

## New *BreezeFigs*<sup>™</sup> Data for 2-Year-Old Sales of 2006 *Stride Lengths and RNA Prices Added*

Beginning with 2-year-olds of 2006, the *BreezeFigs*<sup>™</sup> *Report* will carry two new features that will help handicappers focus more clearly on their selections—and help horsemen focus on horses that came out of this year's 2-year-old sales that they would like to claim, or buy privately.

The easiest one to explain is the additional data to the right hand column—we now include the last bid for horses that went through the ring at the 2-year-old sales but did not sell (*i.e.*, RNA, or “reserve not attained.”) Thus, if a horse went through the ring and the last bid was \$250,000, but he was not sold, the note in the STATUS column for that horse would be “**RNA 250k**”. This information will help you focus more clearly on how much the seller thought the horse was worth, and will lead to some very interesting insights. For example, if a horse is listed as **RNA 125k** and his first start is in a maiden 30k claimer, it may be that this horse had some complications during training. **Remember, these figures are not listed in the past performances anywhere—it's a *BreezeFigs* exclusive.**

**Now the big news.** Beginning with the new report format, you will receive the *actual stride length that was measured by our digital video system* for each *BreezeFig* horse during its best breeze at the 2-year-old shows this year. How important is stride length? Well, if two otherwise well matched horses of the same general size hit the quarter pole together and one has a stride length of 24 feet and the other has a stride length of 23.5 feet, who do you think will be on top at the end?

But we don't just give you the stride length—we *compare that data* to every other horse of that sex who breezed the same distance on the same day at that sale. For example, if a filly breezed an eighth of a mile at Barretts at the first breeze show, her stride length will be compared to the average stride length for all fillies who breezed at the same show at one furlong. If that filly came back a week later and breezed the same distance, but earned a lower *BreezeFig*, the first *BreezeFig* and stride length is what you get. However, if she came back and breezed a quarter of a mile, you get two *BreezeFigs* and two stride lengths—the second one will be compared with all fillies who breezed a quarter on the same day.

What good is stride length to handicapping? Well, it depends on a number of factors, but generally speaking, most horses are about the same size as most others of their age and sex. If one horse in a race earned a *BreezeFig* of 63 and had a stride length of 23.5 feet compared to an average of 23 feet for others who breezed that day, and another horse has a *BreezeFig* of 62 and a stride length of 22.9 feet compared to an average of 23 feet for others who breezed that day, there might be a good reason to play the first horse over the second.

Exceptions abound, of course, and the most important one is that if you are at the track take a look at the horses. If there's a horse with a well above average stride length and he's about the same size as an average horse, jump on him—or her. Examples of average-sized horses that were overlooked at first are Afleet Alex (24.25 feet), Lost in the Fog (24.20), Stevie Wonderboy (24.33), and Doctor Decherd (24.38), while slightly larger horses like Brother Derek (25.60) and Wild Fit (26.51) had stride lengths that were well above average for the sale. (Note: If the horse is a big horse, then a long stride length is expected—if it's at or below average and the horse is big, discount his chances).

There are situations where stride length may not be a factor to consider strongly—*e.g.*, some tracks with tight turns might be more advantageous to short-striding horses (they can balance themselves easier going into the turn). Also, races at five furlongs or shorter are often won by horses that are short-striding and unable to maintain their energy at longer distances. Also, as a rule, horses will have longer stride lengths for breezes of a quarter mile than an eighth of a mile—but if they are about the same and both are above average, consider them strongly.

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To give you some perspective, below is the record of *BreezeFigs* horses that came out of 2005 sales and broke their maidens as 2-year-olds, track-by-track. Note that **84% of all the winners** that came out of the five best sales (see heading) were “*BreezeFig Qualified*,” (Group 1, Group 2, or within three points of Par at High Level sales). Of those winners, **61% had stride lengths that were longer than average** for the sale in which they breezed. That’s a competitive edge for you to use. (Remember, if a horse has two *BreezeFigs*, we always choose the one that is closer to, or higher than, Par).

**Until June 30<sup>th</sup>, when you purchase *BreezeFigs*, you will get two reports—the one you are used to, which is for 3-year-olds, in the same format as it has been all year; and the new one, with the changes added, a sample of which is attached. Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, we will drop the 3-year-olds and give you 2-year-olds only.**

Good luck! (more questions, [click here](#)).

**(The statistics below are for OBSFEB, FTFEB, BARMAR, KEEAPR and OBSMAR only).**

Track	Number of 2yo sale Winners	BreezeFig Qualified* Winners	% BreezeFig Qualified Winners	BF Qual. Wnrs with Avg SL or Higher	% BF Qual Wnrs with Av SL or Higher
Arlington	8	6	75%	5	83%
Aqueduct	15	12	80%	11	92%
Arapahoe	1	1	100%	1	100%
Belmont	30	28	93%	17	61%
Churchill	18	17	94%	5	29%
Colonial	2	1	50%	1	100%
Calder	44	36	82%	16	44%
Charles Town	4	2	50%	1	50%
Delaware	18	13	72%	9	69%
Del Mar	12	9	75%	6	67%
Ellis	6	5	83%	1	20%
Fairplex	5	5	100%	4	80%
Golden Gate	3	3	100%	3	100%
Hawthorne	5	5	100%	3	60%
Hollywood	11	10	91%	6	60%
Kentucky Downs	1	1	100%	1	100%
Keeneland	10	8	80%	6	75%
Louisiana Downs	5	5	100%	3	60%
Laurel	3	2	67%	1	50%
Lone Star	1	1	100%	0	0%
Meadowlands	5	4	80%	2	50%
Mountaineer	2	2	100%	2	100%
Monmouth	12	11	92%	8	73%
Northlands	1	1	100%	0	0%
Philadelphia	5	4	80%	2	50%
Pimlico	3	2	67%	2	100%
Retama	1	0	0%	0	0%
Santa Anita	7	7	100%	5	71%
Saratoga	21	19	90%	11	58%
Suffolk	1	0	0%	0	0%
Turfway	6	5	83%	4	80%
Woodbine	10	8	80%	6	75%
Zia	1	1	100%	0	0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>61%</b>