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The Truth About Betting Systems

By Ryan D.

Every gambler knows someone who plays to a system. But serious blackjack and poker players

don't use systems because they're overrated. Skill counts a great deal in both of these games and it tends to balance out the chance factor over any significant period. People who bet on the horses are always using systems, yet the house edge in horse racing is far greater than in the game of roulette – and the edge is too great in roulette, too. The bookies rake in between 15 percent and 25 percent on the horses, which takes any advantage away from you. Even so, some knowledge of horses can help you at the track ... but there is no information you can apply in roulette or craps. These are totally games of luck. None the less, gamblers do try to formulate betting systems to overcome the house edge in these games.

There are countless systems in use – doubling-up (also called the Martingale system), in which bets are increased progressively; doubling-up plus 1; raising, lowering and cancellation; and a myriad of subtle variations on these systems. A common factor they all share is this: they don't work. Eventually you'll lose because only one factor makes the difference in the long run, and that's the house advantage. Using a system just delays the inevitable.

The only winning strategy for craps or roulette is to get a lucky win and then make a hasty departure. If you hang around, that house edge is going to sneak up on you eventually. In the majority of systems you have to raise your first bet until you've recovered what you lost. Maybe this would work if we were betting on the toss of a coin. Suppose you wager \$10 on heads but the toss comes out tails. You would merely need to bet "double or nothing" over and over again until heads did eventually win. We'll assume there's no top limit on the betting in this game of heads or tails and you could bet a million dollars if necessary as you sought to break even. Casinos do impose betting limits, however. A drawn-out succession of reds would break you if you were playing double-up or double-up + 1 on black.

In a simple toss of a coin, moreover, you don't have to play against a built-in house advantage. The problem at the heart of any gambling system is that the odds are always stacked against you. The house edge insidiously works against you, and the more time you spend trying to beat it, the more likely it is to get you. If you ran a shop, would you sell all of your goods at a 5 percent loss? Over

The Truth About Betting Systems

enough time any betting system will break you. So, is there nothing to be done?

In craps or roulette you must do everything possible to maximize your chances of winning. Bet on a number, not on corners. Go for a win in the fewest possible number of dice-rolls or spins of the wheel. Gamblers who like to prolong the pleasure of being at the table are the ones who lose. If your roulette bankroll is \$100, bet it on two spins of the wheel. If you get lucky, leave the table at the first sensible opportunity. Don't ever walk away immediately after a winning spin. Let the winning streak run its course first. But as soon as that happens, cash out and leave. Craps and roulette call for mighty self-discipline. Be absolutely determined to bet fast and walk away with what you win. If you let the game draw you in, it'll eat you.

If it's fun you're looking for, become familiar with blackjack. You can play blackjack as long as you like and there's not much of a house edge to worry about if you keep your head screwed on straight. But your interludes at roulette or craps should be more like lightning raids. And leave your betting system

behind when you go there, or it'll cost you dearly.

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, on of the oldest online casino guides.

Three Great MLB Baseball Betting Tips

By Sebastien Veilleux

Do you bet on MLB baseball? If not, you should. There are countless profitable betting opportunities every MLB baseball season. Whether you are already betting on MLB baseball or thinking about starting, this article will give you three solid baseball betting tips. These baseball betting tips will help you refine your selection process so you are getting better value for your money and winning more in the long run.

Baseball Betting Tip One: Don't bet on heavy favorites

As a generally rule, I don't bet on any MLB team that's around -160 or higher. The principle is a sound one. The more money you lay—without getting anything in return—the more you have to win to just break even. Let's look at an example using a heavy favorite of -200. You are laying \$2 to win \$1. Right away we can see that we must pick winners 66% of the time just to break even.

This is ridiculous. Take the best team in baseball and look at their win percentage. It's generally around 60–62%. Sure, the team playing a heavy favorite is probably not that good, but baseball is a funny game. Rather than getting suckered in, look for other betting options or steer clear of heavy favorites.

The Truth About Betting Systems

Baseball Betting Tip Two: If you must bet a heavy favorite, do it on the run line.

The run line in baseball is a spread and money line combination. In this case, you will be laying 1.5 runs—so your team must win by 2 or more—but you will be knocking down the money laid. Many good teams will beat poor teams by two or more. By betting them on the run line, you can knock off significant money. Perhaps the team you were going to wager on that was over the mark set in tip number one is now down to -120.

Baseball Betting Tip Three: Don't bet on road teams going for the sweep

Yes, road teams do sweep, but it's very hard. Looking over recent history, a home team only gets swept about 10% of the time. Good ones get swept even less. You could say that a secondary tip would be to bet on home teams trying to avoid the sweep. That's up to you. My main point is to simply walk away from games where you like the visitor, but that team is going for the sweep.

There are your three great MLB baseball betting tips. Good Luck!

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