Racing in Hong Kong
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Sha Tin Racecourse

Mainly hosts Sunday day races with 10 races per race meeting.

Track: Turf or All-Weather

Number of starters: Maximum 14
Happy Valley Racecourse

Mainly hosts Wednesday night races with 8 races per race meeting.

Thematic ‘Happy Wednesday’ at night races

Track: Turf

Number of starters: Maximum 12
Racing Season

From September to July

Total 88 race meetings (roughly split between day and night races).

Day races mostly take place on Sunday and night races on Wednesday.
Distance

Distance can be classified as short, middle and long.

All races will finish at the same winning post, whereas the position of the starting gate will be adjusted according to the distance.
Sha Tin (Turf)

Short Distance (m) | 1000 | 1200 | 1400
Middle Distance (m) | 1600 | 1800
Long Distance (m)   | 2000 | 2400
Sha Tin (All Weather)

Short Distance (m) 1200

Middle Distance (m) 1650 1800
Happy Valley

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distance Type</th>
<th>Short Distance (m)</th>
<th>Middle Distance (m)</th>
<th>Long Distance (m)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>1650 1800</td>
<td>2200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Class and Rating

Race horses are classified from Class 1 to Class 5. Class 1 is the highest class.

Runners in each race are of the same Class.

Rating determines the Class – the higher the rating, the higher the Class.

A new horse usually starts with a rating of 52 (southern hemisphere-born) or 57 (northern hemisphere-born). Generally speaking, 5 - 7 points will be added to the rating for each win.

It goes both ways:
• First-4 in race = points added
• Losing in race = points deducted
Class and Rating

- Group 1
- Group 2
- Group 3

- Race
- Stewards’ Cup
- Premier Bowl
- Sa Sa Ladies’ Purse

- Rating 85 or above
  - Class 1
- Rating 80 - 100
  - Class 2
- Rating 60 - 80
  - Class 3
- Rating 40 - 60
  - Class 4
- Rating 0 - 40
  - Class 5
- Unrated
  - Griffin
Handicap

Most races are handicaps. This means runners carry different weights to equalise their chances of winning the race.

More weights are added to the runners with higher rating.
Weight

Weight: The total weight a runner carries during a race (including jockey, saddle and extra metal weights).

The allocated weight is determined by a horse’s rating:
Rating + 1 Point = Weight + 1lb

Runner’s weight ranges from 133lbs to 113lbs

Example: A Class 3 race horse rated 80 points will carry 133lbs. Meanwhile, a horse rated 75 points will carry 128lbs.
Draw

The draw refers to a horse’s position in the starting gate.

Generally speaking, the smaller the draw number, the closer the runner is to the inside rail, hence a shorter distance to be covered at the turns and has a slight advantage over horses with bigger draw numbers.

Horse number ≠ Draw number (Horse Number 1 can be drawn 14).

Each runner’s draw number is randomly assigned by computer a couple of days before the race.
Runners

Race Participation: Each runner can only take part in one race on each raceday.

Colours: 4 major types: Chestnut, Brown, Bay and Grey.

Gender: Mainly classified into Gelding, Colt or Filly. Over 90% of the runners in Hong Kong are geldings.

Speed: 1000m is usually completed within 1 minute at an average speed of 60-65 km/hour.

Naming: The Chinese name consists of 2-4 characters. The English name must contain no more than 18 letters (spaces included).
Career

Racing career:
Age 2-10; mandatory retirement at age 11.

Peak years:
Age 4-6

Horses born in the southern hemisphere are considered a year older on August 1 of each year. Horses born in the northern hemisphere are considered a year older on January 1 of each year.
Emotions

The ears of a horse can tell you all about his mood.

Unhappy and worried:
Ears flattened against the neck

Content and interested in the surroundings:
Ears are pricked forward

Feeling Curious:
Both ears tilted forwards

In doubt or feeling uncertain:
One ear is pricked forward and the other held back
Silks

Silks belong to the Horse Owners. Unique colours and patterns are designed by each Horse Owner.

Julian Hui Chun Hang & Michele Monique Reis - SAVVY SIX, SAVVY SEVEN, SAVVY NINE
Kwok Fu Shing - DANCING FIGHTER
Royal Elitist Team Syndicate (Members include Miu Kiu Wai & Michelle Yim) - CORDYCEPS
Edmond So Chi Wai - MARQULA
Jockey

Duties:
Trackwork and riding horses according to the trainers’ instructions in races.

Current No. of Jockeys: 20+

Each jockey can ride in multiple races on each race day

Champion Jockey:
The jockey with the most wins in a season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Champion Jockey</th>
<th>Win</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>Zac Purton</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>Zac Purton</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>Joao Moreira</td>
<td>170 (New Record)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Jockey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jockey</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zac Purton</td>
<td>He sealed the third champion jockey title, featured an unprecedented seven Group 1 wins and broke the record of single season prize money (over HK$230 million) in last season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joao Moreira</td>
<td>He is known as “Magic Man” and has been the champion jockey for 3 consecutive seasons (2014/15 to 2016/17). He broke the record for notching the most winners in Hong Kong (170 wins) in 2016/17 season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karis Teetan</td>
<td>He notched more than 300 wins since moved to HK in 2013/14. He won the LONGINES HONG KONG SPRINT in last season which is his first Group 1 victory in HK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vincent Ho Chak-yiu</td>
<td>The leading local rider in last season, and made him the winner of the Tony Cruz Award of that season. He also won two Group 3 victories, QUEEN MOTHER MEMORIAL CUP and PREMIER PLATE.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trainer

Duties:
Training and caring for his horses, as well as managing stable operation.

Current No. of trainers: 20+

License:
Issued by the HKJC. A trainer must have 16 or more winners a season. If he fails to reach that total in three accumulative seasons, his license will be revoked.

Trainers can saddle multiple runners in each race.

Champion Trainer:
The trainer with the most wins in a season.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trainer</th>
<th>Achievements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Size</td>
<td>Won the trainer title in his very first season. The champion trainer in last four seasons who had matched the record of 11 championships. Also, he broke the record for training the most winners in Hong Kong (94 wins) in a season (2016/17).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Moore</td>
<td>Hong Kong’s winning-most trainer and 7-time champion trainer. He is the trainer of 2-time Horse of the Year BEAUTY GENERATION. He is renowned for winning more Cup and Group races in Hong Kong than any other trainer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankie Lor Fu-chuen</td>
<td>Notched 65 wins in his first season (2017/18) who surpassed Hong Kong’s previous best first season total. He won two Group Ones at the LONGINES HK International Races and won all legs of Four-Year-Old Classic Series, including BMW HK DERBY, in this season.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Cruz</td>
<td>2-time champion trainer. He is the trainer of legendary Hong Kong champion SILENT WITNESS and has saddled over 1000 winners in his career.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Racecard

1. Post Time
2. Course
3. Class
4. Distance
5. Going
6. Jockey’s ranking
7. Win odds
8. Place odds

Racing 101

Wager
# Bet types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Win</th>
<th>Quinella (QIN)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Pick the winner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7+9</td>
<td>Pick the 1(^{st}) and 2(^{nd}) horses in any order</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Quinella Place (QPL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6, 7, 9</td>
<td>Pick any one of the first three horses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6+7, 6+9, 7+9</td>
<td>Pick any two of the first three horses in any order</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bet tactics for Quinella & Quinella Place

Picking more than 2 horses can enhance the chance of winning.

2 common tactics...

Banker:
When you think one of your favourite horses has a higher chance of winning.

Multiple:
When you think your favourite horses have an equal chance of winning.
Banker

A common way of placing a banker bet: 1 banker and 3 other selections.

Banker must appear in all possible combinations.

Example:
No. 8 as banker and No. 2, 5, 11 as other selections.

Total 3 combinations:
1. $8 + 2$
2. $8 + 5$
3. $8 + 11$
Example

Nominate No. 8 as banker and pick No. 2, 5, 11 as other selections.

Result scenario (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combinations</th>
<th>QIN</th>
<th>QPL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 - 2</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Result scenario (2)

Result scenario (3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combinations</th>
<th>QIN</th>
<th>QPL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 - 2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combinations</th>
<th>QIN</th>
<th>QPL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 - 2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Multiple

A common way of placing a multiple bet: Boxing 4 horses (total 6 combinations).

Selected horses will be formed of all possible combinations.
Example

Boxing No. 2, 5, 8 and 11

Result scenario (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combinations</th>
<th>QIN</th>
<th>QPL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 - 5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 8</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example

Boxing No. 2, 5, 8 and 11

Result scenario (2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Combinations</th>
<th>QIN</th>
<th>QPL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 - 5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 - 11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 8</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 - 11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 - 11</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>