



*Horse Races Trader Bot*

# Horse Races Trader Bot

**- In running trading -**

- Updated on 3rd January 2010 -



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## 1. Strategy

Horse races trader bot is used for automatic in running trading on UK horse races. Main bot purpose is to place 2 bets (trade) when market goes in running so that you get equal profit if both bets get matched.

On image below we can see that bot has placed €4.00 Back bet at price 5.5, and €4.40 Lay bet at price 5.0 on runner "Silver By Nature". Both bets are fully matched, and regardless who wins the race we win €0.40, which is 10% of stake.

Image 1









\\2m4f Hcap Chs\Silver By Nature	Matched	€4	5.5	Back		21-Feb 01:51 PM	7271203714
\\2m4f Hcap Chs\Silver By Nature	Matched	€4.4	5	Lay		21-Feb 01:51 PM	7271203715

**Bet Status: The following bets were successfully matched**

Current Odds bets		Order by Matched Date	
Back	Your Odds	Your Stake	Your Profit
Silver By Nature	5.5	€4.00	€18.00
Lay	Backer's Odds	Backer's Stake	<input type="radio"/> Payout <input checked="" type="radio"/> Liability
Silver By Nature	5	€4.40	€17.60

-  4  **Silver Sedge**  
P. Aspell  
€0.40
-  9  **Pasagai**  
Tom Messenger  
€0.40
-  3  **Jack The Blaster**  
Timmy Murphy  
€0.40
-  5  **Silver By Nature**  
Peter Buchanan  
€0.40
-  6  **Daldini**  
Tjade Collier  
€0.40

Amount of money that you can win from one trade depends on overruns that you specify and current offer on in running market. Bot will try to place bets only when market goes in running. On in running markets, prices are not as good as before in running and this is the key fact that this bot is trying to use. On image below we can see in running prices, and you can notice that overruns are not good as before in running:

Image 2

Fairy 21st Feb - 15:05 2m6f Beg Chs (+)

In-play  Live Video  Tote Matched: EUR 83,931

Back & Lay  Market Depth  Betfair Starting Price (SP) More options ▶

Selections: (18)		106%		Back	SP	Lay	77%	
 1	 <b>Aggies Lad</b> J. L. Cullen	4.6 €8	5.2 €241	5.3 €5	8.46	7 €4	8.2 €16	10 €2
 13	 <b>Orpheus Valley</b> P. Carberry	4.8 €13	5 €495	5.2 €35	5.4	5.3 €79	5.5 €16	5.6 €20

In this situation bot will place 2 bets so that those 2 bets make best offer on market for our runner. If best Back price is 5.3 then bot will offer 5.4, and if best Lay price is 7.0 then bot will offer 6.9. By doing this we are giving better offer on market and improving chances that our bets get matched.

When placing 2 bets, Back and Lay, then one of our bets will surely be matched, but the other one might not get matched because market price might move in just one direction. In those situations bot will wait "N" seconds for both bets to get matched, and if both bets are not matched in "N" seconds from time they were placed then bot will Hedge bets so that we get equal profit or loss. By default "N" second's interval is set to 30 seconds.

Number of trades that bot can make on one market depends on price movements on market. If price on our runner goes up and down a lot, then it is very likely that our trades will be fully matched. But if price is not moving or it moves only up or down, then it is very likely that only one of our bets get matched. That is why we use Hedge functionality to stop and minimize our loss.

Bot can trade on any runner, and it is up to you to decide how you want to use bot. We suggest that you start by using bot to trade only on favorite, and later as you learn how bot works that you try using it on any runner.

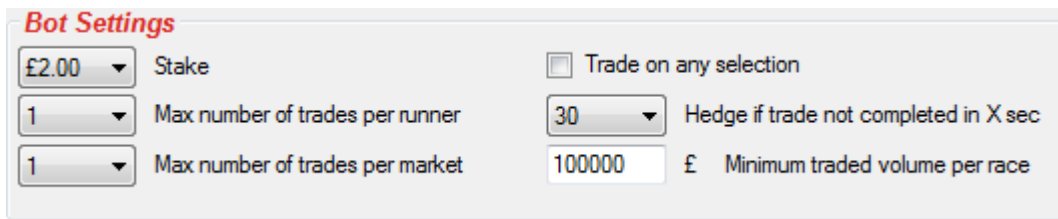
When trading in running you should be careful not to use too big amounts, because your bets might not be fully matched. Amounts up to £100 are all good, and everything above that is considered to be a big stake for in running trading.

You should bet reasonably, with amounts that you can afford to lose. We suggest that you start using bot with smallest bet size available for your Betfair account currency, and if you are satisfied with the way how bot works then increase stake step by step to your desired amount.

## 2. Bot controls

Main bot controls are displayed on image below.

Image 3



The screenshot shows a 'Bot Settings' window with the following controls:

£2.00	Stake	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade on any selection
1	Max number of trades per runner	30	Hedge if trade not completed in X sec
1	Max number of trades per market	100000	£ Minimum traded volume per race

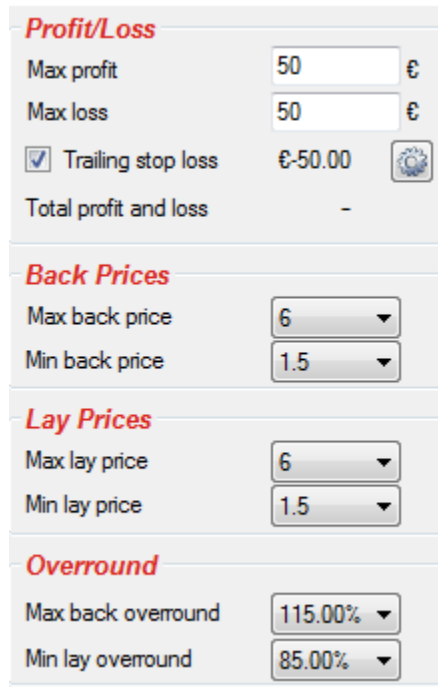
Bot controls:

- Stake combo box - this is the stake that bot will use for trade, it is not liability. Your liability depends from Max Lay price that you have set and this stake size. You should make sure that you have enough funds in your Betfair account to cover bet at max Lay price that you set with stake you selected
- Number of trades per runner - this is max number of trades that bot will try to place for each runner. For each runner trades are placed one by one. When first trade is completed then bot will try to place second trade, and so on. We have limited this number to 3, as we find that 3 trades per market in running are enough.
- Number of trades per market - this is max number of trades that bot can try to place on market while in running. Trades can be placed on one runner or on different runners, but total number of trades placed on market will not be above this value.
- Hedge after "N" seconds - time for trade to expire. If trade is not matched within "N" seconds then unmatched bets will be cancelled and matched amounts will be hedged so that you get equal profit or loss regardless who wins the race. This is actually stopping or minimizing of your loss in cases when one of the bets is not fully matched and price started moving in opposite direction. Once the bets are hedged, bot will try to place next trade if all other rules are satisfied.
- Trade on any runner - if this is checked then bot will try to trade on any runner on market which satisfies rules of Min/Max Back/Lay prices.
- Minimum traded volume per race – minimum total matched amount per race before bot places any bets. This ensures that market is popular and that bets will be matched.

### 3. Wallet controls

On image below we can see standard controls for market, and now we shall give explanation how they are used by this bot.

Image 4



The screenshot displays the settings interface for the Bf Bot Manager, organized into four sections:

- Profit/Loss:** Max profit is set to 50 €, Max loss is set to 50 €, Trailing stop loss is checked and set to €-50.00, and Total profit and loss is -.
- Back Prices:** Max back price is set to 6 and Min back price is set to 1.5.
- Lay Prices:** Max lay price is set to 6 and Min lay price is set to 1.5.
- Overround:** Max back overround is set to 115.00% and Min lay overround is set to 85.00%.

- Max Loss - bot will automatically be stopped when loss from settled bets reaches this value
- Max Profit - bot will automatically be stopped when profit from settled bets reaches this value
- Max Back Overround - bot will try to place trade when market Back overround is better than the one specified in those settings. Value that you set here has effect on prices that bot will ask when placing bets. If you set high value for Back overround (e.g. 150%) then bot will be allowed to place bets when Back overround is 150% or less. This means that if bot places bets at Back overround of 145%, that someone else will easily give better offer which will leave your bet unmatched. We suggest setting Back overround to 110%.
- Min Lay Overround - bot will try to place trade when market Lay overround is better than the one specified in those settings. Value that you set here has effect on prices that bot will ask when placing bets. If you set low value for Lay overround (e.g. 50%) then bot will be allowed to place bets when Lay overround is 50% or more. This means that if bot places bets at Lay overround of 55%, that someone else will easily give better offer which will leave your bet unmatched. We suggest setting Lay overround to 90%
- Min Back Price - minimum value for available Back price at market that must be satisfied before bot tries to place trade.



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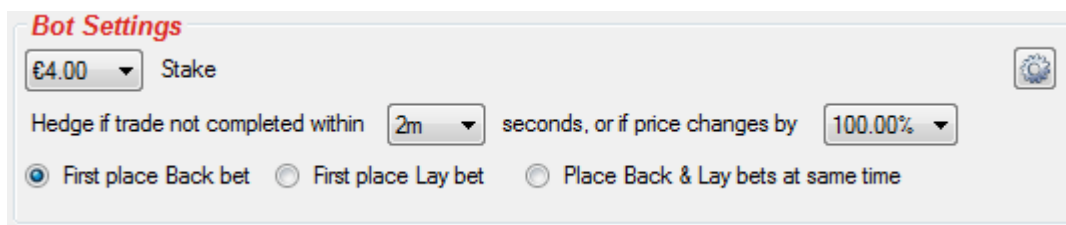
- Max Back Price - maximum value for available Back price at market that must be satisfied before bot tries to place trade.
- Min Lay Price - minimum value for available Lay price at market that must be satisfied before bot tries to place trade.
- Max Lay Price - maximum value for available Lay price at market that must be satisfied before bot tries to place trade. By setting this price you control your maximum liability per trade.

## 4. Bf Bot Manager V2 changes

From Bf Bot Manager version 2 there are more options to this bot and the layout has been changed slightly. On Image 5 we can see new layout of “Bot Settings” panel. New options are:

- First place Back bet – bot will first place Back bet, wait for that bet to be fully matched and then place Lay hedge bet
- First place Lay bet – bot will first place Lay bet, wait for that bet to be fully matched and then place Back hedge bet
- Place Back & Lay bets at same time – bot will place both bets at same time and wait for them to be fully matched before it starts new trade on that market
- Hedge if trade not completed within X seconds, or if price changes by X% - if one of the bets is matched and second bet is not matched, then bot will hedge your position for that runner after X seconds or if price changes by X% (e.g. we have Back bet matched at 5.0 but price goes up to 10.0 then bot will trade out because price changed more than X%). If you want to use only option to hedge if price changes by X% then set value for X seconds to maximum

Image 5

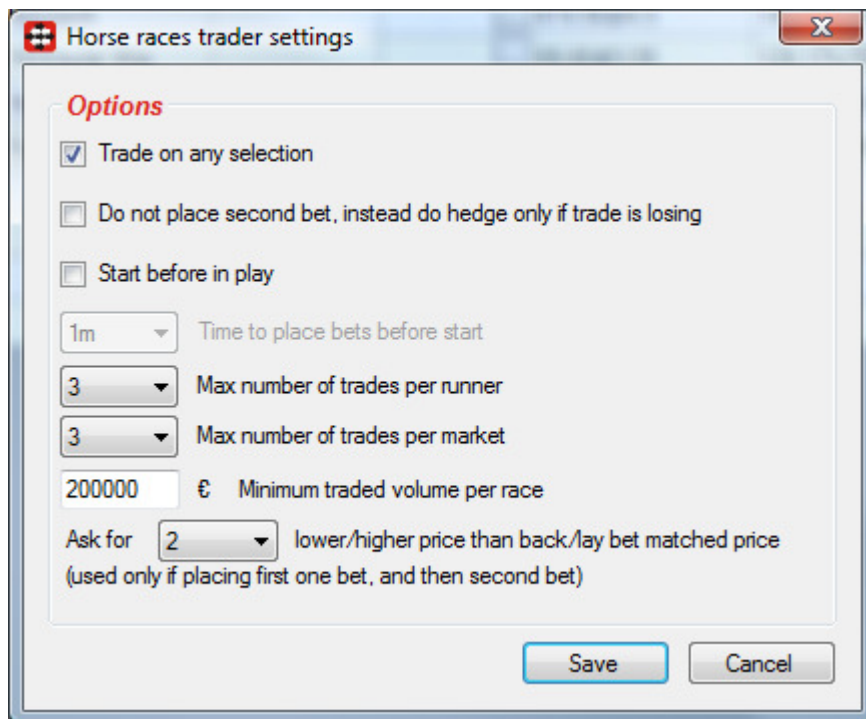


Options for max number of trades per runner and market, and minimum traded volume per race are moved to new “Horse races trader settings” form.

On Image 6 we can see new option drop down for number of steps higher or lower price to ask for, e.g. if bot placed Back bet at price 4.8 then it will place Lay bet at price lower by X steps than 4.8, and this bet will be at first unmatched. If you set this value to 1 then bot will ask for price 4.7, if you set it to 2 then bot will ask for 4.6 and so on.

Do not place second bet, instead do hedge only if trade is losing – this is used when bot places one bet first (Back or Lay) and if that bet is winning then bot will do nothing, but if that bet starts losing (price goes up in case of Back bet, or price goes down in case of Lay bet) then bot will Hedge that bet and minimize your loses.

Start before in play – if selected then bot will start placing trades before market goes in play. Bets will have persistence “Keep” which means that once market goes in play that bets will not be cancelled.

**Image 6**


Clicking on button in column “Sl.” will open selections form with list of all market runners. If you tick checkbox in column “Fav.” then you will tell the bot to trade only on that runner. At Image 7 we can see that “Ella Woodcock” is set as our own favorite, and bot will place trades only on this runner. This is especially useful if you are using option to place second bet only if trade is losing!

**Image 7**

R.	S.	Start time	Market Name	S.	1st Favorite	Winner
X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	04-Jan 14:55	Wolv/1m Hcap	A	Ella Woodcock	
X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	04-Jan 15:30	Wolv/6f Sell Stks	A	Peninsular War	
X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	04-Jan 16:05	Wolv/1m Mdn Stks	A	High Constable	
X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	04-Jan 16:35	Wolv/1m4f Claim Stks	A	Fujin Dancer	
X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	04-Jan 17:05	Wolv/1m1f Hcap	A	Danger Mulally	
X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	04-Jan 17:35	Wolv/1m Hcap	A	Shake On It	
X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	04-Jan 18:05	Wolv/7f Hcap	A	Blue Lyric	
X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	04-Jan 18:05	14:55 Wolv - 1m Hcap			

Fav.	(Event) Market, Selection
<input type="checkbox"/>	14:55 Wolv/1m Hcap/Quick Release
<input type="checkbox"/>	14:55 Wolv/1m Hcap/Bawaardi
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14:55 Wolv/1m Hcap/Ella Woodcock
<input type="checkbox"/>	14:55 Wolv/1m Hcap/Forward Feline



## 5. Resources

FAQ page at Bf Bot Manager web site

<http://www.bfbotmanager.com/cgi-bin/faq.pl>

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