horse was a length or less behind in its last race at first and second calls and all its beaten lengths add up to less than 2.5 lengths, it's an ESP.

Z pattern If you rotate the letter Z counterclockwise like this "N" you can understand this better. It's when a horse gains in the early stages, then for some reason fades, then comes on strongly again toward the end of the race.

2 Races in one is similar to a Z pattern. The horse gains ground, then loses ground, gains ground, then loses ground again – or loses, gains, loses, and gains.

F means the horse flashed speed from the gate.

PP means the horse pressed the pace.

CP means the horse chased the pace in its last.

BOM means the horse made a big overall move. Imagine it's slow coming out of the gate, but gains all the way to the finish. The number tells you the total number of lengths it gained.

BM1, BM2, BM3 tell you how many lengths, if any, the horse gained to first call, from first to second, and from second call to third.

BM++ signifies an extraordinary gain overall.

SG signifies a gain in the stretch, often a powerful indicator

SP- indicates the horse's last race speed figure was under par compared to his avg spd overall; the number tells you how far below his average it was.

SP+ indicates the horse's last race speed figure was over par compared to his avg spd overall; the number tells you by how much.

FLR tells you if the horse ran faster in its last race than in the previous race, and by how much.

SLR tells you if the horse ran faster in its last race than in the previous race, and by how much.