

# TRIPS Track Bias Report - User Guide

This is a brief user's guide to help outline some of the unique data points found in the TrackMaster Track Bias Reports. We strongly suggest you read the detailed tutorial at [trackmaster.com](http://trackmaster.com) (Thoroughbred/Quarter Horse tab, click on Track Bias Reports) to take full advantage of all of the information provided in these valued reports. The tutorial will guide you through the ins and outs of the Track Bias Reports.

## LAST FOUR DAYS (Top Section)

The Last Four Race Days section provides information regarding the winners of races over the last four days of racing at a particular track. (The racing days must have occurred within the last six months to be shown and only races greater than or equal to five furlongs are considered.) For each day displayed, the following information is shown:

**BIAS: STYLE-PATH** The first piece of information located just beneath the race date is the Bias: Style-Path for each course and distance (sprint/route)

Track Bias STYLE is one of the following:

- Strong Front – The track surface gave Front-runners a big advantage
- Front – The track surface gave Front-runners an advantage
- Strong Stalk – The track surface gave Stalkers a big advantage
- Stalk – The track surface gave Stalkers an advantage
- Strong Trail - The track surface gave Trailers a big advantage
- Trail - The track surface gave Trailers an advantage
- None - No particular Style Bias
- N/A - Not available, no races were run on the course at the distance (sprint/route)

Track Bias PATH is one of the following:

- Rail – The inner posts and/or inner part of the track was most advantageous
- Middle – The middle post positions and/or middle of the track was the best spot to be
- Outside – The outer post positions and/or outside part of the track was best
- None – No particular Path Bias
- N/A - Not available, no races were run on the course at the distance (sprint/route)

**WINNER'S GRID** The next section contains the winner's grid, which displays the early positioning and the post position of the winners. The following symbols are used in the grid:

- Dirt-Sprint
- Dirt-Route
- Turf-Sprint
- Turf-Route

For each race on the day of at least five furlongs, a symbol is placed on the grid in the appropriate column and row corresponding to each winner. The 1-3 column is for winners starting in the one, two or three post position. The 4-6 column is for winners starting in the four, five, or six post position and the 7 .up column is for winners with a post position greater than six. The row selected corresponds to the lengths back of the winner at the first call. If the winner was on the lead or within two lengths of the lead then the Front row is selected. If the winner was more than two lengths back, but not more than five lengths back, then the Stalk row is selected. If a winner was more than five lengths back, then the Trail row is selected.

The track condition of the dirt and turf course are listed. If the track condition changes during the day, then the track condition is listed as mixed.

**LENGTHS BACK** The next section is the average lengths back at the first call and second call of the winners, listed by course and distance (sprint/route). (For sprints, the points of call are at two furlongs and four furlongs, for routes, at four furlongs and six furlongs)

## RECENT RACES AND LAST 12 MONTHS (Lower Section)

The next major section consists of the Recent Races and Track Profile listings for the Top Four Finishers by course and distance (sprint/route). Recent Races refer to the last thirty races on the course at the distance (sprint/route). (If less than thirty races are available over the last six months, then all of the races on the course at the distance (sprint/route) are included.) The time period for the Track Profile includes the last 365 days.

Each of the Top Four Finishers positions contains data reflecting Post-Race Analysis and Pre-Race Running Styles. The letter grades provided are similar to grades in school with an A being the best and an F being the worst. Any grade with a plus means that a positive average odds threshold has been met while any grade with a negative sign indicates that a certain negative average odds threshold has been met.

The Post Race Analysis grid has columns consisting of Rail, Middle and Outside, while the rows are labeled as Front, Stalk and Trail. Rail, Middle and Outside pertain to the post position as well as the portion of the track runners raced on during the race. As in the winner's grid, the Front, Stalk and Trail labels refer to a runner's positioning at the first call. Front refers to horses that were on the lead or less than two lengths from the lead. Stalk pertains to horses that were more than two lengths from the lead, but not more than five lengths back. Trail refers to horses that were more than five lengths back.

The Pre-Race Running Styles grid pertains to the Running Style assigned to a horse in the TrackMaster TRIPS report before a race is run. The grades are based on whether the percentage of finishers for the Running Style are as expected when matched up with the percentage of horses with that Running Style. The Running Styles are listed below:

- Front-runner: Usually on the early lead
- Alternator/Front-runner: No particular Running Style, recent outings have been near the lead
- Stalker: Normally sits just off of the Front-runners in the early stages of the race
- Alternator/Stalker: No particular Running Style, recent outings have been racing off the pace
- Trailer: Usually near the back of the pack in the early going
- Alternator/Trailer: No particular Running Style, recent outings have been near the back
- Unknown: Running Style unknown, usually because the horse is foreign or a first time starter