

R2W Data, the life blood of the Axis

An Axis Education Article

Our Data is unique! It is the reason that our clients keep coming back. Actually it's our results that are delivered using the data that the Axis and SRA users appreciate. So that you can gain a full appreciation of what the R2W data contains we thought we should let you know more about what you will receive, so that you can understand why we believe the SRA and Axis contain the most accurate information available within the marketplace.

R2W Data is not the 'old' form

R2W Axis doesn't supply form, we supply ratings. It is the most comprehensive set of ratings that you'll find anywhere. During our years of extensive experience we have accumulated detailed knowledge what makes ratings perform. The biggest shock however during our discovery process was to learn just how inaccurate traditional form provided by others is and how little attention to this fact, if any, this receives from our competitors whose products we have used previously. The standard and text book response from them is to say "oh it's our form provider, and we can't do anything about it". In order to set ourselves apart from the competition we decided many years ago that we would go about correcting the vast range of inaccuracies that are contained within the form as supplied by others. Whilst we cannot guarantee that our data is totally free from error, we do know that we correct thousands of errors each year that otherwise slip through the cracks and that result in many betting decisions being made on flawed data.

Many of these errors are attributable to human error. Keystroke errors are the main reason they occur. Over 35% of our programming code is dedicated to error prevention. That's a massive undertaking when you consider that our program contains more than 300,000 lines of computer code. We spend several hours a day correcting and compiling the data in order to get our edge over the market place.

What we change

All race times and sectionals for each TAB race within Australia, every day. We source and confirm race and sectional times from more than one provider as well as having the ability to cross check those with our own vision analysis. This process ensures that we maintain accurate times and sectionals, the crucial starting point for our time based ratings calculations. Having access to this information, allows us to profit on an ongoing basis from information that isn't available to the majority of punters. We then calculate the ratings using those times and sectionals and present them to our clients in the R2W Axis software.

Position In Running or PIR as it is commonly known is a derivative of all that time scrutiny. We are able to present our clients with an anticipated settling position of virtually every horse in Australia. This includes not only metropolitan races but also provincial and country races. These PIR are not currently available from most form

providers for many provincial and country meetings. This allows us to form an accurate picture which is then displayed in the PIR rank and in more detail in the Early Speed Grid.

Track Conditions in Australia are reported with little regard to their accuracy, at least it seems that way to us based on what we see. We believe by using the results and correct times for each race, that we can then calculate a more accurate track condition that that which is officially provided and often we are proven absolutely correct when the official track condition is fixed up later. These adjusted track condition assessments are then used as the base for determining a horse's track condition suitability.

Margins and finishing positions errors, in terms of the extent that they occur, is something that really caught us by surprise. The presence of these errors within the form provided by others can have significant repercussions on other horses handicapped in the same race today. For example a significant error in a field of 10 runners can lead to the choosing of incorrect qualifying runs across 30 or more races for many weeks and months to come. As such we make sure that our data represents what actually happened on the day.

Jockey/Trainer names and jockey allowances is something that is crucial to get right. Be it in the assessment of a jockey rating or ensuring that their riding or the actual weight carried by the horse is reported correctly. Compiling and maintaining accurate data in this regard is no easy task. This information is often missing or is misspelt by different providers. We have created a single yet accurate list of all jockeys and trainers merging the different spelling conventions used by providers and reporting the correct allowances information for jockeys that changes frequently. This is what allows us to present accurate jockey and trainer ratings to our clients.

Distances, Track Names, Race Classes, Starting Times, and Prices are just some of the things that we check and correct in our quest to provide clients with accurate data. The number of times that distances are reported incorrectly is surprising. There are also many instances where the actual track itself is reported incorrectly. This usually occurs with multi-track courses such as Sunshine Coast, Randwick and Morphettville just to name a few. These changes can also occur during a race day as weather changes necessitate last minute track changes in order to preserve the TAB turnover. Starting Prices (SP) are also commonly reported incorrectly. For example \$2.1 when it was \$21 and vice versa.

The data you already have is also altered to reflect any corrections we make in order to present the most accurate snapshot of the day's results when you are looking at Past Data and Key Race areas. It needs to be said, that we don't alter our predictive ratings, once we calculate them for the day. They obviously remain unchanged so that your tests and our results remain transparent.

How we deliver the data

Each day we provide a First file, Early file, a Late file and a Resulted file. In addition, Trial files are provided daily. Each time a file is updated and becomes available for download, clients can view the time of the last file upload. Files are generally available between 9am to 10am each morning unless there is a problem providing them.

Throughout the day First files are updated and made available to Professional clients. Any delays that could occur are notified on the Welcome screen in the Axis software.

First Files are updated throughout the day for Axis Professional clients. They contain all the ratings and data that we have gathered up to that point. For example, Saturday's race files are delivered on Wednesday.

Early Files are generally available on the morning of the day preceding the race day in question. They contain all the ratings and data that we have gathered up to that point. For example Saturday's race files are delivered on Friday morning.

Late Files are generally available on the morning of the race day between 9am and 10am. They contain all the data gathered up to that time including details of any jockey changes, scratchings, track condition, race time and distance and track changes and any ratings changes that are required as a result. The Axis works out what needs to be updated so there is nothing you need to be concerned with.

Resulted Files are available on the morning after the race day and contain all the results and changes that have occurred since the late file was released.

Trial Files are available daily and contain all the trials run since the last file release. We overlap the trial results so that each file covers a period of two weeks.

You don't have to download every file, if you don't require them. If you don't study form a day before the races for instance and/or are simply interested in the ratings on race day, then there is no need to download the early file. If you can't be there on a race day, why not just wait for the resulted file in order to keep your database up to date. You won't miss out on anything as all files contain the same information save for any updates that might occur since the last file release.

Past Data for races and trials

Each subscription comes with its own initial block of past data namely 730 days for Professional subscriptions. This data relates to horses past race starts and includes trials. If you wish to purchase additional past race data, you can access our Purchase Products page and purchase all the way to 5/3/2010. This data is available by way of either direct download or DVD keyed to your computer. Past data for trials is also available for the last 3 years should you choose to purchase it.

Personal Ratings Import

This function allows clients to expand the number of ratings available by allowing the importation of up to 5 external ratings. Any such imported rating will then become integrated into Axis and offer the same functionality as any other native Axis rating.

Most importantly clients will be able to test and analyse these ratings to truly ascertain their performance and gain advantage from them by integrating them into systems and or the Consensus panel. The 5 ratings bring the total up to 18 available ratings in Axis from which to create unique Consensus panel ratings and systems to create possibilities that don't exist elsewhere.

Safeguarding your data

It is our goal to deliver the most accurate data that we possibly can. Whilst you can delegate tasks you cannot delegate responsibility. As such it is up to ensure that you protect your data. Your database is unique to your computer and while you can transfer the database when upgrading between machines, we cannot replace your database if you lose, delete or corrupt it.

To assist you in better protecting your data, we have provided you with an inbuilt daily incremental backup and database integrity checking facility. Using this facility is the easiest way to safeguard against data corruption and/or loss. Each time you close the software, the database automatically commences an incremental backup cycle and places this backup in a specific location along with your other historical backups going back between 7 to 28 days depending on your Admin settings. This procedure is automatically enabled. We recommend that you store the database backups on a separate drive if possible and that you should copy the last back up to an external drive or USB stick at least once a month.