

QCL MT5 EA

Professional Trading Intelligence — User Manual

1 CORE OPERATIONAL LOGIC

Our Expert Advisor (EA) is a unique, fully standalone automated system driven purely by advanced mathematics. It bridges high-level analysis with precise execution, operating independently to analyze market structure and execute trades based on its internal quantitative algorithms.

Important Trading Advisory for All QCL MT5 EA Users

The QCL MT5 EA is built on precise quantitative algorithms designed to identify high-conviction momentum setups. While the software is fully automated, global markets — especially Gold (XAUUSD) — can experience unpredictable external shocks. Extreme volatility and unnatural price spikes can temporarily disrupt standard mathematical calculations. To protect your equity and achieve optimal, long-term performance, we strongly advise following these Active Risk Management Guidelines:

1. High-Impact Economic News

Action: The EA now automatically pauses around high-impact events via the News Filter and the dedicated NFP/CPI/FOMC Full-Day Pause described in Section 2. As a manual backup, we still advise pausing Algo Trading 30 minutes before and after any high-impact red-folder event.

Why: Major news events generate artificial liquidity slippage and rapid spread expansion that can bypass standard technical mechanics.

2. Unpredictable Geopolitical Events & Market Crashes

Action: If sudden market spikes or severe market panics occur due to emergency breaking news (e.g., sudden war developments, geopolitical crises, or flash crashes), pause the EA for 24 hours.

Why: Allowing the market a full 24-hour cooling-off period lets institutional volatility stabilize and restores normal mathematical distribution across price action.

3. Handling Ranging / Consolidation Markets

Action: If the EA experiences 1 or 2 consecutive losing trades during a session, pause the EA for 24 to 48 hours.

Why: Consecutive stop-losses on momentum systems typically indicate that the market has entered a tight, low-volume range or chop phase. Pausing the system for 1 to 2 days allows the chart time to break out of the range and establish a clear, directionally valid trend.

SUMMARY: THE QUANTITATIVE MINDSET

Automated trading performs best when paired with disciplined human oversight. By managing market environment risks (avoiding extreme news spikes and prolonged ranging phases), you ensure the EA trades strictly during high-probability market conditions.

2 SETFILES: PERSONAL ACCOUNT VS. PROP FIRM CHALLENGE UPDATED

We now provide two distinct categories of setfile, built for two very different account types. Always load the one that matches what you're actually trading.

Personal Account Setfiles — 1%, 5%, 10% Risk

For your own personal trading account, we provide three ready-made setfiles, one for each risk level: **1% Risk**, **5% Risk**, and **10% Risk** per trade. Each setfile pairs its risk level with a matching daily stop-loss limit, and all three include the NFP/CPI/FOMC Rate Hike full-day pause (see below) enabled by default to avoid trading into fake breakouts around these events.

Prop Firm Setfile — One Universal File for All Challenges

For prop firm accounts, there is only **one** setfile, and it's compatible with any account size or challenge type, because its risk and drawdown limits are set as **percentages** of your balance rather than fixed dollar amounts. This setfile is built around the standard **2-Step Challenge** format used by most prop firms worldwide.

LIMIT	INDUSTRY STANDARD	OUR SETFILE DEFAULT
Daily Drawdown	5%	4%
Overall Drawdown	10%	10%

WHY 4% INSTEAD OF 5%?

Nearly every prop firm worldwide caps daily drawdown at 5% and overall drawdown at 10%. We've set our default daily limit to **4%** — slightly tighter than the 5% ceiling — to leave a safety buffer against spread widening, commissions, and swap fees that can push your real drawdown slightly beyond the number the EA itself accounts for. This value is fully adjustable in the inputs if you'd prefer to change it, but we recommend keeping some buffer below your firm's actual limit rather than running right up to it.

News Filter — Enabled Across the Board

In all of our provided setfiles — personal and prop firm alike — the News Filter is switched on and covers the full MT5 News Tab, not just a narrow list of events.

NFP/CPI/FOMC Rate Hike — Full-Day Pause

On top of the general News Filter, we've added a dedicated filter for the three biggest, most unpredictable events on the calendar: Non-Farm Payrolls (NFP), CPI inflation data, and FOMC interest rate decisions. Rather than pausing for a short window around these events, the EA pauses trading for the **entire day** whenever one of these is scheduled, to avoid getting caught in the fake breakouts and violent whipsaws these specific releases are known to cause.

3 CHART TIMEFRAME — WHAT ACTUALLY MATTERS NOW UPDATED

Earlier versions of this manual instructed you to run the EA strictly on an M15 chart. That is no longer necessary. The EA's core signal logic is now internally locked to M15 price data regardless of which chart timeframe you actually attach it to — so the timeframe your chart is displaying no longer changes how or when the EA trades.

In practice, this means you can attach the EA to whichever chart timeframe is most convenient for you to monitor. We'd still suggest M15 or higher simply because it's a lighter, cleaner chart to glance at day to day, but it is no longer a strict requirement for correct operation.

4 IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER: PROP FIRM CHALLENGES NEW

We Do Not Advise or Promote Prop Firm Challenges

QCL 369 Technologies builds the trading software; we do not sell, endorse, or recommend any specific prop firm challenge. Prop firms operate under their own strict and often subjective rules, and many have a well-documented pattern of finding reasons to block or disqualify funded accounts — a common pretext being accusations of "copy trading," even when no such thing occurred.

A Firm We'd Specifically Caution Against: FundedNext

We've recently had two of our own clients' FundedNext accounts blocked, with copy trading cited as the reason. Based on this direct experience, we recommend avoiding FundedNext for use with this EA.

Confirm Third-Party EA Policy Before You Buy a Challenge

Before purchasing any prop firm challenge, contact that firm directly and confirm, in writing if possible, that they permit the use of third-party Expert Advisors on their accounts. Rules vary widely between firms and can change without notice — it is your responsibility to confirm this before you spend money on a challenge.

5 PROTECTING YOUR ACCOUNT: TRADE COMMENT CUSTOMIZATION NEW

If you are running this EA on a prop firm account, we recommend setting the new **Trade Comment** input to your own name or a personal identifier before you start trading. This way, if a prop firm ever compares trade comments across accounts, yours will read differently from any other client running the same EA, rather than showing an identical default comment across multiple accounts.

NO GUARANTEES

This is a sensible precaution, not a guarantee. As noted in Section 4, many prop firms apply their rules broadly and subjectively, and a unique comment will not necessarily protect an account if a firm is determined to find a reason to block it. Treat every prop firm challenge as a calculated risk, not a safe bet.

6 POSITION SIZING

The EA calculates lot size automatically on every trade — no manual lot size needed. In Trading Settings, choose a **Risk Per Trade**: 1%, 5%, or 10% of your current account balance, matching whichever Personal Account setfile you've loaded (see Section 2). The EA works out the correct lot size from your balance and the trade's stop distance.

If your balance is very small, the EA will still trade at the broker's minimum lot size (0.01), and the dashboard will show a low-balance notice below the threshold set in **Minimum Balance Warning** (default \$300).

PROP FIRM ACCOUNTS & RISK SETTING

Because the Prop Firm setfile's drawdown limits are now percentage-based (see Section 2), they scale automatically with whichever Risk Per Trade you choose — there is no longer a need to manually rescale dollar limits to match your risk setting on prop firm accounts.

7 TRADE MANAGEMENT: TAKE PROFIT, TRAIL & STOP LOSS

Take Profit — Two Stages

Every trade has two targets:

TP1

When price reaches this level, half the position closes automatically to lock in profit, and the remaining half switches into trail-protection mode.

TP2

The final target for the remaining half, if the trend keeps running.

If your lot size is too small to split (e.g. the minimum 0.01), the EA skips the partial close and simply applies the same trail protection to the full position once TP1 is reached.

Trail Protection (After TP1)

Once TP1 is hit, the remaining position is protected by a trail stop set at a percentage of the distance between your entry and TP1 (**Runner Trail %**, default 75%). As price continues moving in your favor, the trail stop moves with it — but it only ever tightens, never loosens, so your locked-in profit is never given back.

Stop Loss

Stop loss distance is set as a multiple of market volatility (ATR) rather than a fixed dollar amount, so it automatically adapts to current conditions. By default, **SL Multiplier** is set to 0, meaning no fixed stop-loss is placed — the trade stays open and is only closed when the EA's next opposite signal fires. If you prefer a fixed stop-loss, you can set this value above 0 in the ATR-Based TP/SL/Trail settings.

8 SIGNAL QUALITY SCORING (OPTIONAL)

The EA includes an optional signal-quality filter that scores each potential trade from 0–100 based on trend strength, volatility, and price-action quality, only taking trades that score above a threshold. This is disabled by default. If enabled, it can be left on **Auto** (adjusts automatically per timeframe) or set to a manual score threshold.

CAUTION — FEATURE STILL IN TESTING

This feature is still in testing and is not enabled in any of our provided setfiles — [Enable Signal Quality Scoring Engine](#) defaults to `false`. We advise against using it for now, as our setfiles are built and validated with this filter switched off. If you would still like to try it, keep the Scoring Threshold between 50 and 60; going higher is not recommended. We strictly advise staying with the provided setfiles as delivered for the most reliable performance.

Below is the complete list of configurable inputs, grouped exactly as they appear in the EA's Inputs tab.

Trading Settings

INPUT PARAMETER	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Risk Per Trade (of Balance)	1% Risk Per Trade	Sets position risk as 1%, 5%, or 10% of account balance; EA auto-calculates lot size. Match this to whichever Personal Account setfile you've loaded.
Daily Loss Limit (in %) – 0 = Off	0.0	Stops new trades for the day once this percentage of account drawdown is reached on your personal account. 0 disables it. Each Personal Account setfile sets this to match its risk level — see Section 2.
Low Balance Warning (\$)	300.0	Balance threshold below which the dashboard shows a low-balance notice.
Magic Number	777777	Unique ID used to identify the EA's trades. Keep this unchanged unless running multiple instances on the same account.
Trade Comment (BUY/SELL auto-added)	QCL 369 HYBRID	A text label attached to every trade; the EA automatically appends BUY or SELL to whatever you enter here. On prop firm accounts, change this to your own name or identifier — see Section 5.
Enable Signal Quality Scoring Engine	false	Turns the optional signal-quality filter on or off. Still in testing — see the caution in Section 8.
Scoring Threshold 0–100 (0 = Auto)	0	Minimum score required to take a trade if the scoring engine is enabled. If used, keep this between 50–60; a manual threshold above 60 is not recommended.

ATR-Based TP / SL / Trail

INPUT PARAMETER	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
TP1	1.5	Entry + (this × ATR) — first profit target.
TP2	3.0	Entry + (this × ATR) — final profit target for the runner portion.
SL (0 = No Fixed SL)	0.0	Entry – (this × ATR). A value of 0 uses the old-style Stop Loss, which holds the position until the next opposite signal fires instead of a fixed distance.
Runner Trail (% of Entry to TP1)	0.75	Trail stop distance after TP1, as a % of the Entry → TP1 distance.

Time & Weekend Filters

INPUT PARAMETER	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Auto Close Before Weekend	false	When enabled, automatically closes open positions ahead of the weekend to avoid gap risk.
Minutes Before Friday Close	30	How many minutes before market close on Friday the auto-close is triggered, if enabled above.
Skip Trades on Monday Open	false	When enabled, prevents new trades from opening right at the Monday session open.
Minutes After Monday Open	30	How long after Monday's open new trades remain paused, if enabled above.

Prop Firm Protection (2-Step Only)

INPUT PARAMETER	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Enable Prop Firm Limits (2-Step Only)	false	Turns the Prop Firm Protection module on or off. Enabled by our Prop Firm setfile — see Section 2.
Overall Profit Target (in %) – 0 = Off	8.0	The EA stops trading entirely once this total account profit is reached — set to match your challenge's step profit target. 0 disables it.

Prop Daily Loss Limit (in %) – 0 = Off	5.0	The EA stops opening new trades for the day once this percentage of account drawdown is reached. Our Prop Firm setfile tightens this to 4% as a safety buffer below the 5% industry standard — see Section 2. 0 disables it.
Overall Loss Limit (in %) – 0 = Off	10.0	The EA stops trading entirely once this total percentage drawdown is reached, matching the standard 2-Step Challenge limit. 0 disables it.

High Impact News Filter

INPUT PARAMETER	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Enable MT5 Native News Filter	false	Pauses the EA around high-impact economic news events using MT5's native news feed, covering the full News Tab. Enabled in all of our setfiles.
Pause Minutes BEFORE High-Impact News	30	How many minutes before a high-impact news event the EA pauses trading.
Pause Minutes AFTER High-Impact News	30	How many minutes after a high-impact news event the EA resumes trading.
Pause Full Day: NFP Day	false	Pauses the EA for the entire day on scheduled Non-Farm Payrolls releases, to avoid fake breakouts. Enabled in all of our setfiles — see Section 2.
Pause Full Day: CPI Day	false	Pauses the EA for the entire day on scheduled CPI inflation releases, to avoid fake breakouts. Enabled in all of our setfiles — see Section 2.
Pause Full Day: FOMC Day	false	Pauses the EA for the entire day on scheduled FOMC interest rate decisions, to avoid fake breakouts. Enabled in all of our setfiles — see Section 2.

10 LIVE PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

The live dashboard displays, for the active trade: Direction, Entry Price, Stop Loss, TP1, TP2, and Current Profit/Loss — along with a real-time trade history summary, today's and total account performance in \$ and %, and your current risk setting and calculated lot size.

11 EA INSTRUCTIONS & EXECUTION DETAILS

- **Flexible Customization:** Enable or disable features such as Weekend Close, Monday Open, and News Filter according to your preference.
- **Strategy Tester:** The EA is designed for live trading and will not operate correctly inside the MT5 Strategy Tester due to advanced visual and mathematical dependencies.
- **VPS Setup:** Recommended minimum 2 CPU Cores and 4GB RAM. Avoid running unnecessary software on the VPS.
- **Troubleshooting:** Check safety filters first, then restart MT5/VPS and reattach the EA if required.

12 THE DISCIPLINE OF PATIENCE

Allow the EA to operate continuously for 3 to 4 weeks on a VPS using the recommended settings. Avoid changing parameters or interfering with trade execution unnecessarily.

13 REFUND DISCLAIMER

All digital sales are final. Once the product and license have been delivered, refunds cannot be issued. By purchasing, you acknowledge that you have reviewed our verified trading performance and product information before completing your order.