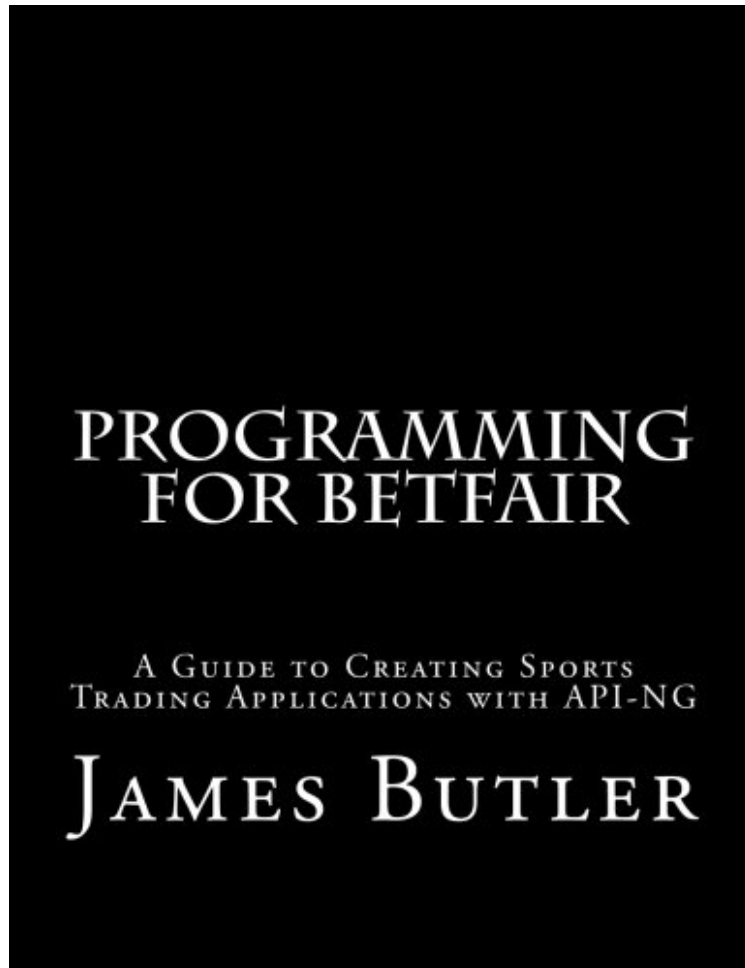


# Programming for Betfair: A Guide to Creating Sports Trading Applications with API-NG

James Butler

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**James Butler : Programming for Betfair: A Guide to Creating Sports Trading Applications with API-NG**  
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Programming for Betfair: A Guide to Creating Sports Trading Applications with API-NG:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A reasonable starting point though accompanying website uselessBy DuranThe accompany website really not what it made up to be, have to find workarounds as Betfair changed somethings with API that don't agree with code, nothing too difficult though nothing on "website" to help.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Solid and well done handcraftBy Dr. Chrilly DonningerThe author has obviously built a bot for himself. I would have preferred Java, C# or C++ rather than in Visual Basic but in this case the Visual Basic programmers would have been unhappy. Butler assumes that all the readers are newcomers to

programming. He explains step by step how to build a full blown bot for trading horse races. The explanation is not restricted to the API but also how to design a Visual Basic windows form. This is great for a beginner but not so interesting for a programmer in another language. The text is not riddled with the usual blah blah of many current programming books. Instead the author is always to the point. It should be straightforward to transform most of the code into another programming language. One gets the impression that the author knows what he is talking about. He also has the necessary writing skills to explain the concepts in an easy to comprehend way. The book is not perfect but is well put together and in times where a lot of sloppy books are published this is something to appreciate. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. newbies to coding would be better off to learn the basics of Visual basic By Gee Anne The seminal work on Betfair programming. Although a person with no programming experience can implement the program in the book, newbies to coding would be better off to learn the basics of Visual basic .net before starting on the book. The book details how to connect to the Betfair API, how to write the json response and request classes needed to interact with the API and how to place, cancel and update bets using your bot. The book is well written and easy to understand and I have built a functioning application that allows me to automate strategies I previously had to do manually. I cannot recommend this book strongly enough, that will remain the best purchase I have ever made on until I buy his next book.

The Betfair exchange, coupled with its API, permits a suitably skilled trader to code complex trading applications, which would not look out of place in the financial markets. This book offers a sports trader the chance to build their own trading applications, regardless of their programming ability. Each chapter of Programming for Betfair contains snippets of code that combine to create a complete trading application. The application is geared towards horse racing but can easily be adapted to other sports on Betfair's exchange. Using Microsoft's Visual Studio (downloadable for free) the reader is shown how to code an application that will gather prices for any market on Betfair's exchange and then place bets into that market. The reader is shown how to automate their trading so that they can remove emotion from their trades and scale up their trading for increased profits. Further development of the application permits it to save data from Betfair onto the reader's hard drive for offline analysis and visualisation in a spreadsheet for the purpose of building trading algorithms. Also covered is an enhancement of Betfair's charts so that charts can be automatically updated and compared. The final chapter of the book discusses ideas for taking the application and the reader's skills to the next level. Topics discussed include constructing your own trading indicators, volume analysis, trend following, arbitrage, low-latency trading and many more.

About the Author James became interested in sports betting at a very early age when his father would call out to him for random numbers with which to fill out his football pools coupon. That led James to an interest in statistics, probability theory and eventually a degree in computer science. From there he went into research and his EDDIE project became the genesis of The Centre for Computational Finance and Economic Agents at the University of Essex. After leaving academia for The City, working at Reuters on finance related research projects, James is now a freelance consultant, quant developer and writer on sports betting markets. James sometimes blogs on [www.betfairprotrader.co.uk](http://www.betfairprotrader.co.uk)