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TODAY'S SPORTS BETTING TIPS...

1 - [Dave's Big Tips](#)

Win Bet - 14:40 Kempton - River Frost @ 6/1

2 - [Value Wins](#)

Each Way Bet - 13:30 Kempton - Exitas @ 14/1

3 - [Quality Racing Specialist](#)

Win Bet - 13:25 Lingfield (A.W) - Kasbah @ 11/2

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Cricket Counsel - Untapped Markets and Scratching Beneath the Surface - By Dave Owens

It may surprise a lot of people that cricket is now a sport played all around the world 12 months a year, in all corners of the globe and in a variety of different formats. The increasing volume of cricket being played and ongoing growth of the new 20/20 leagues all around the world mean there has never been a better time to bet on the sport.

Aside from the sheer volume and opportunity to bet on cricket, it may also surprise people that it's almost certainly the sport with the biggest array of markets and options to bet on specific matches. It's these sub markets on a cricket match that I am going to write about and highlight opportunity's that are exploitable and not as well maintained or ascribed the same diligence by bookmakers as the most popular and at times only seen market of which team will win a match.

The best way to demonstrate the use of these markets and the disparity that can occur with them and the match winner market is to highlight a recent Test series between India and Sri Lanka.

To give some pre-match context to the fixture - India are the No1 side in the world, have not been beaten in 5 years in a series at home. This is predominately due to the unique conditions that cricket in India is played in.

5 day test matches are regularly played in heat touching 40C, on wickets that bake, break up and crumble under the heat and assist their fine spin bowlers in ultra-helpful spin bowling conditions. The bookmakers made India pre-match favourites at odds of 1.20.

This sort of mis-match and odds really present no opportunity, like Manchester City playing at home against a struggling side. A day before the test started there was a dramatic shift in the odds with unexpected news that heavy rain was going to be hitting a lot of the 5 day test match saw the bookmakers move quickly to drift the India odds to close to even with the draw not far behind with the potential that so much play will be ruled out not leaving enough time for an Indian win.

The onset of heavy rain aside from bringing the draw into play, would, to a keen student of cricket (especially in India) dramatically effect playing conditions as and when there was play. As I briefly touched on, Indian conditions for decades now have involved their wickets being played on dry pitch's that break up in the heat and assist spin bowling. The news of heavy rain and cloud being involved throughout the 5 days would now flip entirely and make conditions like those in England where quick bowling dominates and the spinner hardly bowls at all, certainly not as a real wicket taking threat.

This is where the sub markets come into play, unlike the match winner odds that had moved with the news of the weather and changing conditions there were a vast array of sub markets with different bookmakers that had just remained the same and were now totally wrong with the situation that was likely to occur (quick bowling to dominate and spin bowling not having a big role). In this instance I was able to find 6 different bets from the sub-markets at prices that were clearly wrong and getting prices well above even money for what were now bets that were almost dead certs.

The bets I managed to acquire were as follows -

1 - Sri Lanka's left arm spinner Herath to take under 4 wickets in the first innings at odds of 2.40. Herath only bowled 12 deliveries and took 0 wickets as the seamers dominated and he wasn't required.

2 - India spinner Ashwin to take less than 3 first innings wickets at odds 2.25. Ashwin took 0 wickets and only bowled 8 overs as the Indian quicks took all the wickets.

3 - India spinner Jadeja to take less than 3 first innings wickets at odds of 2.20. Jadeja took 0 wickets and only bowled 1 over.

4 - Ashwin to score less than 145 player points (this is a score acquired from a mixture of runs and wickets) again he came nowhere close with hardly bowling at all.

5 - Jadeja to score less than 145 player points, the same scenario as Ashwin above.

6 - No century to be scored in either teams first innings? Excellent odds of 5.00 which had not moved at all despite the changing playing conditions.

These are bets that can always fly under the radar with the bookmakers preoccupied with the mass volume of money in the match winner markets of which the bookmakers would have made a killing with large sums of money going on India and the game ending up a rain effected draw and very happy with their work for the test match and no real concern for the hardly used sub markets.

Another example of exploiting the sub markets came in the very next game between the two sides. This time the weather was predicted to be fine for the whole 5 days and India were again 1.20 and red-hot certainties to win this match. Leaving the question how to find value and profit from such a one-sided match and such horrible odds. Again it was a case of digging into the sub-markets and finding some different angles to extract value and profit.

In usual Indian conditions (that these were) Indian batsman have dominated and wracked up massive scores. With some searching of different bookmakers and their sub markets a standard and somewhat lazy price of 8.00 was offered on each of the top 4 Indian batsman individually Rahul, Vijay, Pujara and Kohli to score 100 runs in the first innings. With their form at home and the lack of power in the Sri Lankan bowling line up this was an excellent opportunity to back all 4 players with the knowledge of one reaching three figures making a very healthy profit. As is happened 3 of the batsman made first innings century's and again proved a fine pay out from deviating from the more traditional angle of betting.

I've been a cricket tipster for nearly 10 years now and just recently started a service on Betfan after a successful period proofing on Tipster planet. I rarely bet on the match winner of a cricket match as the I feel the market is certainly efficient and offers little to no value.

The vast majority of bets will be side markets to a cricket match which I feel certainly offer opportunity and value. The examples I've given just past are for 5-day Test match's. We are currently in the middle of a massive 20/20 tournament in Australia (The Big Bash). 20/20 cricket offers a different challenge to finding different bets but are certainly available to someone who potentially watch's and reads more cricket with greater diligence and intensity to a bookmaker.

An example I can provide (and is a bet I put out there in my proofing period) was in the “Top run scorer in a team” market. Bookmakers enjoy a certain advantage in assigning the odds they want that suit the nature of their book for a market. They are at a disadvantage against good knowledge though in the fact that they must price up their book a few days in advance of a game and with incomplete knowledge into the fluid thinking and movement that selecting a 20/20 side and batting order can entail.

In the first few games for the Melbourne Renegades they won match’s with only a few wickets down and no real certainty of what the rest of the batting order would be. Mo Nabi was priced up as 55.00 to be the Renegades top run scorer based on a lack of knowledge on his batting prowess and the assumption he would be batting at 9 or 10 in the order.

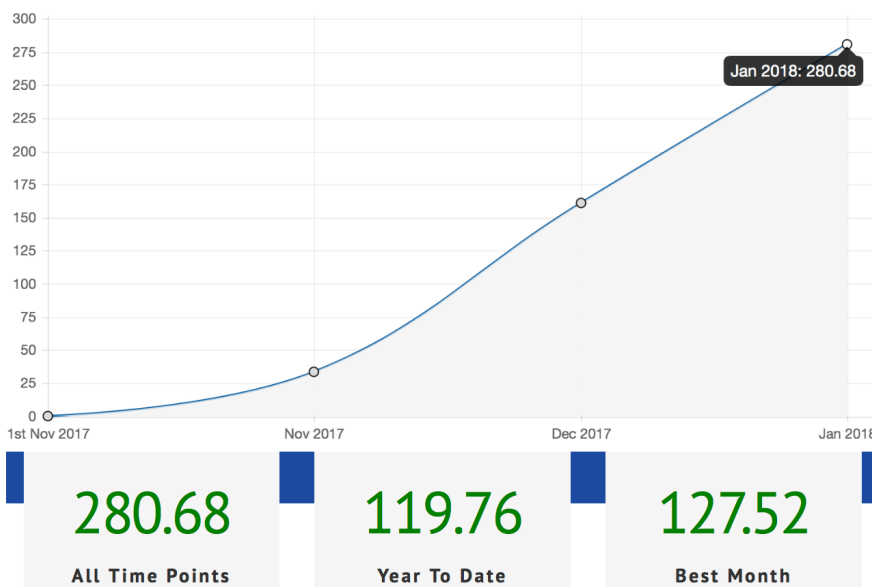
Having seen him bat for Afghanistan he is a genuine all rounder and watching the early Renegades match’s closely, a few interviews and discussions floated the idea that the batting order could be changed and a player like Nabi could be promoted up the order. This came into fruition in the very next match where Nabi was promoted up the order and top scored with 52. Infuriatingly I was a game out and unable to get on the bet where this came in!

There are numerous examples of such opportunity that I will probably write on in future as well as going into greater detail of what the different markets are and how I link them to specific bets. With my service Cricket Counsel I will always provide insight and analysis to each bet and to the thinking and angle that I am coming from.

I hope this has given you a flavour of how cricket can be effectively used as a profitable part of a betting portfolio.

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Cricket Counsel Proofing



Warwick Could Provide Some Major Race Pointers - By

Ian Hudson

The Grade 2 novices' hurdle at Warwick (3pm) has an impressive roll of honour and the Classic Handicap Chase was won last season by the horse who won the Grand National in the spring. This year's renewals could be just as informative in the context of future major races and Callett Mad and Goodtoknow are the horses to note in their respective races at Warwick. Matt Chapman will be reporting from the track after another assignment in his varied career was put on ice.

Chapman knows the ins and outs of racing and is at home in the betting ring. His unique skills do not transfer well but now he can focus on racing after being sacked as the summariser for Dancing On Ice. He should have the good grace and self-awareness to take that blow on the chin and handle it with humour and it will be interesting to see if the ITV Corporation allows Ed Chamberlain to take the mickey out of a colleague he doesn't seem to like.

At least Chapman has his racing interests to focus on and he'll be all over the fact that The New One is a former winner of the feature hurdle and One For Arthur won the long distance handicap chase last season three months before winning the National at Aintree. Willoughby Court won the standout hurdles race on the Warwick card last season and then won a championship contest in the division at the Cheltenham Festival. Calett Mad could be in the same class.

The horse is quoted at around the 25/1 mark for the Albert Bartlett Novices' Hurdle at the Festival but that price could be cut with an impressive win at Warwick. If you want to have a speculative bet before today's race you should back Calett Mad with bookmakers that are offering non-runner no bet on all 28 races at the jumps meeting that matters most. The concession has been introduced much earlier than usual due to unclear running plans and confused ante post markets.

Calett Mad has the best form in the field and is trained by Nigel Twiston-Davies who is also the trainer of The New One so he has positive mental associations with the Warwick race. The horse had two impressive wins early in the season but then ran poorly upped in class at Cheltenham. Today's race is weaker so Calett Mad can get a promising novice hurdles' season back on track and enter the picture for Cheltenham.

One For Arthur won the three miles five furlongs marathon over fences last year. The horse started at 14/1 so was not fancied but in retrospect was a massive handicap blip carrying less than eleven stone. Goodtoknow is trained by Kerry Lee who is a dab hand in this type of race. Her horse can emulate One For Arthur by winning the race but doesn't stand out as a potential National winner but that could all change at Huntingdon today. It would be a fine weight-carrying effort to prevail and a decisive win for Goodtoknow could cause a shake-up in the National betting. The double on Callett Mad and Goodtoknow pays almost 80/1.

Today's Sports Betting Preview - By Rick Elliott

In addition to the televised Premier League match at Wembley that brings together a home side in Tottenham and visitors Everton there are six fixtures that start at the traditional time at 3pm. Just after the mid-point of the season the top six teams in the table are predictable and features the six richest clubs in England who can afford to pay the best wages. All their matches this weekend and next Monday have been rearranged for broadcast which means the highest placed team starting at 1500 are Burnley in seventh place. The three leagues within a league is reflected in the current standings because the big city clubs with the most resources are pulling away from the rest of league. The teams in the second bracket are in mid-table safety while the rest have relegation issues. BURNLEY are [16/5 with Paddy Power](#) to win at Crystal Palace.

Warwick stages a decent novices' hurdle won by The New One and Willoughby Court in the past and both horses went on to win at the Cheltenham Festival so this can be informative. Grand National winner One For Arthur won the Classic Chase this time last year. The televised meeting at Kempton is made up mainly of handicaps but there is a Class 1 listed chase at 2.05pm. Smad Place is better over further but is still proven over the distance of today's race. God's Own has the highest Racing Post Ratings has won two Grade 1s in the past but has not won a race since April 2016. Josses Hill has the best hurdles form and its all about his jumping over fences. WAITING PATIENTLY has decent form with Politologue which stands out so looks a decent bet at [13/8 with William Hill](#).

England Can Beat Australia In The ODI Format

England have sent for cavalry for the five match One Day International series against Australia and the first meeting begins in Melbourne at 3.20 tomorrow morning. The four-nil drubbing in the Ashes series was a one-sided affair but England can bounce back in the limited overs format. Australia won the last World Cup in which both teams bat for 50 overs but England beat them in the Champions Cup last year. Eoin Morgan has taken over from Joe Root as captain and the reinforcements make England better equipped to give Australia a game. The hosts will also make changes but they could weaken the team so ENGLAND should be backed at [7/4 with Ladbrokes](#) to beat the Aussies this time.

Declan's Eye-Catchers - By Declan O'Donoghue

STHURIA (Willie Mullins) She didn't hang about when making all for a facile mares beginners chase victory at Naas. She may go back there for the Opera Hat and could make them all hop as her no nonsense, business like approach from the front leaves no hiding place for those in behind.

BEYOND THE LAW (Mouse Morris) Clonmel was shrouded in fog on Thursday but from what we could see this looked a cracking performance as the local runner buried a Willie Mullins hot pot Draconian who had excelled over track and trip on his previous outing.

COOL SAINT (Henry de Bromhead) A close third to fancied Willie Mullins and Gordon Elliott runners in a mares maiden hurdle, she must be backed in a similar contest next time.

DEMI SANG (Willie Mullins) You couldn't say he travelled - or jumped - particularly well at Naas last Sunday but produced a deadly finishing kick to beat the very useful Avenir D'Une Vie. Bought by J P McManus in France the performance is hard to assess but in fairness he knuckled down at the business end.

ESPANITO BELLO (Alan Fleming) A welcome change of luck for the trainer and for owner Barry Connell. He made every post a winning one in a Naas bumper and should comfortably progress to better things.

URBANIST (Shane Nolan) Perhaps he thought the job was done when, after being ridden with considerable restraint, he hit the front only to have his pocket picked late. With just a slight variation in tactics compensation awaits.

SQUADRON COMMANDER (Willie Mullins) Cork form doesn't always travel well, but this bumper winner at the Mallow track looked well above average. The ground was truly awful, and Patrick Mullins expects big improvement on a better surface. Hard to gauge the form as the runner up, while genuine, is no world beater. The Commander goes in a winners bumper next where we'll learn a lot more.

Followers of Declan's Irish Racing Service are in clover these days with recent winners including Raz De Maree 20/1 (won 16/1) and Shattered Love 16/1 (w 10/1). Realistically, can you afford NOT to have this service on your side as you pit your wits against the bookies in 2018?

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