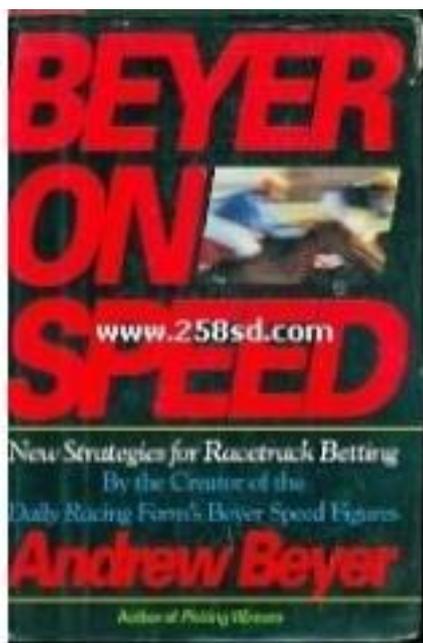


Beyer on Speed: New Strategies for Racetrack Betting



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著者:

出版者:

出版时间:

装帧:

isbn:9780395673904

The Value of Speed Figures
When I started calculating speed figures and using them to bet the horses I saw quickly that they were the most powerful tool in the game. By taking into account the difference in surfaces over which horses run and the different distances of thoroughbred races they translated every horse's performance into a single number that neatly defined his ability. They addressed the central question of handicapping: Who can run faster than whom? But there was a time and place where speed figures were more than a tool. They were magic. Winter racing in Florida has traditionally attracted stables from all parts of the country and in the 1970s before speed

handicap-
ping became fashionable¼ the nature of this competition bewil-
dered most horseplayers. Could a \$15¼000 horse from New York
beat a \$25¼000 horse from Chicago? Was an allowance-class horse
from Canada better than a high-priced claimer from Kentucky?
Conventional handicappers could only guess¼ because there were
no direct lines of comparison between those horses. I didn't have
to guess. I knew. Before each Florida season¼ I spent weeks at a desk stacked high
with regional editions of the Daily Racing Form.

作者介绍:

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