

Backyard Bookie by MicroFest, Inc.

Overview

Backyard Bookie Overview

Backyard Bookie is just like bringing the local race track to your own backyard. Take bets just like an official betting window, display the current odds, and calculate the payouts after the race is complete.

Although designed after tote boards found at horse racing venues, **Backyard Bookie is suitable for use with any multi-competitor competition.** Use it at the office or at home with your friends to see who can pick 'em the best. It's great for any kind of horse race, and works just as well for dog races, auto races, track & field events, etc. Have your buddies choose the winner of any pro or college football, basketball, baseball, soccer, or hockey regular season or tournament, compute the odds, and determine the payouts when the champion is determined. Works great for golf tournaments or even wine tasting contests, as well!

Use Backyard Bookie as the center of a charity event. Not only is it great fun, but its also a great way to help raise those much-needed funds.

Backyard Bookie is not intended to be used for illegal gambling purposes.

If you are running a betting window for a golf tournament, you might want to take a look at Backnine Bookie. Backnine Bookie performs most of the same functions as Backyard Bookie, but is tailored for the specific needs of golf tournaments. Visit our web site at www.backninebookie.com and check it out!

When college basketball tournament time rolls around, be sure to visit our website at www.Tourney-Tracker.com and check out Tourney Tracker! Simply the best tool for saving time and adding fun to your office pool!

Backyard Bookie contains the following features:

- **Handles the most-popular types of bets!** Track win, place, show, exacta, trifecta, daily double, pick 3, pick 4, pick 5, and pick 6 types of bets. Handles “boxed” exacta and trifecta bets effortlessly. Also handles “field” bets, where multiple racers are included on one bet.
- **Flexible race card settings!** For each race on the race card, Backyard Bookie allows you to choose what types of bets are allowable, what the minimum bet will be, and how to round off payouts.
- **Unlimited number of racers, bettors, or bets!** There is no practical limit to the number of racers or contestants that can be added to a race or contest. Nor is there a practical limit on the number of bettors from whom you can accept bets or bets that can be placed. The only limit is what your computer can process in its memory. Backyard Bookie will easily handle most any type of competition – from horse racing, to golf or tennis tournaments, to wine-tasting contests.
- **Allows the setting of the house “cut”!** For each race, you can specify a flat amount to be withheld from win bets, or a percentage of bets to be withheld from all bets. For charity events, simply hold back a percentage of the bets from the winnings as the charitable contribution amount!
- **Fully functional betting window!** Place or cash multiple bets in one transaction and settle

- up with the bettor in a few easy clicks of the mouse.
- **Print tickets!** Optionally, you can print out tickets for each bet placed and give them to the bettors.
- **Track each bet by bettor name!** Optionally, you can record the name of each of bettor and tie each bet made to the bettor who made it. This makes it easy to cash all of the tickets for a particular bettor at one time.
- **Track amounts collected and paid out!** As bets are placed and winnings determined, Backyard Bookie can keep track of what is owed to or due from each individual bettor.
- **Display or print the current betting pools and odds!** You can display the betting pools and the odds for win, place, show, exacta, and daily double bets. You can have the system automatically scroll through all of the available odds – just like a race track tote board!
- **Calculate and display winning payouts in seconds!** Simply point-and-click to record the race results and, within a flash, the winning payouts are calculated and displayed.
- **Or, if you wish, you can enter your own payouts!** Enter in the amounts paid at the track and see how you would have done had you been there!
- **Allows up to 20 races or contests per file!** Keep an entire day of races on one file!
- **Track information about bettors and copy this info from one file to another!** Backyard Bookie allows you to track a bettors name, e-mail address, phone number, and any other information that you might need. If you need to start a new file for the same group of bettors, you can copy over bettor information from any other Backyard Bookie file. You can also import bettor information from comma-delimited files, which can easily be created from most spreadsheet programs.

Two sample files are included in your software package. They are loaded to the directory to which you loaded the software. They have a file type of “.pbb” and may help you get the familiar with the software. One file has bets already entered, so you can see how reports look and feel. The other has no bets entered, so that if you are not yet a registered customer, you can get a good feel for how the system works by placing some sample bets on your own.

Below is a brief overview of the functions and tools available in Backyard Bookie. Click on the “Contents” button above to see the full contents of this help file.

Setup Race Card

To start a new file of races or other types of competition, select File / New from the menu. (For major racing events and sporting events, you can download race cards from our web site at www.backyardbookie.com with a few clicks of the mouse using the Tools / Download Race Card File function.) Enter the information needed to operate your betting window, such as valid bet types, minimum bet and payout amounts, amounts that the house holds back from the winnings, and the racers or contestants competing in the competition.

Setup Bettors

Enter the names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses, or any other pertinent information about the people who will be placing bets. Enter in as much or as little information as you desire.

Betting Window

Accept bets just like at the track. To begin betting, you start a ticket for a particular race and bettor. Under the ticket, you can record multiple bets. For each bet, you need to record the amount of the bet, the type of bet, and the bettor’s picks.

Backyard Bookie can handle your standard win, place, and show bets, as well as exacta bets (1st & 2nd place finishers), trifecta bets (1st, 2nd, & 3rd place finishers), daily double bets (the winner of two consecutive races), and “Pick 3” through “Pick 6” bets (choosing the winner of three to six consecutive races).

If your computer is hooked up to a printer, tickets can be printed and distributed to those making the bets.

Winning tickets may also be “cashed” at the betting window once a race is completed and the results recorded. Backyard Bookie tracks, for each ticket, how much has been collected and how much has been distributed.

List Bets

At any time, list the bets that have been placed. The list can be narrowed by race, by bettor, or by bet type.

Display Odds

Display the going odds for any race on the race card. Backyard Bookie can show the odds for win, place, show, exacta, and daily double bets.

Record Results

Once a race is complete, the top finishers are recorded so that the payouts can be computed.

Display Payouts (or enter your own)

Backyard Bookie will show all of the payouts based on the bets entered and the payout parameters set up for that particular race. Or, if you wish, you can enter your own payout amounts for each bet. The Betting Window can list all of the tickets that are due payouts from the race.

House and Bettor Activity Summary

This window summarizes, for each bettor, how much has been bet, collected, won, and distributed. It also shows total activity for the “house”.

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Please be sure to make backup copies of your Backyard Bookie files on a regular basis!

Making extra copies of your Backyard Bookie files on 3.5-inch floppy diskettes is highly recommended!

Should you have file problems, you may be able to recover lost data. See the section entitled “File Backup and Recovery” for more information.

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New in 2002!

Change the size of the display when viewing Odds and Payouts!

Now you can adjust the size of the "font" used for displaying the Odds and Payouts. It's easy to get the size just right so viewers can best read the display.

Show the odds and payouts on a networked computer!

If you install Backyard Bookie on a computer on the same network as your computer where you are collecting bets, you can display the current odds and/or payouts from that machine. The odds or payouts display can be set to refresh itself every so often so those viewing it can see the latest numbers.

Enter your own ticket number!

Now you can optionally specify your own ticket number for bets. This is helpful if you are using pre-printed forms for recording bets.

List bets with wagers for a particular racer!

When displaying bets through the "List Bets" function, you can optionally choose a particular racer and only show bets where that racer has been picked.

The "List Bets" window now indicates which picks are winners!

When displaying bets through the "List Bets" function, the picks that are correct are marked with an "asterisk".

Basic Functionality

Basic Functions

This section explains the basic features available in the system, most of which are common to the majority of Windows applications. It covers all of the pull-down menu items, except for those listed under “Tools”. Each of the “Tools” commands is described individually in another section. (Click on the “Contents” button to find the entire list of Help topics.)

File Menu:

New

Begin a new “race card” or file.

Open

Open an existing, previously saved file.

Close

Clear the system of the currently active file.

Save

Save the file currently being worked on. Please note that when a file is saved, a backup file with the same name (except a file type of “.bkp”) is also saved. Should your computer experience any difficulties in saving the file, look for this backup file which will include your data from the time that the file was last opened. You will want to rename the file with the file type “.bkp” to “.pbb” before trying to open it with Backyard Bookie.

There is also a “recovery” file, which can help you recover betting window transactions should there be any system failure while using Backyard Bookie.

We recommend that make a copy of your file on a floppy diskette for safety. This can be done automatically every time you save the file if you wish. To be doubly safe, you might want to keep a manual record of the bets that have been collected or print out tickets, just in case something goes wrong with your system.

Save As

Save the file currently being worked on to a specified file name.

Page Setup

Choose a printer, paper size, orientation, and number of copies for printouts from Backyard Bookie. The font and font size for reports and tickets is specified on the “General Setup” tab of the File/Setup Race Card window.

Print

Print one of five Backyard Bookie reports:

- A listing of the race card, including a list of all of the racers, their betting numbers, and the payouts from the race if the race is completed
- A listing of all of the bettors in the file
- A listing of the bets or a selected subset of bets in the file.
- A listing of the current odds for win, place, show, exacta, and daily double bets. Select which race and which bet types you would like to print.
- A summary listing, by bettor and with totals for the house, of all of the betting activity that is kept in the file.

(Tickets are printed automatically in the betting window when the settings in the Race Card are properly set.)

The font and font size of the report can be changed in this window, prior to printing the report. The default font and size can be specified in the General Setup tab of the Edit/Race Card window. You may want to experiment with different fonts and sizes to see what works best on your system.

Clicking on the Page Setup button displayed on the Print window allows you to change the size of the print, the orientation of the paper, and the number of copies to print.

See the section "Print a Report" for more information.

Register

Displays the window to enter your Registration ID (or "Serial Number") if you are a licensed user of the product. Once entered, you should not have to enter your Registration ID again unless you change computers or your system files are lost.

Register Retail Purchase

Use this option only if you purchased your product from a retail outlet store, not if you purchased as a download over the Internet or ordered your product directly from MicroFest, Inc. Choosing this option starts up your Internet browser and takes you to the site of MicroFest, Inc. so you can register your purchase and receive information about product fixes and upgrades as they become available.

Most Recently Used Files

The four Backyard Bookie files that were most recently used are listed. Click on the file that you wish to open.

Exit

Exit from Backyard Bookie.

Edit Menu:

Setup Race Card

Opens the Setup Race Card window where all race and racer information is entered. It also allows the setting of many parameters that will drive the Backyard Bookie program. See the section "Setup Race Card" for more information.

Setup Bettors

Opens the window to add new bettor information to the system or edit existing information. See the section "Setup Bettors" for more information.

Betting Window

Opens the window to begin taking bets and cashing tickets. New bets can be added, old bets changed, and winning bets can be cashed. See the section "Betting Window" for more information.

Record Race Results

Opens the window to record the top finishers of a race. Once recorded, the payouts for the race are calculated and displayed. This is also where you can choose to enter your own payouts instead of using those calculated by Backyard Bookie. See the section "Record Race Results" for more information.

Options

Opens a window that allows you to control the use of sounds while running the program.

View Menu:

Toolbar

Selecting this menu item will make the toolbar disappear if it is currently showing or make it appear if it is not showing.

Status Bar

Selecting this menu item will make the system status bar at the bottom of the window disappear if it is currently showing or make it appear if it is not showing.

List Bets

Displays bets that have been entered into your file. Bets can be listed for specific races, bet types, or bettors. See the section "List Bets" for more information.

Display Odds

Displays the betting pools and current odds for win, daily double, and exacta bets. The odds for multiple races can be scrolled through automatically, if desired. See the section "Display Odds" for more information.

Display Payouts

For races where the results have been entered, this window displays the winning payouts for bets entered. Payouts are based on a \$2.00 bet. See the section "Display Payouts" for more information.

House and Bettor Activity Summary

This window summarizes, for each bettor, how much has been bet, collected, won, and distributed. It also shows total activity for the "house".

Tools Menu:

Bring in Bettors from Another File

Displays a window which allows you to specify another Backyard Bookie file to pull bettor information from. Save yourself some keystrokes by using this when you create a new race file. See the section "Bring in Bettors from Another File" for more information.

Restore from Recovery File

Displays a window that allows you to select from a transaction log and restore lost transaction in the event of a system failure (or in the event that you accidentally forget to save your file before shutting down Backyard Bookie!). See the section "Restore from Recovery File" for more information.

Windows Menu:

Cascade

Arrange all open windows in a cascading fashion from the top corner of the Backyard Bookie application area.

Tile Horizontally, Tile Vertically

Arrange the displayed windows in a side-by-side or one-on-top-of-the-other fashion.

Arrange Icons

Lines up any minimized windows in the Backyard Bookie window.

Help Menu:**Overview**

Displays the overview section of the Backyard Bookie help documentation. In order to see the contents for the entire Backyard Bookie help documentation, click on the “Contents” button in the upper left-hand corner.

Window Help

Displays the section of the Backyard Bookie help documentation which pertains to the active window. (Hint: Use the button with the question mark (“?”) to quickly show the help documentation for the active window.)

Search for Help On

Displays an index to assist in finding specific help documentation.

Registration Info

Displays information on how to order the software and register with MicroFest, Inc. so that you may use its complete functionality.

Visit BackyardBookie.com

Choosing this options will bring up your system’s default Internet browser and display the home page of www.backyardbookie.com. Visit our site to see if there are any software fixes or new versions of the product available.

About Backyard Bookie

Displays basic information about the Backyard Bookie application.

Menus, Toolbars, and Windows

Pull-Down Menus

At the top of the main window is a list of pull-down menus. These menus contain all of the tools needed to navigate through the various windows needed to operate a jackpot. An explanation of each menu item can be found in this documentation.

Backyard Bookie Toolbar

The toolbar contains shortcuts to perform many of the standard Windows functions as well as open the tools specific to the Backyard Bookie. The toolbar contains buttons for the functions: File/New, File/Open, File/Save, File/Print, Window/Cascade, Edit/Setup Race Card, Edit/Setup Bettors, View/House and Bettor Activity Summary, Edit/Betting Window, View/List Bets, View/Display Odds, Edit/Enter Results, View/Display Payouts. See either the previous section, "Basic Functions", or specific topics later in this help documentation for more information on these commands.

Status Bar

This is the bar at the bottom of the window that shows the current date and time.

Race Track Menu

When you start the Backyard Bookie program, you will see a scene of a race track, plus a betting window and a race day program. Clicking on various parts of the scene will take you to the most often used features of Backyard Bookie.

- Click on the crowd to edit bettor information (the same as Edit / Setup Bettors)
- Click on the race day program to edit the race card parameters (Edit / Setup Race Card)
- Click on the betting window to place bets or cash tickets (Edit / Betting Window)
- Click on the Odds tote board to display the current odds (View / Display Odds)
- Click on the finish line to record the results of a race (Edit / Enter Results)
- Click on the Payouts tote board to display the payouts for a race (View / Display Payouts)

Click on **View** in the pull down menu and you will see three items listed at the top: Tool Bar, Status Bar, Race Track. A check mark next to these items indicates that they are displayed in Backyard Bookie main window. Click on any of the items to toggle between displaying the item or hiding it.

Options

Choosing **Edit / Options** will display a window that lets you change how sounds are used while running Backyard Bookie. You may choose one of the following options:

- **Sound on fully:** When buttons are clicked, you will hear an audible sound that indicates that the command was accepted and processed. Different types of buttons and processes have different types of sounds associated with them. For example, canceling a transaction plays a "whoosh-ing" sound, saving a file plays a "camera-click".
- **All sounds are clicks:** When buttons are clicked, you will hear an audible "click". The click replaces all other sounds that would have been played if the sound was on fully.
- **Turn all sounds off:** This makes Backyard Bookie operate in silent mode. The only sounds are to indicate errors or special warnings.

Click on **OK** to save your sound option or **Cancel** to quit without saving your selection.

Guide to Betting Terms

For those of you who are not familiar with the pari-mutuel terms used in the racing industry, below is a brief explanation of those used in this software package:

Payouts and the “Payouts Display Amount”

On the Display Payouts window, all amounts are, by default, displayed are based on a \$2 bet. Thus, if you have a winning \$1 bet, you will only receive half of the amount displayed. A winning \$5 bet will receive 2 and one-half times the amount shown. The simple formula to figure out the payout for a bet is to take the amount bet, divide it by 2.00, and multiply that by the displayed payout amount.

You have the option to change the bet amount on which the payouts displayed are based. For instance, you might prefer to see payouts based on a \$1.00 bet. Change the amount used for payout display on the first tab of the Edit / Setup Race Card window. This amount is referred to in this document as the “payout display amount”.

Pools

Pools refer to the amount of money that is collected for a particular type of bet for a particular race. Thus the "win pool" for a race is the total of all money bet to win on any racer. All odds and payouts for a particular bet on a particular race are computed using only the amounts bet for that type of bet for the that race.

The House or the Bank

Either term, the "house" or the "bank", refers to the person or organization that is running the betting operation.

Holdback Amount

This refers to the amount of money bet on a race that is withheld from the payout calculations and kept by the house. With Backyard Bookie, the person or persons running the betting operation can set the holdback amount to whatever value or percentage that they see fit, from zero on up.

Odds:

The “odds” for a bet are a ratio that tells you how much you will receive over the amount of your bet should your pick finish in a winning position. If the odds are 3-1, you will receive three times what you bet, *plus the amount of your bet*. In other words, if you bet \$2.00, you will receive approximately \$8.00 back (your \$2.00 bet plus three times that or about \$6.00).

Please remember that the odds are always rounded, so actual payouts might be a little more or a little less than the displayed odds.

Place and Show Odds

Please be aware that the Place and Show odds displayed by Backyard Bookie are “average” odds. The payout rate for a racer finishing in the money for a place or show bet will vary based on what other racers finish in the money.

This is because the first step in calculating payouts is to pay each winning bettor back the amount bet and only after that is the remainder of the pot split between the winners. Therefore, if a favorite comes in, more of the pot goes toward paying back the amount bet to each bettor and less is available to split as winnings.

As a general rule, the actual amount paid out for Place and Show bets will be lower than the displayed odds if “favorites” finish in the other winning positions. The amount paid out will be greater than the displayed odds if “long shots” finish in the other winning positions.

Types of Bets:

Win

The “Win” bet is the simplest of all. You must pick the racer that finishes in first place. If the correct pick is made, you receive the amount shown as the “Win” payout for the first place racer for each \$2 bet.

The formula for determining the ratio for win payouts is to simply divide the win pool by the amount bet on the winning racer. That number multiplied by the payout display amount, such as \$2.00, is the amount shown on the payout board.

Place

With a “Place” bet, you pick a racer that you think will finish in either first or second place. If the racer finishes in the top two, then you receive the amount shown as the “Place” payout for that racer for each \$2 bet. Place bets on either of the first or second place racers will payout, but the amount paid for bets on each racer will vary depending on how much was bet on each racer.

The basic payout formula is a two step process. First, take the place pool, subtract the amounts bet on each of the top two racers to get the distribution amount. Second, for each of the top two finishers, the ratio for payouts is calculated by dividing the distribution amount by the amount bet on the racer and then adding 1 to the result. That number multiplied by the payout display amount, such as \$2.00, is the amount shown on the payout board.

Show

“Show” bets operate in the same manner as a “Place” bet, except that you are trying to pick a racer that will finish either first, second, or third. So if you have a \$2 bet on a racer and it finishes in the top three, you will receive the “Show” payout shown for that racer. Just as with Place bets, Show bets on either the first, second, or third place racers will payout, but payout different amounts based on how much was bet on each racer.

The basic payout formula is a two step process. First, take the show pool, subtract the amounts bet on each of the top three racers to get the distribution amount. Second, for each of the top three finishers, the ratio for payouts is calculated by dividing the distribution amount by the amount bet on the racer and then adding 1 to the result. That number multiplied by payout display amount, such as \$2.00, is the amount shown on the payout board.

Across the Board

An “Across the Board” bet is actually three bets in one. Only one racer is specified for the bet, but the bet is recorded as one Win bet, one Place bet, and one Show bet on the racer. If you place an Across the Board bet and your racer finishes first, then you collect the all three payouts (Win, Place, and Show) listed for that racer. If the racer comes in second, you collect the Place and Show payouts listed for the racer, and if it comes in third, you only collect the Show payout for that racer.

Exacta*

With "Exacta" bets, you must pick the two racers that finish in first and second place *and pick them in the correct order of finish*. For a straight Exacta bet, the racers should be entered in the order that the bettor thinks the racers will finish. With a correct \$2 bet, the bettor receives the payout amount shown for the Exacta bet. For information on "Boxing" exacta bets, see the section below.

The basic formula for determining the ratio for the exact payout is to simply divide the exacta pool by the amount bet on the winning combination of racers. That number multiplied by payout display amount, such as \$2.00, is the amount shown on the payout board.

Trifecta*

With "Trifecta" bets, the bettor must pick the three racers that finish in first, second, and third place *and pick them in the correct order of finish*. For a straight Trifecta bet, the racers should be entered in the order that the bettor thinks the racers will finish. With a correct \$2 bet, the bettor receives the payout amount shown for the Trifecta bet. For information on "Boxing" trifecta bets, see the section below.

The basic formula for determining the ratio for the trifecta payout is to simply divide the trifecta pool by the amount bet on the winning combination of racers. That number multiplied by payout display amount, such as \$2.00, is the amount shown on the payout board.

Daily Double*

When a "Daily Double" bet is made, the bettor attempts to pick the winning racer in two consecutive races. When placing a Daily Double bet, the first racer specified is for the first race, the second is for the second race. With a correct \$2 bet, the bettor receives the payout amount shown for the Daily Double bet.

The basic formula for determining the ratio for daily double payouts is to simply divide the daily double pool by the amount bet on the winning combination of racers. That number multiplied by the payout display amount, such as \$2.00, is the amount shown on the payout board.

Pick 3, 4, 5 or 6*

These bets are just like the Daily Double, except instead of picking the winner in two consecutive races, the bettor must pick the winner in 3, 4, 5 or 6 consecutive races, respectively. Again, when placing the bet, specify the winners of each race in the order that the races are run. With a correct \$2 bet, the bettor receives the payout amount shown for the appropriate Pick bet. (See "Wheeling" below.)

The basic formula for determining the payout ratio for a particular "Pick" bet is to simply divide the pool for that Pick bet by the amount bet on the winning combination of racers. That number multiplied by the payout display amount, such as \$2.00, is the amount shown on the payout board.

- * Note that the general rule at race tracks for Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double, and Pick betting, is that you do not win unless you have a completely correct bet. In other words, you only win the Pick 3 if you have correctly picked the winners of all three races. But, because Backyard Bookie is intended for use with small crowds, the "bookie" has the option of paying off for those with the *most* correct picks in the event that no one has a bet that is entirely correct. For example, if horses 4, 8, 2 finish in that order in a race and there are no fully correct bets, then the software looks for bets where any two positions are correct and computes payouts for anyone with those bets. So a bet of 5, 8, 2 would pay off in this case, because there are

two correct parts of the pick. A bet of 2, 4, 8 would not be considered a winning pick because no position matches up correctly.

Boxing Exacta and Trifecta Bets

When you “Box” a bet, you are actually placing multiple bets. This feature simply makes it easier to place multiple bets in one quick step.

Boxing is only relevant for exacta and trifecta bets. For exacta bets, when you “box” racers, you are actually placing as many bets as necessary to assure that if any two of the racers that you have picked finish in the top two, *in any order*, then you will collect the exacta payout. Boxing trifecta bets is basically the same, only you are betting such that if any three of the racers that you have picked finish in the top three, *in any order*, then you collect the trifecta payout.

Boxing two racers, is like placing two bets. For example, betting a \$2.00 "boxed" exacta on racers #1 and #2 is the same as placing two bets, one on 1-2 order of finish, and another on a 2-1 order of finish. The bet would cost \$4.00 to place.

Including more racers in the box increases the number of bets being placed. Boxing the racers #1, #2, and #3 is like placing six bets -- a 1-2 finish, a 1-3 finish, a 2-1 finish, a 2-3 finish, a 3-2 finish, and a 3-1 finish. This would cost \$12.00, based on a \$2.00 bet.

The tables below summarizes the cost ratio of boxing multiple racers, based on a \$2.00 bet:

Racers boxed	Exacta cost	Trifecta Cost
2	4.00	n/a
3	12.00	12.00
4	24.00	48.00
5	40.00	120.00
6	60.00	240.00

Payouts for Bets with Most Correct Picks

As noted above, Backyard Bookie allows the person running the betting window to choose what to do with the money for bets when no one has the exact winning ticket. This can get confusing for Exacta and Trifecta bets, especially when they are “boxed”.

Let’s suppose Bettor A bets an exacta bet on racers 1 and 2 to finish in that order. Bettor B bets on racers 1 and 2 as well, but boxes the bet. The race is run and the winner is racer 3, with racer 2 in second. Furthermore, no one has an exacta bet for a 3-2 finish and the betting window operator chooses to payout on the “most correct picks” (in this case, that would be anyone with one correct pick in the exacta.)

In this example, Bettor A would be credited for one winning bet because he had racer 2 as his second place finisher. Bettor B would also be credited for one winning bet (not two, as some might think). Even though Bettor B boxed racers 1 and 2, he still only has one winning bet.

If you break down the bets individually, you can see why. Bettor B’s two bets in his “box” are for a 1-2 finish and a 2-1 finish. The 1-2 bet gets credited for one correct pick because racer 2 finished in second place. The 2-1 pick gets no credit for any picks because racer 2 did not finish first, nor did racer 1 finish second.

It gets more complicated with more picks in the “box”. If Bettor C boxed racers 1, 2, and 4, he would be credited for two winning bets with one correct pick a piece. If you break the bets down individually – **1-2**, 1-4, 2-1, 2-4, 4-1, and **4-2** – you can see that only in two of the bets does Bettor C have racer 2 as the second place finisher.

Frequently Asked Questions

Below are some answers to questions that we most often get about Backyard Bookie. If you cannot find the answer here to your question, send us an email at webmaster@microfest.win.net and we'll do our best to answer it for you.

General Features Questions

Does Backyard Bookie only work for horse racing, or are there some other uses?

Actually, Backyard Bookie can be used for any event in which pari-mutuel wagering is desired. You can use it to run your golf tournament if you like. Special features, like the ability to copy racers from one race to another, allow for different types of bets on the same tournament or event (e.g. betting with or without handicaps for a golf tournament.) We encourage the use of Backyard Bookie for fund-raising events. One resourceful person informed us that he used Backyard Bookie to raise money for charity at a wine tasting event.

Can I download starter files which already have the racers entered?

For major racing events, such as any of the Triple Crown races or the Breeder's Cup, we will have a file available for you to download which contains the days race card.

How many different races or competitions can I include in one file?

Backyard Bookie allows up to 20 races or competitions in one file, enough to handle a race card for an entire day at most racing venues.

Is there any limit to the number of racers in a race?

No, there is no practical limit to the number of racers that can be set up for a race. This allows you to use Backyard Bookie for nearly any type of competition, not just horse racing. Use it for golf tournaments, tennis tournaments or auto races.

Can I print out tickets for bets as they are placed?

Yes. You can optionally choose to automatically print tickets or print them only when you choose to.

Do I have to print out tickets to track betting?

No. Backyard Bookie allows you to enter the name of each person as they place bets. After the results are in, either after each race or after all of the races for the day, you can summarize what is owed out to each person and cash each out with a few clicks of the mouse.

Does Backyard Bookie display the odds for all types of bets?

Backyard Bookie displays odds for Win, Place, Show, Exacta, and Daily Double odds. Odds for other bet types would contain so many combinations that would need to be shown that it would not be very practical.

Why are the odds for place and show bets shown as "average" odds?

Place and show odds are "average" odds because the odds that will be paid out depends on what combination of racers that finish in the money. When calculating the payouts for place and show bets, the first thing that is done is that money is taken out of the total pool of bets for that bet type to cover giving each winning bettor his or her money back. The remainder is then divided up as winnings. If one of the favorites comes in along with the racer that you bet on, your payoff will be less than the "average" odds shown. That is because more money is used out of the pool to pay the bets back to each winning bettor and less is available to divide up as the winnings.

Conversely, if a long-shot comes in along with the racer that you bet on, then your payoff will be better than the "average" odds because less will be used to pay back bet amounts and more will be available to distribute as winnings.

Why does Backyard Bookie pay off bets that aren't totally correct?

Because Backyard Bookie is geared toward office or home use, the number of bets placed will be relatively small compared to public betting parlors. This means that often there will be no one with a totally correct ticket. Backyard Bookie allows you, in this situation, to choose one of three options: (1) the house keeps all of the bets, (2) pay all bettors back their bets, or (3) pay winnings to those with the most correct picks. The last option applies only to multi-pick bets, which includes exactas, trifectas, daily doubles, and pick 3 through pick 6 bets.

Can I enter payouts from the track instead of calculating my own odds and payouts?

No. Backyard Bookie is designed for personal fun. Payouts are based on the bets that are taken in. If you would like for the "house" to make money (e.g. for your favorite charity), then you can set a percentage to be held back from the payouts.

Does Backyard Bookie have a Windows 3.1 or Mac version?

No, at this time, Backyard Bookie runs only on Windows95/98 or NT. And MACs running Virtual PC.

Specific Program Function Questions

I'm trying to download a race card file from your web site, but the option is not available!

You can only download a race card from our web site into a brand new file, so all other files must be closed. Either choose "Download Race Card from www.BackyardBookie.com" when you first start up the software, or close the file that you are working on and choose Tools / Download Race Card from www.BackyardBookie.com.

I get an error message that says "File not found" when I try to download race card files.

Sometimes either your web hosting service is having problems or our web hosting service is having problems and the connection cannot be made to download the race card file. Please try again after 15 minutes or so.

How do I set up "field" bets, where you bet on multiple racers with one bet?

When you set up the race card, you assign the "betting numbers" for each racer or contestant. If you want to assign multiple racers to the "field", just assign them all the same betting number.

Why does a place or show bet pay off more than a winning bet for a racer?

The odds and payoffs for each type of bet are based solely on the money bet for that type of bet. So if there are a lot of bets on a racer to win, but not very many bets on it to place, it very well could pay off more for the place bet than the win bet. Generally, the more bets that you take in, the less often this occurs, simply due to the law of averages. If you are working with a small crowd, you want to set the minimum bet amount lower to encourage people to spread their money around more, thereby getting a more consistent spread of the odds across the different betting pools.

What happens if no one holds a winning ticket for a particular bet type?

This happens often with small parties. When Backyard Bookie attempts to compute the payouts and cannot find a winner, you will be shown up to three options to distribute handle the payouts. You can let the "house" keep the amount bet. You can give each bettor back his or her money. And for bets with multiple picks, (Exactas, Trifectas, Daily Doubles, Pick 3 thru 6) you have the option of distributing the pot to tickets that have the most correct picks on them.

How are "dead-heats" or ties handled in Backyard Bookie?

Unfortunately, at this point in time, Backyard Bookie does not handle dead-heats or ties. You must have some method of breaking a tie to determine specifically who came in first, second, or third.

Running a Race Day Step by Step

Setting up the Race Card

The first step in starting a betting window is to set up the parameters for the races for which you are going to be taking bets.

Use the Edit/Setup Race Card menu item or button to bring up the window. There are five tabs and under various tabs, you will be able to specify:

- the name for the file, e.g. "Derby Day 1998"
- the type of race included in this file
- which racer information will be used and how they should be sorted in pull-down menus
- whether or not you intend to specify the names of individual bettors
- whether or not you want betting window tickets printed and how often a new page should occur
- the payout display amount, which sets the amount of the bet that payouts are displayed for.
- the default font and font size used on reports and tickets
- the name of each race on the race card
- default values and values for each race for the following
 - the minimum bet and payout amount
 - the monetary increment that bets will be accepted in
 - the amount that the "house" will holdback from winnings
 - which bet types are going to be accepted
 - how to round payout amounts
 - "Quick Bet" amounts
- for each racer in each race, the following:
 - the name of the racer
 - the betting number, used to record bets and group racers into a single entry
 - the program number, as shown on an official racing form
 - the post position
 - the "handicapper's" or predicted odds
 - "Quick Bet" amounts
- the frequency that you would like the system to prompt you to do a backup
- whether or not to use a recovery file, its name, and how many days of data to hold in it

Each Backyard Bookie file can contain up to 20 races. Once this basic information is captured, you are ready to take bets.

*For major national events, you might be able to get a jump start by using a pre-made race card file put together by MicroFest. Go to **Tools / Download Race Card from www.BackyardBookie.com** and see if your favorite event is in our list. With a couple of clicks, you'll have a file "pre-loaded" with the basic parameters for a race card and all of the racer information already entered.*

Don't forget to **save** your file after you enter the race card!

Please be aware that if you specify a Minimum Payout greater than the minimum bet, it is possible, although rare, that the total payouts will be greater than the total bets taken in.

Also note that the computed payouts for a bet type for a race are based solely on the bets of that type that have been entered into the system. If there are only a few bets entered, you are likely to see strange payout calculations. For instance, a show bet on a horse may payoff more than a win bet. The laws of statistics, though, will almost always catch up if enough bets are taken and you will see results closer to expectations. If you continue to have the problem, you may want to lower the minimum bet amount to encourage more distribution of the bets.

Collecting Bets on the Races

Use the Edit/Betting Window menu item or button to pull up the window for accepting bets on races.

The activity at the Betting Window is broken down into “Transactions”. Think of a transaction as one person’s visit to the betting window to place or cash multiple bets. To record bets, when the Betting Window Transaction screen appears, select “Start New Ticket”.

This will bring up a window to fill in the basic information about a ticket – the race and the bettor. (A new bettor can be added if need be by clicking the “Add Bettor” button.) Clicking the “Place Bets” button will take you to the “Place Bets” window. In this window you can enter one or more bets by entering a bet amount, a type of bet, the bettor’s picks, and then adding the bet to the ticket. Once completed, clicking the “Add Ticket” button will add the ticket to the list of transactions.

Once a ticket is recorded, if the same bettor wished to place a bet on another race, simply repeat the steps above. When the bettor is finished placing bets, click on the “Finish Transaction” button. This will bring up the “Finish Transaction” window, which displays the total amount that the bettor should pay to the betting window attendant. The default is to collect the entire amount owed, but if the bettor is short, the actual amount collected should be entered.

You can use the View/List Bets menu item to list all or a subset of the bets on file. The List Bets tool also supplies a summary total of the total amount bet for the listed bets, the total amount won (after race results are entered), the total amount collected by the bank, and the total amount distributed by the bank for winners.

As you familiarize yourself with the Betting Window, you may want to practice placing bets both with and without the mouse. Once familiar, the betting window might be quicker to run without the mouse. Pressing the Tab or Enter keys while on a text entry block will cause the data entered to be accepted in the text block and the cursor, or “focus” moved to the next text block or button typically used. Also, short-cut keys are available on several windows which can be used instead of clicking on buttons. See the section “Betting Window” for more information.

Note: Backyard Bookie does all of its work within the memory of your computer. Your files are not saved to disk until you specify to do so. You can wait until you exit the program, when the system will prompt you to save the file, but it is recommended that you get into the habit of saving the file every 5 to 10 minutes, by selecting File/Save (or clicking on the floppy disk in the upper toolbar.) Another option is to use the automatic Save prompter which will ask you if you would like to save the file after every so many transactions. This can be set in the Setup Race Card function.

Displaying Odds

The View/Display Odds menu item can be used to show your bettors the current odds based on the bets that have been collected. Odds can be shown for any race at any time.

Backyard Bookie has the capability to show the odds for win, place, show, exacta, and daily double bets. The odds shown are a rounded figure of the ratio that a bettor will receive on top of getting back the amount of his or her bet. (Please note that place and show odds are “average odds”. The true odds for these bets varies depending on the combination of racers that finish in the money.)

The Auto-run feature allows you to let the computer scroll through the current odds for the current race or all of the races on a timed basis, just like the tote boards at major racing tracks. This way you can let multiple bettors watch the screen and pick out the odds information important to them.

You can change the size of the font used to display odds on the odds window. Adjust the font to whatever size best fits your computer screen.

You can also use another computer to display the odds, assuming that the second computer has access to read the main Backyard Bookie file that you are updating with bets. See the section “Displaying Odds or Payouts on a Second Computer” later in this document for more information.

Computing and Distributing the Payouts

The Edit/Record Race Results menu item is used to enter the results of a race and display the computed payouts. As race results are recorded, winning amounts for each individual bet is also recorded in the system.

You may choose to let Backyard Bookie compute the payouts based on the bets that have been placed on your computer, or you may choose to enter the payouts for each bet type yourself.

Remember these rules that are used by Backyard Bookie to compute the payouts:

- All winning bets *always* get back at least the amount they bet. If a minimum payout is set, then a winning bet will always get back at least this amount (based on the ratio to the minimum bet), except in the case where no bet had the correct results.
- The “holdback percent” and “holdback amount” specified in the race card are used to lower the return pot before payouts are calculated. The “house” could get shorted its payback amount if the minimum payout is set too high or if there are no correct bets for a particular bet type.
- For exacta, trifecta, daily double, and “Pick 3” through “Pick 6” bets, if there are no bets which match the results exactly, you will be given a choice of options as to how to handle the payouts. Depending on the circumstances, you will be asked if you would like for no one to be paid, for everyone to get their money back, or for the winnings to be split between those with the most correct picks for the type of bet.

Please be aware that if you specify a Minimum Payout greater than the minimum bet, it is possible, although rare, that the total payouts will be greater than the total bets taken in.

Once the payouts have been determined, there are two ways to handle the payouts.

If you want to handle paybacks for all of the bets for the entire race card for one or more bettors, the easiest way to do this is to use the View/House and Bettor Activity Summary function. On this window, you can choose which bettors to payoff in total for all of the days bets.

To cash bets for something less than the entire race card, go the Betting Window and click on the button to cash (or collect) tickets. This will bring up a list of bets that are due a payout (or have outstanding amounts due in.) To cash a ticket, click on it in the list, or enter the ticket number in the text block. If you'd like to see all of the winners for a particular bettor, you can filter out all but that bettor's uncashed/uncollected tickets by choosing him or her from the pull-down list. You may collect or cash as many tickets as you like within one transaction. New bets may also be placed by the bettor in the same transaction.

You can display the payouts, in race track tote board style, using the View / Display Payouts function. You can also use another computer to display the payouts tote board, assuming that the second computer has access to read the main Backyard Bookie file that you are updating with bets. See the section “Displaying Odds or Payouts on a Second Computer” later in this document for more information.

File Backup and Recovery

Backyard Bookie contains several features to help you make sure that data in your file is not lost. These are explained below.

Automatic File Copy

The system automatically makes a backup of your file before writing over it with changes. This happens every time you inform the program to “Save” your Backyard Bookie file to the same name that was used when the file was opened. If you have any problems with your main file, look for a file in the same directory with a file type of “.bkp”. Change it to “.pbb” and you can start again from the previous time that you saved the file.

Backup Function

At any time, you can choose the File/Backup function and create a backup of your file. For maximum safety, this backup should be sent to a disk that is different than the disk on which you are storing your main file, such as a diskette drive or a network drive.

Automatic File Backup

Using the last tab of the Setup Race Card window, you can indicate that you want your file backed up to diskette (or any disk drive available) as a precautionary measure every time you do a save of your main file.

Prompting to Save File

Using the last tab of the Setup Race Card window, you can specify a number of betting window transactions after which the system will display a message asking you if you would like to save the file to disk. You can also set the system up to automatically make a second backup copy to a diskette drive (or any other drive you choose) every time you save the file.

Restoring Betting Window Transactions from the Recovery File

In the event of a system failure, unless you backup your file after every betting window transaction, you may lose data from your Backyard Bookie file. Because it is so important to maintain an accurate record of betting window transactions, Backyard Bookie can be set up to log each and every betting window transaction to a separate file that can then be used for recovery purposes. The last tab of the Setup Race Card window allows you to specify whether or not to use a recovery file and its name. The Tools/Restore from Recovery File function allows you restore selected transactions back to your file. ***Please be very careful using this feature. If not used properly, you may get undesired outcomes. Please see the section “Restore from Recovery File” for more information.***

While Backyard Bookie has several safety features, it is still wise to save your file to diskette or some other external storage medium every so often.

Backyard Bookie Tools

Registration Verification

On this window, you specify the registration ID that you receive when you purchase the software from MicroFest, Inc. You may operate the software without registering, but you will be unable to perform all of the system's functions. See the section "How to Register" for more information.

Note: *If you have already registered Backyard Bookie on your computer, choose Help / About Backyard Bookie to see the previously entered ID.*

Name

Enter your name as the licensed user of Backyard Bookie.

Registration ID / Serial Number

Enter the 13-digit numeric ID that was given to you when you registered. If you bought the product with a credit card over the Internet, the ID is the "Serial Number" that should show on your receipt. It is extremely important that you keep this number! Without it entered into your system, you will only be able to enter 10 tickets, and only three bets per ticket.

When you enter a valid registration ID, it is saved on your computer, so that you will not need to enter it the next time you use the software. You will need to use the registration ID if you install Backyard Bookie on another computer or your system's operating files are damaged or deleted.

OK

Accepts the Registration ID entered. If not a valid ID, you will be warned and given a chance to correct it. If you do not have a registration ID, you may use the software in a limited fashion by clicking on the Continue Without Registration button.

Continue Without Registration

Allows you to bypass the registration and use the software in a limited fashion. You will not be able to enter more than 10 tickets and only three bets per ticket.

How to Register

Brings up instructional information on how to purchase Backyard Bookie.

Note that if you purchased Backyard Bookie from a retail store, we advise you to register your product with MicroFest, Inc. so that you can be advised of program fixes and upgrades as they become available. Please choose the function File / Register Retail Purchase to sign onto the Internet and register your purchase.

Open a Backyard Bookie File

This window appears when you first start the Backyard Bookie program.

The names of the last four Backyard Bookie files that you have used are listed in the box on this window. If you would like to use one of these files, select it by clicking on it, then click on the “Open” button. To browse your disks for more files, click the “More files...” line and then the “Open” button. To start a brand new Backyard Bookie file from scratch, click the “Start a new file” line and then the “Open” button.

For specific national events, you can choose download a pre-filled race card from our web-site by choosing “Download Race Card from www.BackyardBookie.com”. After the file is downloaded, you should go to the Setup Race Card window and adjust it as desired.

You may double-click on any of the lines in the box to open the file, instead of clicking the “Open” button.

Open in Display-Only Mode

Check this box if you wish to open the file, but not make any changes to it. This is designed to be used for opening one of your Backyard Bookie files on a second computer for the purposes of displaying the odds and/or the payouts, but not for taking bets. Please see the section “Displaying Odds or Payouts on a Second Computer” later in this document.

Open

Click on this button to open the highlighted file in the list, or begin the browse for other files.

Cancel

Close this window without opening any file.

Errors while Opening File

While opening a Backyard Bookie file, it is possible that the file has been damaged and cannot be loaded completely. Backyard Bookie will attempt to load as much of the file as it can interpret properly, and then list any problems encountered in the window labeled "Errors Found:".

CAUTION: If you decide to continue with processing a file, even though errors have been detected, be sure to examine all parts of your file, especially the entries, to see if you have lost any data. If you find that you have lost a significant amount of data, then it may be better to contact MicroFest's technical support to see if there is anything else that can be salvaged from your file. You might also want to check to see if you have any non-damaged backup files from which you could start again or pull the missing data. See the sections "Backup and Recovery" and "Technical Support" for more information.

OK

If you decide to continue processing the file, even though there were errors encountered, click this button.

Cancel

Exit without loading the file.

Print a Report

On this window, you can select from one of following five reports:

- A listing of the race card, including a list of all of the racers, their betting numbers, and the payouts from the race if the race is completed
- A listing of all of the bettors in the file
- A listing of the bets or a selected subset of bets in the file.
- A listing of the current odds for win, place, show, exacta, and daily double bets. Select which race and and which bet types you would like to print.
- A summary listing, by bettor and with totals for the house, of all of the betting activity that is kept in the file.

(Tickets are printed automatically in the betting window when the settings in the Race Card are properly set.)

Following is an explanation of each report

Race Card with Results

This report lists for each race the following items:

- The race name and number
- The bet types allowed for the race and the minimum bet amount
- A listing of each racer in the race, showing the program number, the betting number, the post position, the racer name, and the handicapper odds
- The results of the race (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th) if they are available
- The payouts for Win, Place and Show bets, as well as exotic bets, if the bet types are allowed for the race and the results have been entered

You can chose to run the report for a specific race or for all races.

Bettors

This report prints out a list of all bettors, including information in your file about each, including:

- The bettor's name
- The bettor's phone number
- The bettor's e-mail address
- Any additional information on file about the bettor

Listed Bets

For this report to be printed, you must first go to the View / List Bets window and use the options on that window to choose the bets that you would like to list. Then, when you select print on the print window, the listed bets on the window will be sent to the printer in report format. The report shows the exact same data as is present on the window. Please see the help section for the "List Bets" window for more information on what is included in the report.

Current Odds for Selected Race

This report lists the current odds and the betting pools calculated from the bets entered into your file.

You can choose the following to print:

- Odds and betting pools for all races or only one particular race
- Odds for all of the bet types, plus the betting pools, or select which type of bet to print.

Below is a brief explanation of each section of the report:

- **Betting Pools:** This lists the amount of money bet on each racer for the win, place, and show bet types. It shows the total amount bet for each of the “exotic” bet types.
- **Win Odds, Place and Show Average Odds:** This section shows, per racer, the current odds should that racer come in the money for the particular bet type. “Handicap Odds” are also shown. Note that for Place and Show odds, the odds are an “average”. The Place and Show odds will vary for a particular racer depending on which racers finish in the other positions.
- **Exacta Odds:** This section lists every combination of 1st and 2nd place finishers and the odds on exacta bets for that combination.
- **Daily Double Odds:** This section shows every valid combination of racers from the initial race and the second race involved in the Daily Double bet and the odds for that combination. If the first race of the Daily Double is finished, then only the combinations involving the first race winner and each second race racer are shown.

House and Bettor Activity Summary

For this report to be printed, you must first go to the View / House and Bettor Activity Summary window and use the options on that window to choose how you want the report to be displayed. Then, when you select print on the print window, the listed bets on the window will be sent to the printer in report format. The report shows the exact same data as is present on the window. Please see the help section for the “House and Bettor Activity Summary” window for more information on what is included in the report.

For any report that prints out dollar figures, if the room to display the data is too small, then you will see an asterisk (*) as the first digit in the number.

Font and Size

The font and font size of the report can be changed in this window, prior to printing the report. The default font and size can be specified in the General Setup tab of the Edit/Race Card window. You may want to experiment with different fonts and sizes to see what works best on your system.

Portrait vs. Landscape

Select “portrait” to print your report where the paper is in the direction that it is longer than it is wide. Use “landscape” to print the report where the paper is wider than it is long.

Page Setup

Click here to select which printer to use and adjust other print options.

Print

When this button is clicked, the chosen report is sent to the printer.

Cancel

Close this window without printing anything.

Overview of Race Card Setup

Setup Race Card Overview

Before any bets can be accepted, the “race card” must be setup. From 1 to 20 races can be recorded in any one Backyard Bookie file. Set up the race card as you see fit to run your betting window.

The Race Card setup window contains five tabs, each explained in more detail in the following sections.

OK

Use this button to accept the changes made to the race card. No changes are actually moved into your file until this button is pressed.

Cancel

Disregard any changes to the race card that have been entered since the last time it was opened.

Note: Once results of a race are entered, most of the information about that race cannot be changed. If this is necessary, go back to the Display Payouts tool and remove the race results, make your change, and then reset the race results.

General Setup Tab

Use this tab to specify some basic information about your Backyard Bookie file and to assign default values to be used for races.

Race Card Name

Enter a name which describes the contents of your file, such as "Derby Day 1997".

Race or Competition Type

Enter the type of participants in the race or competition. Either pick a type from the pull-down window (which includes Horse, Dog, Car, Runner, Golfer), or create your own.

Racer Input

Use Betting Numbers

If this is checked, then when entering racers or contestants, you will be able to control the "betting number" that is assigned to that racer. If desired, you can assign the same betting number to two or more racers. This means that a bet on one of those racers is really a bet on all of those racers. If you are familiar with horse racing, assigning the same betting number to more than one horse would be how you define which horses are "paired" or horses which are in "the field".

If this is not checked, then the system automatically assigns unique betting numbers to each racer in a race.

Use Program Numbers

If this box is checked, you will be able to enter "program numbers" for each racer. "Program numbers", as used at horse racing tracks, are usually the same as betting number (described above), except for horses which are "paired" or placed in "the field". "Paired" horses would be assigned the same betting number, but then will be given program numbers like "1" and "1a", or "2" and "2b". "Field" horses generally are given their own unique program number, such as "12", "13", or "14", but they all have the same betting number, such as "12".

If this box is not checked, then you will not be asked to fill in the "program number" data for racers.

Use Post Positions

If this box is checked, then you will be able to enter the "post position" of a racer. In horse racing terms, this is the number of the gate out of which the horse will run. Post positions are really for informational purposes only and not necessary, unless you want your racers listed out by post position when they are displayed.

If this box is not checked, then you will not be asked to fill in the "post position" data for racers.

Display Payouts Based on a Bet of \$ _____

Enter the amount of the "standard bet". This is the amount that all payout displays will be based upon. At many racetracks, payouts are shown based on a \$2.00 bet.

Whatever number is entered here will not change the payout calculations, only how they are displayed on the payout windows.

Betting Window Specifications

For Betting, Sort Racers By:

Choose from the list to indicate the order in which racers should be displayed within selection lists and other listings.

Default Bet to “Not Specified”

Check this box if you do not wish to keep track of individual bettors names as they are placing bets. The system will automatically create a bettor named “Not Specified” and fill in this name at the betting window.

Leave this box unchecked if you intend to enter the name of each bettor who is placing a bet.

Default Cash/Collect Amount to 0.00

If this box is not checked, when you finish a betting window transaction and are prompted to enter the amount collected from or distributed to the bettor, the amount will default to the amount owed for the tickets added or changed in the transaction.

If this box is checked, the default will be 0.00. In either case, you may change the default amount to the amount actually collected or distributed.

Check this box if you wish to enter bets but not collect any of the monies. Then, after all of the results are in, you can “settle up” with each person, taking into account what he or she bet and what they won. Do not check this box if you intend to settle up with the bettor after each transaction.

Display Payouts Based On

Indicate in this box the dollar figure on which you want payout amounts to be based when they are displayed. Many pari-mutuel parlors display payouts based on a \$2.00 bet and that is the default value for Backyard Bookie. But you can change it to show payouts based on whatever bet amount you choose from \$.01 to \$100.00.

Note that changing this amount has absolutely no affect on how winnings are calculated for actual bets within bet sheets. It only affects what is shown in the payouts window display.

Printing Setup**Font for Reports**

Choose the font that you would like to use to print Backyard Bookie reports. You may want to experiment with different fonts and sizes to see what works best on your system.

Size (for Reports)

Specify the font size for Backyard Bookie reports, which include the Race Card report, Bettor Listing, and Bet Listing. You may want to experiment with different fonts and sizes to see what works best on your system.

The font size must be between 2 and 72.

Portrait or Landscape (for Reports)

Choose the direction of the paper for printing reports.

Print Tickets

If this box is checked, then betting window tickets will be printed automatically from the betting window. Other items to control the printing, described below, will be made visible on the window when this is checked.

If not checked, tickets will not be printed.

The following will appear only if the “Print Ticket” box is checked:

Transactions Held Prior to Printing

Depending on the font size and paper size settings chosen, 10 or more tickets could fit on one sheet of paper. So you can save paper by printing more than one ticket on a sheet. Each printed page would need to be cut up if the tickets are for different bettors.

Of course, the person who places the first bet will have to wait around until more tickets are entered to get his or her ticket printout. Because of this, you may want to limit how many betting transactions are accumulated in memory prior to printing. That way, each bettor should only have a short time to wait to get his or her ticket.

Font for Tickets

Choose the font that you would like to use to print Backyard Bookie tickets. You may want to experiment with different fonts and sizes to see what works best on your system.

Size (for Tickets)

Specify the font size to be used for printing tickets. You may want to experiment with different fonts and sizes to see what works best on your system.

The font size must be between 2 and 72.

Portrait or Landscape (for Tickets)

Choose the direction of the paper for printing tickets.

Race Defaults Tab

Within this window are several items which can be set up once, here, then used as default values for each race that is entered into this file. Those items are:

- **Minimum Bet:** The lowest amount that one bet can be placed for.
- **Minimum Payout:** The lowest amount that will be paid back to a bettor who bets the minimum bet. The ratio of this amount to the minimum bet amount will be used to calculate the minimum payouts for other bet amounts.
- **Bet Increment:** All bet amounts must be exact multiples of this amount. For example, if you enter .25, then only bets ending in .00, .25, .50, or .75 can be entered.
- **Holdback Pct:** Enter a percentage to be held back from the distribution of winnings and kept by the "house".
- **Holdback Amt:** Enter a flat amount that will be held back from the distribution of winnings and kept by the "house". This applies to the pot for the "Win" bets only.
- **Bet Types Allowed:**
Check the bet types to be allowed for races.
 - **Win:** Bettors must pick the winner of the race
 - **Place:** Bettors must pick either the winner or the second place finisher of the race
 - **Show:** Bettors must pick either the winner, the second, or the third place finisher of the race
 - **Exacta:** Bettors must pick both the 1st and the 2nd place finishers *in the proper order*.
 - **Trifecta:** Bettors must pick the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers *in the proper order*.
 - **Daily Double:** Bettors must pick the winners of two consecutive races.
 - **Pick 3, Pick 4, Pick 5, Pick 6:** Bettors must pick the winners of three, four, five, or six consecutive races.
- **Round Payouts To:** Indicates how to round off the payouts to the winning bets after results are entered. Note that winnings are always rounded **down** to the nearer round amount.
- **Quick-Bet Amounts:** Enter the bet amounts that you believe will be used the most. For example, if the minimum bet is \$1 and the bet increment is \$.25, you might want quick bet amounts of \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$5.00, and \$10.00. These amounts will appear as buttons on the betting window, so that a quick mouse click will set the bet amount.

For actual bets and winnings calculations, the values set up under the "Race Tab" are always used. These defaults are used only to "seed" the values for each race.

Race Setup Tab

Use this tab to specify race specific information about betting and payouts.

#th Race

Indicates the name of the race currently being displayed. Enter anything that you would like to identify a race. Up to 20 races can be entered in any one Backyard Bookie file.

Delete

Use this to delete the currently displayed race and all of the information about it. Note that all racers and bets for the race will also be deleted.

Go to Race

Use this pull-down menu to select a race for display within the tab.

Set as Default

Check this box to indicate that the race which is currently displayed should be the race shown when first displaying windows for placing a bet, listing bets, displaying odds, or displaying payouts.

Prev, Next

Click on these to move back and forth through the race card one race at a time.

Settings for this Race

Within this frame are several items which are used to control the betting and the payouts. Those items are:

- **Minimum Bet:** The lowest amount that one bet can be placed for.
- **Minimum Payout:** The lowest amount that will be paid back to a bettor who bets the minimum bet. The ratio of this amount to the minimum bet amount will be used to calculate the minimum payouts for other bet amounts. **Please be aware that if you specify a Minimum Payout greater than the minimum bet, it is possible, although rare, that the total payouts will be greater than the total bets taken in.**
- **Bet Increment:** All bet amounts must be exact multiples of this amount. For example, if you enter .25, then only bets ending in .00,.25,.50, or .75 can be entered.
- **Holdback Pct:** Enter a percentage to be held back from the distribution of winnings and kept by the "house". **Please be aware that the holdback amount could be lower than expected if Minimum Payouts greater than the Minimum bet is used, or if no correct bets are made for a bet type.**
- **Holdback Amt:** Enter a flat amount that will be held back from the distribution of winnings and kept by the "house". This applies to the pot for the Win bets only. **See warning above.**
- **Bet Types:**
Check the bet types to be allowed for this race.
 - **Win:** Bettors must pick the winner of the race
 - **Place:** Bettors must pick either the winner or the second place finisher of the race
 - **Show:** Bettors must pick either the winner, the second, or the third place finisher of the race
 - **Exacta:** Bettors must pick both the 1st and the 2nd place finishers *in the proper order*.
 - **Trifecta:** Bettors must pick the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers *in the proper order*.
 - **Daily Double:** Bettors must pick the winners of two consecutive races.
 - **Pick 3, Pick 4, Pick 5, Pick 6:** Bettors must pick the winners of three, four, five, or six consecutive races.
- **Round Payouts To:** Indicates how to round off the payouts to the winning bets after results are entered. Note that winnings are always rounded down to the nearer round amount.
- **Quick-Bet Amounts:** Enter the bet amounts that you believe will be used the most. For

example, if the minimum bet is \$1 and the bet increment is \$.25, you might want quick bet amounts of \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$5.00, and \$10.00. These amounts will appear as buttons on the betting window, so that a quick mouse click will set the bet amount.

Reset to Defaults

Click on the button marked with an “X” to change all of the values in the “Settings for this Race” back to the default values set in the Race Defaults Tab.

Racer Setup Tab

.Use this tab to specify race specific information about betting and payouts.

#th Race

Indicates the name of the race currently being displayed. Enter anything that you would like to identify a race. Up to 20 races can be entered in any one Backyard Bookie file.

Go to Race

Use this pull-down menu to select a race for display within the tab.

Set as Default

Check this box to indicate that the race which is currently displayed should be the race shown when first displaying windows for placing a bet, listing bets, displaying odds, or displaying payouts.

Prev, Next

Click on these to move back and forth through the race card one race at a time.

Racer Grid

Within the grid are rows of racer information, with the following:

- **Bet Number:** The number used to identify the racer at the betting window. A bet number can actually belong to two or more horses. When this is done, a bet for that bet number represents a bet on any of the racers with that bet number. At horse tracks, this is done often by indicating that one horse is "1" and the other "1a". Also "field" betting, where several unrelated horses are grouped together for betting purposes, can be handled by giving each horse in the field the same bet number.
- **Program Number:** This is optional. Its purpose is to show the number used to identify the racer in official racing forms. It normally would be the same as the Bet Number except in instances where multiple racers are grouped together (i.e. "1" and "1a" entries, "field" horses).
- **Post Position:** Optional. Used to indicate the starting position of the racer.
- **Name:** The name of the racer.
- **Handicap Odds:** Optional. This is used to show the predicted odds before the betting starts.

New Racer, Edit Racer

Click on the New Racer button to add information about a racer that is not in the racer list already. To change information about a racer, simply click on any piece of the row containing the racer.

A small window will appear on to enter the data as defined in the Racer Grid. In addition a **Scratched** check box will be available to indicate that the racer will not be participating in the race. Any bet on a "scratched" racer is automatically repaid to the bettor. The repay amount will show up in the "Won Amt" in the bet listing.

When adding a list of new racers to the race, check to box labeled "**Continue to add racers**" and you will remain on the "Add Racer" window after clicking the OK button. Click on the Close button when you are finished adding racers.

Copy Racers

Click this button if you want to copy the racers from one race into the current race. A small window will appear where you may choose the race from which to copy.

All racers from the copy race are brought over to the current displayed race. If racers already

exist in the current window, then the racers from the other race will be appended to the end of the list.

Remove All

Click on the button marked with an "X" to delete all of the racers in the list.

Backup and Recovery Tab

Backyard Bookie comes with several features to help assure that you do not lose data. No computer system is perfect and there is always a chance that some data may be lost. But, with proper care and understanding of Backyard Bookie's features, you can limit your loss of data, should there be a system failure.

While Backyard Bookie has several safety features, it is still wise to save your file to diskette or some other external storage medium every so often.

File Backup Settings

Prompt for File Backup

If this box is checked, you will be prompted after a specified number of betting transactions to save the current file to disk. A text box to enter how often to issue the prompt will appear, and is described below. After the specified number of transactions is completed, a pop-up window will be displayed asking whether or not you would like to save the file to the disk.

If the box is not checked, you will not be reminded to save the file until you close the program or switch to another file.

After Every _____ Transactions

This text box only appears if the "Prompt for File Backup" box is checked and should be filled in with the number of transactions that you wish to occur until you are prompted to save the file. (Note, that if this box is set to "0", then you will never be prompted. It will be just as if you left the "Prompt for File Backup" unchecked.)

Backup to diskette

Check this box to have the system automatically save a second copy of the file to another drive. (This does not necessarily have to be a "diskette" drive.) The purpose of this option is so that you can be doubly sure that you have a good backup of your file should your system fail.

Fill in the name of the path to which the file should be saved. To search for the desired path, click the **Browse** button.

Recovery File Settings

Use Recovery File

If this box is checked, then for every bet in every ticket in every betting window transaction, a record is written out to the specified recovery file.

In the event of a system failure, unless you backup your file after every betting window transaction, you may lose data from your Backyard Bookie file. Because it is so important to maintain an accurate record of betting window transactions, the Recovery File can be used to log each and every betting window transaction to a separate file that can then be used for recovery purposes. The Tools/Restore from Recovery File function allows you restore selected transactions from the Recovery File back to your file. ***Please be very careful using this feature. If not used properly, you may get undesired outcomes. Please see the section "Restore from Recovery File" for more information.***

When this box is checked, the following items will appear in the window:

Transaction Recovery File

Enter the name of the file that you would like to use to store your transaction log. Click on the

“Browse” button to search for an existing file. By default, the recovery file is set to the name of the open file, except with a file suffix of “.pbr”.

Clear Recovery File on File Save

If this is checked, then the system will automatically remove older recovery file records when the main Backyard Bookie file is saved. If not checked, the recovery file will continue to collect records until you clear the file out yourself. You can use the Tools/Restore from Recovery File to clear older records from the file if you do not wish to have them deleted automatically.

Clear data _____ days old on File/Save

Specify the number of days old that a recovery file log record should be before it is automatically deleted from the file.

Setup Bettors

Use this menu item to list all bettors on your file. From the list of bettors on the file, you will be able to do the following:

Edit

Make changes to the highlighted bettor's information. You can also invoke the edit function by double-clicking on the name of the bettor.

Delete

Delete the highlighted bettor from the file.

New

Add a new bettor to the file.

When adding a new bettor or editing an old one, a window will pop-up with the following items:

- **Bettor Name:** The name of the person making the bet. Note, you may want to enter the names in "Last Name, First Name" format so that they will sort in that order when listed.
- **Phone:** Optional. A phone number which can be used to contact the bettor.
- **E-mail:** Optional. An address for sending e-mails to the bettor.
- **Add'l Info:** Optional free-form information that can be stored about a vendor, such as address.

Press **OK** to accept the information, **Cancel** to quit without saving.

See the section "Bring in Bettors from Another File" for information on how to copy bettor data from one Backyard Bookie file to another.

Working with Bets

Betting Window

The “Betting Window” is designed to operate in a similar fashion as horse track betting windows. Generally, one person can come to the window, place multiple bets on one or more races, get a printed ticket or tickets detailing those bets, cash winning tickets, and settle up the money owed to the track or owed to the bettor.

One such trip to the betting window is called a “transaction” in Backyard Bookie.

This is the first window from which you start a betting transaction.

Buttons:

Use the buttons below to perform various betting window tasks:

Start New Ticket

Click on this button (or press “S” on the keyboard) to begin a new ticket. One ticket is for a specific race and bettor. Within a ticket, you may place multiple bets, as long as they are on the same race and for the same bettor. Any new tickets added will be summarized in the boxes on the left side of the window.

Cash/Collect

Click on this button (or press “C”) to find a ticket that has undistributed winnings or that has not been fully collected for. Any tickets cashed or collected will be added to the summary information to the left of the window.

Edit a Ticket

Click on this button (or press “E”) if you wish to pull up a previously entered ticket and make changes to the bets included on the ticket.

Remove a Ticket

Highlight a ticket in the Ticket Summary window by clicking on it once and then click on this button to remove it from the transaction. You will be prompted to make sure that you want to remove the ticket from the transaction. The selected ticket will be removed from the transaction list and will not be updated with any changes made during the transaction.

Finish Transaction

Click on this button (or press “F”) if you wish to settle up with the bettor for the current transaction, as summarized on the left side of the window. Finishing a transaction will bring up a window where you can specify the exact amount of money collected from the bettor or paid out to the bettor.

Trash Transaction

Click on this button (or press “T”) if you wish to discard the entire transaction that you are currently working on. Your Backyard Bookie file will remain in the same state as it was before the transaction was begun.

Quit

Click on this button (or press “Q” or the Escape button) to close down the betting window. If you have not “finished” the current transaction, you will be prompted to do so. Any tickets that are in memory and have not been printed will be sent to your printer when the betting window is closed.

Transaction Summary Information

The transaction summary information described below is accumulated as you perform the actions requested by a bettor in a transaction. It is cleared out when you “finish” the transaction.

Transaction Summary

This table shows summary information about the tickets that have been included in the transaction currently being worked on. The columns in the table are:

- **Action:** Identifies the type of action taken on a ticket (“New ticket”, “Collect ticket”, “Cash ticket”, or “Edit ticket”)
- **Ticket#:** The identifying number of the ticket on which the action occurred.
- **Bettor:** Identifies the bettor associated to the ticket.
- **Race:** Identifies the race that the bets on the ticket are for.
- **Trans Amt:** The net effect of that the action on the ticket has on the total transaction amount. Positive amounts indicate monies owed to the betting window attendant. Negative amounts indicate monies owed out to the bettor.

Transaction Totals

A summary of the actions taken on each of the tickets in the current transaction.

- **Bet:** The total amount from new bets placed or changed bets in the transaction.
- **Cashed:** The total amount of tickets to be cashed in the transaction.
- **Collected:** The total amount to be collected in the transaction.
- **Net:** The net amount of the three totals above. A positive figure will indicate money owed by the bettor to the betting window attendant. A negative figure will indicate money owed out to the bettor.

Start, Cash, Collect and Edit Tickets

See the appropriate section below depending on the action that you are taking.

Start a New Ticket

Ticket Number

This is the identifying number of the ticket that is about to be entered. If you choose the option "Enter your own ticket numbers" on the General Setup tab of the Edit / Setup Race Card window, then you must key in the ticket number that you would like to use for this ticket. Otherwise, the system defaults to the next available ticket number, which is the highest ticket number currently in the system plus one.

Next Ticket ID

This is available only if you have chosen the option to "Enter your own ticket numbers" on the General Setup tab of the Edit / Setup Race Card window. By clicking the button with an "X", the system will determine the next highest ticket number and place it in the Ticket Number box.

Race

The race to which the bet applies. For Daily Double and "Pick" bets, the race must be the first race in the series. Click on the **Set as Default** box to make the displayed race the default for future bets.

Bettor

Select from the pull-down list the bettor who is placing the bet. For new bettors, use the **Add New Bettor** button to pull up the Edit Bettor window.

Place Bets

Click on this button to open the place bets window so that you can record the bettor's bets. Remember, that as many bets can be entered as desired, as long as they are for the same race and the same bettor.

Add New Bettor

If the bettor is not in the Bettor drop-down list, click on this button to open the window to enter new bettor information to your file.

Select a Ticket to Cash or Collect

Ticket Number

Enter the number of the ticket for which you wish to cash or collect money, then press the "Cash/Collect Ticket" button to record the action. As an alternative, you may find the ticket in the ticket listing below and double-click on it.

Continue to Cash/Collect

If this box is checked, after verifying that you wish to cash or collect for a ticket, you will remain at this window so you can cash or collect for more tickets.

If the box is not checked, after verifying you cash or collect action, you will be returned to the main Betting Window window.

Race

Select from the pull-down list so that the tickets listed in the grid below are only bets that have an open balance for the selected race.

Bettor

Select from the pull-down list so that the tickets listed in the grid below are only bets that have an

open balance and were placed by the selected bettor.

Ticket Listing Grid

This grid lists out all tickets where the amount collected does not equal the amount bet and/or the amount distributed does not equal the amount won. You can narrow down what is displayed in the grid by selecting a Race or a Bettor in the pull-down lists above the grid.

You can select a ticket to cash or collect by double-clicking on it. You can also select more than one ticket to collect or cash by right-clicking on a ticket and, while holding the mouse button down, drag the mouse pointer to some ticket below. Cash or collect for the selected tickets by clicking the Cash/Collect Ticket button.

--- Hint ---

To cash out one person's winning tickets all at once, choose the bettor from the Bettor drop-down list, select all of his or her bets in the ticket list, and press the Cash/Collect button.

Cash/Collect Ticket

Clicking on this button records the selected tickets or the ticket listed in the Ticket Number box to be cashed or collected as a part of the current transaction. A verification screen will be displayed. Click OK if you wish the specified action to take place.

Select a Ticket to Edit

Ticket Number

Enter the number of the ticket for which you wish to edit, then press the "Edit Ticket" button to pull up the Place Bets window where you can make changes to existing bets or add new ones. As an alternative, you may find the ticket in the ticket listing below and double-click on it.

You may not edit a ticket if the results for the ticket's race have already been entered.

Race

Select from the pull-down list so that the tickets listed in the grid below are only bets that have been placed on the selected race. You will not be able to choose any race where the results have already been entered.

Bettor

Select from the pull-down list so that the tickets listed in the grid below are only bets that have been placed by the selected bettor.

Ticket Listing Grid

This grid lists out all tickets that have been entered. You can narrow down what is displayed in the grid by selecting a Race or a Bettor in the pull-down lists above the grid.

You can select a ticket to edit double-clicking on it. This will take you to the "Place Bets" window for the ticket clicked on.

Edit Ticket

Clicking on this button opens the "Place Bets" window for ticket whose number is in the "Ticket Number" box.

Place Bets

Use this window to record new bets or modify existing bets for a ticket.

-- Hint --

You may wish to experiment with two different ways of working the Place Bets window.

- You can use the mouse-only for most transactions, and, if you are fast with the mouse, this might be the quickest way to enter bets.
- You can also record most bets by using the keyboard only. If you are fast with the keyboard, this may be the quickest way to enter bets.

Depending on your situation, one way or the other could be quicker, or perhaps a combination. Operate the window in whatever way is comfortable for you.

The Place Bets window is divided into a few major sections.

- The top left-hand section is the "Edit Bet Area". This is where you enter new bet information or change existing bet information. When you begin to enter new bet information, the area should be empty. If you wish to edit a bet, select it by clicking it in the Bet List grid below – this will bring the data from the grid up into the edit area.
- The upper right-hand portion of the window contains buttons for performing activities.
- In the lower left-hand portion of the window is the "Bet List" grid. All bets for the current ticket will be listed in this grid.
- The lower right-hand portion of the window contains data summarizing the activity that you have taken thus far on the ticket.

Edit Bet Area

Bet Amount

Enter the base amount for the bet. For "Across the Board" bets, this is the amount of a single Win, Place, or Show bet. For "Boxed" bets, this is the amount of a single bet within the "box".

You may key in the bet amount, or click on one of the "Quick-Bet" buttons.

Bet Type

Select the type of bet. Only those bet types that are allowed in the Race Card for this race will be available to pick from.

Following is a brief explanation of the possible bet types. For more information, see the section entitled "Guide to Betting Terms".

- **Win:** Bettors must pick the winner of the race
- **Place:** Bettors must pick either the winner or the second place finisher of the race
- **Show:** Bettors must pick either the winner, the second, or the third place finisher of the race
- **Exacta:** Bettors must pick both the 1st and the 2nd place finishers *in the proper order*.
- **Trifecta:** Bettors must pick the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers *in the proper order*.
- **Daily Double:** Bettors must pick the winners of two consecutive races.
- **Pick 3, Pick 4, Pick 5, Pick 6:** Bettors must pick the winners of three, four, five, or six consecutive races.

Using the mouse, the type of bet can be picked from the drop-down list or by clicking on one of the blocks below the the bet type box to indicate the type of bet. (W=Win, P=Place, S=Show, A=Across the Board, E=Exacta, T=Trifecta, DD=Daily Double, 3=Pick 3, 4=Pick 4, 5=Pick 5, 6=Pick 6).

Instead of using the mouse, if the cursor is in the Bet Type box, you can press the W, P, S, A, E, T, D, 3, 4, 5, or 6 key to indicate the bet.

Bet Total

The Bet Total indicates the full amount due for the bet showing in the Edit Bet Area. This is the same as the Bet Amount except for “Across the Board” and “Boxed” bets.

“Across the Board” bets are allowed when Win, Place, and Show bets are allowed for the race. A bettor placing an across the board bet is, in effect, placing three bets, one to win, one to place, and one to show. The Bet Total will therefore be three times the stated “Bet Amount”.

If either “exacta” or “trifecta” is chosen, you will be given the opportunity to indicate if the bet will be “Boxed”. A boxed bet, described below, is just like placing multiple bets. The Bet Total will go up for every additional racer that is “boxed”.

Boxed

For exacta and trifecta bets, the “Boxed” check box will appear. If unchecked, then the bet is a straight, single bet. If checked, then the bet is “boxed”.

When boxing a bet, the total amount due in for the bet is calculated for you depending on the bet type and the number of picks. A “boxed” bet for an exacta bet is where you bet on any number of racers to finish in the 1st and 2nd place position, in any order. The same is true for a “boxed trifecta bet, only you are betting that the horses finish 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in any order. “Boxing” a bet is actually like making multiple bets at once. For more information see the section “Guide to Betting Terms.”

Picks

Indicates the racers that the bettor is placing a bet on. Use the drop-down box to pick the horses. Win, Place, Show, and Across the Board picks require one pick; Exacta requires two; Trifecta requires 3; Daily Double requires 2; and each of the Pick races require the number of picks as specified.

“Boxed” exactas and trifectas can have up to six racers specified (assuming that there are that many racers in the race.)

Buttons

Accept Bet

Click this button to accept the bet as entered in “edit area” as a part of the ticket. New bets will be added to the bet list below. Changes to bets will be reflected in the bet list below as well. (Instead of using the mouse, you may press F2, or Shift + Enter, or Ctrl + B to accept the bet.)

Delete Bet

Remove the currently displayed bet from the ticket. (You may also press Ctrl + D to delete the bet.)

Cancel Bet

This clears any data that is in the “edit area” without updating the ticket. (You may also press Ctrl + C to cancel the bet.)

Accept Ticket

Click on this button to record the changes entered for the ticket in your file. (You may also press F3, or Ctrl + Enter, or Ctrl + T to accept the ticket.)

Cancel Ticket

Click on this to return to the Betting Window, canceling any changes that you've made to the ticket. (You can also hit the Esc key to cancel the ticket.)

Bet List Grid

The bet list grid shows all of the bets as they appear will appear on the ticket, should the Accept Ticket button be taken. The columns in the grid are:

- **Bet Total:** The total amount that must be paid to place this bet. This total takes into account the multiple bets placed with Across the Board and "boxed" Exacta or Trifecta bets.
- **Bet Amount:** The base amount of the bet. This is the same as the Bet Total except in the case of Across the Board and "boxed" Exacta and Trifecta bets.
- **Bet Type:** The type of bet, Win, Place, Show, etc.
- **Box:** An "X" indicates that the bet is "boxed". See the sections entitled "Guide to Betting Terms" for more information.
- **Picks:** The "betting number" of the racer or racers chosen for the bet. The betting number is the internal system identifier for the racer and is always displayed here, even if you have not indicated that you will use betting numbers in the General Setup tab of the Race Card.

To see the rest of the information about the racer or racers that were picked, **double-click** on the row with the bet in which you are interested to bring up a summarization of the bet's picks, showing all of the racer information, including name, program number, and post position. Hit any key or click on the window to close it.

Ticket Summary

The ticket summary area shows the following:

- **Race:** The race for which the bets on the ticket are placed.
- **Bettor:** The bettor who placed the bets on the ticket.
- **New Bet Amount:** The total that will be owed by the bettor for all of the bets on the ticket.
- **Original Bet Amount:** This will show up only when editing a ticket. It is the total amount bet in previous transactions on this ticket.

Finish Transaction

This window is used to finalize a betting window visit by a bettor. After placing, editing, cashing, and collecting all of the bets desired by a bettor, this screen allows the betting window attendant to record the amount that changes hands between the “house” and the bettor.

Once the transaction is closed out or finished, the “slate is wiped clean” to begin working on the next transaction.

Collect or Payout \$\$\$\$

At the top of the window lists the amount that either should be collected by the betting window attendant or paid out to the bettor. This is based off of the balances left open on all of the tickets within the transaction being closed out.

Collect or Payout (entry box)

Enter the amount that is either collected from the bettor or paid out to the bettor.

The default will always be the amount which will fulfill all open balances from the tickets within the transaction being finished. If this amount is accepted, then for all tickets within the transaction, the collected amount will be made equal to the total bet for all bets in the tickets and the distributed amount will be made equal to all amounts won on the bets within the tickets.

If the default amount is not collected or paid out, then Backyard Bookie distributes the difference to the various tickets within the transaction.

Print Tickets for Transaction

This button will only show if you have chosen to not print tickets automatically on the “General Setup” tab of the “Race Card”. Click on it to print out the new and edited tickets in the transaction.

List Bets

Use this tool to display bets that have been placed.

The following pull-down lists and option buttons allow you to choose what is displayed in the bet list.

- **Race:** Choose "All races" or a single race's bets to display.
- **Bettor:** Choose "All bettors" or a single bettor's bets to display.
- **Bet Type:** Choose "All Bet Types" or a single type of bet to display. Note that because "Across the Board" bet types are a shorthand way of betting a Win, Place, and Show bet on the same racer, when you choose to display Win, Place, or Show bets, the appropriate portion of Across the Board bets will be displayed along with the regular bets.
- **Racer:** Select "All racers" to show bets, no matter which racer was picked on the bet. Or choose a single racer to show only bets that contain picks for that racer.
- **All Bets, Winners Only:** Choose between showing all bets whether they are winners or not, or only bets which have "Won Amounts".

The table of listed bets includes the following:

- **Ticket:** The ticket number.
- **Race:** The race that the bets on the ticket are for.
- **Bettor:** The bettor who placed the bets on the ticket.
- **Collected:** The amount of money collected for the ticket.
- **Distributed:** The amount of money that has been paid to the bettor for the winnings on this ticket.
- **Tot Bet:** The total amount bet for one bet on the ticket. This takes into account Across the Board and "boxed" Exacta and Trifecta bets, which represent multiple bets.
- **Won:** The amount that the house will be obliged to give back to the bettor, either for winnings, scratched racers, or bet types with no winners.
- **Bet Type:** The type of bet, e.g. Win, Place, Show, etc.
- **Box:** An "X" indicate that the bet was "boxed". Valid for Exacta and Trifecta bets only.
- **Picks:** The "betting number" of the racer or racers chosen for the bet. The betting number is the internal system identifier for the racer and is always displayed here, even if you have not indicated that you will use betting numbers in the General Setup tab of the Race Card.

If the racer or racers for the pick are scratched, you will see a "-s" following the pick. If the race is completed, you will see an asterisk (*) following the picks that are correct. You will also see a summary for multi-pick bets of the number of correct picks and, for boxed bets, the number of correct individual bets encompassed in the bet.

To see the rest of the information about the racer or racers that were picked, click on the row with the bet in which you are interested to bring up a summarization of the bet's picks, showing all of the racer information, including name, program number, and post position.

The **Totals for Listed Bets** section indicates the totals adding up the Tot Bet, Won, Collected, and Distributed amounts. A **net due amount** is then calculated from these amounts.

By setting the drop down lists to select all bets and bettors, you can compare the **net due amount** to the actual money in the bank to see if everything has been properly accounted for.

Close

Close the List Bets window.

Working with Odds and Payouts

Display Odds

Use this tool to display the going odds for a race for certain types of bets. It also displays the “betting pools”, or totals for each type of bet.

The Odds window is a freestanding window that can be kept open while you are doing other activities, such as placing bets. If your screen is large enough, you can keep the Odds window in view while you are placing bets. That way, those interested can see the current odds as bets are being placed. (Note: If you wish to do this, remember to turn the “Auto-Run” button on to periodically update the odds.)

Betting Pools, Odds Table

Within the table, the current odds or betting pools, based off the entered bets will be displayed. Hit the scroll bar to scroll down and see the complete set of odds.

The “betting pool” display will show the amounts collected for all bet types. Win, Place, and Show bets will be displayed by racer. (Note that if you are using the same betting number for multiple racers, but do not have the Racer Sort parameter in the Race Card set to “Betting Number”, then the pool amount will be repeated for each racer with the same betting number.)

Only odds for Win, Place, Show, Exacta, and Daily Double bets are available to show in this window. The other types of bets have too many possibilities to make it practical to show them.

Place and Show Odds

Please be aware that Place and Show odds are “average” odds. The payout rate for a racer finishing in the money for a place or show bet will vary based on what other racers finish in the money.

This is because the first step in calculating payouts is to pay each winning bettor back the amount bet and only after that is the remainder of the pot split between the winners. Therefore, if a favorite comes in, more of the pot goes toward paying back the amount bet to each bettor and less is available to split as winnings.

As a general rule, the actual amount paid out for Place and Show bets will be lower than the displayed odds if “favorites” finish in the other winning positions. The amount paid out will be greater than the displayed odds if “long shots” finish in the other winning positions.

Display Odds For:

Within this box, you can specify what type of odds that you would like to see.

- **Unfinished, All Races:** Click on “Unfinished” to show odds only for races where results have not been input. Click on “All” to show all races, finished or not.
- **Race:** Select the race for which to show the odds.
- **For Bet Type:** Select the type of bet for which to show the odds.

Auto-Run Settings

Using the auto run feature, the betting pool and odds tables are automatically paged through, depending on the settings.

- **On, Off:** “On” initiates the auto-run, “Off” halt it.
- **Show Races:** Select “All” to automatically run through the odds for all of the races in the pull-down list. Select “Selected” to simply scroll through the current race’s odds.
- **Show Bets:** With a check in the “All” box, the system will to automatically run through all of the odds or betting pools listings. If the “All” box is not checked, then you can select specific

- bet types that you wish to be shown.
- **Interval:** Allows you to control the speed at which the paging takes place. Specified in seconds.
 - **Display Size:** Enter any number from 8 to 100 as the “font” size for displaying odds. As you increase and decrease the display size, the odds display adjusts. You may need to increase the size of the window, or even “maximize” the window to get the display to properly fit on the screen. Instead of typing in numbers, you can hit the “+” and “-” buttons to increase or decrease the font size by one.
 - **Refresh File Automatically – after Every ___ Cycles:** This is available only if the tournament file has been opened in display-only mode. If the checkbox is clicked, then, after the system cycles through all of the odds selected for display the number of times indicated, the file will be refreshed, and, therefore, the most current odds would then be displayed. See the following section “Displaying Odds or Payouts on a Second Computer” for more information.

Show/Hide Auto-Run Settings

Click on this button to toggle between showing the Auto-Run Settings box on the window and not showing it.

Refresh

This button is available only if the file is opened in “display-only” mode. Click on the button to re-read the Backyard Bookie file that is open and get updated odds information. See the following section “Displaying Odds or Payouts on a Second Computer” for more information.

Close

Close the Display Odds window.

Display Odds or Payouts on a Second Computer

Backyard Bookie cannot be run in update mode on multiple computers. Only one computer at a time can be used to update a file. In fact, if you try to use Backyard Bookie on two computers at the same time to do updates, you will likely lose the data from one or the other computers.

But, the software does allow you to view odds and payouts on multiple networked computers while you take bets on your central computer. The secondary computers can be set to refresh the odds or payouts every so often, so bettors can be kept up-to-date with the current odds.

Step 1 – Install Backyard Bookie on secondary computers

To display the odds on a second computer, Backyard Bookie must be installed on it. Your license as a registered owner allows you to keep as many copies of Backyard Bookie on networked computers as you like for the purposes of displaying the odds.

To install Backyard Bookie on a separate computer, if you purchased the Backyard Bookie CD, then you can use it to install the program on the secondary computers the same way you installed your original copy. If you did not purchase the CD, then you can download the “trial version” of our software from our web-site at www.backyardbookie.com. The trial version will be able to display the odds fully, even without entering a registration ID.

Step 2 – Open the tournament file in Display-Only mode

When you start up the software on the secondary computer, you will be presented the “Open a Backyard Bookie File” window. Click the check box labeled “Open in display-only mode (no changes allowed to the file)” before choosing a file to open. When you do this, the system will prevent you from saving any changes to the file. This will prevent you from accidentally overlaying data in the main computer’s file.

If you’ve already started up the software and moved past the “Open a Backyard Bookie File” window, you can open a file in display-only mode by choosing File / Open for Display.

Step 3 – View the odds and set the auto-run settings

Go to the View/Display Odds function and display the Odds window. When you open a file in display-only mode, a “Refresh” button will appear in the bottom row of buttons. Clicking on this button will update the odds from the tournament file. ***Please note: The odds viewed from a secondary computer will be those odds that were valid the last time that the tournament file was saved by the primary computer. In order to show odds that are fairly current on a secondary computer, you must perform a save file function on the primary computer after every two or three betting transactions entered there. Go to the Backup/Recovery Tab of the Setup Golf Card window to set up automatic reminders to save the file.***

If the second button on the bottom row says “Show Auto-Run Settings”, then click on it to display the various parameters that you can use to control the odds display. With the auto-run settings displayed, a check box will be present entitled “Refresh file automatically” toward the bottom of the window. Click on this box to put a check mark in it. Then, specify the number of “cycles” after which the file should be refreshed automatically. Then, once the system pages through all of the odds the number of times specified, the odds will be updated from the tournament file.

Step 4 – View the payouts and set the auto-run settings

Follow the same steps as in Step 3 to display the payouts on the second computer, except go to the View / Display Payouts function instead of the Display Odds function.

Record Race Results

Use this tool to record the results of a race or contest. Once results are entered, payouts will be calculated for all bet types for that race, unless you choose to enter the payout amounts yourself. In that case, you will be presented with a window to record the payouts. Once the payouts are determined, the bets for the race are updated with the appropriate winnings.

Only the results for one race may be changed during any “trip” to this window. Once you change the results of a race and accept them by hitting the OK button, you will be taken to the “Enter Payouts” window or the “Display Payouts” window depending on your choice of “manual” vs. “automatic” payout calculation method.

Results for Race

Choose a race from the drop-down window. If there are any results entered into the file already, they will be displayed. Otherwise, “Not Available” will be displayed in each position.

Note: Changes for a race are not recorded unless you enter OK and are recorded only for the race displayed at the time the OK button is pressed. If you change the race that appears in this box, any changes that you had made to the previously displayed race results will not be applied to the file.

1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th

Select the racer from the drop-down list for each of the top finishing positions.

There is room to record the top five finishers on this window. Generally, for the bets handled by Backyard Bookie, all that is needed is the first three finishers. But if any two of the three finishers have the same bet number, the 4th place horse will be moved into the money. Likewise if there are only two unique bet numbers for the first four finishers, the 5th place horse will be moved into the money.

Should there be so many top finishers with the same bet number that a 6th place racer is needed, you will need to drop one of the duplicate racers from the results so that you can put the 6th place racer in.

You may not record the same racer at two different positions in the results.

Reset All to Not Available

Click on the “X” to set each of the positions, 1st through 5th to “Not Available”. This basically indicates that the race is not complete or the results are not official.

If “OK” is chosen after the results are reset to “Not Available”, then any winnings recorded for that race’s bets are reset back to \$0.00.

Payout Method

Select “Automatic” if you would like Backyard Bookie to compute the payouts based off of the bets entered for the race. Select “Manual” if you would like to be presented a window to key in your own payout amounts.

OK

Click on this button to save the results that are showing and to recalculate the winnings for bets for this race.

After clicking OK, if the “automatic” payout method is chosen and if everything checks out, you will be taken to the “Display Payouts” window to see the payout calculations. If the “manual”

payout method is chosen, you will be taken to a window that lets you key in your own payout amounts.

For automatic payout calculations, if you are using Backyard Bookie with a relatively small crowd, you will sometimes come across the situation where, for one or more types of bets, no one has the winning bet. In these situations, a window will appear asking how you would like to handle the payouts for that type of bet. See the following section "Payout Handling" for more information.

Cancel

Exits the results window without changing any of the results. Your file will remain in the same state as it was when you came to this window.

Payout Handling

This window appears when payouts are being calculated and, for a particular type of bet, no correct or winning ticket can be found on file.

When this situation occurs, options are presented for dealing with the situation. Choose one of the options presented by clicking on the “radio button” and pressing OK to continue.

Don’t pay anything to bettors

If this option is chosen, then the no payouts are made for the specified bet type. In essence, the “house” keeps all of the monies for the bet type.

Pay all bettors back amount bet

Choose this option to give the money back for each bet of the specified bet type.

Pay on most correct picks

This options divides the available pot between those bettors who have the most correct picks for the specified bet type. This is only an option for “multi-pick” bets – exacta, trifecta, daily double, pick 3, 4, 5, and 6 – and will only be made available if there is at least one bet with at least one correct pick.

For daily double and the “pick” bets, the bettor tries to pick the winner of consecutive races. If this option is chosen, then the bet or bets where the most correct picks have been made will receive the payout.

For exacta and trifecta betting, the bettor tries to pick the top 2 or 3 racers in the correct order of finish. If this option is chosen, a bet is credited with a correct pick only if his or her bet has *the right horse in the right position*. The bets with the most correct picks will collect winnings. For example, if racer 1 finishes first and racer 4 finishes second, an exacta bet on racers 1 and 2, in that order, will get credited with one correct pick (racer 1 in first place). Likewise, an exacta bet on 3 and 4, in that order, would be credited with one correct pick (racer 4 in second place). Assuming there are no totally correct bets, both of these bets would share equally in the winnings.

This can be somewhat confusing for “boxed” bets. If a bettor boxes racers 1 and 2 (which is like placing a 1-2 bet and a 2-1 bet), and the racers finish with 1 in first and 4 in second, then the racer will have one correct pick on one bet, the 1-2 part of the “box”, and no correct picks on the other bet, the 2-1 part of the “box”. Only on the 1-2 bet has the bettor actually picked one of the racers in its correct finishing position (racer 1 in first). If a bettor boxes racers 1, 2, and 3, this is like placing six different bets (**1-2**, **1-3**, 2-1, 2-3, 3-1, 3-2) and the bettor will get credited for two bets (the ones in bold) with one correct pick.

Enter Payouts

This window will appear whenever you hit the OK button on the “Edit Results” window and you have selected a “manual” payout calculation method.

This window allows you to enter in your own payout amounts for the race. You can also decide how you wish payouts to occur for those bet types where no one has the exact correct pick.

Be careful using this feature. You could easily enter a payout that pays out more than was taken in.

Win, Place, Show Payouts

The top group of boxes hold the payouts for win, place, and show bets, depending on whether the bettor bet the first, second, or third-place finisher. Enter the amount based on the amount shown in the message to the right of the box.

Enter a “P” to indicate that you would like the system to pay everyone back the amount of his or her bet. Please note that this “payback” designation must be consistent over all of the payout blocks for a particular bet type. In other words, if you mark the show box for the 1st place racer as “payback”, then the other two boxes in the show column must also be marked in the same way.

Exotic Bet Payouts

This second group of boxes hold the payout amount for Exacta, Trifecta, Daily Double, and Pick 3 through 6 payouts. Again, the payout amounts should be entered based on a bet of the amount shown at the top right of the window. Pressing “P” in a payout box will indicate that you wish every bettor to be paid back the amount of his or her bet of that type.

The “**Number Correct**” column allows you to specify how many correct picks one must have in order to receive the payout. For instance, since it is extremely difficult to get six correct picks on a Pick 6 bet, you may choose to payout to anyone that correctly picked something less than 6 correctly. The number that you enter here must be at least one, but no more than the maximum picks on a single bet of that type.

Fill with Calc'd Payouts

You can click this button at any time to fill in the internally calculated payout amount for any bet type where an amount is not already filled in with something other than \$0.00.

Clear Payouts

Click this button to remove all payouts from all bets.

OK

Clicking OK will save any changes that you made to the payout amounts and take you to the normal display Payouts Window. All affected bets will have their winning amounts recalculated based off of the data entered.

Cancel

Closes the window without saving any changes to the payout amounts. You will be returned to the Edit Results window.

Display Payouts

Use this tool to display the computed payouts based on the bets and the results for a particular race or contest.

The Payouts window is a free standing window and can be displayed on part of the screen while other activities are done within Backyard Bookie. Those interested can view the payouts while bets are being placed or tickets are being cashed.

Results box:

Within this box, you can see the race results of the 1st through the 5th place finishers, assuming all 5 have been entered.

Generally, for the bets handled by Backyard Bookie, all that is needed is the first three finishers. But if any two of the three finishers have the same bet number, the 4th place horse will be moved into the money. Likewise if out of four racers, there are only two unique bet numbers for the first four finishers, the 5th place horse will be moved into the money.

To change the results shown in this box, click on the **Record Results** button. This will display the "Record Results" window, described in the previous two sections.

Payouts for a \$X.XX Bet

The top table shows the payouts for the basic Win, Place, and Show bets. The bottom table shows the payouts for exactas, trifectas, daily doubles, and "pick 3" through "pick 6" bet types. The default is to show all payouts are based on a \$2.00 bet. You can change the base amount for payouts on the first tab of the Edit / Setup Race Card window.

The following rules are used in determining payouts:

- If no winner can be determined, "No Pay" will appear where the payout normally appears and all bets will get their money back
- If there are no bets on one of the place racers (racer A), but there are bets on the other (racer B), the total pot is allocated to the bets for racer B. Show bets are handled similarly.
- If there are no totally correct exacta, trifecta, daily double, or "pick #" bets, the pot is split between those bets who have the most correct.
- **Any** bet with a scratched racer is automatically repaid the amount of the bet, regardless of the fact that the bet may have been worth more if it remained considered for payouts. (Note that "boxed" and "across the board" bets are really multiple bets in one. Scratch paybacks are calculated as if the "boxed" and "across the board" bets were placed individually.
- Any bet where the bet type is no longer valid for the race will receive the amount of the bet back in return.
- All payouts are rounded **down** to the next lowest "round to" value, as set in the Race Card.

For Race

Choose the race for which you want to display the payouts. Click the "Set as Default" box if you wish this race to be the default race for the rest of the windows.

Display Size

Enter any number from 8 to 100 as the "font" size for displaying payouts. As you increase and decrease the display size, the payouts display adjusts. You may need to increase the size of the window, or even "maximize" the window to get the display to properly fit on the screen. Instead of typing in numbers, you can hit the "+" and "-" buttons to increase or decrease the font size by one.

Auto-Run Settings

Using the auto run feature, the results and payouts can be automatically paged through for all

completed races.

- **On, Off:** “On” initiates the auto-run, “Off” halt it.
- **Interval:** Allows you to control the speed at which the paging takes place. Specified in seconds.
- **Refresh File Automatically – after Every ___ Cycles:** This is available only if the tournament file has been opened in display-only mode. If the checkbox is clicked, then, after the system cycles through all of the odds selected for display the number of times indicated, the file will be refreshed, and, therefore, the most current odds would then be displayed. See the following section “Displaying Odds or Payouts on a Second Computer” for more information.

Show/Hide Auto-Run Settings

Click on this button to toggle between showing the Auto-Run Settings box on the window and not showing it.

Refresh

This button is available only if the file is opened in “display-only” mode. Click on the button to re-read the Backyard Bookie file that is open and get updated odds information. See the following section “Displaying Odds or Payouts on a Second Computer” for more information.

Edit Results

Click on this button to enter for the first time, or change, the results for a race. The “Record Results” window will appear. See the previous section on “Record Results” for more information.

Close

Close the Display Payouts window

House and Bettor Activity Summary

At any point during your event, you can review the status of each bettor and also the house by using this report. At the end of the event, you can use this window as a quick way to “settle up” with each of the bettors.

This report can be printed by choosing File / Print (or clicking the Printer icon in the toolbar) and selecting “House and Bettor Activity Summary”.

Sort By

Choose the column name from the drop-down box that you would like the report to be sorted by.

Bettor Activity Report

Within the report are the following columns:

- **Name:** The name of the bettor.
- **Amount Bet:** The total amount wagered on all races within this file by the bettor.
- **Amount Collected:** The total amount that has been received from the bettor to cover his or her bets.
- **Amount Won:** The total amount that the bettor has won from the bets that he or she has placed.
- **Amount Distributed:** The total amount paid back out to the bettor to cover his or her winnings.
- **Net Won (Lost):** This shows how the bettor has fared for the day. It is the amount won minus the amount bet. If the bettor is a winner on the day, the number will be positive. If he or she is a loser for the day, the number is negative.
- **Net Owed (Due In):** This shows the current standing of the bettor with the house. If it is positive, then the bank owes the bettor some money. If it is negative, then the bettor still owes the house some money.
- **Settle?:** A check-mark in this column indicates that you wish to “settle up” with the bettor – either collect or distribute the “Net Owed (Due In)” amount. Clicking on a row in the report toggles this check-mark from being on or off. If the background is a light blue, that indicates that the bettor is already settled up with the house (0.00 in the Net Owed (Due In) column). See below for more information.
- **Email:** Shows the bettors email address if it has been entered.
- **Phone:** Shows the bettors phone number if it has been entered.

House Totals:

This box shows grand totals for all of the bettors. Each figure is simply the total of the amounts from the column of the report with the same name. Use this to double-check the funds that you have on hand versus what Backyard Bookie says you should have. If you are doing a holdback for charitable purposes, the difference at the end of the day between the “Amount Bet” and “Amount Won” is the amount that was held back from winnings for your charity.

Settle Up with Selected Bettors

At the end of the day, you may want to display this report, see who owes money and who is due money, and make all of the appropriate transactions here, instead of using the Betting Window Cash/Collect option for each bettor. The buttons within this box help you record this action easily.

Mark All

Click on this button as a short-cut to put a check-mark in the Settle column for every bettor that has a Net Owed (Due In) amount other than 0.00.

Deselect All

Click on this button to remove the check-mark from every bettor.

Settle Up

Clicking on this button starts the process for recording the fact that you are settling up with the bettors that have a check-mark in the "Settle?" column.

To select with whom to settle, you may use either the "Mark All" button, or click on the report line of each bettor to put the check-mark in the "Settle?" column.

When you click on this, you will be shown a new window that summarized the amount owed or due in from each member selected and a total amount that is about to be "settled".

Click on **OK** to record the transaction and set all of the selected bettors tickets to being fully paid off. All of the tickets held by the bettor will be updated appropriately.

Click **Cancel** if you do not want to proceed with the transaction.

Additional Tools

Download Race Card from www.BackyardBookie.com

This function can be used to start a brand new Backyard Bookie file by downloading the basic race card information, including race names, racer names, betting numbers, program numbers, and handicapper's odds when available. MicroFest will make the files available soon after the event is set for certain national or regional tournaments.

Please note that when you download, a new file is created. **You cannot perform this function if a Backyard Bookie file is already open!** If you cannot get to this function, click on File / Close to close the current file.

File Type

Choose the type of event for which you would like to download. MicroFest supports several different national horse racing events, tournaments, and other sporting activities.

Time-out after ___ seconds

Indicate the amount of time to allow making a connection and processing the download from the Internet.

Download

Begin the download process.

Cancel

Close the window without processing the download.

If a download does not work correctly, there could be problems with making the connection over the Internet. Check your connection by opening up your web browser and going to www.BackyardBookie.com . If you can get here, then you have a good connection. If you cannot, either our web-hosting service is down or yours is – try again after 30 minutes or so.

Bring in Bettors from Another File

Use this function to bring in information about bettors from another file. This could save you a lot of time if you've already got the information in another Backyard Bookie file or a spreadsheet file. You will need to specify the type of file that you are importing.

Backyard Bookie file?

Select this "radio" button if you wish to import participant information from another Backyard Bookie file.

Note that if the file with participant information is from a Backyard Bookie version prior to version 2.0, you will want to open it up as the main file and then save it in order to translate it to one compatible with this version.

Comma-delimited file?

Select this if you wish to bring in participant information from a "comma-delimited" file, meaning a file that has the participant information separated by commas. Each line of the file must be in the following format:

"Bettor Name", "Email address", "Phone number", "Additional info"

Only the name is required. But if the other data items are not present, it is still necessary to have the commas in place to separate the data items. In other words, every line of the file must have three commas separating the different data items. Most spreadsheet software, such as Microsoft's Excel or Lotus' 1-2-3 have features to save a file in a comma-delimited format.

Locate File

Use this button to point to the file on your system that you wish to import.

Once the file is located, it is brought in, examined and within the window is displayed a summary table of the activity that will happen when the file is imported. You can manipulate, to some extent, what will happen by working with the displayed table, as explained below.

Bettor Name

The name of the bettor in the file being imported. You cannot edit this name.

Action

This shows the action that you wish the program to perform for this bettor. Click on an action to toggle through the available options.

- **Add as new:** Add the participant to the file as a new bettor, even if the name is the same as one already on file. In the case where the name is on file, this action will add an asterisk to the end of the name to keep it unique.
- **Keep current:** No action will be taken.
- **Overlay:** The data for the columns marked with a "Y" will be taken from the import file and changed on the current file.
- **New Data:** Indicates that while no data will be lost on the import, some empty data cells will be populated with data from the import file.

E-m, Ph, Info

Indicates, for each of the data items describing a participant, how it will be handled. A "Y" means that the data will be taken from import file and changed on the current file. An "N" indicates to keep the value of the current file. "ND" indicates that there will be "new data" brought in from the import file, replacing an empty cell in the current file. An asterisk indicates that either the data items are identical in each file or the data is missing from the import file. In either case, the data remains as it is in the current file. Click on these values to toggle through the available options.

Add to File

Click on this button to perform the actions as described in the table.

Cancel

Click on this button to leave this window without affecting your current file.

Restore from Recovery File

Because most of the work of Backyard Bookie happens within the memory of your computer, any sort of system failure could lead to a loss of data since the last time that the file was saved. Also, if you add transactions to the file and then answer “No” to the file save prompt when exiting the program, you would also lose transaction data.

The recovery file allows you to recover transactions that have been entered into Backyard Bookie but perhaps not properly saved.

The recovery file is not created for a particular Backyard Bookie file unless you specify to do so on the “Backup/Recov” tab of the “Setup Race Card” window. See the section “Setup Race Card” for more information.

When you first come to the Restore window, you will see a list of all of the bets that are in the transaction file, from the most recent to the oldest. Use the scroll bar to page up and down the list.

Note that bets are listed out singularly. If there are more than one bet on a ticket, then you will see one line per bet for that ticket, but each line would have the same ticket number.

A brief summary of the columns in the list:

- **Include?:** If “Yes”, this line will be included in the restore or clear action. If “No”, then the line will be ignored.
- **Date/Time:** The date and time that the transaction which recorded or modified the bet was made.
- **Ticket:** The number of the ticket that the bet was a part of.
- **Race:** The number of the race that the bet was made for.
- **Bettor:** The bettor who placed the bet.
- **Action:** The action taken on the bet at the time the transaction was added to the recovery file. “New” indicates that the bet was a brand new bet. “Edit” indicates that the bet was changed. “Cash” or “Coll” indicate that money traded hands, but the bet was not altered.
- **Coll’d:** Indicates the total amount recorded as collected for the ticket when the transaction was added to the recovery file. Note that this applies to the ticket in full, not a particular bet. It will be the same for all bets for the same ticket.
- **Distrib’d:** Indicates the total amount recorded as paid out to the bettor for the ticket when the transaction was added to the recovery file. Note that this applies to the ticket in full, not a particular bet. It will be the same for all bets for the same ticket.
- **Bet Amt:** The base amount wagered for the bet.
- **Won Amt:** The amount that has been won or should be paid back for a particular bet.
- **Bet Type:** The type of bet – win, place, show, exacta, etc.
- **Box:** An “X” indicates that the bet was “boxed”.
- **Bet Total:** The total amount of the bet after figuring for “boxed” and “across the board” bets.
- **Picks:** The betting number of the racers picked for the bet.

The buttons at the bottom of the screen can be used to control your recovery actions.

Include

Use this button to change the “Include?” flag for the selected rows in the recovery file listing to “Yes”. Only rows with a “Yes” will be included in the recovery or clear action.

Do Not Include

Use this button to change the “Include?” flag for the selected rows in the recovery file listing to “No”. Rows with a “No” will not be included in the recovery or clear action.

HINTS for setting the “Include?” flag:

- Although the recovery file lists one row for each individual bet, you can only recover using full “tickets”. Thus, if you select only one row from a ticket with multiple bets and push the Include or Do Not Include button, you will change the Include flag for all of the bets for that ticket.
- You can use the Include and Do Not Include button on more than one ticket by highlighting multiple rows at once. Do this by clicking on the first desired row, holding the mouse button down and dragging the mouse to the last desired row. Or, you can click on the first row desired, go to the last desired row, hold down the shift key, and click on the last row.
- You may also double-click on any row and its Include flag will toggle back and forth from “Yes” to “No”.

Restore

Click this button to apply the transactions marked with a “Yes” in the “Include?” column to your open Backyard Bookie file.

NOTE: The restore feature works only for betting window transactions. It will not restore race card information. If you have made changes to the race card, but were not able to save the file after those changes, you will need to re-enter these changes by hand.

Clear Recovery File

Click this button to remove records marked with a “Yes” in the “Include?” column from the recovery file. If you are not using the automatic delete feature (see “Backup and Recovery Tab” in the section “Setup Race Card”), use this button to remove some records from the Recovery file that are old and no longer needed.

Product Information

Technical Support

Technical support is offered through e-mail. If you have any problems or questions with the software, please send us an e-mail at webmaster@microfest.win.net . Please include your name, registration ID (if you are a registered customer), and a return e-mail address.

You may be able to find the answer to your question on our Frequently Asked Question or Tech Support pages at our web-site at www.backyardbookie.com .

If you do not wish to use e-mail, you may write us at:

MicroFest, Inc.
1512 S. Pope Lick Rd.
Louisville, Ky. 40299

We do not offer full-time tech support service, nor do we normally offer telephone support. You may call and leave a message at (502) 254-1201. You may give us a phone number to reach you, but it must be either a toll-free number, local to area code 502, or you must be willing to accept collect charges. We generally respond within 48 hours to any request.

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Ordering Information

This product can be downloaded from our web-site at www.backyardbookie.com . Without a registration ID, you will not be able to use the full functionality of the software. The cost of the registration ID is \$49.95. (Prices are subject to change without notice.)

Note: If you have already registered Backyard Bookie on your computer, choose Help / About Backyard Bookie to see the previously entered ID.

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If you would like to become a registered customer of Backyard Bookie, you may obtain a registration ID immediately with a credit card over the Internet at our web-site (www.backyardbookie.com) .

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You may order your registration ID through the mail by sending a check or money order for \$49.95 to:

MicroFest, Inc. – Backyard Bookie
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