

Broker Commissions Considerations for Options Traders

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March 31, 2021

Options Commissions of Brokers Popular with Options Income Traders (some have \$1 minimum)

- ThinkorSwim on TD Ameritrade 0.55
- Interactive Brokers (IBKR): 0.25 – 0.65
- LightSpeed 0.60 per contract (waived \$1 minimum for some)
- TastyWorks 1.00 round trip (\$10 cap per contract)
- Fidelity 0.60 per contract
- Schwab 0.65
- Tradier Mobile, Dash, or API (\$10 per mo) 0.00 per contract
- Tradier Pro (\$10 per mo) 0.35 per contract
- Tradier TradeHawk (\$85 per mo) 0.00 per contract
- <https://try.tradier.com/aeromir/> :
- TradeHawk - \$60 per mo + 0.00 per contract

Additional Proprietary Index License Fee

CBOE FEE SCHEDULE 3/23/2022	PER contract
SPX/SPXW	\$0.45
RUT	\$0.18

- TDA Thinkorswim SPX 0.58
- TastyWorks 0.78 (0.65 + 0.10 + 0.02)
- Lightspeed 0.62
- IBKR 0.45
- Schwab 0.00 ? But platform not as good
- Fidelity 0.00 ? But platform not as good
- Tradier 0.45
- (Above are approximations and some vary by option price)

Example Comparison for an SPX contract (by one of our members)

35	Commission	Exchange Fees	Total
ThinkOrSwim	0.55	0.58	1.13
Interactive Brokers	0.25 – 0.65	0.40 – 0.49	0.65 – 1.14
TastyWorks	0.50	0.78	1.28
Tradier	0.00 (\$60/\$85 a month) 0.35 (\$10 a month)	0.48 0.48	0.48 0.83

Conventional vs. Direct Access Brokers (see <https://www.warriortrading.com/direct-access-brokers/>)

Conventional online brokerage firms “direct customer trade orders to centralized trading desks that route to predetermined liquidity providers through order flow arrangements”. PFOF.

DIRECT ACCESS Brokers allow trader to direct order to specific exchanges, ECN’s and Market Makers

Direct Access Brokers: Lightspeed, IBKR Pro, TDA

No Direct Access: IBKT Lite, Robinhood, Webull, Tradier

Good Discussions of Commissions on Web

- <https://www.warriortrading.com/the-3-best-online-trading-brokers/>
- <https://www.warriortrading.com/direct-access-brokers/>
- <https://support.warriortrading.com/support/solutions/articles/19000045045-broker-recommendations-us-international>
- <https://forums.aeromir.com/threads/tradier-review.1608/>

Other Considerations

- Need to take into account whether there is a Platform Fee
- ThinkorSwim, IBKR include rich platform
- Sometimes a paid-for platform may be better (LiveVol)
- There can be miscellaneous fees and even credits in all cases. Some brokers reduce fees for low priced options or “adding liquidity”.

Special Offers

- (for Aeromir related offers join Aeromir for free first)
- Amy Meissner : TastyWorks 50 cents to open instead of \$1 round trip . Might be <https://tinyurl.com/y5gzwggru> But check first with Amy or Tradier
- <https://try.tradier.com/aeromir/> gives \$60 per month unlimited free instead of \$85 a month
- <https://www.warriortrading.com/the-3-best-online-trading-brokers/> and other pages on that site. Even if you are not a Warrior Trading member, use these rates to negotiate