💵 Personal Retail Account Trading Plan

Schwab retail account — equities primary, TSLA options secondary, exponential bet sizing.

Retail Account | Stocks | Options

Plan Date: June 30, 2026
Review Schedule: Quarterly (March, June, September, December)

Scope: This covers my personal Charles Schwab retail account — equities (primary) and options on TSLA only (secondary). My TTP prop account has its own plan:

TRADE PLAN
🏦 TTP Prop Stock Day Trading Business Plan

🎯 Executive Summary

This is my own capital, my own rules, no profit split with anyone. Equities are the main focus — large cap and small cap, long and short on large cap, long-only on small/low-float caps since short locates are limited there. Options are secondary, TSLA only, short-dated.

I keep the detailed setup criteria in MyPropJournal playbooks rather than spelling it all out here, same approach as the TTP plan. This document covers the business side: structure, risk, and targets.

🏢 Trading Business Structure

Field	Detail
Trading Style	Day trading — equities (primary), TSLA options (secondary), typical hold 1-2 hours
Primary Market	US equities (large cap + small/low-float cap) and TSLA options
Capital	$10,000 starting point, Schwab margin account, plan to add more over time
Trading Hours	Entries cluster 9:30 – 11:30 AM EST, holds can run 1-2 hrs so exits may land into early afternoon

> **How I'm running both accounts at once:** DAS Trader Pro up for this account, the Trader Evolution order entry window up for TTP, side by side — both live at the same time, not alternating. General split: this account leans large cap, TTP leans shorting small-cap gappers. That may vary day to day, but that's the default lean.

💼 Account & Regulatory Notes

Broker: Charles Schwab — margin account. $0 commission on stock/ETF trades, $0.65 per options contract, no account minimum or maintenance fee.

PDT rule is gone. FINRA eliminated the pattern day trader designation and the $25,000 minimum equity requirement, effective June 4, 2026, replacing it with a real-time intraday margin framework (standard 25% maintenance margin, $2,000 minimum to use margin at all). Schwab confirmed they're dropping the day-trade count restriction by June 8, 2026. I'm not boxed in by a day-trade count — the real constraint now is intraday margin usage relative to account equity, not a trade counter.

⏰ Trading Schedule

Block	Time (EST)	Focus
Pre-Market Prep	8:00 – 9:30 AM	News, gappers, watchlist, TSLA-specific catalysts for options
Active Trading	9:30 – 11:30 AM	Entries cluster here, both accounts live side by side
Holds in progress	11:30 AM – ~1:30 PM	Trades opened in the active window can still be running — 1-2 hr holds depending on setup quality and where price is in the range
Mid-Day Review	After exits	Log trades, review execution
EOD Review	4:00 PM	Report card, write-ups

🎲 Trading Approach & Market Focus

Equities (primary):

- Large cap: both long and short, leans large cap by default on this account
- Small cap / low float: **long only** — short locates aren't reliably available on these, so I'm not fighting that constraint

- Typical hold 1-2 hours (1, 1.5, or 2 hrs), depending on setup quality and where price is sitting in the range — not a pure scalp
- I keep the actual setup criteria in MyPropJournal playbooks rather than duplicating it here

Options (secondary, TSLA only):

- 0-3 DTE — same-day or next expiration, occasionally one expiration further out if the setup calls for it
- Direction depends on the setup, not locked to calls or puts
- **Asset-class decision is setup-dependent:** not every TSLA setup defaults to options. A news-driven breakout might be better suited to options for the leverage; other setups might be better as the straight equity. This decision framework still needs to get built out — probably its own playbook (or a decision layer within the TSLA playbook) once I've got enough tracked examples to see the pattern
- Secondary to equities — this isn't the main event, it's an add-on when TSLA gives a clean signal

---

📊 Analysis Framework

Same core framework as my TTP account — no reason to reinvent it for a different account:

Index as my permission slip: QQQ's directional trend has to align before I take a directional trade. Relative strength/weakness vs. QQQ is a core conviction signal.

Technical

Price action at key S/R · volume profile & relative volume · EMA stack (9/20/40) & trend ID · chart patterns (flags, triangles, break/retest) · VWAP & anchored VWAP

Fundamental/Catalyst

Pre-market news & earnings (TSLA-specific catalysts matter a lot for the options side) · sector rotation · major econ data (NFP, CPI, FOMC) · Fed speeches

---

💻 Software & Infrastructure

Broker: Charles Schwab

Execution: DAS Trader Pro, routed through Schwab via a third-party gateway — $175/month.

Analysis: Thinkorswim (already covered in my TTP plan's software section, shared across both accounts)

Scanner: Trade Ideas Standard — $127/month, shared across both this account and the TTP account, so the cost is tracked once here rather than duplicated.

💰 Costs & Investment

Starting Capital

$10,000 — Schwab margin account, starting point, with plans to deposit more over time as the account proves out.

Recurring Monthly Costs

Category	Item	Monthly
Platform	DAS Trader Pro (via Schwab)	$175
Scanner	Trade Ideas Standard	$127
Broker	Schwab commissions	$0 stock/ETF, $0.65/options contract

Options contract fees are usage-based, not a flat monthly cost — at low-volume contract counts this stays a minor line item.

🎯 Goals & Milestones

> Core target right now: **$1,500/month net.** No firm split on this account — it's my own capital, so the gross number and the net number are basically the same minus the small per-contract options fees.

Scaling Profit Goal — tied to retained capital, not just time

The goal increases ~$500 every 3 months, **but only if retained profit has actually grown into the next risk tier.** Withdrawing profit instead of retaining it means the daily stop and per-trade risk stay where they are — and so does the realistic monthly goal. Time passing alone doesn't earn a bigger number; growing the capital base does.

Quarter	Monthly Net Goal	Requires Reaching	Why
Now	$1,500/mo	$0 retained ($150 daily stop)	Current capacity, ~$75/day objective
~Month 3-6	$2,000/mo	$1,000+ retained ($250 daily stop)	Need the bigger per-trade room to average ~$100/day
~Month 6-9	$2,500/mo	$2,000+ retained ($350 daily stop)	
~Month 9-12	$3,000/mo	$3,000+ retained ($450 daily stop)	

These are targets contingent on the capital actually being there, not guarantees on a calendar. If I'm at month 6 but still sitting at $0 retained because I withdrew everything, the goal stays $1,500 — the math doesn't support more than that yet.

Short-Term (0-3 Months)

- 🎯 Consistently hit $1,500/month
- 🎯 Get comfortable executing both equities and TSLA options without the options side dragging on equities focus
- 🎯 Start tracking setup grades (A+/A/B/C) in MyPropJournal to build real criteria behind the labels
- 🎯 Document setups in MyPropJournal as they get built out

Medium-Term (3-6 Months)

- 🎯 Reach the $1,000 retained-profit tier and the $2,000/month goal that comes with it
- 🎯 Account growing via retained profit, not just fresh deposits
- 🎯 Enough tracked data to actually validate whether the grade-based sizing is paying off (are A+ trades really outperforming, or is that just a feeling)
- 🎯 Clear read on whether equities or options is the better-performing side of this account

---

🎯 Per-Trade & Daily Profit Targets

The math (current tier)

Goal	Daily (≈20 trading days/mo)	Weekly
$1,500/month	~$75/day	~$346/week

That's about half of my current $150 daily hard stop — same gap as the TTP account, same reason to have an actual "stop, I've made enough" trigger instead of trading until I hit the loss limit on the way down or just keep going on the way up.

Profit targets by setup grade (1.5-2R), current $150 tier

Grade	Equities Risk	Equities Target (1.5-2R)	Options Risk	Options Target (1.5-2R)
C	$15	$23-30	$25	$37-50
B (baseline)	$25	$38-50	$50	$75-100
A	$40	$60-80	$75	$112-150
A+	$50	$75-100	$100	$150-200

Daily objective vs. daily hard stop

> ⚠️ Not the same line. $150 is the hard stop — DAS Trader Pro actually liquidates at that point, it's not just self-discipline. My real daily objective is ~$75. Hitting that is the cue to ask "do I have a real setup left, or am I forcing one," not a green light to keep pushing toward the $150 ceiling.

⚠️ Risk Management

Account Risk Parameters (current tier)

Limit	Amount
Daily hard stop (DAS-enforced liquidation)	$150 *(was $200, downsized after a rough stretch)*
Equities risk — B-grade baseline	$25
Options risk — B-grade baseline (TSLA)	$50

Both the daily stop and every grade's per-trade risk scale together as one tiered system — see below. Nothing scales independently; it all moves up or down together.

Exponential Bet Sizing — risk scales with setup quality, not a flat number

I want **6 trades** to fit inside the daily budget. Equities baseline = daily stop ÷ 6. From there, each grade is a fixed multiplier on that baseline:

Grade	Multiplier	What it means
C	0.6x baseline	Lower conviction, marginal/garbage setup — still valid, smallest size
B	1.0x baseline	Standard, meets criteria cleanly — this is the baseline trade
A	1.6x baseline	Strong setup, multiple confluences
A+	2.0x baseline	Highest conviction — best setups get the most size

> ⚠️ **The grading criteria itself doesn't exist yet.** What actually separates an A+ from a B is something I need to track, analyze, and define using real data in MyPropJournal — not just a gut feeling in the moment. Until that's built out, I'm applying this loosely and refining it as I go.

Full Scaling Ladder — daily stop, equities grades, and options grades all move together

Everything ties to retained profit (cumulative trading profit minus cumulative withdrawals). Withdrawing resets the bump tied to whatever was taken out.

Retained Profit	Daily Stop	Eq. C	Eq. B	Eq. A	Eq. A+	Opt. Baseline (÷3)
$0 (now)	$150	$15	$25	$40	$50	$50
$1,000	$250	$25	$40	$65	$80	$83
$2,000	$350	$35	$60	$95	$120	$117
$3,000	$450	$45	$75	$120	$150	$150
$4,000	$550	$55	$90	$145	$180	$183
$5,000	$650	$65	$110	$175	$220	$217

ⓘ Formula: Equities baseline = Daily Stop ÷ 6, rounded to a clean number. C = 0.6× baseline, A = 1.6× baseline, A+ = 2.0× baseline. Options baseline = Daily Stop ÷ 3, with the same 0.5/1.0/1.5/2.0 grade multipliers from there.

Position Sizing — Equities

Formula: **shares = risk ÷ stop distance.** Use whatever dollar amount the grade + current tier produces, then look it up here (or the nearest value).

Risk	$0.10 stop	$0.25 stop	$0.50 stop	$1.00 stop	$1.50 stop	$2.00 stop
$15	150	60	30	15	10	7
$25	250	100	50	25	16	12
$40	400	160	80	40	26	20
$50	500	200	100	50	33	25

Position Sizing — Options (TSLA)

Risk = contracts × (entry premium − stop premium) × 100. The stop width per contract drives how many contracts fit inside whatever the current grade/baseline dollar amount is:

Premium move at my stop	Risk per 1 contract	Max contracts within $50
$0.10	$10	5
$0.25	$25	2

$0.50	$50	1
$1.00	$100	Can't take 1 contract within $50 — needs a tighter stop, skip the trade, or this is an A/A+ grade trade with a bigger allocation

⚠️ At the B-grade baseline, anything wider than a $0.50 premium stop on a single contract blows the budget. This naturally pushes toward tighter, more defined options setups — A/A+ grade sizing gives more room for a wider stop if the setup earns it.

Stop Loss Discipline

Same non-negotiables as my TTP account:

- Every position has a defined stop before entry
- The 40 EMA is my trailing-stop signal on equities
- Size down on opening-drive entries, don't widen the stop
- Never move a stop further from entry

Daily Trading Limits

Trigger	Action
Daily hard stop hit (scales per table above)	DAS liquidates automatically — no decision needed
6 trades taken	Target trade count for the daily budget — well past this means sizing was probably too small for the opportunities, well under means I was probably forcing size on lower-grade setups
Daily objective hit (~$75)	Strong lean toward stopping — see Profit Targets above
Profit exceeds 2x daily objective (~$150+)	Lock in, step away

The Golden Rule

Preservation = Profit. Same principle as the TTP account — protect the account today so I can trade it tomorrow.

📏 Performance Metrics & KPIs

Daily: gross/net P&L, split by equities vs. options · win rate per instrument · trade count · **trade count and P&L by setup grade (A+/A/B/C)**

Weekly: plan adherence · which instrument is actually contributing to the goal · which grade tier is actually performing best (validate the multiplier, don't just assume it)

Monthly: total P&L vs. the current quarter's goal · daily stop tier reached · account growth from retained profit vs. fresh deposits

---

🔄 Continuous Improvement Process

Cadence	Focus
Daily	Log every trade, both instruments, rate execution, **assign and record the grade**
Weekly	Review patterns, update playbook, sanity-check grade calls against actual outcomes
Monthly	Compare equities vs. options performance, refine what actually defines each grade tier
Quarterly	Full review, check whether retained profit has reached the next tier, adjust the goal accordingly (up or staying put)

📖 Professional Development

Same education sources and content plan as the TTP account — SMB Capital methodology, Lance Breitstein's material, and the Trading With Stephen YouTube channel revival, repurposing trade write-ups from MyPropJournal as content covering both accounts.

✅ Rules of Engagement

1. 🛑 Never exceed the daily hard stop — though DAS handles this automatically
2. 📊 Every trade has a plan — entry, stop, target
3. 💰 Size by grade, not a flat number — B-grade baseline is the default, A/A+ earn more size, C gets less. No size jump without a grade to justify it.
4. 📝 Log every trade, both instruments, with the grade assigned
5. 🎯 Hit the daily objective, evaluate before chasing more
6. 🔢 6 trades is the target count for the daily budget — a sanity check on sizing, not a hard ceiling
7. 📈 The monthly goal only goes up when retained profit actually reaches the next tier — not just because a quarter passed

---

🎓 Success Criteria

- ✅ Consistent monthly net at whatever the current tier's goal is
- ✅ Daily stop scaling tiers actually getting hit, not just theoretical
- ✅ Setup grading criteria actually defined and validated with tracked data, not just a feeling
- ✅ Clear picture of equities vs. options contribution to the goal
- ✅ Account growing from retained profit, not just fresh capital
- ✅ No DAS-forced liquidations from blowing through the daily stop

---

📝 Plan Maintenance

Updated after milestone achievements, scaling tier changes, or once the setup grading criteria is actually defined with real data.

Next Scheduled Review: September 30, 2026

Let's build.
Date: June 30, 2026