

FREE Progambler / Secret Betting Club Report On High Stakes Bookmakers

How to get better odds football betting and improve YOUR betting profits

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this special report on high stakes bookmakers as compiled by the Progambler and the Secret Betting Club.

The information in this report is designed to help you get better odds for your football betting by pointing out the best bookmakers to use. Many punters are often unaware of the many advantages these 'high stakes bookies' offer and our goal with this report is to put this right!

The bottom line is that using these bookmakers will only increase your winnings when your bet lands - which means more money in your pocket (and not the bookies!)

For those of you keen to open new accounts with each of these bookmakers, we also have a rundown of two popular 'e-wallet' services, which offer a very practical solution for depositing and withdrawing money.

If you enjoy this report, please do share it with others. It is free to distribute.

Yours,
Peter, Greg & Mick

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1) The Secret Betting Club

Established in May 2006, the Secret Betting Club is a **100% independent** source for reporting, reviewing and monitoring the world of betting advice, through the use of **tipsters, systems and strategies**. Visit www.secretbettingclub.com for more details

2) Progambler

Progambler is the brainchild of Greg Gordon, a freelance writer, professional punter and football scout based in Glasgow. For 15 years his work appeared in The FT, The Sunday Times and The Observer. However, a year-long assignment on professional tipsters in the latter in 2005 encouraged Greg to put his betting on a professional footing. The Progambler site is the result of that process, featuring reviews, betting articles and reports such as this one.

Visit www.progambler.co.uk for more details

Read On To Find Out Why Ignoring These Bookmakers Could Cost You Almost £500 Every Season.

Back in August 2012 [William Hill](#) started off their football campaign with a splurge of typically disingenuous press coverage concerning a Liverpool fan who had placed a £22,000 each way bet on The Reds for the title at 25/1.

Notwithstanding, the dubious football merits of such a splurge into the void, it is worth considering that less than five minutes online research at an odds comparison site such as [OddsChecker.com](#) would have yielded the information that the same bet was available at 40/1 with rival firm [BetVictor](#).

Understandably perhaps, the press angle focussed on the fact that the 30-something Liverpool fan stood to collect £777,333.33 for a winning bet, while a second-place finish for Brendan Rodgers' side would have yielded a £205,333.33 return. However, there was a massive sin of omission inherent within the cosy coverage of the story.

The fact is, had Liverpool gone on to win the title last season, the punter in question would have **missed out on an extra £440,000 profit**.

No wonder Hills' press officer was so keen to promote a story that would directly encourage punters to follow suit and make such a disadvantageous bet, knowing that his employers could easily offset their liabilities if they needed to. Talk about free publicity.....

And it is not just [Hills](#) who are pulling these strokes. Over at [Corals](#), November 2013 started with the Daily Mail splash: [Londoner to receive £100,000 in Coral's 'Football Jackpot' if Aberdeen beat Partick at home... all from just a £1 stake!](#)

The good news is that the bet was landed easily with Aberdeen winning 4-0, but how much would the 'hero' punter, described in the story as a 'football mastermind', have stood to win for his pound had he shopped around for the best priced accumulator on these games?

It is easy to go knee-jerk and blame the penny-pinching bookies and their snide prices but objectively speaking the compilers are merely offering their opinion and the PR people are merely making their press capital out of an opportunity presented by a gullible client. For them that is the name of the game.

For us, our objective is to make the most of every single winner. After all, it is not as if they grow on trees.

If we chose to take the bookies' lead then really, can we blame anyone other than ourselves?

It is reasonable to counter that comparing a 40/1 antepost bet to a 25/1 one is all very well but really betting week to week is a far less volatile activity in terms of risk and reward.

While that is true in one way, it is also worth underlining that over the course of the season this kind of short-term, expedient thinking can really have a not insignificant bearing on your bottom line as all the little deficits per bet add up.

Let's just test this with a blind test on five up and coming Premiership fixtures and a little bit of crystal ball gazing.

For the purposes of the exercise, I have taken a selection of games from the weekend's Premiership fixtures of 9th November 2013. I have asked a pal for a pools panel-like forecast of how the games will end: either home win, draw or away win, in each case.

For the purpose of the exercise, the forecast results don't really matter. What we are looking to compare and contrast is returns from a like v like comparison between best prices, the second best prices and the average prices that are available on these games.

Best Prices

Fixture	Selection	Best Price Available	Match Result	+ or - to £100 level stakes	Running Total
Aston Villa v Cardiff	Home Win	2.0	winner	£100	£100
Crystal Palace v Everton	Away Win	1.6	winner	£60	£160
Southampton v Hull City	Home Win	1.6	loser	-£100	£60
Man Utd v Arsenal	Draw	3.58	winner	£258	£318
Swansea v Stoke	Home Win	1.96	loser	-£100	£218 43% ROI

Second Best Prices

Fixture	Selection	Best Price Available	Match Result	+ or - to £100 level stakes	Running Total
Aston Villa v Cardiff	Home Win	1.95	winner	£95	£95
Crystal Palace v Everton	Away Win	1.57	winner	£57	£152
Southampton v Hull City	Home Win	1.56	loser	-£100	£52
Man Utd v Arsenal	Draw	3.55	winner	£255	£307
Swansea v Stoke	Home Win	1.95	loser	-£100	£207 41% ROI

The difference between the two tables is a difference in totals of £11 between the two figures. Not the end of the world perhaps, but imagine that 5.5% difference in profits coming off your top line at the end of every season.

A top line profit of 30pts at £100 per point becomes £3,000 - £165 = £2,835.

Average Best Prices

Fixture	Selection	Best Price Available	Match Result	+ or - to £100 level stakes	Running Total
Aston Villa v Cardiff	Home Win	1.93	winner	£93	£93
Crystal Palace v Everton	Away Win	1.55	winner	£55	£148
Southampton v Hull City	Home Win	1.54	loser	-£100	£48
Man Utd v Arsenal	Draw	3.39	winner	£239	£287
Swansea v Stoke	Home Win	1.90	loser	-£100	£187 37% ROI

The difference between the best prices available and the average price in each case is a whopping £31 difference (15.5%).

The difference between shopping around is a difference between seeing a return of £218 or just £187 for placing exactly the same five bets.

Over all the difference between the best prices ROI and the average prices is 6%. That's a massive difference when you consider that leading pro-punters and syndicates work to an annual profit ROI of around 8%. Such a deficit to them could be the difference between winning well and a negligible return after costs.

At the end of the season your 30pts profit at £100 per point (£3,000) would be reduced by almost £500 (£465) to £2,535.

In the real world, the exact figures will not work out quite so starkly in practice however this small sample experiment does underline the central tenet of this guide.

If you want to make a real go of your betting and put it on a professional footing, you need as many bookmakers as possible – especially those that will let you back to decent stake sizes and without restrictions.

If you haven't previously considered looking at the high stakes Asian bookmakers before, with their good prices and smaller margins, then we would seriously urge you to do so. Really, it is within your best interests. The money you make is better in your pocket than literally being handed back to the bookies.

Remember, if you make 30pts profit per season at £100 per point, and you are backing at average prices then **Ignoring Our High Stakes, Customer-Focussed Bookmakers Could Cost You Almost £500 Every Season (£465).**

It is widely considered that [Pinnacle](#) offer the gold standard in terms of offering the best staking limits and variety of bets. Because they can access the greater liquidity of the Asian betting markets they will happily take big bets – sometimes as much as four times the stake they will accept on their equivalent 1X2 markets. That's four times the stake on exactly the same win bet expressed as an Asian Handicap (+0.5 or -0.5).

One of the best things about Asian handicap betting isn't necessarily the type of betting per se but rather the positive attitude of the bookmakers who specialise in this field.

This is certainly the case with Pinnacle, for whom the only minor gripes are a site that can take a while to get your head around and a policy of one free withdrawal each month (any subsequent withdrawals are subject to a \$25 charge).

Like most of the big operators, Pinnacle Sports has also rolled out a mobile betting platform that allows players to easily place wagers on the move.

Their customer service is handled almost exclusively by email, which in the first instance may seem like a negative. However, by allowing Pinnacle to keep their operating costs low, the company have invested instead in their now legendary efficiency systems. This means that members can go years without ever having to contact client support. It is always far better to prevent a problem than be forced to resolve it professionally.

On those rare occasions where there is an issue arising, the customer is contacted promptly and appropriately. Overall, Pinnacle is a must-have book for the moderate to larger size internet punter looking for the best betting odds and limits for sports betting.

Pinnacle welcomes clients speaking English, Spanish, Norwegian, Italian, German, Russian, Portuguese, Chinese Simplified and Traditional, Finnish, Hebrew, Swedish, Thai, Japanese, Polish and French.

Pinnacle Sports allows two ways to place bets: over the internet (with a bet minimum of \$1 or equivalent) or phone betting (min. bet \$100 or equivalent). Pinnacle display two odds formats, Decimal (European style) and American (US style).

Pinnacle accept the following currencies: Pounds Sterling, EUROs, Australian Dollars, US Dollars, Japanese Yen and a host of other major world currencies.

You can deposit using the following methods: Wire bank transfer, all major credit and debit cards (Visa, Maestro, MasterCard, Electron, Delta, Laser), ClickandBuy, POLi, EntroPay virtual card, Przelewy24, InstaDebit, Moneta, [Skrill](#) (Moneybookers) [NETELLER](#), NETELLER (1-PAY), QIWI VISA virtual cards, Ukash and WebMoney. All deposits are free of charge and instantly credited to your account.

Pinnacle use the same 128-bit certificate-based encryption protection demanded by major financial institutions around the world for their business transactions.

You can withdraw using the following methods: Bank transfer, [Skrill](#) (Moneybookers), ClickandBuy, [NETELLER](#), NETELLER (1-PAY), EntroPay virtual card, InstaDebit and WebMoney. All clients are entitled to one free withdrawal per calendar month. There is no minimum amount required for your free withdrawal. Any additional withdrawals during the calendar month, incur a fee based on the withdrawal option selected above.

Established in Curacao in The Netherlands Antilles since 1998, Pinnacle have done probably more than any other single company to establish the credibility of offshore bookmakers in Europe. If

you only want to test the water by opening one off-shore account then [Pinnacle](#) should probably be the one to have first-off.

[Visit the Pinnacle website](#)

BET365

It seems just a few years ago that [Bet 365](#) were one of the more maligned layers out there. Renowned for a trigger happy approach to winning punters that saw them earn the unflattering nickname Bet £3.65 on account of their practice of limiting winners' stakes. It seems that the Stoke-based bookie has taken on a distinctly Asian attitude, at least to football bettors. So much so, that it makes sense to keep your horseracing business away from your Bet 365 account. The sponsors of Stoke City are definitely far less tolerant of winning racing punters and this is an account you should look to protect and nurture for football.

I can think of a number of pro-punters who have retained their accounts with the firm without closure or restrictions. It seems safe to assume that this company who have been most dynamic in every other respect (live streaming, competitive odds and a massive array of bets on offer) have become equally proactive when it comes to accommodating football winners.

Perhaps like their Asian 'cousins' at the likes of SBO Bet they are adopting the 'if you can't beat them join them' approach and following their winning customers bets with their own cash. They also appear happy to accommodate certain winners whose specialist knowledge of particular niches can be used to correct their compilers' initial pricing errors.

The one caveat, which I will repeat again for emphasis, is that like all UK bookies Bet 365 appear to be most nervy when dealing with winning horse punters, especially those that follow high profile and successful tipping services.

To summarise, I wouldn't usually peg [Bet 365](#) as either a high stakes layer or a strictly Asian bookmaker. They are really a hybrid firm offering the best of UK presentation and marketing and an Asian customer focus. In addition there are tentative signs that, as long as you avoid betting winning horses with them, that they are becoming bolder in their practices when it comes to laying football bets for winning accounts.

What certainly isn't in doubt is the usability of Bet 365's site, their excellent program of live streamed games and the almost endless array of markets they offer - making them a firm I'd always want to keep on my side.

Bet365 will typically offer anything up to a couple of dozen alternative Asian handicaps in addition to their coverage of the predominant Asian handicap being offered in any fixture, the traditional 1X2 odds and the best range of subsidiary bets on the likes of cards and corners that are available anywhere.

In a fixture where both teams are evenly matched in the bookmakers' eyes, you'll typically be able to take any Asian handicap between +1.5 and -1.5 at Bet365. That means they will offer the following lines: +1.5, +1.25, +1, +0.75, +0.5, +0.25, 0, -0.25, -0.5, -0.75, -1, -1.25, -1.5. Bet365 will have bigger limits for 1X2 odds than for their equivalent Asian handicap odds – which is the opposite of the offer of Asian bookmakers such as SBO, 12bet and 188bet, who all hold bigger limits on Asian markets. Between two firms such as [Bet 365](#) and say SBO and 188Bet you will hopefully find that you should be getting matched at the price you want and at the stake you are looking for, as a general rule.

[Visit the Bet365 website](#)

Anyone with even a passing interest in English football will already be well aware of the [SBOBET](#) brand even if their activities are far less mainstream.

SBO are the former shirt sponsor of West Ham United and Cardiff City. Their ticker-tape like scrolling odds perimeter advertising remains a prominent feature during most major football matches and many minor ones, particularly at Upton Park.

SBO are widely considered to be the world's leading Asian online gaming brand. Holder of the Asian Operator of the Year Award for the year 2009 and 2010, they boast operations in Asia and Europe. They are licensed by the First Cagayan Leisure and Resort Corporation in the Philippines and by the Government of the Isle of Man respectively, something that should give EU residents an element of additional comfort.

As an Asian bookmaker they offer over 500 sporting events every week, with extensive coverage of all major football leagues and international sporting events. They also provide live football updates, immediate winnings confirmation, rapid payouts, easy access and fast online betting available around the clock – which is all good.

One downside, is that they generally consolidate their offering on football around the predominant Asian Handicap lines in the market and offer a fairly tight suite of different markets per match. On first sight, this could be considered a negative, specifically relative to the over 70 in play markets offered by Bet 365 per televised game. However, more is not necessarily better and indeed, my personal view is that the lack of options actually helps focus the mind and that the high wagering limits, lack of restrictions ([SBO](#) want winning punters, folks) and competitive prices make the total package very hard to beat.

It is no wonder that industrial-scale and cottage-sized professional syndicates alike all seem to funnel their trade through SBO.

Sbobet customer support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to assist in any way possible, with live chat, skype and email enquires supported alongside a help section that includes an extensive library of articles covering the likes of account enquiries, deposits and withdrawals and general betting assistance.

[SBO](#) are renowned for their timely responses to queries and for their friendly customer service.

Deposits, Withdrawals and Payment Options

Currency options include Australian Dollars, Euros, British Pounds, Hong Kong Dollar, Japanese Yen and a number of local Asian currencies.

ClickandBuy, Maestro, Mastercard, [Skrill](#) (Moneybookers), NETBANX, [NETELLER](#), Telegraphic Transfer, Ukash, Visa, Visa Delta/Debit, Visa Electron and Visa/Mastercard are all available as means of depositing and withdrawing funds.

As per most bookmakers and Betfair, winnings are returned via the payment service provider which you initially utilised during to fund your account, when you make a withdrawal request. You are allowed to make one request for withdrawal funds within any one 24 hour period. The time taken for you to receive your withdrawal, may range from a few hours to a number of days, depending on the payment method you have used.

Betting Coverage, Odds Quality, Limits

SBO offer a wide range of sports events for you to bet on. While they strive to provide an extensive coverage of all possible sports events, it should be noted that not all events will be available for betting at any point of time.

You can change the type of odds used in the odds display to suit your taste whether you favour decimal, UK or Asian odds. As a reference aid, SBO also provide selective write-ups and stats on games they are betting on.

SBO combine fixed odds 1X2 markets alongside the Asian lines that obviously carry the greatest liquidity for them as a leading Far East bookmaker. Indeed it is often claimed that, in terms of Asian handicap prices, SBO offer the most competitively priced odds among the major global sportsbooks.

Whenever you place a bet, the minimum and maximum wagering amount. Their limits are extra high by most European standards. Their betting budget feature allows you to set a maximum limit to limit your total stakes, if you so chose.

When it comes to SBO's in play betting console, all the info you need such as current match scores, elapsed time and results, are updated in real time, alongside the markets and their dynamically fluctuating odds.

From a live betting perspective their features such as Auto refresh odds, Accept if better odds and Auto Process Bet are especially useful.

In summary then, [SBO](#) is a must have account. They are a serious bookmaker with a commitment to enlightened customer service.

[Visit the SBOBet Website](#)

188BET

Like [SBOBet](#), [188BET](#) are best known for the Premiership shirt sponsorships. They have been the shirt sponsor of Bolton Wanderers and they also the main sponsor of England's rugby union Northern Premiership side Newcastle Falcons.

188BET also sponsored Wigan Athletic from 2009 to 2011. They are, or have been, official betting partner of other top football and rugby clubs such as Chelsea, Liverpool, Aston Villa and Everton. Extremely customer-focussed, 188Bet offers 24/7 multi-lingual staff to help international clients resolve any arising issues. Contact can be established via live chat, e-mail, fax and traditional post as well as through free skype calls.

They handle the usual GB Pounds, Euros and US Dollars as well as a number of Far East Currencies.

You can withdraw your winnings from your [118Bet](#) account using the following methods: cheques, bank transfer, [Skrill](#) (Moneybookers) and [Neteller](#). Currently, they don't pay out to credit cards.

Withdrawals can only be made once daily and customers may withdraw their winnings back to where their initial deposit was drawn from. The widely recommended digital wallet payment option is Skrillas it is for most betting-related sites.

Odds are displayed in the usual formats: UK, decimal and Asian odds.

The key benefits of 188Bet are very high limits on football and also markets that odds are compiled to a 2% margin.

The downsides are limited: you probably won't find Alpine Skiing odds and the like at 188Bet but in terms of football especially it is all covered right down to club and international youth football. Security-wise, [188Bet](#) are probably just as safe if not safer than your average UK high street bookmaker brand. They are licensed and regulated by the Isle of Man Gambling Supervision Committee. All clients funds (deposits and winnings) are held in a segregated reserve account with The Royal Bank of Scotland and Allied Irish Bank (Isle of Man). This means that your money is ring-fenced and safe should calamity befall the business – though there is no reason to believe that it will.

[Visit the 188bet Website](#)

12BET

As the principal betting partners of Premiership side Wigan Athletic, partners of Newcastle United and shirt sponsors of La Liga big guns Sevilla [12Bet](#) became a familiar presence on our TV screens even before their client base became established.

Licensed and regulated by the Isle of Man Gambling Supervision Commission in Europe, 12Bet are the largest sports betting company in the Asian market and an increasingly prominent sports book in Europe.

Renowned for friendly and prompt customer service, 12Bet are recommended specifically for native speakers of English, Spanish, Greek, Chinese, Thai, and Indonesian. Customer support is facilitated through Live Chat, Skype, MSN and e-mail. Accounts are available in GBP, Euros, US Dollars and selected Asian currencies.

You can deposit using major credit and debit cards, wire transfer, bank draft, [Neteller](#), [Skrill](#) (Moneybookers) and Fast Bank Transfer. As a subsidiary caveat, you should make sure that the currency you are transferring money to [12Bet](#) is the same as the currency of your account. You can reclaim your winnings via Wire bank transfer, Skrill, Neteller, Envoy and Datacash. Currently, 12Bet can't pay out to credit cards, typical of a number of Asian bookmakers.

Their USP is generally high, low margin odds form supported by an excellent internet platform. One negative could be the lack of support for native Polish, German, French and Portuguese speakers but most people should get by somehow.

The breadth of sports covered – you will typically find 300+ events supported at peak times. That equates to 5,000 in play events per month in football, around 18,000 in-play markets each month, and a further 1,800 monthly non soccer in-play events.

For football, the coverage extends to 75 different countries' leagues, where the markets offered are heavily concentrated on Asian handicap betting.

Punters can choose to play in their European or Asian sportsbook with different user interfaces, as per your preference and location.

[Visit the 12bet Website](#)

DAFABET

Aston Villa's shirt sponsors [Dafabet](#) have recently embarked on a charm offensive to woo European, and specifically UK-based, punters. Their strategy therefore to employ the distinctly without charm former England striker Alan Shearer as a brand ambassador could be seen as something of a PR own goal.

Nonetheless, in every other respect, Dafabet appear to be getting it right and the fact that they have 24/7 live customer support and adhere to strict security measures will reassure any new customers new to the brand.

[Dafabet](#) cover around a dozen sports at any given time and, as per the Asian marketplace generally, the biggest coverage is obviously afforded to football, both pre-match and live In-Play. Fans of basketball, ice hockey, tennis and golf are also catered for while you can also bet on horse racing all over the world, with UK race meetings covered as well as cards from Australia and The Americas.

As you might expect from an Asian operator, the football odds are typically competitive and there are plenty of Asian Handicap lines, even relative to rival firms. This essentially means that Dafabet are, a turnover-based operation, betting to tight margins – their model is a hybrid of that offered by [Bet 365](#) on the one hand and someone like [Pinnacle](#) or [SBO](#) on the other.

The Dafabet website interface is clean and straightforward, with a left-hand menu accessing the various sports covered. The homepage promotes new customers' welcome bonus as well as the activities and illustrious career of the prosaic Match of the Day pundit Alan Shearer. A scrolling display lets customers know what is currently In-Play alongside the latest odds. The prices especially, are presented in a nice clear fashion.

[Dafabet](#) score highly for customer service on the basis that they offer 24/7 support and this includes a Live Chat facility which can be easily accessed from the betting pages. You will get a timely response via the Live Chat unit and the staff are very able when it comes to queries relating to types of bet, payment queries or general betting questions.

[Visit the Dafabet Website](#)

5DIMES

The [5Dimes](#) pitch is an easy one to get to grips with: a quality offer in terms of fast pay-outs and a lot of quantity when it comes to bet choice on their site.

With over 1,000 betting options everyday, and prices that are always amongst the best on offer, 5Dimes are an operator worth signing up to.

There is one caveat though: 5Dimes are definitely US bookmaker in terms of their focus and style of betting and presentation. As a result they will not be for everyone in Europe and also, without the necessary context, they are difficult to review fairly (from the perspective of someone with no experience or interest in American sports). If you are an American sports fan, au fait with the terminology and culture of American betting then 5Dimes sounds like an account you should have.

There are some gripes, mostly relating to the site navigation and the fact that members have to log in to view odds on the site. The bonus system is considered fair but complex. In terms of withdrawals and deposits the options to consider are [Skrill](#), Click2Pay, [Neteller](#) and Instadebit that are all free to use.

Apparently, their introductory gift, an interesting bundle of betting guides aimed at novices and experts alike make them worth exploring, even for the most cynical amongst you who will play their sign-up bonus and then walk away. Their guides offer both a nice introduction to sports betting and a primer for those that feel they have a bit of experience behind them and they come widely recommended within the online reviews of 5Dimes' site.

The payouts on winnings are fast and stable, a feature most important at today's offshore sportsbooks.

From the outside [5Dimes](#) comes across as a top company, akin to [Pinnacle](#) within the American sports-betting world. I hesitate to recommend them unreservedly however for the simple reason that a fair review requires an Anglo-American eye and the experience of someone who actively uses 5Dimes' site.

[Visit the 5 Dimes Website](#)

SOME NOTES ON DEPOSITS AND WITHDRAWALS

Before joining these new bookmakers a bit of legwork is advised.

The likes of 188bet require ID proof of identification before you can withdraw your funds which will be a culture shock for anyone used to the relatively anonymous experience of depositing and withdrawing from online UK bookmakers or shops.

With online gambling a potential vehicle for international money laundering or credit card fraud the official explanation that proof of ID is needed to protect you and your money and prevent the bookies becoming vehicles for fraud or organised crime.

No doubt, such information is of great interest to the firms themselves, though probably not as obviously useful as they would be to UK bookies who are always looking to close-down or restrict winning punters (and prevent them opening secondary accounts with their firm to prolong their profits).

However, as in many things, a little effort can go a long way and it is worth remembering that the object of the exercise is snaring better odds, getting those bigger wagering limits and making use of any introductory bonus offers once you sign up.

Though requirements vary for each firm it makes sense to get all the identification you need ready in one place in advance so you can get all the admin out of the way appropriate to multiple firms you might join to minimise your inconvenience.

We suggest you have the following scanned info available on your computer so you can send it as email attachments to the bookies you are looking to join.

1. A scan of your passport and/ or driving licence.
2. A proof of your address in the form of a scanned in utility bill or similar.
3. If using a bank card to deposit cash then scan the front and back of the card to reveal the numbers and signature.
4. A scan of a recent bank statement will act as proof of your bank account.

If you don't have a scanner then remember that most public libraries will allow you the use of their facilities free of charge and someone there will also be able to tell you just how to save the

relevant scans so you can attach them to emails.

Most off-shore bookies allow you to deposit funds without this information, but if you ever want to withdraw any funds, you will certainly need to comply with their ID verification processes. Consider ID verification as a minor inconvenience – the work of half an hour. Remember that it opens up a world of better betting opportunities that should last for the lifetime of your betting career. The sign-up bonuses alone such as [SBO's](#) typical £200 introductory matched bet bonus should sweeten the pill of what is a mild admin pain – but no more.

FEES AND CHARGES

The last thing to be aware of and avoid is incurring needless withdrawal fees.

In the UK we take for granted the fact that we can withdraw winnings once a bet is settled. This isn't the general culture within US-focussed or Asian bookies but again it can be circumvented. Although an inconvenience, as long as you are aware of these charges and how they apply, you can minimise any extra cost or frustration.

Some offshore bookmakers allow payment via credit card but not all do. International bank wires are a preferred option but there is no reason to indulge this method and its associated withdrawal fees.

[Skrill](#) and [Neteller](#) appear to consistently offer the best way to deposit funds.

Pinnacle

With [Pinnacle](#) credit and debit cards can be used for deposits but not withdrawals. You cannot withdraw to your credit card. Other than from [Skrill](#) and [Neteller](#), withdrawals can be made via cheque or bank wire for a fee of up to \$20 depending on your home currency. Pinnacle allows one free withdrawal per month of any amount up to \$60,000. Any further withdrawals will cost \$15 each. [Skrill/ Neteller](#) is probably the way to go here again and a monthly withdrawal should be planned for maximum benefit to you. Again, it is a pain but the pros with Pinnacle far outweigh the cons relating to withdrawals.

12bet

There are no withdrawal fees with [12Bet](#) provided your initial deposit amount is played through in total. That means, if you deposit £100, you have to have bet £100 before you can withdraw your winnings. If you want to take your dough out earlier a 20% withdrawal fee will be levied and you might also forfeit any terms of your sign-up bonuses'

Credit and debit cards can be used for deposit only. Unfortunately, you cannot withdraw to your credit card. Withdrawals can be made via cheque or bank wire (at a cost of \$20) depending on the currency you are betting in. There are no fees associated with the use of [Skrill](#) or [Neteller](#) for withdrawals. Either of these methods are not only highly recommended they are a no-brainer for anyone who wants to keep their winnings to themselves. And don't we all.....

SBObet:

There appear to be no withdrawal fees associated with [SBOBet](#) at time of writing, but it is always worth double checking the firms Terms and Conditions as you would with any investment vehicle. Again [Skrill](#) is a clean option for depositing and withdrawing and it is also probably wise to leave a few pounds in your account at all times. Remember SBO want winning punters, as hard as it is to believe, and there are stories of SBO seeking to close unfunded accounts lying dormant for long periods. Which is no good.....

Use them, win with them, enjoy them.

Bet 365

The UK bookmaker may be dwarfed by the staking limits and tolerance of their offshore rivals for winning punters but where they do score in their provision of fee free withdrawals and deposits. You can take money in and out of your Bet 365 account anytime and without penalty unless of course, you are subject to the criteria of one of their frequent free bet offers that stipulate that you must roll over your bonus stake before withdrawing your winnings. A bookmaker with the high-roller friendly betting culture of Pinnacle and the imagination and presentation of [Bet 365](#) would probably represent the perfect package for punters, wherever they are based.

SKRILL AND NETELLER

Here at the Secret Betting Club we have long advocated the usage of e-wallets such as [Skrill](#) and [Neteller](#) to help you both deposit and withdraw money from your bookmaker accounts with the minimum of fuss.

Not only do such services ensure you keep all your betting activity in one easy to follow account, they also help to keep it separate from all your other day to day business.

Keeping track of your betting performance always becomes that much harder when its muddled in with your Council Tax and Tesco food shopping bills...plus of course, potential issues when it comes to explaining your betting activity to your other half!

These days eWallet services are also breaking new ground as they become more popular with everything from reward points to credit cards available, all designed to make them more usable. Both [Skrill](#) and [Neteller](#) are a increasingly familiar alternatives to Paypal or bank cards for transferring funds to your bookmaker account or paying tipster fees. That is especially so when it comes to the High Stakes bookmakers detailed in this report.

If you don't have a Skrill or Neteller account yet it is well worth considering. They are a payment processor similar to Paypal in that you load funds to your Skrill or Neteller account and can maintain a balance there. If you don't have money in either e-wallet you can transfer directly from your bank or credit card.

NETELLER

First off we have a focus on Neteller and to find out what they offer in specific relation to gamblers we quizzed Lee-Ann Johnston from them to find out more.

SBC: Who are Neteller and what do you do?

Neteller: We are the brand behind an industry leading eWallet.

Simply put we store cash value on behalf of members, which enables funds to be transferred between Neteller Accounts and online bookmakers. In addition to making deposits and withdrawals to and from gambling sites, our members can also send money to each other for free, using our money transfer service.

As a Neteller member, you get a range of perks, including loyalty reward points, access to a VIP program, cash giveaways and other benefits. We don't share your personal details with anyone and we have industry leading security and fraud prevention techniques in place to keep your funds safe and secure.

We offer fast withdrawals and deposits and with an account you don't need to type your card details in every time you put money into a gaming site account. Instead, a Neteller Account enables you to store your cash securely, online in one location. With one deposit into your eWallet, funds can be moved to and from thousands of gaming websites seamlessly.

SBC: What are the benefits of using Neteller?

Neteller: Signing up for an account with us is free and we also offer free money transfers between members, so you can send money to family and friends instantly. We process payments in real-time and are integrated with thousands of websites. This means that you can deposit at your favourite gambling sites instantly, and it's just as fast to withdraw funds.

As a UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) authorised company, we hold more than 100% of your account balance in trust accounts, which means your money is always there when you need it.

We also have a reward points program which is available to all our members. Every time you move money in or out of your eWallet, you earn 1 reward point for each USD or equivalent.

SBC: Do you welcome gamblers?

Neteller: Yes! If you Like us on Facebook, you can see our entire list of merchants in the merchant directory section. There are currently 174 Sports bookmakers on our list with everyone from 10Bet to William Hill included.

SBC: What kind of fees do you charge users for depositing and withdrawing money?

Neteller: Deposits and withdrawals to and from gambling sites using a Neteller account are free.

Many methods for depositing money into your Neteller eWallet itself are also free while others incur a small fee. In the UK, a deposit to a Neteller account using a credit card incurs a 1.75% fee. However, making a deposit to a Neteller account using the local bank deposit method is free and so are Switch and Solo debit card deposits.

Neteller VIPs benefit from exclusive discounts on deposit and withdrawal fees.

SBC: Are there any other hidden charges I should be aware of?

Neteller: We're an open book, all the information is on our website. We don't hide any charges. All of our fees are shown clearly on the Neteller Account management pages and in our FAQs.

SBC: How long do deposits and withdrawals take to process?

You can make instant deposits and withdrawals to and from any gambling site which is integrated with Neteller (as soon as the online operator releases the funds).

If you were to use a bank account instead it would typically take 3-5 days. We're a much faster option and as soon as you move funds into your Neteller account you can use them.

[Visit the Neteller Website](#)



Another popular e-Wallet solution comes in the form of a company called [Skrill](#) (formerly called Moneybookers) who offer a one-stop, easy solution for gamblers.

By opening a Skrill account you also effectively have a digital wallet, similar to that available with the likes of Paypal. You can then use this for handling all your betting deposits and withdrawals and it's something we have long recommended to Secret Betting Club members and indeed use ourselves.

It's FREE to open a Skrill account and they actively welcome betting people (not something you can say for all companies!).

Once you have an account, you can use it to upload and withdraw funds to your bookmaker account instantly with only your email address and password. Best of all, uploading money into your Skrill account won't cost you a dime if you use a bank transfer...And there is only a small flat fee per withdrawal to your bank account.

It's not only the ease of use that makes Skrill so useful but a whole host of other reasons. Because you can freely deposit and withdraw from your bookmaker to Skrill as often as you like, you can use it to regularly empty your bookmaker account too.

The bookies encourage you to leave large sums of your money in your account with them as it earns them interest. Far better for your own peace of mind (and also with concerns over the security of some bookmaker accounts to hacking) to have it safely tucked up in your own Skrill account. So next time you bag a big winner, you know what to do!

There are other benefits to using Skrill as well such as...

- Instant withdrawals and deposits into bookie accounts
- Keep your betting account separate from your main bank account
- Have one location for all your betting deposits and withdrawals
- Ease of use if keeping records of your betting profit and loss

A Skrill account is free to use and operate in a similar fashion to Paypal and almost all the bookies offer the ability to use Skrill as a key resource.

They are regulated in the UK by the Financial Services Authority and charge small fees, normally when withdrawing money to your bank account. There are also fees if uploading funds via cards although bank transfers and Maestro cards are free.

[Visit The Skrill Website](#)

HOW SKRILL & NETELLER COMPARE

The key aspect for many of you reading this will be how both Neteller and Skrill compare when it comes to fees and benefits of using.

As the following UK/EU Fee Comparison table shows, in a number of aspects aside from withdrawals to bank, both show up well. Neteller appears to have the slight edge here as their deposit fees via both Visa and Mastercard are 0.15% cheaper and transfers to other Neteller accounts are free.

FEE COMPARISON	NETELLER	Skrill
Bank Deposit	Free	Free
Visa Debit Deposit	1.75%	1.90%
Mastercard Deposit	1.75%	1.90%
Transfers To Merchant	Free	Free
Withdrawals From Merchant	Free	Free
Withdrawals to Bank	7.5 Euros (Free for VIP - see note)	£2.49
Money Transfer To Other Account	Free	1% (Max £8.44)

[Click here to open a Neteller Account](#)

[Click here to open a Skrill Account](#) (Includes special deal to earn 20% cashback of up to €10 on your first deposit!)