SIT-Liquidity Zone Trading Bot R4: Settings Guide

For informational purposes only. Not trading advice. Always test settings in simulation first. See the full disclaimer at the end.

How to use this guide

This guide explains what each setting in the SIT-Liquidity Zone Trading Bot R4 does, in plain language. It does not tell you what to set. The right settings depend on your market, chart, account and trading style, and only you can decide them.

- **Where to find the settings:** in NinjaTrader, right-click your chart, choose **Strategies**, select the SIT-Liquidity Zone Trading Bot R4, and look at the settings list on the right.
- **Sections are numbered** in the same order you see them in NinjaTrader.
- **Default** means the value the bot comes with. A default is only a starting point, not a recommendation.
- **Filters** are near the bottom. They are off by default, except the Session Filter (see section 9).
- **Change one setting at a time,** then test it in simulation, so you can see what that one change does.

Note on NinjaTrader's own settings: above the numbered sections, NinjaTrader shows its own standard settings (such as Account, Calculate and Start behavior). These belong to NinjaTrader, not to the bot. Two worth knowing:

- **Calculate:** this bot is made to run on **On bar close**.
- **Exit on session close:** on by default in this bot. NinjaTrader closes any open trade 30 seconds before the end of the trading session set for your chart. If you uncheck it, a trade can stay open through the session close.

1. Trade Settings

The basic settings for how many contracts the bot trades, which directions it may trade, and how it handles opposite and early signals.

Setting	Default	What it does
Quantity (contracts per signal)	1	The number of contracts the bot enters on each signal. The bot does not add to a trade; it enters only when flat.
Enable Longs	On	Lets the bot take BUY (long) trades. Uncheck to trade shorts only.
Enable Shorts	On	Lets the bot take SELL (short) trades. Uncheck to trade longs only.
Reverse On Opposite Signal	Off	Off = while in a trade, opposite signals are ignored until the trade closes. On = an opposite signal closes the trade and the bot may enter the other way.
Skip First Signal(s) of the Day	Off	When on, the bot skips the first new trade(s) of each trading day (the day resets at 6:00 PM New York). No order is placed for skipped signals.
Signals To Skip	1	How many new trades to skip at the start of each trading day, when the setting above is on.

Note on Quantity: A larger quantity means larger gains and larger losses on every trade. Make sure your quantity fits your account and your firm's rules.

1a. Flatten Time (Prop Firms)

At the time you set, the bot closes any open trade and stops taking new ones. It stays enabled and starts trading again on its own at the resume time. It is made for traders whose prop firm or broker requires them to be flat by a certain time.

Setting	Default	What it does
Enable Flatten Time	On	Turns this feature on or off.
Flatten Time (HHMM NY)	1600 (4:00 PM New York)	The time the bot closes open trades and stops new entries.
Resume Time (HHMM NY)	2000 (8:00 PM New York)	The time the bot may start taking new trades again.

- **Important: If NinjaTrader is closed, disconnected or frozen at the flatten time, the bot cannot close the trade. You are still responsible for being flat on time.**
- **All times are New York time,** typed as 24-hour HHMM (for example, 1600 = 4:00 PM). Daylight saving time is handled automatically. If you are in another time zone, convert your firm's deadline to New York time.
- Signals between the flatten time and the resume time are skipped, not saved for later.
- **Check your own firm's rules.** Deadlines differ between firms and can change. Set the flatten time early enough to leave yourself a margin.

2. Liquidity Zones

These are this bot's own signal settings. The bot draws key price zones on your chart and trades when price moves away from a zone by a set distance.

Setting	Default	What it does
Zone Distance (points)	20	The band above and below each zone. After price comes near a zone, a candle that closes this many points or more above it = BUY, below it = SELL. Inside the band, nothing happens. A larger distance gives fewer, later signals; a smaller distance gives more signals.

Setting	Default	What it does
Confirmation Candles	1	How many more candles must also close outside the band on the same side before the bot enters. 0 = enter on the first close outside the band. A higher number waits longer: fewer false signals may get through, but entries come later.
Max Signals Per Zone (each direction)	2	How many BUY and how many SELL trades one zone may give. Helps stop repeated signals around one zone. Resets when a new zone forms.
Use PDH / PDL	On	Uses the previous day's high and low as zones.
Use Asian High / Low	On	Uses the Asian session high and low as zones.
Use London High / Low	On	Uses the London session high and low as zones.
Break Through Points (Taken)	0	How far past a zone price must go for it to count as TAKEN. 0 = a touch.
Show Old Highs/Lows	On	Draws older daily highs and lows that price never went back to (orange dashed lines).
Signals at Old Highs/Lows	Off	On = old highs and lows also give signals. Off = they are shown as lines only.
Old Lookback (Days)	365	How many days back the bot looks for old highs and lows.
Old Highs Above (levels) / Old Lows Below (levels)	3 / 3	How many old highs above price and old lows below price are shown.

Note on Confirmation Candles: The signal must still be valid after the confirmation candles close. If price moves back first, the bot waits for the next signal.

3. Stop Loss & Take Profit

These settings close a trade at a set distance from your entry, measured in points. A **stop loss** closes a losing trade; a **take profit** closes a winning trade.

Setting	Default	What it does
Enable Stop Loss (Seen) / Stop Loss (Seen) (points)	On, 12 pts	Places a real stop order you can see on your chart and in your order list.
Enable Take Profit (Seen) / Take Profit (Seen) (points)	On, 25 pts	Places a real profit target order you can see on your chart.
Enable Emergency Stop (Unseen) / Emergency Stop (Unseen) (points)	Off, 12 pts	A hidden backup stop. No order is shown; the bot checks price on every tick and closes the trade if it is reached.
Enable Emergency Take Profit (Unseen) / Emergency Take Profit (Unseen) (points)	Off, 20 pts	A hidden backup target that works the same way.

- **Seen vs Unseen:** Seen orders sit with your broker. Unseen exits only work while NinjaTrader and the bot are running and connected. If both are on, the Unseen exit sits 2 ticks beyond the Seen one, as a backup.
- **Smaller stop:** smaller loss per trade, but the trade may be stopped out more often by normal price movement.
- **Larger stop:** more room to move, but a bigger loss when the stop is hit.
- **Smaller take profit:** reached more often, but each win is smaller. **Larger take profit:** bigger wins, but reached less often.
- Turning off the stop loss means a trade can stay open with no limit on its loss. Fast markets and gaps can also fill your stop at a worse price than set.

3a. Breakeven & Trailing Stop

These settings move your Seen stop loss while a trade is in profit. Both are off by default and only work when Enable Stop Loss (Seen) is on. The stop only moves in your favor, never back.

Setting	Default	What it does
Enable Breakeven	Off	When on, moves the stop to your entry price (plus the ticks below) once the trade reaches a set profit.
Breakeven Trigger (points)	10 pts	How far in profit the trade must go before the stop moves to breakeven.
Breakeven Plus (ticks)	1 tick	How many ticks past your entry the stop is placed, to help cover costs. 0 = exactly at entry.
Enable Trailing Stop	Off	When on, the stop follows price as the trade moves in your favor. It never moves back.
Trail Start (points)	10 pts	How far in profit the trade must go before trailing begins.
Trail Distance (points)	8 pts	How far behind the best price the stop follows.

- **Smaller trigger or trail distance:** protects profit sooner, but small pullbacks may close the trade early.
- **Larger trigger or trail distance:** gives the trade more room, but gives back more profit before the stop is hit.
- If both are on, the stop uses whichever of the two is better for you.
- A trade closed at breakeven can still lose a little after commission and slippage.

3b. Exit Type

Chooses how the bot closes a trade besides the stop. The Stop Loss always stays on.

Setting	Default	What it does
Exit Type	FixedTarget	FixedTarget = trades close at the Stop Loss or Take Profit. MACDCross = also close the trade when MACD crosses against it. EMACross = also close the trade when a candle closes back through the Exit EMA.

Setting	Default	What it does
MACD Fast / MACD Slow / MACD Signal	12 / 26 / 9	The MACD settings, used only when Exit Type = MACDCross. Smaller numbers react faster.
Exit EMA Period	20	The moving average used only when Exit Type = EMACross. A shorter period exits sooner; a longer period gives the trade more room.
Show Exit Markers	On	Shows a gold BOT EXIT label where a MACD or EMA exit closes a trade. Display only.

- **Note on Take Profit:** with MACDCross or EMACross, the Take Profit still works if it is checked, and whichever comes first closes the trade. Uncheck Take Profit if you want the MACD or EMA exit to manage the trade.

4. Chart Markers

These settings control the markers, zones, labels and dashboard on your chart. They are display only and do not change how the bot trades.

Setting	Default	What it does
Show Arrows	On	Shows an arrow where the bot buys or sells.
Show BUY/SELL Text	On	Shows the words BOT BUY or BOT SELL.
Auto Spacing	On	Keeps the BUY/SELL text from overlapping the arrow.
Arrow Size / Text Size	22 / 14	How big the arrows and words are.
Arrow Offset (ticks) / Text Offset (ticks)	4 / 16 ticks	How far above or below the candle the arrow and words sit.

Setting	Default	What it does
Marker Gap (ticks)	8 ticks	The smallest gap between the arrow and the text when Auto Spacing is on.
Buy Color / Sell Color	Green / Red	The marker colors.
Show Zones	On	Draws the zone lines on your chart.
PDH / PDL, Asian, London and TAKEN Line Colors	Red, Blue, Blue, Gray	The colors of each type of zone line. TAKEN zones are ones price has already gone through.
Zone Label Horizontal Offset (candles)	-12	Moves the zone labels left or right. Negative = to the right of the newest candle; positive = to the left, over the candles.
Label Background Color	See-through black	The box behind the zone labels.
Show Dashboard	On	Shows an information box on your chart.
Dashboard Location	2 (Top Left)	Where the dashboard sits: 1 = Top Right, 2 = Top Left, 3 = Bottom Right, 4 = Bottom Left.
Dashboard Text Color / Dashboard Background Color	White / See-through black	The dashboard colors.
Show Zone Highlight	On	Draws a see-through box Zone Distance points above and below each zone.
Zone Highlight Opacity (%)	15	How solid the highlight is. 1 = almost invisible, 100 = solid.
PDH / PDL, Asian, London, Old Highs/Lows and TAKEN Highlight Colors	Red, Blue, Blue, Orange, Gray	The highlight colors for each type of zone.
Show Zone Labels	On	BOT BUY and BOT SELL markers show which zone gave the signal (for example, BOT SELL - PDL).

Setting	Default	What it does
Show Zone History	Off	On = each session zone is drawn only while it was active, so older zones stay visible where they ended. Off = only the current zones are shown, across the whole chart.

5. Position Safety

Setting	Default	What it does
Enable Position Mismatch Check	On	If the bot's position and your account's position don't match, the bot stops taking new entries and shows an alert in NinjaTrader's log.

A mismatch can happen if you trade by hand on the same account, run two bots on one account, or lose connection. Use one bot per account. If you see the alert, check your account and close any unexpected position yourself.

6–9. Filters

Filters decide which signals the bot is allowed to take. They only block **new entries**. They never close a trade or change your stop, target, exits or Flatten Time. All filters are off by default except the Session Filter, and you can use any of them alone or together.

In general, the more filters you turn on, and the stricter you set them, the fewer trades the bot will take. Fewer trades is not automatically better or worse. Test any change before trading it.

6. Filter - Slope

Checks how steeply a moving average is rising or falling before allowing a trade. BUY trades need an upward slope; SELL trades need a downward slope.

Setting	Default	What it does
Enable Slope Filter	Off	Turns the filter on or off.
Long Minimum Slope (degrees)	10°	How steep the upward slope must be for a BUY.
Short Minimum Slope (degrees)	10°	How steep the downward slope must be for a SELL.
Slope Lookback (bars)	3	How many candles back the slope is measured over.
Slope EMA Period	20	The length of the moving average the slope is measured on.

- **Higher degrees:** requires a steeper trend, so you'll usually get fewer trades and skip more flat, sideways markets.
- **Lower degrees:** allows flatter moves, so you'll usually get more trades.
- **Longer lookback:** smooths out the slope over more candles. **Shorter lookback:** reacts to the most recent candles.
- The degree number depends on the instrument and chart timeframe, so the same setting can act differently on different charts.

7. Filter - ADX

ADX (Average Directional Index) is a common indicator that measures **how strong** a trend is, not which direction it is going.

Setting	Default	What it does
Enable ADX Filter	Off	Turns the filter on or off.
ADX Period	14	How many candles ADX is calculated over.
ADX Minimum	12	The bot only enters when ADX is at or above this number.

- **Low ADX** usually means a weak trend or a sideways, choppy market. **High ADX** usually means a stronger trend, up or down.

- **Higher minimum:** the bot only trades when the trend reads stronger, so you'll usually get fewer trades.
- **Lower minimum:** allows trades in weaker trends, so you'll usually get more trades.
- **Shorter period:** ADX reacts faster. **Longer period:** ADX is smoother and slower to change.

8. Filter - Cooldown

Makes the bot wait a set amount of time after a trade closes before it can enter again.

Setting	Default	What it does
Enable Cooldown	Off	Turns the filter on or off.
Cooldown (minutes after trade close)	5	How long the bot waits after a trade closes. Can be set from 1 to 1,440 minutes.

- **Longer cooldown:** fewer trades back to back, but the bot may miss signals during the wait.
- **Shorter cooldown:** the bot can get back in sooner.

9. Filter - Sessions (New York Time)

Lets you choose which trading sessions the bot may enter trades in. **This filter is on by default in this bot.**

Setting	Default	What it does
Enable Session Filter	**On**	When on, the bot only enters during the sessions you check below. When off, the bot may trade during all hours.
Asian Session / Asian Start (HHMM) / Asian End (HHMM)	Off, 2000 – 300 (8:00 PM – 3:00 AM)	Allows entries during the Asian session when checked.
London Session / London Start (HHMM) / London End (HHMM)	Off, 300 – 930 (3:00 AM – 9:30 AM)	Allows entries during the London session when checked.

Setting	Default	What it does
New York Session / New York Start (HHMM) / New York End (HHMM)	**On, 1030 – 1100 (10:30 AM – 11:00 AM)**	Allows entries during the New York window.

Note on the default session: By default, this bot only takes new trades from **10:30 to 11:00 AM New York time**. You can make this window longer: change the New York Start and New York End times, turn on the Asian or London session, or uncheck Enable Session Filter to trade all sessions.

- Times are typed as 24-hour HHMM in New York time (for example, 1030 = 10:30 AM). Daylight saving time is handled automatically, and sessions that cross midnight are handled too.
- A trade that is already open is not closed when a session ends. Use Flatten Time or your stops for that.

Important reminders

- **Turning off the bot does not close an open trade.** Close or flatten your position first, and check that no position is left open.
- **Run one bot per account,** and don't trade by hand on an account a bot is using.
- **Test every change in simulation first.** Market conditions change, so settings that work well in one period may not work as well in another.
- **Monitor your bot while it runs.** Connection losses, computer problems or platform errors can stop the bot or prevent orders from working.
- **Know your prop firm's or broker's rules** (deadlines, loss limits, contract limits) and set the bot to fit them.

Disclaimer

This guide is for informational and educational purposes only. It explains what each setting does. It is not trading, investment or financial advice, and it does not recommend any setting, market or strategy. Default settings are starting points only, not recommendations.

Trading futures and other financial instruments involves substantial risk of loss and is not suitable for every investor. You can lose more than your initial investment. Past performance, whether real or simulated, does not guarantee future results. Simulated and backtested results have limitations and may not reflect real trading conditions such as slippage, commission, liquidity and execution delays.

You are solely responsible for your settings, your trades, managing your open positions, and following the rules of your broker or prop firm. SIT Trading Systems is not responsible for any trading losses, rule violations or account closures, or for losses caused by software errors, malfunctions or defects, connection problems, or platform issues. Always test in simulation before trading with real money, and only trade with money you can afford to lose.