

Chapter 18 U.S. Treasury Bond Futures

18100. SCOPE OF CHAPTER

This chapter is limited in application to trading of U.S. Treasury Bond futures. The procedures for trading, clearing, delivery, and settlement, and any other matters not specifically covered herein or in Chapter 7 shall be governed by the general rules of the Exchange.

All times referenced in this chapter are Chicago times and are subject to change by the Exchange.

18101. CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS

18101.A. Contract Grade

The contract grade for delivery on futures made under these Rules shall be U.S. Treasury fixed-principal bonds which have fixed semi-annual coupon payments, and which:

- (a) if not callable, have a remaining term to maturity of at least 15 years; or
- (b) if callable, are not callable for at least 15 years.

For the purpose of determining a U.S. Treasury bond's eligibility for contract grade, its remaining term to maturity (or, if callable, its remaining term to first call) shall be calculated from the first day of the contract's named month of expiration, and shall be rounded down to the nearest three-month increment (e.g., 15 years 5 months 18 days shall be taken to be 15 years 3 months).

New issues of U.S. Treasury bonds that satisfy the standards in this Rule shall be added to the contract grade as they are issued. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Exchange shall have the right to exclude any new issue from the contract grade or to further limit outstanding issues from the contract grade.

18101.B. Physical Delivery

Each individual contract lot that is delivered must be composed of one and only one contract grade Treasury bond issue. The amount at which the short Clearing Member making delivery shall invoice the long Clearing Member taking delivery of said bonds (Rule 18105.A.) shall be determined as:

$$\text{Invoice Amount} = (\$1000 \times P \times c) + \text{Accrued Interest}$$

where

P is the contract daily settlement price on the day that the short Clearing Member gives the Clearing House notice of intention to deliver (Rule 18104.A.). *P* shall be expressed in points and fractions of points with par on the basis of 100 points (Rule 18102.C.); and

c is a conversion factor equal to the price at which a bond with the same time to maturity as said bond or, if callable, same time to first call (as per Rule 18101.A.), and with the same coupon rate as said bond, and with par on the basis of one (1) point, will yield 6% per annum according to conversion factor tables prepared and published by the Exchange.

For each individual contract lot that is delivered, the product expression $(\$1000 \times P \times c)$ shall be rounded to the nearest cent, with half-cents rounded up to the nearest cent.

Example: Assume that *P* is 100 and 25/32nds. Assume that *c* is 0.9633. The product expression $(\$1000 \times P \times c)$ is found to be \$97,082.578125. The rounded amount that enters into determination of the *Invoice Amount* is \$97,082.58.

In the determination of the *Invoice Amount* for each individual contract lot being delivered, *Accrued Interest* shall be charged to the long Clearing Member taking delivery by the short Clearing Member making delivery, in accordance with 31 CFR Part 306--General Regulations Governing U.S. Securities, Subpart E--Interest. See also Rule 18102.B.

18102. TRADING SPECIFICATIONS

The number of contract expiration months open for trading at a given time shall be determined by the Exchange. Without limiting the foregoing, the Exchange customarily shall list for trading five consecutive expiries in the March-June-September-December quarterly cycle.

18102.A. Trading Schedule

The hours for trading shall be determined by the Exchange. On the last day of trading in an expiring

contract (Rule 18102.F.), the close of the expiring contract shall begin at 12:00 noon and trading shall be permitted thereafter for a period not to exceed one minute.

18102.B. Trading Unit

The unit of trading shall be U.S. Treasury Bonds having a face value at maturity of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) or multiples thereof.

18102.C. Price Increments¹

Par shall be on the basis of 100 points, with each point equal to \$1,000 per contract. The minimum price fluctuation shall be one thirty-second of one point (equal to \$31.25 per contract), except for intermonth spreads for which the minimum price fluctuation shall be one-quarter of one thirty-second of one point (equal to \$7.8125 per contract). Contracts shall not be made on any other price basis.

18102.D. Reserved

18102.E. Position Limits and Position Accountability

In accordance with Rule 559., no person shall own or control positions in excess of 25,000 contracts in an expiring contract during the contract's last 10 trading days (Rule 18102.F.). No hedge exemptions will be permitted with respect to this position limit.

Position accountability, as defined in Rule 560, will apply to trading of U.S. Treasury Bond futures.

18102.F. Termination of Trading

No trades in an expiring contract shall be made during the last 7 business days of the contract's named month of expiration. Any contract remaining open after the last day of trading must be either:

(a) settled by physical delivery no later than the last business day of the contract's named month of expiration (Rule 18103.); or

(b) liquidated by means of a bona fide Exchange of Futures for Related Position (Rule 538.) no later than 12:00 noon on the fifth business day preceding the last business day of the contract's named month of expiration.

18103. DATE OF DELIVERY

Delivery of contract grade U.S. Treasury bonds may be made by a short Clearing member, upon any business day of the contract delivery month that the short Clearing Member may select. The contract delivery month shall be derived so as to commence on, and to include, the first business day of the contract's named month of expiration, and to extend to, and to include, the last business day of the contract's named month of expiration.

18104. DELIVERIES ON EXPIRING FUTURES CONTRACTS

Deliveries against expiring contracts shall be by book-entry transfer between accounts of Clearing Members at qualified banks (Rule 18109.) in accordance with 31 CFR Part 306--General Regulations Governing U.S. Securities, Subpart O--Book-Entry Procedure, and 31 CFR Part 357--Regulations Governing Book-Entry of U.S. Treasury Bonds, Notes and Bills held in Legacy Treasury Direct®.

Deliveries against an expiring contract can be made no earlier than the first business day of the contract's named month of expiration, and no later than the last business day of the contract's named month of expiration (Rule 18103).

All deliveries must be assigned by the Clearing House.

18104.A. DAY OF INTENTION

No later than 6:00 p.m. on the second business day preceding the intended day of delivery, the short Clearing Member must tender to the Clearing House all notices of intention to make delivery such as it has received from its customers who are short.

Where a futures commission merchant, as a Clearing Member, has an interest both long and short for customers on its own books, it must tender all such notices of intention to deliver.

To each short Clearing Member who has issued a notice of intention to make delivery, the Clearing House shall assign long Clearing Members who shall be obligated to take delivery. Upon making such assignment, the Clearing House shall promptly furnish to each short Clearing member making delivery the names of the long Clearing members assigned to take delivery from such short Clearing Member.

18104.B. Day of Delivery

No later than 7:30 a.m. on the day of delivery, the long Clearing Member taking delivery must make funds available, and must notify its bank to accept contract grade U.S. Treasury bonds (Rules 18101.A.

¹ Revised March 2008; January 2009.

and 18105.A.) and to remit federal funds to the account of the short Clearing Member making delivery, at the short Clearing Member's bank.

In the event the long Clearing Member taking delivery does not agree with the terms of the invoice received from the short Clearing Member making delivery (Rule 18105.A.), the long Clearing Member must notify the short Clearing Member, and the dispute must be settled no later than 9:30 a.m. on the day of delivery.

No later than 10:00 a.m. on the day of delivery, the short Clearing Member making delivery must have contract grade U.S. Treasury bonds (Rules 18101.A. and 18105.) in place at its bank, in delivery form that is acceptable to its bank, and must notify its bank to transfer said U.S. Treasury bonds by book entry, on a delivery versus payment basis (Rule 18107.), to the account of the long Clearing Member taking delivery, at the long Clearing Member's bank.

No later than 1:00 p.m. on the day of delivery, contract grade U.S. Treasury bonds must be transferred, and payment must be made.

18105. SELLER'S INVOICE NOTIFICATION TO BUYER

18105.A. Invoice Terms

Each short Clearing Member making delivery shall prepare invoices addressed to each long Clearing Member assigned to take delivery from such short Clearing Member (Rule 18104.A.). Said invoices shall:

- (a) identify the U.S. Treasury bonds that the short Clearing Member shall tender to said long Clearing Member; and
- (b) show the amounts which said long Clearing Member must pay to said short Clearing Member in settlement of the actual delivery of said U.S. Treasury bonds, based on the delivery prices established by the Clearing House, and adjusted for accrued interest (Rule 18101.B.).

18105.B. Day of Notification

In the case of deliveries to be made prior to the last permissible day of delivery (Rule 18103.), each short Clearing Member making delivery shall submit said invoices to the Clearing House by 2:00 p.m. on the business day preceding the day of delivery. In the case of deliveries to be made on the last permissible day of delivery, the short Clearing Member shall submit such invoices to the Clearing House by 3:00 p.m. on the business day preceding the day of delivery. Upon receipt of such invoices, the Clearing House shall promptly furnish them to the long Clearing Members to whom they are addressed.

18106. BUYER'S BANKING NOTIFICATION TO SELLER

No later than 4:00 p.m. on the business day preceding the day of delivery, the long Clearing Member taking delivery shall provide the short Clearing Member making delivery with a Banking Notification form which shall include:

- (a) date of delivery;
- (b) identification number and name of the long Clearing Member taking delivery;
- (c) notification number of the Clearing House delivery assignment;
- (d) identification number and name of the short Clearing Member making delivery;
- (e) quantity of the contract being delivered; and
- (f) the long Clearing Member's bank, account number, and specific Federal Wire instructions for the transfer of U.S. Treasury securities.

18107. PAYMENT

No later than 1:00 p.m. on the day of delivery, the long Clearing Member assigned to take delivery must take delivery and make payment. In the case of banking holidays, said long Clearing Member must take delivery and make payment no later than 9:30 a.m. on the next banking business day.

Payment shall be made in federal funds on a delivery versus payment basis. That is, payment shall not be made until the U.S. Treasury bonds to be tendered for delivery (Rule 18105.A.) are delivered. Adjustments for differences between contract prices and delivery prices established by the Clearing House shall be made with the Clearing House in accordance with its rules, policies, and procedures.

18108. WIRE FAILURE

In the event that delivery cannot be accomplished because of a failure of the Federal Reserve wire, or because of a failure of either the long Clearing Member's bank or the short Clearing Member's bank to access the Federal Reserve wire, delivery shall be made before 9:30 a.m. on the next business day on which the Federal Reserve wire, or bank access to it, is operable.

In the event of such failure, the short Clearing Member making delivery shall remit to the long Clearing Member taking delivery such interest on the U.S. Treasury bonds being delivered as accrues between the day on which the bonds were originally to be delivered and the day on which the bonds are actually delivered. Both the long Clearing Member and the short Clearing Member must provide to the Exchange documented evidence that they gave instructions to their respective banks in accordance with Rules 18104. and 18107. and that they complied with all other provisions of Rules 18104. and 18107.

18109. BANKS

For purposes of these Rules “qualified bank” (Rule 181.04.) shall mean a U.S. commercial bank (either Federal or State charter) that is a member of the Federal Reserve System and that has capital (capital, surplus and undivided earnings) in excess of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000).