# **EXPLANATION OF LAYOUT AND FEATURES**

TODAY'S RACING DIGEST is designed to simplify the handicapper's job by evaluating past performances and relating them to today's race. To that end, the Digest provides the following on each page:

0. HORSE- We list the horses' names here, in post-position order.

1. **Age/Sex** – How old is the horse, you say? We list that here, along with the horse's sex. (c=colt, g=gelding, r=ridgling, f=filly, m=mare)

2. EQUIP – This is the equipment the horse has been or is scheduled to wear. B=blinkers, FW=front wraps, 4W= four wraps,

SPEED & PACE FORECASTS – The figures under this section are all projections of how we expect the horse to perform in today's race making it easy to compare each horse's potential ability.

3. **FIRE** – This is the horse's FIRE Number, we expect the horse to earn today a speed figure that takes into account each and every time recorded by the horse during the running of a race. The higher the number, the faster the horse.

4. **CPR** - Comprehensive Performance Rating. Another Digest speed figure, this one is the oldest of the Digest's speed numbers. Once again, the higher the number, the faster the horse.

5. FAST FIGS – An AI generated figure that takes into account the combined class and performance of the race and contenders running today.

6. FNL RAT - The Final Time Rating expected to run to in today's race which has

proven to be a strong predictor of a horses ability to finish strong. 7. PER - Performance Early in Race. We list the running styles for each horse. Just as we list in the Track Profile feature, F=frontrunner, P=presser, M=midpacker, R=late-runner 8. RRL - Recent Race Level. This is the Race level of the horse's last race. Compare this number to the Race level in the Race Header to quickly determine whether the horse is up

or down in class. 9. RCL - Recent Competitive Level. We list the Race level where the horse has recently

been competitive. An "x" in this column indicates a horse hasn't been competitive at any level recently.

10. **BST SUR** - Best Previous RCL on the surface. Pretty self explanatory. Whatever the surface of today's race, we note the best RCL he's earned in the past 6 months.

11. BST DST - Best Previous RCL at today's distance within the past 6 months.

12. **PST CLS** - Past RCL - Whatever the horse's highest proven Race level, it's listed here. This let's you know how classy a horse once was.

13. AVG RCL – The Average RCL of races the horse has been competitive in over the past 6 months.

14. LST RAT – The Final Time Rating the horse earned in his last race.

15. BST RAT - The highest Final Time Rating earned in the horse's lifetime.

16. **BST SUR** – The highest Final Time Rating earned on today's surface within 6 months.

17. **BST DST** - The highest Final Time Rating earned at today's distance within 6 months.

 HANDICAPPING FACTORS – Each horse usually receives certain Handicapping Factors (HF), which serve as a type of shorthand for us to communicate certain things about a horse to you. Most important in this column is our "push" factors. When we like a horse we'll use a 2 (love the horse), 15 (really like), 15a (like) or 20 (longshot).
 Distance – This is the distance of this particular race. If this was a turf race, we'd

also note that here. 20. **Conditions** – We list the race conditions here. This particular race is a Starter

Allowance. 21. **Track Profile** – This feature gives you an idea of what kind of running styles (e.g., frontrunners, pressers, etc.) have been winning at the race's distance. We list the number of races included in our study (22, in this case), then list the type of running style and the win-percentage. For example, Frontrunners ("F") have won 22.7% of the 22 races at this distance while Late-Runners ("R") have won just 4.5%. (F=frontrunner, P=pressers, M=midpackers, R=Late-Runners.)

22. **Race level** – The Digest assigns a number to each type or class of race. In this case, the race is a 130 on our class scale. This number allows you to compare races of different types to determine which races are stronger, the same class or weaker. Five points equals one class level.

23. Race Conditions - This is an abbreviation of the Conditions of the race.

24. **Purse** – This is how much money is up for grabs for this race. In most cases, the winner usually receives about 55 percent of the purse.

25. AFTL – The acronym stands for Average For The Level and are "par" times for the class. In other words, this class of animal should run these times over a normal surface. Compare the horse's times listed in their Data Lines (past performances) to the AFTL to see which horses have come close to running to par for this class.

26. **Favorites** – We list the percentages for winning favorites and favorites in the money under these class, age, surface, and distance conditions. Believe it or not, certain races produce more upsets than others and we try to give you the heads up by providing these stats.

27. Fractional Chart Order of Finish – Lists the top finishers according to the Digest's popular Fractional Charting (a projected race using representative performances from each participant in today's race).

28. Average Times – The times listed on the ET (Expected Times) row are those expected from today's field based on previous performances (these are the best times at each call in the Fractional Charting). The AT (Average Times) are based on the times high class horses run at the distance/surface. The AFTL (Average For The Level) times are the "par times" for today's class of runners. In other words, they are the average times run by horses at today's particular class level.

29. Race Appraisal – In this section, Digest handicappers provide their assessments of today's race, emphasizing pace and class and highlighting contenders and top plays.
30. Closers – Which horses finish fastest? We provide the top finishers here. This information is compiled from the Fractional Charting.

31. Horse Comments/Trip Notes – Digest provide information about each horse and assess their chances and/or Trip Notes from their last start.

32. Horse name – Simply put, this is the horse's name. Just so you know, a horse's name is limited to 18 characters and spaces...that's the rules.

33. **Trainer/Jockey** – The horse's trainer and today's rider are listed, along with their record (starts, wins, 2nds, 3rds) when teaming up over the past three months. In this instance, trainer Powell and jockey Rosario have had 10 starters together, with two wins, no 2nds and one 3<sup>rd</sup> the past three months.

34. **Age/Breeding** – The first number is the horse's age, followed by his sex. After the dash (-), the horse's sire is listed. In parentheses is the sire's offspring's win percentage on turf (T), synthetic (S), and in the mud (M). This is followed by the horse's dam, which is then followed by the dam's sire (a.k.a. - the mom's dad).

35. **Trainer Stats** – We list all the pertinent trainer stats in this section, such as the trainer's record from his last 15 starters (LAST 15) and how the trainer does with any moves the horse may be making today (i.e., going from dirt to turf (D/T), route to sprint (R/S), etc.).

36. Notes – What trouble has the horse encountered and when? The Digest lists this in abbreviated fashion.

37. Course Records – Shows how the horse has done sprinting or routing over today's surface. We also list the overall record on the surface whether it is sprints or routes.
38. Works – Recent workouts are shown here. The info includes the track, the date, the time of the work, the condition of the surface and how the work ranked relative to other times recorded that day.

39. Last 10 FIRE – These are the last 10 FIRE numbers earned for the horse, just for convenience.

40. Track - Indicates at what track the horse's race occurred.

41. Date & Race – Lists the date (MM/DD/YY) and the race number (after the dash) of the horse's race.

42. **Distance/Surface** – This is the distance, as well as the surface of the race. "T" indicates the race was a turf race. Sprints (under one mile) are noted in furlongs, whereas routes (one mile and over) are noted in miles, plus additional distance.

43. **Post Position & Key Race Winners** – The first number is the horse's post position for the race, followed by the total number of all the horses in the field. The numeral after the dash indicates how many horses returned from the particular race to win their next starts. Theoretically, the higher the number, the stronger that particular race.

44. Weight – This is the weight carried by the horse.

45. **Trainer/Jockey** – The horse's trainer and jockey for the particular race is noted here. 46. **Track Condition** – Was the track fast, muddy or sloppy? Was the turf firm or good?

We note that in abbreviated form here. (FM = firm, FT = fast, GD = good, etc.)

47. **Track Bias** – A tremendous Digest feature. This column displays any bias that was in effect during the horse's race. We note the type of bias (O =outside, I =inside, F =speed bias, L =late-runner bias) as well as the strength of the bias on a scale of 1 to 3, with 1 being a mild bias and 3 being a dominant bias.

48. Race Type – Lists the type of race in abbreviated format.

49. Race Conditions - These are the conditions of the Race Type.

50. **RCL** – Race Competition Level. The level represents the strength of the race on the Digest's class scale. Comparing these numbers to one another allows the handicapper to see if the horse was moving up or down in class from race to race.

51. **CPR** – The number is one of the many Digest speed figures. This is the horse's CPR for each race.

52. Finish Position & Beaten Lengths – The first number is position the horse finished the race, followed by how many lengths he was beaten (or won by if the first number is a "1") crossing the wire.

53. **Odds** – The Digest lists both the horse's Morning Line odds and the Actual Odds at post time. This gives you an idea if the horse was bet (perhaps he was "live") or not ("dead on the board"). The w indicates the horse was the post time favorite.

54. Track Variant – Sometimes surfaces can be slower or faster than normal for various reasons, usually due to weather or track maintenance. The variant adjusts the surface speed to account for these variances, and we list it here just because we believe in transparency.

55. **Position at Each Call & Beaten Lengths** – The first number is the horse's position at each call followed by his/her time at those calls (these are not the leaders times, they are this horse's particular times for the race). All times are adjusted to today's distance and surface, taking into account differences in track pars and variants (routes are adjusted to route and sprints to sprints, but not routes to sprints or vice versa). This allows for easy comparison among different distances and between tracks. In essence, the Digest does all the work so you don't have to.

56. Last Fraction – The final fraction the horse earned in the race. The final fraction has also been adjusted to account for differences in tracks, surfaces, pars and variants.

57. **Pace Ratings**—Pace Rating earned, a number which takes into account the speed the horse displayed through the first two calls.

58. **Final Time Ratings** –Final Time Rating, a speed figure that takes into account only the final time of the horse.

59. Equipment – All the equipment worn by the horse for its race is listed here.

 $(L{=}Lasix, b{=}blinkers, 4{=}four$  wraps,  $F{=}front$  wraps,  $C{=}the$  horse was claimed out of the race).

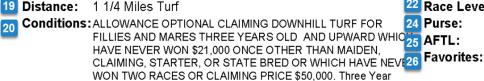
## **SEVENTH RACE - SANTA ANITA**



Base 123 Race Cond: AOC 50 NW1\$X

24.0, 48.4, 1:12.9 and 2:01.9

27.7% Win; 62.8% in-the-money



Olds, 121 lbs.; Older, 125 lbs. Non-winners Of A Race Other Than Maiden, Claiming Or Starter At A Mile Or Over Allowed 2 lbs. Claiming Price \$50,000 (Non-Starters For A Claiming Price Of \$25,000 Or Less In Their Last 3 Starts Preferred)(Horses Entered For

The Allowance Are Preferred). (Rail at 20 feet).

#### 21 Track Profile: 106 races F=26.4% P=34% M=29.2% R=9.4%

That is the second seco																		
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
			<u>SI</u>	SPEED & PACE FORECASTS					RACE COMPETITION LEVELS (RCL)					FINAL TIME RATING				
	AG		-		FST	<u>FNL</u>				<u>BST</u>	BST	<u>PST</u>	<u>AVG</u>	<u>LST</u>	<u>BST</u>	<u>BST</u>	<u>BST</u>	HANDICAPPING
HORSE	<u>sx</u>	EQU	<u>FIR</u>	<u>CPR</u>	<u>FIG</u>	<u>RAT</u>	<u>PER</u>	<u>RRL</u>	<u>RCL</u>	<u>SUR</u>	DST	<u>CLS</u>	<u>RCL</u>	RAT	<u>RAT</u>	<u>SUR</u>	<u>DST</u>	FACTORS
Bottle Rocket (FR)	Зf		80	126	113	125	М	140	125	125	125	125	125	108	125	125	125	13, 15a, 19, 21c, 30
Den of Iniquity (GB)	4f	В	78	122	110	114	R	125	120	125	125	125	122	108	122	114	114	13,10c,4a,21c
Cameron Slough	4f	В	69	110	112	114	R	125	125	125	125	125	125	114	116	116	116	13, 16b, 10c, 4a, 19, 21c
Ima Joker	3f	В	75	116	114	114	М	140	140	140	140	140	128	111	120	120	120	13,4a,21,29
Control Function	6m		79	128	114	119	R	130	130	130	140	140	133	119	123	120	120	13,16a,10c,21c,23
Chasingserendipity	6m	В	82	120	117	123	R	135	135	135	135	145	135	123	131	123	123	13,10c,4a,21c,29
Highlands	3f		81	116	117	122	М	135	125	135	135	145	130	122	128	128	128	13,10c,17,21c,29
Kelly's Out (IRE)	4f	В	77	117	111	120	F	120	120	140	140	125	128	114	123	123	123	13, 16b, 10c, 4a, 19, 21c, 31

### FRACTIONAL CHART ORDER OF FINISH AND AVERAGE TIMES

(This is not a Selection)

ET: 24.2,48.3,1:13.4 and 2:02.6

Bottle Rocket 2: Chasingserendipity and Highlands 3: Kelly's Out and Control Function

1:

27

22 Race Level:

\$55.000

24 Purse:

AT: 23.8,48.1,1:12.4 and 2:00.9 (Average Times for mid-level races) AFTL: 24.0,48.4,1:12.9 and 2:01.9 (Average Times for this level)

### RACE APPRAISAL

28

29 ANALYSIS: Let's give Bottle Rocket another chance at this level She was 8th vs. this kind in her first start as a winner Sept 29, but she tops the charting off her Aug 24 win and she is reunited with Ayuso. If the soph can handle 10 furlongs, then maybe she can rebound with a big effort and we'll give **'Rocket** the HF 15a. **Cameron Slough** was a popular winner vs. \$50,000 Starter turfers at one mile Aug 30. The filly is bred top and bottom to run all day and Fresu is back to ride. Look for her to be running

on late once again. Kelly's Out was claimed by Bainum out of her win vs. NW2L \$32,000 turfers at nine furlongs Sept 6. That was her second win from her last three starts and Baze takes the call. The filly may prove too sharp for this group and we'll mark her a contender.

30 CLOSERS: Fastest in the stretch in recent races at or near the distance have been: Control Function :24.1 - Ima Joker :24.3 - Den Of Iniquity and Kelly's Out :24.5

#### HORSE COMMENTS

31 Bottle Rocket (FR) never got going in her first start as a winner when 8th vs. this kind Sept 29. This will be her first start past one mile, but she tops the charting off her Aug 24 win and she is reunited with Ayuso. Bounce back candidate?

Den of Iniquity (GB) a Maiden, has finished in the Trifecta in three straight all vs. non-winners. Her connections are easy to like and her numbers are not too bad, but she would be a surprise winner at this level.

**Cameron Slough** went from last to first as the favorite vs. \$50,000 Starter turf routers at one mile Aug 30. She has the breeding to run this far, Fresu strings along and she could be one to fear late once again.

Ima Joker raced evenly when 7th in that Sept 29 event. Her numbers have been pretty steady of late and her connections may be her biggest plus. We'll leave her off our win tickets.

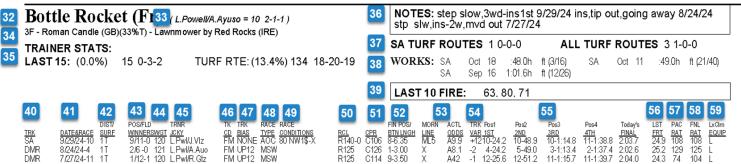
Control Function has been freshened a bit since her win vs. \$50,000

Starter turfers at one mile Aug 16. She only charts in the middle and it took her more than a few starts to beat that kind. On the plus side, she worked fast Oct 10 and Frey is back to ride.

Chasingserendipity finished 5th vs. \$25,000 claimers Sept 17. She also faced those in her previous four starts and she charts for a slice. The mare shows a rising numbers pattern, but she may be more pretender than win contender at this level.

**Highlands** never got going when 6th in that Sept 27 event. Her last win was over this course vs. NW3L \$35,000 claimers May 24, but was no threat in her last two starts vs. this kind. We'll pass on the win end.

Kelly's Out (IRE) rallied from near the back as the favorite to beat NW2L \$32,000 claimers Sept 6. She was claimed by Bainum that day, both of her wins were at nine furlongs and Baze takes over. The filly seems to merit another chance at this condition and we'll give her a look.



	HANDICAPPI	NG	FACTORS
	(Column B on each race page contains the f	ollov	ving numbers that refer to these factors.)
1	<b>FIRST TIME STARTER</b> - Horses with some racing experience, even when limited, often perform better than first-time starters even though the latter may have greater potential.	17	<b>LEG WRAPS</b> – A horse racing with leg wraps may have some physical trouble or suspected weakness, and this horse has been wearing them.
2	LIVE HORSE – It appears this horse is ready for a top performance.	18	AGE – The age of this horse is not consistent with that of his competition. A young horse against mature horse or a particularly old horse against younger horses may be at a disadvantage.
3	<b>DISTANCE CAPABILITY</b> – This distance may present a problem for this horse.	19	<b>IMPROVING</b> – This horse seems to be improving or should improve in this field.
4	EQUIPMENT CHANGE – Any equipment change may affect a horse's performance, and this horse is scheduled for a change today.	20	<b>LONGSHOT</b> – Some indicators that are present when horses surprise with a good performance at high odds are noted.
	<b>TROUBLE PRONE</b> – Certain horses encounter trouble frequently, often being self-caused, such as not running straight, starting slowly etc. This one seems to be that type.	21	FITS RACE – This horse seems to fit this race.
	WEIGHT – This horse is carrying enough weight to cause a problem		FITS RACE – This horse seems to fit this race except for class.
	WEIGHT – This horse is carrying little or less weight. It may be an advantage.		FITS RACE – This horse seems to fit this race except for the distance.
	<b>INSIDE POST POSITION –</b> This inside post position may cause a problem for this horse at this distance.		FITS RACE – This horse seems to fit this race except for a lack of recency.
	OUTSIDE POST POSITION – This outside post position may cause a problem for this horse at this distance.		CONDITIONS HORSE – The conditions for eligibility are ideal for this horse.
9	<b>PACE -</b> The probable pace or speed in the early part of this race may not be suitable to the racing characteristic of this horse.		WORK READY – Previous patterns and/or special circumstances make recent works very important here.
	HIGHER CLASS – This horse is being tried at a higher level.	24	SURFACE – The type surface for this race may not suit the horse.
	LOWER CLASS - This horse is being tried at a lower level.		<b>BETTING</b> – If the betting on this horse is heavier than expected contention is likely.
	<b>FEMELE vs. MALE</b> – Since it usually takes a better-than- average female to beat an average male, there could be a problem here	26a	<b>KEY RACE (1)</b> – One horse from this horse's last start went onto win it's next race which can be an indicator as to the competitiveness of that race.
12	<b>FOREIGN RACES</b> – Previous races for this horse were out of this country. It is difficult to appraise them.	26b	<b>KEY RACE (2)</b> – Two horses from this horse's last start went onto win their next race which can be a good indicator as to the competitiveness of that race.
13	LASIX – This horse has been given the diuretic medication Lasix.	26c	<b>KEY RACE (3+)</b> – Three or more horses from this horse's last start went onto win their next race which can be a good indicator as to the competitiveness of that race.
13a	Adding Lasix – This horse did not run with Lasix in it's last start but will be running with it today.	27	<b>OFF TRACK</b> - This horse's last start was run on a wet, sloppy, muddy or some type of hindered racing surface that may have had an impact on their ability to perform to their highest level.
13b	<b>Removing Lasix –</b> This horse ran with Lasix in it's last start but will not be using it in today's race.	28	<b>TROUBLE</b> – This horse is exiting a race where they experienced some type of trouble that may have hindered their ability to perform to their potential. (could be positive sign if this horse still finished strong)
	<b>WORKOUTS</b> – Horsemen vary in their training methods and horses vary considerably in their requirements for conditioning, hence, while workouts give some indication of a horse's fitness, they can be greatly influenced by the training methods being employed. Therefore, reliance on the speed of workouts may be dangerous, as may be the case here.		<b>TIRED</b> – This horse is exiting a race where they tired at some point during the race. Note any distance and surface changes today along with workout patterns coming into today's race.
	<b>IN-THE-MONEY</b> – This horse appears to have all the elements suitable for an in-the-money performance.		<b>NO FACTOR</b> – This horse is exiting a race where they experienced some type of trouble that may have hindered their ability to perform to their potential. (could be positive sign if this horse still finished strong)
15a	<b>IN-THE-MONEY</b> – This horse appears to have most of the elements suitable for an in-the-money performance.	31	<b>STRONG FINISH</b> – This horse is exiting a race where they had a strong finish or rallied at the end.
16	<b>LONG LAYOFF</b> or <b>RECENCY</b> – Horse is coming off a layup of more than 90 days and the lack of racing is a potential negative.	32	WON EASILY – This horse is exiting a race where they won easily. Check trainer stats in the horse data box for any changes the horse is making in today's race.