

November 1, 2024

Christopher J. Kirkpatrick Secretary Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20581

Re: <u>Cboe Clear Digital, LLC Rule Certification</u>

Submission Number CCD-2024-11C

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Cboe Clear Digital, LLC ("CCD" or "Clearinghouse"), a registered derivatives clearing organization ("DCO") under the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended ("CEA" or the "Act"), hereby submits, pursuant to §40.6(a) of the regulations promulgated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") amendments to the: CCD LLC Agreement ("Operating Agreement") (Exhibit A); CCD Rulebook ("Rulebook") (Exhibit B); CCD Default Management Plan ("Default Management Plan") (Exhibit C); and CCD Risk Management Committee Charter ("Committee Charter") (Exhibit D) (collectively, "Amendment(s)") to update references to the Clearinghouse's name in light of a legal name change, which is anticipated to occur on December 1, 2024. The Amendment will be effective on December 1, 2024.

# Description of the Amendment

CCD is filing this self-certification to update all references to the Company's name in its Operating Agreement, Rulebook, Default Management Plan, and Committee Charter as follows, where applicable:

Former Reference to Clearinghouse Name	New Reference to Clearinghouse Name
Cboe Clear Digital, LLC	Cboe Clear US, LLC
Cboe Clear Digital	Cboe Clear US
CCD	CCUS

For consistency and clarity, the Amendment removes from the CCD Rulebook reference to "Cboe Digital" as a defined term denoting both CCD and Cboe Digital Exchange, LLC collectively.

The Clearinghouse notes that the Amendments resulting from the change to the Clearinghouse's name are non-substantive in nature and do not have any material impact on the

operation or substance of the Operating Agreement, Rulebook, Default Management Plan, and Committee Charter.

# **Core Principle Compliance**

The Clearinghouse believes that the Amendments are consistent with the Derivatives Clearing Organization ("DCO") Core Principles under Section 5 of the Act. In particular, the Clearinghouse believes that the Amendments are consistent with Core Principle L (Public Information) because the Clearinghouse is updating its rules and governing documents to reflect its new legal name, thereby providing clarity to market participants as to the updated legal name of a DCO.

# **Public Information**

A notice and copy of this submission has been concurrently posted on the Clearinghouse's website at https://www.cboedigital.com/regulation/exchange-notices/ under "CFTC Submissions."

# Opposing Views

The Clearinghouse is not aware of any opposing views expressed regarding this Amendment.

### Certification

The Clearinghouse hereby certifies to the Commission, pursuant to the procedures set forth in Commission regulation §40.6, that this submission complies with the CEA, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

Please contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rebecca Tenuta

Rebecca Tenuta Assistant General Counsel rtenuta@cboe.com

# FIFTH AMENDED AND RESTATED LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY AGREEMENTOF CBOE CLEAR DIGITALUS, LLC

This FIFTH AMENDED AND RESTATED LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY AGREEMENT of CBOE CLEAR DIGITALUS, LLC (such agreement, as amended from time to time, shall be referred to herein as this "Agreement"), effective as of [●], 2024 (the "Effective Date"), is entered into by Cboe Clear Digital Holdings, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("Member"), and each of those other members executing this Agreement from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof.

### **EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS**

- A. The Company was formed pursuant to a Certificate of Formation (the "Certificate") filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on October 16, 2017 and has been operating pursuant to the provisions of the Company's Fourth Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement dated as of [•], 2024 (the "Fourth A&R LLC Agreement").
- B. The Member has determined to amend and restate the Fourth A&R LLC Agreement to, among other things, govern the management and operation of the Company and the relationship of the parties in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in this Agreement.

### **AGREEMENT**

For good and valuable consideration, the parties, intending legally to be bound, agree as follows:

# Section I **Defined Terms**

In addition to any terms that are defined in the text of this Agreement, capitalized terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them in Exhibit B of this Agreement.

# Section II Formation and Name; Office; Purpose; Term

The Company was formed upon the execution and filing of the Certificate with the Secretary on October 16, 2017. The name of the Company is "Cboe Clear DigitalUS, LLC." The Company may do business under that name and under any other name or names upon which the Member may determine. The purposes of the Company shall be to (i) operate a clearinghouse for the clearing of financial products, (ii) act as a custodian for funds, and (iii) engage in any other lawful act or activity for which limited liability companies may be organized under the Act as determined by the Member. The term of the Company began upon the filing of the Certificate and shall continue in perpetual existence until dissolved pursuant to this Agreement. The registered office of the Company in the State of Delaware shall be as set forth in the Certificate, or at such other place as the Member may designate from time to time. The principal office and place of business of the Company shall be located at such other place as the Member may designate from time to time.

The name and address of the Company's registered agent in the State of Delaware shall be as set forth in the Certificate, or at such other place as the Member may designate from time to time. The name, present mailing address and Percentage Interest of the Member are set forth on Exhibit A. The Member shall have the right to admit additional members from time to time as it determines in its sole discretion. If at any time the Member deems it to be in the best interest of the Company to raise additional equity capital to properly carry out the Company's business and operations, the Member shall have the right to (i) raise additional equity capital for infusion into the Company from members or other Persons on terms that may be senior to, junior to, or on parity with, the terms of the Interests held by then existing members, and (ii) admit the Persons investing such equity capital as additional members. In addition, the Company may obtain funds through loans (which may be made by the Member) having such terms and conditions as the Member, in its reasonable discretion, deems to be in the best interest of the Company. The Member shall amend Exhibit A from time to time to reflect changes in the identity of the members and changes in information set forth on Exhibit A. This Agreement is the limited liability company agreement of the Company within the meaning of the Act.

# Section III <u>Capital</u>

It is acknowledged that the Member (directly or indirectly through its ultimate parent company) has made all capital contributions to the capital of the Company required to be made by the Member as of the date hereof. From time to time the Member may, but shall not be obligated to, contribute additional capital or make loans to the Company, all at such times and upon such terms as the Member shall approve, acting in its sole discretion. The Member shall not be required to contribute any additional capital to the Company, and the Member shall not have any personal liability for any obligations of the Company.

# Section IV **Profit, Loss and Distributions**

Cash Flow for each taxable year of the Company shall be distributed to the Member, at such time as determined by the Board. All Profit or Loss shall be allocated to the Member. If the Company is dissolved, the assets of the Company shall be distributed as provided in **Section VII**.

# Section V Management of the Company

- (a) <u>Management by the Member</u>. Subject to **Section V(b)**, the Company shall be managed by and all decisions regarding the Company shall be made by the Member.
- (b) <u>Delegation of Authority to the Board of Directors</u>. Notwithstanding **Section V(a)** above, except as otherwise set forth herein, the Member hereby delegates authority over the business and affairs of the Company to the Board of Directors of the Company (the "**Board**"). Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the Board shall have full, exclusive and complete discretion to manage and control the business and affairs of the Company, to make all decisions affecting the business and affairs of the Company and to take all such actions as it deems necessary or appropriate to accomplish the purposes of the Company as set forth herein. Except as otherwise

provided herein or expressly authorized by the Board, the Member of the Company shall not have, and no other Person, shall have the authority or power, directly or indirectly, to act as agent of the Company for any purpose, engage in any transaction, make any commitment, enter into any contract or incur any obligation (whether as principal, surety or agent) in the name of the Company or in any other way bind the Company or hold itself out as acting for or on behalf of the Company. Any attempted action in contravention of **Sections V(a)-(g)** shall be null, void *ab initio* and not binding upon the Company, unless ratified or authorized in writing by the Board.

- Number; Election; Tenure; Compensation; Reimbursement. Commencing on the date of this Agreement, the Board shall consist of between three (3) and eight (8) directors (the "Directors"). One Director shall be designated by the Member to serve as the Chairman. The Directors shall be appointed by the Member, provided, however, that, at all times, the Directors shall include at least two (2) individuals who are market participants (as defined and determined by the Board) and two (2) individuals who are not executives, officers or employees of the Company or an affiliate of the Company (which requirement may be satisfied by the same individuals who are market participants). Subject to applicable law, the number of Directors constituting the Board may be increased or decreased from time to time by the Member; provided that the Board shall consist of not fewer than three (3) Directors. Each Director shall have the duties (including fiduciary duties) that the directors of a Delaware corporation have to a corporation under Delaware General Corporation Law. No Director shall be entitled to be compensated for any services provided to the Company, except as authorized in writing by the Board. The Company shall reimburse each of the Directors for reasonable business expenses incurred by any such Director on behalf of the Company, which expenses will be treated as expenses of the Company.
- (d) Resignation. Directors shall be elected annually and shall hold office until the next annual Meeting of the Board and until such time as their successors are elected or appointed and qualified, except in the event of earlier death, resignation, or removal. A Director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board. A resignation shall be effective upon receipt thereof by the Board unless the notice specifies a future date. The acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective. Any one or more of the Directors (i) shall automatically, without any further action by the Board or the Member, be removed from such position due to such Director's death, and (ii) may be removed from such position, either with or without cause, by the Member. Following the resignation of any Director, such Director and the Persons described in Section VIII shall remain entitled to indemnification from the Company to the extent available under such Section with respect to any matter arising prior to its or their resignation.
- (e) <u>Vacancy</u>. Any vacancies occurring on the Board shall be filled by the Member in accordance with **Section V(c)**.

# (f) Meetings of the Board.

(i) <u>Time and Place</u>. Meetings of the Board shall be held at the principal place of business of the Company or at any other place that the Board determines. At any meeting, any Director may participate by telephone or similar communication equipment, provided each Director who is participating in the meeting can hear each of the other Directors who are participating in the

meeting. Directors present by telephone or similar communication equipment shall be deemed to be present "in person" for the purposes of the meeting. Meetings shall be held in accordance with a schedule established by the Board. Meetings of the Board may be called by the Chairman or by any two (2) Directors upon at least one (1) Business Day's prior notice to the other Directors, provided such notice may be waived by all of the Directors for any individual meeting. Attendance of a Director at a meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of the meeting, except where such Director attends for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened and notes such objection on the record. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement to the contrary, a notice pursuant to this Section may be given orally or otherwise as set forth in **Section X** of this Agreement.

- (ii) Quorum and Voting. Each Director shall have one (1) vote in all matters requiring a vote of the Board. A majority of the entire Board shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board. Except as otherwise required by law, the act of the Board Members possessing a majority of the votes in the aggregate present at the meeting, excluding from the votes present for such purposes any abstentions or recusals, shall be the act of the Board. If at any meeting of the Board there shall be less than a quorum present, the Director(s) present thereat may adjourn the meeting, without notice other than announcement at the meeting, until a quorum shall have been obtained. Any meeting not resumed, or if resumed not completed, during the originally scheduled time for such meeting, shall be deemed concluded at the end of such scheduled time; provided that this provision may be waived by all of the Directors present at any such meeting. All actions and decisions of the Board, once approved in accordance herewith, shall be binding on the Company and the Member.
- (iii) Written Consents in Lieu of a Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote, if a consent or consents in writing, setting forth the action(s) so taken, shall be signed by a majority of the Directors (one of whom shall be the Chairman).

# (g) <u>Committees</u>.

(i) <u>Designations and Powers</u>. The Board may in its sole discretion, but subject to any requirements under applicable law, including, but not limited to, the CEA and CFTC regulations promulgated thereunder, (x) appoint one or more committees of the Board consisting of one or more of the Directors of the Company or other individuals and authorize and adopt a charter for such committee setting forth such committee's powers, authorities and responsibilities (a "Charter"), (y) designate one or more Directors or other individuals as alternate members of any committee, who may replace any absent or disqualified member at any meeting of the committee, and (z)

appoint a chairperson of any such committee. The number of Directors or other individuals serving on any committee may, subject to any requirements under applicable law, including, but not limited to, the CEA and CFTC regulations promulgated thereunder, be increased or decreased from time to time by the Board. Any such committee, to the extent provided in a resolution of the Board or in this Agreement, shall have and may exercise all the powers and authority of the Board in the management of the business and affairs of the Company.

- (ii) Risk Management Committee. The Board shall appoint a Risk Management Committee (the "RiskCo") which shall consist of such number of individuals as established by resolution adopted by the Board, provided that the RiskCo shall include the minimum number and type of market participant members as may be required by the CEA and the regulations promulgated thereunder. The RiskCo shall have those powers, authorities, and responsibilities delegated to it by the Board in its Charter.
- (iii) Meetings of Committees. Meetings of any committee may be held at any time or place as shall be determined by resolution of the committee, the chairperson of the committee or any two (2) members of the committee. Notice of any meeting of a committee shall be given in the same manner as notice of any meeting of the Board as provided in Section V(f)(i). A majority of the entire committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of a committee. The act of a majority of the members of a committee at any duly constituted meeting, if a quorum is present, shall be the act of the committee. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of a committee may be taken without a meeting, without prior notice and without a vote, if a consent or consents in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by the requisite number of members of such committee. Any member of a committee may participate by telephone or similar communications equipment; provided each member who is participating in the meeting can hear each of the other members who are participating in the meeting. Persons present by telephone or similar communications equipment shall be deemed to be present "in person" for the purposes of the meeting. The foregoing shall be subject to the specific terms of each committee's Charter and in the event of an inconsistency between a Charter and this Agreement, the terms of such Charter shall govern.
- (h) <u>Board Observers</u>. The Member shall have the right to appoint observers to the Board (each, an "**Observer**"). Such Observers shall serve for a term of one (1) year. Such Observers shall be entitled to (x) receive contemporaneously the same notice and other materials in respect of all meetings (or written consents) of the Board as are furnished to the Directors, (y) attend all meetings (and review all written consents) of the Board, and (z) participate in all discussions conducted at meetings (or with respect to actions to be taken by written consent) of the Board; provided, however, such Observers shall not constitute a Director and shall not be entitled to vote on any matters presented to the Board and may be removed for any or no reason

by the Board upon notice thereof; <u>provided further</u> that such Observers may be required to leave, or not be allowed to attend, any meetings (or may not receive certain materials) if and to the extent a conflict of interest, confidentiality concern or privilege arises or may arise in connection with the issues being discussed (or described in such materials), regulatory issues may arise or be discussed with respect to which it would be inappropriate for the Observers to participate, or another reasonable basis exists for excluding the Observers, in each case as determined by the Chairman in his or her reasonable discretion.

- (i) <u>Required Member Consent</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Board shall not approve or undertake or authorize any other Person to approve or undertake, and shall not have the power or authority to approve or authorize any other Person to approve or undertake any of the following actions with respect to the Company without the prior written consent of the Member:
  - (i) enter into, approve or adopt an annual business plan or annual budget;
  - (ii) appoint a new president, chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief operating officer, any executive vice president or any other officer comprising senior management of the Company, or the termination (other than for cause) of or material change in the compensation (including equity compensation) of any then-existing president, chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief operating officer, any executive vice president or any other officer comprising senior management of the Company;
  - (iii) acquire or dispose of any business or any material assets;
  - (iv) approve, recommend, consummate or participate in any Sale Transaction;
  - (v) cause any material change in the line(s) of business of the Company and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, from the business conducted by the Company and its subsidiaries as of the date hereof;
  - (vi) create, authorize, offer, issue or sell to any Person any Interests or any interests or other instruments directly or indirectly convertible, exercisable or exchangeable for Interests;
  - (vii) admit a new Member to the Company;
  - (viii) create or grant any security interest, encumbrance or guarantee on the assets of the Company or any of its subsidiaries;
  - (ix) incur indebtedness for borrowed money;
  - (x) approve, initiate or consummate a reorganization, liquidation or dissolution of the Company;
  - (xi) initiate or settle any litigation or any other action, suit or similar proceeding;

- (xii) finalize or settle any administrative or judicial disputes with any taxing or other governmental authority;
- (xiii) select, cause appointment or replace the auditors of the Company or its Subsidiaries;
- (xiv) file any tax returns and statements with respect to the Company or any subsidiary or the assets of the Company or any subsidiary;
- (xv) amend any accounting policy or make any tax election or decision or change in tax classification of the Company;
- (xvi) amend the Company's organizational documents or documents related to the Interests; or
- (xvii) redeem, repurchase or otherwise acquire any Interests or other instruments directly or indirectly convertible, exercisable or exchangeable for Interests.
- (j) Officers. Any Officer authorized and appointed to act by the Board shall have full power and authority to act for and bind the Company for the purposes so authorized or appointed and third parties may rely upon such authorization or appointment. The Officers of the Company may include a president, chief executive officer and/or such other Officers as the Board may establish from time to time. Each Officer shall hold office until his or her successor is elected or appointed or until his or her earlier displacement from office by resignation, removal or otherwise; provided that if the term of office of any Officer elected or appointed pursuant to this **Section V(i)** shall have been fixed by the Board, he or she shall cease to hold such office no later than the date of expiration of such term, regardless of whether any other person shall have been elected or appointed to succeed him or her. Any Officer may resign by written notice to the Company and may be removed with or without cause by the Board whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Company will be served thereby.
- (k) <u>Disciplinary Panels</u>. The Board may, in its sole discretion, but subject to any requirements under applicable law, including, but not limited to, the CEA and CFTC regulations promulgated thereunder, establish one or more disciplinary panels, including, but not limited to, a disciplinary panel for appeals (each a "**Disciplinary Panel**"), each of which generally shall be responsible for conducting hearings, rendering decisions, and imposing sanctions with respect to disciplinary matters as determined by the Board. Except as the Board may otherwise determine from time-to-time, each Disciplinary Panel shall be comprised of three individuals, at least one of whom would qualify as a "public director", as such term is defined by applicable CFTC regulation, and such person will chair such Disciplinary Panel. The number of individuals serving on any Disciplinary Panel (each a "**Disciplinary Panel Member**") may, subject to any requirements under applicable law, be increased or decreased from time to time by the Board. The Disciplinary Panel Members shall be appointed by the Board and may be removed from such position, either with or without cause, at any time by the Board.

# Section VI Transfer

Notwithstanding any provision contained in this Agreement to the contrary, the Member shall have the right to Transfer all or any part of the Member's Membership Rights, and such transferees shall automatically be deemed to be admitted as a member of the Company. For purposes of this Agreement, a Transfer of Interests and other Membership Rights shall include any Transfer of any direct or indirect ownership interests in the Member and any change in the power of a Person to direct the business and affairs of the Member by virtue of ownership of voting securities, contract or otherwise. The Interests and other Membership Rights are securities governed by Article 8 of the Uniform Commercial Code as in effect in the State of Delaware. Interests and Membership Rights shall not be certificated. The transferee of a Transfer for collateral purposes shall not be admitted as a member of the Company until such time, if any, as the transferee has realized upon the Membership Rights pledged to it or has acquired such Membership Rights in lieu of such realization and such transferee expressly agrees in writing to be bound to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

# Section VII <u>Dissolution</u>

The Company shall be dissolved only if the Member determines to dissolve the Company or if the Company has no members. If the Company is dissolved, the affairs of the Company shall be wound up. On winding up of the Company, the assets of the Company shall be distributed, first, to creditors of the Company in satisfaction of the liabilities of the Company, and then to the Member.

# Section VIII <u>Liability and Indemnification</u>

- (a) Except as otherwise required by non-waivable provisions of applicable law or as expressly set forth in this Agreement, the Member shall not have any personal liability whatsoever in the Member's capacity as a member in excess of its capital contribution, whether to the Company, to the creditors of the Company or to any other third party, for the debts, liabilities, commitments or any other obligations of the Company or for any losses of the Company, other than arising out of a breach of this Agreement by the Member, any actions by such the Member prohibited by this Agreement or as provided in any other written agreement between the Company and the Member.
- (b) None of the Member, the Directors, Disciplinary Panel Members or Officers shall be personally liable for the return of any portion of the capital contributions (or any return thereon) of the Member and the return, if any, of such capital contributions (or any return thereon) shall be made solely from assets of the Company. None of the Member or the Directors shall be required to pay to the Company any deficit in the Member's capital account upon dissolution of the Company or otherwise. None of the Member, the Directors or the Officers shall be liable, responsible or accountable, for damages or otherwise, to the Member or to the Company for any act performed by such Member, Directors or Officers within the scope of the authority conferred

on such Member, the Directors and the Officers by this Agreement, except for gross negligence, fraud, bad faith or a material breach of this Agreement.

The Company shall, to the fullest extent permitted by the Act, indemnify and hold harmless the Member, Disciplinary Panel Members, Officers, Directors, their respective partners, stockholders, members, officers, trustees, advisory board members, directors, employees, attorneys and agents and other affiliates and, as determined by the Board in its sole discretion, certain non-Officer employees of the Company (collectively, the "Indemnified Parties") from and against any loss, expense, damage or injury suffered or sustained by them by reason of any acts, omissions or alleged acts or omissions arising out of their activities on behalf of the Company or in furtherance of the interests of the Company or by reason of the fact that such Person is or was a Member, Disciplinary Panel Member, Director, Officer, employee or agent of the Company, or is or was serving at the request of the Company as a director, trustee, member, disciplinary panel member, manager, officer, employee or agent of another limited liability company, corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, including, but not limited to, any judgment, award, settlement, reasonable attorneys' fees and other costs or expenses incurred in connection with the investigation and defense of any actual or threatened action, proceeding or claim, unless the acts, omissions or alleged acts or omissions upon which such actual or threatened action, proceeding or claim is based arose out of such Indemnified Party's gross negligence or were performed or omitted fraudulently or in bad faith by such Indemnified Party or constituted a material breach of this Agreement. If any claim for indemnification is based on a claim by a third party (a "Third Party Claim"), the Indemnified Party in question shall give prompt written notice thereof to the Company and shall permit the Company to defend and/or settle such Third Party Claim, so long as it does so diligently and in good faith; provided, however, that no compromise or settlement of any claim may be effected by the Company without the Indemnified Party's consent (which will not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed) unless the sole relief provided is monetary damages that are paid in full by the Company. Any such indemnification shall only be from the assets or insurance of the Company and the Member shall not be required to contribute capital to the Company to satisfy any such indemnification. Any such indemnification shall be paid by the Company in advance of the final disposition of any such action, proceeding or claim upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the Indemnified Party seeking advancement to repay the amount advanced should it ultimately be determined that the Indemnified Party was not entitled to be indemnified hereunder or under the Act.

# Section IX Books, Accounting, Tax Matters Partner, Partnership Representative

All funds of the Company shall be deposited in such bank or other investment accounts as the Board shall approve. All such accounts shall be in the Company's name. The annual accounting period of the Company shall be the calendar year. The Member intends that for as long as the Company has a single Member the Company will be treated as a disregarded entity for all applicable tax purposes. The Member shall be the tax matters partner unless the Member selects a different tax matters partner, to the extent that a tax matters partner is required or permitted by applicable law. For all taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, and in the event the Company is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes, the Member shall be designated as the "partnership representative", as defined in Code Section 6223 (as in effect following the effective date of its amendment by Section 1101 of H.R. 1314) and the Company

and the Member shall complete any necessary actions (including executing any required certificates or other documents) to effect such designation.

# Section X General Provisions

- (a) Any notice, demand, consent, election, offer, approval, request, or other communication (collectively, a "notice") required or permitted under this Agreement must be in writing and either delivered personally, sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, or sent by recognized overnight delivery service. A notice must be addressed to the Member at the Member's last known address on the records of the Company. A notice to the Company must be addressed to the Company's principal office. Notices shall be deemed given upon receipt or refusal to accept delivery. Any party may designate, by notice to all of the others, substitute addresses or addressees for notices; and, thereafter, notices are to be directed to those substitute addresses or addressees.
- (b) This Agreement constitutes the complete and exclusive statement of the agreement by the Member and supersedes all prior written and oral statements (including the Fourth A&R LLC Agreement), including any prior representation, statement, condition or warranty.
  - (c) This Agreement may not be amended without the written consent of the Member.
- (d) This Agreement shall be governed by the internal law, not the law of conflicts, of the State of Delaware. The headings herein are inserted as a matter of convenience only, and do not define, limit, or describe the scope of this Agreement or the intent of the provisions hereof.
- (e) This Agreement is binding upon, and inures to the benefit of, the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, personal and legal representatives, successors, and permitted assigns.
- (f) Nouns and pronouns shall be deemed to refer to the masculine, feminine, neuter, singular and plural, as the identity of the Person may in the context require.
- (g) Each provision of this Agreement shall be considered separable and if, for any reason, any provision or provisions herein are determined to be invalid and contrary to any existing or future law, such invalidity shall not impair the operation of or affect those portions of this Agreement which are valid.

[Signature Page Follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has executed this Fifth Amended and Restated Limited Liability Company Agreement of Cboe Clear <u>DigitalUS</u>, LLC as of the date first set forth above.

# **MEMBER**

boe Clear Digital Holdings, LLC, Delaware limited liability company
y: Cboe Digital Exchange, LLC, its manager
y:
ame:
tle:

EXHIBIT A (effective as of [•], 2024)

# NAME, ADDRESS AND PERCENTAGE INTEREST

Address	Percentage Interest
Cboe Clear Digital Holdings,	100%
LLC	
433 W. Van Buren Street,	
Suite 700, Chicago, IL 60607	

### **EXHIBIT B**

### **Definitions**

For purposes of this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below (such meanings to be equally applicable to both the singular and plural forms of the terms so defined).

- "Act" means the Delaware Limited Liability Company Act, as amended from time to time.
- "Board" shall have the meaning set forth in Section V of this Agreement.
- "Business Day" means any day other than Saturday, Sunday, and a day on which either the Cboe Digital Exchange or commercial banks are authorized or required to close in either of Chicago, Illinois or New York City, New York.
- "Cash Flow" means the revenues and other cash receipts of the Company minus the expenditures of the Company. Cash Flow will not include reserves established by the Board from time to time except to the extent released from the reserves in question for distribution.
  - "CEA" means the U.S. Commodity Exchange Act, as amended.
  - "CFTC" means the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission.
- "Code" means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or any corresponding provision of any succeeding law.
- "Company" means the limited liability company formed in accordance with the Certificate.
  - "Disciplinary Panel" shall have the meaning set forth in Section V of this Agreement.
- "Disciplinary Panel Member" shall have the meaning set forth in Section V of this Agreement.
- "Interest" means a membership interest in the Company entitling the holder thereof to receive a share of the Profits and Losses of, and the right to receive distributions from, the Company in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.
- "Membership Rights" means all of the rights of a member of the Company, including a member's: (i) Interests; (ii) right to inspect the Company's books and records; and (iii) right to vote on matters coming before the members, if any.
- "Officer" means any individual from time to time authorized or appointed by the Board to act as an officer or representative of the Company on a general basis or for a specific purpose, which individual shall act for and bind the Company as authorized by the Board.
- "Percentage Interest" means the percentage interest of the Member as set forth on Exhibit  $\underline{A}$ .

"Person" means and includes an individual, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company, trust, estate or other entity.

"**Profit**" and "**Loss**" mean, for each taxable year of the Company (or other period for which Profit or Loss must be computed), the Company's taxable income or loss determined in accordance with the Code.

"Sale Transaction" shall mean any transaction or series of transactions involving (i) a sale or conveyance of all or substantially all of the Company's assets to any Person, (ii) a sale or conveyance of at least 50% of the Interests or other equity interest in the Company to any Person, or (iii) a merger or consolidation of the Company with any Person pursuant to which the Member (and their affiliates) immediately prior to such merger or consolidation shall own, immediately after giving effect thereto, less than a majority of the equity interest of the surviving entity (or its parent) or the purchasing entity (or its parent), as the case may be.

"Transfer" means, when used as a noun, any direct or indirect sale, hypothecation, pledge, assignment, attachment, or other transfer, and, when used as a verb, means to, directly or indirectly, sell, hypothecate, pledge, assign, or otherwise transfer.

# CBOE CLEAR DIGITAL CBOE CLEAR US, LLC RULEBOOK

(Last Updated April 11 December 1, 2024)

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	GEN	NERAL	5
	101.	Definitions.	5
	102.	Interpretation.	9
	103.	Date and Time References.	9
	104.	Conflicts.	9
2.	GO'	VERNANCE	9
	201.	Purpose, Powers and Authority.	9
	202.	Board	10
	203.	Committees	10
	204.	Officers	10
	205.	Eligibility of Officers and Board Members	11
	206.	Conflicts of Interest and Misuse of Material, Non-Public Information.	12
	207.	Emergencies.	15
	208.	Maintenance of Books and Records by the Clearinghouse	17
3.	CLE	EARING MEMBERS	17
	301.	General Eligibility Requirements of Clearing Members.	17
	302.	Application and Approval of Clearing Member Status.	19
	303.	Duties and Responsibilities of Clearing Members.	20
	304.	Authorized Representative.	23
	305.	Adequate Assurances	24
	306.	Notices Required of Clearing Members.	24
	307.	Omnibus and Carrying Broker Accounts.	27
	308.	Financial Requirements of FCM Clearing Members.	27
	309.	Customer Accounts and Member Property Accounts.	28
	310.	General Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements for Clearing Members.	29
	311.	Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity FCM Clearing Members	30
	312.	Fees.	30
	313.	Segregation of Customer Funds and Assets for FCM Clearing Members.	30

	314.	Access to Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US.	31
	315.	Digital Asset Collateral.	31
4.	CLE	EARING, SETTLEMENT, AND DELIVERY OF CONTRACTS	32
	401.	Submission of Trades.	32
	402.	Clearance and Substitution.	32
	403.	Margin.	33
	404.	Offset and Settlement.	36
	405.	Approved Depository Institutions.	36
	406.	Statement of Trades and Contracts	36
	407.	Confirmation to Customers.	36
	408.	Transfer Trades	37
	409.	Settlement Prices	37
	410.	Delivery.	37
	411.	Reporting.	40
5.	OBI	LIGATIONS OF CBOE CLEAR DIGITAL CBOE CLEAR US	40
	501.	Limitation of Liability.	40
	502.	FCM Clearing Member Default.	43
	503.	Investment of Customer Funds	45
	504.	Scope of Guaranty Fund	45
	505.	Guaranty Fund Contributions	45
	506.	Authority of the Clearinghouse	46
	507.	Assessments	46
6.	SUS	PENSION; DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS	47
	601.	Suspension.	47
	602.	Right of Appeal.	49
	603.	Sanctions from Disciplinary Proceedings.	50
	604.	Procedures for Disciplinary Proceedings.	50
	605.	Discipline by Other Self-Regulatory Organizations.	51
	606.	Restriction on or Termination of Clearing Privileges.	52
	607.	Just and Equitable Principles of Trade; Acts Detrimental to the Clearinghouse.	53

7.	MIS	SCELLANEOUS	53
	701.	Force Majeure.	53
	702.	Suspension of Rules.	54
	703.	Confidentiality.	54
	704.	Information-Sharing Agreements	55
	705.	Trading by Officers and Employees Prohibited.	56
	706.	Forms; Facsimile Signatures.	56
	707.	Governing Law	56
	708.	Dispute Resolution	57
	709.	Contracts	57

### 1. **GENERAL**

### 101. Definitions.

Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings when used in these Rules:

- (a) "Account" means a Customer Account or a Member Property Account, as context requires, used in conjunction with the trading or delivery of commodity products.
- (b) "Account Balance" means total equity held with the Clearinghouse that is calculated as deposits minus withdrawals plus realized and unrealized profit and loss.
- (c) "Appeal Panel" means a panel comprised of individuals appointed by the Board or the Chief Compliance Officer to consider appeals under Rule 602.
- (d) "Applicable Law" means any statute, law, regulation, rule or ordinance of any governmental authority, including the CEA, CFTC Regulations, State Regulations, and the rules or regulations of any relevant Self-Regulatory Organization.
- (e) "Approved Depository Institution" means a bank, trust company or other depository that has been approved by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US as an acceptable location for depositing Clearing Member funds or Collateral, as applicable.
- (f) "Assessment Amount" means the total assessment amount levied by the Clearinghouse at a single time upon all the FCM Clearing Members in order for the Clearinghouse to maintain an adequate Guaranty Fund.
- (g) "Authorized Representative" means an individual designated by a Clearing Member and listed with Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US as having authority to act on behalf of the Clearing Member.
- (h) "Board" means the board of directors of Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US, as set forth in the LLC Agreement.
- (i) "Business Day" means any day on which the Clearinghouse is open for clearing. References in these Rules to a "day" or "Business Day" shall, unless the context otherwise requires, mean the "Business Day" corresponding to the trading day of the Exchange.
- (j) "Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US" means Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company.
- (k) "Choe Digital" means Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US and the Exchange collectively.
- (L)(k) "CEA" means the Commodity Exchange Act, as it may be amended from time to time.
- (m)(1) "CFTC" means the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission.
- (n)(m) "CFTC Regulations" means the rules, regulations and interpretations promulgated by the CFTC pursuant to the CEA, as in effect from time to time.

- (o)(n) "Clearinghouse" means Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US, LLC.
- (p)(o) "Clearing Member" means an FCM Clearing Member or Direct Clearing Member who has executed a Clearing Member Agreement, and to whom the Clearinghouse has granted the right to clear contracts on the Clearinghouse.
- (q)(p) "Clearing Member Agreement" means the agreement for clearing privileges between Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US and a Clearing Member.
- (r)(q) "Collateral" means U.S. dollars, U.S. Treasuries, other assets, including Virtual Currencies, that are allowed by the CEA, CFTC Regulations and Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US to be accepted for deposit into clearing accounts and to meet Guaranty Fund Deposit requirements.
- (s)(r) "Committee" means a committee established by the Board or otherwise, pursuant to the Rules.
- (t)(s) "Contract" means, as context requires, any futures contract, options contract, swap contract, or spot contract, agreement, or transaction on a commodity (as such term is defined in the CEA or CFTC Regulations), which has been approved for clearing by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US pursuant to these Rules.
- (u)(t) "Customer" shall have the meaning set forth in CFTC Regulation 1.3.
- (v)(u) "Customer Account" means an account established by an FCM Clearing Member with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in which the FCM Clearing Member maintains trades, positions and Margin solely for Customers.
- (w)(v) "Default" shall have the meaning set forth in Rule 502 (a).
- (x)(w) "Default Loss" means any loss to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or Exchange associated with the Default of a Clearing Member resulting in any deficit balance in the Clearing Member account; resulting from costs associated with the Clearing Member's liquidation, transfer, offset, settlement, delivery; Clearing Member's collateral losses due to the failure or insolvency of a Clearing Member's depository or settlement bank; and any other costs related to managing the Default of a Clearing Member.
- (y)(x) "Direct Clearing Member" means a Person that submits fully funded trades for clearing at Chear DigitalChoe Clear US on behalf of its own account(s), has completed a Clearing Member Agreement and has been granted clearing privileges by the Clearinghouse excluding trading on margin.
- (z)(y) "Directors" means members of the Board.
- (aa)(z) "Disciplinary Panel" means a panel comprised of individuals appointed by the Board at the recommendation of the Chief Compliance Officer to act in an adjudicative role and fulfill various adjudicative responsibilities and duties described in Chapter 6.
- (bb)(aa) "Eligible Delivery Member" or "EDM" means (a) an FCM Clearing Member that has an FCM proprietary spot account with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US that has

been authorized in writing by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US to participate in the physical delivery process to make or take delivery of digital assets futures products; or (b) an FCM Customer with a proprietary spot account with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US that has been authorized in writing by the FCM Clearing Member and by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US to participate in the physical delivery process to make or take delivery of digital assets futures products.

- "Emergency" shall have the meaning set forth in Rule 207.
- (dd)(cc) "Exchange" means Cboe Digital Exchange, LLC and its respective successors.
- (ee)(dd) "Exchange Committee" includes the Regulatory Oversight, Exchange Member, or Exchange Practices Committees of the Exchange, and any other future or successor committee of the Exchange.
- (ff)(ee) "Exposure-Based Guaranty Fund Requirement" means the additional contributions by each FCM Clearing Member required by the Clearinghouse, based upon the exposure of the Clearinghouse to such FCM Clearing Member as determined by the Clearinghouse, in light of any shortfall in the Guaranty Fund resulting from the Clearinghouse's periodic specification of a Minimum Guaranty Fund Requirement.
- (gg)(ff)"FCM Clearing Member" means a Person that is registered with the CFTC as a Futures Commission Merchant, has completed a Clearing Member Agreement and has been granted clearing privileges by the Clearinghouse, including clearing contracts that are not fully collateralized or fully funded.
- (hh)(gg) "FCM Customer" means a Customer of an FCM.
- (ii)(hh) "Fully Collateralized or Fully Funded" contract means a contract cleared by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US that requires Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US to hold, at all times, funds in the form of the required payment sufficient to cover the maximum possible loss that a party or counterparty could incur upon liquidation or expiration of the contract.
- (jj)(ii) "Futures Commission Merchant" or "FCM" shall have the meaning set forth in CFTC Regulation 1.3.
- (kk)(jj) "Guaranty Fund" refers to the fund comprised of contributions by FCM Clearing Members established by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in accordance with Rule 504 as a guaranty of FCM Clearing Members obligations to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (ll)(kk) "Guaranty Fund Deposit" means the amount required to be deposited with Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US by the FCM Clearing Member as a guaranty of its obligations to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US.
- (mm)(ll) "Government Agency" means the CFTC and/or any other governmental agency or department, including state agencies or departments for purposes of spot contracts, regulating the activities of a Clearing Member.

- (nn)(mm) "Initial Margin" means generally, a factored amount over the Maintenance Margin requirement calculated by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (oo)(nn) "Insolvent" and "Insolvency" means the Clearing Member has become the subject of a bankruptcy petition, receivership proceeding, or an equivalent proceeding.
- (pp)(oo) "LLC Agreement" means the Limited Liability Company Agreement of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, as amended or restated from time to time.
- (qq)(pp) "Margin" means funds or the applicable amount of Collateral required to collateralize Contracts as set forth in Rule 403.
- (rr)(qq)"Maintenance Margin" means the minimum amount of Margin equity calculated by Cboe Clear US required to be maintained in an account.
- (ss)(rr) "Member Property Account" means an account established by a Clearing Member with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in which the Clearing Member maintains trades, positions and Margin solely on its own behalf.
- (tt)(ss) "Minimum Guaranty Fund Requirement" means the base amount as established by the Clearinghouse from time to time to be deposited by all FCM Clearing Members as part of the Clearinghouse's pre-funded financial resources for the purposes of managing FCM Clearing Members in Default.
- (uu)(tt) "Obligations" means all financial obligations of a Clearing Member, however arising, whether absolute or contingent, direct or indirect, due or to become due, arising under these Rules or such Clearing Member's agreements with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (vv)(uu) "Officer" has the meaning set forth in Rule 204.
- (ww)(vv) "Person" means an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, association, firm, trust, corporation or other entity, as the context may require.
- (xx)(ww) "Regulations" means rules, regulations, guidance, or advisories promulgated by the CFTC or any applicable state or federal agency.
- (yy)(xx) "Removal Event" means (a) the termination of the Clearing Member Agreement; (b) a materially false or misleading representation or warranty made by the Clearing Member to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US under or in connection with any agreement between Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US and the Clearing Member; (c) the breach by the Clearing Member of the Rules or any of the terms or provisions of any agreement between Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US and the Clearing Member which is not remedied promptly after notice from Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US; (d) a material violation of the rules of the Exchange, or (e) a Default by the Clearing Member.
- "Rule" means a Rule of Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US either contained in this Rulebook or in guidance or notices from Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US.

- "Self-Regulatory Organization" shall mean any futures or securities exchange, derivatives clearing organization, securities clearing agency, or National Futures Association.
- (bbb)(aaa) "Settlement Price" has the meaning set forth in Rule 409.
- (ccc)(bbb) "State Regulation" means, with respect to states in which Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US is licensed to operate as a money transmitter or otherwise permitted to engage in a virtual currency business, any regulation related thereto.
- (ddd)(ccc) "Swap" has the meaning set forth in CFTC Regulation 1.3.
- (eee)(ddd) "Transfer Trade" has the meaning set forth in Rule 408.
- (fff)(eee) "UCC" means the Uniform Commercial Code as in effect in the State of Illinois.
- (ggg)(fff) "Virtual Currency" means any digital representation of value that functions as a medium of exchange, and any other digital unit of account that is used as a form of a currency (i.e., transferred from one party to another as a medium of exchange); may be manifested through units, tokens, or coins, among other things; and may be distributed by way of digital "smart contracts," among other structures.

# 102. Interpretation.

In these Rules, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, (a) words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular, (b) any gender includes each other gender, (c) references to statutory provisions include those provisions, and any rules or regulations promulgated thereunder, as amended, and (d) all uses of the word "including" should be construed to mean "including, but not limited to." Headings included herein are for convenience purposes only and do not form a part of these Rules.

# 103. Date and Time References.

Unless otherwise specified, all references to dates, times or time periods shall refer to, or be measured in accordance with the time in Chicago, Illinois.

### 104. Conflicts.

In the event of a conflict between any Rules of general application and the Rules relating to particular types of transactions, the transaction-specific Rules will prevail.

# 2. GOVERNANCE

### 201. Purpose, Powers and Authority.

- (a) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US is registered with the CFTC as a Derivatives Clearing Organization. Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US operates to clear Contracts for its Clearing Members.
- (b) Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US has the power and authority to operate and regulate its clearing and settlement facilities to ensure that such facilities are not used for any improper

- purpose and to establish and enforce Rules and procedures to reduce systemic risk and facilitate the orderly clearing of Contracts through Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US by Clearing Members.
- (c) These Rules specify the process by which a Person may become a Clearing Member and the terms and conditions on which Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US will clear Contracts. These Rules are binding on all Clearing Members.

# 202. Board

The Board shall have control and management of the affairs and business of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US and shall have the powers and duties set forth in the LLC Agreement. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Board shall have the power to: (a) adopt, amend, implement and repeal such Rules, as will in its judgment best promote and safeguard the interests of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US; and (b) render interpretations of the Rules, which shall be binding on all Persons having dealings with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, including Direct Clearing Members, FCM Clearing Members, and their Customers.

## 203. Committees

- (a) The Risk Management Committee is a permanent Committee of the Board.
- (b) The Default Management Committee is a permanent committee of the Risk Management Committee, appointed by and functioning under the authority of the RiskCo, responsible for overseeing Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US's default management process and related policies and procedures, and its default management drills.
- (c) The Board may establish such additional Committee(s) as it may from time to time deem necessary or advisable and appoint Board members or other individuals to serve on such Committees and delegate powers to one or more Committees.
- (d) A Committee shall operate in accordance with its charter or powers as otherwise delegated to it by the Board and shall take such actions as may be required by the Rules.
- (e) All information and documents provided to a Committee and all deliberations and documents related thereto shall be treated as non-public and confidential and shall not be disclosed, except as required by Applicable Law or as necessary to further the business and affairs of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or Cboe Digital Exchange.
- (f) The actions of each Committee shall be the subject to final review by the Board.

### 204. Officers

The Board shall appoint Officers of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, as it may deem necessary or appropriate from time to time, and delegate to such Officers, subject to its oversight, the power and authority to manage the business and affairs of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US and to establish and enforce rules and procedures for the conduct of business by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US. Any Officer may also be a director, officer, partner or employee of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or any of its affiliates.

At all times, Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US shall have a Chief Risk Officer, Chief Compliance Officer, and a designated senior officer of the company (whether CEO, President, COO, or other).

# 205. Eligibility of Officers and Board Members

No Person may serve as an Officer or a member of the Board, or any other disciplinary committee, arbitration panel or oversight panel if such Person:

- (a) Was found within the past three years by a final decision of a self-regulatory organization, an administrative law judge, a court of competent jurisdiction or the CFTC to have committed a substantive disciplinary offense;
- (b) Entered into a settlement agreement within the past three years in which any of the findings or, in absence of such findings, any of the acts charged included a disciplinary offense;
- (c) Is currently suspended from trading on any market subject to CEA regulation, is suspended or expelled from membership from any self-regulatory organization, is serving any sentence of probation or owes any portion of a fine imposed pursuant to either:
  - (i) A finding by a final decision of a self-regulatory organization, an administrative law judge, a court of competent jurisdiction or the CFTC that such Person committed a disciplinary offense; or
  - (ii) A settlement agreement in which any of the findings or, in absence of such findings, any of the acts charged included a disciplinary offense;
- (d) Is currently subject to an agreement with the CFTC or any self-regulatory organization not to apply for registration with the CFTC or membership in any self-regulatory organization;
- (e) Is currently subject to or has had imposed on him or her within the past three years a CFTC registration revocation or suspension in any capacity for any reason, or has been convicted within the past three years of any of the felonies listed in section 8a(2)(D)(ii) through (iv) of the CEA;
- (f) Is currently subject to a denial, suspension or disqualification from serving on the disciplinary committee, arbitration panel or governing board of any self- regulatory organization as that term is defined in section 3(a)(26) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; or
- (g) Otherwise fails to fulfill reasonable fitness standards of the Clearinghouse, as may be determined and modified at the discretion of the Clearinghouse.

Any Officer or member of the Board, disciplinary committee, arbitration panel or oversight panel, or holder of 10% or more ownership interest in Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, and any individual nominated to serve in any such role, shall immediately notify the Chief Compliance Officer if such individual meets one or more of the criteria in Rule 205(a)-(g). For purposes of this Rule 205, the terms "self-regulatory organization," "disciplinary committee," "arbitration panel," "oversight panel," "final decision," "disciplinary offense," and "settlement agreement" have the meanings set forth in CFTC Regulation 1.63(a), as amended from time to time.

# 206. Conflicts of Interest and Misuse of Material, Non-Public Information.

- (a) No Officer, Director, or member of a Committee or "disciplinary committee" or "oversight panel" (each as defined in CFTC Regulation 1.69) shall knowingly participate in the relevant body's deliberations or voting in any matter involving an inquiry, investigation, disciplinary proceeding or any appeal from a disciplinary proceeding, summary suspension, other summary action, or any other matter appropriately the subject of the Officer's, Director's or member's authorization under Rules 202, 203 and 204, as applicable (each an "Action" and, collectively, "Actions") or Emergency action taken pursuant to Rule 207 (each such Action or Emergency action, a "Self-Regulatory Action") where such member has a "material conflict of interest" (each, an "Interested Person"), except as described in Rule 206(d).
- (b) For purposes of Rule 206(a), a "material conflict of interest" means an Officer, Director, or member of a Committee or disciplinary committee or oversight panel:
  - (i) having a direct and substantial financial interest in the result of the deliberations or vote based upon either exchange or non-exchange positions (as referenced in CFTC Regulation 1.69), other than a direct or indirect equity or other interest in Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, that could reasonably be expected to be affected by the Self-Regulatory Action, as determined pursuant to Rule 206(c)(i) below. A direct and substantial financial interest includes positions in Contracts in accounts of, controlled by, or affiliated with the Interested Person or in any other types of direct and substantial financial positions of the Interested Person that are reasonably expected to be affected by the deliberations or vote;
  - (ii) being named as a respondent or potential respondent in the Self-Regulatory Action;
  - (iii) being an employer, employee, fellow employee or an Affiliate of a respondent or potential respondent in the Self-Regulatory Action;
  - (iv) having any significant, ongoing business relationship with a respondent or potential respondent in the Self-Regulatory Action, excluding relationships limited to executing Contracts opposite each other or to clearing Contracts through the same Clearing Firm;
  - (v) having a family relationship with a respondent or potential respondent in a Self-Regulatory Action (including the individual's spouse, co-habitator, former spouse, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, sibling, step-brother, step-sister, grandparent, grandchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law or sister-in-law); and/or
  - (vi) any other circumstance that gives rise to a conflict between the Officer's, Director's or member's exercise of authority concerning any Self-Regulatory Action and his or her personal interests.
- (c) Disclosure and Determination of Conflicts. Prior to consideration of any Self-Regulatory Action, each member of the deliberating body who chooses to participate in any

deliberations or vote will disclose to the Chief Compliance Officer if such member has one of the relationships listed in Rule 206(b) above.

- (i) For any matter involving the relationship set forth in Rule 206(b)(i), each member of the deliberating body who chooses to participate in any deliberations or vote will disclose to the Chief Compliance Officer position information (including information regarding positions held by such member, positions held by individuals of such member's family and positions held by a firm with which such member is affiliated) that is known to such member with respect to any particular month or months that are under consideration, and any other positions which the deliberating body reasonably expects could be affected by the significant action, as follows:
  - 1) gross positions held at the Clearinghouse in such member's personal accounts or "controlled accounts," as defined in CFTC Regulation 1.3(j);
  - 2) gross positions held at the Clearinghouse in proprietary accounts, as defined in CFTC Regulation 1.17(b)(3), at such member's affiliated firm;
  - gross positions held at the Clearinghouse in accounts in which such member is a principal, as defined in CFTC Regulation 3.1(a);
  - 4) net positions held at the Clearinghouse in Customer accounts, as defined in CFTC Regulation 1.17(b)(2), at such member's affiliated firm; and
  - 5) any other types of positions, whether maintained at the Clearinghouse or elsewhere, held in such member's personal accounts or the proprietary accounts of such member's affiliated firm, that the Clearinghouse reasonably expects could be affected by the significant action.
- (d) Procedure. The Chief Compliance Officer will determine whether any member of the relevant deliberating body who chooses to participate in any deliberations or vote in a Self-Regulatory Action is subject to a conflict restriction under Rule 206(a).
  - (i) For any matter involving the relationships listed in Rule 206(b) above, such determination will be based upon a review of the following information:
    - 1) information provided by such member pursuant to Rule 206(c); and
    - 2) any other source of information that is held by and reasonably available to the Clearinghouse.
  - (ii) In addition to the review of the information set forth in Rule 206(c)(i) above, for any matter involving the relationship set forth in Rule 206(b)(i), such determination will be based upon a review of the following information:
    - 1) Information provided to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US by the Exchange, or information related to trading and clearing records from the Exchange;
    - 2) information provided pursuant to Rule 206(c)(i); and,

- 3) any other source of information that is held by and reasonably available to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US taking into consideration the exigency of the significant action being contemplated.
- (e) Any Interested Person who would be required otherwise to abstain from deliberations and voting pursuant to Rule 206(a) as a result of having a direct and substantial financial interest in the result of the deliberations and vote may participate in deliberations, prior to a vote on the matter, if the deliberating body, after considering the factors specified below, determines that such participation would be consistent with the public interest; provided however, that before reaching any such determination, the deliberating body will fully consider the position information specified in Rule 206(c)(i) above which is the basis of such member's substantial financial interest in the Self-Regulatory Action that is being contemplated. In making its determination, the deliberating body will consider:
  - (i) whether such member's participation in the deliberations is necessary to achieve a quorum; and;
  - (ii) whether such member has unique or special expertise, knowledge or experience in the matter being considered.
- (f) The minutes of any meeting to which the conflicts determination procedures set forth in this Rule 206 apply will reflect the following information:
  - (i) the names of all members of the relevant deliberating body who attended such meeting in person or who otherwise participated in such meeting
  - (ii) the name of any member of the relevant deliberating body who voluntarily recused himself or herself or was required to abstain from deliberations or voting on a matter and the reason for the recusal or abstention, if stated;
  - (iii) information on the position information that was reviewed for each member of the relevant deliberating body; and
  - (iv) any determination made in accordance with Rule 206(d) and (e) above.
- (g) If a determination is made that all members of the relevant deliberating body are Interested Persons with respect to a matter subject to a vote by the Board, the Chief Compliance Officer will appoint a panel of individuals who are not Interested Persons with respect to such matter, which will have the same authority and powers over such matter that the Committee would have if the members were not Interested Persons with respect to such matter.
- (h) No Director, Officer or member of any committee or panel established by the Board shall use or disclose for any purpose other than the performance of his or her official duties and responsibilities as an Officer or committee or panel member any material, non-public information obtained as a result of the individual's duties and responsibilities as an Officer or committee or panel member. No Director, Officer or committee or panel member shall, directly or indirectly, disclose or use at any time, either during his or her association with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, or thereafter, any confidential information of which the

Board member or committee or panel member becomes aware. Each Director, Officer or committee or panel member in possession of confidential information shall take all appropriate steps to safeguard the information and to protect it against disclosure, misuse, loss and theft.

- (i) Notwithstanding Rule 206(h), a Director, Officer or committee or panel member may disclose confidential information if required by law or a court order to be revealed to the United States Department of Justice or the CFTC.
- (j) For the purposes of Rule 206(h), the terms "material information" and "nonpublic information" shall each have the meaning set forth in CFTC Regulation 1.59(a).

# 207. Emergencies.

- (a) During an Emergency, the Board may implement temporary emergency procedures and rules ("Emergency Rules"), subject to applicable provisions of the CEA and CFTC Regulations. If an Officer of the Clearinghouse determines that Emergency Rules must be implemented with respect to an Emergency before a meeting of the Board can reasonably be convened, then the Officer, in consultation and with the approval of the Chief Compliance Officer, shall have the authority, without Board action, to implement any Emergency Rules with respect to such Emergency that he or she deems necessary or appropriate to respond to such Emergency.
- (b) Pursuant to this Rule 207, Emergency Rules may require or authorize Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, the Board, any Committee, or the Officers of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US to take actions necessary or appropriate to respond to the Emergency, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - (i) Suspending or curtailing clearing or limiting clearing to liquidation only (in whole or in part);
  - (ii) Extending or shortening the expiration date and/or the last settlement date for Contracts;
  - (iii) Providing alternative settlement mechanisms;
  - (iv) Ordering the liquidation of Contracts, the fixing of a Settlement Price, or the reduction of positions;
  - (v) Extending, limiting or changing the hours of operation of Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US;
  - (vi) Temporarily modifying or suspending any provision of the Rules;
  - (vii) Changing the amount of money to be paid in connection with a Contract, whether previously or thereafter delivered; and/or
  - (viii) Requiring Clearing Members to meet special Margin requirements.

- (c) For the purposes of this Rule 207, "Emergency" is defined as any occurrence or circumstances which, in the opinion of the Board, an Officer, or a Committee or Exchange Committee, requires immediate action, and that threatens, or may threaten, the fair and orderly settlement or integrity of any Contract, including, without limitation, the following:
  - (i) Any circumstance that may materially affect the performance of a Contract;
  - (ii) Any action taken by the United States government, a foreign government, Government Agency, Self-Regulatory Organization, state or local governmental body, or market or exchange (foreign or domestic) that may have a material adverse effect on the clearing of Contracts through Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or the settlement, legality or enforceability of any Contract;
  - (iii) Any actual, attempted, or threatened corner, squeeze, congestion, manipulative activity or undue concentration of positions in a Contract;
  - (iv) Any circumstance that may have a severe, adverse effect upon the functions and facilities of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, including, but not limited to, acts of God, pandemics, fire or other natural disasters, bomb threats, acts of terrorism or war, severely inclement weather, or failure or malfunction of all or a portion of the clearing systems of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, or other system breakdowns or interruptions such as power, computer, communication or transportation systems or the Internet;
  - (v) The Insolvency of any Clearing Member or the imposition of any injunction or other restraint by any Government Agency, court or arbitrator upon a Clearing Member which may affect the ability of a Clearing Member to satisfy its Obligations;
  - (vi) Any circumstance in which it appears to the Board that a Clearing Member:
    - 1) Has failed to perform on a Contract;
    - 2) Is Insolvent;
    - 3) Is otherwise in Default;
    - 4) Is in such financial or operational condition or is conducting business such that the Clearing Member cannot be permitted to continue in business without jeopardizing the safety of funds of Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US, Clearing Members or the funds of Customers; or
  - (vii) Any other unusual, unforeseeable or adverse circumstance as determined by the Board or the Officers of the Clearinghouse. When Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US determines that the Emergency has been reduced sufficiently to allow Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US to resume normal functioning, any such actions will be terminated.

- (d) Whenever Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US takes action to respond to an Emergency (including, without limitation, the actions set forth in paragraph (b) above), it will, where possible, ensure that notice is timely given to Clearing Members
- (e) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US will use reasonable efforts to notify the CFTC prior to implementing, modifying or terminating an Emergency Rule. If such prior notification is not possible or practicable, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US will notify the CFTC as soon as reasonably practicable, but in all circumstances within twenty-four hours of the implementation, modification or termination of such Emergency Rule. In all cases, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US will act in accordance with CFTC rules on Emergency rule certifications under CFTC Regulation 40.6.
- (f) Upon taking any action in response to an Emergency, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US will document the decisions and deliberations related to such action. Such documentation will be kept for at least five years, consistent with the Clearinghouse Recordkeeping Policy, following the date on which the Emergency ceases to exist or to affect Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, and all such documentation will be provided to the CFTC upon request.

# 208. Maintenance of Books and Records by the Clearinghouse

- (a) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall keep, or cause to be kept, complete and accurate books and records of accounts of the Clearinghouse, including, without limitation, all books and records required to be maintained pursuant to the CEA, CFTC Regulations, and State Regulations.
- (b) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall retain all such books and records for at least five (5) years, or such longer period as may be required under Applicable Law, and shall make such books and records readily accessible for inspection by the CFTC, the United States Department of Justice or such other governmental or regulatory authority, as required under Applicable Law.

# 3. CLEARING MEMBERS

# 301. General Eligibility Requirements of Clearing Members.

- (a) The Clearinghouse imposes eligibility requirements for Clearing Members, and may modify these requirements in order to maintain an orderly clearing process and mitigate risk to the Clearinghouse and other Clearing Members.
- (b) All Clearing Members and prospective Clearing Members who wish to enter into a Clearing Member Agreement will be subject to Clearinghouse Anti-Money Laundering policies and procedures, designed to achieve and monitor compliance with the requirements of the Bank Secrecy Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder, or otherwise, by the Department of the Treasury or other federal agencies and bureaus.
- (c) All Clearing Members are subject to Rules, as well as all rules of the Exchange, whether contained in the Exchange Rulebook, or in Exchange guidance or notices.

- (d) All Clearing Members adhere to Applicable Law and supervises persons associated with the Clearing Member as to assure compliance therewith.
- (e) Each applicant for qualification as a Clearing Member must satisfy the following requirements at the time of application, and at all times as a Clearing Member:
  - (i) Applicant must not be subject to any economic or trade sanctions programs administered by OFAC or other relevant U.S. or non-U.S. authority and must not be listed on OFAC's List of Specially-Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons;
  - (ii) It shall enter into a Clearing Member Agreement with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, pursuant to which it shall agree, among other things, to: (1) abide by all Applicable Law, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US Rules and to cooperate in their enforcement; (2) be responsible, even after it has withdrawn as a Clearing Member, for any violations of Applicable Law, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US Rules committed by it while it was a Clearing Member; and (3) continue to meet all requirements applicable to Clearing Members, including all financial requirements provided by these Rules;
  - (iii) It shall have received all necessary approvals and consents from all applicable regulatory authorities and Government Agencies to permit it to conduct the business of a Clearing Member;
  - (iv) Applicant must have one or more accounts that has been approved by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US for purposes of depositing and withdrawing funds or Collateral at Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US;
  - (v) It shall be engaged in or demonstrate immediate capacity to engage in the conduct of the business of a Clearing Member;
  - (vi) Applicant must not be prohibited from using the services of the Exchange for any reason whatsoever;
  - (vii) It shall continuously satisfy any minimum commercial, integrity, financial, credit, operational capability and competence standards, as may be established by Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US from time to time;
  - (viii) Applicant must maintain adequate financial resources and credit as may be determined by the Clearinghouse from time to time and published on the Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US website; and
  - (ix) Applicant must not have filed for bankruptcy, and not be subject to a current bankruptcy proceeding.
- (f) In addition to the requirements set forth in paragraph (e), each applicant for qualification as an FCM Clearing Member must satisfy the following requirements at the time of application, and at all times as an FCM Clearing Member:

- (i) It shall be a corporation, limited liability company, partnership or other entity approved by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, duly organized and in good standing in its state of organization;
- (ii) It shall maintain back-office facilities staffed with experienced and competent personnel or have entered into a facilities management agreement in form and substance acceptable to <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a>;
- (iii) It shall maintain minimum regulatory capital in excess of the greater of (1) \$5,000,000 and (2) any applicable capital requirements imposed on applicant by the CFTC, another Government Agency or Self- Regulatory Organization; and
- (iv) It shall disclose whether the FCM Clearing Member applicant: (i) is subject to a statutory disqualification under Section 8a(2) of the CEA; (ii) has an affiliate subject to a statutory disqualification under Section 8a(2) of the CEA; or (iii) has a principal, or an affiliate with a principal, subject to a statutory disqualification under Section 8a(2) of the CEA. The Clearinghouse shall not admit as an FCM Clearing Member any applicant that discloses a disqualification in (i)-(iii) of this subparagraph (f)(iv).
- (g) In addition to the requirements set forth in paragraph (e), each applicant for qualification as a Direct Clearing Member must satisfy the following requirements at the time of application, and at all times as a Direct Clearing Member:
  - (i) Have the ability to make and take delivery of any Contract in which it trades;
  - (ii) Have banking relationships sufficient to deposit U.S. dollars with the Clearinghouse settlement bank;
  - (iii) On a daily basis reconcile its records against those of the Clearinghouse;
  - (iv) Provide updated positions each business day by the time established by the Clearinghouse;
  - (v) Identify an Authorized Representative to be contacted in the event of any issues related to clearing.
- (h) The Board may, in its sole discretion, grant exemptions or guidance to the requirements set forth in this Rule 301 for Clearing Members if it determines that such an exemption will not jeopardize the financial integrity of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US. Additionally, the Board, with input from the Risk Management Committee, may require applicants meet additional requirements, provide additional information for evaluation, or refuse to admit any Person as a Clearing Member if, at their sole and absolute discretion, they determine that admission of such Person would undermine the financial integrity or reputation of the Clearinghouse.

# 302. Application and Approval of Clearing Member Status.

(a) Applicants for Clearing Member status shall submit an application in the form prescribed by Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US, financial statements and any other documentation as

- Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US shall require and shall enter into a Clearing Member Agreement with Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US.
- (b) Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US may review the books and records of any applicant or Clearing Member and take such other action as it may deem appropriate to investigate an applicant's or Clearing Member's qualifications. FCM Clearing Members shall, at time of application and thereafter as required by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, submit statements of its financial condition and other financial records as shall be prescribed from time to time.
- (c) <u>Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US</u> shall have the sole discretion to determine whether any applicant, or any existing Clearing Member, meets its clearing privileges qualifications. The Clearinghouse shall have no liability to any applicant or Clearing Member who is denied or loses Clearing Member status.
- (d) The Board, or if such responsibility is delegated, then its Committee shall have final authority to grant or deny an application to become a Clearing Member and shall deny the application of any Person which does not meet the eligibility requirements established pursuant to Rules 301, 302 and 303.
- (e) If the Board or its Committee grants an application to become a Clearing Member, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall promptly give the applicant written notice thereof. The applicant shall thereafter become a Clearing Member at such time as the applicant has filed with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US such agreements and documents, and performed such undertakings as Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may require; provided, however, that if such applicant has not complied with the foregoing provisions within 30 days after the applicant was given written notice of approval of its application, the application shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.
- (f) If, in accordance with paragraph (d) of this Rule 302, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US denies an application to become a Clearing Member, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall give the applicant notice of its decision, setting forth the grounds therefor, and such decision shall be the final action of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (g) By virtue of obtaining clearing privileges, a Clearing Member shall not obtain any equity or other interest in <a href="Coboc Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a>, including voting rights or rights to receive any dividends or other distributions, whether arising from a dissolution, merger, consolidation involving <a href="Coboc Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a> or otherwise. All such rights shall be owned exclusively by the members of <a href="Coboc Clear US">Cboe Clear US</a>, as specified in the LLC Agreement.

# 303. Duties and Responsibilities of Clearing Members.

(a) Any Person initiating or executing a transaction in Contracts to be cleared by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, and any Person for whose benefit such a transaction has been initiated or executed, expressly consents to the jurisdiction of the Clearinghouse and agrees to be bound by and comply with the Rules of the Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in relation to such transactions and Contracts, including, but not limited to, rules requiring

cooperation and participation in investigatory and disciplinary processes. Each Clearing Member shall:

- (i) Comply with and act in a manner consistent with, and cause its Authorized Representatives and employees to comply with an act in a manner consistent with, the Rules;
- (ii) Guarantee and assume responsibility for all Contracts submitted by it or for which it authorizes another Person to submit in its name for clearing;
- (iii) Keep the passwords assigned by Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US confidential;
- (iv) At all times maintain one or more accounts that has been approved by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US for purposes of depositing and withdrawing funds or Collateral at Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, and promptly inform Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US of any changes to any of the foregoing account(s)
- (v) Promptly review and, if necessary, respond to all communications sent by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US;
- (vi) Be responsible for violations of the Rules committed by it, its Authorized Representative or employees;
- (vii) Not knowingly mislead or conceal any material fact or matter in any dealings or filings with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or in response to any proceeding;
- (viii) Cooperate with Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US and any Government Agency in any inquiry, investigation, audit, examination or proceeding;
- (ix) Observe high standards of integrity, commercial honor, fair dealing, and just and equitable principles of trade in relation to any aspect of its business connected with or concerning Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (b) In addition to the requirements in subparagraph (a), each FCM Clearing Member shall also:
  - (i) Provide appropriate staff to be available during specified hours, on Business Days and otherwise, when such is deemed necessary by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US to ensure the integrity of its systems or as otherwise deemed necessary for the protection of the Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US;
  - (ii) Have written risk management policies and procedures in place to ensure it is able to perform certain basic risk and operational functions at all times and to make information regarding its risk management policies, procedures and practices available to <a href="Cboe-Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe-Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a> or the CFTC upon request. At a minimum, the following areas must be addressed in the Clearing Member's policies and procedures, taking into account the Clearing Member's business and products offered for clearing:
    - 1) Monitoring the credit risks of accepting trades, including give-up trades, of its Customers;

- 2) Monitoring the risks associated with proprietary trading;
- 3) Limiting the impact of significant market moves through the use of tools such as stress testing or position limits;
- 4) Maintaining the ability to monitor account activity on an intraday and overnight basis;
- 5) Ensuring order entry systems, including third party systems connected to any exchange, include the ability to set automated credit controls or position limits or requiring a firm employee to enter orders; and
- 6) Defining sources of liquidity for increased settlement obligations.
- (iii) Develop and implement a written anti-money laundering compliance program approved in writing by senior management reasonably designed to achieve and monitor the Clearing Member's compliance with all applicable requirements of the Bank Secrecy Act (31 U.S.C. § 5311 et seq.), the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. § 1701 et seq.) ("IEEPA"), the Trading with the Enemy Act (50 U.S.C. App. § 1 et seq.) ("TWEA"), and the Executive Orders and regulations issued pursuant thereto, including the regulations issued by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and, as applicable, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.
- (iv) File any information requested by the Clearinghouse within the time period specified in the request.
- (v) Maintain at all times the ability to provide to the Clearinghouse in an acceptable form a complete set of equity systems reports (including, at a minimum, the equity run, open position listing, day trade listing, cash adjustments listing and performance bond call and debit equity listing). Such reports shall be available to the Clearinghouse no later than 8:00 a.m. CT on the business day following the report date.
- (vi) Submit to the Clearinghouse on each business day, at or prior to the time and in the form and manner specified by the Clearinghouse, daily reports that include all information required by the Clearinghouse, including end-of-day gross positions by each house origin, by each customer origin and by each individual customer-level account within each customer origin. Daily reporting of individual customer-level account information pursuant to this paragraph does not oblige an FCM Clearing Member to look through an omnibus account that it clears for a carrying broker to the underlying customer account.
- (vii) Accurately report large trader positions and, where applicable, long positions eligible for delivery consistent with required submission deadlines.
- (viii) Submit to the Clearinghouse, at or prior to the time and in the form and manner specified by the Clearinghouse, CFTC Form 102 identifying the owner, any

- controlling parties and any additional required information for each reportable account.
- (ix) By the close of trading three Business Days prior to the last day of trading in any contract that is physically delivered, assess the ability of any owner of an account on its books with open positions in the expiring contract to make or take delivery. Absent evidence of receiving satisfactory information from the account owner or controller, the FCM Clearing Member is responsible for ensuring that the open positions are liquidated in an orderly manner prior to the expiration of trading.
- (x) Report to the Clearinghouse each business day a complete and accurate inventory of all open positions carried by the FCM Clearing Member in a manner and time as determined by the Clearinghouse.
- (c) In addition to the requirements in subparagraph (a) and (b) above, an FCM Clearing Member carrying an account that is required to make or take delivery shall:
  - (i) Guarantee and assume full responsibility for the performance of all delivery requirements set forth in the Rules, including the delivery obligations of any Customers authorized as EDMs (i.e., EDM Customers).
  - (ii) Ensure that its EDM Customers comply with all delivery obligations set forth in the Rules, including but not limited to, ensuring that at all times its EDM Customers that may ultimately make or take delivery in an expiring contract have the operational capability to fully satisfy their delivery obligations.
  - (iii) Satisfy all delivery requirements set forth in Rule 410.

## 304. Authorized Representative.

- (a) Each Clearing Member shall designate one or more Authorized Representatives to sign all instruments, correct errors, perform such other duties as may be required under the Rules and transact all business in connection with the operations of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US. Such designations are not final. They will be reviewed by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US and accepted or declined. Each Clearing Member must provide Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US with current contact and other requested information for each of its Authorized Representatives.
- (b) To designate an Authorized Representative, a Clearing Member must provide the information requested and conform to the procedures and requirements established by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US. By agreeing to become an Authorized Representative, an individual agrees to be bound by the duties and responsibilities of an Authorized Representative and to be subject to, and comply with, the Rules and Obligations to the extent applicable.
- (c) <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> will promptly notify a Clearing Member of the approval of nominated Authorized Representatives and will maintain a list of all approved Authorized Representatives for each Clearing Member. <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> shall promptly notify the Clearing Member if <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> (i) declines

- to approve the designation, (ii) revokes the designation, or (iii) suspends the designation of an Authorized Representative.
- (d) An Authorized Representative who is suspended remains subject to the Rules and Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US's jurisdiction throughout the period of suspension.
- (e) To request the termination of the designation of an Authorized Representative, the Clearing Member or the Authorized Representative must notify Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US providing the information and complying with the procedures and requirements established by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (f) An Authorized Representative remains subject to the Rules and the jurisdiction of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US for acts done and omissions made while registered as such, and a proceeding relating to an individual whose designation as an Authorized Representative has been terminated or suspended shall occur as if the Authorized Representative were still registered as such.

#### 305. Adequate Assurances

If <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> has reason to believe that a Clearing Member may fail to comply with any of the Rules, it may require the Clearing Member to provide it, within such time frame, in such detail, and in such manner as <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> shall determine, with adequate assurances that the Clearing Member shall not violate any of the Rules.

# 306. Notices Required of Clearing Members.

- (a) Each Clearing Member, if applicable, shall immediately notify Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US of:
  - (i) Any Default of the Clearing Member or any failure or inability of the Clearing Member to meet its Obligations;
  - (ii) Any failure to maintain current books and records;
  - (iii) Any refusal of admission to, withdrawal of any application for membership in, any suspension, expulsion, bar, fine, censure, denial of membership, registration or license, withdrawal of any application for registration, cease and desist order, temporary or permanent injunction, denial of trading privileges or clearing privileges, or any other sanction or discipline through an adverse determination, voluntary settlement or otherwise, by the CFTC, the SEC, any commodity or securities exchange, clearing organization, any Self-Regulatory Organization or other business or professional association;
  - (iv) The imposition of any restriction or limitation on the business conducted by the Clearing Member on or with any securities or futures clearing organization or exchange (including, without limitation, any contract market, swap execution facility or other trading facility), other than restrictions or limitations imposed generally on all Clearing Members of or Clearing Members of such clearing organization or exchange;

- (v) Any failure by such Clearing Member, or any guarantor or commonly owned or controlled Clearing Member, to perform any of its material contracts, obligations or agreements;
- (vi) Any determination that it, or any guarantor or commonly owned or controlled Clearing Member, will be unable to perform any of its material contracts, obligations or agreements;
- (vii) The insolvency, bankruptcy or receivership of such Clearing Member, or of any guarantor or commonly owned or controlled Clearing Member;
- (viii) The institution of any proceeding by or against the Clearing Member, any affiliate of the Clearing Member, or any 5% direct owner of the Clearing Member, under any provision of the bankruptcy laws of the United States, or under the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970, any other statute or equitable power of a court of like nature or purpose, in which such Clearing Member or Person is designated as the bankrupt, debtor or equivalent, or a receiver is appointed, or if a receiver, trustee or similar official is appointed for the Clearing Member, such Person, or its or their property;
- (ix) The receipt by such Clearing Member, or the filing by such Clearing Member with a Self-Regulatory Organization, of a notice of material inadequacy, including as provided in CFTC Regulation 1.16(d)(2) or SEC Rule 17a-5(g)(3), in each case as applicable to such Clearing Member;
- (x) The receipt by such Clearing Member from its independent auditors of an audit opinion that is not unqualified;
- (xi) The cessation by such Clearing Member of its clearing of trades for a trading privilege holder of the Exchange; or
- (xii) Any other event(s), transpired or imminent, that may or will lead to Default.
- (b) In addition to the requirements above, an FCM Clearing Member shall promptly provide written notice to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US of:
  - (i) Any reduction in adjusted net capital of 20 percent or more as reported on its Form 1-FR or net capital as reported on its FOCUS Report from the most recent filing of such report;
  - (ii) Any failure of the Clearing Member to remain in compliance with the minimum capital or "early warning" requirements of any Government Agency or Self-Regulatory Organization
  - (iii) such Clearing Member knows or has reason to believe that its adjusted net capital has fallen below Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US's minimum capital requirements;

- (iv) Any damage to, or failure or inadequacy of, the systems, facilities or equipment of the Clearing Member used to perform the Clearing Member's obligations under or in connection with Contracts or Customer Accounts that is not promptly remedied;
- (v) If such Clearing Member fails to comply with additional accounting, reporting, financial and/or operation requirements prescribed by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US;
- (vi) Any failure to maintain funds in any Customer Account sufficient to comply with applicable CFTC Regulations;
- (vii) Any planned material reduction in equity capital (and, in all cases, any planned reduction in equity capital that would cause a reduction in excess adjusted net capital, excess net capital or excess liquid capital of 30% or more), including the incurrence of a contingent liability which would materially affect the Clearing Member's capital or other representations contained in the latest financial statement submitted to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US should such liability become fixed; provided that no such notice shall be required in the case of a reduction in capital resulting from (1) the repayment or prepayment of subordinated liabilities for which notice has been given pursuant to applicable CFTC or SEC requirements, or (2) any futures or securities transaction in the ordinary course of business between a Clearing Member and any affiliate where the Clearing Member makes payment to or on behalf of such affiliate for such transaction and then receives payment from such affiliate for such transaction within two Business Days from the date of the transaction;
- (viii) Any change in the FCM Clearing Member's fiscal year or its public accountants;
- (ix) If any Person directly or indirectly becomes a 5% direct owner of the FCM Clearing Member;
- (x) Any changes in its name, business address, its telephone or facsimile number, electronic mail address, or any number or access code for any electronic communication device used by it to communicate with <a href="mailto:Cboe-Clear DigitalCboe-Clear US">Clear US</a>; or
- (xi) Any external audit findings (including reviews by the Clearing Member's designated Self-Regulatory Organization).
- (xii) Any default by a Customer of the FCM Clearing Member.
- (c) An FCM Clearing Member shall, unless it is impractical to do so (in which case it shall provide written notice to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US as promptly as possible), provide at least thirty days prior written notice to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, where applicable, of:
  - (i) Any proposed change in the organizational or ownership structure or management of the FCM Clearing Member, including any merger, combination or consolidation between the FCM Clearing Member and another Person;

- (ii) The assumption or guaranty by the FCM Clearing Member of all or substantially all of the liabilities of another Person in connection with a direct or indirect acquisition of all or substantially all of that Person's assets;
- (iii) The sale of all or a significant portion of the FCM Clearing Member's business or assets to another Person;
- (iv) A change in the direct or indirect beneficial ownership of 20% or more of the FCM Clearing Member;
- (v) Any change in the FCM Clearing Member's systems provider or facilities manager used by the FCM Clearing Member to process transactions in Contracts; or
- (vi) Any planned changes to the FCM Clearing Member's risk management processes or systems.
- Upon the receipt of a notice of the type set forth in paragraphs (a) (c) above, Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall review whether the Clearing Member meets the continuing eligibility requirements. Where such notice constitutes notice of a Default, Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US may take any or all of the actions as permitted by these Rules, including Rules 502 and 601.

## 307. Omnibus and Carrying Broker Accounts.

- (a) Each FCM Clearing Member shall maintain a complete list of all omnibus and carrying broker accounts maintained on its books. Such list shall be promptly provided to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US upon request. Information for each such account must include account name, number and address, and classification of the account as either Customer or house.
- (b) Each FCM Clearing Member carrying an omnibus account shall at all times reflect in its records the gross long and short positions held in such omnibus account.
- (c) Each FCM Clearing Member that maintains an omnibus account with another FCM Clearing Member shall also bear financial responsibility to Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US for that omnibus account.

#### 308. Financial Requirements of FCM Clearing Members.

- (a) FCM Clearing Members must at all times maintain minimum regulatory capital in excess of the greater of (i) \$5,000,000, and (ii) the capital requirements imposed by any Government Agency, Self-Regulatory Organization or other examining authority or regulator to which it is subject by statute, regulation or agreement. Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may prescribe additional capital requirements with respect to any FCM Clearing Member.
- (b) FCM Clearing Members shall:
  - (i) Submit a monthly Form 1-FR-FCM or a FOCUS Report and supplementary information schedule, in the form prescribed by the CFTC, including an unaudited

monthly Form 1-FR-FCM or FOCUS Report as of the FCM Clearing Member's fiscal year-end, within the time set forth in CFTC Regulation 1.10. An FCM Clearing Member must include with its Form 1-FR-FCM or FOCUS Report a Statement of Income (Loss) for the period between the date of the most recent 1-FR-FCM or FOCUS or, at the option of the FCM Clearing Member, the most recent certified 1-FR- FCM or FOCUS filed with Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US and the date for which the report is made;

- (ii) Submit a certified Form 1-FR-FCM or FOCUS Report as of the Clearing Member's fiscal year-end within the time requirements set forth in CFTC Regulation 1.10. An FCM Clearing Member must include with its certified Form 1-FR-FCM or FOCUS Report, a reconciliation from the certified Form 1-FR-FCM or FOCUS Report to the monthly Form 1-FR-FCM or FOCUS Report as of the same date or a statement that no material differences were noted.
- (c) <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> may prescribe additional accounting, reporting, and other financial and/or operational requirements, and FCM Clearing Members must comply with such requirements.
- (d) Financial statement filing requirements under this Rule must be met through Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US-approved electronic transmission, except for certified Form 1-FR-FCMs or FOCUS Reports, which shall be submitted in physical form. FCM Clearing Members must provide any reports or information pertaining to their financial resources to the CFTC upon request.
- (e) Exceptions to the financial and reporting requirements of this Rule 308 may be granted by the Board, in consultation with the Chief Compliance Officer, for good cause if it is determined that such exceptions will not jeopardize the financial integrity of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US.

#### 309. Customer Accounts and Member Property Accounts.

- (a) All Customer Funds deposited by an FCM Clearing Member with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US on behalf of futures Customers are protected by CFTC Regulation 1.20 and shall be held in accordance with the CEA and CFTC Regulation 1.20 in an account identified as "Customer Segregated." Such Customer funds shall be segregated from all other funds held by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US and treated as belonging to such Customers of the FCM Clearing Member. Pursuant to this Rule, a Clearing Member shall satisfy the segregation acknowledgment letter requirements of the CEA and CFTC Regulation 1.20 for Customer deposits held at Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (b) Customer Funds deposited by FCM Clearing Member with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US on behalf of swaps Customers are protected by CFTC Regulation 22.2 and shall be held in accordance with the CEA and CFTC Regulation 22.3 in an account identified as "Cleared Swaps Customer Account." Such Customer Funds shall be segregated from all other funds held by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US and treated as belonging to such Customers of the FCM Clearing Member. Pursuant to this Rule, a Clearing Member shall

satisfy the segregation acknowledgment letter requirements of the CEA and CFTC Regulation 22.5 for Customer deposits held at Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US.

- (c) All funds deposited by a Clearing Member with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US on behalf of the Clearing Member's own account shall be held in a Member Property Account or with regard to funds deposited for purposes of trading in a Cleared Swaps Member Property Account. Such Clearing Member funds shall be segregated from all other funds held by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US and treated as belonging to Clearing Members.
- (d) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US will, upon request by a Customer, promptly transfer, from the Customer Account of one FCM Clearing Member to the Customer Account of another FCM Clearing Member, all or a portion of such Customer's Contracts, in accordance with Rule 408(a)(i).

# 310. General Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements for Clearing Members.

- (a) Each Clearing Member shall prepare, maintain and keep current those books and records required by these Rules, the CEA, CFTC Regulations, and any applicable State Regulations. Such books and records shall be open to inspection and promptly provided to Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US, the CFTC or other Government Agency upon request.
- (b) Without limiting the foregoing, each Clearing Member shall make and retain records with respect to each trade showing the Contract, quantity, date, price, delivery month, the name or account identifier of any Customer for whom the trade was made and such other information as may be required by law, regulation, or by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US. Such records shall be retained for at least five years, either in original form or in such other form as Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may from time to time authorize.
- (c) Each FCM Clearing Member shall maintain an adequate accounting system, internal accounting controls, and procedures for safeguarding Customer and firm assets, where applicable. This includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - (i) Preparation and maintenance of complete and accurate reconciliations for all accounts; and
  - (ii) Resolution of reconciling items in a timely manner; and
  - (iii) Prevention of a material inadequacy as defined in CFTC Regulation 1.16(d)(2).
- (d) An FCM Clearing Member shall file any information requested by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US within the time period specified in the request and shall, at all times have the ability to provide to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in an acceptable form a complete set of back-office system reports (including, at a minimum, the equity run, open position listing, day trade listing, cash adjustments listing and debit equity listing, if applicable). Such reports shall be available to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US no later than 8:00 a.m. Chicago time on the Business Day following the report date.

(e) Each FCM Clearing Member shall at all times have the ability to provide promptly to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US upon request a listing of each of its Customers' method of access to the Exchange, including front end applications and network connections.

## 311. Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity FCM Clearing Members

- (a) Each FCM Clearing Member shall have written disaster recovery and business continuity policies and procedures reasonably designed to ensure it is able to perform certain basic operational functions in the event of a significant internal or external interruption to its operations. At a minimum, the following areas must be considered in the FCM Clearing Member's policies and procedures:
  - (i) The FCM Clearing Member must have procedures in place to allow it to continue to operate during periods of stress with minimal disruption to either Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or its Customers. The FCM Clearing Members must perform periodic testing, including testing with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US when so requested, of disaster recovery and business continuity plans, duplication of critical systems at back up sites and periodic backup of critical information; and
  - (ii) The FCM Clearing Member must maintain and, at the request of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, provide accurate and complete information for its key personnel. An FCM Clearing Member must inform Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in a timely manner whenever a change to its key personnel is made.
- (b) Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US may prescribe additional and/or alternative requirements for FCM Clearing Members' compliance with this Rule.
- (c) FCM Clearing Members must participate in coordinated testing of their disaster recovery and business continuity policies and procedures at least annually. An FCM Clearing Member can fulfill this requirement by participating in an industry-wide testing event in which Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or the Exchange also participates.

#### 312. Fees.

Choe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall have the right to invoice clients and accept payment via check, wire, or money transfer, or to offset any fees, charges or other amounts (other than fines or penalties) due to Choe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or due to the Exchange against a Clearing Member's Margin balance, and shall have the right to instruct an Approved Depository Institution, if applicable, to debit the Account maintained by an Clearing Member to offset any amounts due the Clearinghouse.

## 313. Segregation of Customer Funds and Assets for FCM Clearing Members.

(a) Each FCM Clearing Member must comply with the requirements of the CEA and CFTC Regulations regarding segregation of Customer Funds from the FCM Clearing Member's own funds or assets, including, but not limited to, CFTC Regulations 1.20 through 1.30, 1.32, and 30.7.

- (b) Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall comply with the applicable segregation requirements of Section 4d of the CEA and CFTC Regulations with respect to Customer Funds held by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US.
- (c) As used in this Chapter 3 of this Rulebook, "Customer Funds" has the same meaning as in CFTC Regulation 1.3.

#### 314. Access to Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US.

A Customer entering orders by electronic access must access Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US through the systems owned or sponsored by such Customer's FCM Clearing Member.

### 315. Digital Asset Collateral.

- (a) With respect to any digital asset Collateral, including, but not limited to, Bitcoin and Ether, which is or may be credited to any Clearing Member's Member Property Account, the following terms and conditions shall apply:
  - (i) For purposes of creating a "security entitlement" as such term is defined in Section 8-102(a)(17) of the UCC, the Clearinghouse and the Clearing Member agree that: (1) the digital asset Collateral shall be treated as a "financial asset" as such term is defined in Section 8-102(a)(9) of the UCC; and (2) each Clearing Member shall be treated as an "entitlement holder" as such term is defined in Section 8-102(a)(7) of the UCC.
  - (ii) Each Clearing Member acknowledges that the Clearinghouse is a "securities intermediary" as such term is defined in Section 8-102(a)(14) of the UCC.
  - (iii) Any digital asset Collateral which a Clearing Member desires be credited to such Clearing Member's Member Property Account shall be transferred to a digital asset wallet designated by the Clearinghouse and upon such transfer the Clearinghouse shall indicate by book entry that such digital asset Collateral, less applicable transfer costs and fees, has been credited to such Member Property Account.
- (b) With respect to any digital asset Collateral, including, but not limited to, Bitcoin, which is or may be credited to any Customer Account, the following terms and conditions shall apply:
  - (i) For purposes of creating a "security entitlement" as such term is defined in Section 8-102(a)(17) of the UCC, the Clearinghouse and the Customer and the relevant FCM Clearing Member all agree that: (1) the digital asset Collateral shall be treated as a "financial asset" as such term is defined in Section 8-102(a)(9) of the UCC; and (2) each FCM Clearing Member shall be treated as an "entitlement holder" as such term is defined in Section 8-102(a)(7) of the UCC.
  - (ii) Each Customer and each FCM Clearing Member acknowledges that the Clearinghouse is a "securities intermediary" as such term is defined in Section 8-102(a)(14) of the UCC.

- (iii) Any digital asset Collateral which an FCM Clearing Member desires be credited to any of such FCM Clearing Member's Customer Accounts shall be transferred to a digital asset wallet designated by the Clearinghouse and upon such transfer the Clearinghouse shall indicate by book entry that such digital asset Collateral, less applicable transfer costs and fees, has been credited to any of such Customer Accounts.
- (c) The Clearinghouse shall have only such duties and obligations with respect to each Member Property Account and Customer Account as are set forth in Article 8 of the UCC or otherwise mandated by Applicable Law. Each Clearing Member, including each FCM Clearing Member, and each Customer acknowledges and agrees that the Clearinghouse is not a fiduciary for any Clearing Member, including any FCM Clearing Member, or Customer.
- (d) The State of Illinois is the "securities intermediary's jurisdiction" within the meaning of Section 8-110(e) of the UCC for all purposes of the UCC.

## 316. Swaps Collateral and Positions

Each FCM Clearing Member shall maintain a separate Cboe Digital Clear US Account(s) for the funds, assets and positions of each of its Customers trading Swaps. When depositing funds or assets with or withdrawing funds or assets from the Clearinghouse or submitting any order to the Exchange, related to customer swaps activity, FCM Clearing Members must identify the Customer Account for which such deposit, withdrawal, or order is being made, as well as any other information required by Cboe Digital Clear US.

### 4. CLEARING, SETTLEMENT, AND DELIVERY OF CONTRACTS

#### 401. Submission of Trades.

- (a) Upon matching of a trade effected on or pursuant to the rules of the Exchange, the Exchange shall promptly submit to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US a trade report generated by the electronic trading system of the Exchange. The report shall show for each trade (i) the identity of each Clearing Member, (ii) whether bought or sold, (iii) quantity, (iv) delivery month, (v) the price, (vi) whether for house, Customer, or non-Customer account, and (vii) such other information as may be required by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (b) If <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> determines that any trade report submitted pursuant to this Rule 401 contains a material error, does not conform to the Contract specifications contained in the Exchange rulebook, or is otherwise not eligible for clearing by <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> may reject such trade and notify the Exchange of such rejection, setting forth the basis of such objection.

#### 402. Clearance and Substitution.

(a) The submission of a Contract to Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US by or on behalf of the buying and selling Clearing Members shall constitute a request, by such Clearing

Members, for the clearing of such Contract by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US. Upon the acceptance thereof by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, which ordinarily shall be deemed to occur upon the receipt of matched trade data from the Exchange:

- (i) the Contract, if a futures or option on a future, shall be novated and Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall be substituted as, and assume the position of, seller to the Clearing Member buying such Contract and buyer from the Clearing Member selling such Contract. Upon such substitution, such buying and selling Clearing Members shall be released from their obligations to each other, and Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall be deemed to have succeeded to all the rights, and to have assumed all the Obligations, of the Clearing Members that were party to such Contract, in each case as provided in the Rules; or
- (ii) the Contract, if a swap, shall be extinguished, and replaced with equal and opposite swap between <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear US</a> and each Clearing Member. Upon extinguishing and replacing the original Contract, the Clearing Members shall be released from their obligations to each other, and, along with <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Clear US</a>, shall have all rights and Obligations under the Contract that replaced the extinguished Contract, in each case as provided in the Rules.
- (b) Where an FCM Clearing Member acts to clear a Contract made for the account of a Customer, the FCM Clearing Member becomes obligated to Choc Clear Digital Choc Clear US, and Choc Clear Digital Choc Clear US becomes obligated to the FCM Clearing Member, with respect to such Contract in the same manner and to the same extent as if the Contract were for the account of the FCM Clearing Member.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a), a trade shall not be accepted for clearing, and Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall not be substituted for a given Contract, unless the Margin for such Contract is made available to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, by or for both Clearing Members, pursuant to Rule 403.

## 403. Margin.

- (a) Each FCM Clearing Member shall collect Initial Margin from its futures customers in such amount as is communicated by the Clearinghouse from time to time.
- (b) Each FCM Clearing Member shall ensure that no futures customer of such Clearing Member withdraws funds from its customer account with such Clearing Member unless the net liquidating value plus margin deposits remaining in such account after giving effect to the withdrawal are sufficient to meet the customer initial margin requirement with respect to all confirmed trades cleared for such account.
- (c) Each FCM Clearing Member shall deposit Collateral in the quantity not less than required to collateralize orders pursuant to the contract specifications ("Margin Requirements"), including payment of premiums, payment in exchange for delivery or to fulfill delivery obligations, as applicable, prior to submission of such orders to the Exchange. Collateral

transfers made by a Clearing Member to the Clearinghouse or by the Clearinghouse to a Clearing Member are irrevocable and unconditional when effected. The Clearing Member shall be responsible for all fees associated with deposits, withdrawals or transfers of Collateral to or from the Clearinghouse.

- (d) The FCM Clearing Member shall transfer the Margin to the Clearinghouse or to an Approved Depository Institution for safekeeping in a Clearinghouse account and the Clearinghouse shall retain control over such Margin. All Initial and additional Margins shall be retained by the Clearinghouse in whole or in part, as Clearinghouse staff may deem necessary, until the contracts / positions for which such Margin has been deposited, have been offset, settled, delivered or otherwise closed out as determined by Clearinghouse staff.
- (e) Each FCM Clearing Member shall reimburse the Clearinghouse for all fees, expenses, charges and costs assessed by a depository against the Clearinghouse with respect to all Margin maintained in its account, and shall make deposits as may be required by the Clearinghouse by reason of any decrease in the market value of such Margin. If an FCM Clearing Member defaults to the Clearinghouse with respect to Margin, the Margin maintained in its account pursuant to this rule shall be taken over by the Clearinghouse and sold without notice and the proceeds of the Margin deposited for customers' contracts / positions shall be applied against the Margin requirements for the Clearing Members' customers' accounts, and the proceeds of Margin deposited for the house trades shall be applied against the requirements for the Clearing Member's own (so-called "house") account. The excess house funds and assets of a defaulting FCM Clearing Member shall be applied to cover losses with respect to a customer default, if the relevant customer funds and assets are insufficient to cover the shortfall.
- (f) Whenever, in the opinion of the Clearinghouse Risk Department, unstable conditions relating to one or more products exist, they may from time to time, call for additional Margin from FCM Clearing Members, which may be as much as or more than the original Margin. The Margin thus called for may be for one or more Contract(s) from one or more FCM Clearing Member(s) and on long positions, short positions or both.
- (g) In the event market conditions and price fluctuations at any time shall cause the Clearinghouse Risk Department to conclude that additional Margin is required to maintain an orderly market or to preserve fiscal integrity, the Clearinghouse may call for additional Margin to be deposited with the Clearinghouse by FCM Clearing Members during the next banking hour after demand therefor, or at such times as may be specified. Such additional Margin may be called from the longs or the shorts or from both.
- (h) When the Clearinghouse Risk Department shall be of the opinion that any FCM Clearing Member is carrying commitments or incurring risk in its proprietary or customer accounts, that are larger than is justified by the financial condition of that Clearing Member, then the Clearinghouse may require additional Margin of such Clearing Member which shall

be deposited with the Clearinghouse during the next banking hour after demand therefor, or at such time as may be specified, or alternatively require that a portion of the open positions of said Clearing Member be reduced..

- (i) Subject to the terms and conditions of the Clearinghouse, FCM Clearing Members may deposit any form of Collateral which has been the Clearinghouse and communicated through Clearinghouse notices. The Clearinghouse will value margin Collateral, other than U. S. dollars, as the liquidation value of the collateral after taking into consideration haircuts, if applicable.
- Collateral must be and remain unencumbered. Except as otherwise provided herein, each FCM Clearing Member posting Collateral hereby grants to the Clearinghouse a first priority security interest in and unencumbered lien against any Margin, Contracts, positions and other funds, property and any other Collateral deposited with the Clearinghouse by the FCM Clearing Member, including without limitation such FCM Clearing Member's Member Property Accounts, the Customer Accounts of such Clearing Member's Customers, and all securities entitlements held therein. FCM Clearing Members shall execute any documents required by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US to create, perfect and enforce such lien. Each FCM Clearing Member hereby agrees that with respect to any funds or Collateral which is or may be credited to the FCM Clearing Member's Member Property Account or Customer Account, as applicable, the Clearinghouse shall have control pursuant to Section 9-106(a) and 8-106(e) of the UCC and a perfected security interest pursuant to Section 9-314(a) of the UCC.
- (k) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may assign, pledge, repledge or otherwise create a lien on or security interest in, and enter into repurchase agreements involving, Margin, Contracts, positions and other funds, property and any other Collateral deposited with the Clearinghouse by the FCM Clearing Member, as permitted by CFTC Regulations and applicable state Regulations, held in or for such FCM Clearing Member's Member Property Accounts or the Customer Accounts of such FCM Clearing Member's Customers to secure the repayment of funds that may be borrowed by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (1) FCM Clearing Members must transfer the Collateral to the Clearinghouse which will hold Collateral on behalf of the FCM Clearing Member. Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US will credit to the FCM Clearing Member the Collateral that such FCM Clearing Member deposits. Collateral shall be held by the Clearinghouse until an FCM Clearing Member submits a withdrawal notification, unless otherwise stipulated by these Rules. Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US will not be responsible for any diminution in value of Collateral that an FCM Clearing Member deposits with the Clearinghouse, except, in the case of U.S. dollars, the diminution of value is as a direct result of investment activity of the Clearinghouse, such activity having been conducted in full compliance with CFTC Regulations and applicable state Regulations. Any fluctuation in markets is the risk of each FCM Clearing Member. Any interest earned on FCM Clearing Member Collateral may be retained by the Clearinghouse.

- (m) If an FCM Clearing Member is in Default, Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US may foreclose on and sell any of the Collateral deposited by such FCM Clearing Member without notice in accordance with Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US Default Management Plan.
- (n) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall be empowered to invest and reinvest all or part of the Collateral. Such investments shall be for the account and risk of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, and any income and gains on such investments and interest on such deposits shall belong to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US and may be withdrawn from the account holding the Margin and deposited with the general funds of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.

#### 404. Offset and Settlement.

- (a) Where, as the result of novation of a Contract or if the Contract has been extinguished and replaced under Rule 402, a Clearing Member has bought and sold a Contract on or subject to the Rules of the Exchange with the same expiration, or otherwise deemed economically equivalent by the Clearinghouse, the purchase and sale will be offset by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US through the timely submission of instructions by the Clearing Member containing such information as Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may require in accordance with its procedures. A Clearing Member shall be required to pay the loss or entitled to collect the profit, as the case may be, upon such offsetting transactions, and shall have no further rights or be under any further obligation with respect thereto. For purposes of this Rule 404, the first Contracts made shall be deemed the first Contracts offset.
- (b) Contracts made and designated by the Clearing Member as for the Clearing Member's Customer Account shall not be offset under this Rule against Contracts designated by the Clearing Member as for the Clearing Member's own Member Property Account.

# 405. Approved Depository Institutions.

A bank, trust company or other depository that meets such financial and other requirements of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may be designated by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US as an Approved Depository Institution. For purposes of holding funds deposited for swaps, no depository shall be designated by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US as an Approved Depository Institution unless it meets the requirements set forth in CFTC Regulation 22.4.

#### 406. Statement of Trades and Contracts

Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall in the manner and at the time that it determines from time to time make available to a Clearing Member an accounting of trades and Contracts for each Business Day on which such Clearing Member has trades to be cleared or Contracts open with Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US. Any amounts the Clearing Member has posted to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US under Rule 403 shall be indicated on this statement.

#### 407. Confirmation to Customers.

An FCM Clearing Member servicing Customer Accounts shall confirm to the Customer every transaction made for the Customer no later than the following Business Day. Such confirmation

shall be in electronic or written form and shall show the Contract bought or sold, the quantity, the price, and delivery month.

## 408. Transfer Trades

- (a) Trades and positions may be transferred on the books of a Clearing Member or from one Clearing Member to another Clearing Member provided that:
  - (i) the transfer constitutes a change from one account to another account where the underlying beneficial ownership in such accounts remains the same;
  - (ii) an error has occurred in the clearing of a trade and a transfer to correct such error is undertaken and is completed within two Business Days after the trade date;
  - (iii) the transfer is in connection with, or as a result of, a merger, asset purchase, consolidation or similar non-recurring transaction between two or more entities where one or more entities become the successor in interest to one or more other entities; or
  - (iv) if, in the judgment of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, the situation so requires and such transfer is in the best interest of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or other Clearing Members, including Rule 601 (d) (ii) transfers.
- (b) Unless otherwise permitted by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, a transfer that is permitted pursuant to this Rule 408 (a "Transfer Trade") shall be recorded and carried on the books of the receiving Clearing Member at the closing settlement price on the trade date the transfer occurs.

#### 409. Settlement Prices

As used in the Rules, the term "Settlement Price" means the settlement price for a Contract for which positions remain open, as determined, intra-day and at the close of regular trading hours, by the Exchange in accordance with its rules, except in the case of manifest error or where Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US believes that such settlement price does not reasonably reflect the value or price of the Contract, in which case Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, using its best efforts to consult with the Exchange, shall determine the official Settlement Price; provided, that Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall in such circumstances promptly notify the Exchange and Clearing Members, and the reasons for that determination and the basis for the Settlement Price determined by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall be published in a notice to the Exchange and Clearing Members.

# 410. Delivery.

(a) For a Contract that is physically settled, delivery shall occur through an EDM subject to the requirements and pursuant to the processes set forth in this subparagraph (a) and as may be determined by the Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse will publish a timeline of the physical delivery process set forth in this Rule 410, including times that may be determined

by the Clearinghouse pursuant to this Rule 410, on the Cboe <u>Clear US Digital</u> website at www.cboedigital.com/product.

- (i) At least 10 Business Days prior to the contract expiry in which an FCM Clearing Member or FCM Customer wishes to participate as an EDM, such FCM Clearing Member or FCM Customer must: a) have a Spot Membership application approved by Cboe <a href="DigitalClear US">DigitalClear US</a>; b) deposit requisite funds into a proprietary spot account that has been duly authorized by <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a> to participate in the physical delivery process; and c) receive final EDM status authorization.
- (ii) Only accounts associated with an EDM shall be allowed to maintain open positions to make or take delivery in an expiring physically-settled Contract during the three Business Days prior to the last day of trading. Trading an expiring physically-settled Contract in an account not associated with an EDM is prohibited beginning the three Business Days prior to the last trading day through expiration.
- (iii) An FCM Clearing Member carrying open positions in an account not associated with an EDM must liquidate open positions by the close of trading three Business Days prior to the last trading day.
- (iv) An FCM Clearing Member must report to the Clearinghouse all positions that will be carried to expiry two Business Days prior to the last day of trading at a time determined by the Clearinghouse. If any updates are made to positions that will be carried to expiry following this reporting period and prior to the last day of trading, an FCM Clearing Member must report to the Clearinghouse any such updates on the Business Day prior to the last day of trading at a time determined by the Clearinghouse. Any updates made on the last day of trading must be reported pursuant to subparagraph (vi) below.
- (v) An EDM must deposit all underlying assets required to make delivery immediately upon expiration. An EDM must deposit all funds required to take delivery no later than one hour following expiration.
- (vi) An FCM Clearing Member must submit to the Clearinghouse, at a time following expiration and in the form and manner specified by the Clearinghouse, reports for all expiring contracts that include all information required by the Clearinghouse pursuant to Rule 303(b)(vi).
- (vii) Final delivery is performed by the Clearinghouse on the books and records of the Clearinghouse at a time determined by the Clearinghouse.

- (b) In the event an FCM Clearing Member or its EDM Customer(s) fail to fulfill any and all delivery obligations, the Clearinghouse may deem such failure to be a delivery failure of the FCM Clearing Member and may deem such failure as a default pursuant to the Rules.
- (c) Where an EDM (buyer) has failed to make full payment due in order to take delivery, the Clearinghouse shall debit the account of the FCM Clearing Member an amount sufficient to fulfill the delivery obligation.
- (d) Where an EDM (seller) has failed to meet its delivery obligations, the Clearinghouse shall make every attempt to remediate the failure by implementing the following Alternative Delivery Process (ADP) measures:
- (i) The Clearinghouse, on behalf of the EDM (seller) that has failed to deliver, shall communicate with an approved set of non-failing EDMs to obtain a price at which the failed delivery position may be liquidated or transferred to a non-failing EDM.
  - (A) In the case a position is liquidated then the Clearinghouse shall register a trade between the failing EDM (seller) and the EDM to take delivery (buyer) at the price obtained pursuant to subparagraph (d)(i) above, such that the short position of the failing EDM (seller) and the long position of the EDM (buyer) are offset.
  - (B) In the case a position is transferred then the Clearinghouse shall register a trade between the failing EDM (seller) and a non-failing EDM (seller) at the price obtained pursuant to subparagraph (d)(i) above, such that the short position of the failing EDM (seller) is transferred to the non-failing EDM (seller). The new non-failing EDM (seller) must deposit the required underlying assets within one hour of the transfer.
- (ii) The Clearinghouse will include, in the settlement cycle following the final delivery process, any gain or loss resulting from a registered ADP trade in the accounts of the non-failing EDM (buyer or seller, as applicable) or failing EDM (seller), respectively.
- (iv) In the event ADP is unsuccessful, financial performance will be granted to any affected EDMs intended to take delivery and whose actions or omissions did not cause or contribute to the delivery failure. Upon determination by the Clearinghouse that ADP cannot satisfy either the liquidation or transfer of the

position held by the failing EDM (seller), the Clearinghouse shall debit the account of the FCM Clearing Member that is financially liable for a delivery failure the amount of financial performance required to fulfill the delivery obligation. The Clearinghouse shall then distribute through the final delivery process the financial performance proceeds on a pro-rata basis to the affected EDMs based upon the delivery failure position relevant to the total short position at the time of delivery. For the purposes of this subparagraph (d)(iv), "financial performance" means payment of commercially reasonable costs in U.S. dollars to replace the failed delivery, but does not include physical performance or legal fees. Commercially reasonable cost will be determined using the settlement price of the underlying asset market on expiration day.

- (v) FCM Clearing Members are financially liable for delivery failures of their accounts, including Customer accounts, and must pay financial performance upon delivery failure. FCM Clearing Members are prohibited from paying any financial performance in connection with delivery failure of their accounts, including Customer accounts, with funds from non-failing Customer accounts.
- (e) Should the Clearinghouse suffer a Default Loss as a result of a delivery failure, such Default Loss shall be handled in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Default Management Plan.

## 411. Reporting.

Clearing Members shall make such reports in respect of trades, Contracts, settlements and deliveries as may be as prescribed by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.

#### 5. OBLIGATIONS OF CBOE CLEAR DIGITAL CBOE CLEAR US

#### 501. Limitation of Liability.

(a) THE LIABILITY OF CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US RELATING TO OR ARISING OUT OF CONTRACTS SHALL BE LIMITED TO LOSSES RESULTING FROM THE NOVATION OF THE CONTRACTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES. SUBJECT TO THE FOREGOING, NEITHER THE CLEARINGHOUSE, NOR ANY AFFILIATE OF THE CLEARINGHOUSE, NOR ANY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE MANAGERS, OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, EQUITY HOLDERS, AGENTS, CONSULTANTS OR SERVICE PROVIDERS (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY REGULATORY SERVICES PROVIDER), NOR ANY MEMBER OF ANY COMMITTEE OR OTHER GOVERNING BODY OF ANY AFFILIATE OF THE CLEARINGHOUSE (EACH OF THE FOREGOING, AS APPLICABLE, THE "DISCLAIMING PARTY" AND, COLLECTIVELY, "DISCLAIMING PARTIES") SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ACTION TAKEN, OR ANY DELAY OR FAILURE TO TAKE ANY ACTION, HEREUNDER OR OTHERWISE TO FULFILL A

DISCLAIMING PARTY'S OBLIGATIONS TO CLEARING MEMBERS, OTHER THAN FOR LOSSES CAUSED DIRECTLY BY A DISCLAIMING PARTY'S GROSS NEGLIGENCE OR WILLFUL MISCONDUCT AND SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY OTHER OBLIGATIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO OBLIGATIONS OF A CLEARING MEMBER, OBLIGATIONS OF A CLEARING MEMBER TO A CUSTOMER OR OTHER NON-CLEARING MEMBER OR OBLIGATIONS OF A CLEARING MEMBER TO ANOTHER CLEARING MEMBER THAT IS ACTING FOR IT AS BROKER; NOR SHALL A DISCLAIMING PARTY BECOME LIABLE TO MAKE DELIVERIES TO OR ACCEPT DELIVERIES FROM CLEARING MEMBERS OR CUSTOMERS. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL A DISCLAIMING PARTY BE LIABLE FOR (1) THE ACTS, DELAYS, OMISSIONS, BANKRUPTCY, OR INSOLVENCY, OF ANY THIRD PARTY, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, DEPOSITORY. CUSTODIAN. SUBCUSTODIAN. **CLEARING** SETTLEMENT SYSTEM UNLESS THE DISCLAIMING PARTY WAS GROSSLY NEGLIGENT OR ENGAGED IN WILLFUL MISCONDUCT OR (2) THE PERFORMANCE OR OPERATION (OR NON-PERFORMANCE OR NON-OPERATION) OF ANY DIGITAL ASSET OR RELATED DISTRIBUTED LEDGER ("ANCILLARY DL") ATTRIBUTABLE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY TO THE DESIGN OF THE DIGITAL ASSET OR ANCILLARY DL. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL A DISCLAIMING PARTY BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, PUNITIVE EXEMPLARY LOSS OR DAMAGE (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LOSS OF BUSINESS, LOSS OF PROFITS, TRADING LOSSES, LOSS OF OPPORTUNITY AND LOSS OF USE) HOWSOEVER SUFFERED OR INCURRED, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE DISCLAIMING PARTY HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES OR WHETHER SUCH DAMAGES OTHERWISE COULD HAVE BEEN FORESEEN OR PREVENTED. FOREGOING LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY SHALL APPLY REGARDLESS OF WHETHER A CLAIM IS BASED ON BREACH OF CONTRACT, TORT, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, NEGLIGENCE (OTHER THAN GROSS NEGLIGENCE), STRICT LIABILITY, NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION, RESTITUTION, BREACH OF STATUTORY DUTY, BREACH OF WARRANTY OR OTHERWISE, AND WHETHER THE CLAIM IS BROUGHT DIRECTLY OR AS A THIRD-PARTY CLAIM.

(b) THERE ARE NO EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE CLEARINGHOUSE OR ANY OTHER DISCLAIMING PARTY RELATING TO ANY SYSTEMS OR SERVICES OF THE CLEARINGHOUSE OR SERVICES, EQUIPMENT OR FACILITIES USED TO SUPPORT SUCH SYSTEMS OR SERVICES, AND THE CLEARINGHOUSE HEREBY SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMS, OVERRIDES AND EXCLUDES, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY, SATISFACTORY QUALITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE AND ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, CONDITIONS, OTHER CONTRACTUAL TERMS, REPRESENTATIONS, INDEMNITIES AND GUARANTEES WITH RESPECT TO THE SERVICES, WHETHER EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR STATUTORY, ARISING BY LAW, CUSTOM, PRIOR ORAL OR WRITTEN STATEMENTS BY THE

CLEARINGHOUSE OR ANY OTHER DISCLAIMING PARTY OR OTHERWISE (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, AS TO TITLE, SATISFACTORY QUALITY, ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS, UNINTERRUPTED USE, NON-INFRINGEMENT, TIMELINESS, TRUTHFULNESS, SEQUENCE AND ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES, CONDITIONS AND OTHER CONTRACTUAL TERMS ARISING FROM TRANSACTION USAGE, COURSE OF DEALING OR COURSE OF PERFORMANCE) RELATING TO ANY SYSTEMS OR SERVICES OF THE CLEARINGHOUSE OR SERVICES, EQUIPMENT OR FACILITIES USED TO SUPPORT SUCH SYSTEMS OR SERVICES.

- (c) CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US MAY ACCEPT AND RELY UPON ANY INFORMATION OR INSTRUCTION GIVEN TO CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US BY A CLEARING MEMBER OR ITS OFFICERS OR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES, WHICH REASONABLY IS UNDERSTOOD BY CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US TO HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US BY THE CLEARING MEMBER AND SUCH CLEARING MEMBER SHALL INDEMNIFY THE DISCLAIMING PARTIES AND CLEARING MEMBERS AGAINST ANY LOSS, LIABILITY OR EXPENSE AS A RESULT OF ANY ACT DONE IN RELIANCE UPON THE AUTHENTICITY OF ANY INFORMATION OR INSTRUCTION RECEIVED BY CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US, THE INACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN OR EFFECTING TRANSACTIONS IN RELIANCE UPON SUCH INFORMATION OR INSTRUCTION.
- (d) A CLEARING MEMBER SHALL REIMBURSE CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US FOR ALL FEES, EXPENSES, CHARGES AND COSTS ASSESSED BY A DEPOSITORY AGAINST CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US WITH RESPECT TO MARGIN MAINTAINED IN SUCH CLEARING MEMBER'S ACCOUNT, AND CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US SHALL NOT HAVE ANY OBLIGATION OR RESPONSIBILITY TO PRESERVE, PROTECT, COLLECT OR REALIZE UPON, AND EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN RULE 403(D), CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR, ANY LOSS OR DIMINUTION IN VALUE OR DEPRECIATION IN MARGIN DEPOSITED BY CLEARING MEMBERS. CLEARING MEMBERS THAT DEPOSIT MARGIN WITH AN APPROVED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION PURSUANT TO THE RULES SHALL HOLD CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US HARMLESS FROM ALL LIABILITY, LOSSES AND DAMAGES WHICH MAY RESULT FROM OR ARISE WITH RESPECT TO THE CARE AND SALE OF SUCH MARGIN.
- (e) ANY OBLIGATION OF CBOE CLEAR DIGITALCBOE CLEAR US TO A CLEARING MEMBER ARISING FROM A CONTRACT OR FROM ANY PROVISION OF THE RULES SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS OF THE RULES, INCLUDING THE SETOFF AND OTHER RIGHTS SET FORTH HEREIN.
- (f) EXCEPT IN ANY CASE WHERE A DISCLAIMING PARTY HAS BEEN FINALLY ADJUDICATED TO HAVE ENGAGED IN FRAUD OR WILLFUL OR WANTON MISCONDUCT, IN NO EVENT SHALL THE DISCLAIMING PARTIES' TOTAL COMBINED AGGREGATE LIABILITY FOR ALL CLAIMS, OTHER THAN THOSE

ARISING UNDER RULE 501(F), EXCEED \$100,000 FOR ALL LOSSES SUFFERED FROM ALL CAUSES ON A SINGLE CALENDAR DAY; \$200,000 FOR ALL LOSSES SUFFERED FROM ALL CAUSES IN A SINGLE CALENDAR MONTH; AND \$1,000,000 FOR ALL LOSSES SUFFERED FROM ALL CAUSES IN A SINGLE CALENDAR YEAR. IF THE NUMBER OF ALLOWED CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF ANY FAILURES OR MALFUNCTIONS ON A SINGLE DAY, SINGLE MONTH OR SINGLE YEAR CANNOT BE FULLY SATISFIED BECAUSE OF THE ABOVE DOLLAR LIMITATIONS, ALL SUCH CLAIMS SHALL BE LIMITED TO A PRO RATA SHARE OF THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT FOR THE RESPECTIVE PERIOD.

(g) THE RIGHTS OF CBOE CLEAR DIGITAL CBOE CLEAR US SET FORTH HEREIN SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO OTHER RIGHTS THAT CBOE CLEAR DIGITAL CBOE CLEAR US MAY HAVE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW AND GOVERNMENTAL REGULATIONS, OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE RULES, ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE CLEARING MEMBER OR ANY OTHER SOURCE.

## 502. FCM Clearing Member Default.

- (a) If an FCM Clearing Member (a) fails to satisfy any of its Obligations, (b) fails to deliver funds within the time established by <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a>, (c) is expelled or suspended from the Exchange, <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a>, or any Self-Regulatory Organization, (d) fails to meet the minimum capital and other financial requirements of <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear US</a>, or (e) is Insolvent, the Clearinghouse may declare such Clearing Member to be in Default.
- (b) If an FCM Clearing Member is in Default, Margin held with respect to such Clearing Member's Member's Member Property Accounts, and any other of such Clearing Member's assets held by, pledged to or otherwise available to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, may be applied by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US to discharge the Obligations of such Clearing Member to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US (including any costs and expenses associated with the liquidation, transfer or management of Contracts held in or for the Member Property Accounts of such Clearing Member, and any fees, assessments or fines imposed by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US on such Clearing Member), and Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may cause all Contracts of such Clearing Member (whether or not carried in a Customer Account) to be closed or offset, transferred to any other Clearing Member, or otherwise resolved as provided in these Rules.
- (c) If the Margin held with respect to such FCM Clearing Member's Member Property Accounts, and other of such Clearing Member's assets held by, pledged to or otherwise available to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, including any guarantee issued pursuant to these Rules, are insufficient to satisfy the defaulting Clearing Member's Obligations to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US after giving effect to the application of such amounts pursuant to paragraph (b), such defaulting FCM Clearing Member shall continue to be liable therefor.
- (d) In closing, offsetting, transferring or otherwise resolving the Contracts of a Clearing Member as provided herein and in Rule 601, Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US shall have the right:

- (i) With respect to Contracts in a Customer Account of such FCM Clearing Member, to set off (x) any proceeds received by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US from the disposition of such Contracts and any property or proceeds thereof deposited with or held by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US as Margin for such account against (y) any amounts paid by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US in the disposition of such Contracts, including any commissions or other losses or expenses incurred in connection therewith or in connection with the liquidation of Margin deposits in such Customer Account and any other amounts owed to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US as a result of transactions in the Customer Account or otherwise lawfully chargeable against such Customer Account;
- (ii) With respect to the Contracts in any Member Property Accounts of such Clearing Member, to set off (x) any proceeds received by Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US from the disposition of such Contracts, any property or proceeds thereof deposited with or held by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US as Margin for such Member Property Accounts and any other property of the Clearing Member within the possession or control of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US other than property that has been identified by such Clearing Member as required to be segregated pursuant to the CEA and CFTC Regulations, against (y) any amounts paid by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in the disposition of such Contracts, including any commissions or other losses or expenses incurred in connection therewith or in connection with the liquidation of Margin deposits in such Member Property Accounts, and any other Obligations of the Clearing Member to Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, including Obligations of the Clearing Member to Choe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US remaining after the setoffs referred to in paragraph (i) above, and any Obligations arising from any other Member Property Accounts maintained by the Clearing Member with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US; and
- (iii) To defer closing or otherwise settling such trades and Contracts if, in its discretion, it determines that the closing out of some or all of the suspended Clearing Member's trades or Contracts would not be in the best interests of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or other Clearing Members, taking into account the size and nature of the positions in question, market conditions prevailing at the time, the potential market effects of such liquidating transactions as might be directed by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, and such other circumstances as it deems relevant; or
- (iv) take any action the Clearinghouse deems proper or in the best interest of the Clearinghouse or its Clearing Members.
- (e) For purposes of this Rule, each Default by a Clearing Member will be considered a separate Default.
- (f) A Clearing Member shall take no action, including but not limited to attempting to obtain a court order, that would interfere with the ability of Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US to exercise its rights under the Rules and its agreements with such Clearing Member.

#### 503. Investment of Customer Funds

Funds and assets belonging to Customers that are invested by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall be held in instruments that comply with CFTC Regulations 1.25 and 39.15(e), and in accordance with any applicable State Regulations. Non-Customer funds and assets belonging to Clearing Members that are invested by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall be held in instruments that comply with CFTC Regulation 39.15(e).

### 504. Scope of Guaranty Fund

- (a) The Clearinghouse shall establish and maintain a Guaranty Fund, for the purpose of remedying shortfalls that may arise in managing FCM Clearing Members in Default, in the amounts payable to the Clearinghouse by an FCM Clearing Member.
- (b) The Guaranty Fund is comprised of contributions by FCM Clearing Members. Each FCM Clearing Member shall be required to contribute to the Guaranty Fund in accordance with the procedures as determined by Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US.
- (c) The form and amount of such Guaranty Fund Deposits will be determined by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US and will be reviewed periodically and communicated to the FCM Clearing Members. Guaranty Fund contributions may be applied by the Clearing House to mitigate a Default Loss.
- (d) All contributions made by an FCM Clearing Member to the Guaranty Fund remain the property of the FCM Clearing Member making such contribution unless and until such time as the funds may be needed to meet the FCM Clearing Member's or another FCM Clearing Member's shortfall to the Clearinghouse.

#### **505.** Guaranty Fund Contributions

- (a) All FCM Clearing Members must deposit and maintain with the Clearinghouse the Guaranty Fund Deposit requirement as stipulated by the Clearinghouse in accordance with Rules 504 through 507 and the procedures adopted by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (b) Any shortfall in the Guaranty Fund resulting from the Clearinghouse's periodic specification of a Minimum Guaranty Fund Requirement may require an additional contributions by each FCM Clearing Member based upon the exposure of the Clearinghouse to such FCM Clearing Member, as determined from time to time by the Clearinghouse (the "Exposure-Based Guaranty Fund Requirement").
- (c) The Clearinghouse shall establish the Minimum Guaranty Fund Requirement and the Exposure-Based Guaranty Fund Requirement, together with the Clearinghouse's own financial resources, sufficient to enable the Clearinghouse to meet its financial obligations to Clearing

Members notwithstanding the default of the two Clearing Members (including any affiliated Clearing Members) creating the largest loss to the Clearinghouse in extreme but plausible market conditions, consistent with the requirements of CFTC Regulations.

- (d) Deposits to the Guaranty Fund must be made in the form of cash (USD) and subject to the limitations and minimum cash deposits, if any, adopted by the Clearinghouse, published by the Clearinghouse on its website from time to time.
- (e) Guaranty Fund deposits shall be held in a settlement bank approved for the purpose by the Clearinghouse. Upon a shortfall, the Clearinghouse shall have the sole right to withdraw cash from such account(s) subject to the rights of any assignee, pledge or holder of a security interest in the Guaranty Fund or any cash therein.
- (f) So long as any Person is an FCM Clearing Member and thereafter for the period until the Clearinghouse returns such Person's Guaranty Fund deposits, the Guaranty Fund deposits of such Person may be applied by the Clearinghouse in accordance with the Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US Default Management Plan.
- (g) Upon a shortfall, the Clearinghouse may assign, transfer, pledge, repledge or otherwise create a lien on or security interest in the cash and other property that may be acceptable to the Clearinghouse held in the Guaranty Fund.

#### 506. Authority of the Clearinghouse

The Clearinghouse may take any appropriate action, in its discretion, with respect to a Defaulting FCM Clearing Member's Member Property or Customer Accounts, including but not limited to the liquidation or transfer of positions, suspension, or revocation of clearing membership, in accordance with the default management plan adopted and in effect by the Clearinghouse from time to time.

#### 507. Assessments

- (a) Payment of Assessment Amounts that replenish the Guaranty Fund shall be made by FCM Clearing Members on the basis of the same proportionality at the time of the Default that resulted in the assessment. The Clearinghouse may require greater amounts than indicated of the original proportional share of the Assessment Amount due to the failure, or the announced intention of failure, by one or more FCM Clearing Members to pay its assessment.
- (b) Assessments are payable to the Clearinghouse according to the normal settlement procedures on the Business Day on which the notice of assessment is delivered to FCM Clearing Members.

(c) Any FCM Clearing Member that does not satisfy an assessment shall be in Default, and shall be responsible for any Default Loss that occurs.

#### 6. SUSPENSION; DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

### 601. Suspension.

- (a) General. The Board, with input from the Risk Management Committee, may summarily suspend any Clearing Member (i) if the Clearing Member is in Default, (ii) upon the discovery of a materially false or misleading representation or warranty made by the Clearing Member to Coboe Clear DigitalCoboe Clear US under or in connection with any agreement between Coboe Clear DigitalCoboe Clear US and the Clearing Member, (iii) if a breach by the Clearing Member of the Rules or any of the terms or provisions of any agreement between Coboe Clear DigitalCoboe Clear US and the Clearing Member is not remedied promptly after notice from Coboe Clear DigitalCoboe Clear US, (iv) in the event of a material violation of the Rules of the Exchange or of the Clearinghouse, or (v) if the Risk Management Committee determines, and the Board approves, that suspension is necessary for the protection of Coboe Clear DigitalCoboe Clear US, other Clearing Members, or the general public (whether or not such Clearing Member continues to meet the required minimum financial requirements pursuant to the Rules).
- (b) Notice of Suspension to Clearing Members. Upon the suspension of an FCM Clearing Member, based on the Rule 601 (a), Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall as soon as possible notify all Clearing Members of the suspension. Such notice shall state to the extent practicable in general terms how pending transactions, open positions and other pending matters will be affected and what steps are to be taken in connection therewith.
- (c) Pending Transactions. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Rules, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall have no obligation to accept any transaction of a suspended Clearing Member that was effected after the time at which the Clearing Member was suspended. In the event a transaction of a suspended Clearing Member is rejected by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall provide notice of such rejection to the other party thereto and such transaction shall be closed by the other party thereto in accordance with the rules of the Exchange.
- (d) Open Positions. Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall have the right to cause open positions in Contracts in any of the accounts of a suspended Clearing Member:
  - (i) To be closed in such manner as deemed practicable by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, in its sole discretion;
  - (ii) To be transferred to the account of one or more other Clearing Members;
  - (iii) To be offset against each other and, to the extent of any remaining imbalance, against the Contracts of other Clearing Members; or
  - (iv) To be settled at the Settlement Price for such Contracts, or at such other price or prices as Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US may deem fair and reasonable under

- the circumstances, in which event Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may cause Contracts in the accounts of other Clearing Members to be settled at such price or prices; or
- (v) Take any other action with respect to open positions it deems in the best interest of the Clearinghouse or Clearing Members.
- (vi) In connection with any action undertaken by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US pursuant to subparagraphs (i) through (v) above, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall have the right to apply the Margin of the applicable Clearing Member and any other assets of such Clearing Member held by, pledged to or otherwise available to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, including any guarantee issued pursuant to these Rules, to discharge the Obligations of such Clearing Member to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US (including any costs and expenses associated with the liquidation, transfer or management of Contracts held in or for the accounts of such Clearing Member, and any fees, assessments or fines imposed by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US on such Clearing Member).
- (e) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may delegate to specified Officers or agents of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US the authority to determine, within such guidelines, if any, as Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall prescribe, the nature and timing of transactions of the type described in subparagraph (d). If Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall determine, taking into account the size and nature of a suspended Clearing Member's positions, market conditions prevailing at the time, the potential market effects of liquidating transactions that might be directed by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, and such other circumstances as Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US deems relevant, that the closing out of some or all of the suspended Clearing Member's positions would not be in the best interests of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, other Clearing Members, or the general public, such positions need not be closed out.
- (f) Protective Action. If Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US (i) is unable, for any reason, to close out in a prompt and orderly manner any positions or to convert to cash any Margin deposits of a suspended Clearing Member, or (ii) elects pursuant to paragraph (d) of this Rule not to close out any such positions, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may authorize the execution of hedging transactions from time to time for the account of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, solely for the purpose of reducing the risk to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US resulting from the continued maintenance of such positions or the continued holding of such Margin deposits. Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may delegate to specified Officers or agents of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US the authority to determine, within such guidelines, if any, as Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall prescribe, the nature and timing of such hedging transactions.
- (g) Reimbursement of Costs and Expenses. Any costs or expenses, including losses, sustained by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US in connection with transactions effected for its account pursuant to this Rule shall be charged to the suspended Clearing Member, and any gains realized on such transactions shall be credited to such Clearing Member; provided, however, that costs, expenses, and gains allocable to the hedging of positions in a Customer Account shall be charged or credited, as the case may be, to the Customer Account, and

only the excess, if any, of such costs and expenses over the funds available in that account shall be charged to the Clearing Member. Reasonable allocations of costs, expenses, and gains among accounts made by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US for the purpose of implementing the proviso to the preceding sentence shall be binding on the Clearing Member and any persons claiming through the Clearing Member and their respective successors and assigns.

## 602. Right of Appeal.

- (a) A Clearing Member suspended pursuant to Rule 601 shall be entitled, upon request within five Business Days after the date of its suspension, to a written statement of the grounds for its suspension and shall have the right to appeal its suspension in accordance with the following procedure:
  - (i) A suspended Clearing Member may appeal its suspension by filing a written notice of appeal with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US within five Business Days after the date of its receipt of a written statement of the grounds for its suspension.
  - (ii) Appeals shall be considered and decided by the Appeal Panel. Appeals shall be heard as promptly as possible, and in no event more than five Business Days after the filing of the notice of appeal. The appellant shall be notified of the time, place and date of the hearing not less than three Business Days in advance of such date. At the hearing, the appellant shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to present evidence on its own behalf, and may, if it so desires, be represented by counsel. As promptly as possible after the hearing, the Appeal Panel shall, by the vote of a majority of its members, affirm or reverse the suspension or modify the terms thereof. The appellant shall be notified in writing of the Appeal Panel's decision; and if the decision shall have been to affirm or modify the suspension, the appellant shall be given a written statement of the grounds therefor.
  - (iii) Any decision by the Appeal Panel to affirm or modify a suspension shall be reviewable by the Board on its own motion or on written demand by the appellant filed with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US within three Business Days after receipt of notice of the Appeal Panel's decision. The Board may afford the appellant a further opportunity to be heard or to present evidence. The appellant shall be notified in writing of the decision of the Board; and if the decision shall have been to affirm or modify the suspension, the appellant shall be given a written statement of the grounds therefor.
  - (iv) The filing of an appeal pursuant to this Rule shall not impair the validity or stay the effect of the suspension appealed from. The reversal or modification of a suspension shall not invalidate any acts of <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear US</a> taken pursuant to such suspension prior to such reversal or modification, and the rights of any person which may arise out of any such acts shall not be affected by such reversal or modification.
  - (v) A record shall be kept of any hearing held pursuant hereto. The cost of the transcript may, in the discretion of the body holding the hearing, be charged in whole or in

part to the suspended Clearing Member in the event that the suspension is finally affirmed.

## 603. Sanctions from Disciplinary Proceedings.

- (a) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may censure, suspend, expel or limit the activities, functions or operations of, and/or impose a fine on (each a "sanction"), a Clearing Member for (i) a violation of the CEA and CFTC Regulations, Rules or its agreements with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or the Exchange, (ii) any neglect or refusal by such Clearing Member to comply with any applicable order or direction of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or the Exchange, (iii) any error, delay or other conduct that materially and adversely affects the operations of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or Cboe Digital Exchange, (iv) a violation of the rules of the Exchange, or (v) a failure to provide adequate personnel or facilities, where applicable, for its transactions with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.
- (b) Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US shall provide prompt notice to the CFTC of any action taken in accordance with this Rule 603.

### 604. Procedures for Disciplinary Proceedings.

Before any sanction is imposed pursuant to Rule 603, Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US (a) shall furnish the person against whom the sanction is sought to be imposed ("Respondent") with a concise written statement of the charges against the Respondent. The Respondent shall have ten Business Days after the service of such statement to file with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US a written answer thereto. The answer shall admit or deny each allegation contained in the statement of charges and may also contain any defense which the Respondent wishes to submit. Allegations contained in the statement of charges which are not denied in the answer shall be deemed to have been admitted, and any defense not raised in the answer shall be deemed to have been waived. If an answer is not filed within the time prescribed above or any extension thereof granted pursuant to paragraph (d) of this Rule, the allegations contained in the statement of charges shall be deemed to have been admitted, and the sanction specified in the final request shall be imposed without further proceedings and the Respondent shall be notified thereof in writing. If an answer is timely filed, Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall (unless the Respondent and Choe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall have stipulated to the imposition of an agreed sanction) schedule a hearing before the Disciplinary Panel. The Respondent shall be given not less than three Business Days advance notice of the place and time of such hearing. At the hearing, the Respondent shall be afforded the opportunity to be heard and to present evidence in its behalf and may be represented by counsel. A record of the hearing shall be prepared and the cost of the transcript may, in the discretion of the Disciplinary Panel, be charged in whole or in part to the Respondent in the event any sanction is imposed on the Respondent. As soon as practicable after the conclusion of the hearing, the Disciplinary Panel shall furnish the Respondent and the Board with a written statement of its decision. If the decision shall have been to impose a disciplinary sanction, the written statement shall set forth (i) any act or practice in which the Respondent has been found to have engaged, or which the Respondent has been found to have omitted; (ii) the specific provisions of the Rules which any such act, practice or omission has been deemed to violate; and (iii) the sanction imposed and the reasons therefor.

- (b) In the event that (i) the Disciplinary Panel censures, fines, suspends, expels or limits the activities, functions or operations of a Respondent, or (ii) determines not to impose any disciplinary measures on a Respondent, the Respondent, in the case of (i) above, or the President, in the case of (ii) above, may apply for review to the Board, by written motion filed with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US within five Business Days after issuance of the Disciplinary Panel's written statement of its decision.
- (c) The granting of any such motion shall be within the discretion of the Board. In addition, the Board may determine to review any such action by the Disciplinary Panel on its own motion. Review by the Board shall be on the basis of the written record of the proceedings in which the sanction was imposed, but the Board may, in its discretion, afford the Respondent a further opportunity to be heard or to present evidence. A record shall be kept of any such further proceedings. Based upon such review, the Board may affirm, reverse or modify, in whole or in part, the decision of the Disciplinary Panel. The Respondent shall be notified in writing of the decision of the Board and if the decision shall have been to affirm or modify the imposition of any disciplinary sanction, the Respondent shall be given a written statement setting forth (i) any act or practice in which the Respondent has been found to have engaged, or which the Respondent has been found to have omitted; (ii) the Rules which any such act, practice or omission has been deemed to violate; and (iii) the sanction imposed and the reasons therefor.
- (d) Any time limit set forth in this Rule may be extended by the body having jurisdiction over the matter in respect of which the time limit is imposed.
- (e) Any action taken by the Disciplinary Panel hereunder shall be deemed to be final upon (i) expiration of the time provided for the filing of a motion for review, or any extension thereof granted pursuant to paragraph (d) hereof; or (ii) if a motion for review is timely filed, when the Respondent is notified of the denial of the motion or the decision of the Board on review, as the case may be; or (iii) if the Board shall determine on its own motion to review the action by the Disciplinary Panel, when the Respondent is notified of the decision of the Board on review.
- (f) The summary suspension of a Clearing Member pursuant to Rule 601 shall not be deemed to be a "sanction" within the meaning of this Rule, and the provisions of this Rule shall be inapplicable to any such summary suspension.

#### 605. Discipline by Other Self-Regulatory Organizations.

- (a) At the discretion of the Clearinghouse, any suspected violation of these Rules may be referred to the enforcement staff of the Exchange.
- (b) Any inquiry, investigation or disciplinary action resulting from a suspected violation of these Rules may be handled by Clearinghouse personnel, Exchange personnel, or personnel that serve in roles at both the Clearinghouse and the Exchange.
- (c) Nothing in this Chapter 6 shall affect the right of any Self-Regulatory Organization to discipline its members pursuant to the provisions of its rules for a violation of the Rules of Chear DigitalChoe Clear US.

### 606. Restriction on or Termination of Clearing Privileges.

- (a) If (x) a Removal Event or Rule 601 Suspension occurs with respect to a Clearing Member, or (y) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US determines that the financial or operational condition of a Clearing Member or one of its affiliates is such that to allow the Clearing Member to continue its operation as a Clearing Member could adversely affect Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or cleared markets (whether or not such Clearing Member continues to meet the required minimum financial requirements, if applicable), Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may take one or more of the following actions:
  - (i) Allow such Clearing Member (in the case of an FCM Clearing Member handling Customer Accounts) to submit Contracts for clearing solely for its Member Property Account;
  - (ii) Limit or restrict the type of Contracts that may be cleared by such Clearing Member in any of its Accounts with Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US;
  - (iii) Limit or restrict the number of Contracts that are permitted to be maintained by such Clearing Member in any of its Accounts with Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US;
  - (iv) Decline to accept new trades or positions in Contracts for the Accounts of the Clearing Member;
  - (v) Increase such Clearing Member's Margin requirements and/or require such Clearing Member to deposit the same in cash or Eligible Securities in proportions different than those that are applicable to Clearing Members generally;
  - (vi) Allow such Clearing Member to submit Contracts for liquidation only;
  - (vii) Prohibit such Clearing Member from withdrawing excess Margin;
  - (viii) Cause open Contracts in the Member Property Account or Customer Account of the Clearing Member to be transferred to another Clearing Member;
  - (ix) Cause open Contracts to be settled in cash or liquidated;
  - (x) Impose such additional capital, Margin, financial reporting or other requirements as Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall deem appropriate for the protection of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US and its Clearing Members;
  - (xi)
  - (xii) Terminate the Clearing Member's membership in Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US; or
  - (xiii) Take any other actions it deems proper or in the best interest of the Clearinghouse or its Clearing Members.

- (b) Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US has no obligation to clear trades made on the Exchange or any other trading facility where such Clearing Member does not have trading privileges or is not approved for the clearing privileges by the relevant facility.
- (c) A Person once qualified as a Clearing Member may voluntarily withdraw from Clearing Member status and terminate its clearing privileges upon the approval of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, which approval shall be granted not later than 30 days following (i) the liquidation or, with the approval of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, transfer to another Clearing Member of all open positions in the Clearing Member's Accounts at Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, and (ii) the satisfaction of all Obligations of the withdrawing Clearing Member; provided, however that such Person shall remain subject to, and responsible for any violation of, the Rules, interpretations and policies of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US committed by such Person while a Clearing Member, notwithstanding any termination of clearing privileges and Clearing Member status.
- (d) When a Clearing Member voluntarily withdraws from membership or its membership is terminated, all Obligations of the Clearing Member to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, of whatever nature or kind, shall be accelerated and become due and payable upon the effective date of such withdrawal or termination. The Clearing Member's funds, Collateral and other deposits will not be released until Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US determines that all such Clearing Member's Obligations have been settled and all sums owing to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US have been paid.
- (e) Any disputes which arise while a Clearing Member which relate to or arise out of any transaction with Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US or status of a Clearing Member in Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall be resolved in accordance with the Rules.
- 607. Just and Equitable Principles of Trade; Acts Detrimental to the Clearinghouse.
- (a) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall have the authority to take any actions it deems in the best interest of the Clearinghouse or the Clearing Members.
- (b) Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US shall have the power to suspend or revoke clearing privileges or authorize the assessment of fines or charges against Clearing Members for engaging in conduct inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade.
- (c) <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> shall have the power to suspend or revoke clearing privileges or authorize the assessment of fines or charges against Clearing Members for engaging in acts detrimental to the interest or welfare of <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u>.

#### 7. MISCELLANEOUS

#### 701. Force Majeure.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US shall not be obligated to perform its obligations under these Rules or any agreement with a Clearing Member relating to Contracts, or to compensate any Person for losses occasioned by any delay or failure of performance, to the extent such delay or failure is the result of acts of God, lightning, earthquake, fire, epidemic, landslide, drought, storm, explosion, flood, nuclear radiation, act of a public enemy,

terrorist activity, act of state or blockade, insurrection, riot or civil disturbance, strike or labor disturbance, power or communications failure, performance or operation (or non-performance or non-operation) of any digital asset or Ancillary DL in a manner adverse to the Clearinghouse or more than one Clearing Member attributable directly or indirectly to the design of the digital asset or Ancillary DL (as determined by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US) or any other cause beyond Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US's reasonable control (whether or not similar to any of the foregoing). If Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall, as a result of any of the above-described events, fail to perform any of its obligations, such failure shall be excused for a period equal to the period of delay caused by such event. In such an event, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall give written notice thereof to the Exchange or such Clearing Member, as the case may be, as soon as it is reasonably practicable and attempt diligently to remove such condition. Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US complies with CFTC rules requiring systems and procedures be in place to meet a recovery time objective of no later than the next business day following a disruption.

## 702. Suspension of Rules.

The time frames fixed by these Rules, interpretations or policies of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US for the doing of any act or acts may be extended, or the doing of any act or acts required by these Rules or any interpretations or policies of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may be waived, and any provision of these Rules or any interpretations or policies of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may be suspended by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US whenever, in the judgment of the Board or the Officers, such extension, waiver or suspension is necessary or in the best interest of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US. Any such extension or waiver may continue in effect after the event or events giving rise thereto but shall not continue in effect for more than thirty calendar days after the date thereof unless it shall be approved by the Board within such period of 30 calendar days. A written report of any such extension or waiver, stating the pertinent facts and the reason such extension or waiver was deemed necessary or in the best interest of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall be presented to the Board at its next regular meeting.

#### 703. Confidentiality.

- (a) All information received by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US concerning positions carried by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or any other clearing organization for a Clearing Member or deliveries made by or to a Clearing Member, and any other information provided by a Clearing Member to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, including, without limitation, financial statements filed with Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US by a Clearing Member, shall be held in confidence by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US and shall not be made known to any other Person except as follows:
  - (i) With the consent of the Clearing Member;
  - (ii) To a Government Agency or the regulatory authority of any foreign jurisdiction, if Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US is requested or legally required to do so by such Government Agency;
  - (iii) Pursuant to legal process;
  - (iv) To an exchange (including, without limitation, any contract market, swap execution facility or other trading facility) of which such Clearing Member is a member,

- provided that information relating to positions, margin payments and deliveries that is furnished to an exchange shall relate solely to contracts traded on that exchange;
- (v) To a Self-Regulatory Organization of which such Clearing Member is a member;
- (vi) To any Person providing services to Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US, subject to appropriate confidentiality requirements;
- (vii) To the Board, any Committee, Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US or the Exchange's Officers, employees, attorneys and auditors, and to agents and independent contractors that have been engaged by Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US or the Exchange who require such information in connection with the discharge of their duties to Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US; and
- (viii) As otherwise permitted under the Rules.

## 704. Information-Sharing Agreements

- (a) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may enter into information-sharing agreements or other arrangements or procedures to coordinate surveillance with the Exchange and with other markets or clearing organizations on which Contracts or financial instruments related to Contracts trade or are cleared. As part of any information sharing agreements or other arrangements or procedures adopted pursuant to this Rule, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may, among other things:
  - (i) provide market surveillance reports to other markets and clearing organizations;
  - (ii) share information and documents concerning current and former Clearing Members with other markets and clearing organizations;
  - (iii) share information and documents concerning ongoing and completed investigations with other markets and clearing organizations; and/or
  - (iv) require its Clearing Members to provide information and documents to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US at the request of other markets or clearing organizations with which Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US has an information-sharing agreement or other arrangements or procedures.
- (b) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may enter into an information-sharing arrangement with any Person or body (including, without limitation, any Government Authority or any Self-Regulatory Organization) if Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US (i) believes that such Person or body exercises a legal or regulatory function under any law or regulation, or a function comprising or associated with the enforcement of a legal or regulatory function, or (ii) considers such arrangement to be in furtherance of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US's purpose or duties under applicable law. Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may disclose to any Person or body information concerning or associated with a Clearing Member or other Person that Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US believes is necessary and appropriate in exercising a legal or regulatory function (including, without limitation, information concerning any aspect of the business of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US) whether or not

a formal arrangement governing the disclosure exists or a request for information was made.

# 705. Trading by Officers and Employees Prohibited.

- (a) No Officer or employee of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall trade or participate directly or indirectly in any transaction in any futures, option, or swap traded on any U.S. designated contract market, that are closely related to the Contracts cleared by the Clearinghouse, except to the extent necessary to carry out the provisions of the Rules or as otherwise permitted pursuant to an exemption granted in accordance with this Rule; or
- (b) No Officer, Director, or employee of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US shall disclose any material, non-public information obtained as a result of such Person's employment with Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US where the Officer or employee has or should have a reasonable expectation that the information disclosed may assist another Person in trading any commodity interest; provided, that an employee is not prohibited from making disclosures in the course of the employee's duties, or to another Self-Regulatory Organization, court of competent jurisdiction or representative of any agency or department of the federal or state government acting in his or her official capacity.
- (c) <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> may adopt certain exemptions from the trading prohibition contained in paragraph (a)(i), provided that any such exemptions shall be consistent with CFTC Regulations and applicable State Regulations.
- (d) All terms used in this Rule shall be construed consistently with the definitions appearing in CFTC Regulation 1.59.

## 706. Forms; Facsimile Signatures.

- (a) Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US shall prescribe the form, method and time of delivery of any application, list, notice or other document required pursuant to these Rules or the policies or practices of Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US.
- (b) A Clearing Member or a Clearing Member's representative may execute any document to be delivered to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US or to any other Clearing Member pursuant to these Rules or any policy or practice of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US by means of a mechanically or electronically reproduced facsimile signature if it otherwise satisfies any requirements of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US for use of such facsimile signatures.

#### 707. Governing Law

(a) These Rules, the Clearing Member Agreement and all rights and obligations under the foregoing (including the creation of security interests in margin and guaranty fund deposits), shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the State of Illinois, without giving effect to the conflict of law provisions thereof.

#### Exhibit B – Redline Changes to Cboe Clear Digital, LLC Rulebook

#### 708. Dispute Resolution

- (a) All Clearing Members shall be required to arbitrate all disputes between or among themselves that relate to or arise out of any transaction submitted for clearing to Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in accordance with Exchange Rule 801. For these purposes, each Clearing Member shall be deemed a "Member" for purposes of Exchange Rule 801.
- (b) Disputes involving Customers may be arbitrated in accordance with Exchange Rule 801(c).
- (c) Any dispute between the Clearinghouse and a Clearing Member or an affiliate of a Clearing Member arising from or in connection with the Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US Rules must be brought to arbitration through the American Arbitration Association ("AAA") arbitration program or another arbitration program permitted by Exchange Rule 1006 within two (2) years from the occurrence of the event giving rise to the dispute. This Rule shall in no way create a cause of action nor authorize an action that would otherwise be prohibited by the Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US Rules. (d) Any dispute between the Clearinghouse and a Clearing Member or an affiliate of a Clearing Member arising from or in connection with the Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US Rules will be settled by arbitration administered through the AAA arbitration program or another arbitration program permitted by Exchange Rule 1006. Each party to the dispute will bear its own costs and expenses in connection with any arbitration hereunder, as well as an equal share of the administrative fees and the fees of the arbitrator; provided, however, that the arbitrator will be entitled to include in any award a full reimbursement for the prevailing party's costs and expenses, such party's share of the administrative fees and the fees of the arbitrator, or any combination of any or all of the above. In the event that this Rule 707(d) is held to be unenforceable in connection with any dispute, (i) exclusive jurisdiction for any such dispute will reside in any state or federal court sitting in the Chicago, Illinois, (ii) the Clearinghouse and the Clearing Member or Clearing Member affiliate involved in the dispute will be presumed to have submitted to the personal jurisdiction of any such court, and (iii) an action to enforce any judgment or decision of such court may be brought in the same court or in any other court with jurisdiction or venue. Finally, all Clearing Members and Clearing Member affiliates unconditionally and irrevocably waive any and all right to trial by jury in connection with any such dispute.

#### 709. Contracts

Choe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may approve as eligible for clearing contracts with terms and conditions matching the terms and conditions in the Exchange rulebook for such contracts and to the extent permissible under Applicable Law. Any new contract that Choe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US has approved as eligible for clearing shall be posted on Choe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US's website and certified with or otherwise approved by the CFTC in accordance with CFTC Regulations, as necessary.

# CBOE CLEAR DIGITAL CBOE CLEAR US, LLC DEFAULT MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### A. Purpose

In the event a Clearing Member of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, LLC ("Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US" or the "Clearinghouse") is in Default, the Clearinghouse will invoke this Default Management Plan ("DMP") and follow the procedures below to handle such an event. In accordance with Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") §39.16, this DMP delineates the roles and responsibilities of the Clearinghouse's management team, Board of Directors ("Board"), Risk Management Committee ("RiskCo"), and Default Management Committee ("DMC"). The purpose of this DMP and procedures is to ensure that Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US takes timely action to contain losses, and liquidity pressures, and continue meeting its obligations in the event of a Default on the obligations of one or more of its Clearing Members.

All capitalized terms not defined in this document shall have the meaning set forth in the Cboe Clear US Rulebook ("Rulebook").

Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US shall make its Default rules publicly available.

#### B. Scope

This document applies to requirements set forth under CFTC §39.16 and certain risk management provisions under CFTC §39.13 and would not apply to Clearing Member portfolios that hold only fully collateralized positions. Margin is extended by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US only to its FCM Clearing Members. Therefore, this DMP only applies to FCMs.

#### C. Procedures

#### **Guaranty Fund**

Each FCM Clearing Member shall be required to contribute to the Guaranty Fund in accordance with the procedures as described in the Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US Default Financial Resource Policy.

#### **Default Management Committee**

As part of the DMP, the Risk Management Committee ("RiskCo") of the Board delegates to the Default Management Committee ("DMC") the authority to act as an internal committee which shall advise and assist in DMP-related matters. DMC members shall be specific Officers of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US and pre-selected representatives of Clearing Members approved by the RiskCo. Preference in DMC member selection shall be given to representatives that are current or former traders and/or risk managers at the respective Clearing Member firms, on the basis of their professional experience and expertise.

The DMC may be convened in the event of a potential Default and will be convened in the event of an actual Default or in the case of DMP test drills. Further details regarding DMC membership and roles and responsibilities can be found in the Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US Default Management Committee Charter.

#### **Testing**

Testing of the DMP will be performed at least once per calendar year. Information about a DMP test drill and required operational preparation will be communicated to the Clearing Members as

#### Exhibit C – Redline Changes to the Default Management Plan

part of the onboarding process and their ongoing membership participation in accordance with the Default Communication Plan.

#### **Default By A Clearing Member**

If a Clearing Member (a) fails to satisfy any of its Obligations, (b) fails to deliver funds within the time established by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, (c) is expelled or suspended from Cboe Digital Exchange, Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, or any Self-Regulatory Organization, (d) fails to meet the minimum capital and other financial requirements of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, or (e) is Insolvent; a minimum of two out of the four following individuals are required to declare a Clearing Member in Default: the Head of Clearing, CRO, CFO or CCO.

Rule 306 of the Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US Rulebook requires that a Clearing Member immediately notify Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US orally and in writing to digital.rulebooknotifications@choe.com:

- of any Default of the Clearing Member or any failure or inability of the Clearing Member to meet its Obligations;
- if it becomes the subject of a bankruptcy petition, receivership proceeding, or the equivalent; and
- about any other event(s), transpired or imminent, that may or will lead to Default.

Each Default by a Clearing Member will be considered a separate Default, provided that if a Clearing Member has been declared in Default, subsequent failures to meet an obligation of the Clearinghouse by such Defaulting Clearing Member shall not be considered separate Default events unless the original default has been fully resolved and such Clearing Member has been restored to good standing.

Upon the Clearinghouse declaring a Clearing Member to be in Default, <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear USit</u> will seek to perform the following actions as soon as reasonably practicable to communicate to the designated persons, contain losses and liquidity pressures:

- a) By action of the Board, with input from the RiskCo,—, suspend the Clearing membership in accordance with the process described in Rule 601 of the Cboe Clear <u>DigitalCboe Clear US</u> Rulebook;
- b) Make an immediate notice to the CFTC via communications means as determined by the CFTC, as prescribed by CFTC § 39.19(c)(4)(viii). Such notice shall be prepared by Legal and Compliance and include the following information:
  - The name of the Clearing Member;
  - The products the Clearing Member defaulted upon;
  - The number of positions for futures and options, and for swaps, the number of outstanding trades and notional amount, the clearing member defaulted upon; and
  - The amount of the financial obligation.

- c) Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US will notify all Clearing Members of the Default via public notification on its website. Such notice shall state, to the extent practicable in general terms, how pending transactions, open positions and other pending matters will be affected and what steps are to be taken in connection therewith.
- d) Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US shall have no obligation to accept any transaction of a suspended Clearing Member that was affected after the time at which the Clearing Member was suspended ("Pending Transactions"). In the event a Pending Transaction of a suspended Clearing Member is rejected by the Clearinghouse, Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US shall provide notice of such rejection to the other party thereto and such transaction shall be closed by the other party thereto as determined by the Exchange.
- e) In a timely manner, notify and convene the DMC and, based on the facts and circumstances of the Default, make a recommendation to the DMC as to the nature and timing of transactions to cause open positions in Contracts in any of the accounts of a suspended Clearing Member:
  - (i) To be closed in such manner as deemed practicable by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, in its sole discretion, including auctioning the Contracts as described in this Plan.
  - (ii) To be transferred to the account of one or more other willing non-defaulting Clearing Members.
  - (iii) To be offset within the suspended Clearing Member's account(s) and, to the extent of any remaining imbalance, offset against the Contracts of other Clearing Members; or
  - (iv) To be settled at the final Settlement Price for such Contracts, or at such other price or prices as Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US may deem fair and reasonable under the circumstances.

Any such plan so recommended must be approved by the DMC prior to implementation.

Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US may take other actions in relation to the Defaulting Clearing Member. Such actions may include, but are not limited to: pursuit of legal action, request to restore Guaranty Fund contributions.

In connection with any action undertaken by <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear US</a> pursuant to subparagraphs (i) through (iv) above, the Clearinghouse shall have the right to apply the Margin of the Defaulted Clearing Member and any other assets of such Clearing Member held by, pledged to or otherwise available to <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a>, including contributions to the Guaranty Fund and any guarantee issued pursuant to the <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear US</a> (including any costs and expenses associated with the liquidation, transfer, or management of Contracts held in or for the accounts of such Clearing Member, and any fees, assessments or fines imposed by <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear US</a> on such Clearing Member).

If the DMC shall determine, taking into account the size and nature of a Defaulting Clearing Member's positions, market conditions prevailing at the time, the potential market effects of

(ii)

liquidating transactions that might be directed by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, and such other circumstances as Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US deems relevant, that the closing out of some or all of the Defaulting Clearing Member's positions would not be in the best interests of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, other Clearing Members, or the general public, such positions need not be closed out.

If the Margin held with respect to such Clearing Member's Member Property Accounts, and other of such Clearing Member's assets held by, pledged to or otherwise available to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, including any guarantee issued pursuant to the Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US Rulebook, are insufficient to satisfy the defaulting Clearing Member's Obligations to Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US after giving effect to the application of such amounts pursuant to paragraph (a) below, such defaulting Clearing Member shall continue to be liable therefor.

- (a) In closing, offsetting, transferring or otherwise resolving the Contracts of a Clearing Member as provided in Rules 502 and 601 of the Rulebook, Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US shall have the right:
  - (i) With respect to Contracts in a Customer Account of such FCM Clearing Member, to set off (x) any proceeds received by the Clearinghouse from the disposition of such Contracts and any property or proceeds thereof deposited with or held by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US as Margin for such account against (y) any amounts paid by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in the disposition of such Contracts, including any commissions or other losses or expenses incurred in connection therewith or in connection with the liquidation of Margin deposits in such Customer Account and any other amounts owed to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US as a result of transactions in the Customer Account or otherwise lawfully chargeable against such Customer Account;

With respect to the Contracts in any Member Property Accounts of such Clearing

- Member, to set off (x) any proceeds received by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US from the disposition of such Contracts, any property or proceeds thereof deposited with or held by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US as Margin for such Member Property Accounts and any other property of the Clearing Member within the possession or control of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US other than property that has been identified by such Clearing Member as required to be segregated pursuant to the CEA and CFTC Regulations, against

  (y) any amounts paid by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US in the disposition of such Contracts, including any commissions or other losses or expenses incurred in connection therewith or in connection with the liquidation of Margin deposits in such Member Property Accounts, and any other Obligations of the Clearing Member to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, including Obligations of the Clearing
- (iii) To defer closing or otherwise settling such trades and Contracts to the extent that the closing out of some or all of the suspended Clearing Member's trades or Contracts would not be in the best interests of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US or non-Defaulting Clearing Members, taking into account the size and nature of the

DigitalCboe Clear US; and

Member to Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US remaining after the setoffs referred to in paragraph (i) above, and any Obligations arising from any other Member Property Accounts maintained by the Clearing Member with Choe Clear

- positions in question, market conditions prevailing at the time, the potential market effects of such liquidating transactions as might be directed by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US, and such other circumstances as it deems relevant; or
- (iv) A Clearing Member shall take no action, including but not limited to attempting to obtain a court order, that would interfere with the ability of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US to exercise its rights under the Rules and its agreements with such Clearing Member
- (b) Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US will not apply any funds and assets held in segregated Customer Accounts to any obligations arising from a Default in a Clearing Member's house account. In the event a Default occurs in the segregated Customer Account of a Clearing Member, any obligations shall be satisfied by application of any and all funds and assets held in said Clearing Member's Customer Account, in a manner consistent with CFTC Regulation 1.20. In the event the relevant FCM's customer funds and assets are insufficient, the customer obligations shortfall will be first covered from FCM Clearing Member's excess house funds.
- (c) The Clearinghouse may make immediate demand upon any guarantor of the Clearing Member. Upon demand, the guarantor shall pay the Clearinghouse by the time and date set by Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US.

#### **Method of Position Close Out**

A detailed recommendation for implementation of the process of finalizing a resolution with respect to a Default, including taking into consideration the effects of the liquidation, auction, tear- up, or sale of positions or assets of the Defaulting Clearing Member, shall be produced by the Head of Clearing or CRO and provided to the DMC for approval. The liquidation of open contracts of the Defaulting Clearing Member as determined by the DMC may occur by one or more of the following methods:

- i. book entry that offsets concurrent long and short open contracts on the books of the Defaulting Clearing Member;
- ii. executing block trades with one or more Exchange Participants;
- iii. hedging positions, where offsets are impractical due to the market illiquidity or volatility
- iv. liquidation in the open market; and/or
- v. one or more private auctions amongst qualified market participants invited by the Clearinghouse to submit confidential bids.

When determining the appropriateness of the recommended method of portfolio liquidation, the DMC will take into consideration the Defaulting Clearing Member's position size, liquidity of the products and whether some are deemed less liquid than others, open interest, market conditions and other relevant factors. For products deemed to be highly liquid, notwithstanding the considerations as described above, the Clearinghouse may give preference to first attempting open market liquidation. For products deemed less liquid, the DMC may determine to perform one, or some combination of entering into hedge positions, and/or pursuing liquidation through the other methods such as block trade and/or auctions.

#### **Application of Funds**

Should, after Positions close-out, <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> bear a Default Loss, such Default Loss will be met by applying the following funds, as appropriate, in the order of priority listed below, with each source of funds to be completely exhausted, to the extent practicable, before applying the following source. <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> will not apply any funds held in a Customer Account to a Loss in a Clearing Member's house account.

- i. Margins of the Defaulting Clearing Member on deposit with Cboe Clear Digital Cboe Clear US, payments made by a guarantor of the Defaulting Clearing Member, and any other assets of the Defaulting Clearing Member.
- ii. Excess funds of the Defaulting Clearing Member, including funds and assets in excess of requirements to collateralize fully collateralized positions, such as, but not limited to, any partial payment amounts, settlement funds, or variation gains.
- iii. Guaranty Fund Deposits of the Defaulting Clearing Member, as such deposits are required by the Rules of the Clearinghouse.
- iv. Such assets contributed by Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US for the purpose of Default.
- v. Guaranty Fund Deposits of non-defaulting Clearing Members shall be applied toward meeting a loss in direct proportion to the total Guaranty Fund deposit requirement of each Clearing Member as described in the Assessment section of this Plan, if such deposits are required by the Rules of the Clearinghouse.
- vi. Surplus funds of the Clearinghouse as may be in excess of funds necessary for normal business operations. No such surplus shall be assumed until approved by the Board.

The Clearinghouse may borrow funds or draw funds as necessary against any line of credit at any time to cover any Default Losses or obligations of the Clearinghouse. Any borrowing of funds shall not relieve any Clearing Member from their obligations under this and other Rules or from the application of their Guaranty Fund Deposits.

The Clearinghouse may obtain and maintain any default insurance. To the extent the Clearinghouse deems it appropriate, it will utilize this financial resource in its sole discretion. Such insurance shall be for the sole benefit of the Clearinghouse and proceeds, and the right to any proceeds, shall be paid to and belong solely to the Clearinghouse.

#### **Guaranty Fund Contributions To Be Restored**

In the event the Clearinghouse must apply all or part of a Clearing Member's Guaranty Fund deposits or margins to meet obligations of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, the Clearing Member shall make good any such deficiency in Guaranty Fund Deposits or margins, by wire or other acceptable method, prior to the close of business on the next banking day. If a Clearing Member pays such assessment by wire and the wire transfer service is not open or operational at the time notice is sent, payment is due within one (1) hour on the next business day that the wire transfer service is open and operational.

#### **Assessments**

Default Losses will first be satisfied by applying the funds in the order of priority listed in Application of Funds. The balance of any losses remaining after the application of such funds will be assessed against all Clearing Members excluding any Insolvent Clearing Members.

Each applicable Clearing Member will be subject to an assessment in direct proportion to the Clearing Members' total Guaranty Fund deposit requirement up to an amount that does not exceed (i) a total of three times such Clearing Member's total guaranty fund deposit requirement at the time of the default with respect to losses that are attributed to the default of a single Clearing Member and (ii) a total of six times such Clearing Member's total guaranty fund deposit requirement at the time of the default with respect to losses that are attributed to the default of multiple Clearing Members during a Cooling Off Period as defined below.

Each Clearing Member shall pay any assessment required by wire or other method acceptable to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US by the end of the banking day on which the notice of the assessment is delivered to each Clearing Member. If a Clearing Member pays such assessment by wire and the wire transfer service is not open or operational at the time notice is sent, payment is due within one (1) hour on the next business day that the wire transfer service is open and operational. Any Clearing Member that does not satisfy an assessment shall be in default, and shall be responsible for any Default Loss that occurs. In the event that the amount of assessments received exceeds the amount of the loss, the Clearinghouse will return such excess funds as soon as practicable.

#### **Haircut Settlement Cycles**

If one or more Clearing Members default and the assets available to cover the defaults, including the funds described above, are insufficient to satisfy the Default Loss and Obligations of the Clearinghouse as a result of such Default, then the Board, with input from RiskCo if required, approves the Clearinghouse to modify settlement cycles in accordance with CFTC §39.16 and CFTC regulations thereunder.

Following the Board's approval, the Clearinghouse shall issue a notice and conduct a settlement cycle for all Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US contracts to determine settlement prices for all contracts and the net portfolio gain or loss for each house and customer portfolio:

- A. The net portfolio gain of a Clearing Member (a "collect"), or the net portfolio loss of a Clearing Member to the Clearinghouse (a "pay"), shall be determined separately for (i) its proprietary positions in <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a> contracts (a "Proprietary Collect" or a "Proprietary Pay"), and (ii) the net positions of its customers in <a href="Cboe Clear US">Cboe Clear US</a> contracts (collectively, a "Customer Collect" or a "Customer Pay").
- B. The Clearinghouse shall determine and calculate the sum of (i) the amount of each non-defaulted Clearing Member's remaining payment obligations, if any, with respect to assessments levied by <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a>; (ii) any other remaining available funds or collateral; (iii) all Proprietary Pays to be received by <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a>, and (iv) all Customer Pays to be received by <a href="Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US">Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</a>, and deduct the amount of any uncovered loss (the resulting amount, the "Aggregate Available Funds").

- C. The Clearinghouse shall then notify each Clearing Member of the amount of its remaining assessments (if any), Proprietary Pay, and Customer Pay, and each Clearing Member shall pay all such amounts no later than the time required for the relevant settlement cycle. If a Clearing Member does not make such payment to the Clearinghouse, such Clearing Member will be in Default and the Clearinghouse may take any of the actions specified elsewhere in the Cook Clear Digital Cook Clear US Rules with respect to such Clearing Member and its customers.
- D. If the amount of Aggregate Available Funds received by the Clearinghouse exceeds the sum of all Proprietary Collects and Customer Collects, the Clearinghouse shall calculate reimbursements of, and distribute, the excess funds to Clearing Members in the reverse order funds were previously paid to the Clearinghouse, provided the loss has been fully addressed. Such reimbursements will be distributed pro rata to Clearing Members. The Clearinghouse may also determine a maximum amount to pay back for closed positions that may be included in the aggregate collects, based upon existing facts and circumstances that it deems appropriate to mitigate further disruptions to the markets.
- E. If the sum of all Proprietary Collects and Customer Collects exceeds the amount of Aggregate Available Funds received, including any voluntary contributions received, then the following procedures will apply:
  - 1. The Clearinghouse shall haircut the amount of each Proprietary Collect and Customer Collect on a pro rata basis for the current, and each successive, settlement cycle for the next two (2) Business Days, unless a Bankruptcy Event has occurred, to equal the amount of Aggregate Available Funds received relative to the Proprietary Collect and Customer Collect (such process, a "Variation Margin Gains Haircut"). The Clearinghouse will haircut Customer Collects at the Customer Account level of each Clearing Member, and each Clearing Member will allocate such haircut pro rata among its customers with net portfolio gains for the relevant settlement cycle.
  - 2. After considering the existing facts and circumstances and the interests of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US's Clearing Members, the Board, in consultation with the RiskCo, may instruct the Clearinghouse to extend or reduce the number of days during which Variation Margin Gains Haircuts are applied by one or two Business Days. In no event may the Clearinghouse conduct Variation Margin Gains Haircuts for longer than five (5) Business Days.
  - 3. Absent a Bankruptcy Event, for each settlement cycle conducted in accordance with these procedures, the Clearinghouse shall pay the haircutted Proprietary Collects and Customer Collects as soon as practicable after receipt of the Aggregate Available Funds.
  - 4. If a Bankruptcy Event occurs following a Clearing Member Default on a day during which Variation Margin Gains Haircuts are applied to settlement cycles, then on such day, the Clearinghouse will conduct a final settlement cycle which will also be subject to a Variation Margin Gains Haircut. The price determined in accordance with such settlement cycle will be used as the price for close-out netting.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, the funds and assets of a defaulting Clearing Member's customers will not be applied to cover losses with respect to a house default, per Regulation 39.16(c)(2)(v).

#### Partial & Full Tear-ups

Default Losses will first be satisfied by applying the funds in the order of priority listed in Application of Funds and the use of Clearinghouse Assessments. In the event such measures are not sufficient to cover Default Losses, the Clearinghouse may implement a voluntary tear-up process and, if a voluntary tear-up is not sufficient to cover Default losses or the Clearinghouse otherwise determines it is appropriate, the Clearinghouse may implement a sanctioned partial tear-up process or determine to implement a full termination of all contracts.

- A. Voluntary tear-up. The Clearinghouse may issue notice to Clearing Members and Market Participants providing an opportunity for them to voluntarily agree to have one or more proprietary contracts or, with a customer's consent, to agree to have one or more of each of such customer's contracts that are opposite the remaining open positions of the Defaulted Clearing Member, extinguished by the Clearinghouse ("tear-up").
- B. Sanctioned partial tear-up. The Board, through consultation with the RiskCo and the DMC, may determine that a sanctioned partial tear-up is appropriate and instruct the Clearinghouse to extinguish a portion of the remaining open positions of the Defaulted Clearing Member through a partial tear-up of proprietary and customer positions of non-defaulted Clearing Members and non-defaulted customers of the Defaulted Clearing Member. A partial tear-up may include, but is not limited to, a line-by-line tear-up against the remaining open positions of the Defaulted Clearing Member. In such event, the RiskCo will review and provide recommendations to the Board who will determine the appropriate scope of each partial tear-up in accordance with the following procedures.
- C. <u>Sanctioned full tear-up.</u> The Board may determine that, instead of implementing a sanctioned a partial tear-up process, it is appropriate for the Clearinghouse to conduct a full tear-up of all contracts, taking into consideration any recommendation by the Board of Directors and the Default Management Committee. Such determination, and any recommendation, will (i) be based upon then existing facts and circumstances; (ii) support the integrity of the Clearinghouse and the stability of the financial system; (iii) take into consideration the interests of Clearing Members and Market Participants; and (iv) aim to extinguish the Defaulted Clearing Member's open proprietary and customer positions and any additional positions deemed necessary to mitigate further disruptions to the markets affected by the remaining open positions of the Defaulted Clearing Member.

If any proprietary or customer positions of a Defaulted Clearing Member remain open following the last Variation Margin Gains Haircut settlement cycle, then the Clearinghouse will conduct a partial tear-up process of proprietary and customer positions of non-defaulted Clearing Members and non-defaulted customers of the Defaulted Clearing Member, provided that the Board, with input from the RiskCo shall determine the appropriate scope of the tear-up. In this

situation, the Clearinghouse would proportionately extinguish contracts held by non-defaulted Clearing Members, their non-defaulted customers, and the non-defaulted customers of the Defaulted Clearing Member that are opposite the Defaulted Clearing Member's remaining open positions relative to the size of such remaining open positions.

In the event that the Board mandates a full tear-up of contracts or if, after taking any or all of the measures allowed in this section to address a Clearing Member Default or Insolvency, the

Clearinghouse determines that it still will not be able to satisfy all losses or cover a settlement variation payment obligation when due (without expectation of accessing funds that would permit it to cover such payment obligation), then the Clearinghouse will terminate all contracts in accordance with these procedures. As soon as reasonably practicable, and in a manner consistent with the Commodity Exchange Act and the regulations adopted thereunder, the Clearinghouse will fix a U.S. dollar amount to be paid to or received from the Clearinghouse in respect of all contracts to be terminated by conducting a haircut settlement cycle to determine a final settlement price for all open contracts.

Upon the completion of payments, all <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> contracts shall be extinguished, and the Clearinghouse shall have no further access to funds or collateral with respect to such contracts or clearing activity of a non-Defaulting Clearing Member. Clearing Members, their affiliates, and their customers shall have no claim against the Clearinghouse with respect to losses suffered as a result of the application of <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> Rules, nor shall any beneficial holder of an <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US</u> contract have any claim against its non-defaulting Clearing Member.

#### **Cooling Off Period And Multiple Defaults**

If more than one Clearing Member Default occurs at a time or in close sequence, including a Default that occurs by reason of a Clearing Member's failure to satisfy an assessment demand, the Clearinghouse will manage the Defaults separately.

Upon any Default, during the Cooling Off Period, as defined below, non-defaulted Clearing Members will be subject to a maximum obligation to pay assessments as described in the Assessments requirement and the maximum obligation of all Members shall be restricted to the special assessment limit as described in Assessments requirement. These maximums shall apply from the date of the original default until the later of (i) the fifth Business Day thereafter and (ii) if another Clearing Member defaults during the five (5) Business Days following the initial or any subsequent default, the fifth Business Day following the last such default (such period, the "Cooling Off Period"), regardless of the number of Defaults that occur during such Cooling Off Period.

The aggregate maximum contribution that may be required pursuant to the Assessments requirement, for the Cooling Off Period, shall be based upon each Clearing Member's total Guaranty Fund deposit requirement in effect at the commencement of the Cooling Off Period. The maximum does not limit Clearing Members' obligations to restore their Guaranty Fund contributions or margins and performance bonds as set forth in the Collateral to be Restored section. Following a Cooling Off Period, the Clearinghouse shall notify each Clearing Member of its Guaranty Fund deposit requirement and its assessment exposure.

The Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US Default Financial Resource contribution shall be limited during the Cooling Off Period, as decided by the Board, in consultation with the RiskCo if required. The Board may, at its discretion, authorize additional funds to be added to the Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US Default Financial Resource contribution during the Cooling Off Period.

### **Document Information <DO NOT EDIT>**

SharePoint-populated data:

Major Version #	2
Last Revised Date	5/31/2024
Last Review Date	3/4/2024

#### Exhibit D – Redline Changes to the Risk Management Committee Charter

## CBOE CLEAR DIGITAL CBOE CLEAR US, LLC RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARTER

(Updated as of May 31 December 1, 2024)

#### **Purpose**

The Risk Management Committee ("RiskCo") is a committee of the Board of Directors of Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US, LLC ("Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US") (the "Board) established in accordance with the Commodity Exchange Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder (collectively referred to as "the CEA"). Pursuant to CFTC Rule 39.24, a derivatives clearing organization (a "DCO") shall have governance arrangements that establish one or more risk management committees and require the board of directors of the DCO to consult with, and consider and respond to input from, the risk management committee on all matters that could materially affect the risk profile of the DCO.

The RiskCo is an advisory committee to the Board with regard to any matters that could materially affect the risk profile of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US as a DCO.

#### Composition

The CFTC RiskCo shall include:

- at least one Public Director of the Board;
- at least two clearing member representatives; and
- at least two representatives of customers of clearing members.

The members of the RiskCo shall be appointed by the Board. The Board may remove any RiskCo member at any time with or without cause.

The Chair of the RiskCo shall be the one Public Director of the Board. In the case that there is more than one Public Director seated on the RiskCo, the Board shall appoint the Chair.

Each member of the RiskCo shall serve a term of three years or, if earlier, until his or her resignation or removal. A RiskCo member's standard three-year term may be extended one additional year. Following a period of one year from the end of the RiskCo member's term, either a standard term or an extended term, a RiskCo member is eligible to serve additional terms.

#### **Fitness Standards**

RiskCo members are required to bring their expertise and industry leadership to the RiskCo and provide independent and informed opinions in the form of risk-based input on all matters presented to the RiskCo for consideration.

#### Exhibit D – Redline Changes to the Risk Management Committee Charter

RiskCo members are required to perform their duties in a manner that supports the safety and efficiency of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US and the stability of the broader financial system.

RiskCo members are subject to and required to comply with all applicable <u>Cboe Clear DigitalCboe</u> <u>Clear US</u> Rules, including applicable conflicts of interest and confidentiality rules, policies and procedures.

#### **Meetings**

The RiskCo shall meet regularly each quarter and as often as it may deem necessary and appropriate to address in a timely manner material risk issues as they may arise for Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US as a DCO.

The RiskCo shall maintain written minutes of its meetings.

A majority of the RiskCo members shall constitute a quorum. Each RiskCo member not subject to a recusal (for reasons including, but not limited to, an actual or potential conflict of interest) shall have one (1) vote in all matters requiring a vote by the RiskCo. The act of a majority of the RiskCo members not subject to a recusal at any duly constituted meeting, if a quorum is present, shall be the act of the RiskCo. In the case of any tie vote, the Chair of the RiskCo shall have the deciding vote.

#### Reporting

The Chair reports the RiskCo's input directly to the Board on matters that could materially affect the risk profile of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US in its operating capacity as a DCO.

The Board will consider and respond to the substance of any input received from the RiskCo and will subsequently document its consideration and response to RiskCo input in a written memorandum to the RiskCo.

#### Responsibilities

In furtherance of the RiskCo's purpose, and in addition to any other responsibilities that may be properly assigned by the Board, the RiskCo will provide advice to the Board on any matter that may materially impact the risk profile of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US as a DCO, which includes but is not limited to:

- material changes to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US's risk models, default management
  procedures, financial resources, and credit risk management, as well as material revisions
  to Cboe Clear DigitalCboe Clear US policies governing the framework, testing, and
  calculation, as applicable, of the aforementioned matters;
- material changes to standards and requirements for clearing member eligibility and participation;

#### Exhibit D – Redline Changes to the Risk Management Committee Charter

- clearing of any new products that have margining, liquidity, default management, pricing, or other risk characteristics that differ materially from those currently cleared by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US;
- material changes to Choe Clear Digital Choe Clear US's risk monitoring practices;
- regulatory proposals that may pose a novel question or regulatory risk prior to implementation, including advising the Board as to whether and how such changes may impact regulation; and
- any other material risk management issues, including risk management policy, financial safeguards, financial surveillance and membership issues.

The RiskCo may also recommend to the Board changes that would ensure fair, vigorous, and effective regulation and risk management, and that would support the broader financial system or other relevant public interest considerations.

The RiskCo shall receive regular reports from the Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US Chief Risk Officer, and, as necessary, the Head of Clearing and Chief Compliance Officer, regarding items that may have material impact on the risk profile of Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US.

#### **Authority and Resources**

The RiskCo shall take such actions required by Choe Clear DigitalChoe Clear US Rules or as otherwise delegated to it by the Board. The Risk Management Committee shall have the duties and powers as described and required under the CEA. The RiskCo shall have sufficient authority, discretion, and resources to fulfill its mandate.