Welcome to Class 3 of our "Betting 101" Series, where today we will be focusing on what is called the **point spread**.

As we discussed in our last class, the **Moneyline (ML)** bet is associated with betting on a team to **WIN** the game, regardless of the margin of the victory (*with the exception of soccer*).

The point spread is all about betting on the __MARGIN__ of a victory or a loss, meaning betting on how many points a team will win or lose by.

The **"+"** and **"-"** signs mean the same as we discussed last time about the Moneyline (ML):

A team with a "+" sign next to their numbers are the **__UNDERDOGS__** and are expected to **__LOSE__** the game by a certain amount of points (*the point spread*). This is why you will win **__MORE__** when you bet on these teams to win, because it is a bigger gamble based on what is expected by the public.

*Think **"+"** will win you **__MORE__**

A team with a "-" sign next to their numbers are the **__FAVORITES__** and are expected to **__WIN__** the game by a certain amount of points (*the point spread*). This is why you will win **__LESS__** when you bet on these teams to win, because it is a smaller gamble based on what is expected by the public.

*Think **"-"** sign will win you **__LESS__**

EXAMPLE 1: LA Clippers @ Dallas Mavericks

The game below shows that the Dallas Mavericks are favored to win this game on the **Moneyline (ML) @ -125**.

As we discussed in last class, this means you would need to bet **$125** to win **$100** if you were to bet on the Dallas Mavericks to win this game.

If you were to bet on the Clippers on the **Moneyline (ML)** to win the game, betting **$100** on them would win you **$105**.

			Spread	Win
1/22/23 1:30 PM	L.A. Clippers	+ 240 Bets >	+1.5 (-110)	+105
	Dallas Mavericks		-1.5 (-110)	-125

NOW LET'S LOOK AT THE SPREAD...

L.A. Clippers + 1.5 (-110)

The Clippers are expected (by the public) to **lose this game by at least 1.5 points**. Or in other words, **2 points or more**.

Betting on the Clippers +1.5 means that the Clippers would have to **either lose by 1 point, or win the game for you to win your bet**.

The **(-110)** means that you would need to bet **$110** to win **$100** on the spread.

Dallas Mavericks - 1.5 (-110)

The Mavericks are expected (by the public) to **win this game by at least 1.5 points**. Or in other words, **2 points or more**.

Betting on the Mavericks -1.5 means that the Mavericks would have to **win the game by 2 points or more for you to win your bet**.

The **(-110)** means that you would need to bet **$110** to win **$100** on the spread.

EXAMPLE 2: Cincinnati Bengals @ Buffalo Bills

The game below shows that the Buffalo Bills are favored to win this game on the **Moneyline (ML) @ -240**.

As we discussed in last class, this means you would need to bet **$240** to win **$100** if you were to bet on the Buffalo Bills to win this game. Arguably not a tremendous payout because the Bills are heavily favored to win this game.

If you were to bet on the Cincinnati Bengals on the **Moneyline (ML)** to win the game, betting **$100** on them would win you **$200**.

			Spread	Win
1/22/23 2:00 PM	Cincinnati Bengals	+ 364 Bets >	+5.5 (-110)	+200
	Buffalo Bills		-5.5 (-110)	-240

NOW LET'S LOOK AT THE SPREAD...

Cincinnati Bengals +5.5 (-110)

The Bengals are expected (by the public) to **lose this game by at least 5.5 points**. Or in other words, **6 points or more**.

Betting on the Bengals +5.5 means that the Bengals would have to **either lose by 5 points or less, or win the game for you to win your bet**.

The **(-110)** means that you would need to bet **$110** to win **$100** on the spread.

Buffalo Bills - 5.5 (-110)

The Bills are expected (by the public) to **win this game by at least 5.5 points**. Or in other words, **6 points or more**.

Betting on the Bills -5.5 means that the Bills would have to **win the game by 6 points or more for you to win your bet**.

The **(-110)** means that you would need to bet **$110** to win **$100** on the spread.

We hope that these 2 examples helped walk you through how the point spread works for both favorites and underdogs of these games, and makes you more comfortable to make a bet on the point spread!

Now we challenge you as a "pop quiz"... Share in the comments below! We know there are plenty of you who already understand the spread, but any who are still learning, we challenge you to leave your honest answer in the comments so that we can grade your answer and help you learn!

Of the Pittsburgh Penguins @ New Jersey Devils game (screen shot below)...

(1) Who is the favorited team in this game?

(2) If you bet on the favorite on the Moneyline (ML), how much $ do you need to bet to win $100?

(3) How many goals is the favorited team expected to win by?

(4) If you were to bet on the favorited team to cover the spread, how much would $100 bet win you back?

(5) Who is the underdog in this game?

(6) If you bet on the underdog to win the game on the Moneyline (ML), how much would a $100 bet win you back?

(7) How many goals is the underdog expected to lose by?

(8) If you were to bet on the underdog to cover the spread, how much would $100 bet win you back?

1/22/23 1:07 PM			Spread	Win
	Pittsburgh Penguins		+1.5 (-200)	+125
		+ 75 Bets >		
	New Jersey Devils		-1.5 (+170)	-145

As always, **be** and **bet** smart! Keep yourself in the game!