

Standard Race Times (Pars)

What Are Par Times?

Par Times are average times of past races that have similar characteristics. Comparison of new race result times for each horse in the race are compared with par times with the same race characteristics to establish the speed rating for each horse. The race characteristics that I use are as follows.

- Race Course (Sha Tin or Happy Valley)
- Race Distance (Full race distance)
- Going (GD)

Note that times of all runners in all race classes are averaged for each unique combination of the above characteristics. The averages are calculated at the beginning of each season, and extract from results of the previous three seasons.

I actually record derived average race speeds in Meters Per Second, being the the race distance divided by the race time. I find race speed more useful especially when making going adjustments and comparing par speeds by various criteria.

Sample Par Speeds

The following table shows a sample of the par race time database extracted for use during the 2021/2022 season, these being averages of all races during the previous three season 2018/2019 , 2019/2020, 2020/2021

_Season	_Course	_Dist	_RaceSpeed
1922	HAPP	1000	17.337
1922	HAPP	1200	17.009
1922	HAPP	1650	16.356
1922	HAPP	1800	16.322
1922	SHA_	1000	17.463
1922	SHA_	1200	17.124
1922	SHA_	1400	16.910
1922	SHA_	1600	16.763
1922	SHA_	1800	16.587
1922	SHA_	2000	16.273

Associated Par Speeds

Also maintained are Pace Speeds, ie the average speed of all runners attained through the initial sections of the race, excluding the final section. This is used to derive the race pace being Slow, Good or Fast.

Also maintained are Final Speeds, ie the average speed of all runners attained through the final section.

Going Adjustments

The average race speeds attained on Good going have been compared with the average race speed on Good To Soft and Good to Firm goings to determine the following going adjustment figures that

can be applied to race speeds attained on such goings to derive an approximation on the speed that would have been attained on good going in order to derive an estimated good going speed figure.

- Happy Valley GF is on average run at 0.12 MPS faster, so subtract 0.12 from the race speed to normalise to a comparable speed on GD going
- Happy Valley GS is on average run at 0.21 MPS slower, so add 0.21 to the race speed to normalise to a comparable speed on GD going
- Sha Tin GF is on average run at 0.12 MPS faster, so subtract 0.12 from the race speed to normalise to a comparable speed on GD going
- Sha Tin GS is on average run at 0.24 MPS slower, so add 0.24 to the race speed to normalise to a comparable speed on GD going
- Races over the straight 1000meter course on Sha Tin GF are on average run at 0.22 MPS faster, so subtract 0.22 from the race speed to normalise to a comparable speed on GD going
- Races over the straight 1000meter course on Sha Tin GS is on average run at 0.15 MPS slower, so add 0.15 to the race speed to normalise to a comparable speed on GD going

Race Class Par Speeds

The following table shows average speeds by race class and race distance. (C1 includes Group race speeds). These figures are included for information only as I don't use class par speeds during speed figure calculation, I only use the average speed relating to all race classes.

Season	Course	Dist	Class	Race Speed	Season	Course	Dist	Class	Race Speed
1922	HAPP	1000	C1	0.000	1922	SHA_	1000	C1	17.767
1922	HAPP	1000	C2	17.515	1922	SHA_	1000	C2	17.656
1922	HAPP	1000	C3	17.392	1922	SHA_	1000	C3	17.515
1922	HAPP	1000	C4	17.311	1922	SHA_	1000	C4	17.403
1922	HAPP	1000	C5	17.222	1922	SHA_	1000	C5	17.104
1922	HAPP	1200	C1	17.260	1922	SHA_	1200	C1	17.398
1922	HAPP	1200	C2	17.173	1922	SHA_	1200	C2	17.289
1922	HAPP	1200	C3	17.078	1922	SHA_	1200	C3	17.172
1922	HAPP	1200	C4	16.967	1922	SHA_	1200	C4	17.037
1922	HAPP	1200	C5	16.937	1922	SHA_	1200	C5	16.986
1922	HAPP	1650	C1	16.582	1922	SHA_	1400	C1	17.083
1922	HAPP	1650	C2	16.562	1922	SHA_	1400	C2	17.089
1922	HAPP	1650	C3	16.405	1922	SHA_	1400	C3	16.968
1922	HAPP	1650	C4	16.333	1922	SHA_	1400	C4	16.856
1922	HAPP	1650	C5	16.261	1922	SHA_	1400	C5	16.789
1922	HAPP	1800	C1	16.507	1922	SHA_	1600	C1	16.953
1922	HAPP	1800	C2	16.442	1922	SHA_	1600	C2	16.843
1922	HAPP	1800	C3	16.366	1922	SHA_	1600	C3	16.781
1922	HAPP	1800	C4	16.271	1922	SHA_	1600	C4	16.703
1922	HAPP	1800	C5	16.232	1922	SHA_	1600	C5	16.592
					1922	SHA_	1800	C1	16.775
					1922	SHA_	1800	C2	16.645
					1922	SHA_	1800	C3	16.638
					1922	SHA_	1800	C4	16.515
					1922	SHA_	1800	C5	16.468
					1922	SHA_	2000	C1	16.407
					1922	SHA_	2000	C2	16.359
					1922	SHA_	2000	C3	16.285
					1922	SHA_	2000	C4	16.206
					1922	SHA_	2000	C5	16.112