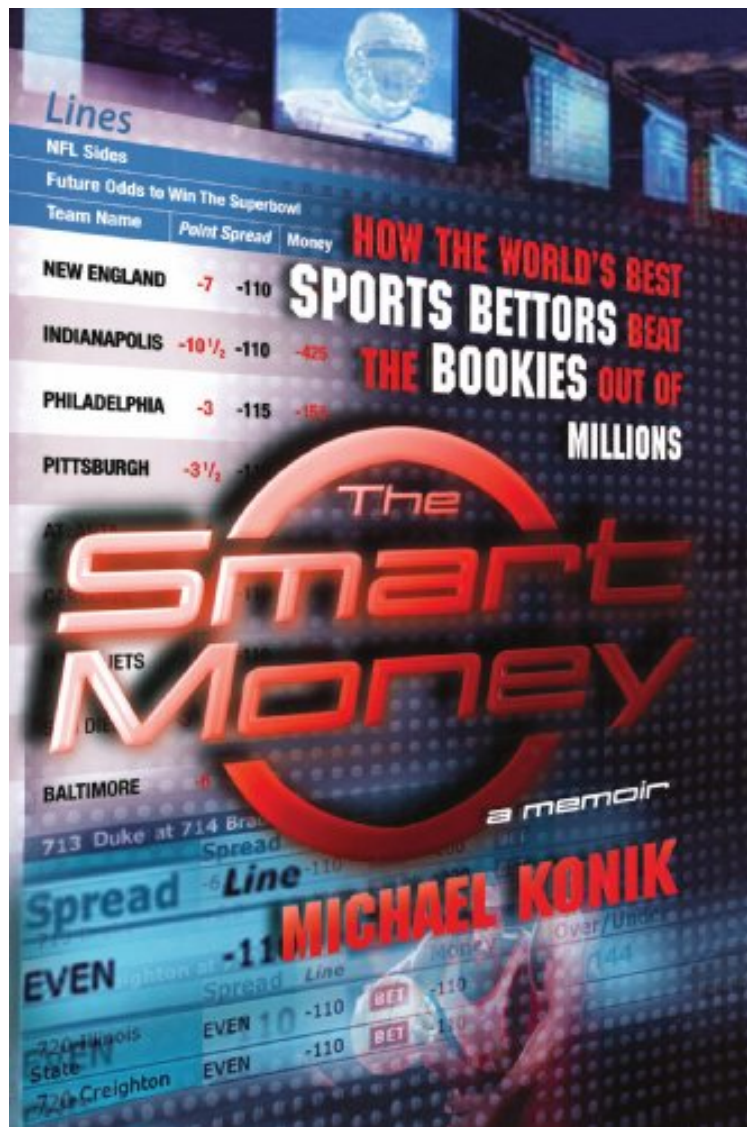


[Ebook free] The Smart Money: How the World's Best Sports Bettors Beat the Bookies Out of Millions

# The Smart Money: How the World's Best Sports Bettors Beat the Bookies Out of Millions

Michael Konik

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**Michael Konik : The Smart Money: How the World's Best Sports Bettors Beat the Bookies Out of Millions** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Smart Money: How the World's Best Sports Bettors Beat the Bookies Out of Millions:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. You'll see how the true smart guys will be able to outwit you every time. By David V. Farrell Interesting book. There's a sucker born every minute. If you are gambling and you don't know who the sucker is, it's you. I love books like this and was very impressed. I love reading about how guys with off-the-chart IQs figure out how to beat the market in various different sports betting markets. This one didn't fall short. It's like the book / story "Bringing Down the House" but for various types of sports betting, rather than black jack. Enjoy. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An easy read that's great entertainment. By Jay G. I have always enjoyed reading books written by people who tell a story about what it was like for them to do something that most people might never experience in their lifetime. Michael Konik tells his story about his life as a big time sports gambler. Konik begins telling you about his start in the world of professional sports gambling. He began making huge bets for some talented gamblers who were so successful they had to conceal their identities from the sports books. He writes about the highs and lows he experienced as he became more and more involved in the sports betting world. He ends at the point where he became disillusioned with his life as he evolved into one of the big, smart money bettors himself. This book is a first person account of a man's experiences in extraordinary circumstances. It's not just about gambling. It's also about the impact big money sports betting had on one man's life. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Questionable accuracy, but wildly entertaining. By ryesteve Seems like most of the people who criticized this book are doing so because they question the truthfulness of it, and/or it didn't deliver what they were looking for (ie the key to sports gambling riches). First off, in a way it DID deliver on the 2nd point. The secret is to build a computer model more accurate than the competition (the linemakers and the other high-rollers). What else do you expect the book to deliver? A CD with the coded algorithm on it? As for the veracity of the tale, honestly, I don't care. Regardless of the level of truthfulness, it's a wildly entertaining story, and I couldn't put the book down until I was finished. It provides a glimpse into a world few of us will ever have access to, and it's a fascinating chronicle of Konik's descent from a guy who got physically sick sweating out a \$4k "get-even" bet on a football game, to a guy who was churning \$30k and upwards per game, and having 6 figure bankroll swings on a given day. If I have a complaint, it's that I want to hear the stories from the perspective of the characters who actually did all the work. The only thing Konik brought to the table was hustle. His ability to find and cultivate relationships with the sports books was what made him valuable. Now I'd like to hear the stories of the guys who actually did the REAL work of devising the models.

A riveting inside look at the lucrative world of professional high-stakes sports betting by a journalist who lived a secret life as a key operative in the world's most successful sports gambling ring. When journalist Michael Konik landed an interview with Rick "Big Daddy" Matthews, the largest bet he'd placed on a sporting event was \$200. Konik, an expert blackjack and poker player, was no stranger to Vegas. But Matthews was in a different league: the man was rumored to be the world's smartest sports bettor, the mastermind behind "the Brain Trust," a shadowy group of gamblers known for their expertise in beating the Vegas line. Konik had heard the word on the street -- that Matthews was a snake, a conniver who would do anything to gain an edge. But he was also brilliant, cunning, and charming. And when he asked Konik if he'd like to "make a little money" during the football season, the writer found himself seduced . . . So began Michael Konik's wild ride as an operative of the elite Brain Trust. In *The Smart Money*, Konik takes readers behind the veil of secrecy shrouding the most successful sports betting operation in America, bypassing the myths and the rumors, going all the way to its innermost sanctum. He reveals how they -- and he -- got rich by beating the Vegas lines and, ultimately, the multimillion-dollar offshore betting circuit. He details the excesses and the betrayals, the horse-trading and the paranoia, that are the perks and perils of a lifestyle in which staking inordinate sums of money on the outcome of a single event -- sometimes as much as \$1 million on a football game -- is a normal part of doing business.

From Booklist In 1997, gaming journalist Konik joined the Brain Trust, a sports-gambling operation that took in millions by beating the Vegas bookies at their own game. This fascinating inside look at the gambling biz (perfectly suited, incidentally, to fans of the recent movie *Two for the Money*) reveals so much information that you would swear the author was breaking some sort of Omerta-like code of silence; in fact, the parallels between organized gambling and organized crime are numerous. The book created plenty of buzz in the publishing community well before its release, so expect a great deal of publicity and high reader interest. The author conceals the identities of the principal players behind fake names, but his fictionalized stand-ins are so compelling (especially the Brain Trust chieftain, Rick "Big Daddy" Matthews) that the book feels like a mixture of true-life expose and high-stakes fiction (fans of Puzo's *Fools Die* may see some similarities but only in a good way). A definite must-read for the gambling crowd. David Pitt Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved "Michael Konik knows the world of high-rollers, big losers, hustlers and handicappers as well as anyone anywhere, and the . . . tales of risk and reward he recounts might read like fiction, but they're not." -- "The Dallas Morning News" "Dean of the world's gambling writers." -- "Detroit Free Press" "Michael Konik knows the gambling milieu from the inside. His collection of far-out gambling stories is both amazing and authentic." -- "The Independent" (London) "You'll search the whole bookstore

and never top Konik's gambling writing." -- "Las Vegas -Journal" About the Author "The dean of the world's gambling writers," Michael Konik is the author of six books, including the gaming classic *The Man with the \$100,000 Breasts*. He's written for numerous publications, including *The New York Times*, *Travel + Leisure*, and *Sports Illustrated*. On television, Konik has competed in the World Series of Poker and the World Series of Blackjack, and he appears regularly as an expert commentator on FoxSports poker broadcasts. Visit the author at [www.michaelkonik.com](http://www.michaelkonik.com).