

Aqueduct 2018 Track Trends

Monday, December 31

Good (Harrowed) 1-4 / Good (sealed) 5-8

Showers after the 3rd

45

Wind 9 to 7 MPH NW

The track played fairly throughout the day, whether harrowed or sealed.

Sunday, December 30

Good

Cloudy

40

Wind 2 to 4 MPH NW

The track played fairly.

Saturday, December 29

Muddy (harrowed)

Clear

47

Wind 13 MPH SE

The rail was good, not necessarily a big advantage, but clearly a good place to be. Speed was fine, but also not an advantage, and as the day played on, the track seemed very fair.

Friday, December 28

Sloppy (sealed)

Raining

52

Wind 10 to 6 MPH NE

The vast majority of the racing was done well out into the track. Whether or not the rail was bad is purely speculative, as few horses even raced inside.

Sunday, December 23

Fast

Clear

42

Wind 6 to 3 MPH SE/E

The rail seemed very much the place to be during the first four races, while the rest of the races played fairly, with most of the running being done a few paths off the rail. In all likelihood, it was just a fair track, as it's hard to say it changed during the day. It just may have been a bit situational early.

Saturday, December 22

Muddy (sealed)

Cloudy

44

Wind 15 to 12 MPH SE

The track appeared to play fairly. A lot of the running appeared to be done a bit off the inside but there was no evidence that the inside was bad. It may have even been good.

Friday, December 21

Sloppy (sealed)

Rain / Fog

56

Wind 5 to 8 MPH NW

It was difficult to see much of the races clearly, but it appears that speed did fine, though not necessarily a significant advantage, and most horses raced at least a bit off the rail. Whether this meant the inside was bad seemed very hard to tell.

Thursday, December 20

Fast

Cloudy

43

Wind 3 to 5 MPH SW

While the track appeared to play fairly throughout the day, it dramatically slowed down from the 4th to the 5th race. I don't know why this happened, but it is clear from the final times, though it didn't appear to change the way the races were run. As an example, there were three one mile races, one before the track changed and two after, yet all were run in very similar ways.

Sunday, December 16

Sloppy (sealed)

Raining

41

Wind 12 to 10 MPH SW

The vast majority of the running was done well out into the track, and it does seem like you did not want to be inside, but there is no proof of this. Given how few horses even ran on the inside, there is no conclusive way of knowing.

Saturday, December 15

Fast

Cloudy

49

Wind 6 to 9 MPH SW

The track played fairly. A couple of races horses made sustained inside runs, but much of the racing was done outside and off the rail.

Friday, December 14

Fast

Cloudy

48

Wind 5 MPH NW

The track continues to play fairly.

Thursday, December 13

Fast

Showers

37

Wind 6 MPH SW

The track played very fairly and seemed unaffected by the light showers.

Sunday, December 9

Fast

Cloudy

34

Wind 3 MPH NE

Much like the previous two days of racing, riders stayed a bit off the rail, but there still doesn't seem to be any real evidence the track was anything other than fair. Perhaps it's worth watching inside runners from 12/7-8-9 going forward to see if they were hampered by being inside, but as of now, it doesn't appear likely.

Saturday, December 8

Fast / Firm

Cloudy

33

Wind 10 MPH East

We ran our final turf race of the season, on the Outer, played fairly. Let's hope for better weather for grass racing in 2019. Similar to 12/7, riders frequently seemed to stay a little off the rail on the Main Track, but there was no evidence the rail was off, and enough runners did OK inside to say the track was likely fair.

Friday, December 7

Fast / Firm

Clear

36

Wind 13 to 11 MPH SE

The Main Track appeared to play fairly. Speed did well in a number of races, but it was likely situational, as closers did fine in other situations. Riders seemed to try to stay a little off the inside, but enough runners did fine inside to suggest the rail was not a problem. The one turf race (Outer Course) played fairly.

Saturday, December 1

Fast / Good

Cloudy

43

Wind 1 to 5 MPH W/NW

The Main Track needs to split into two parts, races 2-3-4 saw a dead rail where horses raced well out in the racetrack, and the times were slow. The other Main Track races were 6-8-9-10, and for those the track was fair, the rail was fine, and the times were considerably faster. There was one route race on the Inner Turf, and that played fairly, as did the two turf sprints, which were run on the Outer Turf course.

Friday, November 30

Fast / Good

Cloudy

41

Wind 2 MPH NE

The trend of riders staying clear of the rail continues. Like 11/29, there may not be any conclusive evidence the rail was particularly bad, but the majority of running on the Main Track was done wide. The turf courses played fairly, though with only one race on each course, it's nearly impossible to make any strong conclusions.

Thursday, November 29

Fast / Off

Clear

45

Wind 14 to 11 MPH SE

Riders once again stayed outside for the most part. Some runners ran well enough inside to question whether or not the rail was deeper, but it bears watching going forward.

Wednesday, November 28

Fast / Off

Cloudy

42

Wind 11 to 16 MPH SE

While in some races, riders stayed well off the inside, enough horses ran fine inside to suggest the track was fair.

Sunday, November 25

Muddy (Harrowed) 1-7 - Good 8 & 9 / Off

Cloudy

53

Wind 7 to 5 MPH SE

Overall the track seemed fair and any concerns about the inside dissipated as the day wore on. Off the turf after overnight rains.

Saturday, November 24

Fast / Firm

Cloudy

41

Wind 6 to 8 MPH SW

While speed did well in the seven dirt races, it was likely situational, and the Main Track was likely fair. There were two sprints on the Outer Turf, and they played fairly, as did the route on the Inner Turf course.

Friday, November 23

Fast / Off

Clear

30

Wind 3 to 5 MPH NW to NE

The track played fairly.

Thursday, November 22

Fast / OFF

Clear

24

Wind 12-15 MPH SE

We were off the turf with extreme cold moving in. The Main Track played fairly as the times remained slow.

Wednesday, November 21

Fast / Firm (6 & 8)

Cloudy

45

Wind 17 MPH E/NE

The Main Track played fairly, with slow times. The turf courses also played fairly. The inside paths were good, though not necessarily an advantage, on both turf courses.

Sunday, November 18

Fast / Good (6 & 8)

Cloudy

44

Wind 3 MPH NW

The Main Track played fairly. While the turf courses were labeled "good" it seems from the times that the Outer Course is firmer than the Inner, with the Inner possibly on the Yielding side of Good. The winner on the Inner came up the rail to win a photo over a horse that came off the inside to rally outside in the stretch. Overall, there is no evidence that either course was other than fair and in good shape given the difficult weather.

Saturday, November 17

Good (1-4) Fast (5-9) / OFF

Cloudy

49

Wind 10 MPH SE

After the inside being bad on 11/16, riders stayed away from the rail early in the card, but as the day wore on it appeared the rail was fine, and the track played fairly/evenly.

Friday, November 16

Sloppy (Sealed) / OFF

Cloudy

39

Wind 12 to 14 MPH SE to East

Horses stayed in the middle of the track with no good running done on the inside paths. The rail, and even a few paths off, was likely a bad place to be.

Thursday, November 15

Fast / OFF

Cloudy with snow beginning around the 3rd race.

33

Wind 11 to 14 MPH SW

The Main Track appeared to play fairly with conditions deteriorating as the day wore on and racing cancelled after the 6th race.

Wednesday, November 14

Fast / OFF

Cloudy

39

Wind 13 MPH SE

The Main Track played fairly throughout the day.

Sunday, November 11

Fast / Good

Clear

45

Wind 9 to 7 MPH SE

The Main Track appeared to play fairly. There was one race on each Turf course and each also appeared to play fairly.

Saturday, November 10

Good / OFF

Cloudy

46

Wind 16 to 14 MPH SE

The Main Track appeared to play fairly, but there were some longer prices that seemed to outperform their odds while racing on the rail, especially early in the day, which at least asks the question whether or not the inside was an advantage. It's ambiguous at best but worth at least considering.

Friday, November 9

Fast - Good (sealed) Race 9 / Good

Cloudy with Rain starting prior to the 8th race

51

Wind 10 MPH NW to SW

The Main Track played fairly prior to the rain. The 9th race, when the track had been sealed, appeared to play out fairly but with one race it's hard to be sure. There were two races on each Turf course and they seemed to play out fairly.

Thursday, November 8

Fast / Yielding

Cloudy

52

Wind 3 to 5 MPH SE

The Main track appeared to play fairly. There was one turf race on each turf course and both played out fairly.

Wednesday, November 7

Muddy (1) Good (2-9) / OFF

Clear

60

Wind 12 to 10 MPH NE

Speed did well, but it could have been situational, as likely the track played fairly.

Sunday, November 4

Fast / Firm

Clear

54

Wind 1 to 4 MPH NW

Off the Turf in races 1 and 9, while races 4 (Inner), 5 and 7 (Outer) remained on the grass. The Main Track seemed relatively fair, though forwardly placed horses dominated the races, with no runners making sustained runs from behind. This may have been situational but is worth monitoring going forward. Logical results, and fairly run races, in all three turf races.

Saturday, November 3

Muddy (Harrowed) 1-4 Good (5-7, 9) / Yielding 8 & 10

Clear

55

Wind 16 to 13 MPH East

We lost two of four scheduled turf races after overnight rains, that left the main track wet, but it dried quickly during a relatively windy, but sunny, afternoon. The Main Track, as well as the Turf Courses, played fairly.

Friday, November 2

Fast / Firm

Cloudy/Foggy

65

Wind 9 to 7 MPH NE

The Main Track appeared to play fairly with fairly slow final times. The turf courses also played fairly. Keep in mind, this was the debut of the "new" Aqueduct Inner Turf course, as the course was redone over the Summer.

Sunday, April 22

Fast / Firm

Clear

61

Wind 4 to 13 MPH North (winds increased sharply late in the day)

While there might be an argument that the main track was friendly to speed, there is not enough evidence to say it was anything other than fair. The turf courses (and it's worth noting not a single scheduled turf race was lost due to weather at Aqueduct this Spring) played fairly.

Saturday, April 21

Fast / Firm

Clear

58

Wind 10 to 6 MPH SE to East

The Main Track appeared to play fairly. While there may be an inclination to lean towards speed, overall, it played evenly. The turf courses both played fairly.

Friday, April 20

Fast / Firm

Clear

51

Wind 15 to 18 MPH SE

The Main Track played fairly though the rail was good, but not an overwhelming edge by any means. Both turf courses played fairly.

Thursday, April 19

Fast / Good (Outer Course Only)

Rainy for the first half of the card - Cloudy thereafter

46

Wind 7 to 10 MPH SE

The Main Track played fairly, and while many successful runners were outside, the 3rd winner came right up the rail, suggesting an even track. There were only two scheduled turf races, both on the Outer, and they were run fairly, and seemed unaffected by the rain. The Main Track was also unaffected by any rain.

Wednesday, April 18

Fast / Good

Clear

50

Wind 12 to 9 MPH East

All course, Main and both turf courses, played fairly. The Inner Turf course was possibly a little less firm (good) than the Outer after substantial rains on Monday. The courses, however, needed some rain.

Sunday, April 15

Fast / Firm

Cloudy

40

Wind 17 to 19 MPH W/SW

Four dirt races and five turf races. The Main Track appeared to play fairly as did the turf courses, which have gotten very firm (some heavy rains on Monday 4/16 should help with that for the upcoming final week at Aqueduct)

Saturday, April 14

Fast / Firm

Clear

70

Wind 6 to 12 MPH West (got windier as the day progressed)

There were only three Main track races, and while the track was likely fair, there isn't enough data to make any concrete conclusions. With three on each turf course, one Outer sprint, the courses continue to play fairly, though as the Outer got firmer, speed probably got a bit better.

Friday, April 13

Fast / Firm

Clear

70

Wind 7 MPH NE

There were four dirt races and the track appeared to play fairly. There were three routes on the Inner Turf and two Outer races (one sprint) and both courses appeared to play fairly. The Outer course has gotten very firm.

Thursday, April 12

Fast / Firm

Cloudy

58

Wind 9 to 12 MPH N/NW

It's arguable that speed was an advantage on the Main Track. The turf courses continue to play fairly, with one route on the Inner and two sprints on the Outer.

Wednesday, April 11

Fast / Firm

Clear

50

Wind 9 to 12 MPH NE

The Main track played fairly, though speed did well, but given the logical results it was probably just situational. Both turf courses appeared to play fairly, with one in the Inner and two on the Outer.

Sunday, April 8

Fast / Firm (Outer) – Good (Inner)

Clear

45

Wind 10 to 19 MPH SE (Wind picked up later in the day)

It is fair to say the Main Track was similar to both 4/6-7 in that outside runners dominated the six dirt races but there is no evidence of a bias. There were two races on the Outer Turf and one on the Inner and they appeared to play fairly.

Saturday, April 7

Fast / Firm (Outer) – Good (Inner)

Cloudy

45

Wind 10 to 3 MPH SE

The Main Track seemed to be similar to Friday. Outside runners dominated but there is no evidence you didn't want to be inside, and it may be more a function of who ran and race dynamics. We ran one race on each Turf course, and given that, no bias related conclusions about the courses could be made. The Inner was listed Good and the Outer as Firm, though both had give in the ground, though the Inner Turf race was "slower" for whatever that is worth.

Friday, April 6

Fast / Firm (Outer Turf Only)

Cloudy

41

Wind 14 to 17 MPH NE

The Main Track played fairly. You could make an argument you were better off at least a path off the rail, but there is no evidence the rail was bad. As for the turf, there were two 6F sprints on the Outer Course, which was labelled Firm, but given the weather, and showers in the morning, it was likely closer to Good. The times were relatively quick more because given it was the first day we raced on the course in four months, it was pristine, and even with a little give, the times will be OK. The course seemed fair, with a longshot speed horse winning one and a longshot closer winning the other.

Saturday, March 31

Fast

Clear

53

Wind 6 to 17 MPH NE/N (got windier as the day progressed)

The track appeared fair, though once again outside runners did well, and it seemed like riders stayed at least a little off the rail. However, there is no evidence the rail was bad.

Friday, March 30

Fast

Cloudy

56

Wind 10 to 12 MPH SE

While outside runners did well, there is no real evidence the track was anything other than fair.

Sunday, March 25

Fast

Cloudy

43

Wind 10 to 13 MPH SW

The track appeared to play fairly.

Saturday, March 24

Fast

Clear

47

Wind 8 MPH SE

The track may have changed during the day, possibly speeding up in the middle of the card, and there is an argument that what appeared to have been a fair track for the first half of the card became tilted towards speed in the second half of the day. I tend to question a track changing like that, and believe it is frequently situational, but could make the argument that the track may have changed during the day.

Friday, March 23

Fast

Cloudy

46

Wind 8 to 11 MPH SE

The track played fairly, though it's possible you were better off outside. Not clear, however, and worth watching going forward.

Sunday, March 18

Fast

Clear

37

Wind 14 to 16 MPH SE

While speed continued to be an advantage, it was not as pronounced as Saturday 3/17. It was still considerably better to be at least forwardly placed.

Saturday, March 17

Fast

Clear

43

Wind 15 to 19 MPH East

There appeared to be a distinct advantage to being forwardly placed, to the point that speed horses may have had their performances enhanced by the racetrack. This was not a path bias, but a position bias, and effective closing seemed particularly difficult.

Friday, March 16

Fast

Clear

38

Wind 18 to 23 MPH SE

The track appeared to play fairly. Perhaps there was an advantage to being forwardly placed but it's entirely possible this was pretty much situational.

Sunday, March 11

Fast

Clear

42

Wind 8 MPH SE

The track played fairly.

Saturday, March 10

Fast

Cloudy

43

Wind 14 to 16 MPH E/SE

While forwardly placed runners dominated the races, it seems situational, and the track overall played fairly.

Friday, March 9

Good (Races 1-2) / Fast (3-9)

Clear

40

Wind 16 to 20 MPH East

The track played fairly.

Sunday, March 4

Fast

Cloudy

45

Wind 17 to 21 MPH South

While the track seemed to play fairly, there may be an argument the rail wasn't the best place to be. Worth following.

Saturday, March 3

Good (1-2) / Fast (3-9)

Clear

45

Wind 17 to 19 MPH SE

The track appeared to play fairly and evenly.

Sunday, February 25

Sloppy (Sealed)

Rainy

45

Wind 8 to 10 MPH SW

The track played very fairly. A very different track than the prior two days.

Saturday, February 24

Good (Harrowed 1-5) / Good (Sealed 6-7) / Sloppy (Sealed 8-9)

Rainy

52

Wind 6 MPH S/SE

The rail was very strong all day, and arguably stronger after the track was sealed. Being on the rail for at least part of the way was an advantage.

Friday, February 23

Muddy (Harrowed)

Showery

39

Wind 6 to 9 MPH West

The rail was a distinct advantage, though not speed, as horses benefited from being on the rail for at least part of the race. Not an obvious bias situation.

Monday, February 19

Muddy (Harrowed)

Cloudy

48

Wind 7 to 10 MPH North

The track appeared to play fair.

Sunday, February 18

Sloppy (Sealed)

Clear

44

Wind 10 MPH SE

The track played fairly though the rail was probably off. The vast majority of the racing was done at least a couple of paths off the rail.

Saturday, February 17

Muddy (Harrowed)

Cloudy

35

Wind 8 to 10 MPH NW

The track played fairly, and while the riders frequently stayed a bit off the rail, and a couple of races made the rail appear questionable, enough runners ran well enough inside that it's hard to call the rail off. Might be worth monitoring a bit going forward.

Friday, February 16

Sloppy (Sealed)

Cloudy/Rainy

55

Wind 9 to 12 MPH E/SE

It's possible it was better to be forwardly placed, but still that could have been situational given the competitive nature of many of the races. However, the rail probably was deeper and the riders stayed pretty much well off the rail.

Thursday, February 15

Good

Cloudy

54

Wind 3 to 6 MPH NE

While the track may have seemed tilted towards speed, it was likely situational, and the track was probably fair. We saw much of the running being done off the rail, but inside runners did OK in a couple of spots suggesting the track was fair overall.

Saturday, February 11

Sloppy (Sealed)

Cloudy/Foggy

49

Wind 5 to 12 MPH West to North

Speed may have seemed good, but it was situational as closers did fine overall (some at prices), and while riders seemed to stay away from the rail early, as the day wore on, horses did fine moving towards the inside. Overall the track seemed very fair despite the conditions.

Friday, February 10

Good (Races 1-3) / Muddy (Sealed - Races 4-9)

Rainy

50

No Wind

Speed did well in some of the races but it appeared situational, and even as the track took in more moisture, it seemed to play fairly, and the rail was not a disadvantage.

Friday, February 9

Good

Cloudy

35

Wind 7 to 10 MPH NE/N

The track continues to play fairly. Once again, many horses/riders stayed off the inside but there is no indication that the rail was off.

Thursday, February 8

Good

Clear

32

Wind 7 to 10 MPH SE

The track appeared to play fairly, and while many horses stayed off the inside, there is no strong indication that the rail was off.

Sunday, February 4

Fast

Showery

43

Wind 4 MPH EAST to WEST

The track appeared to play fairly throughout the day.

Saturday, February 3

Good(1-2) / Fast(3-9)

Clear

29

Wind 10 MPH NE

While we saw logical results throughout the day, it seems like there was an advantage to spending time on the rail, as most successful horses spent the majority of the race on or near the inside.

Friday, February 2

Muddy(Harrowed)

Clear

27

Wind 14 to 15 MPH SE

The track once again appeared to play fairly.

Thursday, February 1

Good

Cloudy

43

Wind 6 MPH N/NE

The track played fairly in both running styles and as far as paths as well.

Sunday, January 28

Sloppy(sealed)

Showery

50

Wind 2 to 4 MPH SE

The track seemed to play very fairly, and while many runners ran well outside, enough did well on the inside to suggest the rail was just fine. Fair track.

Saturday, January 27

Fast

Cloudy

49

Wind 13 to 15 MPH NE

It was a very tricky track, as it seemed to play very fairly through the first four races, but the rail was very strong at least from races 5 through 7, if not that last five races. Looking at the final times for races 5-6-7, it seems very likely the track sped up from the first four races, and arguably it was slower for the last two races, which makes a bias change for races 5 through 7 seem explicable. As always, it may pay to monitor going forward.

Friday, January 26

Fast

Clear

35

Wind 4 to 8 MPH NE to North

It was a very strong rail, likely the strongest of the meet, and outside runners were dramatically compromised. The strong rail made speed good, but it was likely the rail and not a running style situation.

Thursday, January 25

Fast

Clear

33

Wind 13 to 15 MPH SE

There is reasonable argument that you didn't want to be right on the rail. The track itself fairly, and speed did just fine, but the best running seemed to be run at least a path or two off the rail. Worth monitoring going forward at the very least.

Sunday, January 21

Fast

Clear

48

Wind 2 to 5 MPH SE to NE

The track was completely different than on the prior racing day, with the times perhaps two or three seconds slower, and the rail not the place to be. There appeared to be an advantage to racing outside. though speed was fine if you were off the rail. Only the 9th winner raced successfully inside.

Saturday, January 20

Fast

Clear

49

Wind 12 MPH East

The final times were as quick as we have seen on the new winterized main track and the rail was a clear advantage, perhaps as strong as any day so far this meet.

Friday, January 19

Fast

Cloudy

36

Wind 10 MPH East

There were four one mile (one turn) races, all of them played like the rail was a distinct advantage. However, the 6F races, and one 7F race, played as though the track was very fair, thus much like 1/18, any bias is inconclusive, and results should be monitored going forward. Moving up wide runners in the one mile races might be reasonable going forward, but it's hard to be definitive at the time of this writing.

Thursday, January 18

Good

Clear

32

Wind 14 MPH SE

The rail was definitely good, but how much of an advantage is open to debate. Based on the three two turn races, particularly the 1st, having the inside was a distinct advantage. However, the one turn races played very fairly. Based on this, it's hard to say there was any bias, but you may want to monitor results going forward, particularly out of the two turn races.

Monday, January 15

Fast

Cloudy

28

Wind 9 MPH SW

The track played fairly with the rail, perhaps, a slight advantage.

Sunday, January 14

Fast

Clear

24

Wind 8 to 10 MPH South

The track played very fairly and the rail was good, not a significant advantage, but not off.

Saturday, January 13

Muddy (Sealed)

Clear

31

Wind 13 MPH SE

While speed may have seemed good, it was very possibly more situational, as we did see some closers do fine. Riders stayed outside in many races but horses did just fine inside, leading me to believe the track was at least relatively fair.

Friday, January 12

Muddy (Sealed)

Rain/Fog

60

Wind 11 MPH N/NE

We only ran two races due to extreme fog and results were inconclusive, though being inside was not a disadvantage.