SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–78787; File No. SR–BatsBZX–2016–56]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Bats BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Related to Fees for Use of Bats BZX Exchange, Inc.

September 8, 2016.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),1 and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,2 notice is hereby given that on August 31, 2016, Bats BZX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “BZX”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as one establishing or changing a member due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act3 and Rule 19b–4(f)(2) thereunder,4 which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange filed a proposal to amend the fee schedule applicable to Members5 and non-Members of the Exchange pursuant to BZX Rules 15.1(a) and (c).

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange’s Web site at www.batstrading.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

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

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

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to modify its fee schedule applicable to the Exchange’s options platform (“BZX Options”) to: (i) Adopt a new Quoting Incentive Program Tier under footnote 5; and (ii) adopt a new NBBO Setter Tier under footnote 4.

The Exchange currently offers three QIP tiers under footnote 5 which provide an additional rebate per contract for orders that add liquidity to the BZX Options Book6 in options classes in which a Member is a Market Maker7 registered on BZX Options pursuant to Rule 22.2. The Market Maker must be registered with BZX Options in an average of 20% or more of the associated options series in a class in order to qualify for QIP rebates for that class. The QIP tiers provide an enhanced rebate ranging from $0.02 to $0.05 per contract to qualifying Market Maker orders that yield fee code PM or NM. The Exchange now proposes to add QIP Tier 4 under which a Market Maker may receive an additional rebate of $0.03 per contract, where the Member has an ADAV8 in Market Maker orders equal to or greater than 0.40% of average TCV.9 NBBO Setter Tier

The Exchange currently offers four NBBO Setter tiers under footnote 4, which provide an additional rebate per contract for non-Customer orders that add liquidity and establish a new National Best Bid or Offer (“NBBO”). The NBBO Setter tiers provide an enhanced rebate ranging from $0.02 to $0.05 per contract to qualifying non-Customer orders that yield fee code PA, PF, PM, PN, NA, NF, NM or NN. The Exchange now proposes to add a new NBBO Setter Tier 4 under which a non-Customer order may receive an additional rebate of $0.03 per contract where the Member has an ADAV in Market Maker orders equal to or greater than 0.40% of average TCV. As a result, the current NBBO Setter Tier 4 will be renamed to NBBO Setter Tier 5.

Implementation Date

The Exchange proposes to implement these amendments to its fee schedule as of September 1, 2016.

---

5 A Member is defined as “any registered broker or dealer that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange.” See Exchange Rule 1.5(a).
7 “Market Maker” applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Market Maker range at the OCC, where such Member is registered with the Exchange as a Market Maker as defined in Rule 16.3(a)(37).
8 “ADAV” means average daily added volume calculated as the number of contracts added.
9 “TCV” means total consolidated volume calculated as the volume reported by all exchanges to the consolidated transaction reporting plan for the month for which they apply, excluding volume on any day that the Exchange experiences an Exchange System Disruption and on any day with a scheduled early market close.
2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6 of the Act. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels to be excessive.

Volume-based rebates such as those currently maintained on the Exchange have been widely adopted by equities and options exchanges and are equitable because they are open to all Members on an equal basis and provide additional benefits or discounts that are reasonably related to the value to an exchange’s market quality associated with higher levels of market activity, such as higher levels of liquidity provision and/or growth patterns, and introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery processes.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to add a new QIP Tier 4 under footnote 5 is reasonable, fair and equitable and non-discriminatory, for the reasons set forth above with respect to volume-based pricing generally. In addition, the Exchange believes the amount of the proposed rebate offered under QIP Tier 4 is equitable and reasonable because it is generally in line with the rebates offered pursuant to QIP Tiers 1 to 3. The Exchange also notes that although registration as a Market Maker is required to qualify for QIP, such registration is available to all Members on an equal basis. The Exchange also believes that the proposed tier is reasonable, fair and equitable, and non-discriminatory because it, like the QIP generally, is aimed to incentivize active market making on the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that its proposal to add a new NBBO Setter Tier 4 under footnote 4 is reasonable, fair and equitable and non-discriminatory, for the reasons set forth above with respect to volume-based pricing generally. Similar to the pricing tiers discussed above, this incentive is reasonably related to the value to the Exchange’s market quality associated with higher levels of market activity, including liquidity provision and the introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery processes. In particular, the enhanced rebate will encourage Market Maker orders at the NBBO, and is therefore directly focused on encouraging aggressively priced liquidity provision on BZX Options. The proposed differentiation between Market Makers and other market participants recognizes the differing contributions made to the liquidity and trading environment on the Exchange by these market participants. Market Makers, unlike other market participants, have obligations to the market and regulatory requirements, which normally do not apply to other market participants. A Market Maker has the obligation to make continuous markets, engage in course of dealings reasonably calculated to contribute to the maintenance of a fair and orderly market, and not make bids or offers or enter into transactions that are inconsistent with such course of dealings. On the other hand, other market participants do not have such obligations on the Exchange. For the same reasons, the Exchange believes it is reasonable to provide an additional incentive in the form of the proposed new NBBO Setter Tier 4 to Members submitting Market Maker orders.

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

The Exchange believes the proposed amendments to its fee schedule would not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the contrary, the Exchange has designed the proposed amendments to its fee schedule in order to enhance its ability to compete with other exchanges. Also, the Exchange believes that the expansion of criteria required to qualify for volume-tiered rebates by the Exchange contributes to rather than burdens competition, as such changes are intended to incentivize participants to increase their participation on the Exchange. Similarly, the introduction of a new QIP and NBBO Setter tier are intended to provide incentives to Market Makers to encourage them to enter orders to the Exchange, and thus is again intended to enhance competition.

Additionally, Members may opt to disfavor the Exchange’s pricing if they believe that alternatives offer them better value. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will impair the ability of Members or competing venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets. Additionally, Members may opt to disfavor the Exchange’s pricing if they believe that alternatives offer them better value. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes to the Exchange’s tiered pricing structure burdens competition, but instead, enhances competition as it is intended to increase the competitiveness of the Exchange. Also, the Exchange believes that the price changes contribute to, rather than burden competition, as such changes are broadly intended to incentivize participants to increase their participation on the Exchange, which will increase the liquidity and market quality on the Exchange, which will then further enhance the Exchange’s ability to compete with other exchanges.

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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any written comments from members or other interested parties.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and paragraph (I) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

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


Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Extending the Pilot Period for the Exchange’s Retail Liquidity Program

August 17, 2016.

Correction

In notice document 2016–20062, appearing on pages 57632–57634 in the Issue of Tuesday, August 23, 2016, make the following correction:

On page 57634, in the third column, beginning on the fifteenth line, the entry “September 12, 2016” should read “September 13, 2016”.

BILLING CODE 1505–01–D

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Fees Schedule

September 8, 2016.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”), and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on September 1, 2016, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated (the “Exchange” or “CBOE”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fees Schedule. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site (http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx), at the Exchange’s Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

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

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

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fees Schedule. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to (1) increase the payment to the Designated Primary Market-Maker(s) appointed in FTSE 100 Index (“UKXM”) and the China 50 Index (“FXTM”) and (2) eliminate the transaction fee for Professional Customers and Voluntary Professionals (“W” origin code) (“Professionals”) for all manual transactions in all penny and non-penny equity, index (excluding Underlying Symbol List A)3, ETF and ETN options classes.

Currently, the Exchange offers a compensation plan to the DPM(s) appointed in FXTM or UKXM to offset the initial DPM costs. More specifically, Footnote 43 to the Fees Schedule provides that DPM(s) appointed for an entire month in either FXTM or UKXM will receive a payment of $5,000 per class per month through December 31, 2016. The Payment was adopted to offset the initial DPM costs. The Exchange notes that the startup and ongoing costs to support these products still exceed the current DPM payment. As such, the Exchange proposes to increase the payment to $7,500 per class per month in order to help offset the ongoing costs.

Next, the Exchange proposes to reduce the transaction fee for Professionals for all manual transactions in all penny and non-penny equity, index (excluding Underlying Symbol List A), ETF and ETN options classes to $0.00 per contract. Currently, Professionals are assessed $0.25 per contract for manual executions in those

Footnotes:

3 See CBOE Fees Schedule, Footnote 34.