

Tic-Tac Guide - Bookmaker's Slang

Posted by BonusBetting - 25 Feb 2011 14:29

Tic-Tac is the slang and sign language used by bookies to let each other know the current odds at racecourses. If you've ever wondered why John McCririck is flapping his arms like a chicken on Channel 4 Racing, he's actually trying to communicate. Many years ago, bookies at racecourses found they could see each other, but not hear each other across the crowds, so they invented tic-tac sign language.

These days, even on-site bookies are hooked up to Betfair and there isn't really any need for Tic-Tac. However, people like to keep old traditions going and the slang is still widely used - especially by John McCririck!

UK Odds

Decimal

Tic-Tac Slang

UK Odds

Decimal

Tic-Tac Slang

1/1

2.00

Levels, you devils!

9/2

5.50

Shoulders

11/10

2.10

Tips

5/1

6.00

Handful or Ching

6/5

2.20

Sais a Wang

6/1

7.00

Xis

5/4

2.25

Wrist

7/1

8.00

Neves

11/8

2.38

Up the Arm

8/1

9.00

TH

6/4

2.50

Ear'ole

9/1

10.00

Enin

7/4

2.74

Shoulder

10/1

11.00

Cockle or Net

15/8

2.88

Double Tops

11/1

12.00

Elef

2/1

3.00

Bottle

12/1

13.00

Net and Bice

9/4

3.25

Top of the Head

14/1

15.00

Net and Roof

5/2

3.50

Face

16/1

17.00

Net and Xis

11/4

3.75

Elef a Vier

20/1

21.00

Double Net

3/1

4.00

Carpet

25/1

26.00

Pony or Macaroni

100/30

4.33

Burlington Bertie

33/1

34.00

Double Carpet

4/0

5.00

Roof

100/1

101.00

Century

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Re: Tic-Tac Guide - Bookmaker's Slang

Posted by Hayden - 30 Aug 2011 13:15

Years ago when i often went racing i learnt tic tac and the spoken slang but as the Bookmakers used a twist card it seldom held any advantage to the backer. Some racing fans including people professionally involved in the sport still persist in trying to create a mystical aura ? by using different terminologyWhy refer to York as the knavesmire or Doncaster as Town moor ?.All this achieves is to create more confusion for newcomers.

I must confess that i am guilty in that i normally refer to bookmakers as The Fiddlers...This possibly derogatory term was invented by Tatts bookmakers to describe thier colleagues in the silver ring IE bookies only taking small bets at thier quoted prices, but these days in my experiance it can also be accurately used to describe the off course firms.
