41ST ASIAN RACING CONFERENCE
RIYADH 2026

Kitman Labs

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Kitman Labs

11 February 2026

ASIAN RACING FEDERATION

نادي سباقات الخيل
JOCKEY CLUB OF SAUDI ARABIA

A Tale of Two Cities

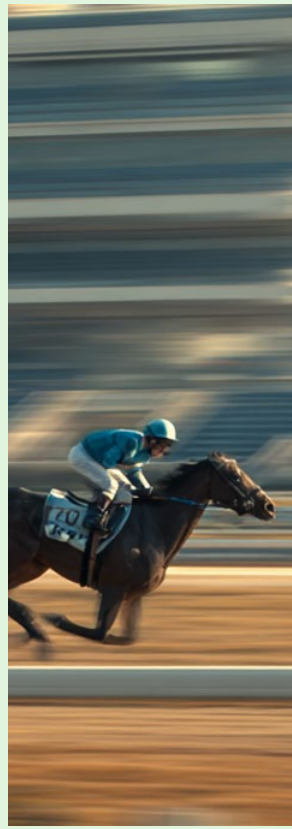
Professional Soccer

Metric	~2006–08	~2020–23	Change
High-intensity running distance	~1.8–2.0 km per match	~2.6–3.0 km	+30–50%
Total sprints per match	~30–40	~55–70	+60–80%
Peak sprint speeds	~31–32 km/h	34–36+ km/h	+10–15%

Kentucky Derby

- Secretariat (1973) **1:59.40** (still the record)
- Winning times in 2010s– 2020s: typically **2:01 – 2:03**
- **Fastest time in the last 5 years, Mage (2023) 2:01.57**

Top thoroughbred sprint speeds have stayed the same for decades



"Over the last decade, human field-sport athletes have become dramatically more explosive—running faster, performing more high-intensity efforts, and in many cases doing so at larger body sizes.

In contrast, elite racehorse speeds have changed very little, with research suggesting only marginal improvements despite generations of selective breeding."

We started Kitman Labs to solve a problem:

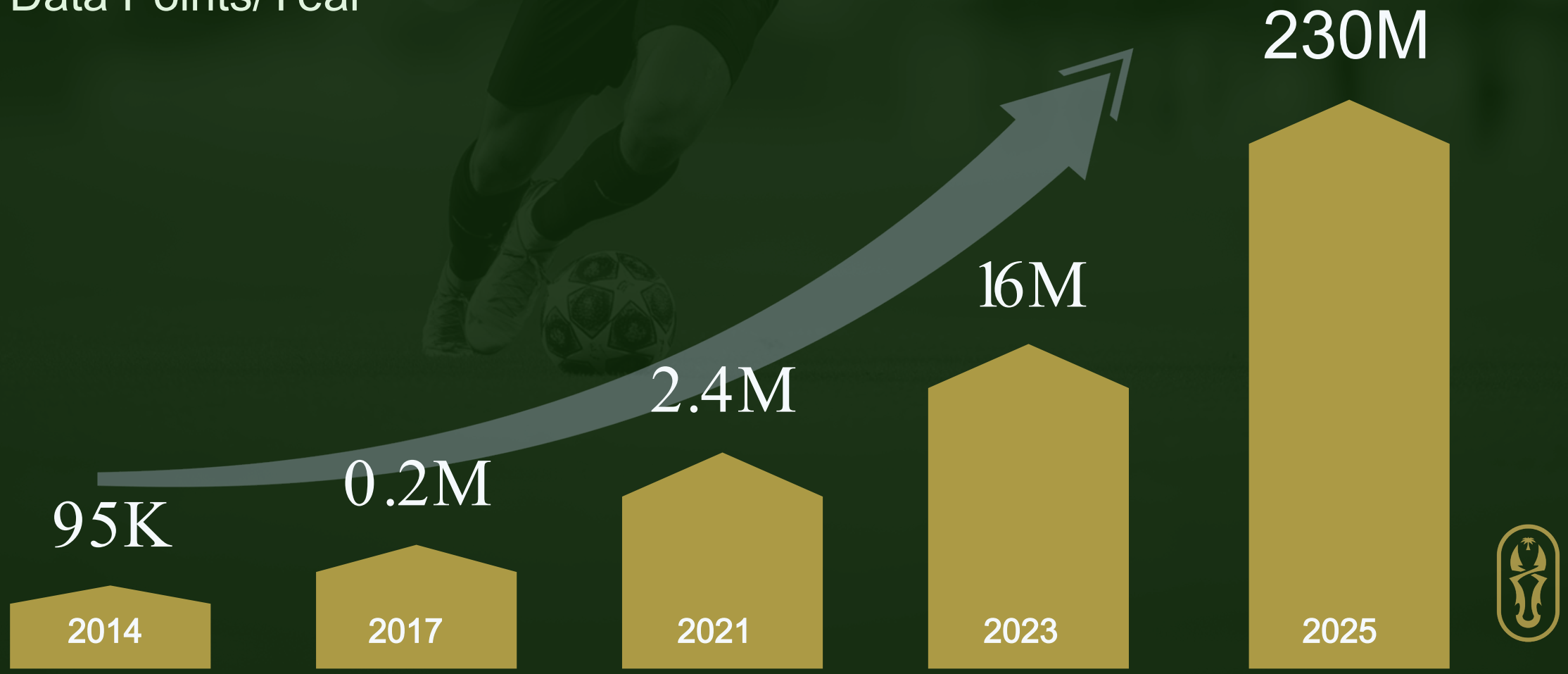
The industry's inability to effectively share, mobilize and activate data is prohibiting athletes, Teams and Leagues from realizing their potential.

The inherent intelligence within data was untapped.

Data was: *Siloed– Unstructured – Fixed– Incomplete– Inaccurate – Misunderstood– Unsecure– Under-leveraged– Diminished*

The Data Boom

Data Points/Year



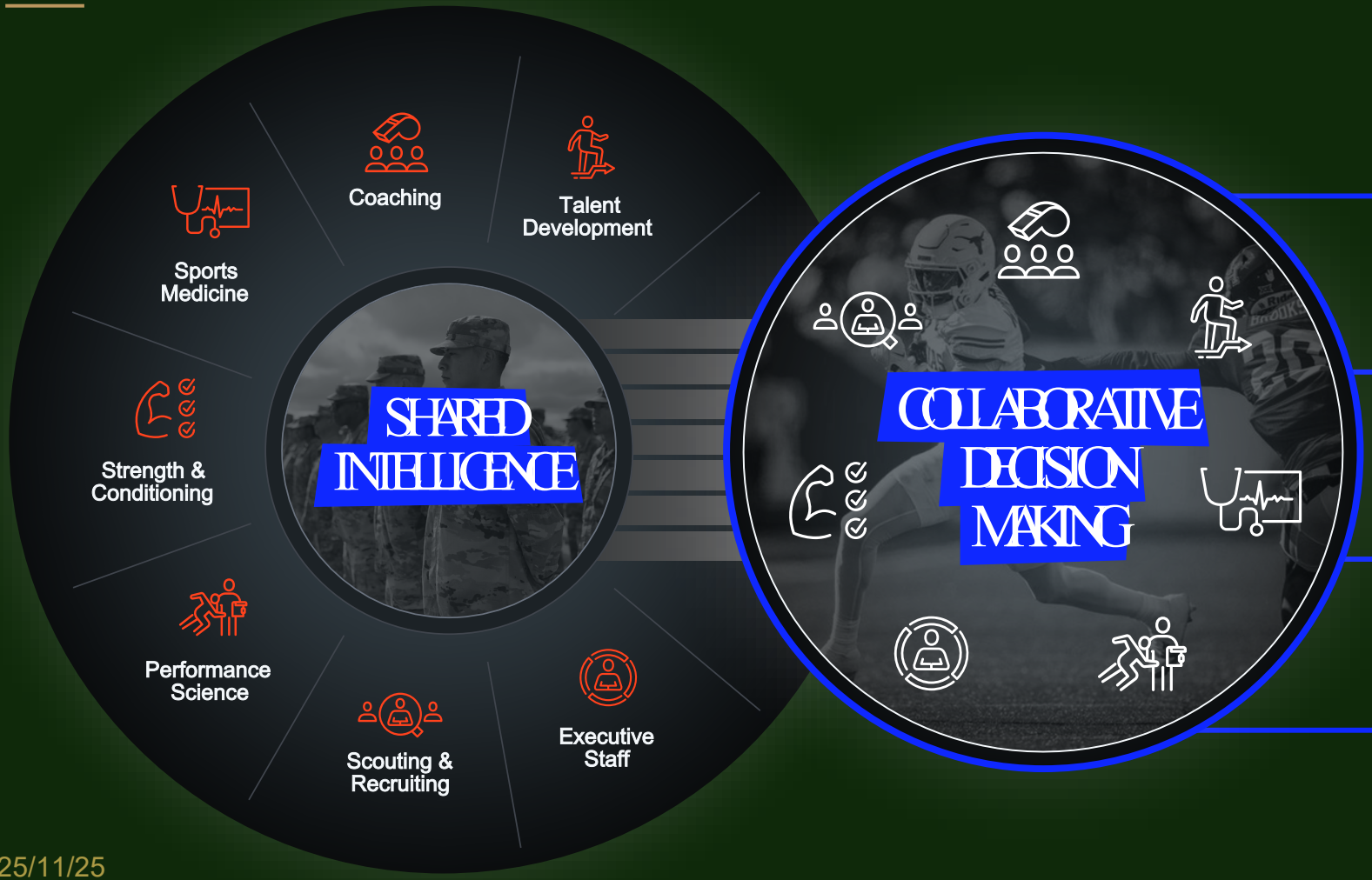
Data Fragmentation Slowing Innovation

- First generation point solutions offer narrow capabilities to single stakeholders or a limited segment of the organization.
- Isolated data sets create internal division; incomplete and ineffectual view of the player, team or league.
- Value of data cannot be exploited or maximized – no opportunity for actionable intelligence, downstream value creation; no measurable ROI.

Industry Demanding Integrated System To Address Critical Operating Areas

1. Industry move from data collection to intelligence creation; power evidence-based decision-making across all stakeholders.
2. Access real-time, 360 degree view of athletes to support player welfare, training/performance optimization and development.
3. Rising cost of talent acquisition is driving focus on internal capabilities to develop homegrown talent to succeed
4. Address all aspects of League and team operations, high performance development, player care and athlete management in singular advanced operating system vs. disparate, disconnected data sources.

Unifying The Market: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach



- Better, more consistent performance
- Improved health, well-being and career longevity
- Improved talent pipelines and pathways
- Streamlined Repeatable processes with aligned and collaborative staff

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Powering The World's Most Successful High Performers

+2000 teams, leagues & regulatory bodies + 250,000 athletes 28 countries

TALENT DEVELOPMENT ANALYTICS

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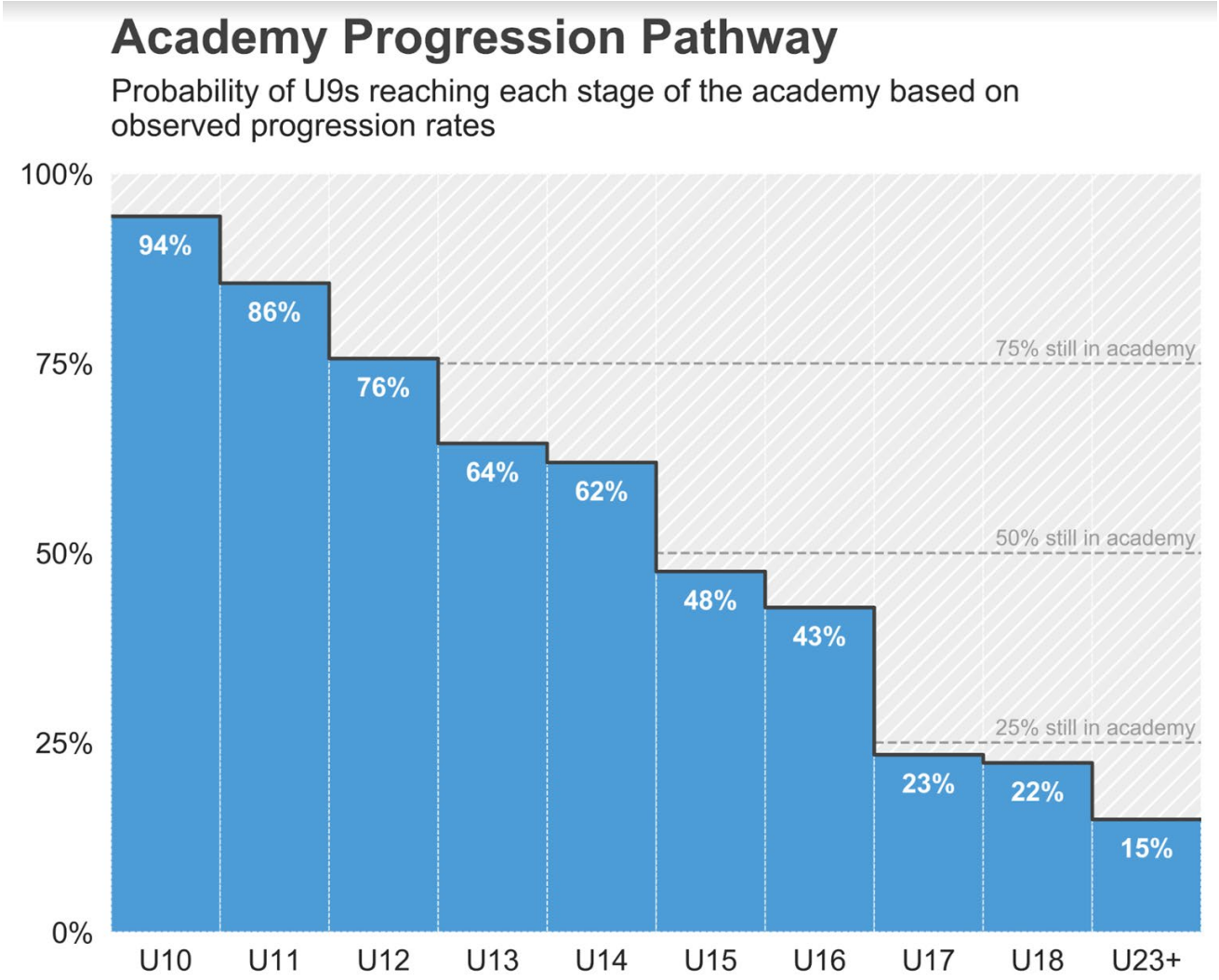
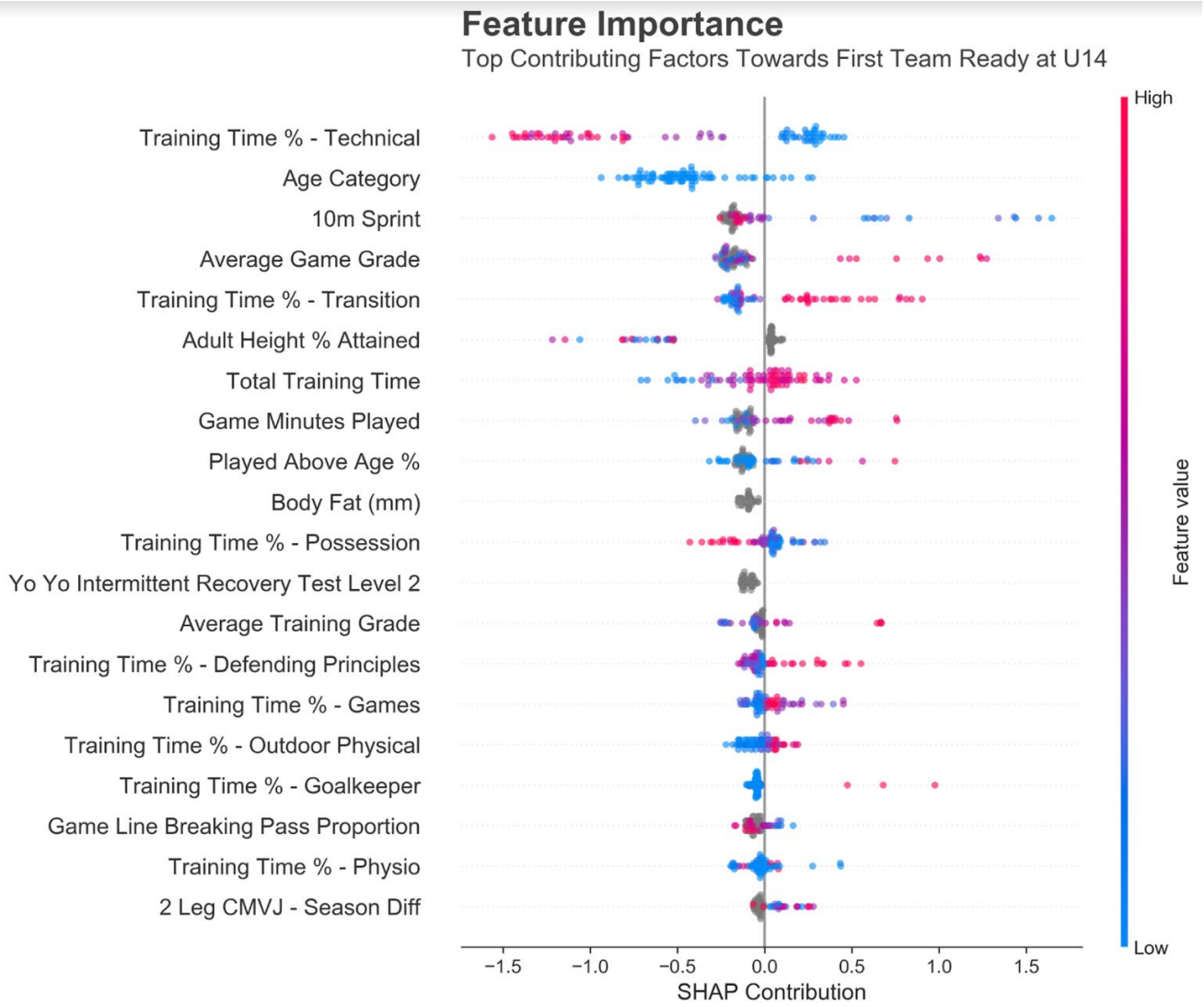
How Many Players Progress To Professionalism



What Influences Progression And Potential

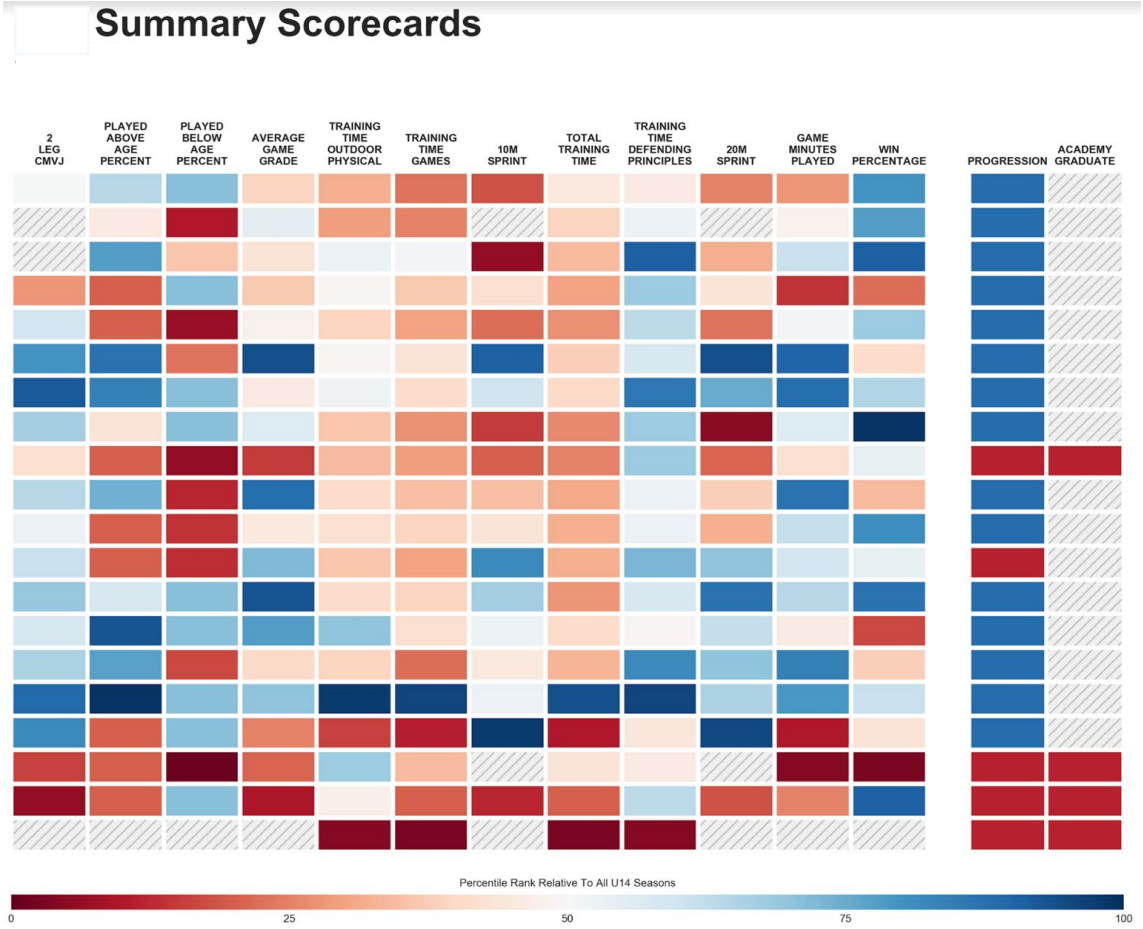


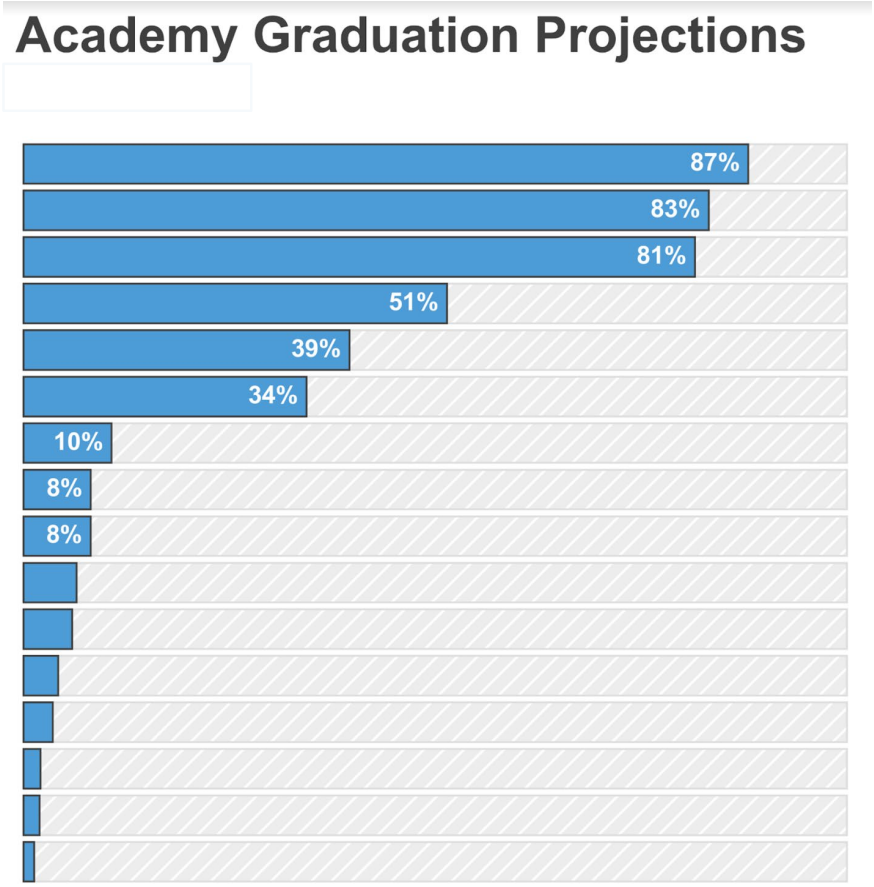
What Matters At Every Level

	Lower bound	Ideal Target			Importance Rank									
	All	U14	U16	U18	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18
Technical Metrics														
Headed duel win percentage (%)		>55%							2	1	1	1	1	2
Attacking duel win percentage (%)		>50%						3	3	3	2	2	3	3
Defensive duel win percentage (%)	>30%	>50%							13	8	11	5	10	9
Pass completion percentage (%)		>80%						8	4	10	5	7	9	11
Chances created per 90 mins	0.6	1.2						1	1	2	4	3	6	8
Goals and assists per 90 mins	>0.1	>0.4							12	12	9	11	16	18
Line breaking pass completion (%)		<40%						2	4	4	3	6	2	1
Coach Ratings														
Average game grade (/10)	>6	>6.75				6	6	3	3	3	5	7	11	12
Average training grade (/10)	>6.25	> 6.75						15	16	11	10	11	12	10
Training consistency	>0.925	>0.95					14	13	15	4	16	16	17	17
Games Program Metrics														
Percentage of time playing above age group (%)	>5	>20			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	2
Percentage of time playing below age group (%)	<5	<10				5	5	4	2	2	2	3	1	1
Training time (mins)		>15,000			4	2	3	2	7	6	6	2	3	3
Game time (mins)		>1,600			10	8	8	5	8	8	9	4	2	4
Win pct		<60%			8			9	9	9	11	10	5	5
Training														
Higher training time - outdoor physical					2	3	7	6	6	4	8	5	8	9
Higher training time - games					3	4	2	5	5	5	4	8	13	13
Higher training time - defending principles					5	7	4	7	4	7	7	6	10	14
Lower training time - tecchnical					6	10	9	11	10	10	3	13	14	15
Lower training time - attacking principles					9	14	13	12	12	16	13	14	7	7
Lower training time - gym					11	12	12	10	11	12	12	12	6	6
Higher training time - possession					12	13	16	14	13	15	14	15	15	8
Injuries and Response														
Injuries per 1000 training hours	<0.4	<0.15			1	1	1	3	1	2	3	3	3	2
Lower Sleep		<2			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Physical														
2 Leg CMVJ (cm)			>30	>32	>38				1	1	1	1	1	1
20m sprint time (s)			<3.2	<3.0	<3.0				2	3	4	4	4	4
10m sprint time (s)			<1.85	<1.80	<1.75				3	2	2	2	3	3

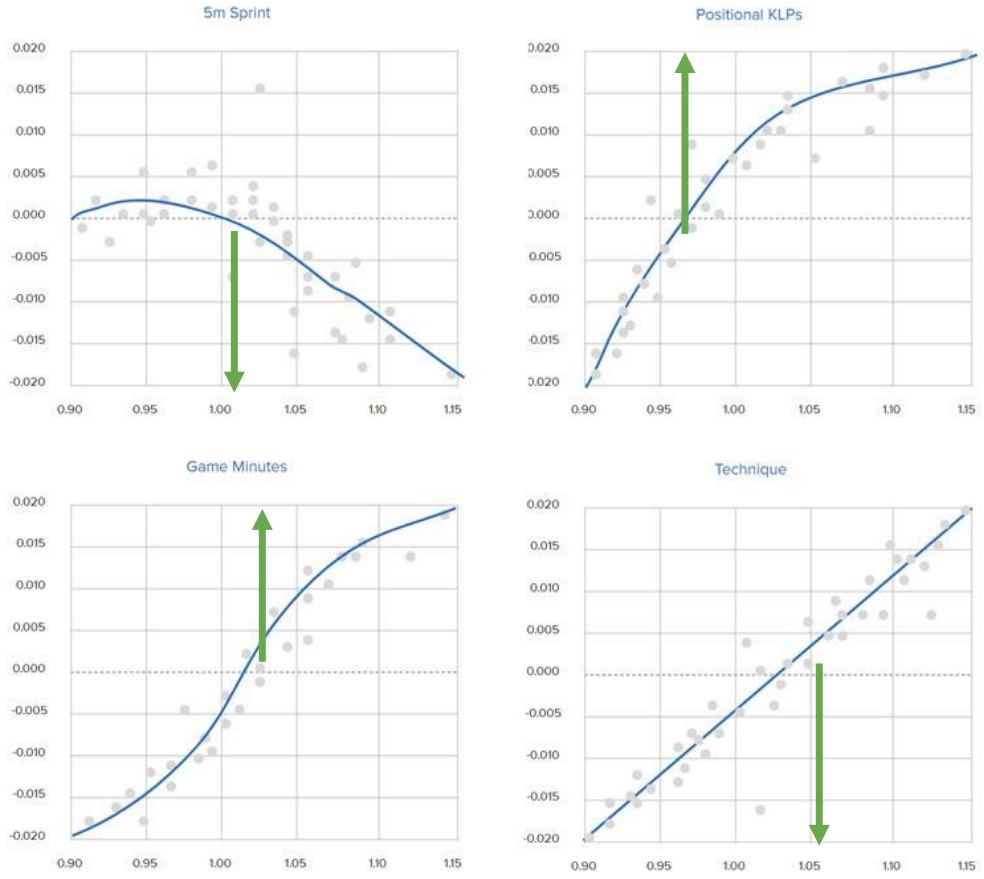
Who Is Likely To Succeed?

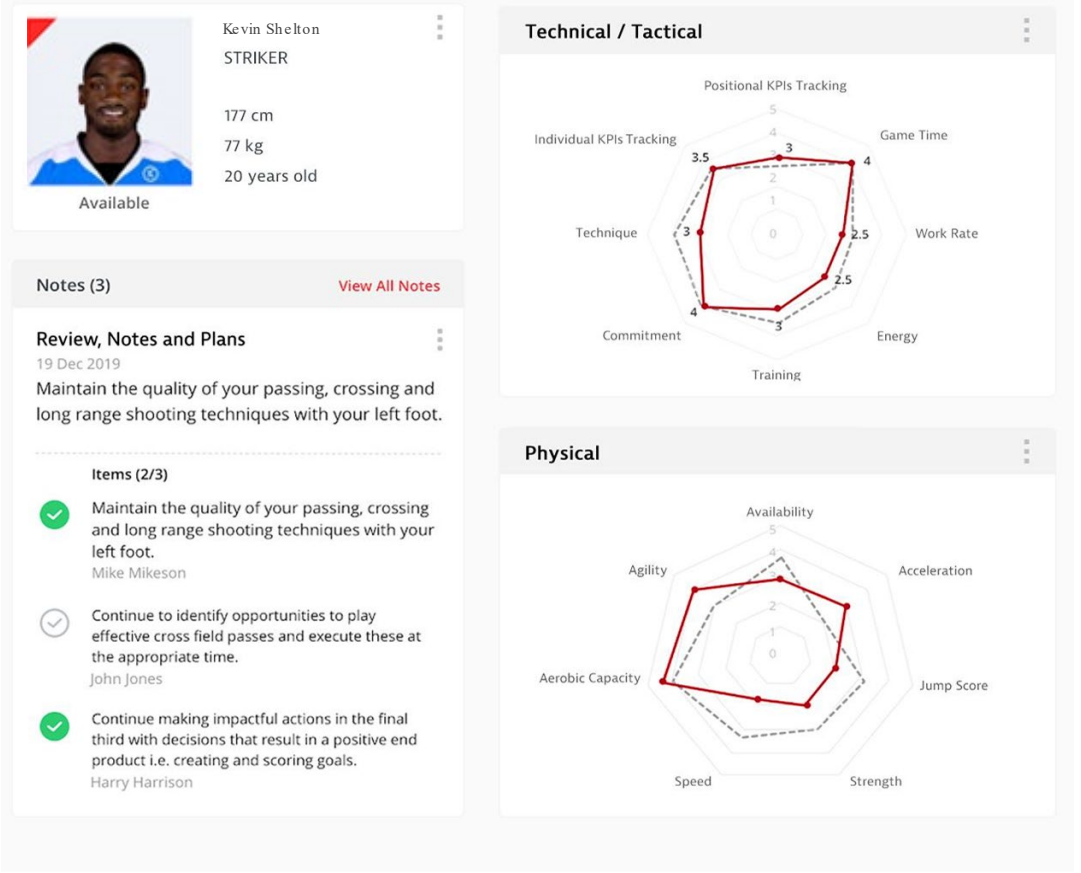
Scorecards and Projections



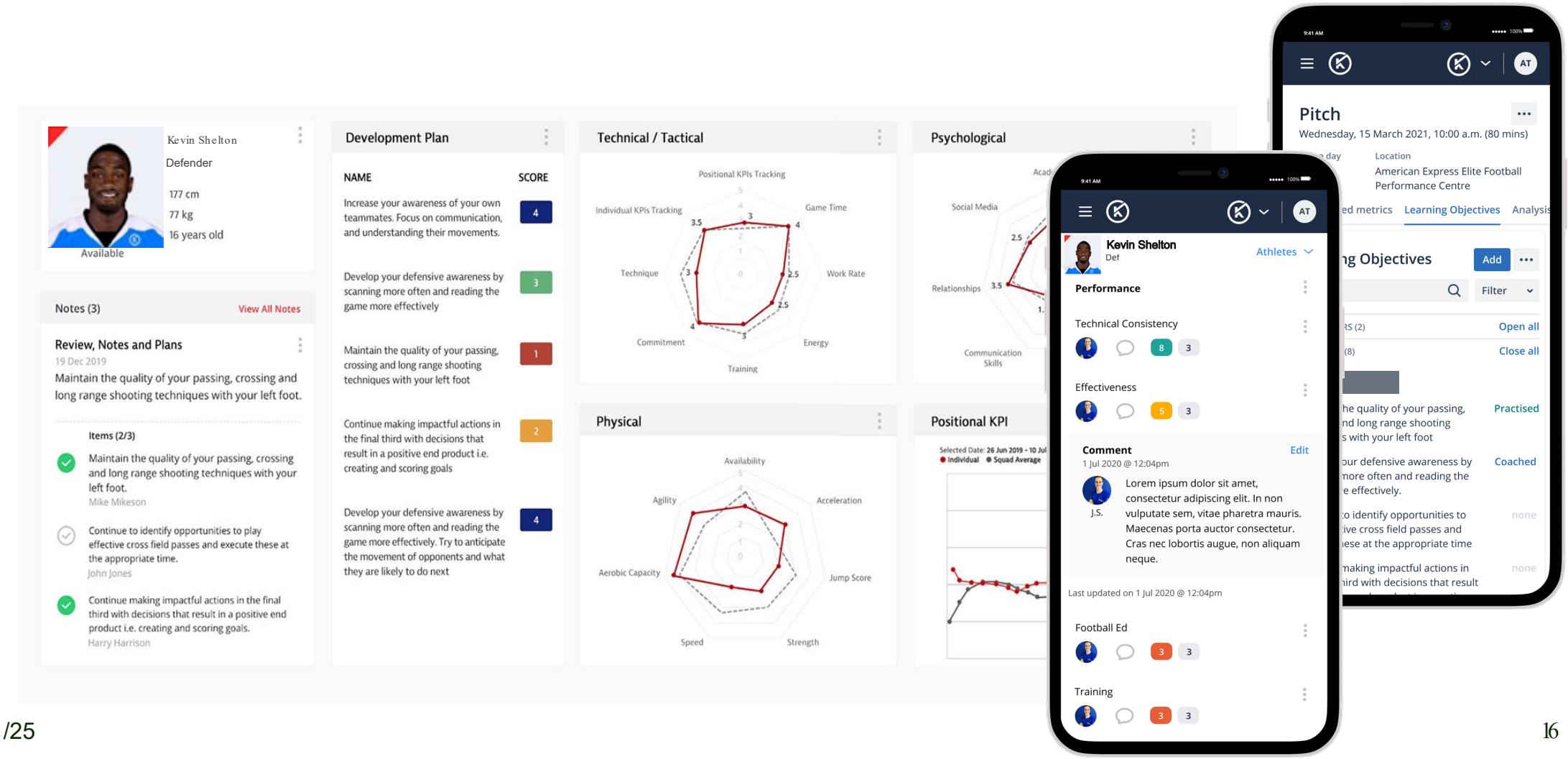


Where Do We Set Our Benchmarks?

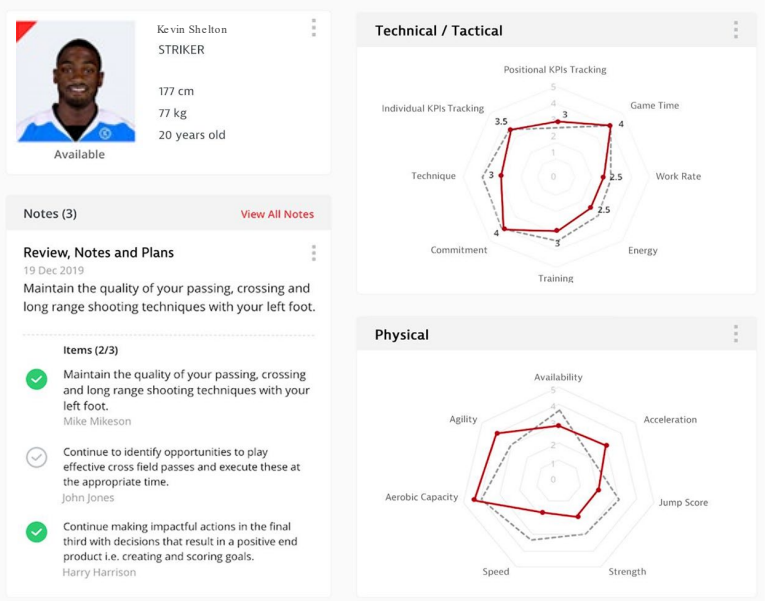


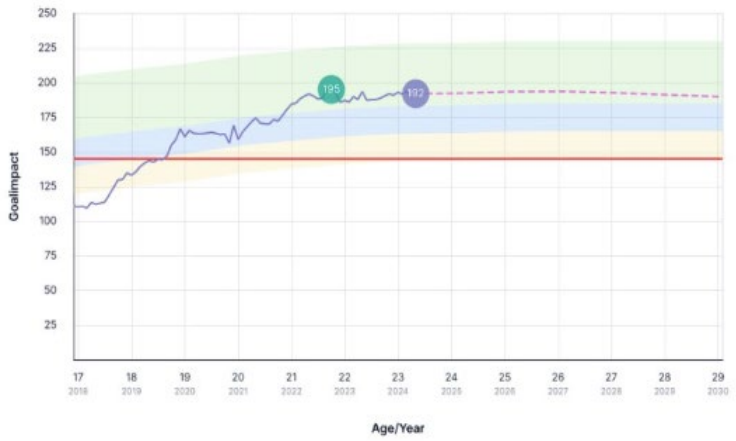


How Do We Drive Individual Development?



How Do We Turn Insights Into Action?





Takeaways

Professional organizations all over the world now have insights and benchmarks that allow them to optimize development and performance whilst enabling:

- Individual Development Plans
- Athlete feedback & progress monitoring
- Retain/ Release decisions for players
- Measure ROI of interventions and coaches
- Improve ROI of all development investment

POTENTIAL EQUINE USE CASE

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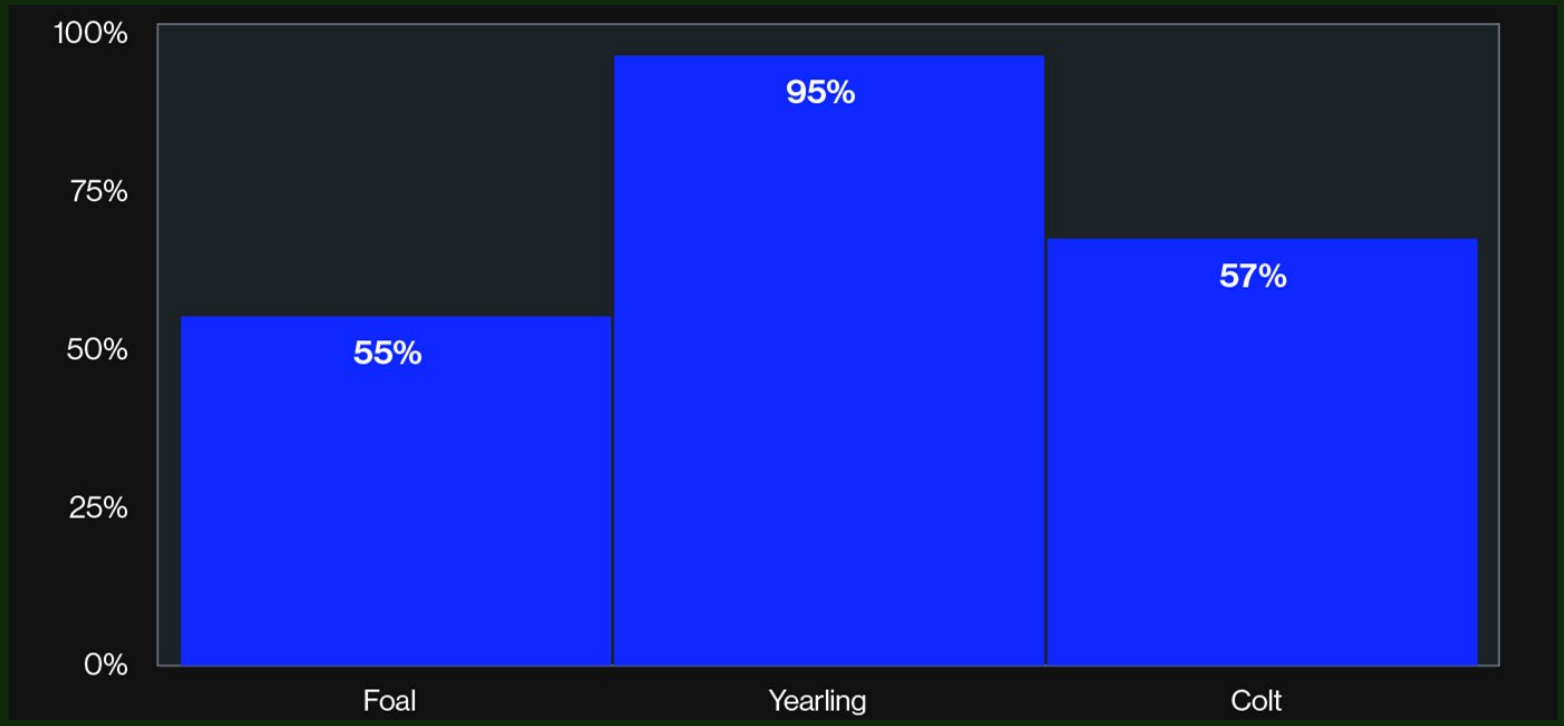
Thoroughbred Progression Rates

Probability of horses progressing through each stage of development prior to professional racing success.



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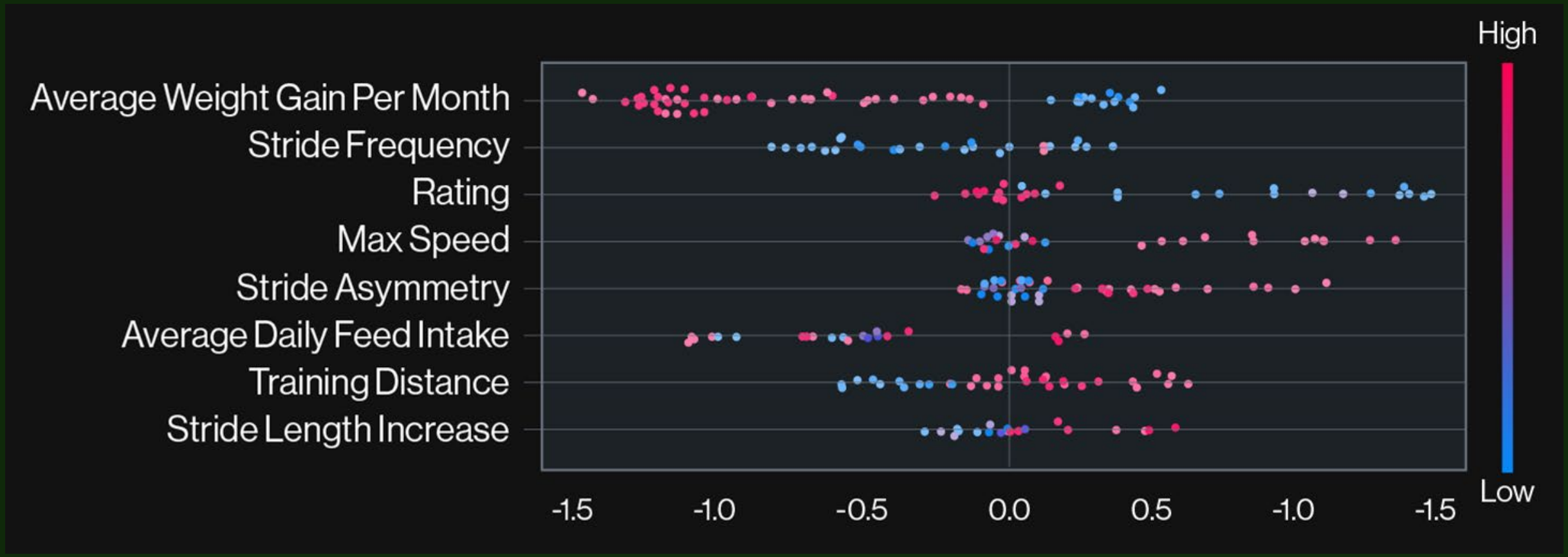
Metrics Related to Progression and Potential

Top Contributing Factors Towards Tier 1 Racing Success in Yearlings



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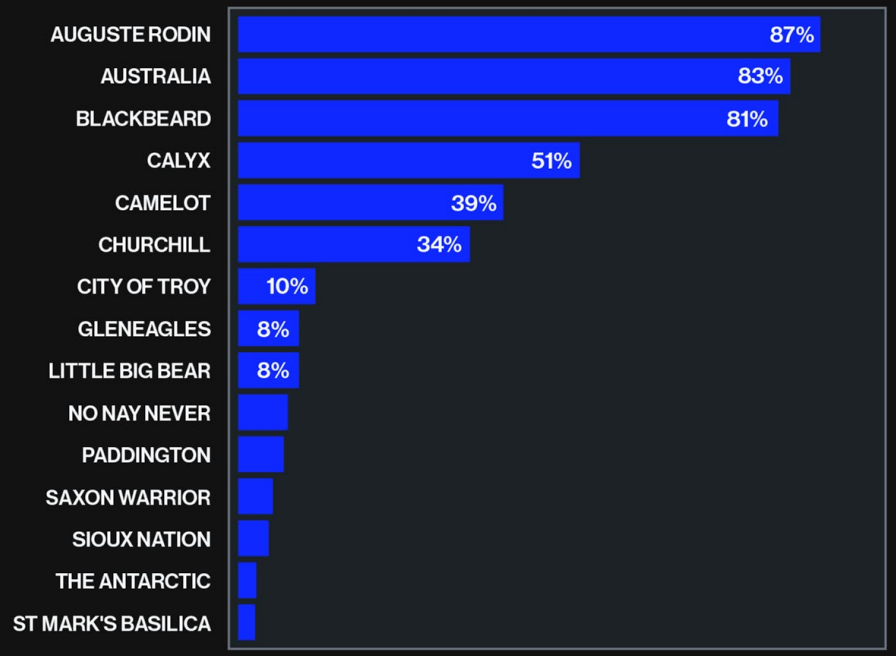
Graduate Model

Scorecards and Projections

Yearling Scorecards

Tier 1 Racing Success Projections



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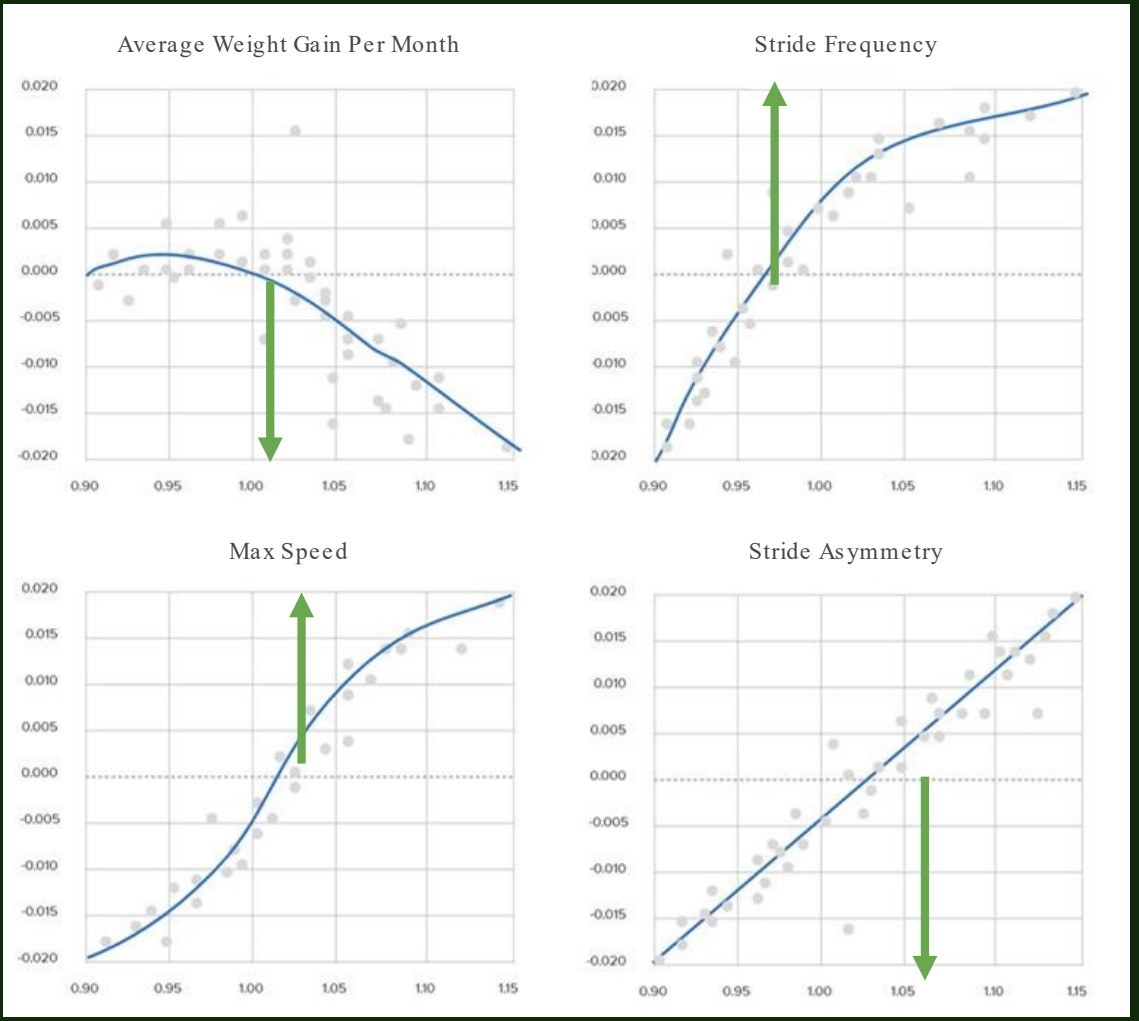
Where Do We Set Our Benchmarks?



Sioux Nation

169cm
1323 lbs
9 years old

Available

Notes (3) View All Notes

Review, Notes and Plans
19 Dec 2019

Maintain the quality of your breeding performance, focusing on consistency in temperament and strong physical traits.

Items (2/3)

- Maintain the quality of your canter transitions and collection, especially around turns and during extended canter work.
  Harry o'Reilly
- Continue to identify opportunities for smooth lead changes and execute them promptly, focusing on balance and engagement.
  Harry o'Reilly
- Continue making impactful strides in speed work, with focus on maintaining stamina and balance throughout sprints and longer paces.
  Harry o'Reilly

Technical

Physical

Tailored data driven equine player pathways could **transform the industry** and **provide breeders and trainers with a significant advantage over competitors** who are still adopting traditional approaches.

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THANK YOU

WHO WANTS TO GAIN A COMPETITIVE EDGE?

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