





June 28, 2023

Nasdaq

Will Markets Stumble in Summer? Navigating Through and Beyond with Options

Kevin Davitt

Head of Index Options Content Nasdaq

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Nasdaq-100[®] Volatility Index

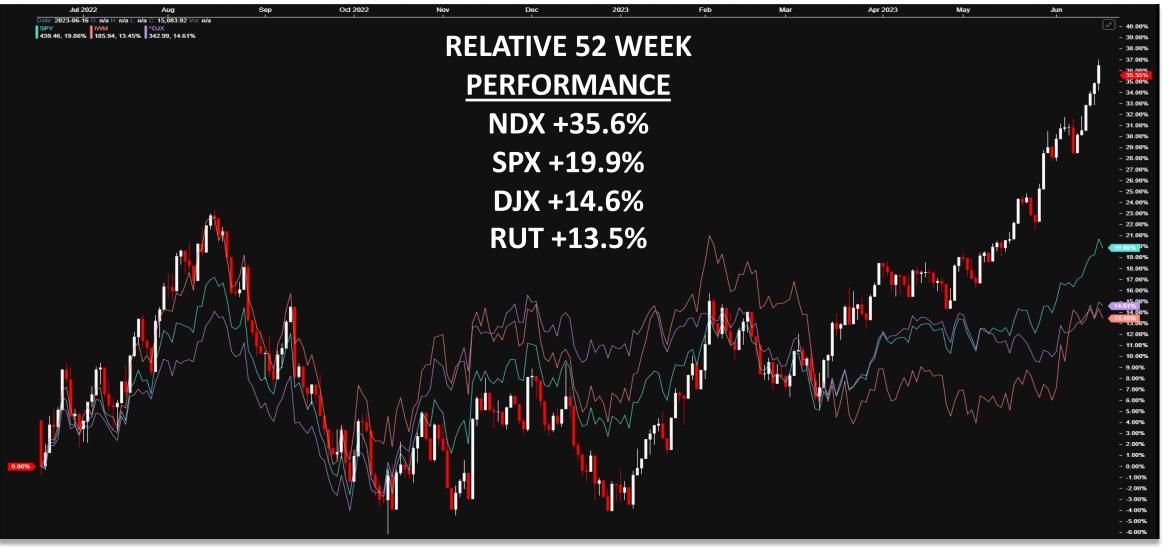
The Nasdaq-100[®] Volatility Index (Ticker Symbol: VOLQ) is calculated and administered by The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC. The Nasdaq-100 Volatility Index is a financial benchmark designed to measures changes in 30-day implied volatility of the Nasdaq-100 Index as further described in the methodology, rules and other information. VOLQ options, which are traded on Nasdaq Phlx LLC, are complicated financial products only suitable for sophisticated market participants. Market participants should put at risk only funds that they can afford to lose without affecting their lifestyles. Transacting in VOLQ options involves the risk of loss, which can be substantial and can exceed the amount of money deposited for a Nasdaq-100 Volatility Index position (except when buying options on VOLQ, in which case the potential loss is limited to the purchase price of the options).

Before transacting in VOLQ options, market participants should fully inform themselves about the Nasdaq-100 Volatility Index and the characteristics and risks of VOLQ Options. Market participants also should make sure they understand the product specifications for VOLQ Options and the methodologies for calculating and settling the Nasdaq-100 Volatility Index.

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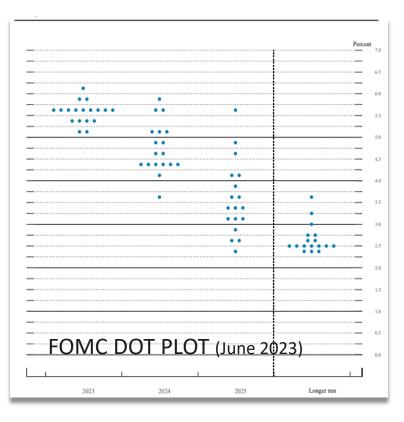
Navigating with Options Market Update



Navigating with Options The Stories We Tell



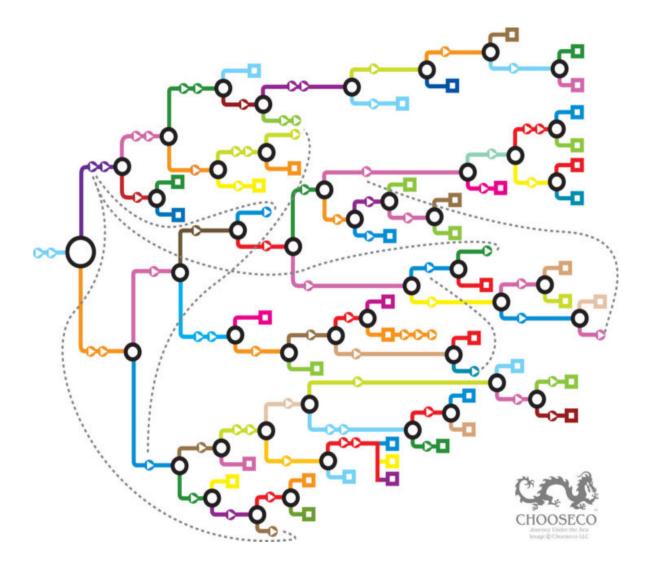
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Source: Barron's, Business Insider, FOMC (June 2023)

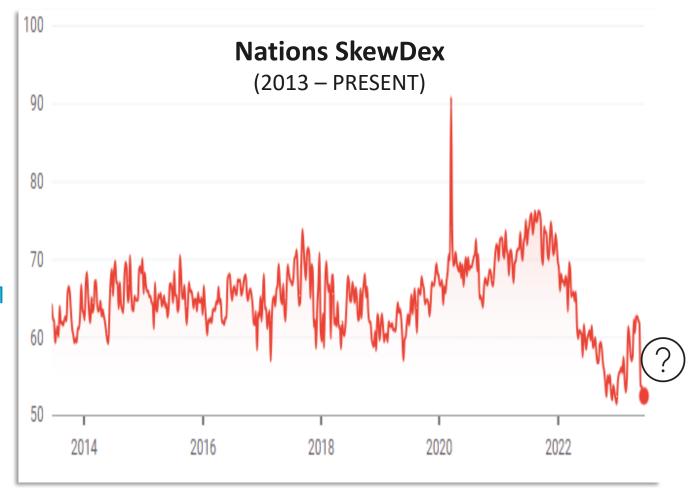
Navigating with Options The Flexibility of Options

CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE®



Navigating with Options Relationships

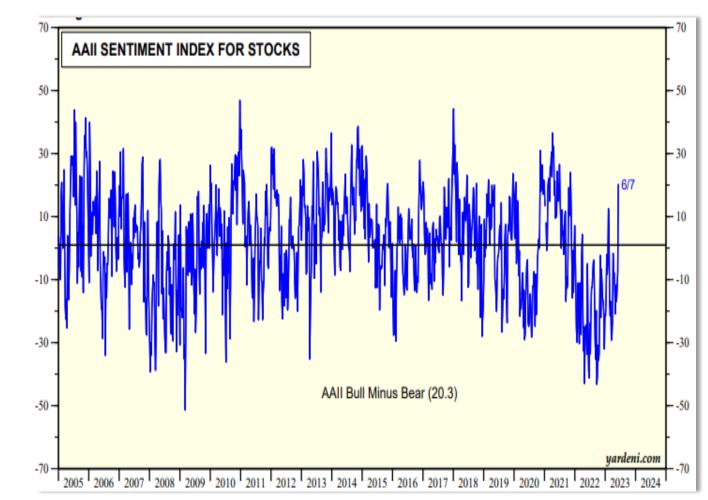
- Index Options Skew
 - Function of prevailing supply & demand dynamic in options markets.
 - Index skew tends to be positively correlated to the reference asset.
 - Skew typically when index .
- SkewDex Methodology
 - Compares cost of 1M ATM options to 1M OTM (1 Standard Dev) options.
 - Relative cost of OTM options (cost of protection).



Source: Nations Indexes

Navigating with Options Skew Collapse – Why?

- Index Options Skew
 - Sentiment shift > Demand for upside exposure.
 - The Nasdaq 100[®] Index arguably more reflective of shift in sector sentiment too. (AI ~ NVDA).
 - Sentiment is primarily influenced by price (Index level).
- More Specifically...
 - 1M ATM NDX IV slightly higher.
 - 1M ~16 delta NDX put IV unchanged to slightly lower.
 - Highest AAII since Nov '21.



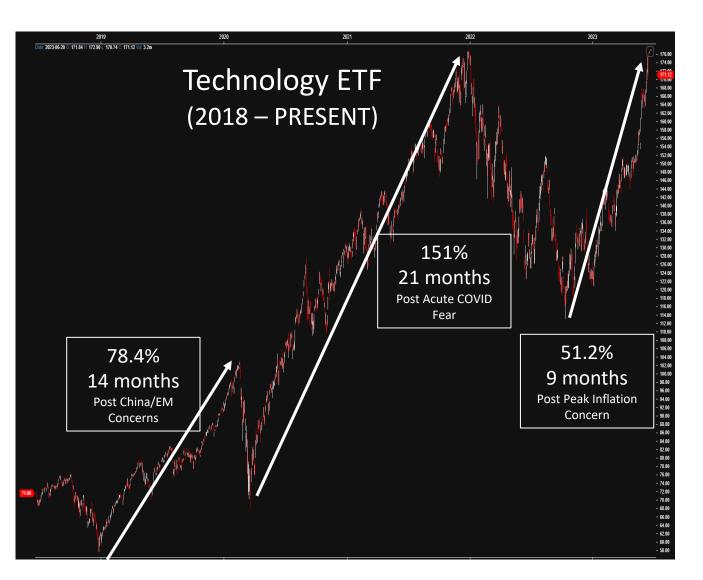
Source: AAII & Yardeni Research

Navigating with Options Leadership (Tech Sector ETF)

- Information Technology is King
 - Tech Sector ETF just missed new all-time highs (\$176.56 vs. \$176.30)
 - Be wary if leadership breaks lower.

• Constituents:

Symbol	Company	Weight
MSFT	Microsoft	23.96%
AAPL	Apple Inc.	22.64%
NVDA	Nvidia Corp	6.06%
AVGO	Broadcom	4.28%
CSCO	Cisco	2.52%
CRM	Salesforce	2.50%
AMD	Advanced Micro	2.3%



Navigating with Options June OpEx Inflection?

- Cliff Notes
 - Quarterly expiries tend to have largest open interest (March/June Sept/Dec).
 - Highest equity & ETF OI since Jan '23 & June '22.
 - Highest index OI since Dec '22 & Dec '21.
- More Freedom to Roam?
 - At the institutional/dealer level Post OpEx exposure (risk)changes.
 - Growth in short-dated index option volumes perhaps curtails?

Ехр	Equities Open	ETF Open Interest	Indices Open	Total
2021-06	Interest 78.8	33.5	Interest 5.6	117.8
2021-00	71.6	21.2	2.8	95.6
2021-07	67.3	21.2	2.5	91.1
2021-00	70.5	29.8	5.1	105.3
2021-05	67.3	21.3	2.8	91.4
2021-10	69.8	23.0	2.7	95.5
2021-12	70.7	32.6	6.8	110.2
2022-01	135.5	39.1	3.3	177.9
2022-02	56.7	21.7	3.0	81.4
2022-03	65.5	32.8	5.4	103.7
2022-04	58.7	24.8	2.9	86.4
2022-05	62.1	26.3	2.8	91.3
2022-06	77.8	38.0	5.6	121.3
2022-07	56.1	25.8	3.1	85.0
2022-08	57.3	26.0	3.2	86.5
2022-09	68.6	35.0	5.8	109.4
2022-10	58.5	27.5	3.5	89.4
2022-11	59.8	28.3	2.7	90.8
2022-12	59.2	37.1	7.5	103.8
2023-01	132.9	42.8	3.9	179.6
2023-02	52.0	24.1	3.1	79.2
2023-03	63.3	33.5	5.7	102.5
2023-04	58.1	28.9	3.3	90.3
2023-05	52.1	22.7	3.2	78.0
2023-06	75.6	37.5	6.3	119.4

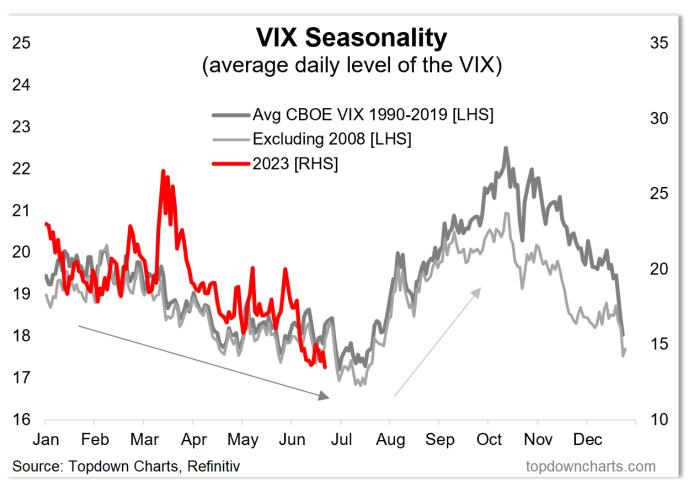
	Year over Yea	ar Percentage C	hange		
	Equities Open Interest		Indices Open Interest	Total	
Total	-2.7%	-1.3%	13.2%	-1.6%	
Calls	-10.2%	-8.2%	-0.2%	-9.4%	
Puts	8.45%	4.55%	22.48%	7.84%	

Navigating with Options Quad Witch Inflection?



Navigating with Options Forward Volatility Bottom Ahead?

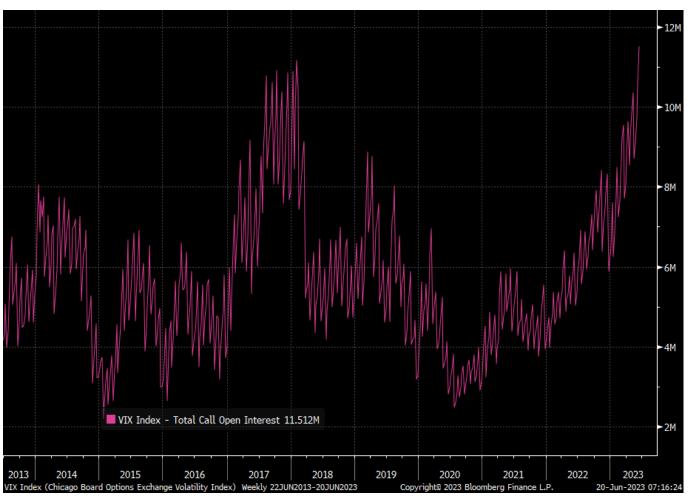
- Does Volatility Cycle?
 - Historically speaking fwd. vol measures (including VOLQ) tend to bottom in July.
 - Always exceptions to seasonality!
 - Limit short vega exposure into autumn?
- Crowded Trade Already?
 - VIX call open interest highest since late 2017.
 - Steep Index option term structure.
 - Mid-term IV already pricing potential for > swings.



Source: TopDownCharts

Navigating with Options Forward Volatility Bottom Ahead?

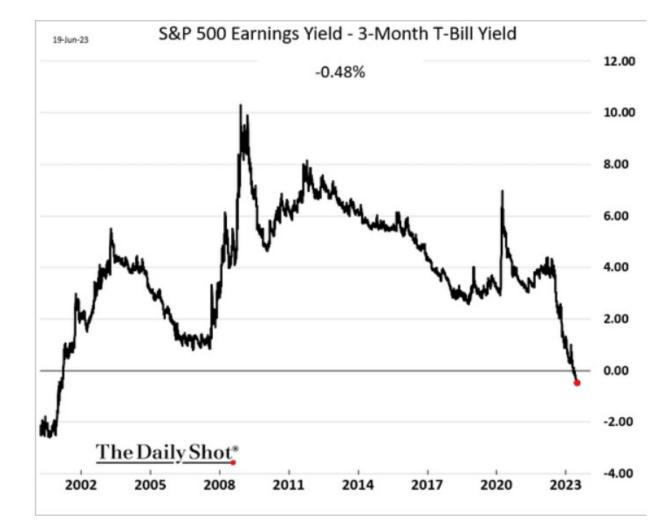
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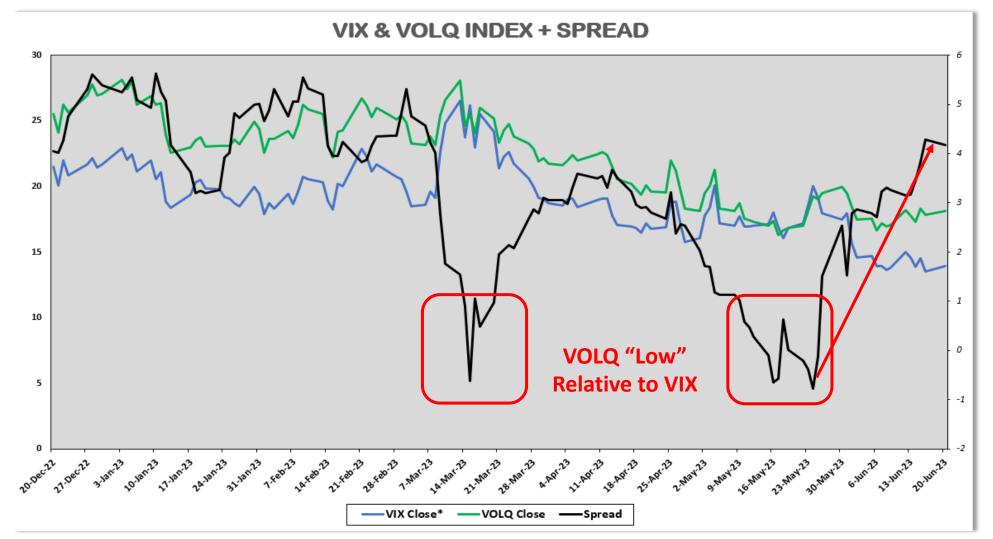


Navigating with Options Where's the Risk Premium?

- Equity "Premium"
 - Typically, forward (Index) earnings expectations > short-term yields.
 - Over the past 18 months Yields up considerably & earnings have slowed.
- Compensation for Risk?
 - Short-term realized + fwd. vol measures very low.
 - Indexes fractionally below all-time highs from early 2022.

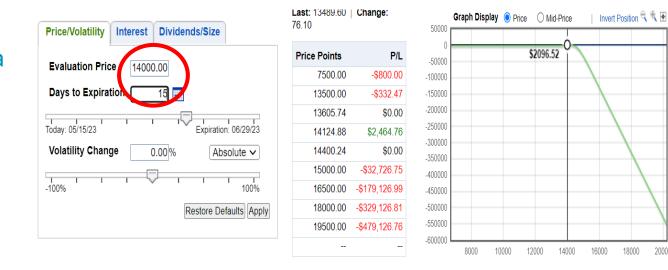


Navigating with Options Update from Previous IBKR



Navigating with Options Revisiting: Index Ratio Call Spread (May)

- Alternative to Call Butterfly
 - Way to express a directional bias with a lower premium than a standard call spread (Paid 8.00 for ratio v. 35.50 for call spread).
 - Affords greater flexibility for exit.
 - Will require more capital.
 - Vega risk substantially higher.
- Considerations
 - Higher margin requirements.
 - Undefined risk in one direction.
 - Can be turned into (defined risk) butterfly by purchasing (1) 14,750 call to limit upside exposure.
 - Same structure can be applied using put ratio.



Total St	trategy					
Bid	Mid	Ask	Delta	Gamma	Theta	Vega
4.80	7.10	9.40	-1.79	-0.01	49.27	-434.16

Buy/Sell	<u>Quantity</u>	Expiration/Strike	<u>Bid</u>	<u>Ask</u>	Theoretical Price	Evaluation Price
O Buy O Sell	1	Jun 30 2023 14250 Call	62.00	63.60	64.644	63.00
O Buy Sell	2	Jun 30 2023 14500 Call	27.10	28.60	28.827	27.50

18000

2000

Source: Fidelity

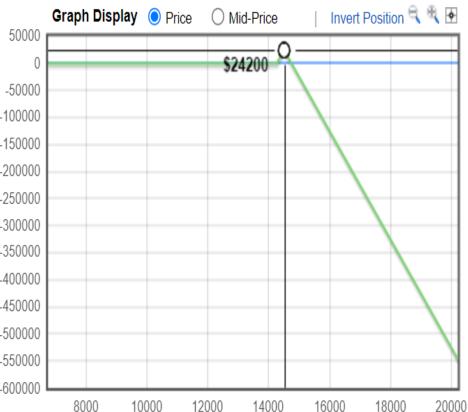
Structured Option Strategies

Revisiting: Index Ratio Call Spread

Positives

- Cost of entry lower & in some situations zero cost/credit.
- Risk management flexibility easier to exit ahead of expiration or turned into butterfly.
- Negatives
 - If IV moves quickly higher or...
 - Index moves quickly in the direction of the short strike.
 - Move too early = Negative

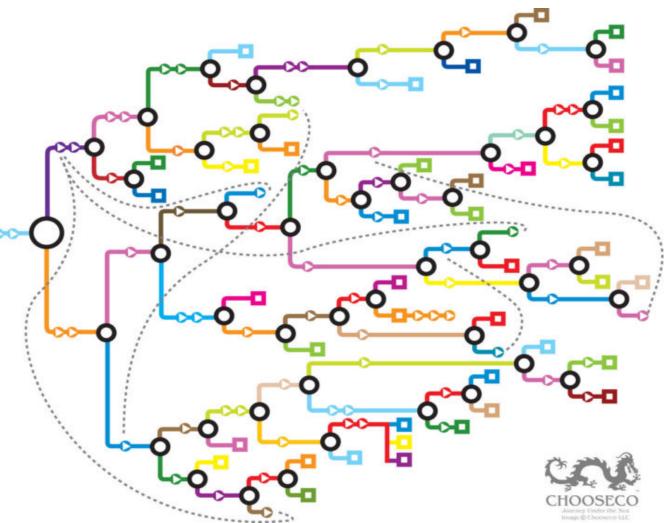
NDXNDX L ast: 13489.60 76.10	Change:
Price Points	P/L
7500.00	-\$800.00
14254.54	\$0.00
14500.00	\$24,200.00
14742.00	\$0.00
15000.00	-\$25,800.00
16500.00	-\$175,800.00
18000.00	-\$325,800.00
19500.00	-\$475,800.00



Structured Option Strategies

Risk Management – Have a PLAN!

- Alternatives are COSTLY!
 - IV moved up quickly
 - Index moved well beyond short strike.
 - Margin requirements would increase.
- Plans Protect
 - Butterfly? (Buying the 14750C) = cleanest.
 - Long deltas elsewhere?
 - Futures?
 - Stubbornness can be very costly just ask me ^(C).





Contact Us:

indexoptions@nasdaq.com

Nasdaq-100[®] Ecosystem:

Questions?

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