

If you are going to use a handicapping service or a program like Pro Predictor to make your bets, remember their winning percentages are based upon the entire season. You have to commit yourself to staying with the service or Pro Predictor for the season and you must decide on the amount to bet on each [game](#) and stick with that amount throughout the season. True, you might be able to increase your winnings if you lower the amount you bet when the service or Pro Predictor is on a losing streak and increase your bets when they are on winning streaks, but you are on your own. Streaks Happen! Whether you're using a service, Pro Predictor, or handicapping on your own, you can count on a losing streak. A common mistake by bettors is to abandon the service once it gets into a losing streak. But, losing streaks are a part of the game, as are winning streaks.

For those who do not have easy access to a [sports book](#), offshore betting and betting online offer another means of placing bets. And, of course, there are both advantages and disadvantages to both. With the rising increase in sports betting, especially football betting, offshore sports books have proliferated. You can see dozens of ads for them in any sports newspaper or magazine. All you have to do is call the 800 number, open an account, and then each week call in your bets. Those who use offshore sports books are very enthusiastic about them.

[Sportsbook Definitions](#) - Covering the Spread: If the favorite wins the game by more points than the point spread, it has covered the spread. If the underdog wins the game or loses by less than the point spread, it has covered the spread. For example: San Francisco is a 14 point favorite and the final score is San Francisco 30, St. Louis 17. The winning margin is 13, one point less than the spread. So, the 49ers failed to cover. But, even though the Rams lost the game, they lost by less than 14 and covered the spread.

