

# Australian Punter Don Scott

By [K Cummings](#) | Submitted On January 11, 2011



Don Scott is the inspiration behind many punters today. A former student of Theology and Law at Sydney University, Scott decided to quit studying and become a professional punter at an early age. He obviously had a betting formula that worked since he won consistently for more than 20 years, with tax records to prove his winnings. Starting out with \$2,000 in the betting ring, Scott ended up with a fortune that many punters wouldn't even imagine winning without plenty of help from lady luck.

Born in 1932, he took an interest to racing in his early years. Don Scott formed the Legal Eagles, a syndicate of successful punters that used Scott's betting methods. The team included former chairman of the AJC, Bob Charley and the late Kerry Packer's brother, Clyde Packer. The syndicate made the most of Sydney's betting circle, giving bookmaker's a run for their money. Scott shared his secrets with Australian punters in four books. Some critics say he probably gave up too much of what he enjoyed with the bookmakers over the years. His first book, 'Winning' was published in 1978, 'The Winning Way To Successful Punting', in 1982, 'Winning More' in 1985, and Winning In The 90's in 1990. These books gave gamblers ideas to research the form of runners with a methodical approach. Don Scott was well known in high circles with dignitaries like Prime Minister Bob Hawkes attending the launch of his first book in Melbourne in 1978.

For the most part, Don Scott was a mathematical genius with combinations and permutations that are far beyond the reach of gamblers with average skills. Don Scott revealed one of the many secrets punters needs to know that of being consistent. Consistency was a major part of Scott's formula for

winning, which he mentions in his book. "Winners keep on winning, while losers keep on losing."

While Don Scott was well known as a punter, he wasn't short of being a gentleman either. Analysts who have studied his books say that Scott followed three basic systems. Punters need to consider race meetings in Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane on Saturdays and public holidays. To have a good chance it is prudent to wager only on horses with at least 20 starts, out of which those with a win percentage of 30 or more ought to be considered.

Don Scott did create a chapter for himself in racing history in addition to teaching a lot of people how to beat the bookmaker and make money out of racing. One of the people to work closely with Don Scott on the development of class and weight standards for Australian and New Zealand racing was form and ratings analyst Gary Crispe.

Don Scott's untimely and mysterious death gave rise to plenty of speculation. Don Scott was caught up in an Australian Jockey Club investigation into the application for the return of racing by Rob Waterhouse, against whom he gave submissions. Earlier, he had broken ties with Warren Block of EagleForm. One of his close partners, Greg Middleton, took his life due to domestic problems, which also left Scott deeply disturbed: a fact that many of his friends noticed during dinner at Rosehill Gardens, the night in which he ended his life in his Sydney apartment. During the dinner, Scott spoke about phone threats he had been receiving and a private investigator who was prying on his personal and business life in a bid to discredit him.

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