

Spread Betting Minimising Risk

The second aspect to spread betting is that the spread is constantly updated throughout the progress of an event. At the start of Australia's innings, IG may offer a spread of 180-200. This can and will be revised "in running" to reflect the current state of play. Say the Aussies rattle off the runs and reach 100 without loss. The bookie will revise their spread upwards to, say, 280-320 runs.

If you originally sold at 180 for £1 per run, you might be thinking you made a mistake, but there are ways to limit your losses – you can 'close' your bet by placing an equal-sized bet in the opposite direction. So if you now bought Australia for £1 per run at the latest spread of 320, you'd be taking a £140 loss - the difference between the spread you sold at (180) and the one you're buying at (320). This would be admitting defeat, but you would instantly know how much you'd lose.

For that to make sense, you'd have to now believe that Australia would score more than 320 – because if they end up scoring fewer runs you'd lose less than £140 if you kept with your original bet. But if they go past 320, your second bet would start winning – so for every pound your first bet lost, the second bet would cancel it out with a pound won.

The reverse is also true. You can take a profit rather than leaving it to chance. If you originally bought Australia at 200, and the spread had been revised to 280-320, selling at 280 would guarantee an £80 win (again, the difference between the first and second spreads). This works because, even if Pakistan are out for less than 280, your second bet will win whatever your first bet fails to make. But if they then get more than 280, your second bet will lose £1 for every £1 your first bet wins. That means you could have won more with the first bet alone, but you played safe and saw £80 profit as a good enough day's work.

As winnings and losses can mount up quickly in spread betting, it's advisable to only bet on events you understand and then, if possible, on one you can keep a close eye on so you can cut losses or take profits in running. If you choose not to close the bet in running, it is automatically closed at the end of whatever event you bet on, in this case at the end of the innings.

More about CS betting you can read on [csgobettings](#) and you'll know all the details.