

Order Flow Dynamics

By Michael Valtos – www.orderflows.com

Module 11: Use Order Flow To Let Winners Run

Disclaimer

This course is for educational and informational purposes only and should not be considered a solicitation to buy or sell a futures contract or make any other type of investment decision. Futures trading contains substantial risk and is not for every investor. An investor could potentially lose all or more than the initial investment. Risk capital is money that can be lost without jeopardizing ones financial security or life style. Only risk capital should be used for trading and only those with sufficient risk capital should consider trading. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future results.

CFTC Rules 4.41 - Hypothetical or Simulated performance results have certain limitations, unlike an actual performance record, simulated results do not represent actual trading. Also, since the trades have not been executed, the results may have under-or-over compensated for the impact, if any, of certain market factors, such as lack of liquidity. Simulated trading programs in general are also subject to the fact that they are designed with the benefit of hindsight. No representation is being made that any account will or is likely to achieve profit or losses similar to those shown.

Letting winning trades is easier said than done.

The reason it is difficult is because traders have to fight against time in the sense that often we are impatient.

There is a bit of psychology at play as no one likes to have a losing trade so we are inclined to close a winning trade earlier than we should. This also explains why we hold on to losers longer than we should, because closing the losing trade out would result in a loser and we would rather hope and pray the market comes back, but often it doesn't.

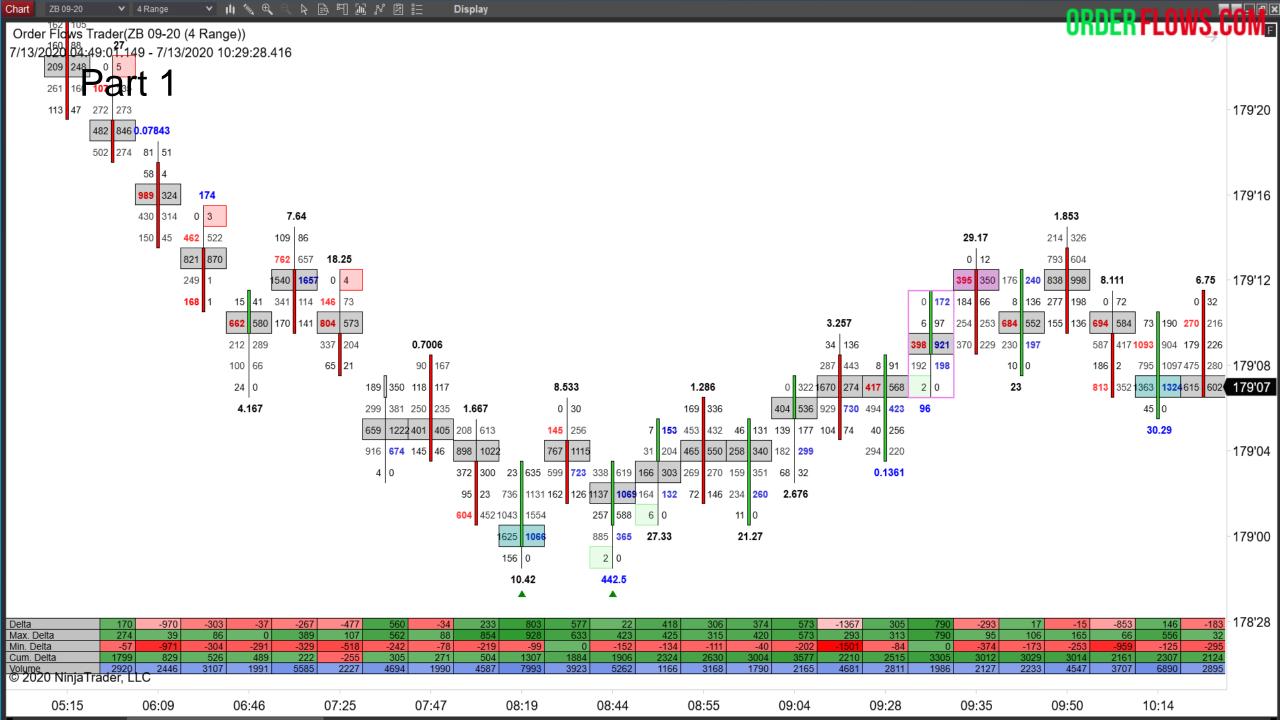
When managing the risk of time a trader must be monitoring the current market situation and ask:

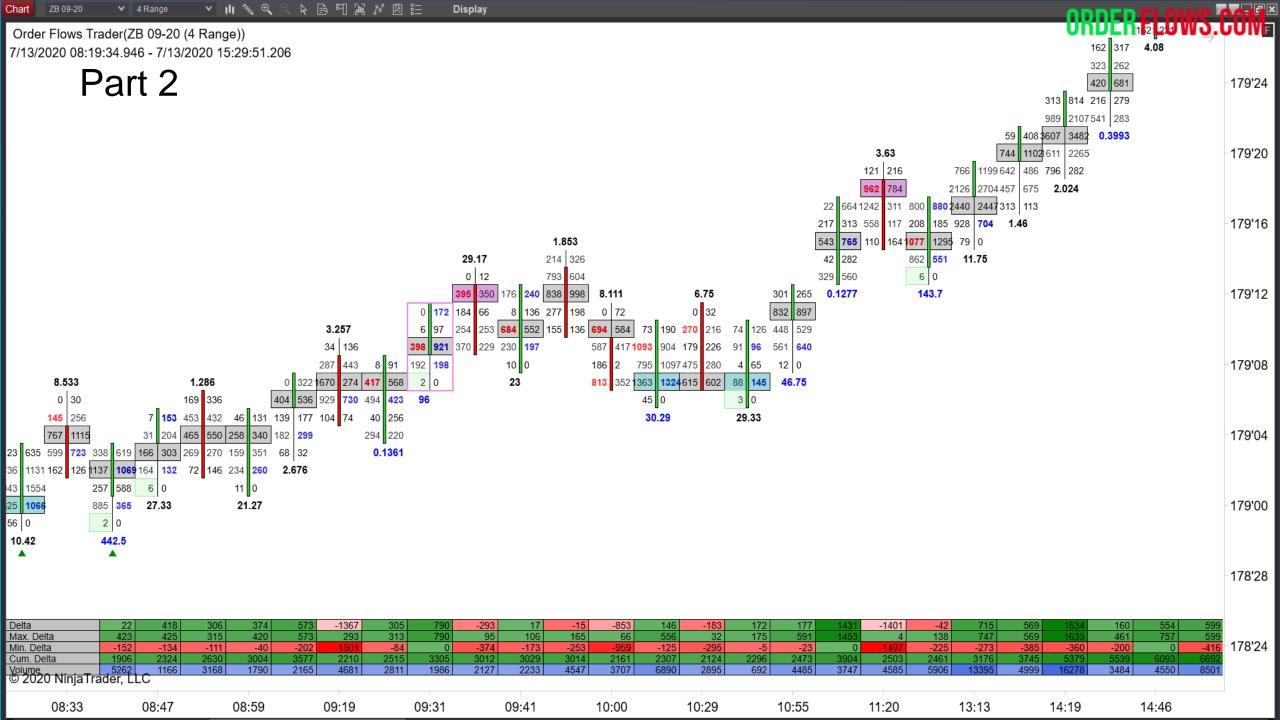
- Is the order flow continuing in the direction of the reason for getting into the trade?
- Has the order flow changed direction? Neutral? Bullish to bearish? Bearish to bullish?
- Is the market doing what is expected or behaving differently?

In trade analysis – when you are in a trade, you must monitor it order to maximize it.

- Is the trade working as planned? Or not?
- Is the trade moving towards the target? How close?
- Is the trade moving towards the stop? How close?
- How long has the trade been on?
- Did the trade get close to the target then back off?
- Should you get out early?

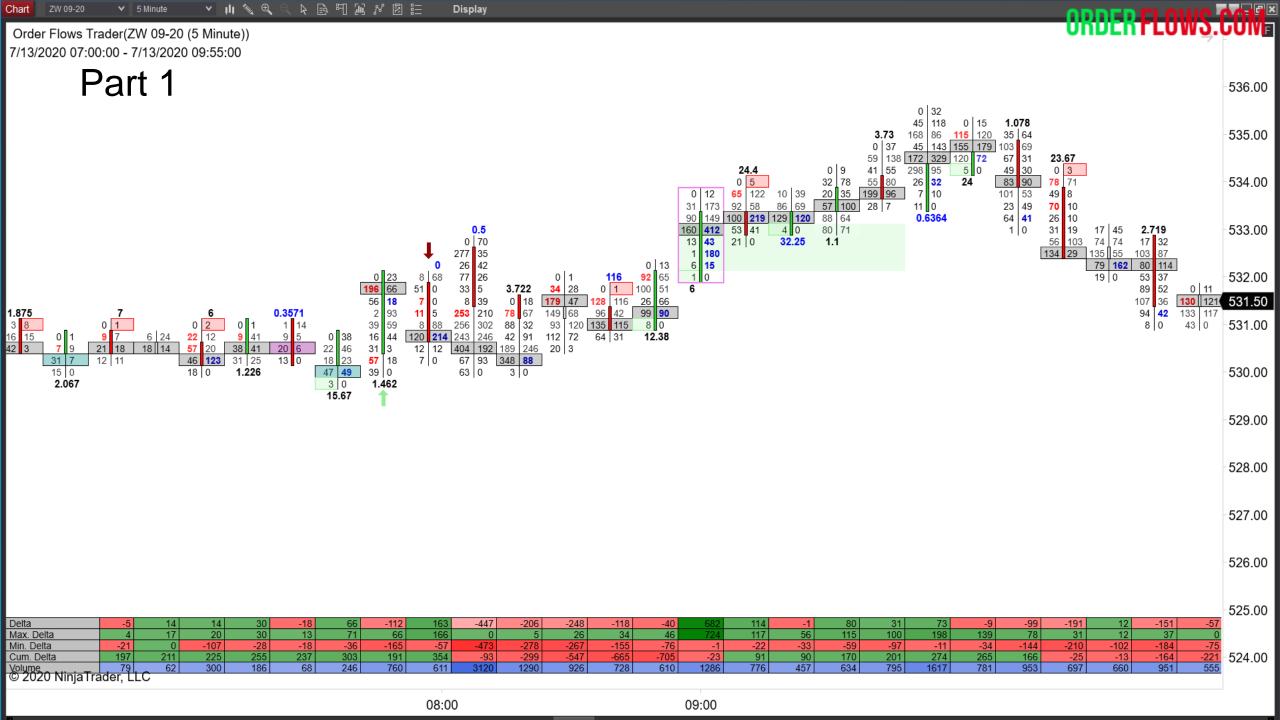
Active trade management and analysis while in a trade will allow you to make adjustments to help your bottom line.

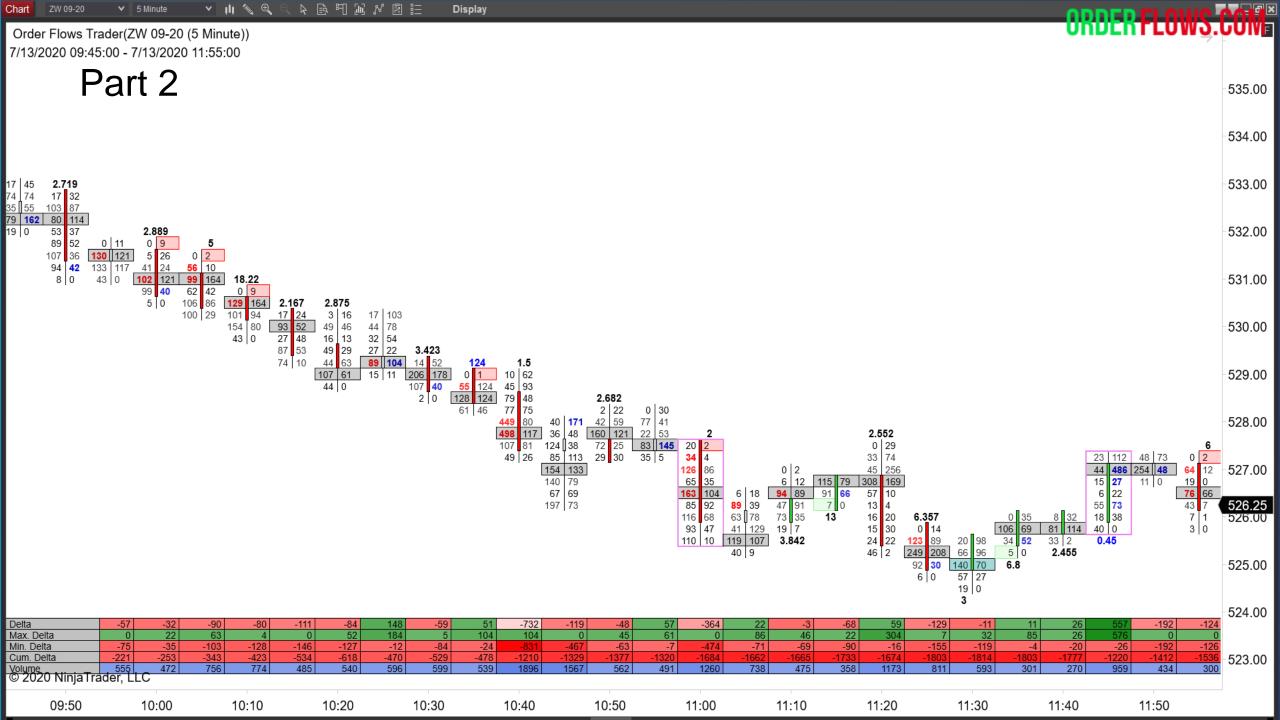




Don't be anxious – traders tend to be anxious. They want the market to move and to move now. However, with order flow it is often prudent to wait for the order flow to play out.

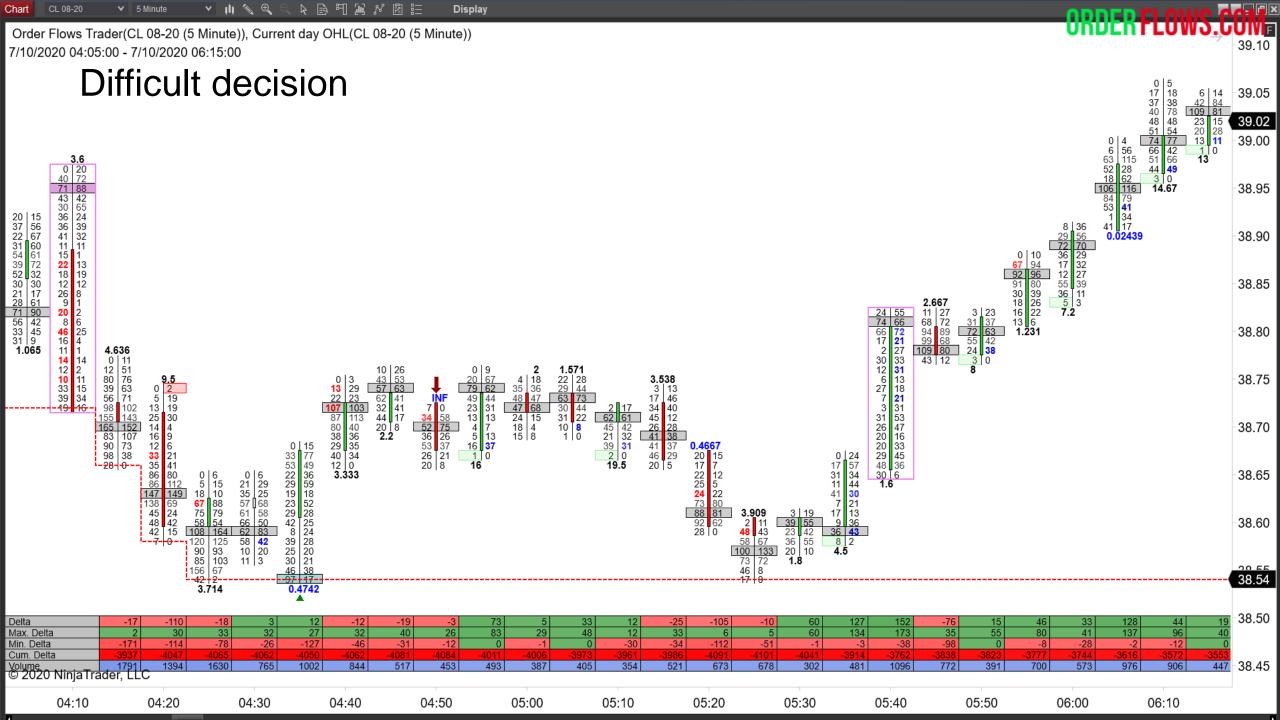
If you are looking for market weakness or strength, while it may appear in one bar initially, in order to sell off, there needs to be signs of continued weakness (strength).

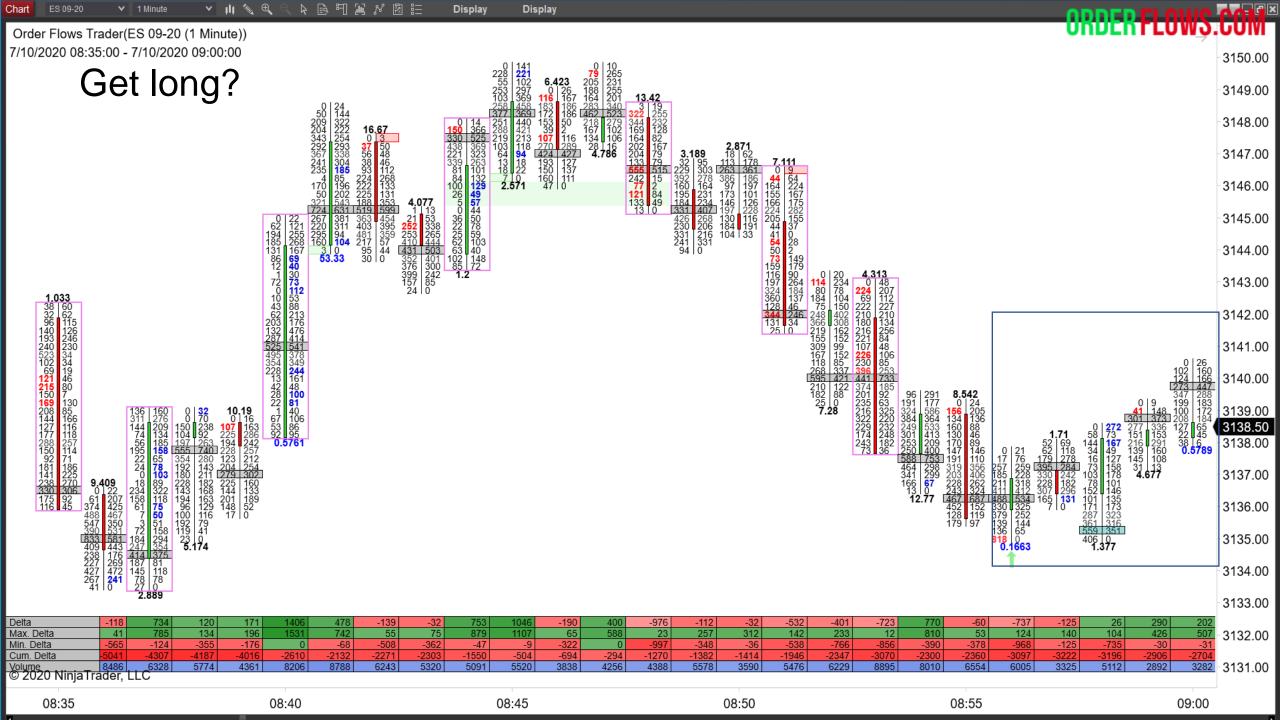


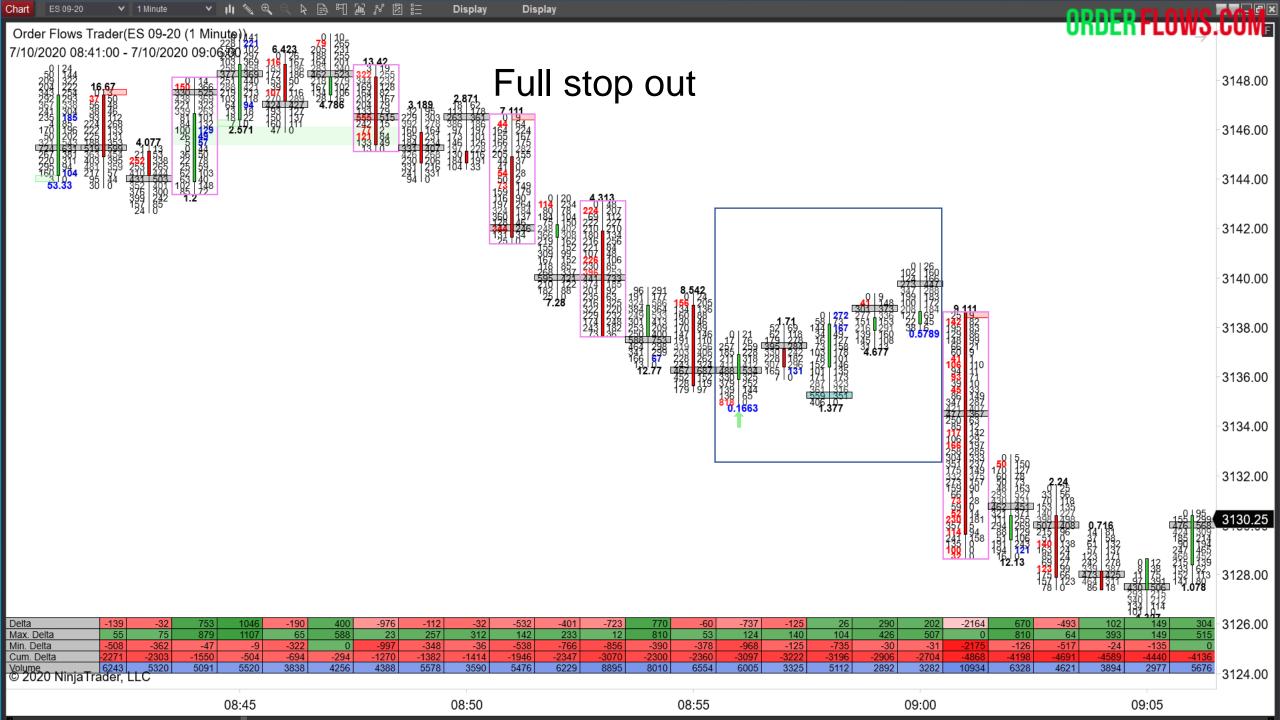


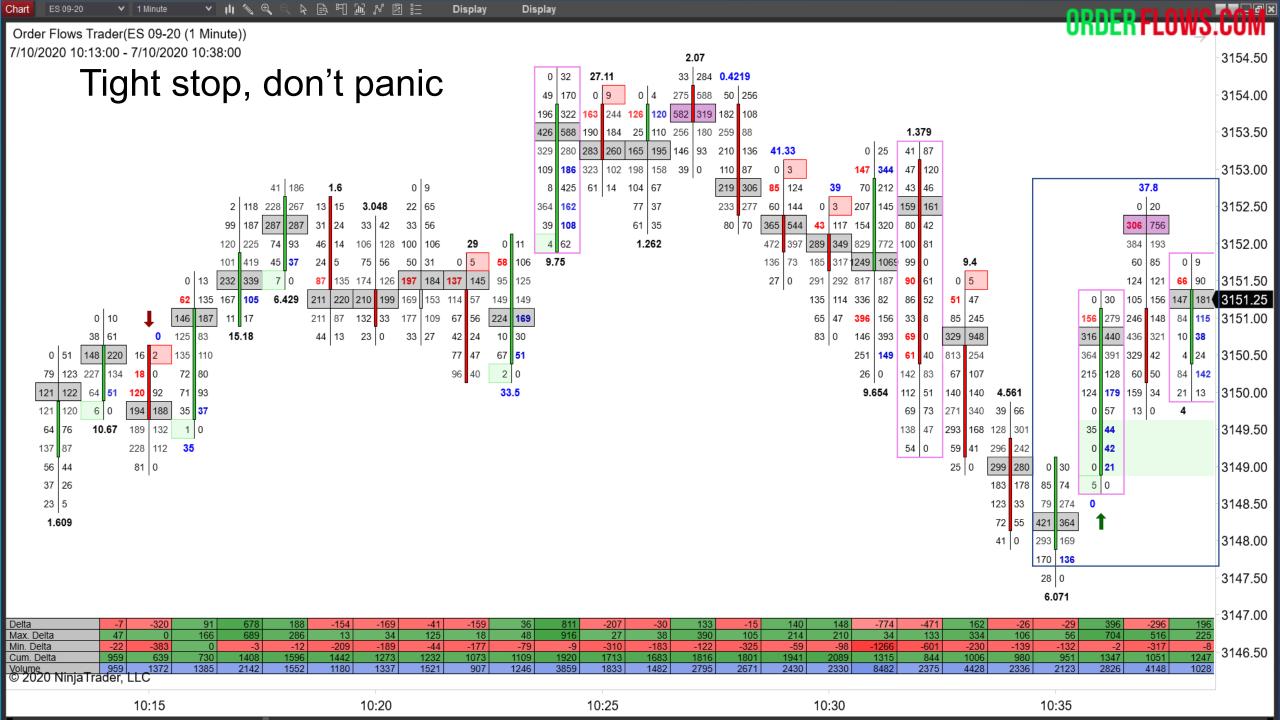
What makes order flow important is because what happens after you place your trade determines the direction of the market.

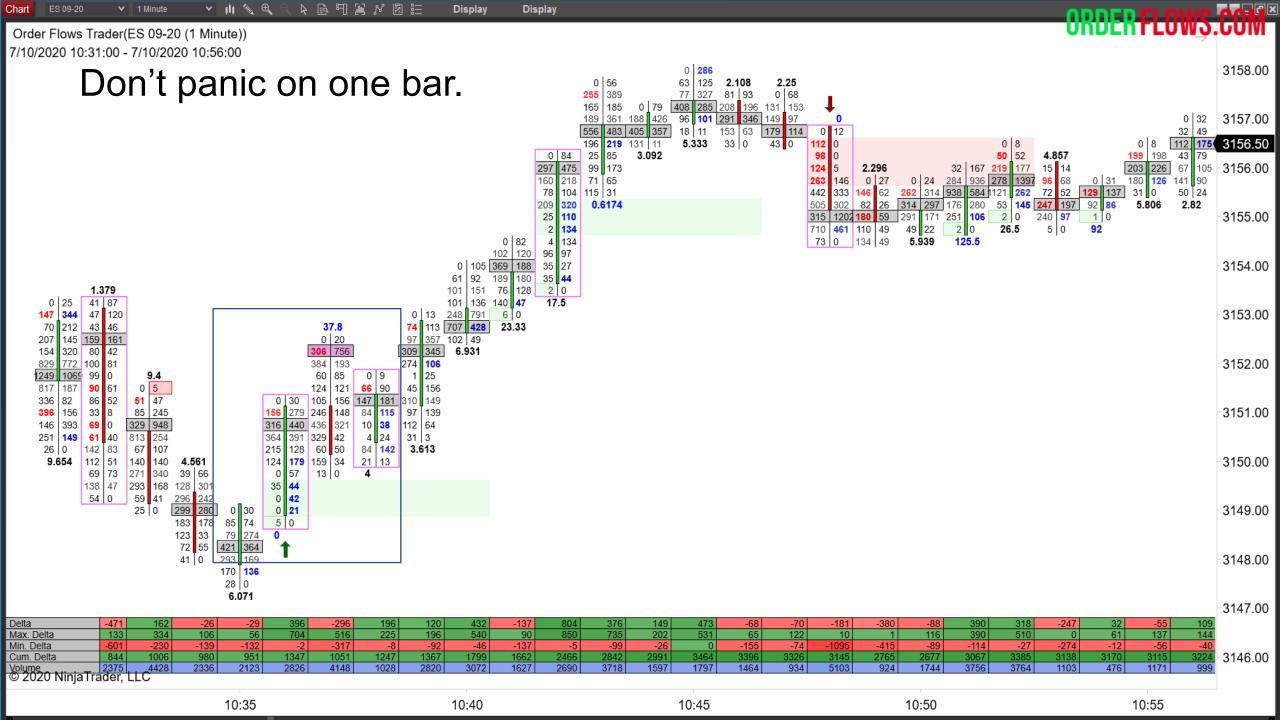
Buyers or sellers are the ones who will move the market after you are in a trade. The market is not going to move based on you placing an order. The market doesn't care what you just did.

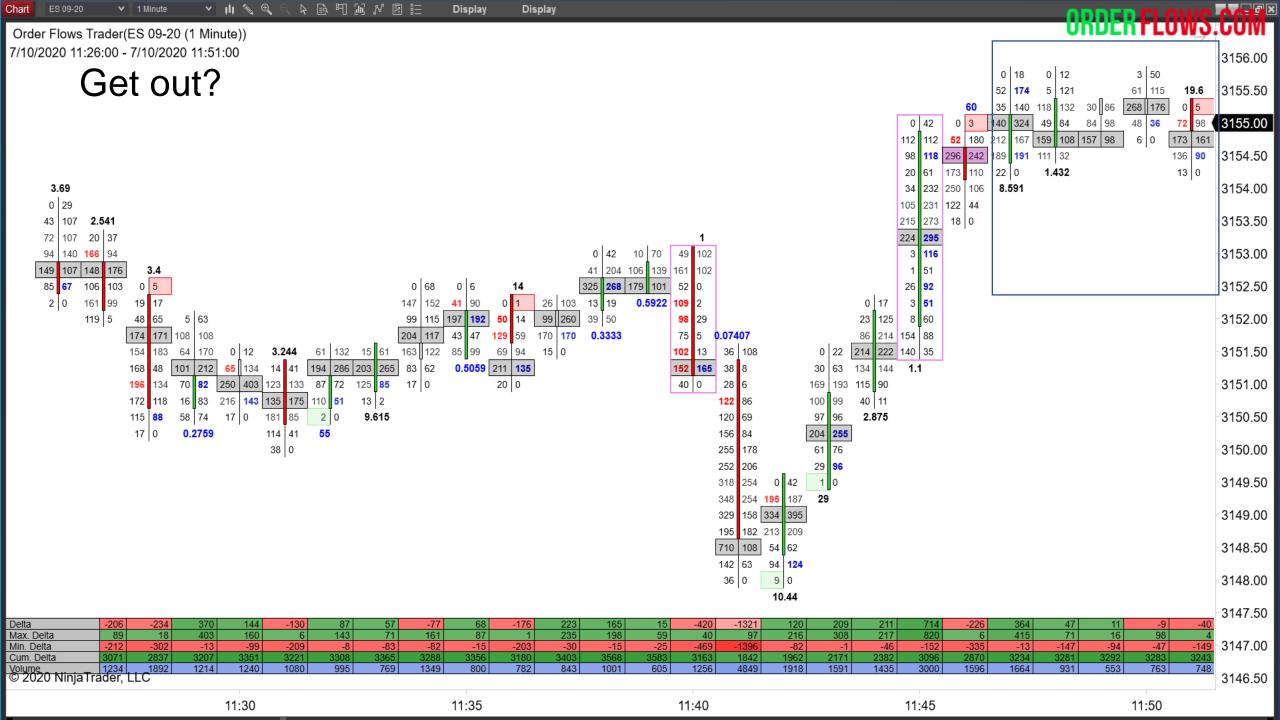


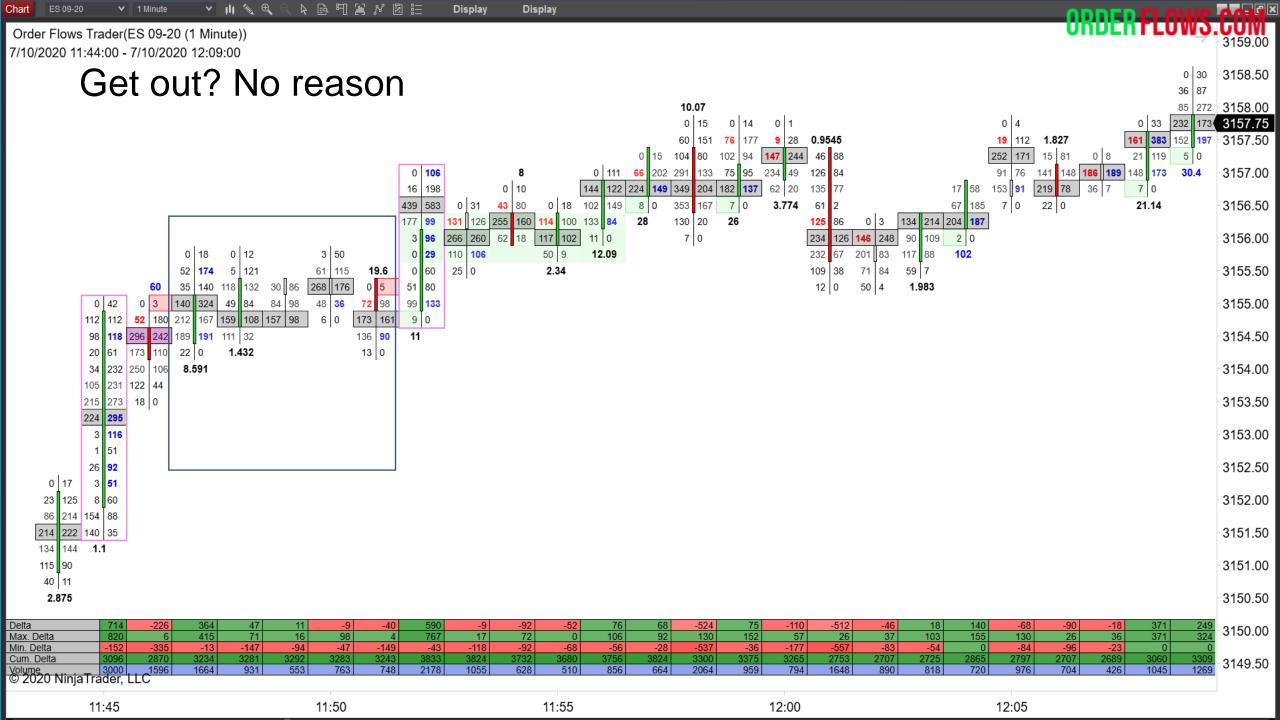


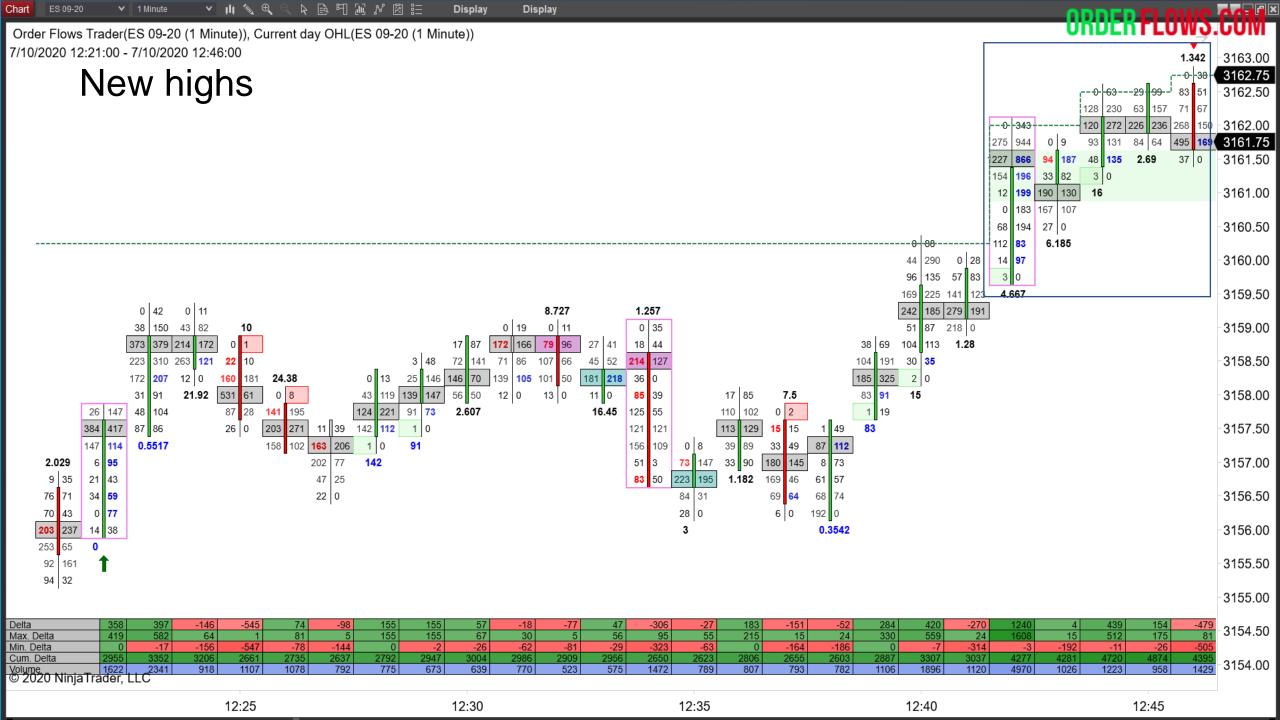


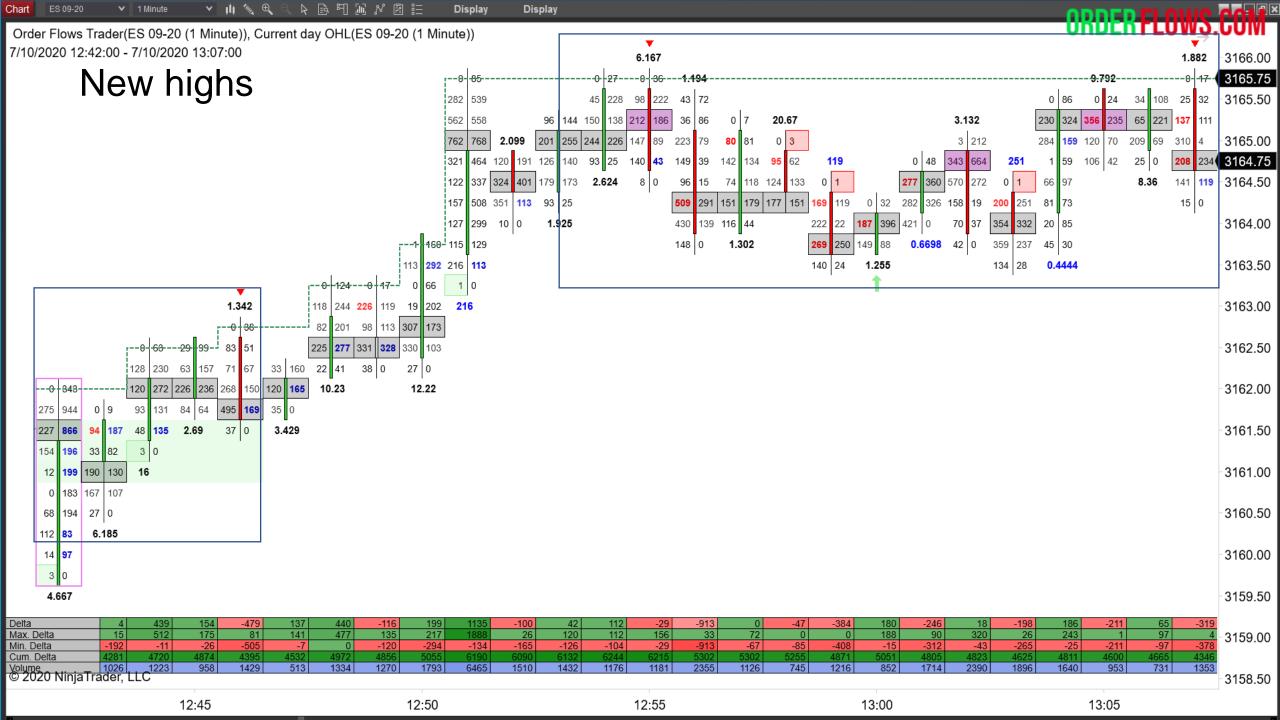


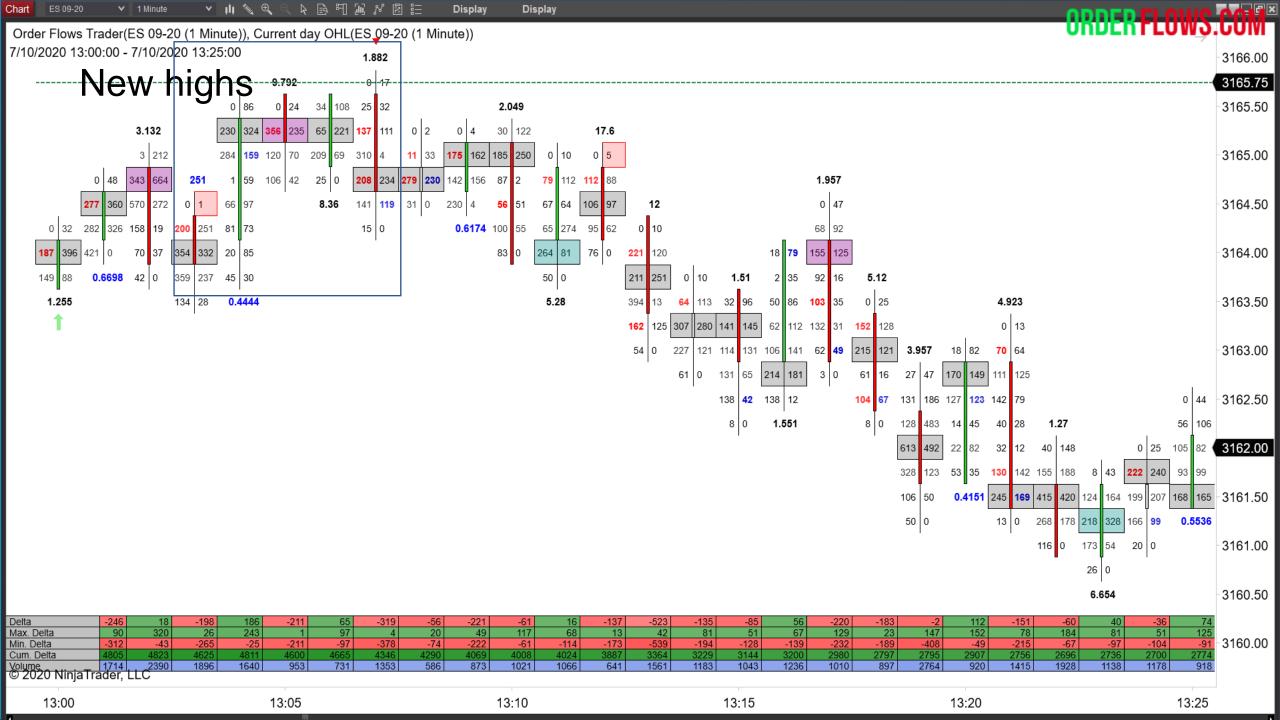






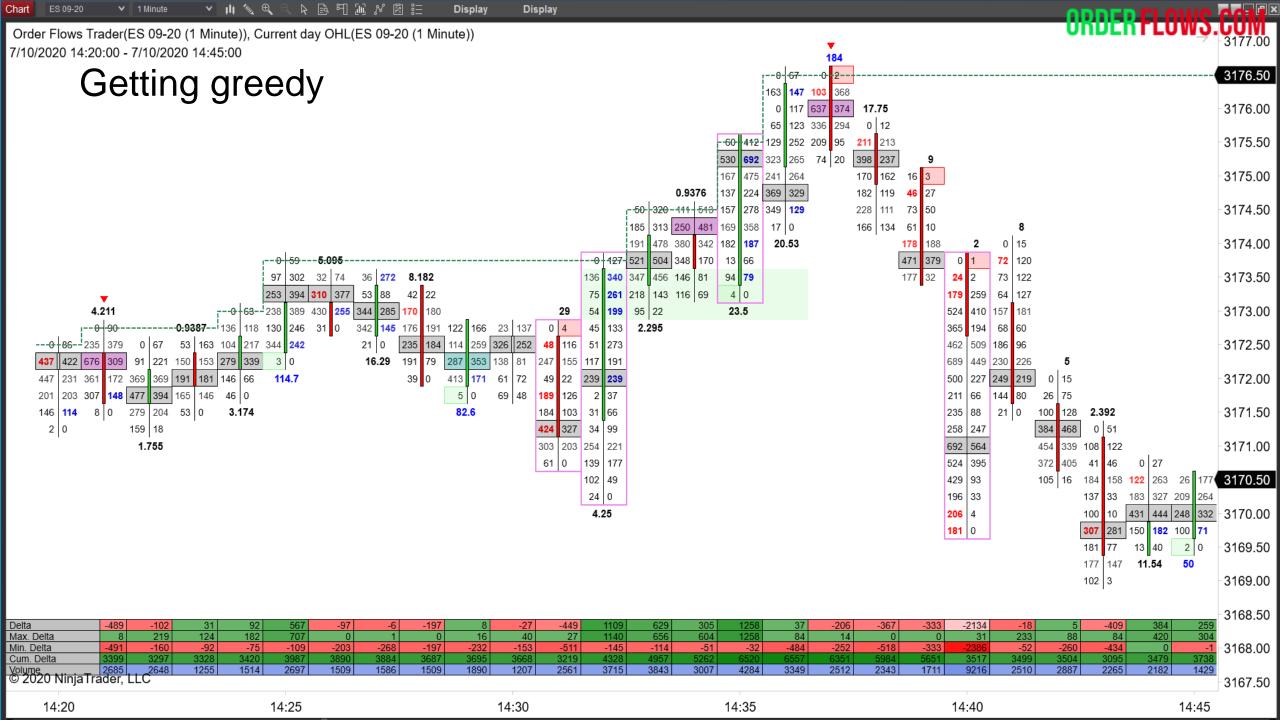


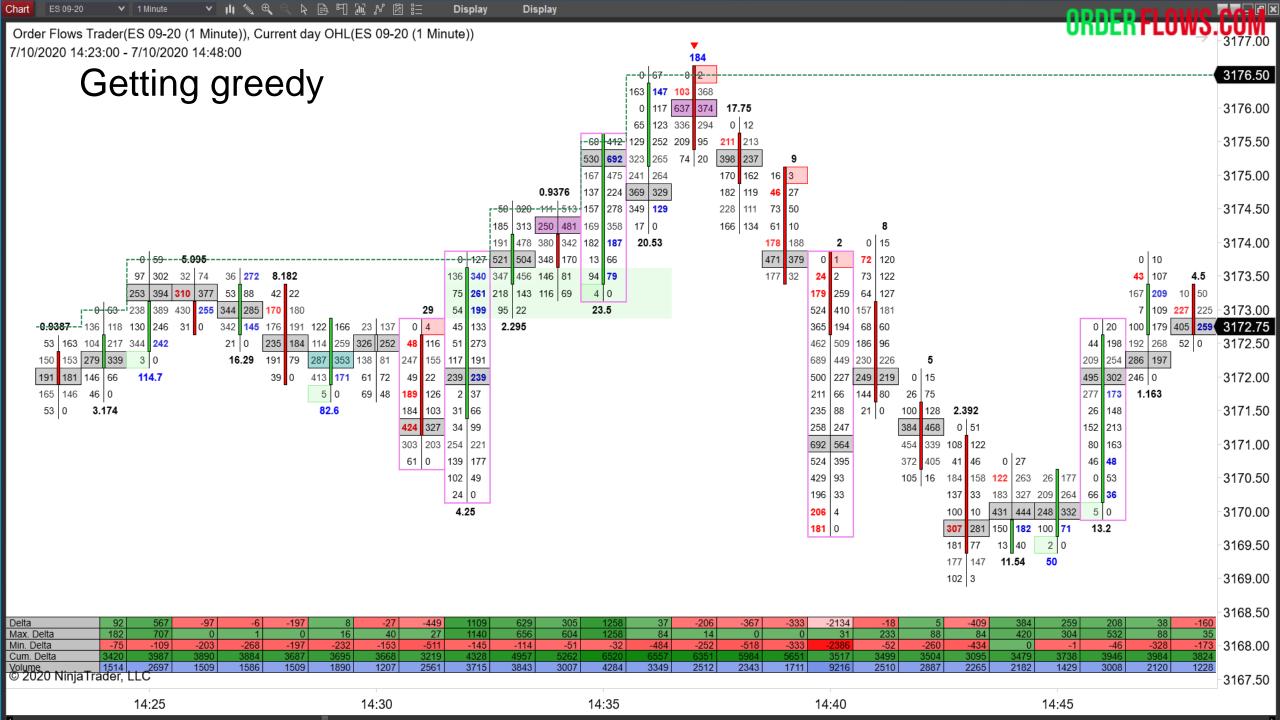


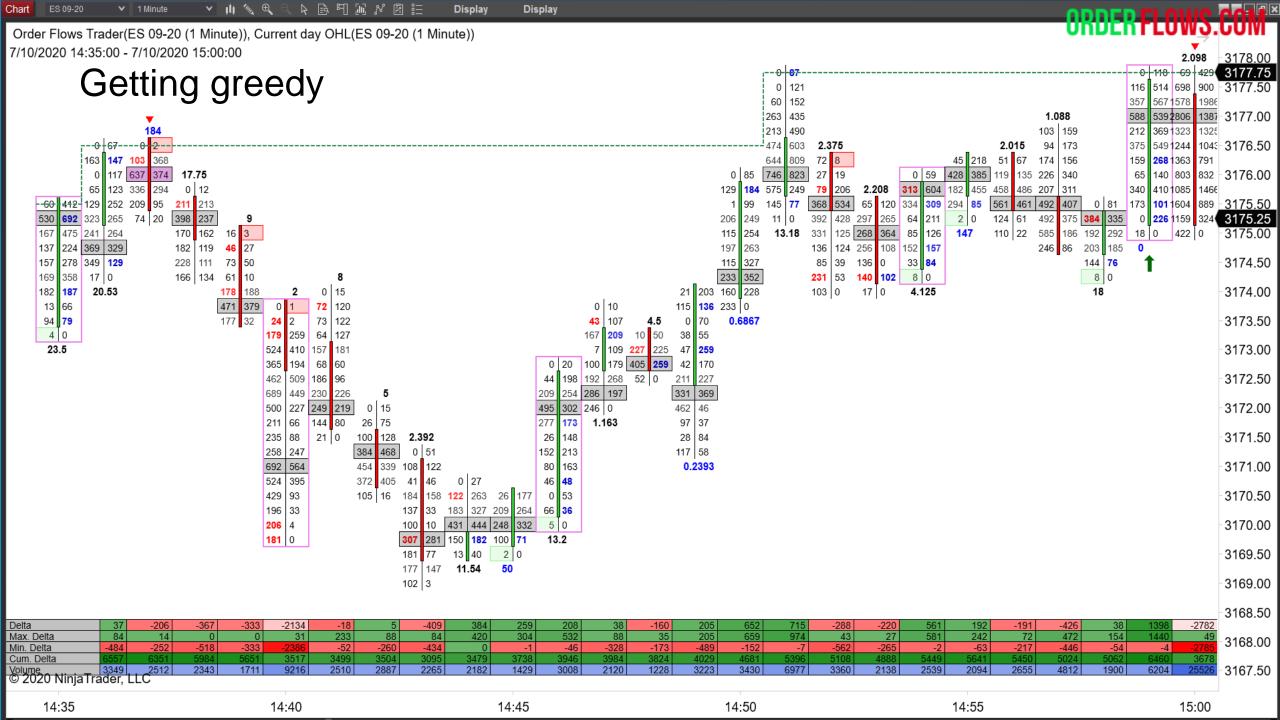


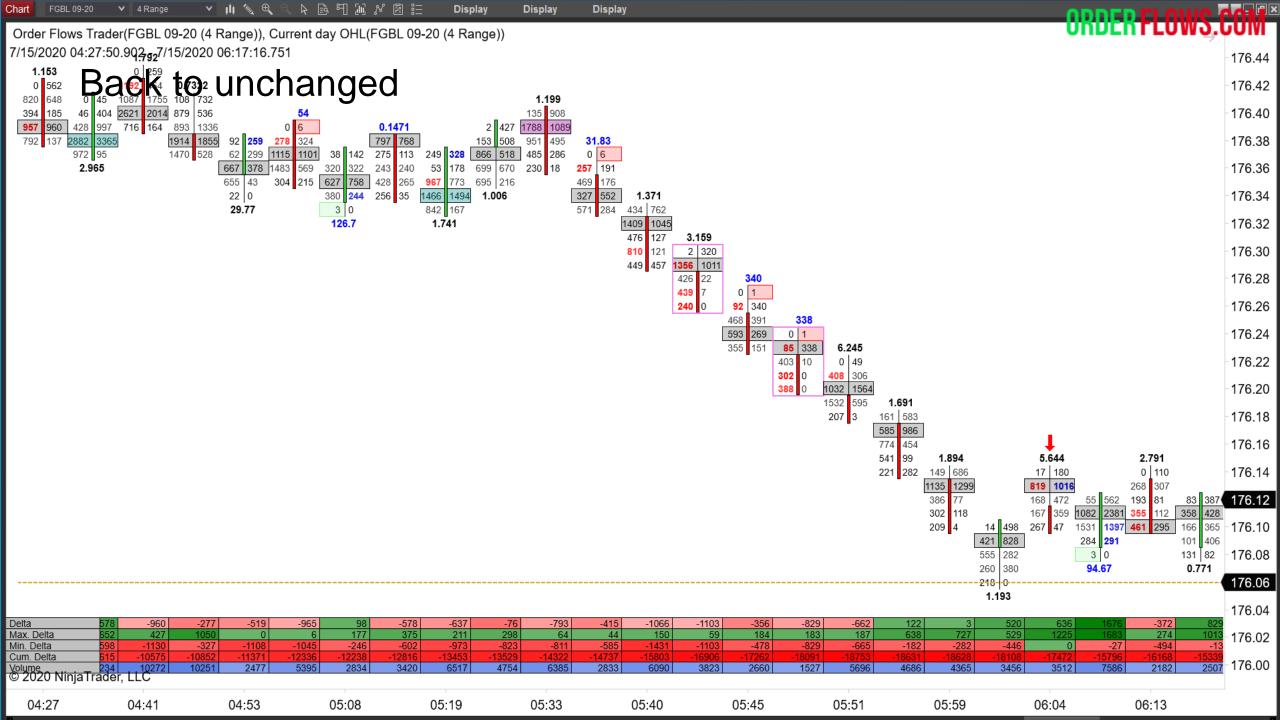
Don't get greedy. It's easier said than done.

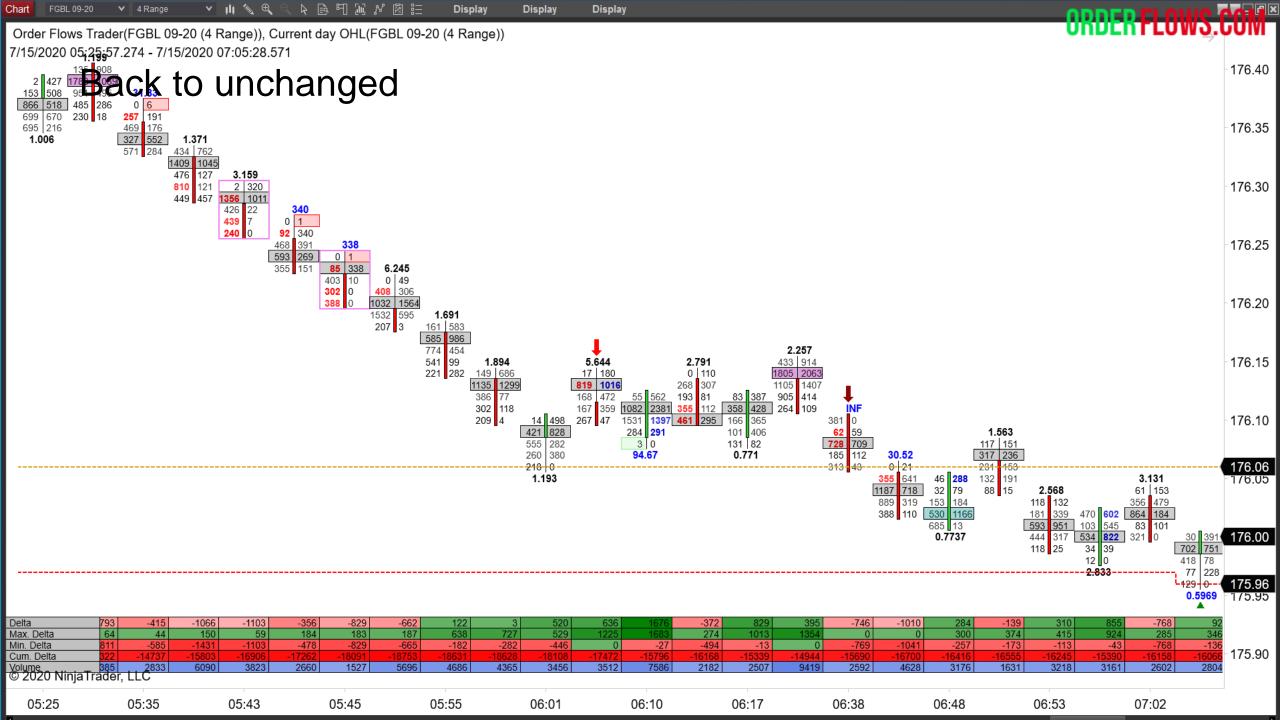
We all know the saying "know when to walk away, know when to run." There will be times the market is generous, take it and be happy. When the market is acting like a dog holding a piece of meat, let it go.





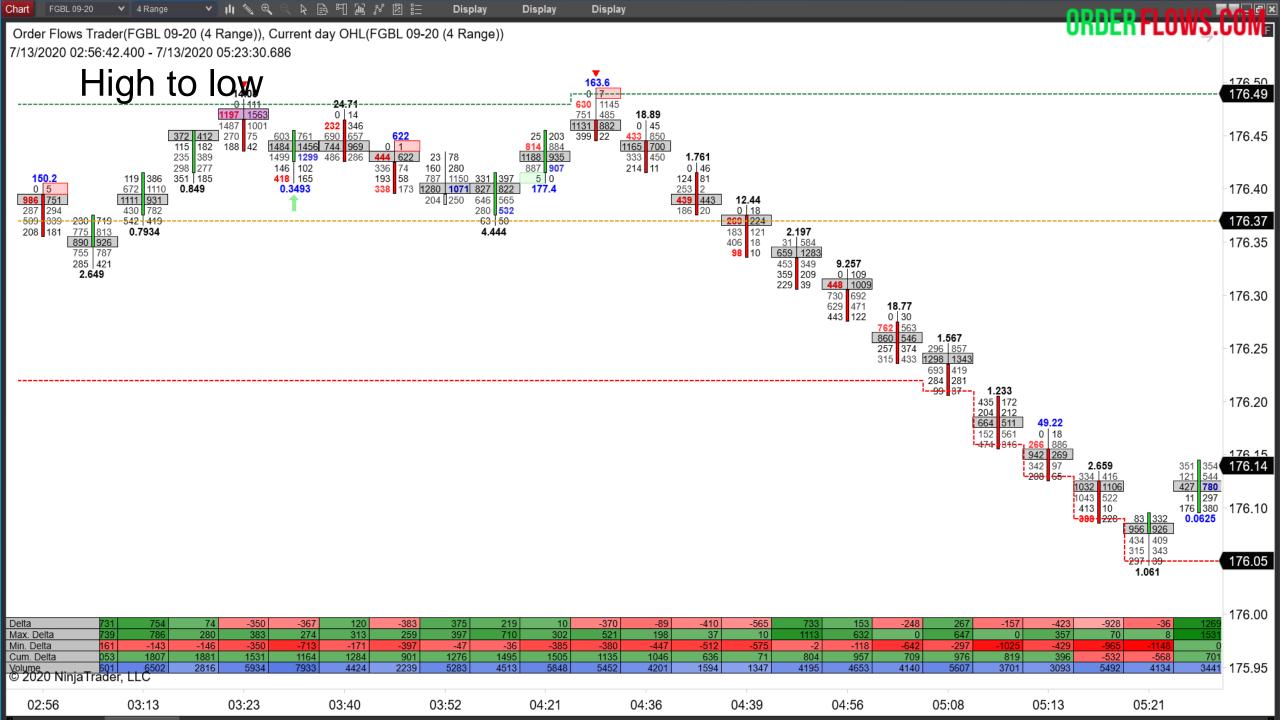


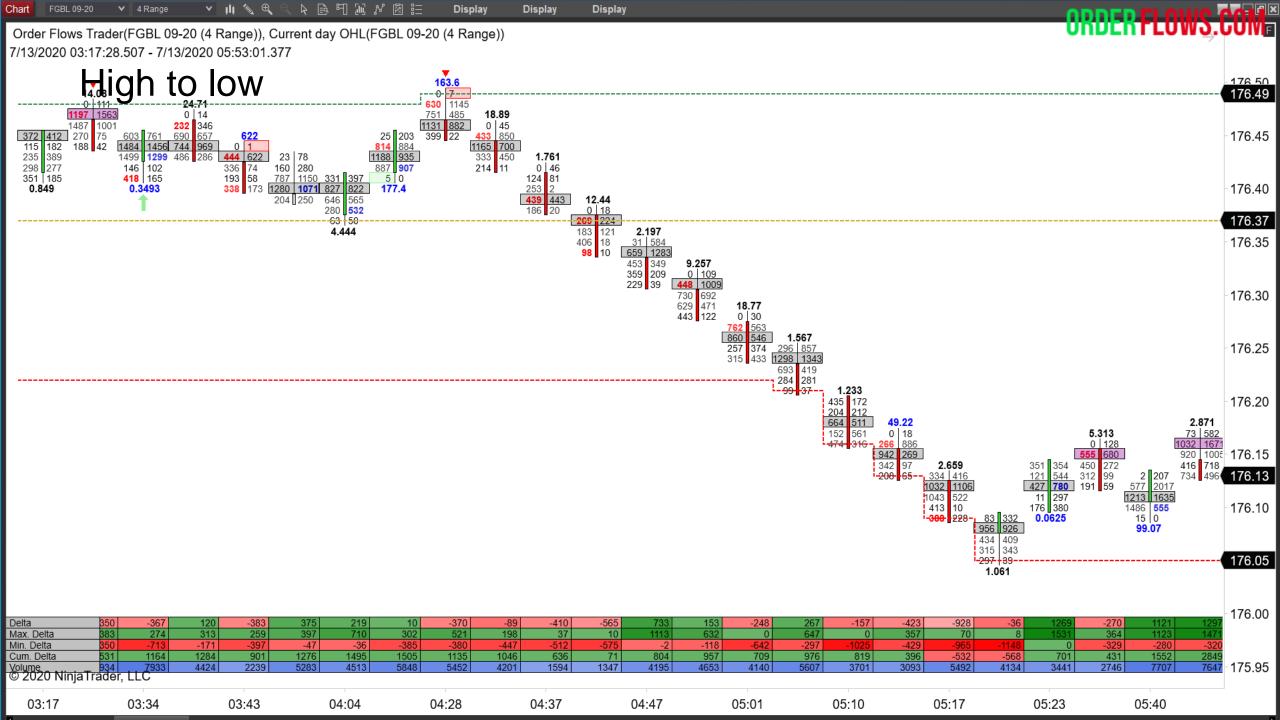


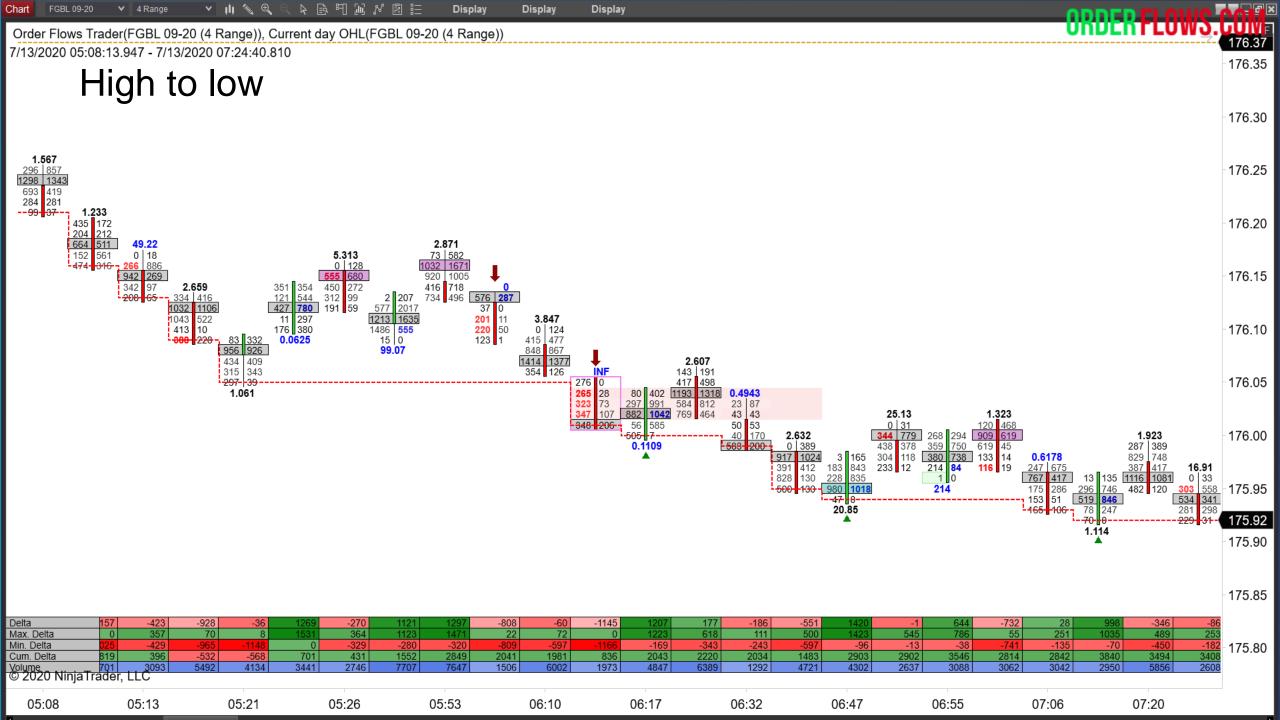


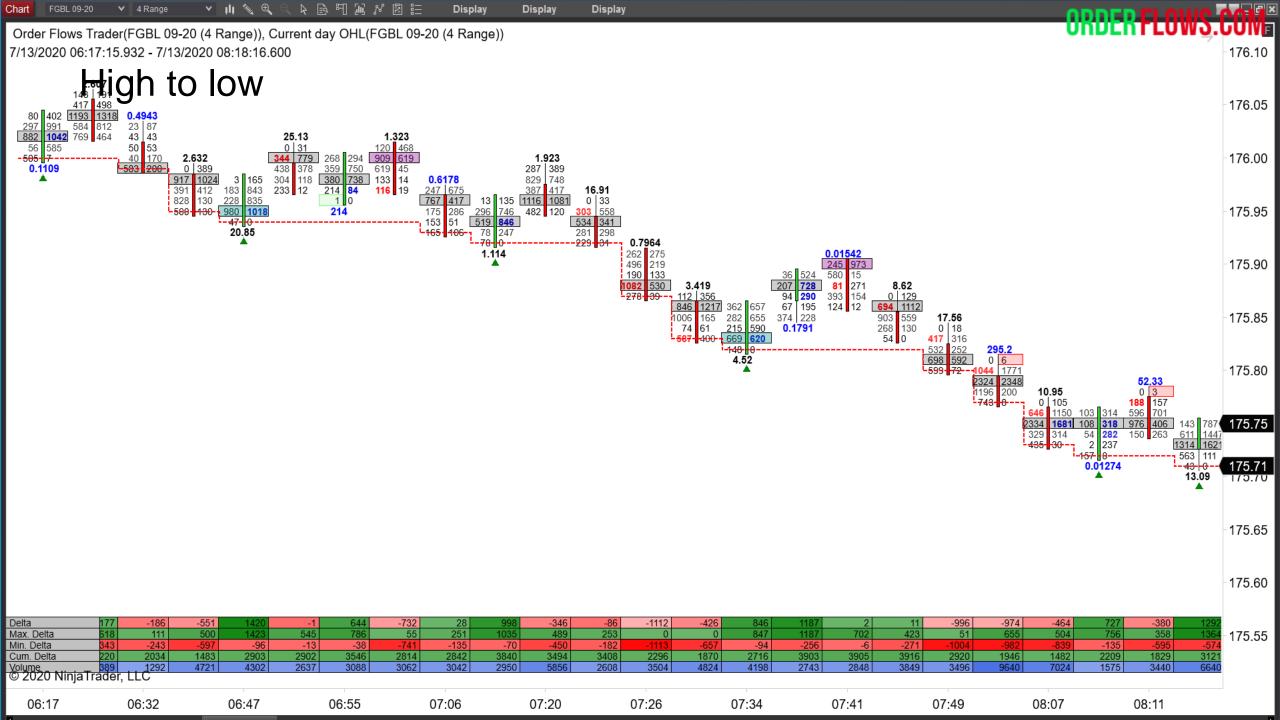
Taking profits after a monster move is enjoyable.

It's like the scene in the movie Trading Places where the guys are covering their shorts and they are just ambivalent to the prices at that point because they are short at the highs and now buying off the lows.











This concludes Module 11. In Module 12 we will discuss putting the pieces of order flow together to better understand the market.