

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The fabric that holds Thoroughbred racing together is history. One could say that history is at the heart of many sports, but without history there would be no Thoroughbred racing. It is a sport where each and every one of its current athletes is a son or daughter of a past athlete, who in turn is a descendant of past athletes. And so it goes back, with all current Thoroughbred horses tracing their roots back to all or one of the three founding sires. The Byerley Turk, the Darley Arabian, and the Godolphin Barb (also referred to as an Arabian) were all imported to England in the late 17th and early 18th centuries and crossed with local mares (Sue, 1845).

Of course, horse racing began before the three founding sires of Thoroughbred racing. By the late 1500s racing became a favorite pastime of English nobility. Henry VIII who seemingly preferred marriage and hunting, also kept a stable of racehorses, as did his daughter, Elizabeth I and her cousin James I (Tyrrel, 1997). It was under James I rule that the famed Newmarket racecourse came into existence (“Newmarket Timeline,” 2009). Charles II, another in a long line of royal racing enthusiasts, was not only an avid spectator and gambler, but also rode competitively and even wrote some early organizational rules (Tyrrel, 1997). It is largely due to that Monarch’s passion for racing that helped it become the “sport of kings.”

Europe led the way for horse racing with the importation of the three founding sires, which helped to create probably the most recognized horse breed around the world today, the

Thoroughbred. Countries around the world followed behind the European lead with many aspects of their own development of Thoroughbred racing.

Problem Statement

Most people are unaware of the history behind the sport of horse racing. They are also uninformed of European Racing, its scale and scope.

Hypothesis

European horse racing is foundational to the generations of racing enthusiasts as well as developing the blood lines of a horse breed. Looking mainly at England, Ireland and France we can see the scale and scope of this industry.

Objectives

- 1) To expose people to European racing, racetracks, and racing institutions.
- 2) To introduce people to the stakes races offered in Europe, such as the Triple Crowns of racing in European countries.
- 3) To expose people to a system of horse racing not familiar to them in the United States.

Justification

Many Americans are familiar vaguely familiar with horses such as Sea Biscuit, Secretariat, or Barbaro. They are also passingly aware of some of America's race tracks such as Santa Anita, Churchill Downs, Pimlico or Belmont. Some are even knowledgeable about the fashionably popular American Triple Crown races: the Kentucky Derby, the Preakness, and the Belmont Stakes. Many, however, have never experienced European racing or know how European racing differs from American racing. European racing is long in history, and the basis

for the Thoroughbred breed of horses. Thanks in part to institutions such as the Jockey Club, of England, many other countries followed suit and emulated them by creating their own Jockey Clubs which are now the ruling authority over all Thoroughbreds foaled, especially in Europe, Australia, and the Americas.

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Equus Caballus

History of the Horse

The modern horse, *Equus caballus*, belongs to the family *Equidae*, which also includes zebras, donkeys and asses. The known history of the modern horse starts with Eohippus, which palentological research estimates to have lived in North America some 60 million years ago. An animal no larger than a small dog, only about fourteen inches at the shoulder, Eohippus was designed for life as a forest browser moving around on soft soil. It had four toes on its front feet, three on its back feet and pads similar to a dog's (Vogel, 1995).

Research indicates that in the slow process of evolution, the most significant changes of all occurred when forests gave way to grasslands and the horse's ancestors became plains dwellers. This significant change in environment called for teeth designed for grazing, as opposed to browsing, a longer neck to make grazing easier, longer legs to facilitate flight from predators and feet suitable for harder terrain (Edwards, 1987).

All members of the modern *Equidae* family are swift runners with only one functional toe on each foot. All live in herds and all have cheek teeth designed for grinding plant food.

Present-day horses and ponies are said to trace back to three distinct types, produced by variations in their natural environment. Northern Europe provided the Forest Horse, a slow moving, heavy horse from which the world's heavy horse breeds are derived. Then there was the

primitive Asiatic Wild Horse, survivors of which were found still living wild as late as 1881 (called the Przewalski Horse); and finally the rather more refined Tarpan, from Eastern Europe (Hartley, 2000).

By the time that man began domesticating the horse, four sub-species had evolved: two pony types and two horse types. Pony Type 1 inhabited the northwest of Europe and resembled the modern Exmoor Pony. Pony Type 2, which was bigger and more heavily built, lived in northern Eurasia. The Highland Pony is probably the nearest modern-day equivalent. Horse Type 3 was a little bigger still, but much more lightweight in build and suited to hot climates. Its nearest equivalent is thought to be the Akhal-Teke. Horse Type 4, found in western Asia, was the smallest but the most refined and was the forerunner of the Pecheron (Vogel, 1995).

There are more than 150 different breeds and types of horses in the world (Groove, 1998), with which man has influenced through the development of each breed. Domestication resulted in selective breeding and, in many instances, a more nutritious feeding, both of which led to an increase in the size or quality (or both) of the horse. However, the biggest influencing factor was the work that humans required their particular horses to perform. Those who needed to move heavy loads bred for strength, while others in need of fast transportation bred for speed. The terms coldblood and warmblood (which have nothing to do with temperature) are used to describe horses. Coldblood refers to the heavy draught horse breeds that are believed to be descended from the prehistoric horse of northern Europe. Warmblood refers to the lighter, riding type of horse with Arabian influences, such as the Thoroughbred. Nowadays the term “warmblood” is used in connection with the horses being bred for competition riding (Edwards, 2000).

Uncertainty remains as to when humans realized the potential of a close association with the horse. What is known is that this realization changed the history of humankind forever due to the use of horses in so many human activities, from transportation and use in agriculture to their deployment in warfare (Edwards, 1987).

The horse was the last of the domesticated animals to be tamed. This may be due to its large size, or its unpredictable temperament, which would have made it difficult to catch and tame. However, the horse was certainly hunted as a convenient food source for primitive people in the later stages of the Ice Age, about 12000 years ago. They were most likely corralled into natural cul-de-sacs and clubbed to death or simply driven over cliffs to their deaths (Edwards, 2000).

Historians are still arguing over the region and period when domestication of the horse took place, and by whom (Longrigg, 1972). It may well have been that several tribes had the same idea over a period of time, although it is mainly believed that the horsemanship spread westward from Central Asia to central and western Europe and the South and East to China and Arabia. For several millennia, horses were the swiftest, most efficient form of transportation and communications. It is known, by depictions of working horses in ancient stone carvings, that the horse was being used to pull and carry 5,000-6,000 years ago, and it would not have been long before humans experimented by riding it (Edwards, 2000).

To learn more regarding the domestication of horses, archeologists are currently studying a community of people known as the Botai people who lived on the steppes of Central Asia roughly 5,000 years ago. The Botai lived in an area regarded as Krasnyi Yar in northern Kazakhstan, a country that borders both Russia and China. Thousands of horse bones show that the people who settled this area in the distant past lived near horse herds and ate large quantities

of horse meat (American Museum of Natural History, 2009). Societies began forming around horses as the need for items like iron and salt grew, and could only be obtained by trading with other communities. What one community could not get through trade often was obtained by raiding.

By 1500 BC, the Hittites were experienced horsemen, and stone clay tablets from this period have been discovered that give a comprehensive set of instructions on feeding, watering, exercise, grooming, bedding, and coping with problems. Human greed found it easier to continue obtaining what was needed through warfare, and as such, began conquering new lands as their wants grew. More and more communities began training their horses in the skills of war. Suitable bridles for riding gradually appeared, making horses easier to handle, though the horse was still being ridden bareback (Edwards, 1987).

Throughout history, horses have been instrumental in the development of new ideas and inventions. Body armor, invented by the Romans, became heavier over time, and meant much larger horses were needed as mounts. So, heavy horses became popular throughout Europe, as the war-horse, until the Middle Ages brought a period of relative peace. (Edwards, 2000)

During this time, horses became popular for use in entertainment. Jousting became a popular competitive sport, and also helped increase fighting prowess for future wars. Tournaments took place involving knights on light Barbs or Arabs, while the strong war-horse was ideal for carrying heavy armor of the time. With the advent of firepower by the 17th century, warriors began to realize that lighter armor and speedier horses would be more effective (Edwards, 2000). The heavier horse was enlisted to pull the cannon, and the lighter breeds became more popular for the cavalry.

The Horse In Modern Times

The horse continues to play a major role in everyday life. While the horse is generally no longer used for tractor farm work or hauling or for traveling long distances in developed countries, its versatility, toughness, and maneuverability make it ideal in many situations around the world in developing countries (Swann, 2006).

In remote areas, where it would be infeasible or too expensive to get heavy machinery in, horses are used to till the land for crops, handled by those experienced in driving horses with a plow. Heavy breeds known for strength are used in the timber industry to pull timber where the machinery might be too heavy or cause excessive damage to the ground. It is not an uncommon sight, in under-developed countries to see ponies drawing carts full of coal and other commodities to the people that are in need of them (Pritchard, et al., 2005).

Even in modern cities like New York or Los Angeles, horses are used in practical non-agricultural ways. The police use them to see over crowds or maneuver through heavily trafficked areas where a squad car would be unable to get to. Horse drawn carriages offer rides to tourists as a fun and romantic way to see the city.

The Horse in Entertainment

Modern horses are often used in a variety of means for entertainment purposes. They are often used in films reenacting many of their historical functions. Horses are used, complete with equipment that is authentic or meticulously recreated replica, in various live action historical reenactments, especially recreations of famous battles (Burt, 2002).

Historically, equestrians honed their skills through jousts and tournaments, competitions, races and games. Equestrian sports serve a dual purpose in providing entertainment for crowds

and honing and preserving the horsemanship skills needed for battle. Many sports, such as dressage, eventing, and show jumping had their origins in military training (Sly, 2000). Other sports such as rodeo, developed out of the practical skills needed to work on a ranch (Frost, 1987). Horse racing, whether the horse was ridden or driven, evolved out of the impromptu needs of the riders or drivers to compete against each other.

Thoroughbred Horse Racing

A History of the Sport

Horse racing officially appeared on history's horizon sometime before 1000 BC. For some time racing was confined to the two-horse chariot (New World Encyclopedia, 2009). Then the Greeks, buying horses from the Libyans (Edwards, 2000), added chariot races to the Olympic program in 680 BC (New World Encyclopedia, 2009). The Olympics were the oldest and supreme of the Greek devotional games. The first seventeen Olympics were confined to foot-races, and in the twenty-fifth games the four-horse chariot race was added. Another thirty-two years passed and the horse and rider was added to the games. The Greeks used a bit, a metal mouthpiece for controlling the horse, for race-riding, but they only had the savage kind for schooling and for the occasional rogue, it was ridden bareback, although they used saddle-cloths with a girth for hunting and war (Edwards, 2000). A mares-only race, the Calpe, was added in 496 BC (Youatt, 1853); and then a race for colts of the same age. There were also races for four-wheeled carts, two-horse chariots, boy riders and mule-carts.

As the Romans began conquering the world in the early years AD, they brought the sport with them into Europe all the way into the British Isles where they established themselves for about 400 years (Dawn, 2009). In fact Boudicca, Queen of the Brittonic Iceni tribe of what is

now known as East Anglia in England, would use the Heath at Newmarket to tune up their chariots for before battles with the Roman invaders, who built the road that runs through Newmarket and on into East Anglia (Davies, 1994). When the Roman rule ended, horse racing continued to flourish in its new home and through the centuries.

It would be in the first quarter of the seventeenth century, through King James I (reigned 1603-1625) that greatly increased the popularity of horse racing in England (Roberts, 1905). In 1622, the first recorded race at Newmarket took place. It was a match race in which a horse belonging to Lord Salisbury beat one of the Marquesses of Buckingham's for a stake of £100, then an enormous sum (Cassidy, 2007). King Charles I followed this by inaugurating the first cup race in 1634. Warren Hill was a favorite for King Charles as a place to watch his horses exercise (Suffolk, et al., 1901). It was the "Merry Monarch," Charles II, though who made Newmarket truly fashionable. The importations of the founding sires following Charles II reign helped to create probably the most recognized horse breed around the world today, the Thoroughbred. Horse racing was brought to an entirely new level as a result of the development of this horse.

As colonial America struggled for its existence, its sporting instincts remained the same as

its mother country. In 1665 the Governor of New York, Richard Nicolls, named America's first racetrack Newmarket. Only a year after the Godolphin Arab began covering British mares, the first "Thoroughbred" reached the American colonies in the form of Bulle Rock, a son of the Darley Arabian (Stewart, 1995).



Figure 1. Finish of the 2000 Guineas at Newmarket. Source: Samuel Henry Alken (1810-1894)

The Jockey Club

The Jockey Club had many influences upon the racing industry. It influenced the rules of the sport, as up until the early 18th century rules were almost non-existent, with few exceptions: anyone riding in leather breeches (the denim jeans of the period) faced disqualification as he was clearly not a gentleman. They were starting some races at level weights, usually a ten stone, as opposed to catch-weights, which is a weight limit that does not fall within traditional limits, and beating other jockeys while mounted was often punished with imprisonment, which makes the current rule seem facile.

Although there is no official foundation date, the English Jockey Club at the Star and Garter in Pall Mall put an announcement carried in a 1752 edition of the *Calendar* that it would hold a race at Newmarket on April 1, 1752, which would be a Contribution Free Plate, by horses the property of the noblemen and gentlemen belonging to the Jockey Club at the Star and Garter in Pall Mall. For whatever reason, however, that race did not occur until the Newmarket May Meeting in 1753, when two ‘Jockey Club Plates’ were run, both restricted to members of the club.

The name ‘Jockey Club’ has puzzled more than one observer over the years, since it is not a social club in the traditional sense nor is it an association of professional riders; indeed, no person who holds a professional license of any sort under Rules can be admitted to membership until they have retired. Eventually the Club’s formal London headquarters were established at the offices of its agents, Messrs Weatherby in Old Bond Street. Metropolitan base and administrative secretary secured, the Club sought a premises in which to meet at Newmarket. While no evidence exists that the Club had any direct involvement in the matter, as such, the

existence of a ruling body and a slowly emerging set of rules clearly influence the first ‘warning-off’ notice, published in the *Calendar* in 1770 (Black, 1891).

By 1821 the Jockey Club had also seen the innovation of all five classic European races. The founding of the St. Leger in 1776, along with the other major classics, was the work of an unofficial committee rather than any one individual. Even so, the St Leger belongs to Col. Anthony St Leger, British proper pronunciation of ‘Sellinger’, Lord Rockingham and General ‘Johnny’ Burgoyne; the Oaks to the 12th Earl of Derby (pronounced Dar-be) and Burgoyne and the Derby to Lord Derby and Burgoyne again, Sir Charles Bunbury, Charles James Fox and Richard Brinsley Sheridan. The Guineas races can be attributed to Bunbury and his fellow stewards of the time.

By 1894 the Jockey Club made its way across the ocean to the shores of the ‘colonies.’ It came into existence through the efforts of James R. Keene, who set about supplanting the Board of Control that governed racing in New York State. It is now the ruling authority over all Thoroughbreds foaled in The United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico as well as Thoroughbreds imported into those countries from nations around the world that maintain similar Thoroughbred registries (Tyrrel, 1997).

The Structure of the Sport

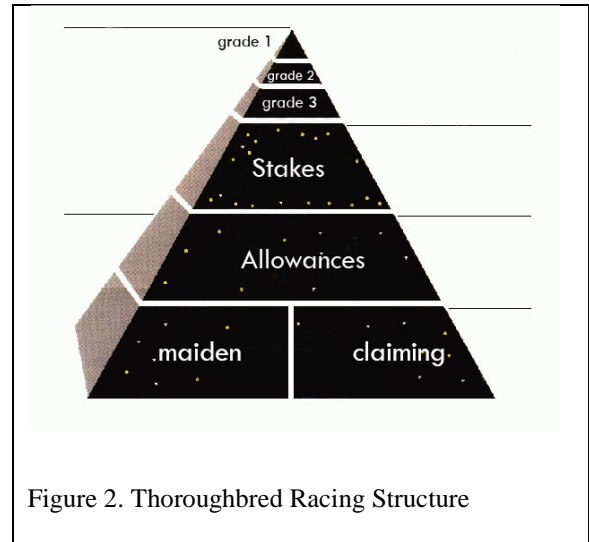
By the mid 1700s horse racing had been well established in America and Europe. As a result it became necessary to have a governing body to make sure there was uniformity across the industry, thus the birth of the Jockey Club (1752). The Jockey Club helped to ensure uniformity in the rules of racing as well as in the types of races run.

There are a number of rules that are common to many of the Jockey Clubs and Thoroughbred ruling authorities the world over. In England, as well as Ireland, the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico, the Jockey Clubs are the registrar for all Thoroughbred horses. The registries, maintained by the clubs, such as the American Stud Book and the International Stud Book, dates back to the Jockey Clubs' founding and contains the descendents of those horses listed, as well as those that are imported into the US, up to the present time (Bruce, 1898). Participants in the registry program agree to allow the Jockey Club to perform genetic testing to verify parentage, thereby maintaining the condition of the registry, as well as arbitrating any disagreements between owners. Genetic testing is mandatory for owners to receive their registry papers on their horses, without which, the horse has no value (Lee and Cho, 2006).

It is the Club's position that it will not allow for cloned Thoroughbreds to be registered in the Stud Book (West, 2006), therefore making it impossible for such horses to compete in races. It has also consistently prohibited artificial insemination throughout its history, allowing only the registration of those horses through 'natural' procreation (The Jockey Club, 2010).

The club also controls the naming of foals and includes a number of conventions (The Jockey Club, Rule 6, 2010). Names must not consist of more than 18 characters (with spaces and punctuations counting as letters), contain initials such as C. O. D., F. O. B. or end in 'filly,' 'colt,' 'stud,' 'mare,' 'stallion' or any other similar horse-related term. The list also protects the names of currently active horses as well as horses enrolled in the National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame and any other well known horses, including Guineas, Derby, St. Leger, Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, or Breeders' Cup event winners.

Horse Racing is an international sport and so being in every country there are slightly different races, and racing structures. In an attempt to globalize the races so that a horse from differing countries can compete comparatively, a type of pyramidal structure was introduced to the sport. There are two main types of races; condition races and handicap racing. Condition races are the rarer of the two and are usually separated into what are known as stakes races and are graded or grouped based off of the conditions that the horses must meet in order to participate in those races. Handicap races are races that give allowances to horses based off their racing record,



and assign a differing amount of weight to carry based on their ability. Overall, the differing races create a sort of pyramid shape with the bottom layer being made up of the most abundant races, mostly maiden races or claiming races, followed by allowances, and stakes.

Today these structures apply generally to the world over. It was with the passion of Kings, and peasants alike that have made horse racing a popular sport all over the world.

CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

Procedures for Data Collection

Data can be collected in two forms, quantitative and qualitative. Quantitative data would be numbers of people, area of land, numbers of racecourses. Qualitative data would be opinions, conversations or personal experiences at racecourses.

Quantitative data relevant to European racing would be area of land in Ireland, Great Britain and France as well as population of those three countries, and the numbers of racecourses located there in. To look for this type of data one would need to look for census data from each location, and area data. To find the number of racecourses each country has, one can look to each country's horse racing governing boards.

Table 1. Populations, area and numbers of racecourses in England, France, Ireland and California

	England	France	Ireland	California
Population	61.5 million	63.72 million	6.20 million	36.96 million
Area	84,556 square miles	220,668 square miles	32,544 square miles	158,302 square miles
# of Racecourses	60	21	26	12

Qualitative data would need to be collected on the racecourses in each location. Such as, what does the racecourse itself actually look like? Which direction do they run? What type of

racing surface does each racecourse have? Is the course run in a straight line or does it have a curve, and if so, whether that curve is run clockwise or anti-clockwise?

Table 2. Qualitative Descriptions of racecourses

Racecourse Name	Racecourse Location	Racecourse Type	Race Direction	Types of Races Run
Longchamp	Paris, France	Turf	Clockwise	Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe; Poule d'Essai des Poulains
Epsom Downs	Epsom, Surrey, UK	Turf	Anti-clockwise	Epsom Derby; Epsom Oaks
Ascot	Ascot, Birkshire, Uk	Turf	Clockwise	The King George; Queen Elizabeth II Stakes
Newmarket	Newmarket, Suffolk, UK	Turf-straight track	Clockwise	2000 Guineas Stakes
Doncaster	Doncaster, South Yorkshire, UK	Turf	Anti-clockwise	St. Leger Stakes; Racing Post Trophy
Curragh	Newbridge, Co. Kildare, IRE	Turf	Clockwise	Irish 2000 Guineas; Irish Derby; Irish St. Leger
Santa Anita	Arcadia, CA, USA	Dirt/Turf	Anti-clockwise	Santa Anita Derby Santa Anita Handicap

Procedures for Data Analysis

Data is to be organized in such a way as to be able to make easy conclusions, and flow from one racecourse to the next in a logical manner. Quantitative data should be organized by country, with all pertinent information relayed around that topic. California's racing industry will be used for comparative analysis. Qualitative data should then be organized by country, then racecourse based on importance of the races offered at that location, followed by any colloquialisms pertinent to that location.

Assumptions

Because we are looking at very specific tracks in a limited number of European countries, one has to assume that racing is run similarly in other European countries, with races occurring

in on straight tracks as well as curved tracks and that races depending on the track can be run with either a right hand (clockwise) turn or a left hand (anti-clockwise) turn, as is the United States norm. Every single track in the United States makes a left hand turn, when the horse comes off the racecourse to the barn for cool down it walks in a left handed circle.

Limitations

To keep this study focused, it is being limited to the practices of three European countries; France; Great Britain and Ireland. The methodology developed can be applied to other European countries, but the actual findings will be specific only to those three countries. The data collected on current populations are estimates and/or forecasts of populations based on Census data collected by those countries in 2000, while they are estimates, they are still meaningful in demonstrating the scope of the field.

CHAPTER 4

DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY

Slide presentation, commentary follows below or after each slide.

Slide 1-Title

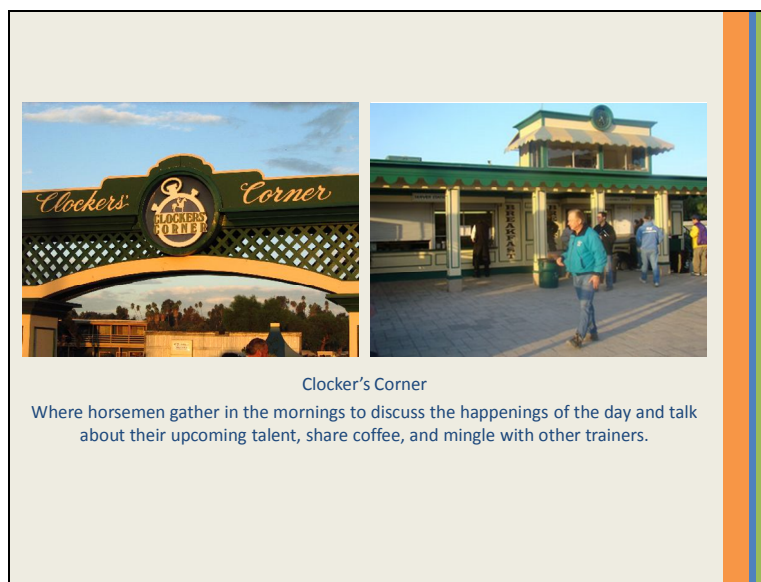


Welcome, my name is Jenn Skidmore. I'm here to discuss with you a passion of mine, European Horse Racing.

First I'm going to tell you a little about myself, and how I got involved in this exciting industry. I started off in the horse racing industry in 1999 by taking Dr. Ahern's 303 Class, "Introduction to Horse Racing," when it was offered as an experimental class, at the time one of

the many presenters we had in class included the Racing Secretary at Santa Anita Racecourse, Rick Hammerle, who came to visit and tell us about what he did as Racing Secretary. He did a wonderful job describing what it was he did at the track.

Slide 2—Clocker's Corner at Santa Anita



What I remembered most though, was a comment he casually made at the end of his presentation. I recall him telling the class that “They always need help on the backside, if you’re looking for a job. Just go to ‘Clocker’s Corner’.”

I followed through with that advice and presented myself one morning at around 7 am telling anyone who would listen, that I was attending Cal Poly and had taken this class and was told that they always needed help on with the horses.

When I was asked what horse racing experience I had, I politely demurred telling them, “None, but that means I don’t have any bad habits yet either, and if hired, whatever bad habits I developed would be ones which you (the trainer) would give me. “

Slide 3—Howie Zucker



Luckily for me this open honesty impressed a trainer by the name of Howard Zucker.

Howie hired me as a Hot Walker to help around the barn and to walk the horses as they came off the track in order to cool them down and give their grooms time to clean their stalls. Within two weeks of working with Howie, I was quickly promoted to assistant barn manager. I worked with his horses, such as Crafty CT and Madame Pietra.

Slide 4—Del Mar Thoroughbred Club



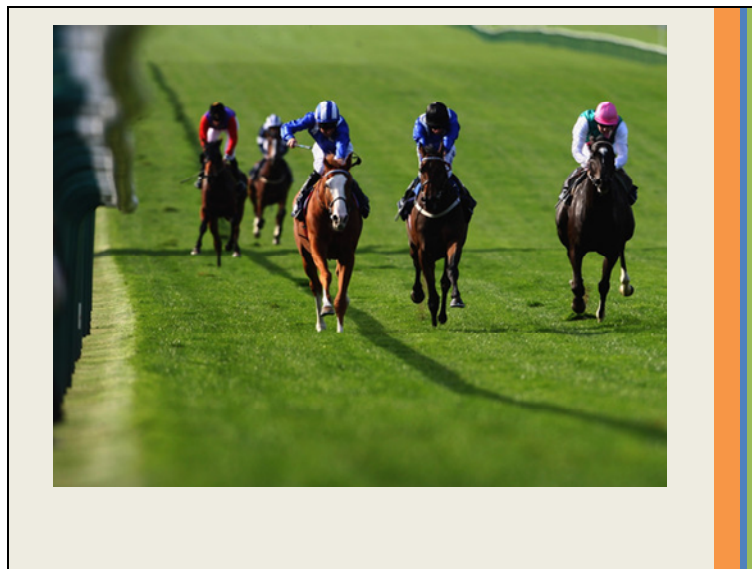
I then went back to school to complete my classes, and upon leaving, I received a job working at Del Mar as their Horsemen's Liaison. In that capacity I was able to work with such esteemed owners as Prince Ahmed bin Salman of Saudi Arabia who was the owner of the Thoroughbred Corp., prior to his tragic death in 2002. He was the principle owner of the Thoroughbred Corp., which turned out the great Point Given, a Grade 1 winner of the Preakness and Belmont Stakes.

I also was fortunate to work with His Royal Highness, Prince Khalid Abdullah of Saudi Arabia, owner of Juddmonte Farms, owner of the grade 1 winner Skimming, whom I got to work with briefly.

In 2001 when Skimming won the Pacific Classic Stakes at Del Mar I was able to get my picture taken with both Prince Khalid and Prince Ahmed, as well as Bill Shoemaker. Which was fortuitous as Prince Ahmed died the next summer and Shoemaker died the year following that.

So I have some pretty impressive horses and horse racing greats behind me.

Slide 5—Foreign Racing



Which is why I want to share with you on the topic of European horse racing. When visiting a different country you expect to experience different languages, cultures, and ways of doing things. This would also apply when visiting foreign racecourses. The horses and jockeys may look similar to the way they do back home, but the differences outnumber the similarities considerably when comparing American Racing to European racing.

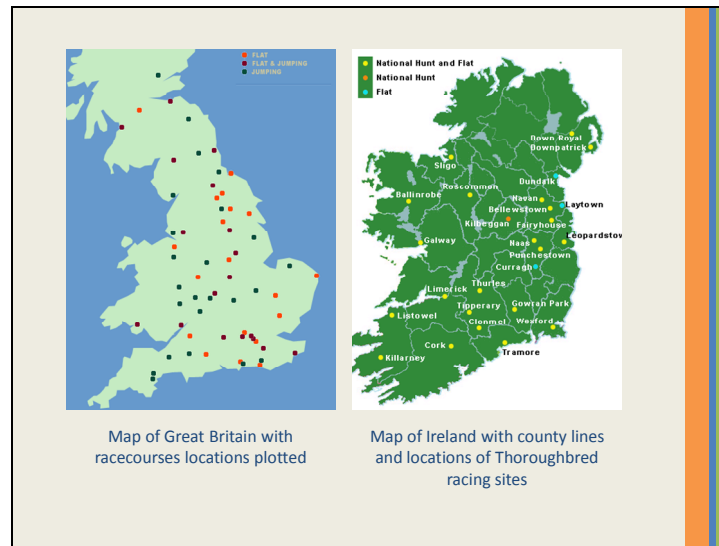
We are going to compare racing in France, England and Ireland with racing in California.

Slide 6—Table on Population, Area and Racecourse Comparisons

Table 1. Population, Area, and Racecourse Comparisons				
	France	Great Britain	Ireland	California
Population	63.72 million	61.5 million	6.20 million	36.96 million
Area in Square miles	220,668 or 674,843 km ²	84,556 or 219,000 km ²	32,544 or 81,638 km ²	158,302 or 410,000 km ²
# of racecourses	21	60	26	12
Racecourses per capita	1: 3,034,286	1:1,025,000	1:238,350	1:3,080,139

From this slide you'll notice that of the four locations listed here—France, Great Britain, Ireland and California—France has the largest land mass with 220,668 square miles, that also makes it the largest western European country, or roughly four-fifths the size of Texas, it is a rather densely populated county with 63.72 million people, but only has 21 racecourses. That means that there is 1 race course for every 3 million people.

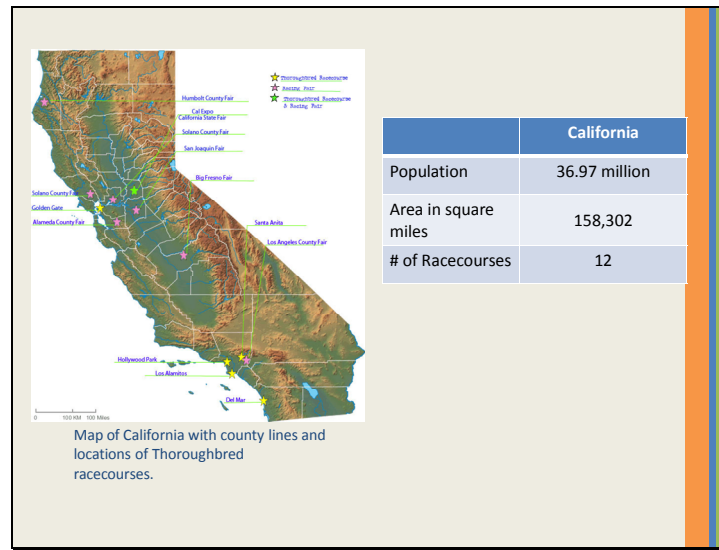
Slide 7—Maps of Great Britain and Ireland with racecourse locations plotted



Great Britain is 84,556 square miles making it the 9th largest island in the world and the largest island in Europe, remember it's population is 61.5 million people, but of the 4 countries/states it has the most racecourses at 60. Even so, you have 1 racecourse for every estimated 1 million people.

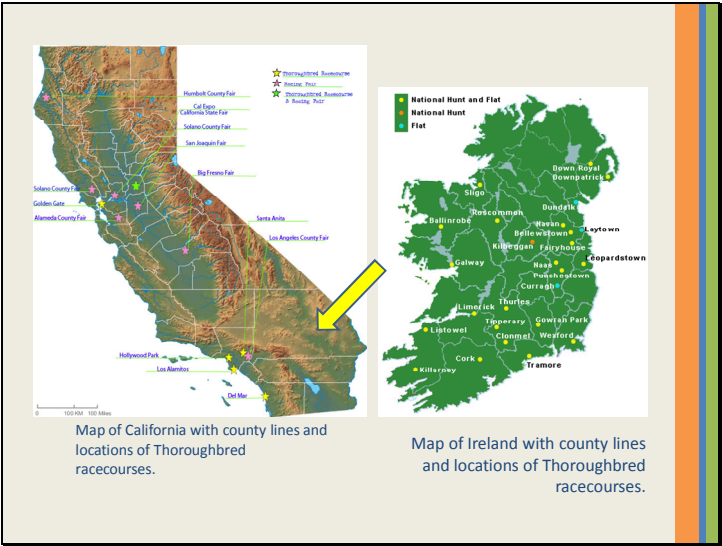
Ireland is by far the smallest of the countries being compared with an area of 31,544 square miles and a population of 6.20 million people. This tiny island boasts 26 racecourses, which means it has more racecourses per head of population than any other in the world. That is 1 racecourse for every 238,350 people.

Slide 8—California map with racecourses plotted



Now we're going to start to give some perspective or point of reference on all of these numbers, using California as an example as most of us are familiar with our state. We can see it is a large state, covering hundreds of thousands of square miles. It is also fairly densely populated with 36.97 million people estimated in 2009. And within the borders of our lovely state there are 5 full time racecourses—starred in yellow—and 7 racing fairs—starred in pink—for a total of 12 racetracks. Which means we have 1 racecourse for every 3,080,139 people.

Slide 9—Visual comparison of Ireland in relation to size of California



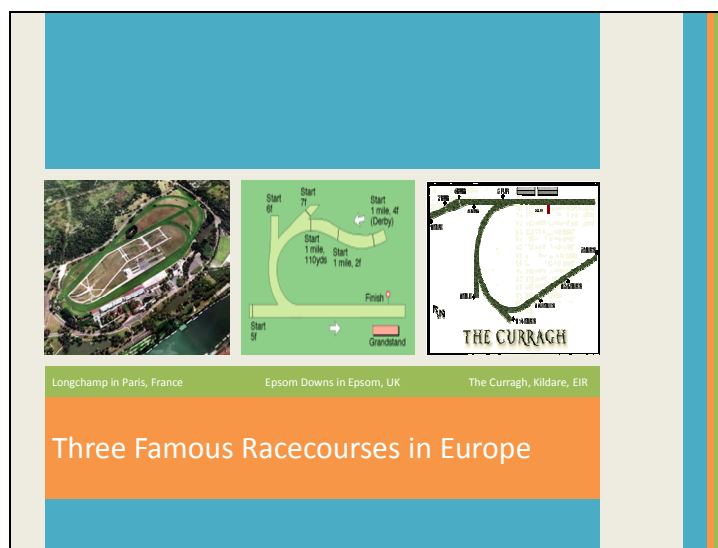
Now let's contrast that with the country of Ireland. In reality, the entire country of Ireland takes up space that is only slightly bigger than San Bernardino County. Ireland is roughly 1/5 the size of the state of California and has about 17% of California's population. So what can we deduce from this?

Slide 10—Population, Area & Racecourse Comparisons

Table 1. Population, Area, and Racecourse Comparisons				
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Racecourses per capita	1: 3,034,286	1:1,025,000	1:238,350	1:3,080,139

I've brought us back to that first table so we can make some deductions. Which country is the most excited about horse racing? When you first glance at the table Great Britain has the most racecourses, but then you look at Ireland and the per capita ratio is the best there. Which would imply that racing is more popular there. You can also see that California and France share similar per capita ratios. Look at Great Britain where Thoroughbred horse racing as we know it started, it's only moderately popular.

Slide 11—Three famous racecourses in Europe

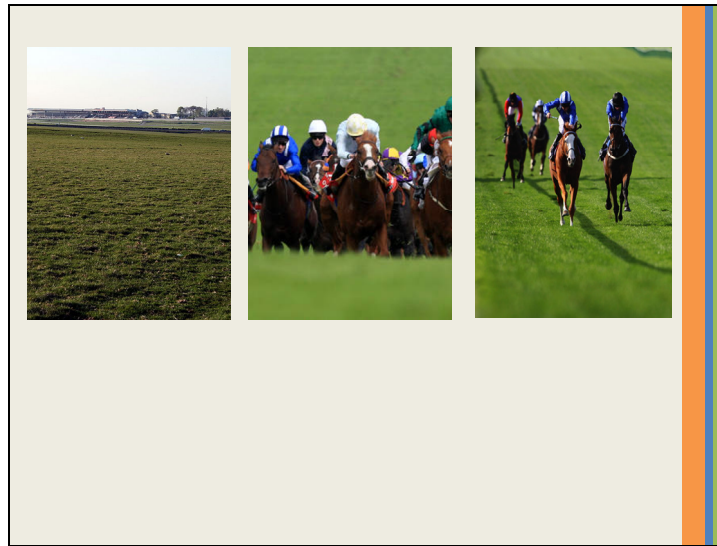


With those numbers in mind we are now going to start to look at specific race courses in France, England and Ireland.

Here is one popular racecourse from each of those three countries. The first is Longchamp in Paris, the second is Epsom downs in Epsom, UK and the third is The Curragh in Ireland.

As we go through this there are some things I would like for you to notice.

Slide 12—Seeing the turf

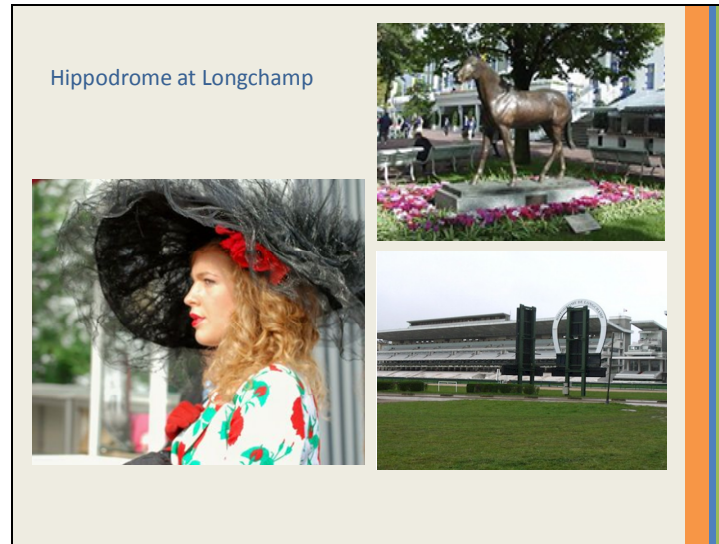


One thing you should notice about European Racing and the tracks that are going to be shown to you is they are ALL turf tracks, there are no dirt tracks. This is a unique feature to European Racing. Of course there is the odd track that is putting in a dirt course, but at 99% of them, the horses all run on turf.

We are also only going to look at what is considered “Flat racing;” which essentially any surface without jumps in it. Hills are allowed. So the surface that the horses are running on can change in elevation, but it won’t have the added burden of having to jump a horse over a fence made of bushes.

Turf is a much softer racing surface than dirt or even the rubber dirt tracks, and that can actually lead to softer bones in the horse because there is much more of a cushioning effect on the bones with turf. Because of this, horses that come from Europe and race on American dirt tracks, often don’t do as well as American horses that are used to running on the harder surfaces. Certainly there are ways to help build bone in the horses cannons, which makes for a more durable horse causing less risk of breakdown.

Slide 13—Racing in France



Longchamps front yard looks much like many racecourses across America. It has admission gates (50 francs, about \$7, for general admission on Arc day), grassy fields with shady trees to enjoy picnics, souvenir stands and information kiosks, food and beverage stands, statues of great horses from the past and a pretty walking ring/saddling paddock (called the rond de presentation). The crowds are similar to those at the Kentucky Derby with women wearing fashionable hats and the men in suits and ties.

The highlight of the Longchamp calendar is the Poule d'Essai de Poulains (French 2000 Guineas) a Group 1 race held each year in May and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe a Group 1 race usually held each year on the first Saturday in October.

Slide 14—Longchamp Racecourse in Paris, France



The racecourse itself is larger than anything in the US. Since the course is so large, you cannot see the backstretch (part of which is obscured by trees), so the infield has three large video screens to watch the action. The clubhouse turn is marked by a windmill. The finish line is decorated with a large semi-circular structure with the races name and the sponsor.

An interesting thing about the Hippodrome is that it lacks a toteboard and the infield video screens do not show odds either. Instead there is a pixelboard, which shows the race number, time of day, finishing positions of the top seven horses in the previous race and a one-line message board which indicated whether the result is official (“Officiel”) or unofficial (“provisoire”). Between races the turf condition is given in words (“bon” for “good”) and also a number which is the penetrometer reading. On Arc day the reading was 3.0. The lower the number the firmer the course with 1 being hard and 5 or larger being softer or heavier surfaces.

Races are run in a clockwise manner and are exclusively run on the turf, so after each race divot stompers come out to repair the damage from the last race.

Slide 15—Ascot Saddling Ring



During the 1700s, the birth of professional horse racing in the British Islands took place with the creation of the famous Royal Meeting at Ascot. Queen Anne is generally credited with bringing the sport to the Ascot Downs, as well as with providing the purses for the first races run there.

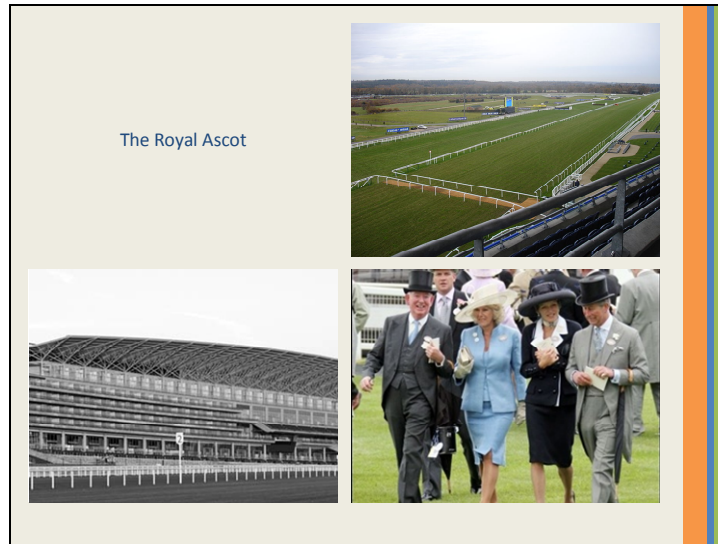
The earliest meetings at Ascot were run by the bloodlines created by the inter-breeding of the finest European and Arabian horses – the Thoroughbred racehorse. From 1711 to 1945 Ascot's only meet was the 4 day event known as the "Royal Meeting" in June it has since added the Hunt and Steeplechase racing.

As Americans this is likely the racecourse most familiar to us, owing mainly to the fact that it made its appearance in Audrey Hepburn movie My Fair Lady. The Queen attends the meeting, arriving each day in a horse-drawn carriage.

The Royal Enclosure has a strict dress code—male attendees must wear full morning dress including a top hat, whilst ladies must not show bare midribs or shoulders and must wear hats. Outside the Royal Enclosure the dress code is less severe, but many people choose to wear formal dress anyway. To be admitted to the Royal Enclosure for the first time one must either be

a guest of a member or be sponsored for membership by a member who has attended at least four times. This continues to maintain a socially exclusive character to the Enclosure.

Slide 16—The Royal Ascot



In 2004, the racecourse was closed for 18 months for remodeling costing £185 million, after its reopening in 2006 the grandstands were widespread criticism that an additional £10 million in alterations was added. As the owner of the Ascot Estate, the Queen reopened the racecourse on June 20, 2006.

Over 300,000 people make the annual visit to Berkshire during Royal Ascot week, making this Europe's best-attended race meeting. Its biggest race is a group 1 race, the King George. Many winners then go on to run in Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

There is a race known as the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes or the Queen's Derby and also as the QE II. One fun fact is that the queen herself has never won the Queen's Derby. In fact the closest she has come involves a poor decision encouraged by a bloodstock agent. In 1992/3 the Queen was advised by her bloodstock agent to sell a dam in foal to the Godolphin stables, which she did. The dam foaled a colt named Mark of Esteem and Godolphin later ran that foal in

the Queen's Derby in 1996 and won. Had the Queen not listened to her bloodstock agent, she would have finally won her own derby.

Slide 17—The English Triple Crown, 2000 Guineas Stakes



This marks the start of the “English Triple Crown” a set of three races run at three different tracks. The first is the 2000 Guineas Stakes which is run on the Rowley Mile at Newmarket over a distance of 1 mile.

It was first run in April of 1809 preceding the introduction of the equivalent race for fillies The 1000 Guineas. The 2000 Guineas occurs each year in late April early May, and is open to three-year-old Thoroughbred colts and fillies.

The format of this race has been adopted by other countries giving rise to races such as the Irish 2000 Guineas, and the Poule d'Essai de Poulains (French for Hen of Essay of Colts, which is based off Guineas fowl hence the 2000 Guineas)

The Rowley Mile is a straight course, but as you can see in the photo the surface is full of hills. This is a common feature in many European courses and occasionally you can see similarities in courses in American courses such as the hill used for turf racing at Santa Anita.

The winner of the 2000 Guineas receives a £400,000 purse, which is roughly \$617,000.

Slide 18—Epsom Downs, The Epsom Derby



The next race in the English Triple Crown is the Epsom Derby held in early June each year at Epsom Downs in Surrey, UK. It is approximately 1 ½ miles and is open to all 3-year-old colts and fillies. It has since been discovered that its exact length is 1 mile 4 furlongs and 10 yard. It contains a left turn, which the same as the turns in America.

This is the richest race of the English Triple Crown with a purse of £1,250,000 in 2009 or roughly \$1,930,000. The Epsom Derby is Britain's most prestigious race.

It is here that with the flip of a coin the race was named Derby instead of Bunbury. The inaugural running occurred on May 4, 1780, by a horse named Diomed, a colt owned by Bunbury.

Several races around the world have been inspired by this race, including our own Kentucky Derby.

Slide 19—Duncaster's St. Leger



The Third and final race in the English Triple Crown is the St. Leger, properly pronounced “Selling” and takes place at Doncaster every year in September. It is the oldest of the British “Classics” and is named after an Army officer and politician who lived near Doncaster, Anthony St. Leger.

Pictured in the top left corner is jockey Frankie Dettori who rode Conduit to the win on Sept 13, 2008

As you can see the course has a couple of left handed turns, as the racecourses in America do, however it is shaped more like a triangle than an oval. It is the longest of the three “triple crown” races at 1 mile, 6 furlongs and 132 yards.

What I find interesting about the English Triple Crown is that the time between races is greater than the US triple crown, which should offer greater opportunities to the horses to rest between races, thereby causing fewer breakdowns during the races, however there have only been 15 horses to have won all three races in the 150 years that these races have been run. The last horse to win all three races was Najinsky in 1970.

Najinsky is probably Europe's greatest horse having won the English 2000 Guineas, the Epsom Derby, and the Irish Derby, then going on to win the St. Leger. After winning those prestigious races, he ran in the world famous Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe where he was sensationally beaten by a head by Sassafras.

Slide 20—Irish Triple Crown, and the Curragh



All three of the Irish Triple Crown races are at the Curragh. The Curragh is located just outside Newbridge in Co. Kildare. 10 of the 12 Group 1 races run in Ireland are run at the Curragh. Like its English counterpart, the three Triple Crown races in Ireland are the Irish 2000 Guineas, run in May, the Irish Derby, run in late June, and the Irish St. Leger, run in September. The unique thing about the Irish St. Leger though, is that it is a race that is open to all horses and mares three-years-old and up.

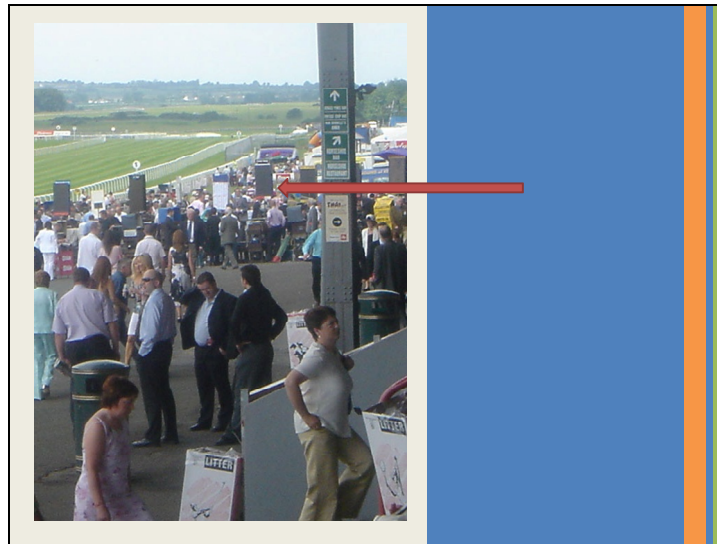
Slide 21—Irish Derby, 2005



The Curragh is shaped like a rather large sideways horseshoe shape, with a right handed turn. As you can see, when I attended the Irish Derby it was sponsored by Budweiser, it has since changed sponsorship to Dubai Duty Free.

Another interesting thing about racing in Europe is the lack of pony rider taking the horses to the gates. In point of fact pony riders are highly discouraged and if the trainer wishes to have his horse escorted to the gate he must pay an extra fee. So the horses there are used to approaching the gate by themselves. Occasionally you'll see a European horse in an American race, and most of the time they approach the gate by themselves.

Slide 22—Betting in Europe



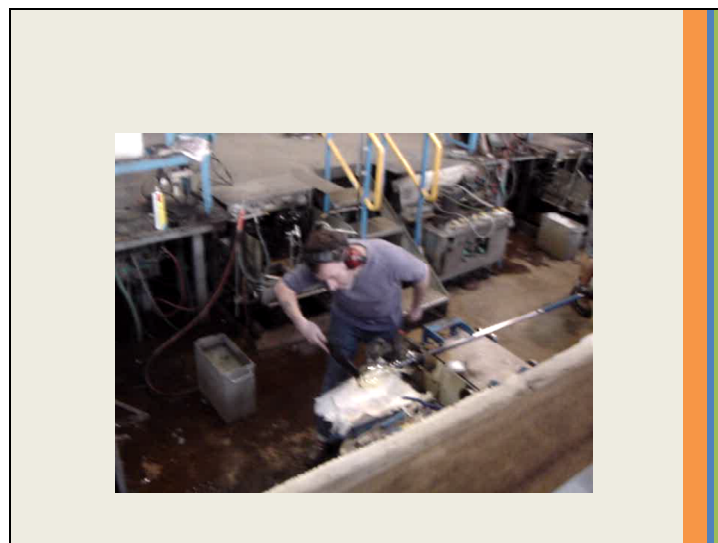
An interesting observation above is the lack of a tote board and the infield video screens to help the viewers watch the race. Like in North America, they do have betting in the pari-mutuel through the tote system, but unlike the US they also have bookmakers present, each of whom has his own odds board. Bets are called very much like we do here; base bet, bet type, horse numbers. However, on track, you can only bet on the next race; advance betting is not allowed. The tote machines and tickets are probably Autotote since they look very similar in design to their US counterparts, however, unlike here there are no automatic machines; all bets are made through the tellers.

Slide 23—Waterford Crystal Factory; where the trophies are made



One final thing I wanted to share with you is regarding the beautiful trophies that the horses win at these races. They are made by the Waterford Crystal factory in Waterford Ireland. The trophies are all handmade, and with trophies they are molded with wooden molds which can only make 4 shapes before a new mold needs to be created. The Waterford Crystal company makes 2 trophies for every event, one to be sent to the event itself, and one for just in case the first one is broken.

Slide 24—Video of crystal being shaped



One of the unique things about the process of making the crystal is that the artisans only are paid when their piece makes it through their portion of the inspection. If there are any flaws to be found the piece is broken and then re-added to the kilns to start the process over from scratch.

Slide 25—Video of crystal being shaped



Here you see the crystal being blown and shaped into a basic shape for a vase. As you can see when they get the glass into an approximate shape they then take it to a mold and finish blowing it in the mold to get its final shape.

Slide 26—How the crystal is cut



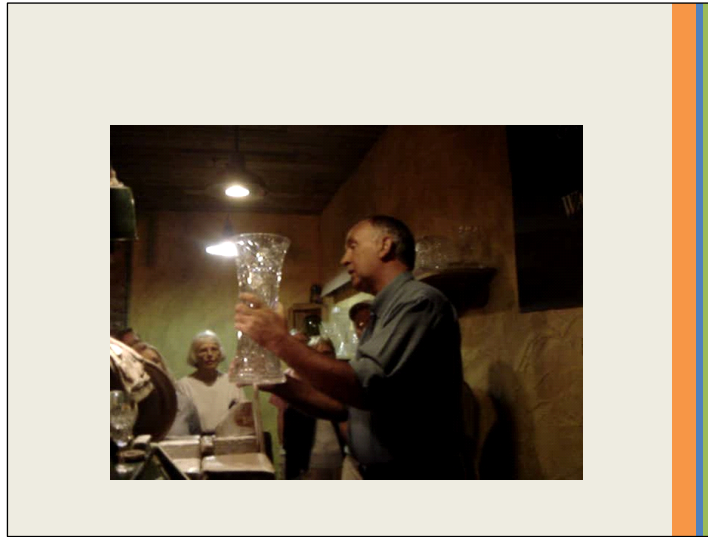
After the glass is blown to its final shape it gets a grid put onto it to guide the cutters.

These artisans have all of the factories patterns memorized and use the gridlines as guides only.

Slide 27—Video of crystal being cut



Slide 28—Video: Artisan telling how crystal is cut.



After the pieces have been cut, those that need to are sent to one of four etchers who etch patterns of birds, ships, or sponsors onto the crystal. Finally the crystal is dipped into an acid bath which gives the crystal a beautiful shine.

Slide 29—The final product; beautiful trophies



CHAPTER 5

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

As you can see horse racing in Europe has many similarities to North American racing, but it has many more differences. Things are different from racecourse to racecourse throughout Europe, but some things never change. No matter where you are in the world, it is always exciting to watch your horse make the final turn and charge for the finish line. Horse racing is a time honored tradition that has long roots through the past. Participating at those tracks is participating in history, walking in the footsteps of those that came before you. Always a worthwhile exercise.

Conclusions

History is at the heart of this sport, from the courses to the athletes, history is what makes this sport move forward. Learning about the history, the scope and scale of this industry is worthwhile to creating a better enjoyment of the sport. Learning something new is never out of style.

Recommendations

If you are ever in France, England, Ireland, or any other country for that matter, I would strongly recommend you pay a visit to the nearest racecourse as you will likely feel right at

home. First hand experience is always better than learning about something from someone else. I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Ireland and can hardly wait to return.

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