

4 Things a Sports Bettor Should Avoid



Sports betting is very psychological in nature and at times can seem like everything's against the bettor. I have learned through the school of hard knocks that there are a few things a successful bettor should avoid.

The first thing to avoid is paying for sports picks. It is simply very hard to make money for anyone after you subtract out the juice. When you pay for picks you make it nearly impossible to turn a profit. Almost all the sports handicappers I've ever seen, could not come close to picking at a high enough percentage to make money for the bettor over the long term. If you want to be a sports bettor you simply must do it yourself.

The second thing to avoid is worrying about who the "public" is betting on for any specific game. I've seen many bettors get caught up in this and place bets opposite of their initial thoughts, because they don't want to be on the side of the public. This leads to losses for many bettors.

This fallacy is inside of the heads of most bettors these days. Their argument is "Vegas doesn't have all those nice buildings for nothing". In other words, they are saying the public is usually wrong. The only thing the public is terrible at is money management, selecting games is not the problem.

The third and most devastating mistake that bettors make is not using any type of money management. It is highly recommended for a bettor to never exceed 2% of their bankroll. This is the area that most people fail at. Money management is the key to long term winning. A sports bettor should never believe in the double down theory of betting. This theory just advocates doubling up on all the last previous losses until he finally gets a win. This has led many a fledgling bettor into the poor house.

The forth major mistake most bettors make is to always side with the favorite. This is particularly dangerous for sports like baseball and football where you are betting on the money line, and the losses hurt a whole lot more. I believe, as many other professional sports bettors do, that Vegas always shades things slightly towards the underdog, so betting all favorites makes it much harder to win over the long haul.

If you're interested in sports betting and you avoid the 4 mistakes from above, you have a much better chance of success. In saying that, never bet what you can't afford to lose. Sports betting should never be done with rent and utility money. Make sure you are only betting with excess money that can be lost.

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