



The PlayBook: An Inside Look at How to Think Like a Professional Trader

By Mike Bellafiore

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Want to become a truly great trader – either for yourself or for a proprietary trading firm? This book will help you get there. This unique approach is the closest thing to signing up for a “trader boot camp” yourself! You’ll learn by watching new traders walk through actual trades, explain what they’ve tried to do, and try to survive brutally tough expert critiques. One trade at a time, *The Playbook* reveals how professional traders must think in order to succeed “under fire,” how they assess their own performance, and how they work relentlessly to improve. Using concrete, actionable setups drawn from his extensive trading and training experience, Bellafiore walks through an extraordinary array of trades, showing readers how to maximize profits and avoid disastrous hidden pitfalls. He covers support plays, bull-and-bear flags, opening drives, important intraday levels, bounce and fade trades, pullbacks, scalps, technical opportunities, consolidation, relative strength, market trades, and more. He also presents indispensable insights on psychology and trader development, based on his work with hundreds of traders on a major commodity exchange and an elite prop firm’s trading desk. Packed with color, personality, and realism, this is an exciting guide to real-world trading.

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

"Written by one of the world's best trading coaches, *The PlayBook* teaches traders who do not trade U.S. equities how a pro does. At the largest prop firm in South Africa, Mike coached our guys to add U.S. equities to their trading quiver. This memorable experience is archived in humorous, engaging, and educational detail to help you build your own playbook."

—Garreth Montano and Kevin Thomas, Managing Partners, African Gateway and Storm Securities

"*The PlayBook* teaches traders how to build a personal methodology and how to be scalable. It demonstrates the necessity for traders to embrace technology and become more bionic, so they improve their P&L. *The PlayBook* offers a peek into the future of trading and who will be successful. This is an important book."

—Andy Kershner, CEO of Kershner Trading Group

"Having worked with SMB traders, I love how this book shares the real psychological struggles pro traders face, even the best ones, and explains the importance of continually working on yourself to become a Consistently Profitable Trader."

—Andrew Menaker, Ph.D, Trading Psychologist

"Fascinating! Bellafiore has put together his experience in trading and the importance of doing one's homework in this book in a manner that is easy for anyone to understand. The real-life examples, particularly citing Singapore, prove that the methods and strategies shared aren't theoretical but proven facts that even Asian traders can apply. This book is recommended for those who aim to improve their trading habits."

—Lee Chang Wen, Head of Phillip CFD, Phillip Securities Pte Ltd. (A member of PhillipCapital).

"Mike is one of the most generous sharers to the StockTwits trading community in real-time with his trading thoughts and blogging. *The PlayBook* is another wonderful contribution from SMB Capital and its co-founder to the trading community."

—Howard Lindzon, CEO of StockTwits

Want to become a truly great trader—either for yourself or for a prop-trading firm? *The PlayBook* will help you get there. Based on one of the world's most successful trader training programs, it's the closest thing to signing up for a "trader boot camp" yourself!

You'll learn by watching traders walk through their actual trades, explain what they've tried to do, and try to survive tough expert critiques. Trade by trade, you'll discover how professional traders must think to succeed "under fire," how they assess their performance, and how they work to improve.

Using concrete setups drawn from his extensive trading and training experience, Mike Bellafiore walks through a wide array of trades, showing you how to maximize profits and avoid hidden pitfalls. As you learn crucial trading skills, you'll also gain indispensable insights into market psychology and trader development. Packed with color, personality, and realism, this is today's most exciting and profitable guide to real-world trading!

Mike Bellafiore and SMB Capital will help you...

- Build a trading PlayBook that builds from your strengths.
- Trade bigger, with their proprietary trading risk system.
- Develop a methodology to make trading decisions.
- Understand what it takes to be a pro trader by meeting many successful pros from SMB Capital.
- Avoid “intern-level” mistakes their pro traders have made in real-time.
- See the “Future of Trading” and what you need to do to succeed.
- Remember to be grateful for your opportunity to trade and invest!

About the Author

Mike Bellafiore is the co-founder of SMB Capital, a proprietary trading firm in New York City; SMBU, their education arm; and SMB Systems Trading, their algorithmic trading division. He is the author of “the trading classic” *One Good Trade*. His firm has regularly appeared on CNBC, Bloomberg TV, CNN Money, Fox Business, the BBC, and in the *Wall Street Journal* and the *street.com*. SMB’s trader training program was highlighted on the TV documentary *Wall Street Warriors*. An international lecturer, Mr. Bellafiore has built trader training programs globally for hedge funds, prop trading desks, and retail traders, working with some of the world’s largest traders. He lives on the Upper West Side, with his wife and newborn son.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Eva Burton:

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