User Manual: BSP Data Scraper

1. What This Tool Does

This tool automatically finds the Betfair Starting Price (BSP) for horse, harness, and greyhound races. You provide a list of races in a CSV or Excel file, and the tool will generate a new results file with the BSP Win and Place prices added.

2. Before You Start: Your Data File

You will need a data file (either CSV or Excel format) that contains the list of races you want to look up. This file can be located anywhere on your computer.

Your data file MUST have these exact column headers:

- `time` (the date and time of the race)
- `venue` (the name of the racetrack)
- `code` (r for thoroughbred, g for greyhound, h for harness)
- `raceno` (the race number)
- `runnerno` (the runner's number)
- `runnername` (the runner's name)
- `odds` (this column is required, but its value can be empty)

Note: Your file can have other columns as well. They will be preserved in the final report.

Example of a correct data file:

time	venue	code	raceno	runnerno	runnername	odds
27/06/2025 14:30	Richmond	g	1	5	Super Fast	
28/06/2025 19:15	Albion Park	h	3	2	Night Rider	

3. How to Run the Script (Step-by-Step)

Step 1: Open Your Terminal

- Open the terminal application on your computer (e.g., Command Prompt on Windows, Terminal on macOS/Linux).

Step 2: Navigate to the Script's Folder

- In the terminal, you need to go to the directory where the script is saved.

- Use the `cd` (change directory) command. For example, if the script is on your Desktop in a folder named "Scraper", you would type:

  `cd Desktop/Scraper`

- Press **Enter**.

Step 3: Run the Program

- Once you are in the correct folder, type the following command and press **Enter**:

  `python script_name.py`

  (*Replace `script_name.py` with the actual name of the script file.*)

Step 4: Select Your Data File

- After you run the command, a file selection window will pop up on your screen.
- Use this window to navigate to and select the CSV or Excel file containing your race data.
- Click your data file to highlight it, then click the **"Open"** button.

Step 5: Wait for the Process to Finish

- The terminal window will now show the script's progress. You will see messages as the tool processes different dates and races.
- A new browser window will also open and automatically navigate through the website.
- **Important:** This process can take several minutes. **Do NOT close the terminal or the automated browser window.** The script is working.
- The script is finished when you see the message "Script execution finished" in the terminal and the command prompt returns.

4. Get Your Results

- Once the script is finished, look in the **same folder where the script is located**.
- You will find a new file named `final_results.csv`.
- This file contains all the rows from your original file, with two new columns added at the end: `BSP Price Win` and `BSP Price Place`.

5. Understanding the Results

- If the tool found a price, you will see its value in the `BSP Price Win` and `BSP Price Place` columns.
- If a price could not be found (e.g., the runner did not exist for that race), you will see an informative message like `Runner Not Found on Page` in those columns. This is normal.
- The terminal window will also provide a final summary of how many tasks were successful and how many failed, along with a list of any venue/date combinations that could not be scraped.