

Key Race, an impossible task made possible

An Axis Education Article

The Key race concept is not unfamiliar to those that undertake detailed form analysis. The premise is that there are certain past races from which a number of contenders subsequently produce good performances thereby creating a strong form race. Armed with this information, the astute and professional form analyst can wager with confidence on horses/races that others may pass.

The problem is in finding such races. A Key race is not obvious by simply examining the resulting time, a class rating or a single horse's performance (e.g. Black Caviar) from a particular race. Unfortunately there are many punters that believe that is the case. A Key race mostly happens by chance; the horses engaged in a race as a collective are of higher quality and/or their performance is significantly above what one would expect. The result is a 'perfect storm' creating a strong form race which may not be obviously apparent to most punters.

KEY RACE

HN	Horse	AS	Trainer	Jockey	All	Wgt	BR	Prep	SD	TN	FP	Marg	SP	Comments	Mv	Mp	Pv	Pp	Cv	Cp	Tv	Tp	Runs
4	Carry Me Bluey	4G	N Hilton	C Munce	0	54	10	8up 18				1	-0.3	1.8		2			1			1	10
9	Hidden Kisses	4M	R Heathcote	B Stewart	0	53	2	3up 18				2	0.3	8	1	5						1	11
1	Humna	8G	R Heathcote	D Browne	0	58	7	3up 65				3	0.6	21									2
7	Danagaze	6G	L Mayfield-Smith	J Byrne	0	53	4	3up 20				4	99.7	5.5	1								6
5	Fifteen Carat	5G	H Wilson	P Hammersley	0	54	8	2up 30				5	99.7	9									7
6	Rockdale	6G	J Morrissey	L Rolls	0	53.5	3	10up 48				6	99.7	31	1	1		1					12
2	Pepperwood	7G	L Birchley	G Colless	0	58	11	5up 44				7	99.7	26	1				1				12
8	Brave The Way	5G	A Bailey	J Taylor	0	53	1	1up 26				8	99.7	13	2			1					9
10	Gold Rating	6G	M Nolan	R McMahon	0	53	6	1up 25				9	99.7	51		2		1					7
3	Wonderful Lass	4M	J P Thompson	T Bell	0	55	9	7up 23				10	99.7	12									2
11	Bewardi	5H	J Manzelmann	C Whiteley	0	53	5	9up 25				11	99.7	51	1				2				8

Track	RN	Dist	Class	Age	Sex	Wgt	Prize	TC	Sts	WR	BASE	SR	FS	LS	Winner
Eagle Farm	1	2128	BM95			HCP	45	Good	10	57	103	102	94	116	Maling
Eagle Farm	2	1000	LR	2YO	C&G	SWP	100	Good	9	56	95	98	88	111	Noogoora Burr
Eagle Farm	3	1000	LR	2YO	F	SWP	100	Good	12	54	95	98	94	105	Discreet
Eagle Farm	4	1200	R0			HCP	45	Good	15	44	99	103	103	99	Miss Banwang
Eagle Farm	5	1600	OPN			HCP	75	Good	11	58	104	100	80	122	Carry Me Bluey
Eagle Farm	6	1300	LR		F&M	HCP	80	Good	12	58	106	111	108	107	Dual Chamber
Eagle Farm	7	1200	LR	3YO		SW	100	Good	17	57	101	102	117	86	Biggles
Eagle Farm	8	1400	CL6			HCP	45	Good	16	52	99	102			Prost

What can happen is that horses that finish out of placings in these strong form races subsequently perform well in their next race where the opposition is inferior without it being obvious. Our experience and application of this knowledge has enabled us to

identify many key races (and future group horses) from a country maiden right through to group level contests.

The great news is, that with an R2W Axis Key Race these races are easy to identify. Key Races stand out due to the higher number of wins and/or places from subsequent starts. The same applies to trials. What was once an almost impossible task of collating and accurately maintaining this information is now possible with an R2W Axis Key Race with a click of a button. (Available in the Professional subscription only)

Key Race and the day of the run

The information about a race that you may wish to examine for "Key" properties should not be viewed in isolation. An overview of the whole day is vital to accurately gauge the quality of a particular race. Having access to this information at your finger tips is paramount.

The R2W Axis produces its Key Race display in a manner that enables you to view in entirety, the whole race meeting at a glance. This race meeting summary provides each individual winning race performance both in terms of accurate overall speed as well as first and last sectional ratings. Other details include the full list of winners as well as other important factors such as distance, class and track condition to name just a few.

The individual runners for each key race are also displayed so that you can view each horses finishing position, margins and other details as well as the number of any wins or placings since that run. These are broken down by Metro, Provincial, Country & Rural and also include trial performances. This is important ! Just having the sum of any wins and placings isn't enough as knowledge of relevant trial performances since the key race can provide a positive lead towards likely race fitness, in the event that a horse is freshened or trials during its campaign.

In order to drill further down into key race data, you now have the ability to see each horses past starts. This data is presented in a similar fashion to what is contained in the Race Day Portal. Being able to view data in this way is made possible by utilising R2W unique 'Stack-On Display' architecture that allows us to present large amounts of information within a limited space. See the image bellow, where the past starts cover the races still allowing access to all horses in that race.

Key Trials and the day of the run

Key Trials are an innovation that presents a unique edge to those Professionals that subscribe to the Trial pack data add-on. The Axis behaves exactly the same way for a trial as it does for a race in the Key Race display in that you see the whole collection of the day's trials and their details like distances, official race times and sectionals and track conditions where available. Same distance races are highlighted for easy recognition.

Individual runners in each trial are also available in the same manner as the Key race, with as much detail as is available. The horses subsequent performance is then

evaluated and broken down into the above mentioned Metro, Provincial, Country & Rural and trial results. Access to full past starts for these Trial horses is also available.

Both Key Race and Key Trials are functions that are largely inaccessible to most punters. Whether you use this facility to find key races or to get a better overall view of what happened at a past meeting, you can now gain a significant edge usually reserved only to sophisticated professional punters.

Key Race, showing past starts for a horse

Key Race 17/12/2011-EAGLE-5															53								
HN	Horse	AS	Trainer	Jockey	All	Wgt	BR	Prep	SD	TN	FP	Marg	SP	Comments	Mv	Mp	Pw	Pp	Cv	Cp	Tw	Tp	Runs
4	Carry Me Blurry	4G	N Hilton	C Munce	0	54	10	8up 18				1	-0.3	1.8		2			1		1		10
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Rdate	Days	Day	Track	RN	TC	Dist	RClass	AgeR	SexR	Hcp	Prize	Jockey	BR	Wgt	All	SD	TN	FP	NR	Mrg	SP	WR	Base	Rtg	PSr	LSr	HCr	Comment	FirstH
14/07/2012	14	Sat	WFARM	6	S	1400	LR	JYO+		HCP	100	T Berry	9	54.0				11	12	9.1		62	106						79
30/06/2012	140	Sat	ROSEH	7	S	1200	BM80	JYO+	E&G	HCP	70	SGuymer	4	56.0	-3.0	7	6	11	11	6.5	31.0	51	103	89	100	102	0		Krinata
11/02/2012	28	Sat	EAGLE	1	D	2136	OPN			HCP	45	GColless	6	59.0		7	5	7	7.8	10.0	58	104	91	115	94	0		Winmara	
14/01/2012	28	Sat	GOLD	8	G	1800	OPN			HCP	200	MatthewPalm	3	54.5		9	9	13	14	16	15.0	53.5	101	70	83	124	0		Kontiki Park
17/12/2011	14	Sat	EAGLE	5	G	1600	OPN			HCP	75	PHammersley	8	54.0		8	9	5	11	1.8	9.0	58	104	96	80	122	0		Carry Me Blu
03/12/2011	37	Sat	EAGLE	7	D	1600	LR			HCP	82	PHammersley	12	53.0		12	13	5	14	2.3	26.0	60	106	102	97	114	0		Wonderful La
29/11/2011		Tue	GOLD	104	G	1000	ATH_T			TRL													61.95					Jazz Heart	
08/11/2011		Tue	GOLD	104	G	1000	OPN_T			TRL													59.9					Celtic Dancer	
27/10/2011	124	Thu	GOLD	5	G	1400	BM85			HCP	12	MHellyer	5	61.5		10	10	5	11	2.6	5.0	44	98	97	90	113	0		Spot On Tang
11/10/2011		Tue	GOLD	104	D	1000	ATH_T			TRL													59.99					Fifteen Carat	
25/06/2011	14	Sat	EAGLE	8	G	1600	LR			HCP	100	TimothyBell	12	54.0		6	5	16	18	13.8	26.0	60	106	83	113	103	0		Frozone
11/06/2011	7	Sat	EAGLE	3	D	1600	LR			HCP	80	SGalloway	15	54.0		15	16	9	16	4.2	26.0	60	106	104	108	112	0		Willy Jimmy
04/06/2011	14	Sat	EAGLE	3	G	1500	LR			HCP	80	TimothyBell	2	54.5		8	7	4	13	3	21.0	60	106	104	127	89	0		Mystical Gre
21/05/2011	14	Sat	DOOMB	6	G	1350	GP3			HCP	126	TimothyBell	12	53.0		14	10	16	16	10.3	31.0	61	107	90	109	105	0		Woorim
07/05/2011	63	Sat	GOLD	6	S	1300	LR			HCP	176	TimothyBell	7	53.0		16	13	3	16	0.4	51.0	53.5	105	111	125	90	0		Tampiko