

# **Betting on Horseracing in France**



The Symposium on Racing – Tucson, 12/06/2006







# History of Racing & Betting in France

- 1776 ★ First organized betting race
- 1836 ★ First trotting race in Cherbourg
- 1880 ★ Joseph Oller invents Pari Mutuel
- 1891 ★ Bookmaking ban
- 1934 ★ Authorization of off-track betting
- 1954 ★ Creation of the Tiercé bet
- 1989 ★ Launch of the Quinté+ bet











## Racing & betting in France - Quick overview

- ★ Casinos, National Lottery and pari mutuel on racing
- ★ 2005 total gambling French market is worth \$45 billion Horseracing betting share is 23%
- ★ 6,497 national races 745 meetings (Trotting, Flat, Jump)
- ★ 248 racetracks; 12 major metropolitan; 60 leading regional
- ★ 27,000 horses in training 12,200 breeders 7,400 owners
- ★ 6.5 million horseplayers out of a 61 million population







# Top Quality International Racing in France

#### Leading international races:

Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe (Turf) - Longchamp ★ Prix d'Amérique (Trotting) - Vincennes ★ Prix du Jockey-Club (Turf) - Chantilly ★ Grand Prix de France (Trotting) - Vincennes ★ Grand Steeple Chase de Paris (Jump) – Auteuil

#### French trained winners in North America:

Thoroughbred ★ SHIROCCO 2005 Breeders' Cup Turf ★ SIX PERFECTION 2003 Breeders' Cup Mile ★ BANKS HILL 2001 Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf

Trotting ★ FAN IDOLE – 2002 Le Trot Mondial, Montreal





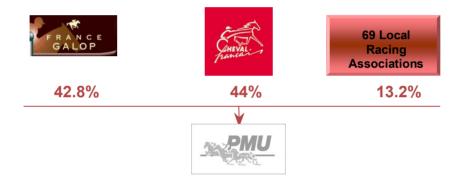






# PMU (Pari Mutuel Urbain)

- Turnover \$10.5 billion ★ Leading European operator on racing ★ 2nd worldwide
- Revenue of \$745 million returned entirely to Horseracing Associations



- PMU funds 80% of the French Equine industry:
  - **★ 61,000** direct jobs **★ 130,000** indirect jobs













#### PMU in France

- WPS average pool / meeting = \$2.6 million
- Daily Quinté+
  - 2006 record dividend for \$4 = \$6.7 million
  - 2005 average carryover for \$2 = \$1.7 million
  - intelligent quick pick
- Around 9,400 distribution points
  (150 per million people vs USA = 2)
- Remote Betting: idTV (2000) ★ Internet (2003)
  Mobile (2006)
- Media coverage: Equidia horse channel in 5.1 million households ★ Racing on 2 national networks



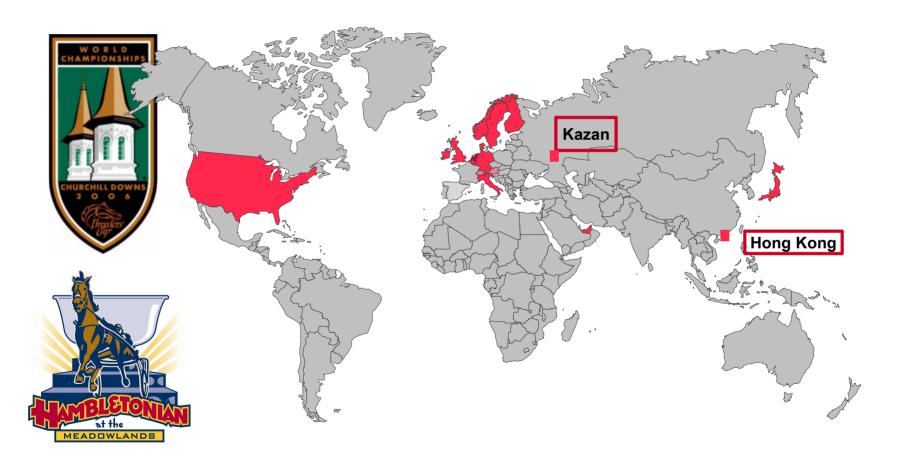








# France betting on overseas racing



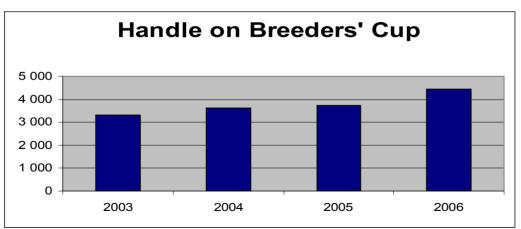






## France betting on overseas racing

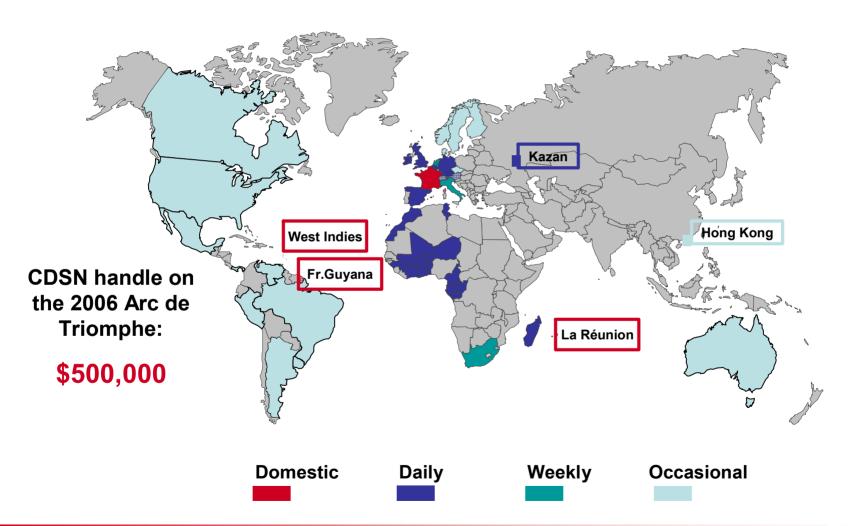
- In 2005, total of 95 races from 17 countries on 4 continents
- Common pool on Breeders' Cup since 1997
- Breeders' Cup 2006 French handle: \$4,428,469
- Hambletonian in 2001, 2003 and 2006
- Six simulcasts of Arlington Million since 2000
- Common pool on UK and Irish racing since Royal Ascot 2006







#### Overseas betting on French racing



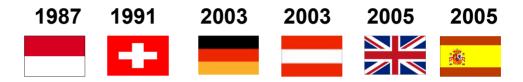






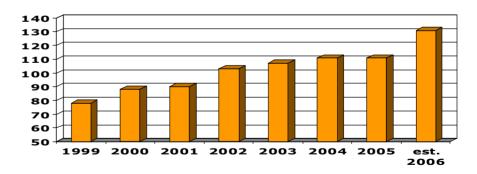
#### Overseas betting on French racing

Common pool partnerships



(PMU commingling on British races with UK Tote)

Growth in international handle on French racing (in \$ million)



ITSP 5.18 ★ proprietary exotic betting gateway ★ html racing data feed ★ quality Equidia signal ★ PMU participation on WTP committee.



# • Tote commingling issues (1/2):

#### **★** Marketing:

- Bet type rules differ from country to country, even when they appear very similar (exacta, trifecta...)
- International commingling also requires foreign partners to adapt to the 'host operator' betting standards and practices

#### ★ Legal and economic:

- Legal restrictions to the organization of international common pools remains in some countries
- Necessity of finding a take out distribution system satisfactory for all parties (net pool pricing)







## • Tote commingling Issues (2/2):

#### **★** Technical:

- The increase in the number of remote partners may adversely effect the performance of the host system, notably the bet collecting and processing times
- ITSP can't be used for all bet types: Specific protocols are required if exotic bets are included in the commingling agreement
- PMU supporting WTP process

#### **★** But International commingling of pools:

- As such, international commingling of pools represents a real asset for the pari-mutuel model which is the most profitable for the global horse racing industry
- May be a chance for racing to develop events with worldwide audiences and attractive betting products
- PMU is working closely with the IFHA and leading pari mutuel organizations on these global developments



