

Sports Betting - Understanding The Basics

There are two interests which many men enjoy which when combined together result in "sports betting". Nearly every time a group of guys get together to watch a sports match they end up placing bets with each other as to who is going to win. Certainly it does not matter which sport it is they will always find something to talk about and which could even change the course of the game's history. To really get involved in the action some spectators do like to try and determine which team is going to win certain games. It is this which turns a friendly game into one that involves sports betting.

Although many say betting is addictive this form is very much just for fun and is often the ideal way to bond with your mates. You do not need to even lay down big bets just to have a good time. Sports betting can actually make the whole outcome of the game far more meaningful and exciting for those watching or listening to it. Below we offer a few basics with regard to sports betting to help you get started.

For a person in the USA to place bets they first need to be a member of a Sports Book which is a place where any bets you place will be accepted. At present you it is only legal to bet in 4 states in the USA and you can do it illegally in others but you need to find yourself a bookie and also you must be over the legal age for betting which is 21 years. Once you have become a member of Sports Book now you can start placing bets on any sports event you want. You can place bets on both professional and college football and basketball games, you could bet on professional baseball or hockey games. You could if you wanted even bet on the toss of a coin (whether it lands on its head or its tails) as well as horse racing and dog racing. Plus there are numerous different combinations of bets that you can place from ones where you bet what the combined score of the two teams in the game will be at the end to what round your teams opponents are going to be knocked out of the competition. So what you are doing is betting on the statistical odds relating to whether the team win or lose.

With sports betting the bookies rely on these statistics to help them determine which of the teams they think are going to win. There is also something they do called a "spread" which is a points advantage that is given to weaker teams who are expected to lose by a particular number of points. This is their way of making even bets possible for a Sports Book. So say a person bet on a team who is expected to lose, they will still win their bet as long as the team loses by the number of points stated.

Sometimes with these kinds of bets you may be asked to actually bet a few points higher than the money you would win. The only reason this is done is so that the bookie can make some money as well.

There are various different kinds of bets that one can place when it comes to sports betting. The kinds of bets you place are known as straights (the most common type placed), parlays, teasers and over/unders. A straight bet is where you put money on whether the team will win or lose the game. Whilst under/over bets combine the number of points that the teams score during a particular game. As for parlays and teasers these are bets that involve a spread and this is where you bet on several games at once. However teasers offer you the chance to subtract or add points to your spread and this in turn could make your bet much stronger. To really make sports betting more challenging and interesting then one needs to get involved in the more complex types of bets we have mentioned here.

Above we have shown you what the basics of sports betting are. So why not give it a try and have some fun as well. But remember to not get too carried away and go out and use your 401K plan, you may just end up regretting this for the rest of your life.

About the Author

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