

Many soccer punters avoid Asian Handicap betting without ever fully grasping the concept. Once you understand the basics it can add a whole new dimension to your football betting, especially as the option of a draw is eliminated from the equation.

Quite simply, an Asian Handicap (which was originally termed 'hang cheng betting' by bookmakers in Asia) is another way of describing spread betting in soccer. It reduces the possible number of outcomes from three (home win, away win or draw) to two, by eliminating the draw outcome.

The bookmakers essentially assign a handicap or "line" for the perceived weaker team in the fixture in order to bring the odds for each team close to evens. The handicap lines start at 0 and can go as high as 4 in some cases. The handicap is devised by weighing up the apportioning the variation in the odds of each team winning.



There are three types of Asian Handicap bets in football which I will now outline, in basic terms:

**1. Full goal handicaps:** The two teams start with a whole number handicap separating them,

Example:

Arsenal is favoured to beat Wigan, with the handicap set as Arsenal-1.0 and Wigan+1.0.

If you bet on Arsenal-1.0, you win your bet if Arsenal win by 2 or more goals, lose if Arsenal draw or lose the game, and have your stake refunded if Arsenal win by exactly one goal.



**2. Half goal handicaps:** The possibility of a draw is eliminated and the bet is either won or lost (there are no stake refunds).

Example:

Chelsea is favoured to beat Blackburn, with the handicap set as Chelsea-1.5 and Blackburn+1.5.

If you bet on Chelsea-1.5, you win your bet if Chelsea win by 2 or more goals and lose if the game ends in any other scenario.



**3. Quarter goal handicaps:** This is more complicated and it's essential that you understand the two concepts already explained.

Basically two types of bets are combined here - one half goal bet and one full goal bet. So, for example, if you stake \$100 on Barcelona-0.75; the bet actually comprises of \$50 on a Barcelona a-0.5 handicap and a further \$50 on a Barcelona-1.0 handicap. Depending on the outcome, half of your stake may win and the other half may be refunded.

Of course the best way to familiarize yourself with this or any other type of soccer betting is to experiment, albeit with smaller stakes until you become more experienced. The elimination of the draw is a significant advantage, but so too are increased odds available on the favourites if you predict them winning by a couple of goals. For weekly Asian Handicap **football betting tips** among others, visit our [home page](#) today.