



Betfair Tennis Trading

Help and Advice by

Patrick Ross's

Tennis**TRADING** £EAGUE



Betfair Tennis Trading

Hi,
my name is **Patrick Ross** and I'm the owner of Tennis Trading League.

I've been trading Tennis professionally since 2002. Tennis Trading League was born around 2 years later and Tennis Trading League Tips Service has been in existence since January 2013.

Tennis Trading League comprises of 2 parts:

Tennis Trading League Systems 2.0 (TTLS 2.0) is a comprehensive guide which takes you from complete beginner to tennis pro by using proven tennis trading strategies.

Tennis Trading League Tips Service is what it says on the tin! I give tips on the days matches and you simply act according to those tips!

And, of course, TTLS and the tips can be used in conjunction too.

The following advice is aimed at beginners and pros alike! If you're a beginner and you don't understand something you see, just get in touch with me using the contact tab on the home page.

The aim of this ebook is to give readers an insight into the world of tennis trading and to give some basic advice and strategies that will help you become a better trader.

Much of the ebook refers to my tips service and will refer in many instances to tips I have given in the past few months.

Good luck in all your future trades,

Patrick Ross



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Betfair Tennis Trading

Greening Out



This article answers some common questions about the most important part of trading, 'Greening out'!

We may all have strategies to adapt to situations but the end result is what counts most of the time. As a trader, the ultimate objective to all of us is cashing out something. It is indeed very possible that almost all of us will have a bad streak at some point. The most important thing you've to realise is, even with well placed strategies you are not guaranteed a profit all of the time. After all, it's just a STRATEGY. However, as I point out always, it is only the bright ones who come out of such bad streaks and continue to roll on in the long run...

Let us look at Greening out a bit more deeply..

For the lay person out there, Greening out simply means having a Green Amount (or Profit) on the trades. Greening 'OUT' generally implies that you have traded out the market with a Profit. This is obviously different from being in the 'GREEN ZONE' as you haven't traded out yet.

First of all, I do suggest every single trader out there to **use a platform** to trade rather than the Betfair website. The CASH OUT button on Betfair doesn't come close to using a platform. You do not even have a ladder interface on the website to instantly get your trades going. So first thing's first, **USE A PLATFORM AND NOT THE BETFAIR SITE** for trading especially if you are risking heavy! I've even had Betfair website loading slowly due to all the jargon on it which you simply cannot afford to happen when trading Back Heavy matches. Hence, always use a software for trading. The recommended option is **Fairbot** - it's a simpler platform and in my opinion, very suited to the tips.

So now that we've gone through the negatives of trading on the website, let's focus on the Greening out on 'BOTH SIDES' part. I get this question a lot so here's the answer:

Suppose we consider the following Match and corresponding odds:

Murray (1.9) v Wawrinka (2.1)

Assuming you have backed Murray here and he is doing well and has in fact won the first set. Odds have since decreased from 1.9 to 1.3 here. The profit would be around 46 units if your stake was 100 units.

Calculation:

Backed Murray for 100@1.9, Laid Murray for 146 @1.3

Stake difference = 146 - 100 = 46 (in profit)

There is profit here yes, but it is a **GUARANTEED PROFIT** on both sides regardless of who wins.

However if you just want profit on the Murray side alone, the situation is slightly different. The maximum profit on Murray would be about 60 units (in the Green Zone) as we can see from the following calculation:

Backed Murray for 100@1.9 -> Profit if Murray wins = 90, Profit if he loses = (- 100)

Laid Murray for 100 @1.3 --> Profit if Murray wins = (- 30), Profit if he loses = 100

Total Profit / Loss = 90 - 30 = 60 (if win) ; 100 - 100 = 0 (if lose)

This basically means we are profiting only on Murray side and have ignored the possibility of Wawrinka fighting back to win!

I always ask traders to green out with a profit, no matter how much you feel the favourite is better. At the end of the day you won't be thinking too much as you have already got a profit. On the contrary, if indeed Wawrinka does come back or in the worst case, let's assume Murray got injured, you are going to wonder why you made the wrong choice there. Hence, the simple lesson is to always cash out something that looks a decent amount.

Another common disaster that I see is people making the right decision first then not sticking by it. Let's assume you have greened out on Murray @46 and you are just waiting for the match to finish. However as the match drags on, Murray odds have gone to 1.05. At this time, instead of waiting for the match to complete you are deciding to put all your green on the Wawrinka side on 1.05 to get a mere 2.30 units more. This is something that I've seen people do personally and have always disliked the idea. All that hard work to get close to a 50 unit profit and yet you are so desperate to get 2 units extra. It is a very bad practice indeed and shows how greedy the trader can be. There is no need to do it and sooner or later there will be a match that completely disorients you with such a decision. Remember, as the saying goes, "**Patience is bitter, but its fruit is sweet**". I always like my fruit sweet!



Betfair Tennis Trading

What should you do if your player gets injured in a tennis match that you're trading?
Find out here...



You have backed a player and he seems to have injury issues towards the end of the first set. What do you do?

Suppose the tip is on Nadal to be backed @1.8 and laid at 1.2 against Murray.

Assuming here's what happened:

Rafa has broken Murray first. He has held on to his remaining serves. Now he's about to serve for the first set at 5-4. The odds are around 1.25 which hasn't quite hit our target of 1.2 but you are hoping that to be fulfilled after he wins the first set. However, here's what happens. Nadal injures his ankle in the previous game and calls for the trainer. Now, the odds from 1.25 has jumped to 1.4 simply for the injury reason. How do you deal with this?

Ok first of all let's look into Betfair rules here. Basically, as long as the first set is over, regardless of whatever happens from then on, whoever goes into the next round is deemed the winner.

Personally I am not a fan of this rule as it definitely increases the possibilities of Match Fixing and Fraud. This also means you can get incredibly lucky or unlucky! Any player deemed as winner before the end of the first set means our trades are voided!

So here's what you should do when you come across an injury.

Wait for the injured player to see how he plays his first point, specifically on his movement in rallies!

So putting this to our example. Rafa is serving for the first set at 5-4 and we wait for Rafa to serve and come across the following scenarios.

Scenario 1: He got to 0-15 and his movement is looking very dodgy!

Trade out immediately! This means regardless of whether you are in a profit or loss, you must trade out! Never wait for the market to keep going against you, as it likely will, in such a case.

Here are a few examples of **MARKET MOVEMENTS** against Rafa. **We've Backed @1.8 (from initial tip) for 100 units to win 80 at the start of the match.**

1. Market movement towards Rafa:

Rafa dominating at the start meant **odds went to 1.25**. You have a chance here to trade out with about 40 units.

Here's how: Back 100@ 1.8, Lay 144 @1.25 (Liability of 36 units) =44 units precisely

You've ignored doing it for reasons that Rafa looked far better.

2. Market moving away from Rafa:

The knowledge of the injury has been reflected immediately on the market and traders have started laying him and the **odds have jumped to 1.4 from 1.25**.

However you still are in profit and choose to wait. Again a chance to trade out with profits as shown below:

Back 100@ 1.8, lay 129@ 1.4 (Liability of 51 units) = 29 units approx..

3. Market moving further away :

You've ignored trading out from both the above movements in the market, and now it has reached 1.6 from 1.4 after Rafa is 0-15 down, but this time, he physically doesn't look good!

Trading out at 1.6 will obviously still give you a profit as shown below:

Back 100 @1.8, lay 112 @1.6 (liability of 67 units) = 12 units approx..

This is a real sign that you've to trade out as you've already missed two chances to profit out a decent amount and there is no further reason why you should leave it open.

The following scenarios further explains other cases where you should consider trading out. But from the above market fluctuations, we can see that we are **losing our profits considerably fast and hence decisions has to be made quickly!**

Scenario 2: He got to 15-0 after a long rally but his movement is looking dodgy still!

Wait for the score to be 15-30. If it does go to 15-30 trade out!

Scenario 3: He has got to 40-0 but the score is now back to deuce after some poor shots.

Consider trading out.

Scenario 4: Rafa has won the set, just barely and is taking a full medical time out!

Leave the trade open **if its low stakes**, and wait for the first service game of Rafa in the second to decide whether to let the trade go on. **For high stakes**, trade out just enough to keep Rafa in minimal loss just in case he wins the second easily. Here's an example how to do this if the odds have gone to 2 from our initial odds of 1.8.

Obviously we are in loss as we can see why, from the following facts:

1. Initially Backed 100 @1.8,
2. Missed to profit out @1.25
3. Missed to profit out @1.4
4. Missed to profit out @1.6
5. Rafa has won the set but injury looks very concerning and odds have gone to 2 even after winning the first set.

Strategy: Lay Rafa for 75 @2.

This means, if Rafa loses, we are going to lose 25 units (Murray has to win the next two sets). If he wins, we will win 5 units, a very unfortunate situation considering the fact we could have profited out up to 44 units at one point early in the match!

Here, we have left out the idea of profiting anything big from Rafa now, as the market has moved against us. But we have put a loss % of 25 units in case the worst happens. This is less than 15% of our normal loss limit, that would normally be 40% in the case of BH

This is because, these events unfolded as a result of injury which is entirely different from normal market movements.

**In principle, we have changed our strategy from chasing money to saving money, a very calculated way to deal with the situation!
I cannot stress how important this way of adjusting to the market is, few do it as the mind tells you to wait. The traders who adjust here are the real traders who will consistently beat the markets!**

As we can see again from the above scenarios, the market moves rapidly and there isn't much time to think, hence whatever you do, make sure you have an exit strategy as I've mentioned in the market movements in relation to profiting out.

Injuries are the nemesis of all traders especially when you had been winning! Hence every single match is worth considering for the worst case scenario of injuries.

Remember, only let the trade run if they are still looking dominant on the main stats such as serve percentages and mainly rallies without any injury concerns! If the stats have gone in the opposite direction, you should definitely consider quitting the market!

One of the most important points of this article is that markets move very fast and hence you should react accordingly with your exit strategies. If you don't spot



Betfair Tennis Trading

Wildly Fluctuating Markets



What should you do when odds fluctuate wildly ?

For this article, I am assuming that there are no injury concerns to either player.

One of the fundamental lessons for anyone who gets into Betfair Tennis Trading is 'adapting' to wild fluctuating markets!

Firstly, the golden rule of Betfair Tennis Trading: **'Get out early when you can!'**

Let's look at the following example:

Ana Ivanovic 1.95 v Jelena Jankovic 2.05.

We can see that at the start of the match it's a very tight one to call.

Let's assume we've backed on Ivanovic @1.95 for 100 units.

This is what's happened since your backing:

Ivanovic wins the first game to 15 to make it 1-0.

She breaks Jankovic in the next game to make it 2-0. Her odds have now moved to 1.6.

The greening out profit is displayed as **22 units** approximately on the platform.

Calculation:

Backed Ivanovic for 100@ 1.95, laid 122 @1.6

Stake difference $122 - 100 = 22$ units (profit)

You've decided to leave the trade on as things are looking good. Since then, the following scenario unfolds:

Jankovic wins the next 2 games to make it 2-2 and Ivanovic is 0-30 in the 5th game. At this point, you have traded out as you see Jankovic in super confident mood.

Supposing the odds on Ivanovic were 2.5 at the time you trade out, your loss is around 22 units as shown below:

*Backed Ivanovic for 100 @1.95 , laid Ivanovic for 78 units@ 2.5
Stake Difference $100 - 78 = 22$ units(loss)*

Now you've decided to put money on Jankovic if the score goes to 0-40, indeed it does, and you put your remaining 78 units on her at a back price of 1.6. By this time, you feel for sure that this match is all Jankovic's. Except, it's not as we see why from what follows:

Ivanovic hits 3 aces, makes it to deuce and wins the game from then on to make it 3-2.

The odds are back in favour of Ivanovic who is leading, pretty much the worst case scenario against you. Now you really want Jankovic to win her next game. She loses the first 2 points, making it 0-30 but you feel like giving her a chance but the worst happens as she is broken to 0. The odds on Jankovic has gone from 1.6 back price to 3 as a result of her losing the last 9 points!

You have traded out at 3 and this has given you a further loss of 36 units.

Calculation:

*Backed Jankovic @1.6 for 78 units, laid Jankovic @3 for 42 units.
Stake difference: $78 - 42 = 36$ units.*

The worst feeling here is that all these events unfolded right before you in the blink of an eye and you have not bothered to trade more as you are completely unsure which way the market may move next!

The above scenario is extremely common, especially in WTA. Let me point out the mistakes first.

You started out by having a chance to profit out 22 units which was ignored. Then the worst started to happen and then you lost 22 units + 36 units after you backed a lot on Jankovic!

Firstly, let's look at the 22 units chance of profiting. 22 units is 22 % of our total stake of 100 which itself is a decent amount. In fact anything above 20 is definitely something to be happy about. So, you can take that as a mistake!

Of course, it's not the biggest of errors as a lot of people, even pro-traders, let the trade run a bit.

But **when does it really count as a big mistake?** We go to the 0-30 score. You have traded out here which is fine, obviously you would have incurred a loss. But then, you have said to yourself that if it goes to 0-40, surely Jankovic won't lose the game. That's the biggest mistake you can make. **You hoped you would be 100% right.** It's a very common error but a huge one as this one mistake has got you a total loss of 58 units, or 58% of your stake.

So what should you have done?

Here's my answer: It always feels harsh when you lose money. But when you have an opportunity to minimize the loss, you should do it. It's an extremely hard thing to put into practice and it took me many matches to get used to it.

What happens is, as you are controlling your losses over time, you would be amazed how well you have read the market by the end of the match. A perfect trader is someone who has this exit strategy in place much earlier than most and this sets him apart from the rest! For this example hence, **you trade out at 0-30 and leave the market as it is!** What you are seeing here is the market behaving very wildly. You do not want to get caught up in a storm like this, hence, just trade out! The match itself is not over and there is no reason to chase either of the players. You can even **wait out the first set** if you wish, but **the first solution to this whole situation getting worse, is to 'trade out'!**

It is extremely hard to put certain matches into practice and people rarely do it. When they don't trade out and win, we hear the boastful side of the trader. But the other side of the coin is rarely talked about. Why, because it is very likely the trader may have pretty much blew away his entire stake on that mistake!

The best analogy to this article I can give is, if you compare Betfair Tennis Trading to Poker, some of the best poker players are those who FOLD their hands. Trading out is very similar to the Folding of cards.

Money saved is money earned.



Betfair Tennis Trading

In Depth Trading



Ok so I've mentioned a lot of applications and tools in a ton of articles that I've posted recently. However still a question remains as to how I personally would have traded a match on Betfair from start to finish.

Match : Haas v Youzhny (French Open Fourth Round - 2013)

Initial Betfair Odds on favourite: 1.98 on Haas

Step 1- Deciding the stake:

I've tipped this as a BH on the site, hence decided to go with a minimum of 100 units for this match.

Step 2- Delaying

As the match is about to start, after deciding my investment for this match, I have now decided to delay the trade to watch the players in action.

Step 3- Backing at a better price.

Haas serves first and its not a convincing start at all and he loses the game easily. However I back Haas when he gives a break point first for 50 units at around 2.1.

The remaining 50, I decide to wait till he gets broken. Indeed he does get broken, which gets his odds around 2.5 and assuming I got around 2.4 at least, I can consider that to be a rightly backed price.

(This sort of backing early at a much better price has been profitable for me, and is extremely good to apply for WTA as well. I mean how many times have we seen players storm back from 4-2 or 5-3 down to win sets. Be bold!

If the tip was given on a particular player, might as well back him/her at a higher price. I give the tips for good reason!)

Step 4 – Consider trading out a profit early if necessary

It's Youzhny turn to serve and he gives a break back to get the odds to its initial prices. At this time, it is worth considering to trade some profit out. However, I would give Haas one more chance to hold his serve now.

Step 5 – Lay off some of our losses on Youzhny after Haas breaks

As the match goes, Youzhny looks deeper in trouble and Haas breaks him easily to dominate this set. However as soon as the price dips below 1.5 range, it is the right strategy to lay something off him to not get stuck to any nasty surprises later. So lay 50 on Haas to reduce our loss on Youzhny if indeed things take a wrong turn.

Once we get the above lay done, we see three of our trades as follows:

1st Trade: Backed Haas @2.1 for 50 to win 105

2nd Trade: Backed Haas @2.4 for 50 to win 120

Total Backed = 100 to win 225.

Total possible profit : 225 - 100 = 125

3rd Trade: Laid Haas @1.5 for 50 losing 25 units

Situation on both sides:

Haas -> Profit of 100

Youzhny -> Loss of 50

The third trade is worth delaying here as it's highly likely the odds would shrink further since Haas stormed to win the first set.

However, it is very much worth considering laying Haas even if you feel he won't lose. That is the trade someone clever and patient judges as 'worth it' for worst case scenarios. After all, the initial market odds was a 50/50 chance.

The above are basically the steps I would have made to trade this match. I would have further gone on to lay Haas after the 2nd set when his odds reached around 1.1.

However, it is fairly safe to let the trade run in the second set as we would very likely be still in profit, unless of course there's a major injury to Haas.

There are probably a few other bits and pieces I would have applied during trading personally but simply putting, the above steps are the building blocks of my targeted profit!



Betfair Tennis Trading



Heavy Favourite in the Red Zone

The main reason for writing this article was due to a tip I gave on Serena to beat Sharapova some time back.

Serena won the match but only after losing the set and coming from a break in the second set.

Let's assume that Serena's odds were 1.4 on Betfair and you have backed 100 units on her.

The loss limit is activated @ the price of 2.34 for Serena.

Calculation:

Backed 100@1.4 on Serena , Laid Serena for 60 @2.34

Stake difference $100 - 60 = 40$ units (in loss)

This is the normal scenario and would mean that the market has been completely traded out. It is alright to do this and this would mean you have lost 40 already. However, since my tip was a very highly confident tip, one option is to wait, hoping to back Serena at a high price. Indeed, in the match it did go to 4 at one stage. So anything from 3 onwards, you should give the odds in advance. E.g. back 20 units @3 on Serena should be planned up front. This means you have taken a much higher odds now, meaning, your maximum loss would be $40 + 20 = 60$ and your profit if any would be $60 - 40$ (from loss limit) = 20.

This is a perfectly alright way of trading. The only thing I would advice here is to give the Back odds in advance.

Another way of dealing with the odds hitting our loss limit price is, to not completely trade out the market. This would of course mean, the loss will be more if Serena loses but if the price dips below after hitting the loss limit then we are still in some sort of profit.

I generally advice it only for either low stake matches or highly probable tips. **However, always use it with caution!**

The plan here is to trade out just enough to keep Serena side in minimal loss. So in this case, after Backing 100@1.4, if the price goes to around our loss limit of 2.34, I Lay there for 26 units.

Calculation:

Backed 100@1.4, possible profit = 40

Laid 26@2.34, possible loss = 35 approximately

Stake difference here is $100 - 26 = 74$ units which would be our loss, possible profit would be $40 - 35 =$ approximately 5 units

The idea here is, if the market is fluctuating wildly, this sort of strategy can more likely come to our aid, as our money is mostly on the favourite. Hence, you can trade out at a better price if needed, if things get worse.

Please note again, this is not advised for the majority of matches and there has to be **SOLID** reasons for using it when Tennis Trading on Betfair.

This strategy may also come in handy when you are trading heavy favourites!

For example, you have put 1000 units on Rafa @1.1 to profit 100 against Garcia Lopez (Purely an example as I do not advice high staking on very low odds)

Unfortunately Rafa starts very poorly and loses the set 6-2. But his odds have jumped to only 1.45. Using this strategy for 1.45 implies, laying Rafa for 200 units @1.45, which would mean if he loses, you are losing 800 units, if he wins, you are winning 10 units. The idea here is to keep Rafa's side with minimal loss. 1.45 is still a big favourite and it is more likely that odds may go down.

Calculation:

Backed 1000@1.1 to profit 100 units

Laid 200@1.45 to lose 90 units.

Stake difference = 800 units

Profit difference = 10 units.

Please note, I do not advise backing heavy on favourites less than 1.1 at any time no matter how guaranteed that profit may seem. The reason being possible injury. You can never predict that and its wise not to back huge favourites with high stakes most of the time!



Betfair Tennis Trading

The Golden Green



The most amazing thing about Tennis Trading on Betfair is the possibility of making a huge profit on a single match. There are times where I have managed to make 200 or even 300 from very low stakes such as 5 units. So how is this possible is the next big question. There are obviously certain things that have to go your way here as converting 5 units to 200 is in theory having an odds of 40. Let's look into that possibility of a Golden profit on a Green.

Consider the following match as an example..

Federer is playing Fognini with a starting odds of 1.04.

Consider Roger taking a 4-0 lead at the start and the odds have gone to 1.02 lay price (back price 1.01). Fognini eventually holds his service to take it to 4-1, at which point you lay Federer for 250 units @1.02 , a liability of 5.

Now, we obviously need Roger to lose some games which happens to work in our favour and let's assume that Fognini has fought back well and taken this to a tie-break and has eventually won it. Obviously Federer would still be the favourite here as his starting odds were 1.04. However, assuming he got broken early in the second set as well and Fognini supposedly has a 3-0 lead, it is alright to assume that Federer odds have now jumped a lot. Let's say it hit around 5. In such a case, you've already made profit of 200 by backing Federer.

Calculation:

Laid Federer for 250 @1.02 with a liability of 5 units,

Backed Federer for 50@5.1 ,

Stake difference = 250 - 50 = 200 (guaranteed Green!)

Indeed these situations are not easy to get by and you definitely need the favourite to play poorly after having a very good start, which is not too rare either. Obviously I wouldn't expect Roger to blow away his lead against Fognini in a real game. However, one important thing to note here is our **timing of laying** was good. We delayed the trade and only went for Fognini when he was way down in the first set at 0 - 4 and held his first service game. That's again a sign of a patient trader who is not gambling away money as the stake itself is only 5 units. **If you are going to lay on someone, might as well do it at the lowest possible lay price you can get.** There are many times when I have scalped money from other matches to apply for such situations. A 5 quid here and a 10 quid there, and later investing it in such scenarios have only made me money in the long run. At the end of the day, if I am doing this with profits that I've already gathered, what is there to lose??

There will always be Golden Greens in Grandslams and the players who grab it are those who watch the match very patiently!



Betfair Tennis Trading

Dealing with a Bad Streak



OK, so you've taken my advice and placed the tips as I've asked you to. But you are not winning much consistently.

Is there something that you're doing wrong? Some of the following advice ties in with my other articles, but important information is always worth repeating...

Let's look into the tips and strategies firstly.

All the tips and strategies that run from the 3rd or 4th day of every week are generally good for tipping. I say this as liquidity is an issue in the first few days for a lot of markets, and earlier the tournament, it is more likely to see a lot of upsets due to players trying to get used to the new surface. Wind speed is also a concern for certain tournaments and it has a major effect on the serve of players who toss the ball much higher. When you are Tennis Trading on Betfair, all these factors matter.

OK, so what do you do!?

In general, my first advice would be to **keep the stakes low for the first few days**. I advice this for Tennis Grand Slams as well! This gives us enough time to study certain players especially some of the dark horses of the tournaments. It gives a better insight into their games, their serves, their confidence level. For me, the dark horses are the ones who have rewarded me the most. So be patient with low stakes the start, it will prove rewarding for the future!

Secondly, **set a target for each day.**

The best tennis traders on Betfair are those who have the best money management systems in practice. If you are targeting 20 units a day, stick to that. If you are making 30 on a good day, save the extra for another day. **You can only know the value of 1 unit when you have made 10 units out of it.** Hence, save save and save some more. I guarantee you that there will be tons of matches where you can experiment different strategies as the tournament goes on.

The third point includes two factors:

- 1. Delay trading to get better odds.**
- 2. Delay trading to know the mental and physical side of each player.**

The first factor is simple. You are delaying trading so that you are getting better odds. For e.g., suppose if Player A odds are 1.85 and player B has 2.15 and if Player A is serving first:

At 0-15, the odds may increase to 1.9 and at 0-30 it may even be that the other player may become the favourite. The point is, delaying trading usually helps especially in Men's game as the serve percentage is generally higher compared to WTA. Backing at a higher price is always advised, if you can get them through delaying.

The second factor is probably one of the most important factors of Tennis Trading on Betfair in general. This basically is all about having a **peek at how each player is playing once the match has started.** You are keenly watching for any weakness at all, whether it is serve, rallies, the player's determination to run down the ball etc. The serve is very important to note here, as I myself focus mainly on the serves in the first few games.

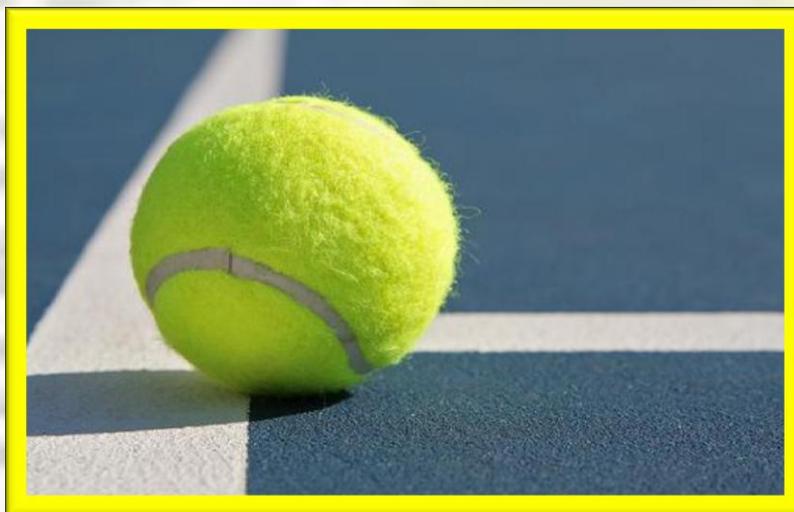
Obviously there is a small negative to delaying and that is, what if the odds never go up after the match starts. It does happen. However, that's one thing that is less relevant.

The whole point of Tennis Trading on Betfair as we all know is to Green Out. It doesn't honestly matter what the Back odds are, 1.8, 1.28, 1.18 or 1.08. Point is, at the end of the match you need a GREENED OUT PROFIT! So delaying usually is the sign of a clever and patient trader who backs on the right player regardless of what the odds may be.

If all the above 3 factors have been taken into consideration, then its a clear sign you are ready to profit some good cash in the long run which is the ultimate goal of Tennis Trading on Betfair!

Mentally, dealing with a bad streak can be difficult. I play some poker at the weekends, and used to find myself on tilt sometimes! Anyone who knows anything about poker will understand the feeling! A bad streak in Tennis Trading will also put you on tilt - you might feel that because you have lost a % of your bank, you want to go all in! You resign yourself to having lost all of your money before it's gone! However, it's very important to recognise this feeling and counter it.

Try to take a few minutes to gather yourself and treat the next trade as your first one. Use correct stakes and don't chase losses. Build up again. One small win will put you back on the right frame of mind. Hence, ask yourself if you have considered any of the above while trading tennis on Betfair!? If not, it may be the reason you are not profiting consistently.



Betfair Tennis Trading



Multiple Trades during a Match

For this article, I am going to put a WTA match as the example.

Let's say the match is between **Anabel Medina and Dominguez Lino**. Two decent claycourters. The price, let's assume is 1.95 and 2.05 respectively.

You have decided to put money on Medina for 100@1.95. Indeed she starts well by breaking her opponent to 0 and the odds have shrunk to 1.65 to give you a profit of around 18 units.

Calculation:

Backed 100@1.95, laid 118 @1.65

Stake difference = 18 (profit)

Now you have decided to let the trade run, but unfortunately Dominguez breaks straight away to 0 as well, making that 18 units evaporate in the blink of an eye. However, you've had no loss yet.

You continue to let the trade run, to see what happens and the same scenario unfolds. After a bit of a struggle Medina indeed comes up on top and breaks Dominguez again to lead 2-1.

But this time, you lay off 18 which is your profit @1.65 and back it @2.3ish on Dominguez. This is a very well calculated thought.

Remember you haven't traded out the market here and your profit is still on Medina. It's just that you've taken out 18 of that 95 unit profit and put it on Dominguez's current odds.

This means if there is a jump from 1.65, your 18 is going to increase to around 5 more units approximately. Hence you have traded twice in the market already. Now suppose if the pattern continues and you've read this very well, you will indeed profit more. Beware, don't consistently do this especially with big stakes. From my experience one of the best times to put it in practice is at the start of the match when players are getting used to the surface and overall game.

Now moving on..suppose in this match we have seen so many fluctuations that we just can't put money on anyone as it literally seems like the flip of a coin, my first advice is to wait till the end of the first set. In WTA from my experience, for 50/50 matches there is always a chance on the other player being more active in the 2nd set and the first set winner doesn't perform as well as she did earlier.

This is purely from experience and don't take it as a **FACT** as any injury concern, tiredness etc are not included in this theory as they all are unpredictable. **Hence consider laying the first set winner most of the time.**

This particular lay would be a *key lay* as that could be the tide turner for us. For favourites, there is another situation you should look at. If, let's say, the odds on the above match was Medina - 1.5 and Dominguez - 3. Let's suppose that Medina has stormed through the first set with a scoreline of 6-1. Her odds have dipped from 1.5 to 1.1 at this stage, and the second set is about to start. From experience, I often see the favourite odds go down more to let's say 1.08 or even 1.05. This may have meant Medina has already broken Dominguez again early in the second or that she has started extremely well, maybe 3 break points straight away. Assuming she indeed broke and took a 2-0 lead by holding on to her serve, the odds have further gone down to 1.03 lay price.

In this case, if your money is on Medina, you should always lay something on her.

There is absolutely no problem in laying here as the odds are extremely low and such a situation may not arise easily again if Dominguez for some reason breaks Medina back. Hence, always give a very low lay price during the second set on the favourite. Once you get that price matched, and if for some reason you see a fightback from Dominguez, it could indeed end up as a big profitable market, if Dominguez just wins the 2nd set, forget about the match. That second set alone may give you a decent win to green out further!

All these trades are calculated and logical and most people miss it as they keep on assuming, 'surely this is game set and match'. It is 'surely' only after the match is over, not before. Hence do it because its the right strategy. Inexperienced tennis traders tend to be extremely greedy that they can't be bothered sacrificing even 1 or 2 quid even if they have a big green. It's like they are so desperate for the remaining pennies. The key point here is, the money you are laying further at a very low price is NEVER a gamble. It is a very thought out trade and that strategy could be what gives you the big win at the end of the day. Hence be bold when you are trading on both sides of the market.

In summary, if indeed you take calculated risks for Tennis Trading on Betfair, **trading on both sides of the market would not only turn out to be effective, but may indeed turn out to be extremely profitable!**



Betfair Tennis Trading



What do you do if a Back Heavy Tip isn't going your way? Find out here...

In relation to some of the common questions that I received in the past few days and also for giving some standard rules to all tennis traders, I've decided to give a few general tips when you're trading any match and things are going against you. When should you trade out?

Let's look at the Back Heavy matches first as those are the big ones that we all want to profit from the most..

If you're wondering what I mean by Back Heavy, please see question 12 in my [FAQ section](#).

The stake that I'm using here (for the example) is 100 units.

Let's take the following example as the match we are about to trade.

Betfair odds: Roger Federer - 1.85 vs Rafael Nadal - 2.1

My tip is *BH on Roger @1.85, lay @1.5*

Supposing Rafa has started off great here and our tip looks to be losing. Here are a few scenarios:

If Rafa takes a 1-0 lead by a break of serve, he will be favourite; but probably only just, so let's assume he became the favourite with odds of 1.9.

This means our odds fell from 1.85 on Roger to around 2.1 ish. That's a loss of 25 decimals. Before I tell you what to do, let's look at a bit of Maths here.

The following represents our odds moving upwards or basically us entering the red zone.

Remember anything backed means we want the odds to go down, anything laid, means we want the odds to go up (just thought of mentioning that for the sake of new traders!).

In this case however, we are looking at a loss situation.

1.85 -> 2 -> 2.1 (Roger's present odds) ->3.1

To summarize what is happening above, I have put the odds moving from our initial price of 1.85 towards 2, then hitting Roger's present price and finally hitting 3.1.

First let's look at 3.1 here. It is the stop limit of 40 % loss or 40 units. In this case that will be executed once the odds hit that price. I always advise the use of stop loss when using Back Heavy strategies

Calculation:

Back 100 @1.85 , lay 60 @3.1 Stake difference: $100 - 60 = 40$ units

Hence, if we unfortunately hit that, it means we've traded out the whole market with a 40 unit loss. This obviously means Rafa has stormed to a huge lead or even won the first set. Trading out at this point is our worst case scenario. To trade out at this point, the price has to go against us by 125 decimals. Just thought I'd mention that! Now moving on to price change from 1.85 to 2.

This is a price change of 15 decimal places.

If you trade out here, you are in a loss of 7.5 units.

Calculation:

Back 100@1.85, lay 92.5 @2 Stake difference $100 - 92.5 = 7.5$ units

Anything from 15 decimal loss can be a thinking time in relation to your trade. I call it the Blue Zone. I do not generally recommend trading out early in the blue zone. This is because it is very early days. Remember, the starting price was almost a flip of a coin.

This generally means you have to give your player a chance to show his potential or simply wait a few games.

Ok now, the price of 2.1, which is the present price on Roger. Mathematically, there is only a few units loss difference from the above example as the odds difference is 10 decimals.

Approximate loss is 11.5 units. Again, this is early in the blue zone and not worth panicking.

So, then when should you seriously think of trading out? I recommend about 25 % of the capital is a right time to look at things very seriously. This is because it is very likely odds will fluctuate a lot between players early on especially on a 'tough to call' match. Hence a 25% loss situation is something to start considering things as a standard rule.

To put it in odds, the corresponding odds would be around 2.5

Calculation:

Back 100@1.85, lay 74@2.5 for a loss of 26 units.

So the real worry starts at 2.5 onwards if you are backing a favourite with a price of around 1.8!

What do you do if a Back Heavy Tip isn't going your way? Find out here...

As a pro-trader I generally have some of these numbers memorised and so get out of trouble earlier than most traders when things look fishy. At the end of the day, that's what a good trader should always do, to get out early when you can!

Remember, always put a money management strategy before you trade matches, especially BH.



Betfair Tennis Trading



Dangers of chasing an in-form player

What to do when your tennis player looks out of form from the start.

Situation: You have backed a player who beat a very decent player the day before and his odds have been reflected on the market accordingly. However, from the very first point he looks dodgy!

Ok let's consider an example with one of my favourite players at the moment, Grigor Dimitrov.

It's the first round of the tournament, and Dimitrov whose odds are 4.5 is facing Tsonga on clay. The match result is hugely in favour of Dimitrov who has thrashed Tsonga with a score line of 6-1 6-2.

Our opponent for this example is Nicolas Almagro, who has beaten Garcia Lopez on the same day, in a very fluctuating match where Garcia Lopez had 5 match points and lost (just assume it if you are a huge Garcia Lopez fan!)

The next day, Dimitrov is facing Almagro and he is the favourite @1.85.

More and more traders are trading heavily on Dimitrov while the market is getting priced before the match, on Betfair website. The Betfair graph indicates that the Dimitrov price went down from 2 to 1.85 which gives you further reason to back in his favour.

You have decided to go with Dimitrov and feel entirely confident his odds has to go down at some point. The stake here is 100 units.

The match starts with Dmitrov serving and results in the following:
0-15 – Dmitrov odds move from 1.85 to 1.9
0-30 – Odds move from 1.9 to 2
0-40 – Almagro becomes favourite with 1.95 (Dmitrov price hit 2.05).
1 – 0 to Almagro – Almagro becomes favourite at around 1.85
(Dmitrov price – 2.15)

Now its early days of course, so you let the trade go on a bit.
The worst happens and Almagro not only holds the game to love but then takes the next two games to lead 4-0 to make him the favourite @1.3. All this time, you have left the market open.

What should you have done ?

Here's my answer:

Let's look at the Maths here first,

From 1.85 to 1.9 you are losing around 2.5 units. (**Backed 100@1.85, laid 97@ 1.9**)

From 1.85 to the break of game when the price is 2.15 on Dmitrov, you've lost around 14 units. (**Backed 100@ 1.85, laid 85.5 units @2.16 = 14.5 unit loss**)

(What we are seeing here is, for every 10 decimal point that goes away from us, we are losing about 5 units of stake. This is very important to know especially for 'flip of a coin' matches in Tennis Trading in general).

Now on to the answer...

While it is OK to leave Dmitrov for a -15 loss, it is not OK to leave the trade open after Almagro has reached 2-0. Yes, indeed it's true that a lot of players come back after 2-0 lead but the most important stat we have from the above example is that Dmitrov got broken to love in the first game. Basically he's looking out of sorts completely straight away unlike his match in Tsonga.

That is a big hint to trade out early!

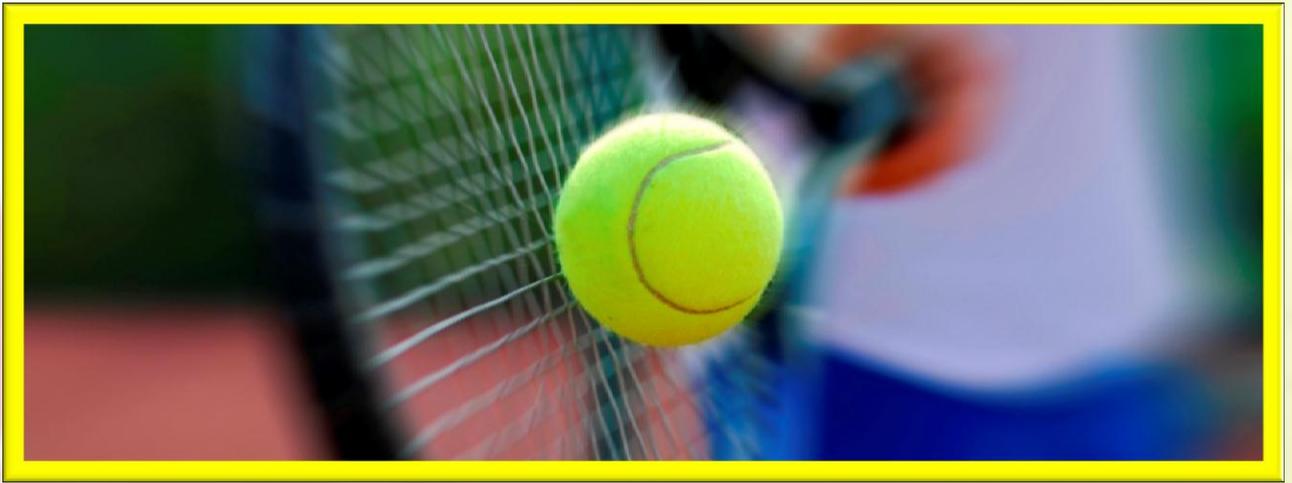
If you had traded out at a loss of 10 -15 units, it may be still possible to reduce that loss if you back Almagro at a later stage in the match. For example, sometime in the second set.

The moral of the story is, before you come to trading any match, **DO NOT** be biased towards any player in relation to Tennis Trading.

It will cost you more than you will win!

Dmitrov going from 1.85 to 3 here would have cost you 38 unit loss as we can see from the below calculation:

Backed 100 on Dmitrov@ 1.85, laid 62 @3 = -39 units



Betfair Tennis Trading

Letting The Trade Run...



Recently, I had a comment from a member who quoted 'I had traded out a loss, but then my player started winning'. He further went on saying 'I might as well let the trade run next time'!

Obviously my answer to him was a lengthy speech about trading out. For those of you who haven't read the article which describes [wild movements in markets](#), please have a look at the article titled '[Wild Fluctuating Markets](#)' as it is very informative to Tennis Trading on Betfair.

Now to further answer this question; is there a time when you can indeed let the trade run as your player seems to have a constant edge even when he is losing a few points here and there, throughout the match. Is it worth considering?

My first answer, or rather, question, to you would be 'can you afford the loss'? If you can, I'd say go for it! If you can't afford it and want to vacuum clean every bit of penny on the Betfair Exchange, then don't! Of course there are a few buts. The biggest question is, does the other player have any injury concern. If so, it might well be worth leaving the trade on. But still you have to consider the worst case scenario.

The second point would be **the odds at which you backed**. Was it a huge favourite who is almost unbeatable in the current form? And he has lost his first service game and you don't want to trade out even if the other player takes a 3-0 lead! And the odds have jumped from 1.1 to 1.5!? In such a case, it maybe worth waiting.

My experience has told me that the majority of huge favourites, even after they lose a few games, have a period in the match where they turn to extra gears in the span of minutes and completely change the match around.

These are exceptional cases but not uncommon, and you seriously have to look into their present form, along with their present stats and pretty much be glued to the live stream. It may very well be the case that the odds may even go to 1.9 or 2 from a mere 1.1, but from then on, it never goes up but shoots down.

This pattern is very teasing and hence a dangerous game to get into. This is why I generally do not advise backing heavy on low stake matches, as there may be unwanted pressures arising from such matches which is not about trading but more linked to gambling.

If indeed you give me such a situation, and ask me to solve the puzzle, even though in my mind, the 'favourite fighting back' option would be present, I would have to opt for 'trading out' as the risks are unwanted.

I would hence leave it open until 1.5 or 1.6 maximum after which I would say 'why the hell did I back it at so low odds!', swear some more at myself, but **most importantly, still quit the market!**

The main exception for not trading out would be when you have backed on something very low with low stakes. You might as well let the trade run till the odds become a huge outsider, (for e.g. from 1.1 to 3), which doesn't happen straight away. Again this depends on if you can afford to lose the stake.

The most dangerous 'no-no' is when you let the trade run and your player gets injured. You simply have to trade out the market. No questions asked!

Thanks for reading !

Patrick Ross