INTRODUCTION FROM SBC EDITOR PETER LING

Welcome to this special Smart Betting Club free report, showcasing our in-depth review of the Wizard of Big Odds service from Tipsters Empire.

First published in March 2020, this detailed review explores the profits made by this tipster since they started in July 2018. It is an update on the first review we published on the Wizard of Big Odds in September 2019 and helps to reflect on their recent entry into the SBC 'Hall of Fame'.

The Wizard of Big Odds is just one of many tipsters providing advice across a range of sports that we review and monitor for Smart Betting Club members. The very best tipsters we uncover make our 'Hall of Fame' of recommended services proven to make money betting for our members.

If you enjoy this review and are keen to learn more on many other tipsters just like this service, then you might like to consider joining our tight-knit community of profitable gamblers.

With a 100% independent tipster review policy (no affiliate links anywhere!) you can also be assured when we do recommend a tipster, it's for a good reason and not because we have a financial incentive to do so!

SBC membership is available on a quarterly, bi-annual or annual basis and comes with a full money back guarantee. [Click here to sign-up right away](#)!

Best Regards,

*Peter Ling*



Smart Betting Club Owner/Founder     smartbettingclub.com

# SBC MAGAZINE REVIEW: Wizard of Big Odds
## FIRST PUBLISHED MARCH 2020

In each SBC magazine, you can find several independent tipster reviews as this example analysis of the Wizard of Big Odds service from March 2020 helps to showcase.

The Wizard of Big Odds service focuses on tipping larger priced horses and having proofed the service over its first 1200 bets, in this review we analysed the performance seen so far and how likely it is to be replicated in the future.

You can also view the results of our detailed odds tracking study, which highlight the movement in odds for the selections put forward over time. A key element when investigating any tipster service in the racing world.

In each review we also include results from our detailed Monte Carlo simulations, which provide rigorous mathematical insight into the real edge a service actually has alongside the level of risk it offers if following.

This review is typical of the level of detail we go into when analysing a tipster service as we examine every aspect of what they offer from profits made to odds availability. No stone is left unturned in our quest to help find the best, most profitable tipsters for you to profit from.

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## REVIEW: WIZARD OF BIG ODDS
### REVIEWER: ROWAN DAY   DATA ANALYSIS: MARK KEMP

**LONGER PRICED HORSE RACING TIPS MERITING A HALL OF FAME RECOMMENDATION**

| NAME: | Wizard Of Big Odds | EMAIL: | info@tipstersempire.co.uk |
|---|---|---|---|
| WEBSITE: | https://tipstersempire.co.uk/subscribe/the-wizard-of-big-odds/ | TWITTER: | @TipstersEmpire |
| BET DELIVERY: | Email and via members' section of website | COST: | £40/month; £105/3 months; £180/6 months; £350/12 months |
| BET FREQUENCY: | Circa 60 bets/month | SBC DISCOUNT: | Save 50% on any subscription length |

| BET SUPPLY TIME: | **GMT:** 11.00am **Aus/NZ:** 8.00pm |
|---|---|
| LANGUAGE: | **English** |

| BOOKMAKERS: | **Recommended:** Bet365, Paddy Power, BetVictor, Betfair Sportsbook, Coral |
|---|---|
| EXCHANGES: | Profitable at Betfair SP although level of profit skewed by one big winner |

### SERVICE SNAPSHOT

- Focus on longer priced racing tips with a 30% ROI from first 1,200+ bets
- Fair odds at the time of advice although sharp odds movement within first hour of supply
- Larger betting bank required to cover profile of tips taken on
- Very low P-Factor suggests definitive edge over the markets and evidence of real skill
- Based on consistently strong long-term performance, Hall of Fame entry is deserved.
- Save 50% on the cost of a subscription exclusively available to SBC members only.

## INTRODUCTION

We originally reviewed Wizard Of Big Odds in September 2019, so much of what you read may well be familiar to those of you with a long-term SBC membership. Since this original review, we have proofed another 300 bets which have performed extremely well and with interest high in this service, we have decided to update our analysis of performance complete with findings from our Monte Carlo simulations. Performance to Betfair SP has also been notably strong, so we have delved further into this angle too, so that you now have a more complete picture of this service and what it is capable of producing.

## SERVICE IN DETAIL

The advice is initially dispensed by Wizard Of Big Odds (WOBO) by a text which provides a link to the members' section of the website at roughly 11am each morning. This changed from the earlier release time of 9am in February 2020. Subscribers will also receive an email with bet detail a little later. The view of *Tipsters Empire* is that members should view the text as the mode of delivery with the email providing an archive of results:

*"We encourage all customers to use text to place bets and read write ups in log in area. We then send email (normally within 5 minutes) so customers can use them to record their own results, if needed."*

The man (or Wizard?) behind the service is a genuine horse racing fanatic, being immersed in betting since childhood when his Dad and Uncle were both bookmakers. After a brief six month stint working in a bookies after leaving school, the Wizard decided he much preferred the view from the other side of the counter and has been a professional punter ever since. Now a racehorse owner too, the Wizard backs his own form reading ability and an instinctive judgment borne from watching thousands of races to generate an edge over the market.

One thing is for sure, and that is that *Tipsters Empire* is very sweet on WOBO. Having *"sailed through"* his trial period *"with the best results we have ever had…bringing him on board at Tipsters Empire was quite possibly the easiest decision we have ever made"*. Quite the build-up. Our review will provide some insight as to whether their bullishness is justified.

As you would expect from a service that provides tips at an average price of just under 14/1, the win strike rate is relatively low at around the 14% mark and so perhaps isn't for everyone. As we will see, you can expect there to be longer fallow periods than those we see from some other services that provide a higher hit rate of winners, albeit at a shorter odds range.

Despite the average price of each tip being so high, the majority (80%) are advised as win only. We can see already that setting up an appropriately sized betting bank will be vital!

Pleasingly a full rationale is provided for each tip, alongside all the basic information needed to strike the bet. Here is an example of what members can expect:

# Friday 25th October

Good morning. Another second yesterday with Broughtons Flare who travelled well and looked a likely winner until hanging badly right and then left. Whether it cost him victory i'm not sure but it didn't help. Other selection Cheat was bitterley disappointing, despite not getting the clearest of runs it made little difference. 2 further tips today.

## ROCKPOINT 3.45 Cheltenham, 1 point win 10/1 generally

Has a bit to do on hurdles ratings but he's always looked the type to make a really useful chaser and he can improve over the bigger obstacles. He was in great form in the early part of last year with his best performance coming at this track when winning a grade 2 and beating a useful performer in the bargain. His form tailed off towards the backend but this might be the time of the year to catch him and being over 6 he still has a decent future ahead of him.

## ICE LORD 4.35 Newbury, 1 point win 8/1 generally (*Watch bets as Ice AGE runs in same race)

His 3 wins have come in August, September and last year he ended the season with a big field win in October off a 5lb higher mark so he comes good this time of year and after just 4 starts this term and with the stable now in good form he should go well on his first run on heavy ground. He loves soft ground and he's always seemed the type who will actually be better on heavy so I'm expecting a big run.

Signing up to WOBO is done via the *Tipsters Empire* website where you can take advantage of an initial 28 day trial for just £2.99. If continuing after the trial, then the cost is £40/month although a discount on this rate can be secured if committing to a longer period. For example, if happy to commit for a full year the price of £350 equates to just over £29/month.

SBC members can take advantage of a special 50% discount on any trials or full-time subscription to the service by using a special code upon sign-up. This code can be found via access to the SBC member-only Tipster Savings page.

## SERVICE RESULTS

Let's first look at how the service is performing overall. Notably, the overall profit has risen since our original review was penned from 264 points at 26% ROI to 398 points at 30% ROI, which shows just how well WOBO has performed since September 2019.
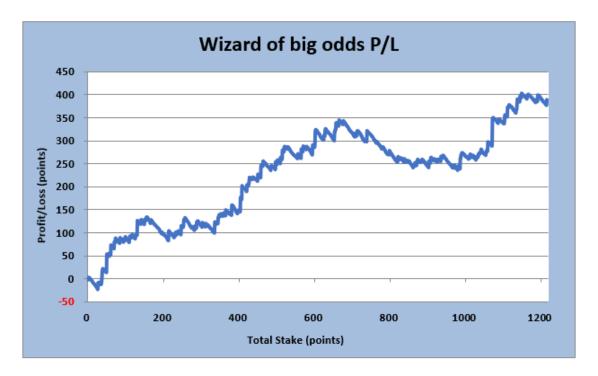
**Seasonal summary (advised staking)**

| Year | Bets | Strike | Stakes | P/L | ROI |
|------|------|--------|--------|-----|-----|
| 2018 | 356 | 15.45% | 407.50 | 138.39 | 33.96% |
| 2019 | 739 | 13.67% | 778.00 | 204.58 | 26.30% |
| 2020 | 121 | 13.22% | 105.50 | 46.80 | 44.36% |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Total** | **1216** | **14.14%** | **1291.00** | **389.77** | **30.19%** |

In our original review we had noted that a recent and significant drawdown had taken place, which had exacerbated the gap between the performance of 2018 and 2019 at the time of publication. Understandably, we questioned whether WOBO was going to be able to reverse the downward trend and push on to new high-water profit marks.

The table below shows that they have indeed proven themselves capable of doing this and to the extent whereby 2020 to date, although early days, is performing at an outstanding level. We can also clearly see the rebound in the following profit and loss graph after the lull between the 700 and 1000 bet marker.



**Performance by Stake Size**

WOBO utilizes a staking scale running from 0.25 to 2.0 points at half point incrementals. When we examine performance levels to each stake, the general pattern is pleasing, showing us that the heavier the stake – presumably reflecting increased confidence behind the bet or a recognition of greater value – the greater the ROI. We can essentially ignore the anomaly that is 1.5 point bets as the sample size is so relatively small, and it wouldn't take many winners at the prices to reverse the position:

**Advised staking**

| Stake | Bets | Volume | Stakes | P/L | ROI |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0.25 | 4 | 0.33% | 1.00 | (1.00) | (100.00%) |
| 0.50 | 262 | 21.55% | 131.00 | 86.00 | 65.65% |
| 1.00 | 705 | 57.98% | 705.00 | 150.80 | 21.39% |
| 1.50 | 72 | 5.92% | 108.00 | (7.71) | (7.14%) |
| 2.00 | 173 | 14.23% | 346.00 | 161.68 | 46.73% |
| **Total** | **1216** | **100.00%** | **1291.00** | **389.77** | **30.19%** |

**Win vs Each Way**

Although most bets are advised win only, we observed a pattern of increased profitability from the each way bets advised. With the usual cautions around sample size in mind, the following table makes for interesting reading with a 65.94% ROI each-way vs a 21% win only.

**Profitability by type of bet (advised staking)**

| Bet | Bets | Stakes | P/L | ROI |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Win | 995 | 1027.00 | 215.68 | 21.00% |
| EW | 221 | 264.00 | 174.09 | 65.94% |
| **Total** | **1216** | **1291.00** | **389.77** | **30.19%** |

## Performance to Odds Band

By splitting the bets into five broadly equal sections based upon the advised odds, the selections in the band up to 13/2 produce a loss of 5.49 points (an ROI of -1.91%), which represents an uptick from our initial review, at which point all bets up to 17/2 were showing a far more significant loss. The most profitable section remains those bets between 14/1 and 20/1 (229 points up representing an ROI of 80.86%).

The other interesting change from the first WOBO review is that the ROI from the longest priced selections is now beginning to grow. Back in September, we noted that this category was producing an ROI less than 7% which felt at the time as something of an anomaly. The following table is beginning to look more like how we would expect it to look:

**Odds banding (advised staking)**

| Band | Bets | Stakes | P/L | ROI |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Up to 13/2 | 261 | 287.00 | (5.49) | (1.91%) |
| 13/2 - 9/1 | 267 | 282.75 | 27.42 | 9.70% |
| 10/1 - 13/1 | 226 | 237.25 | 83.75 | 35.30% |
| 14/1 - 20/1 | 272 | 284.25 | 229.85 | 80.86% |
| Over 20/1 | 190 | 199.75 | 54.24 | 27.15% |
| **Total** | **1216** | **1291.00** | **389.77** | **30.19%** |

## Performance to Betfair SP

When we first investigated WOBO's performance to Betfair SP, we found a lack of conclusive evidence of any edge to this metric.

We need to revisit that conclusion as there is some evidence now that following to Betfair SP holds some promise to exchange-based bettors.

Following to Betfair SP now shows an ROI of 27.38%, a mere 2.81% reduction from the ROI achieved from taking advised prices on all selections. Using Industry SP is, not surprisingly, a non-starter:
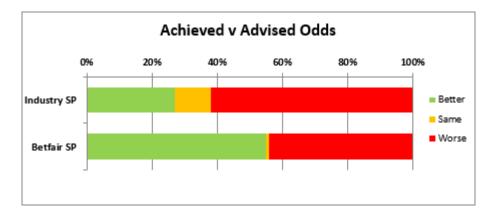
**Extended odds tracking results**

| | Ave Odds | Odds Diff | P/L | ROI | ROI Diff |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Advised | 14.66 | | 389.77 | 30.19% | |
| Industry SP | 12.14 | (18.46%) | 28.59 | 2.21% | (27.98%) |
| Betfair SP | 16.70 | 14.91% | 353.44 | 27.38% | (2.81%) |

**A fair question to ask is what has happened to effectively turn around BFSP performance since our last review? Is there some fundamental underlying factor that is the cause of the improvement?**

The answer lies in one huge winner that handsomely rewarded WOBO followers at 179/1. This single result has undoubtedly skewed BFSP results somewhat, raising BFSP ROI from the 5% ROI we saw in September to the 27% it proudly boasts now in March 2020.

That one result represents a large chunk of the BFSP profits and it is perhaps unlikely we can expect too many regular winners at such a large price.

Having said that, we should not completely dismiss the use of Betfair SP as a viable approach to profiting from WOBO. When we analysed the odds we found, as the table below illustrates, that BFSP provided odds greater than those advised 55% of the time:
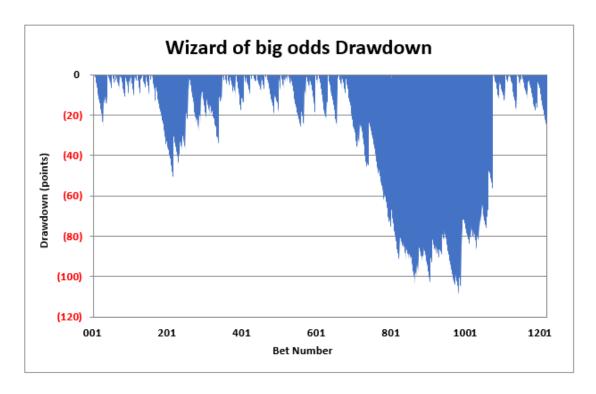


We are not yet unreservedly recommending following WOBO to Betfair SP but the approach does at this stage show some level of promise.

## BETTING BANK

In the FAQ section of the WOBO section of the *Tipsters Empire* website, the suggested bank size is 150 points, which for us seems too low due to the profile of the bets taken on by the service. This becomes obvious when we examine the drawdowns seen thus far, which were more stringent in 2019 than in the first year of proofing.

A 100+ point drop has been seen on two occasions in 2019 already with the 80 and 60 point marks having been exceeded on a number of occasions since. The maximum drawdown to date reached 109 points, with the average dropping 30.08 points.

Wizard of big odds Drawdown

Given the profile of the bets taken on, we feel that a 200 point bank is a far more sensible recommendation.  If applying this, we get an overall ROC to date of 194.89% as below:

**ROC (advised staking, 200pt bankroll)**

| Year | Profit | ROC |
|---|---|---|
| 2018 | 138.39 | 69.20% |
| 2019 | 204.58 | 102.29% |
| 2020 | 46.80 | 23.40% |
| **Total** | **389.77** | **194.89%** |

It is worth noting too that if following to Betfair SP, our recommendation as per bank size would be a whopping 350 points.

## DEEPER BETTING BANK, STAKE & RISK ANALYSIS

Working with SBC team member, Mark and as part of a deeper set of analysis, we have published some more advanced statistics that we appreciate some of you might find of note.

These calculations are based on a series of Monte Carlo simulations we ran for WOBO, which in their basic form allows you to recreate their bet profile (for example strike-rate and average odds) many thousands of times. This is useful as it takes matters beyond just simply looking at their live record and to get a better sense of the likelihood of certain losing runs and how they stack up from a 'risk' perspective.

As per the analysis of WOBO, the Monte Carlo simulations replicated over 36 million bets, producing a mean annual profit of 234 points, against a drawdown of 68 points from 730 bets per season.

Below you can find more figures to help illustrate the performance of WOBO:

**99th Percentile Drawdown: 145 points**

This calculation indicates there is a 1% chance of a losing run of 145 points in any given year to the current staking plan. It is useful as should a drawdown exceed this figure; it indicates there is a problem or change in the service to be aware of. Many economists would regard this figure as that which is the real safe bankroll denominator.

**50th Percentile Drawdown: 63 Points**

This calculation indicates there is a 50% chance, i.e. even money, of a losing run of 63 points in any given year to the current staking plan. Should you follow for 2 years, you should expect to suffer a drawdown of around 63 points at some stage.

**50% Bankroll Drawdown: 70th Percentile**
**50% Bankroll Drawdown for our recommended bankroll (200 points): 91st percentile**

Assuming a bankroll of 150 points, this calculation indicates you would expect to avoid a 75 point (i.e. 50%) drawdown to be experienced in 70% of years, meaning it would happen in 30% of years.

**Likelihood of a losing year: 2.04% (1 in 49 years)**

A self-explanatory calculation indicating you will make a loss on average once in every 49 years. Conversely the chance of a winning year is 97.96%.

**Risk Reward Ratio: 2.105 (EXCELLENT) [Simulation Results: 3.439 (EXCELLENT)]**

This calculation takes the average annual profit and divides it by average annual drawdown to give an output that evaluates the risk in following versus the reward. The higher the better.
*Scale: Poor <1, Average 1 to 1.5, Strong 1.5 to 2 and Excellent 2+*

**Capital Risk Ratio: 72.53% (POOR [Simulation Result: 44.96 (STRONG)]**

**Capital Risk Ratio for our recommended bankroll (200 points): 54.4% (AVERAGE)**

This calculation represents the percentage of the bankroll suggested by the tipster that is consumed by the maximum drawdown during the review period. The lower the better.
*Scale: Poor >66%, Average 50%-66%, Strong 33%-50% and Excellent <33%*

**Dispersion Factor: 1.796 (HIGH)**

We use the simulations to produce best and worse-case strike-rates, disregarding the top and bottom 5% of results. Effectively removing the 'freak' results. The lower the factor, the less volatile the tipster should be.
*Dispersion factor scale: Low <1.1, Medium 1.1-1.5, High 1.5-2, Elevated >2.*

**Sharpe Ratio: 1.59 (ACCEPTABLE)**

This calculation is there to help you understand the return on investment compared to the risk involved, against the average risk-free investment rate in the UK. The higher the ratio, the better.
*Scale: Bad <1, Acceptable 1-2, Great 2-3, Excellent >3*

**P-Value: 0.004 (LOW)**

The p-value is a test to establish the likelihood that a series of bets were achieved through luck or chance. The tipster's data indicates a p-value of 0.004, i.e. a 1 in 250 chance that the results were obtained by luck alone. The lower the p-value, the better.
*P-value scale: Zero chance it was luck is 0, small <0.33, moderate <0.67, high <1, absolute certainty 1.*

**MC Simulation Commentary**

The most important things to note re. our MC simulations are:

1. The very low P-Value, which suggests strongly that WOBO enjoys a definitive edge over the markets and that their results are highly unlikely to be a result of luck.
2. A very strong risk: reward ratio.
3. A 'High' Dispersion Factor speaks to the volatile nature of performance and to the type of losing runs you can expect to arise when following this service. A Dispersion Factor figure of 1.796 is indicative of a service that will at times try the patience of the subscriber and may lead to those unable to deal psychologically with the inevitable drawdowns bailing out at some point.

## ODDS TRACKING

The section below provides analysis of our Odds Tracking data, collated by our Tracker, David over the period running from 9th May to 31st July 2019, covering a total of 200 random bets.
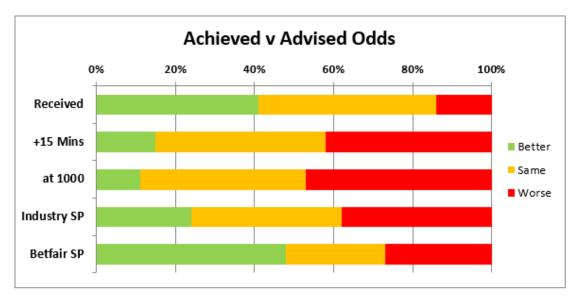
*Please note that on the 1st February 2020 the time of bet release changed from 9am to 11am, which will likely only have a positive impact on any odds movement issues.*

This test compared the advised odds against those available with a panel of bookmakers (Bet 365, Betfair Sportsbook, Bet Victor, Black Type, Coral, Ladbrokes, Paddy Power, SkyBet, Tote and William Hill) at the time received, after 15 mins and at 10am. The exercise also encompassed both Industry and Betfair SPs.

Below you can see the results with the important figures the ROI difference in the far right column, as this highlights the drop in ROI at the different time periods.
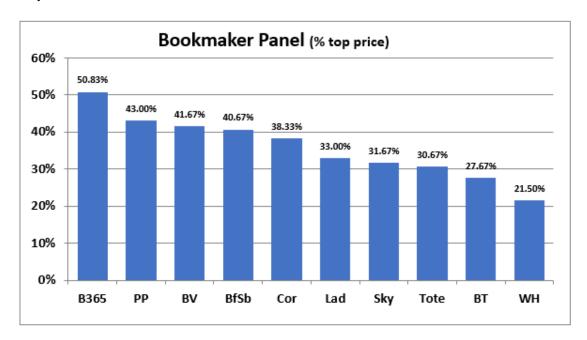
**Odds tracking results**

|  | Ave Odds | P/L | ROI | ROI Diff |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Advised | 13.71 | (27.48) | (13.74%) | |
| Received | 14.45 | (19.30) | (9.65%) | 4.09% |
| +15 Mins | 12.22 | (39.85) | (19.93%) | (6.19%) |
| at 10am | 11.07 | (54.48) | (27.24%) | (13.50%) |
| Industry SP | 11.00 | (60.93) | (30.47%) | (16.73%) |
| Betfair SP | 15.74 | (35.83) | (17.92%) | (4.18%) |

From the above we can see that getting on as quickly as possible is advised. If able to bet as soon as the picks are released, then with a fair set of viable bookmaker accounts you stand a chance of bettering the official ROI figures by 4.09%, which demonstrates that WOBO has a fair odds quoting policy.

However, as time passes the erosion of the edge increases and even if betting just an hour after release at 10am, the impact on ROI is significant at -13.5% ROI. Effectively if waiting an hour, you can realistically expect to achieve just half of the official ROI put up on official results.

In terms of the accounts needed to follow, judging by the next table, a Bet365 account is worth having for WOBO, with the Stoke-based bookmaker either offering top price or equal top price on just over half of the selections:



### SERVICE IN SUMMARY

As per the service and its operation, we're pleased that bets aren't released until the morning of race day and now are available at the later time of 11am, so followers are not jumping on vulnerable prices within unformed and illiquid markets. It is clear from our initial odds testing that the prices, whilst fair and accurate at the time of advice, did still move quite quickly, although they are likely holding up better now. Still, we would recommend that if you're unable to get on within 15 minutes of receiving the bets, this is likely not a service for you, unless willing to take a drop in ROI. If that is the case, then the Betfair SP angle might appeal more.

Although a popular service earlier in 2019, we waited some time before publishing a review of WOBO in September 2019, simply because we felt more data was required before we could start to draw judgements on what was on offer. Back in May 2019 when WOBO was all the rage, the ROI levels were running at insanely (and unrealistically maintainable) levels so instead of reviewing at that point we held off for a little longer and we're pleased that we did.

**Now, with extra data to hand, and having seen a strong recovery from the extended drawdown period we witnessed ahead of our first review, we have concluded that WOBO is a service worthy of a Hall of Fame rating.**

WOBO is performing at a consistently high enough ROI level to easily absorb a 5-6% reduction if unable to bet until up to 15 minutes after bet release. We also have a promising scenario emerging if considering using Betfair SP. From 21 months of live proofing, bank growth of 194% is extremely strong and if able to maintain this rate of growth then subscribers can reasonably expect to be doubling their banks approximately every 12 months on average.

All of these statistics are impressively strong, and when we add to the mix the relatively low cost of joining, then we see that it is not necessary to be staking high amounts to make a good profit over and above the fees.

The only caveat is that WOBO is a service suitable only for those who are patient and able to ride out the very bumpy ride. Extended drawdowns, we have seen, are an inevitability, as they are for all services of this nature – i.e. high odds, low strike rate. It is hugely important that an appropriately sized bank is set up and used but even then, extended periods of being 80+ points in deficit can be hard to handle.

If you are the type who can handle the losing runs and maintain focus on the bigger picture, comfortably handling three months of losses, then the rewards based on historic performance, are very enticing indeed.

## SERVICE RATINGS

Returns: 4/5.
Risk: 2.5
Cost: 3
Transparency: 4
Odds Availability: 2.5
Suggested portfolio weighting: 3
Customer service: 4
Overall: 3.5
Patience: 12 months
Rating: Buy
Betting Bank: 200 points

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I hope you have enjoyed this free Smart Betting Club review and started to understand a little bit more about how the service can help you and your betting.

Over the past 14 years, we have reviewed hundreds of tipster services – with the very best and most profitable tipsters listed in the Hall of Fame and featured in our Betting Magazines.

My team and I constantly track and monitor these very best tipsters and feedback to you as a member on their ongoing progress with tipster league tables, ratings, charts and analysis.

Because SBC is funded by our members, this ensures we are fully on the side of the punter and can speak the truth about the betting industry. SBC is proud to be different and fiercely

protective of the people we represent – you the punter.

**Our one central goal is very simple: To help you make money betting.**

So, why not try out the Smart Betting Club service to see how we can help you and your betting?

Don't forget either that membership to the Smart Betting Club comes with a 100% money back guarantee if not satisfied with our service in anyway. Thus, you can join with full peace of mind.

Peter Ling - Smart Betting Club Editor

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