Sports Betting Glossary



Action

The word Action in sports betting means a wager on a game. If you have action on a game that means that you have a wager placed on that game.

Buy (Points)

A player pays an additional price (lays more money) to receive a half-point or more in his favor on a point spread game.

Chalk

The favorite.

Cover

This means to "Cover the spread". This means that the winning team covered the spread.

For example: If the Lions were a 7 point favorite over the Packers, (Lions -7, Packers +7) then the Lions would have to win by more than 7 points for them to cover the spread.

Dog

This is an abbreviation for underdog. This is the opposite of the favorite.

Even Money

A wager on which neither side lays any odds or vigorish.

Favorite

The team considered most likely to win an event.

First Half Bet

A bet placed only on the first half of the game.

Futures

Bets that either are determined by multiple events taking place OR events that are happening in the future. (I.e. more than two weeks out)

Grand Salami

The grand total of goals scored in all the hockey games of the day. It can be wagered to go Over/Under.

Halftime Bet

A bet placed on the score in the second half of the game, including any overtime periods.

Hook

A half-point.

Juice

The bookmaker's commission, most commonly the 11 to 10 bettors lay on straight point spread wagers; also known as "vigorish."

Laying the Points

Betting the favorite by giving up points.

Laying the Price

Betting the favorite by laying money odds

Limit

The maximum amount accepted by the house before the odds and/or point spread are changed.

Line

The line is the combination of the spread and the odds.

Listed Pitchers

A baseball bet placed only if both of the pitchers scheduled to start a game actually start. If they don't, the bet is deemed "No Action" and refunded.

Live In Game Betting

You may want to place a bet on a sporting event as it's happening. This is called In Game Betting, Live Betting or Live In Game Betting, and this allows you to bet in real time while the action is happening.

Just like pre-game betting you can place Live Bets on a variety of events that may happen.

When placing a live bet, you will see the odds changing dynamically based on events currently happening in the game. Due to these odds changes, you may notice a slight delay as your bet is processing. Once a live bet is placed, you will see it settle as soon as the outcome is known.

Moneyline

If you place a money line bet, it means that if your team wins you win the bet.

No Action

A wager in which no money is lost or won and the original bet amount is refunded.

Over/Under

When you are betting on the over/under you are betting on whether the final game will end over or under the total amount of points listed.

Parlay

A parlay is a single bet that links together multiple individual wagers and is dependent on all of those wagers winning together.

Pick or Pick 'em

A game in which neither team is favored.

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The odds or point spread.

Prop Bet

Prop bets, also known as exotic bets, are unique bets that are posted in addition to the typical bets available. (For example: bets on a players performance in the game "Who will have the most first downs within the second quarter")

Puck Line

In hockey, a spread used instead of the money line.

Push

In the event that a game falls on the spread line your bet will be returned this is called a push.

Round Robin

This is an easy way to combine multiple parlays.

Run Line

In baseball, a spread used instead of the money line.

Spread

This is the number of points that must be subtracted from the favorite or added to the dog to further even the playing field.

For example: If the Eagles were a 7-point favorite over the Browns, (Eagles -7, Browns +7) then the Eagles would have to win by more than 7 points for that bet to be a win. Conversely, if you bet on the Browns, they would have to win or lose by less than 7 points.

Straight-up

Winning the game without any regard to the point spread; a money line bet.

Taking the Points

Betting the underdog and its advantage in the point spread.

Teaser

A type of parlay in which the point spread or total of each individual play is adjusted. The price of moving the point spread (teasing) is lower payoff odds on winning wagers.

Total

This is the estimated total number of points that will be scored during the game.

Vigorish/Vig

The bookmaker's commission; also known as the "juice."

