

ASIAN HANDICAPS EXPLAINED

What Are They?

There is a strong possibility that you are wary of, perhaps intimidated by, or even downright confused by Asian Handicap betting. If they are new to you Asian Handicaps can, at the least, be a little hard to follow but I hope to enlighten you enough with this publication to make you want to at least re-consider looking at these lucrative betting markets that you might be missing out on.

Opportunities abound with this type of betting and, contrary to what I know that some people think when confronted with Asian Handicaps, you don't have to be an expert to take advantage. Just some basic grasp of the facts will do. Enough let us say to make certain that you don't mess up.

And always remember as you go through this information, that you could, if you wanted to, just restrict your involvement to the really simple handicaps such as (0), (1) (1.5) and so on (this will become clear as we move forward).

Asian Handicaps are mostly associated with football (soccer if you prefer to call it that). But they are certainly not the exclusive domain of football. So I will focus here on soccer almost exclusively.

Asian Handicaps, in their simplest sense, are a way for a Bookmaker or Sportsbook operator to leverage a team according to their form so that, in theory, (and in my view, in practice as well) it makes betting on football matches more interesting. A team in good form can be disadvantaged over a team in poor form or not such good form when the two teams play against each other by creating theoretical deductions of or additions of goals to the final end result.

Instead of just looking at the outcome of the game as is with a 1-0 or 2-0 win to the stronger favourite, the game can be equalised by adding in an Asian Handicap. For example, an Asian Handicap of (-2) for the strong favourite side in our example here would mean they lose if they beat the other side by 1-0 (as their handicap was a deduction of 2 [-2]) and they simply draw if the result should be a 2-0 win in the end (as their handicap was a deduction of 2 [-2]). Normally a draw would mean a return of stake. More about that later but a very nice point to note.

The idea here is to level the contest and make it as even as possible between the competitors. More importantly, the idea here is to make betting on a game where a very strong team faces a very weak team a little more attractive as a betting proposition. After all, no-one really likes to bet heavily odds-on favourites in a soccer game but the draw and the under-dog win always seem so highly unlikely in those games. So these higher odds bets are still not that attractive as a serious bet.

Typically, with Asian Handicap betting, the stronger team are given a theoretical penalty to overcome and then odds are applied accordingly and the weaker opposition are given the opposite to the penalty, which, in this case, would be a theoretical head start in goals. Chelsea playing against a lower league side might be heavily handicapped and given such a penalty to overcome before being classed as winners on the bet. The opposition accordingly would be gifted theoretical goals and so, for them to be winners on the bet, what they would need to do is not lose by more than the gifted goals applied. I hope that this will become clearer as we move on.

Just remember that, whilst I will dwell on soccer to demonstrate Asian Handicap betting, it can be applied to many different sports and frequently is so applied to them.

Another aspect, perhaps even benefit, of Asian handicapping is to eliminate the need for 3 results with odds in a contest where a draw is actually a possible outcome.

Again, typically, draws are mostly associated with soccer and a one dimensional bet on whether a game will or will not be a draw is slightly limiting and this factor goes some way to explaining the explosion in popularity of betting exchanges where simply laying a team does away with the need to isolate the draw as a possible result. With a lay you simply say “this team will not win”.

Well, Asian Handicap betting achieves the same outcome but without the dreaded commission!

The simplest way to differentiate the teams in a soccer match is to differentiate based on goals scored and thus Asian Handicaps, like over or under goal markets, make the draw an irrelevance. With other sports the differential can reflect a margin in points, frames, nets, games, sets and so on depending on the sport concerned instead of goals. In basketball, for example, it would be a points or basket handicaps.

You should try to get to understand at least a little of how Asian Handicap betting works because it is not as complicated as it first looks and familiarising yourself with it can lead to a big advantage for you over those who simply look at it and exclaim “this is just too complicated for me!” As just mentioned, but worth repeating, they have particularly boomed as a way of betting since the advent of Betting Exchanges because they give us a way to avoid the commission that goes with a winning lay bet.

How do they get over the need to cover a draw? Well, the simplest explanation is this. If one of the two teams is gifted a theoretical goal, theoretical goals or (as we will see) even a theoretical part of a goal then, to determine the result, this gift has to be added to the end score-line. Thus a draw can never be a draw as you must add the gift to that result.

Imagine that Chelsea game referred to again for a moment. We might back Chelsea to win with a bookmaker in a straight match odds bet and then lay them on a betting exchange (odds permitting) so that win or lose we don't care because our bet is guaranteed not to lose. But to have this guarantee, we need the lay odds to be significantly lower than the back odds. Not so easy to achieve these days.



We will lose commission on the winning lay bet **IF** Chelsea lose or draw and so our lay odds must be at around nearly 6% lower than our back odds (typically) for us to not lose out financially because of the exchange commission charges. It must be quickly stressed that these are no more than quick example figures so don't get hung up over the calculations.

Asian Handicap betting does away with the need to back and lay as the draw becomes irrelevant anyway.

Because of this alternative to potential commission loses, it is also almost certainly the case that Asian Handicap odds produce more Arbitrage betting opportunities than any other odds as books scramble for all the business out there they can grab. This scramble creates mistakes and, sometimes, deliberately overly-generous odds. It is easy to see why comparing odds in these markets can, at first, seem complicated especially when you can get an arbitrage forming across two entirely separate and distinct markets.

Now this next little section is as much about arbitrage than it is specifically about Asian Handicap but the one helps to further explain one of the big attractions of the other.

Here is an example, just as a simple warm up, of creating an arbitrage between a straight match odds bet on the one side with William Hill in this case and a typical Asian book approach which ignores the draw as a separate entity:

02 Oct 16:00 352.00%	 Sbobet	03 Oct	Paris FC - Amiens	1X	1.32	X
	Soccer	19:30	France National			
	 William Hill	03 Oct	Paris F.C. - Amiens	2	4.33	X
	Soccer	19:30	France Ligue National			

You see that Sbobet are offering odds of 1.32 on Paris FC winning or drawing the match (1 and X) and William Hill are offering odds of 4.33 on Amiens winning the match (2). So you can see that all possible outcomes are covered and two different markets are merging to make an arbitrage opportunity. Odds on 1X (home win and draw) and X2 (draw and away win) are commonly found and frequently form one part of an arbitrage bet.

However, the scenario below, is exactly the same bet except, (different match of course) expressed in a completely different way:

02 Oct 12:53 189.00%	 Pinnacle	03 Oct	Kilmarnock - Dundee United	AH1(+0.5)	↑ 1.85	X
	Soccer	19:44	Scotland - Premier League			
	 Betfred	03 Oct	Kilmarnock - Dundee United	2	↓ 2.20	X
	Soccer	19:45	SPL			

Pinnacle are offering odds on AH1 at (+0.5) which means that if the home team (Kilmarnock) win by any goal margin then this bet is a winner and, as they have been gifted a theoretical half a goal head start, a draw is impossible because it will always be a draw plus a half. Betfred are offering odds of 2.2 on Dundee United winning so, once again, all possible outcomes are covered. The AH (+0.5) bet is an Asian Handicap bet and it covers everything except the away team winning and that, of course, is covered by the Betfred standard match win bet on Dundee United. Do you see that?

The figure 1 after the AH, just to dot i's, always represents the home side and the figure 2 always represents the away side when you see a 1 X 2 bet line up or AH2.

I am hoping that you know what an arbitrage is, but in the interests of not leaving gaps in understanding, in case you are completely new to this, the simple explanation is that arbitrage is covering all possible outcomes in such a way that a loss on the total bet is not possible. Its literal meaning came from a French word that meant to simultaneously buy and sell a security, currency or commodity in different markets in order to take advantage of differing prices for the same asset with the net result of the asset costing nothing or next to nothing.

This has been adapted slightly for sports betting to mean the buying of all sides of a bet with odds that are good enough to allow the bet to be totally risk-free. Arbitrage and Asian Handicaps go hand in hand because of an anomaly that allows different types of Asian Handicap bets to be struck that secure a risk-free outcome in many different ways.

For example, if you had a bet on one team that was AH1 (-1.5) and a bet on another team that was AH2 (+2.5) what side of the bet would win if the result was 2-0 to the AH1 team?

Hopefully you got that straight away and realised that **BOTH SIDES OF THE BET WIN**. Now this isn't very common but it can happen and does happen and that might give you an idea that you could use to some great advantage. Do you even need the odds to allow for a zero risk bet in this situation? Frankly, if every now and then you got a real bonus return when the score was 2-0, would you care about small losses on some of the other bets?

The good news is that, like everything in life, a little persistence pays off and understanding them well or at least being confident with them brings, potentially, many rewards.

So to recap at this early stage; fundamentally, Asian Handicaps even up a competition by giving a disadvantage to one participant and an advantage to the other, be this by a goal difference in soccer or a games difference in tennis, frames difference in snooker and so on; the theory being that each team then has a more equal chance of winning and the odds attached would reflect the real chance of this handicapped result happening.

And the really good news is that with Asian Handicap betting the draw is always taken out of the equation altogether. That alone should get you thinking about whether or not the betting exchange is such a wonderful way of creating risk free bets...

Expressing the Handicaps.

The target (competitor), the odds and the advantage/disadvantage (handicap) would normally be expressed like this: TARGET (H/CAP) ODDS - example: AH1 (-0.5) @ 1.86

The (0) Asian Handicap

This is seen when both teams are pretty evenly matched anyway and is a very simple way of creating a betting opportunity that ignores the draw. If the end result is a draw, the stake is simply returned.

The only thing you need remember here when seeing odds on the handicap result **(0)** is that a draw equals a **“no bet”** so when you see a team with **(0)** as an Asian Handicap, the bet is basically a match odds bet with the draw counting as **NO BET, stake returned**. So if both teams have a **(0)** handicap then this means that the team you bet on must win for you to win (any score-line will do) and a draw means that the stake is returned and, in this example below, that would be the case on both teams and both sides of the bet.

Naturally because the Asian Handicap is designed to bring the teams as close together as possible by the bookmaker, the margins are very slim on the odds so when you see odds that allow a guaranteed no-lose bet regardless of outcome, such as the example below, you should grab it, why wouldn't you if you can't lose?

It is no surprise that more arbitrage opportunities exist in Asian Handicap betting than in pretty much anything else out there as, just having a conviction that team A is stronger than team B and putting down odds accordingly, is one thing but then deciding on how to handicap the two teams, well, that is something else. I can guarantee that you will (with the aid of some trusted software) find Asian Handicap arbitrage bets every day without fail.

The examples I use in this publication are from such a piece of software that I personally use. It finds me as many arbitrage opportunities as I could ever need and I particularly use it to put those multiples together I briefly mentioned above. If you want to check it out [CLICK HERE](#).

Sbobet	23 Aug	Blackburn Rovers - Bournemouth AFC	AH1(0)	1.75
Soccer	15:00	ENGLISH CHAMPIONSHIP		
Ladbrokes	23 Aug	Blackburn - Bournemouth	AH2(0)	↓ 2.37
Soccer	15:00	English. Championship		

If you looked at the bet comparison above between Sbobet and Ladbrokes and decided to make a guaranteed profit if Blackburn won, with no downside risk, you could. If you were to back them for £100 this would give you a £75 profit and your stake back if they won the game and a return of your stake of £100 if they drew the game. If they lost you would lose your £100 stake on that bet but...

You would then back Bournemouth as well, with Ladbrokes, to win at those 2.37 odds displayed just to cover your £100 in the event of Blackburn losing, you could do this for £73. If Bournemouth win you win $£73 \times 2.37 - \text{the stake} = £100$.

If it is a draw, you get back both of your stakes and lose nothing/win nothing. If Blackburn win you get back £175 from Sbobet and lose £73 at Ladbrokes so you make a risk-free £2 on your bet. If Bournemouth win you get to cover the stake made on Blackburn. By the way, whilst Sbobet may not be a familiar name to you they are one of, if not **the**, biggest of the Asian Sportsbooks and are a very secure and professional organisation.

PLEASE NOTE:

Most of the best Asian Sportsbooks, including SBOBET and PINNACLE have withdrawn from taking UK based customer business due to a tax change in October 2014 by the UK Authorities.

This is bad news for many in the UK as these two organisations specifically are superb for arbitrage opportunities but there is a legitimate work-around or 2 that I use allowing me to continue betting with these superb organisations. Risk Free Money Formula Book II will show you how and share a fantastic, high yield, risk-free betting strategy with you as well. Please email support@profitmagnets.com if you wish to know where to purchase that book.

Back to our bet. It doesn't sound much does it? £2 profit on a £100 bet. But that is a 2% return on your £100 with absolute zero risk and I know you would love to get that on your money in the bank.

Ten such bets a day and you've made £20. Imagine getting 20% interest daily on your money in the bank. More realistically, if your bank told you that in exchange for agreeing not to get any interest on some days, you can get between 2% and 20% on the other days what would you say? Would you say, no, I will stay as I am or would you go for the new deal? It's a no brainer really especially when you realise that you can get these higher returns better than 50% of the time and, of course, the downside is just no interest, not a loss of actual money.

The margins on that particular example above are a little too small to worry about trying to create a profit whoever wins (a standard, and possibly misguided, approach to creating arbitrage bets) but that can be done with the bigger margins. I tend to just make sure I get a profit if the bet with the smallest odds wins (usually they have the edge after all). You should note that often the margins are much bigger than these. I have seen such no-lose opportunities offering hundreds of percent differences but you need to be really quick to grab those mistakes.

If there is no obvious stronger side or favourite as indicated by the odds, then I tend to favour the home side. This makes life easier and more productive when you win.

A Straight (1) Asian Handicap

These whole number or single integer handicaps are sometimes also called single or simple handicaps. What you need to remember with single integer or whole number Asian Handicaps is that they contain what we call a "push" bet in exactly the same way as the (0) handicap does. If the exact score taking the handicap into account is the outcome, "push" means stake refunded. Here's an example of a single integer (1) handicap bet:

Sbobet	24 Aug	Lyon - Lens	AH1(-1)	↑ 1.96
Soccer	13:00	FRANCE LIGUE 1		
Ladbrokes	24 Aug	Lyon - Lens	AH2(+1)	↑ 2.06
Soccer	13:00	French. Ligue 1		

AH1 means, Asian Handicap Home Side and, for the bet on Lyon (the home side) to win, as they have a **(-1)** handicap, they need to win the game by **two** clear goals, so that is 2-0, 3-1 and so on including any bigger than +2 goal margin. If the result of the game is just a 1 goal winning margin to Lyon (1-0) your stake on Lyon is refunded (**PUSH BET**) as the exact handicap margin is then the actual outcome.

This is a potentially superb betting opportunity in its own right, arbitrage aside. What if you fancy that the slight under-dog here, Lens has a good chance but are unlikely to do any more than maybe sneak a small win at best? By backing them with Ladbrokes you can only lose your stake if there is a 2 clear goal victory by Lyon. Not bad really at better than evens odds. Compare that to a straight match bet where (whilst the odds on a Lens win would be better of course) a draw and a 1-0 against them is also a losing bet.

You can substitute the 1 here for 2 or 3 or 4 or any single whole number (you could even replace it with 20 or 40 or 100 in other sports looking at say runs or points) and just remember that the single integer/whole number dictates the margin of victory (or loss) required. It is important to remember that a single integer in this instance does not mean single number. It really means **WHOLE** number.

Right now I can imagine that you might be wondering, "what other number could there be other than a whole number?" Well the answer to that is coming soon, read on.

The **(- minus)** number always means that an imaginary reduction of **-X** goals, (using soccer) exists before the start so **(-4)**, for example, would mean that to win with that handicap the team with that **(-4)** handicap would need a 5 goal margin of victory. That's 5-0 or 6-1 or 7-2 and so on. It always needs to be one bigger than the handicap figure represented for it to be a win and with these single integers/whole numbers if the result equals the exact margin then the bet **always** becomes a returned stake or a **PUSH**.

This again explains why a draw cannot happen because 0-0 or 1-1 or 2-2 as a final game result is not more than or less than 1 as a margin and so on.

1-1 as a final score, to use that as an example on our game here, is, after handicapping, 2 -1 to Lens and 0-1 to Paris. So, if any of those results occurred, then the Lens bet has won.

If the game is a draw, then the bet on Lyon in our example above is a loser and, of course, if Lyon lose the match for real by any score-line, the bet is also a loser. If Lyon win by just 1 goal then our stake on Lyon is returned (**PUSH**).

On the other side, the **(+1)** side, Lens (AH2 means Asian Handicap Away Side) need only win by any goal margin at all or draw this game for this to be a winning bet. If Lens lose 1-0 then the stake is returned (**PUSH**) because, with the handicap of (+1) given, this becomes 1-1 as an end result.

If it appears that I am labouring the point here it is purely to help you to absorb this in detail and with some re-reading you will grasp this for sure if you allow yourself time. I remember how much my head hurt when I first encountered Asian Handicaps.

Sbobet	24 Aug	Lyon - Lens	AH1(-1)	↑ 1.96
Soccer	13:00	FRANCE LIGUE 1		
Ladbrokes	24 Aug	Lyon - Lens	AH2(+1)	↑ 2.06
Soccer	13:00	French. Ligue 1		

In the example above you can see that if we back Lyon for £100 we win £96 if they win by the 2 goals required and, to cover our stake so making the affair risk free, I would then back Lens for £95. Here (below) is a less common variation on the straight 1 handicap expressed this time in an over/under 1st half only goals market:

Sbobet	23 Aug	Leyton Orient - Walsall [1st half]	TO(1)	2.21
Soccer	15:00	ENGLISH LEAGUE ONE		
Ladbrokes	23 Aug	Leyton Orient - Walsall [1st half]	TU(1)	↑ 1.88
Soccer	15:00	English. League One		

Very simply if there is **more than** one goal, the **TO (1)** (total over 1) bet wins. If there are no goals, the **TU (1)** (total under 1) bet wins. This isn't a handicap bet in the pure sense as such but the reason I have included it is that it also has a "push" element. If the score-line is exactly 1 goal and you backed both sides here then both stakes would be returned.

A (1.5) Asian Handicap or Common Handicap

This is more familiar to most as it uses figures that we all see regularly in over/under goal markets and similar. This needs little explanation as it is a straightforward case of the bet winning if the target is exceeded or losing if it isn't. Here's an example of a basketball game with a 1.5 handicap arbitrage available. Note that they sometimes come with OT (overtime or extra time) counting and sometimes without. If it says "with OT" you know over or extra time is included.

Pinnacle	22 Aug	Slovenia - Brazil [with OT]	AH1(+1.5)	↑ 2.07
Basketball	19:00	International - Friendlies		
Marathon	22 Aug	Slovenia - Brazil [with OT]	AH2(-1.5)	↓ 2.00
Basketball	19:05	Internationals. Men. International Tournament. Slovenia. Round Robin		

All of these .5 margin bets are the same. In this example if AH2 (away team) win this match by a 2 point margin or more then the bet at 2.00 is a winner. If they (AH2) do not win by that margin of at least 2 then the bet is a loser. The AH1 (home team) bet is a winner in every other situation. So, simply put, if AH2 do not beat AH1 by 2 straight points or more then the AH1 bet is a winning bet. Just to make that crystal clear:

Any draw means the AH1 of **(+1.5)** bet wins. 0-1 also means AH1 wins, 1-2 is an AH1 win, 2-3, 3-4 and so on. But 0-2 means AH2 wins and any other 2 point margin victory, such as 1-3 to the away side means AH2 wins.

If the numbers (the handicap) were **+2.5 and -2.5** the only difference would be that the point margin required is then 3 or more. The minus figure **(-1.5) (-2.5)** is the key to this bet for understanding it easily.

The team with the minus figure starts off with an imaginary deficit to overcome of **-1.5 or -2.5** and so on and has to make that up before the bet on them can ever be a winner. If they cannot overcome

that handicap then the opposite side is the winner. Everything else about this bet is just the number changing and once you have it firmly in your head it is easy.

ASIAN HANDICAP “DOUBLES”, “SPLIT BALLS OR “QUARTER BALLS”

These are a little more complicated and so, if you remember my comment earlier on, you could simply avoid these if you wished to. But once you’ve gone over this a few times, it is easy enough to follow. They exist, not to simply confuse (although you could be forgiven for thinking that) but to allow the bookmaker to eliminate the chances of a full **PUSH** bet. This is because the bet becomes two bets made covering two distinct result margin possibilities or, if you prefer, covering two distinct **BANDS**.

Before going into detail, a table of bands might just help as a reference point here with the bands being in quarter margins. You don’t ever physically bet on a quarter but when you see a quarter expressed in a bet (it could be 0.25 or 0.75 or 1.25 or 1.75 and so on) then what you are betting on are the two figures either side, hence the table below. With 0.25 you are betting on 0 and 0.5 and with 0.75 you are betting on 0.5 and 1.

If this table went from 1 to 2 in quarter bands, and you saw the Asian Handicap bet of 1.25 you would be betting on 1 and 1.5 and if you saw the Asian Handicap bet 1.75 you would be betting on 1.5 and 2. You could continue that up between 2 and 3, 3 and 4 and so on.

0	0.25	0.5	0.75	1
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The table above shows 5 distinct BANDS from 0 through to 1 and you will see that 0.75 and 0.25 are specifically colour coded. The end and centre bands can go into either coloured band depending on what the “double” or “Split” bet is, as you will see. Again, remember that this table could just as easily read 1 and 1.5 through to 2 and 2 and 2.5 through to 3 with the relevant quarter gaps showing as 1.25 and 1.75 and so on.

The **push** would be where the result fell into the end grey bands such as 0 and 1 and so on. Obviously although the table shows a 0.5 (and could show a 1.5 or 2.5 etc) landing on 0.5 as an actual result is impossible. So if you have a stake on 0 and 0 is the result, that stake is returned. If you have a stake on 1 and 1 is the result, that stake is returned. Where it gets a little more complicated is where the stake on 0.5 is concerned but we’ll cover that now.

Again, to quickly recap, a **push** is where the score is exactly **on the margin** so if a (-1) handicap bet ends with that team winning 1-0 the stake in this situation is returned in full because $1-0 - 1 = 0-0$ That’s important as we move on.

The biggest question I ever had when I first encountered these split bets was “why the hell would they bother to invent so many variants?” The answer is, I don’t know to this day and I don’t think that is important but I guess there must have been a demand for all this confusion otherwise it wouldn’t exist.

The fundamental key point of a double or split handicap is that the stake you commit is split in half and into two bets. So a £100 stake becomes two £50 stakes. The bookmaker in this instance cannot decide on the exact handicap margin. Do they want to be on exactly a half? Or, do they want to be on 0 or 1? So they cover both 0 and 0.5 or 0.5 and 1 so that it doesn’t matter.

These are sometimes referred to as level half Asian handicaps, or two-way handicaps or even quarter goal (or half goal etc.) handicaps (read goal as ball, as point, as frame, as whatever scoring system the sport uses and so on for other sports should you ever encounter them).

The normal format of a double handicap is a simple expression of two figures, for example it might be expressed as **AH1 (-0.5, -1)** where **(-0.5)** gets half the stake and **(-1)** gets the other half. But it can be expressed in quarter gap figures. Just remember your stake is always split into two stakes.

The same bet **(-0.5, -1)** expressed in this different quarter gap way would be simply **(-0.75)**. Where these **(-0.5 and -1)** are replaced by **(-0.75)**. If we were looking at a double that was **(0, -0.5)** that would also frequently be expressed as **(-0.25)**. Hence the quick table to assist you. Here it is again:

0	0.25	0.5	0.75	1
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You can now quickly relate the handicaps to the table above. The **yellow** and **green** colour coding means that when you see those handicap figures expressed the two figures either side of the colour coded figure are where your bet is placed (50% on each). Always remember that with these handicaps your stake is **ALWAYS** split in two.

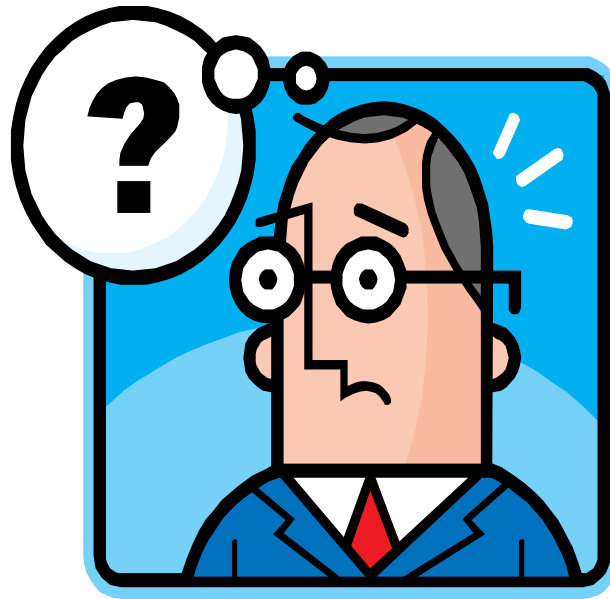
In the bet below **(+0.25 and -0.25)** a 0-0 or 1-1 or other draw result in this game means that half of the stake on both sides of this bet would be refunded. That would be the bit on + or - 0. If you were on Chester (AH1 + 0.25) then with a drawn result you would be refunded your half stake that was bet on the (+0) part and you would win with your half stake that was on the (+0.5) part. So with odds at 2.04 that means you actually get £50 + £102 back in your hand.

Conversely, a 0-0, 1-1 or other draw result for the other side, (the away side Halifax -0.25), would mean that the £50 that was on (-0) is a total loser and the £50 that was on (-0.5) is a returned stake. So this produces a loss of £50 overall and returns £50 and a loss of £50. Add the two sides together and the bet makes £2 whatever the outcome.

Any **real** losing result in this game by any margin makes one whole side of this bet a total loss. Any real win result in this game by any margin makes one whole side of this bet a total win. **This example uses (-0.25) and (+0.25) but remember this is the same as (0, -0.5) and (0, +0.5) it's just expressed this way for ease.**

Sbobet	23 Aug	Chester - Halifax Town	AH1(+0.25)	↑ 2.04
Soccer	15:00	English Conference National		
Ladbrokes	23 Aug	Chester - Halifax	AH2(-0.25)	2.04
Soccer	15:00	English. Conference Premier		

Confused?



It can be confusing and there is no other way I can make it less so than to suggest you read it over and over again until the proverbial penny drops. If I were sat in front of you now I could show you over and over in different ways but, sadly, I am not but I hope that I have explained it as best I can here.

On the following page there's another table that might help to explain these quarter balls further and in a different way. I have borrowed this, unashamedly from [Wikipedia](#) rather than re-produce my own as I think this does as good a job as anything else I have seen.

Handicap	Team result	Bet result	Handicap	Team result	Bet result
0	Win	Win	0	Win	Win
	Draw	Stake refund		Draw	Stake refund
	Lose	Lose		Lose	Lose
- 0.25	Win	Win	+ 0.25	Win	Win
	Draw	Half lose		Draw	Half win
	Lose	Lose		Lose	Lose
- 0.50	Win	Win	+ 0.50	Win	Win
	Draw	Lose		Draw	Win
	Lose	Lose		Lose	Lose
- 0.75	Win by 2+	Win	+ 0.75	Win	Win
	Win by 1	Half win		Draw	Win
	Draw	Lose		Lose by 1	Half Lose
	Lose	Lose		Lose by 2+	Lose
- 1.00	Win by 2+	Win	+ 1.00	Win	Win
	Win by 1	Stake refund		Draw	Win
	Draw	Lose		Lose by 1	Stake refund
	Lose	Lose		Lose by 2+	Lose
- 1.25	Win by 2+	Win	+ 1.25	Win	Win
	Win by 1	Half lose		Draw	Win
	Draw	Lose		Lose by 1	Half win
	Lose	Lose		Lose by 2+	Lose
- 1.50	Win by 2+	Win	+ 1.50	Win	Win
	Win by 1	Lose		Draw	Win
	Draw	Lose		Lose by 1	Win
	Lose	Lose		Lose by 2+	Lose
- 1.75	Win by 3+	Win	+ 1.75	Win	Win
	Win by 2	Half win		Draw	Win
	Win by 1	Lose		Lose by 1	Win
	Draw	Lose		Lose by 2	Half lose
	Lose	Lose		Lose by 3+	Lose
- 2.00	Win by 3+	Win	+ 2.00	Win	Win
	Win by 2	Stake refund		Draw	Win
	Win by 1	Lose		Lose by 1	Win
	Draw	Lose		Lose by 2	Stake refund
	Lose	Lose		Lose by 3+	Lose

As you progress up the handicap scale, simply add to the margin figure, i.e. -3.00 = a need to win by a margin of 4 clear goals.

Don't get hung up on these, they are much simpler than they first appear. You will never see handicaps expressed as (for example) **(-1.50, -1.75)** because -1.75 actually covers -1.50 and 2 anyway.

Remember to look out for the cross market bets as these can be really interesting. Examples such as double chance bets (1 X 2) coupled with 0.5 handicaps are particularly common and good. Just to clarify, a double chance bet is where you bet home and draw or away and draw.

Well that's about my lot on Asian handicaps. I wrote this guide because the books I have been writing recently on Risk-Free betting go into Asian Handicap examples a lot, especially the second book. The basics are simple enough to follow. All you have to do is take the real result of a game and deduct or increase that by the handicap. When it comes to the double handicaps where the bookmaker is covering two distinct bands then just remember to cut your total stake in half and apply one half to each band.

Again just email support@profitmagnets.com if you want to know more about the Risk Free Money Formula books.

Remember that by mastering these betting markets you achieve two very important things, one previously mentioned and one added in here for the first time to make you really think.

- 1) You open up a whole new area of betting and one which, frankly, gives you a better chance of finding some good winning bets and, as a by-product, also opens up a whole bunch of arbitrage opportunities.
- 2) Bookmakers are way less sensitive about Asian Handicap bets. Every man and his dog is looking for the glaringly obvious risk free betting opportunity, the horse with smaller place odds to lay on Betfair than the given place odds at the bookie and so on. So staying under the bookies radar with Asians is a bit of a breeze in contrast.

Here's to some great Asian opportunities!

John

If you want to really get to grips with Risk Free betting just email me about the Risk Free Money Formula books (support@profitmagnets.com).

If there are some mistakes that you can identify, do please let me know, it is easy to miss the odd blunder even after multiple read checks.

Best contact for me is support@profitmagnets.com

You can find more of my work at www.profitmagnets.com and www.riskfreemoneyformula.com and www.assuredsoccerprofits.com

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