

to allow the nominee to use those memberships to simultaneously trade as an in-crowd Market-Maker and in an RMM capacity (but not in the same classes), provided that the RMM trading activity of the nominee is from a location other than the physical trading station for any of the classes traded by the nominee in an RMM capacity. CBOE represents that the purpose of this exception is to accommodate members who choose to take advantage of his or her remote market making privileges while on the Exchange floor.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the adoption of rules allowing for remote market making would attract and encourage member firms to provide supplemental liquidity to that currently provided on the floor by in-crowd market participants. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the addition of RMMs would provide investors with deeper and more liquid markets. For these reasons, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations under the Act applicable to a national securities exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.²⁷ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)²⁸ requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed

Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposal.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to

90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission will:

- (A) By order approve such proposed rule change, or
- (B) Institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change, as amended, is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-CBOE-2004-75 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2004-75. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the CBOE. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-

2004-75 and should be submitted on or before February 25, 2005.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁹

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E5-429 Filed 2-3-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-51101; File No. SR-CBOE-2005-09]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc. To Amend its Marketing Fee Program To Provide for a Monthly Refund of Any Surplus

January 28, 2005.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on January 14, 2005, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc. ("CBOE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the CBOE. The CBOE has designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the CBOE under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The CBOE proposes to amend its marketing fee program to provide for a monthly, rather than quarterly, refund of any surplus. Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is *italicized*; proposed deletions are in [brackets].

CHICAGO BOARD OPTIONS EXCHANGE, INC.

FEE SCHEDULE

- 1.-4. No change.

²⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

²⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

²⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

NOTES:

(1)–(5) No change.

(6) The Marketing Fee will be assessed only on transactions of Market-Makers, e-DPMs and DPMs at the rate of \$.22 per contract on all classes of equity options, options on HOLDRs®, and options on SPDRs®. The fee will not apply to Market-Maker-to-Market-Maker transactions. This fee shall not apply to index options and options on ETFs (other than options on SPDRs). Should any surplus of the marketing fees at the end of each month occur, [those funds would be carried forward to the following month. T]the Exchange would then refund such surplus at the end of the month[quarter,] if any, on a pro rata basis based upon contributions made by the Market-Makers, e-DPMs and DPMs.

(7)–(14) No change.

* * * * *

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the CBOE included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for its proposal and discussed any comments it had received regarding the proposal. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The CBOE has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

On October 29, 2004, the CBOE amended its marketing fee program.⁵ The current marketing fee is assessed upon DPMs, e-DPMs, and Market-Makers at a rate of \$.22 for every contract they enter into on the Exchange, other than Market-Maker-to-Market-Maker transactions, including all transaction between any combination of DPMs, e-DPMs, and Market-Makers.⁶ Currently, the marketing fee is assessed in all equity option classes, options on HOLDRs,⁷ and options on

SPDRs^{reg}.⁸ Furthermore, should any surplus of the marketing fees at the end of each month occur, those funds are carried forward to the following month. The Exchange then refunds such surplus at the end of the quarter.

The Exchange now proposes to amend its marketing fee program to provide for a monthly, rather than quarterly, refund of any surplus.⁹ The CBOE states that, based on its recent experience with the current marketing fee program, it now believes that a monthly, rather than quarterly, refund is more efficient for administrative purposes.¹⁰ The Exchange states that, consistent with the current marketing fee program, it will continue to refund any surplus on a pro rata basis based upon contributions made by the Market-Makers, e-DPMs, and DPMs.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act¹¹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act¹² in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among the CBOE's members.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants or Others

The CBOE neither solicited nor received written comments with respect to the proposed rule change.

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51052 (January 18, 2005), 70 FR 3757 (January 26, 2005) (SR-CBOE-2005-05).

⁶ The Exchange states that the Marketing Fee Oversight Committee will continue to conduct quarterly reviews of the marketing fee program, including aspects related to surpluses and the program's effectiveness. Telephone conversation between Andrew Spiwak, Director Legal Division and Chief Enforcement Attorney, CBOE, and David Liu, Attorney, Division of Market Regulation ("Division"), Commission, on December 18, 2005.

⁷ Telephone conversation between Andrew Spiwak, Director Legal Division and Chief Enforcement Attorney, CBOE, and David Liu, Attorney, Division, Commission, on December 18, 2005.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act¹³ and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁴ Accordingly, the proposal will take effect upon filing with the Commission. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-CBOE-2005-09 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2005-09. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 50736 (November 24, 2004), 69 FR 69966 (December 1, 2004) (SR-CBOE-2004-68) ("Release No. 34-50736").

⁶ See Release No. 34-50736 for a more detailed description of the CBOE's marketing fee program.

⁷ HOLDRs are trust-issued receipts that represent an investor's beneficial ownership of a specified group of stocks. See Interpretation .07 to CBOE Rule 5.3.

available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the CBOE. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2005-09 and should be submitted on or before February 25, 2005.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁵

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E5-432 Filed 2-3-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-51095; File No. SR-FICC-2005-04]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Fixed Income Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Clarify Timing of Premium Assessment Pursuant to Rule 3 of the Government Securities Division for Violation of Minimum Financial Standards

January 28, 2005.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ notice is hereby given that on January 25, 2005, the Fixed Income Clearing Corporation ("FICC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change described in Items I, II, and III below, which items have been prepared primarily by FICC. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested parties.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to clarify that the premium to be assessed pursuant to Rule 3 of the Government Securities Division ("GSD") for violation of minimum financial standards will begin to be assessed on the date FICC becomes aware of the violation.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, FICC included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. FICC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of these statements.²

(A) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

Recently, the Commission approved a proposed rule change by FICC to amend Rule 3 of the GSD to modify the penalty assessment process for violations of minimum financial standards.³ Pursuant to a provision under GSD Rule 3, which is scheduled to become effective on January 31, 2005,⁴ a violation of a minimum financial standard by certain netting members will result in the imposition of a clearing fund premium which will continue for ninety calendar days after the later of (i) the member's return to compliance with applicable minimum financial standards or (ii) FICC's discovery of the violation. The purpose of this proposed rule change is to clarify that the required clearing fund deposit premium that will be assessed pursuant to Rule 3 of the GSD for violation of minimum financial standards will be effective beginning on the day of the violation but will begin to be assessed on the date FICC becomes aware of the violation.

The proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 17A of the Act⁵ and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to FICC because it assures the safeguarding of securities and funds which are in the custody or control of FICC by encouraging participants to maintain their minimum financial standards and to submit their required financial reports on a timely basis. As a result, FICC's ability to maintain a financially

sound participant base should be enhanced.

(B) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

FICC does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any impact on or impose any burden on competition.

(C) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments relating to the proposed rule change have been solicited or received. FICC will notify the Commission of any written comments received by FICC.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Act⁶ and Rule 19b-4(f)(1)⁷ thereunder because the proposed rule constitutes an interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule. At any time within sixty days of the filing of such rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>) or
- Send an E-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-FICC-2005-04 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FICC-2005-04. This file

² The Commission has modified the text of the summaries prepared by FICC.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 50659 (November 15, 2004), 69 FR 67767 (November 19, 2004) [File No. SR-FICC-2004-11].

⁴ This effective date was announced to the GSD's members in Important Notice GOV.156.04 (November 22, 2004) which is available on FICC's Web site at <http://www.ficc.com>.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

¹⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(i).

⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).