

Description of the Game

In this game, you will take the role of a competitive sprinter who has the possibility of getting certain rewards for performing well over the course of **three** races.

You will be given a *vague* description of your runner along with his/her best time. Before *each* race you will one of four options: (1) *train*, (2) *rest*, (3) *use hGH*, or (4) *use steroids*. Each of these actions has an effect on your *overall performance* and *health*:

Actions	Effect on Health	Effect on Performance	Final State	# of Health
Rest	+1	None	Healthy	8 or more
Steroids	-5	-.1 to -.07 (for one race)	Sick	7-8
hGH	-3	-.08 to -.04 (for one race)	Very Sick	1-6
Training	-1	-.02 (permanent)	Dead	0

It is important to note some things about your runner:

- (1) your runner has a *finite* amount of health in the **range of 8–12**.
- (2) not all runners have the same amount of health.
- (3) not all runners are of equal starting ability
- (4) each runner reacts differently to using PEDs, but all react the same to training
- (5) the performance effects you receive from hGH and steroids is temporary but the performance effect you receive from training is permanent.

After each race, I will calculate your time against the times of other competitors, then write the results on the board. Depending upon your place, you will receive certain points (see below). *Please keep track of your place for each race and the points you receive.*

Race Points and Rewards

Place	Points per Race	Rewards	
1 st	10pts	Alive + 25pts	Drop a Pop Quiz
2 nd	8	Alive + 20pts	Drop free Quiz Question of <i>your</i> choice
3 rd	5	Sick + 18pts	Drop free Quiz Question of <i>my</i> choice
4 th	3	Sick + 16pts	Benefit of Doubt on Quiz question of your choice
5 th	2	Healthy + 14pts	Benefit of Doubt on Quiz question of your choice
6 th	1		
7 th	0		
8 th	0		

Runner #1: Michael “The Machine” Greene

Current 100m: 10.19s

Age: 18

Predicted finish: 6th–8th

Upon approaching the next three races, Michael “The Machine” Greene is ready to explode onto the international track scene. Rather than go to college, Greene has decided to roll the dice and go pro. Greene’s grades weren’t that good anyway.

Greene is the least experienced runners in the field. He is not familiar with the world of competitive running, but he suspects that if he is going to make a statement, he’ll need to step up his game. Fortunately for Greene, as a young man, his body is capable of responding better to performance-enhancing drugs than some of the other runners. The question on everyone’s mind is this: will Greene stay clean?

Recently, Greene was criticized for his decision to “go pro”. Here are some tweets from some of his fellow runners:

Freddie “Lightning Bug” Lewis: stay in school kids #dontBeGreene

Husain “Thunder” Smith: No brain in the machine #dontBeGreene

Husain “Thunder” Smith: Whats Greene gonna do if he fails? I know. Can I get fries with that? #dontBeGreene

Martha “On Track” Jones: Kids! stay “on track” with your studies #dontBeGreene

Race #1	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #2	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #3	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Total Points	
Health	

Runner #2: Husain “Thunder” Smith

Current 100m: 10.18s

Age: 19

Predicted finish: 4th–8th

Upon approaching the next three races, Smith wants to make a statement on the international track scene. He ran professionally last year but did not have much success. This year he is confident that *lightning will strike and thunder will roar!* He even received a letter from SPadidas (a major shoe company) about a shoe contract

Dear Husain Smith,

We at SPadidas are excited to see you doing so well at such a young age. We are interested in sponsoring you for the next five years, but may offer this sponsorship to Freddie “Lightning Bug” Lewis. We will be watching both your next three races closely.

*Sincerely,
SPadidas*

One of the most outspoken athletes, Smith is known for his controversial tweets. Here are some:

Concerning his **Freddie “Lightning Bug” Lewis**

Going to squash the LightningBug this week! Gonna get this Spadidas contract #PED

Concerning fellow competitor **Michael “The Machine” Greene’s** decision to not go to college and “go pro”:

Husain “Thunder” Smith: No brain in the machine #dontBeGreene

Husain “Thunder” Smith: Whats Greene gonna do if he fails? I know. Can I get fries with that? #dontBeGreene

Race #1	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #2	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #3	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Total Points	
Health	

Runner #3: Freddie “Lightning Bug” Lewis

Current 100m: 10.17s

Age: 20

Predicted finish: 3rd–7th

Known for his post-race dancing, Freddie “Lightning Bug” Lewis wants to solidify himself as a real contender on the international track circuit. He feels that he is on the precipice of getting some real recognition for all of his hard work and garnering the attention of major sponsors. SPadidas (a shoe company) recently sent him the following letter:

Dear Frederick Lewis,

We at SPadidas are excited to see you doing so well at such a young age. We are interested in sponsoring you for the next five years, but may offer this sponsorship to Husain “Thunder” Smith. We will be watching both your next three races closely.

*Sincerely,
SPadidas*

After receiving the letter, Freddie checked Husain’s Twitter feed only to read the following tweet:

Husain “Thunder” Smith: *Going to squash the LightningBug this week! Gonna get this Spadidas contract #PED, #SplatGoesTheBug*

Lewis is one of the less experienced of the runners in the field, but he does have two years under his belt. Still a young man, his body is capable of responding better to performance-enhancing drugs than some of the other runners, but even at 20 he can feel some wear and tear.

Race #1	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #2	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #3	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Total Points	
Health	

Runner #4: “Big” Ben Johnson

Current 100m: 10.16s

Age: 22

Predicted finish: 3rd–6th

When he wins, Big Ben Johnson is known for his crowd-pleasing antics. Last year when he won the 100m World Championships, he pulled out several dumbbells from his gym bag and began doing curls. The crowd shouted “Get Big Ben, Get Big Ben.” In the last few races, Big Ben has been in a big slump. He attributes this to switching his “trainer.”

At age 22, he is still a young man but there have been concerns about Big Ben’s state of mind as he was recently arrested for attacking a taxi cab driver. Big Ben said that since his fall from the top of the track circuit, he has been suffering from severe bouts of depression and has been prone to inexplicable fits of anger. He is dealing with several court cases and is seeing a psychiatrist on a regular basis.

Unfortunately for Big Ben, he is broke and has some serious legal and medical costs. Fortunately, Big Ben’s sponsors have assured him that if he can win the next few races, they will offer him a hefty contract (one that would allow him to defend himself successfully and seek top-notch therapy for his anger issues).

Husain “Thunder” Smith: *Big Ben J is a Big Fat Bust! #BUST, #BigIsAJoke*

Race #1	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #2	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #3	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Total Points	
Health	

Runner #5: Franny “on Fire” Griffith

Current 100m: 10.15s

Age: 25

Predicted finish: 3rd–6th

Franny “on Fire” Griffith burst onto the track scene at 20 years old by winning Olympic Gold. After winning gold, she has been on the cover of cereal boxes, starred in commercials for yogurt, and has even had some small roles in movies (the movies were a flop). Now 25 years old, Franny is not as fast as she used to be and has suffered a pretty *serious knee injury*. An outspoken critic of drug users, Franny has criticized several other runners for being associated with “dirty doctors”. In a recent interview, she was quoted as saying the following:

I just can't fathom why anyone would use PEDs. It just isn't fair to those of with God-given talents, like myself. When I won Olympic gold in my 20s, it was a clean race. When you look at people running these days, everyone is a lot bigger and stronger. It makes you wonder, how did they get that way?

Despite these remarks, one of Franny’s coaches has contacted her about using PEDs before the next three races. Here is the conversation:

Coach: I think you should use some steroids or at least hGH before the next three races.

Griffith: I really don’t feel comfortable doing that.

Coach: I am not saying you should do it to get a competitive edge. I’m telling you that you should do it for *medicinal* purposes. You need it for your knee to recover properly.

Griffith: Wouldn’t that be unfair? Aren’t those drugs illegal.

Coach: Yes, they are against the rules. But, it isn’t really cheating. You aren’t trying to get an edge or advantage. You are just trying to level the playing field. All of the other runners out there are healthy and ready to go. Listen, I’m not forcing you to do anything you don’t want to do, but if you want to stay competitive, make the next three races fair and square, then (as your coach), I’m advising you to use PEDs. After you get healthy, you can stop.

Race #1	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #2	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #3	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Total Points	
Health	

Runner #6: Martha “On Track” Jones

Current 100m: 10.14s
Age: 30
Predicted finish: 3rd–6th

Martha “on Track” Jones is nearing the end of her professional running career. She is married and took a year off of competitive running at the 28 to have a baby and spend time with her family. *This is what she told the media at least; the real reason was that she had a positive drug test and was suspended for six months.*

At 29 (after her ban) she returned to professional athletes and became an inspiration to mothers everywhere. In a recent interview, she was quoted as saying the following:

As a mother and a professional athlete, I am living proof that you can be a pro runner and have a family. Some people think you can only do one or the other. I’m also aware of the responsibility too. Lots of young people and mothers are inspired by my story and so I know it’s important to win with integrity. Lots of my competitors are willing to do whatever is necessary to get to the top, even drugs!

Despite these remarks, one of Martha’s shoe sponsors has told her that if she doesn’t do well in the next three races, she will lose her shoe contract. This would mean that Martha could no longer run competitively. The shoe sponsor assures her that (i) he has some top-of-the-line PEDs and so she won’t get caught and (ii) that he’s heard rumors that some of her competitors plan on taking drugs.

Martha is considering this as she’s not sure what she will do once she retires from running. She never went to college and hasn’t made a lot of money as a professional athlete. Doing well in the next few years might help her win some money so she can go to college and get a degree as a physical therapist.

Race #1	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #2	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #3	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Total Points	
Health	

Runner #7: Angela “Ice Cold” Anderson

Current 100m: 10.13s

Age: 30

Predicted finish: 1st-4th

Angela “Ice Cold” Anderson is best known for her “stone cold” demeanor. Unlike many of the other sprinters, Anderson does not give interviews and little is known about her training regime. Angela is on the top of her game this year as she ran the **second fastest time in the world** in a race where she finished .01s behind Beatrice “Blaze” Anthony. After the race, Angela gave her first interview ever! In it she blasted Blaze for her involvement with infamous trainer and doctor Marco “PED” Stango. Here is what she said:

Blaze is a cheat. That is the only reason I’m #2 and she’s #1. Her involvement with noted drug cheats is morally deplorable. She is hurting herself. She is hurting the sport of track. She is hurting all of the fans who believe in her.

This interview attracted a lot of attention from Beatrice “Blaze” Anthony and her fans. Here are some tweets from Twitter:

Beatrice “Blaze” Anthony: Going to put Angie on ice this weekend! #IceIsJealous

Fan #1: Why is Ice so jealous? Maybe because she eats Blaze’s dust #IceIsJealous

Fan #2: Ice? More like a puddle. She’s always crying and whining. #IceIsJealous

Angela is looking to take down Blaze, but she’s not sure if she can unless she uses PED. She has some reservations about how her body will react to PEDs and she’s also slightly worried that some of the younger more “unethical” runners will take her place as the #2 runner in the world. Will “Ice Cold” put out the “Blaze”?

Race #1	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #2	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #3	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Total Points	
Health	

Runner #8: Beatrice “Blaze” Anthony

Current 100m: 10.12s

Age: 33

Predicted finish: 1st-3rd

Beatrice “Blaze” Anthony (or “BB” as her friends call her) is a 7x World Champion in the 100m. BB has had one of the most prolific track careers in recent memory and is widely recognized as the best sprinter to never win an Olympic medal. BB has said that this will be her last year running track. Her critics have noted that this is because next year WADA will be introducing a brand new drug testing process and so Blaze is worried about tarnishing her career.

Blaze has also been criticized by Angela “Ice Cold” Anderson, who finished only .01s behind her in a recent race. In a recent interview, Ice Cold was quoted on national news as saying BB is a dirty drug user!

Blaze is a cheat. That is the only reason I’m #2 and she’s #1. Her involvement with noted drug cheats is morally deplorable. She is hurting herself. She is hurting the sport of track. She is hurting all of the fans who believe in her. She’s in for a rude awakening. I’m about to put that Blaze on ICE!

In addition, a younger, more up and coming runner, Franny “On Fire” Griffith, has said that Blaze is a “has been”

Blaze who? She’s so old. End of story. I bet those old legs of her won’t even get her to the finish line.

Will Blaze silence her critics with some convincing wins?

Race #1	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #2	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Race #3	
Choice	
Result (pts)	
Total Points	
Health	