

Chapter 359

E-mini NASDAQ 100 Index® Futures

35900. SCOPE OF CHAPTER

This chapter is limited in application to futures trading in the E-Mini Nasdaq 100 Index. The procedures for trading, clearing, settlement, and any other matters not specifically covered herein shall be governed by the rules of the Exchange.

35901. COMMODITY SPECIFICATIONS

Each futures contract shall be valued at \$20.00 times the Nasdaq 100 Index. The Nasdaq 100 Index is a modified capitalization weighted stock index of 100 of the largest non-financial stocks traded on the Nasdaq National Market.

35902. FUTURES CALL

35902.A. Trading Schedule¹

Futures contracts shall be scheduled for trading during such hours and for delivery in such months as may be determined by the Board of Directors.

35902.B. Trading Unit

The unit of trading shall be \$20.00 times the Nasdaq 100 Index.

35902.C. Price Increments²

Bids and offers shall be quoted in terms of the Nasdaq 100 Index. The minimum fluctuation of the futures contract shall be 0.25 index points, equivalent to \$5.00 per contract. Trades may also occur in multiples of 0.05 index points, for E-Mini Nasdaq 100 futures calendar spreads executed as simultaneous transactions pursuant to Rule 542.A.

35902.D. Position Limits

A person shall not own or control more than 10,000 Nasdaq 100 Index contracts or equivalent contracts net long or net short in all contract months combined. For purposes of this rule, an E-Mini Nasdaq 100 Index contract shall be deemed equivalent to one fifth (0.20) of a Nasdaq 100 Index futures contract. For positions involving options on E-Mini Nasdaq 100 Index futures, this rule is superseded by the option speculative position limit rule.

35902.E. Accumulation of Positions

For purposes of this rule, the positions of all accounts directly or indirectly owned or controlled by a person or persons, and the positions of all accounts of a person or persons acting pursuant to an expressed or implied agreement or understanding, and the positions of all accounts in which a person or persons have a proprietary or beneficial interest, shall be cumulated.

35902.F. Exemptions

The foregoing position limits shall not apply to bona fide hedge positions meeting the requirements of Regulation 1.3(z)(1) of the CFTC and the rules of the Exchange, and shall not apply to arbitrage positions or inter-commodity spread positions subject to Rule 559.

35902.G. Termination of Trading

Futures trading shall terminate at the regularly scheduled start of trading on the Nasdaq National Market on the day scheduled for the determination of the Final Settlement Price.

35902.H. Contract Modifications

Specifications shall be fixed as of the first day of trading of a contract. If any U.S. governmental agency or body issues an order, ruling, directive or law that conflicts with the requirements of these rules, such order, ruling, directive or law shall be construed to take precedence and become part of these rules, and all open and new contracts shall be subject to such government orders.

¹ Revised December 2001.

² Revised March 2003.

35902.I. Price Limits, Trading Halts, and/or Trading Hours¹

Daily price limits and trading halts of the E-Mini Nasdaq 100 Index futures contract shall be coordinated with trading halts of the underlying stocks listed for trading in the securities markets.

For the purpose of this rule, the primary E-Mini futures contract shall be defined as the nearest E-Mini Nasdaq 100 futures contract month. Exchanges staff shall have the responsibility of determining whether the primary futures contract is limit offered.

For the first day of trading in a newly listed contract, the implied settlement price will be the most recent daily settlement for the Nasdaq 100 Index futures contract whose expiration date matches that of the newly listed contract.

Price Limits: For purposes of rules determining price limits and trading halts, RTH and ETH refer to, respectively, the Regular Trading Hours and the Electronic Trading Hours of the Nasdaq 100 Index Futures.

At the open of RTH, there shall be Price Limits corresponding to a 10.0%, 20.0% and 30% decline below the Reference RTH Price.

The Price Limits shall be calculated at the beginning of each calendar quarter, based upon the average closing price (P) of the Nasdaq 100 Index futures contract whose expiration date matches that of the current primary E-Mini futures contract, during the month prior to the beginning of the quarter and rounded, as follows:

5.0% Price Limit	equals	One half of the 10% Price Limit rounded down to nearest integral multiple of 1 index point
10.0% Price Limit	equals	10% of P rounded down to nearest integral multiple of 10 index points
20.0% Price Limit	equals	2 times the 10.0% Price Limit
30.0% Price Limit	equals	3 times the 10.0% Price Limit

When the primary futures contract is limit offered at the 10.0% Price Limit, a 10-minute period shall commence. If the primary futures contract is not limit offered at the end of the 10-minute period, trading will continue with the next applicable Price Limit in effect. If the primary futures contract is limit offered at the end of the 10-minute period, trading shall terminate for a period of two minutes, after which time the market shall reopen. The next applicable price Limit shall apply to such reopening.

When the primary futures contract is limit offered at the 20.0% Price Limit, a 10-minute period shall commence. If the primary futures contract is not limit offered at the end of the 10-minute period, trading will continue with the 30% Price Limit in effect. If the primary futures contract is limit offered at the end of the 10-minute period, trading shall terminate for a period of two minutes, after which time the market shall reopen. The 30% Price Limit shall apply to such reopening. The 30% Price Limit shall represent the Total Daily Price Limit.²

Trading Halts: If there is an NYSE Rule 80B trading halt declared in the primary securities market, trading shall be halted. Once trading in the primary securities market resumes after an NYSE Rule 80B trading halt, trading on the E-Mini Nasdaq 100 Index futures contract shall resume.

If an NYSE Rule 80B trading halt becomes inapplicable, the corresponding Price Limit shall likewise become inapplicable. E.g., if an NYSE Rule 80B trading halt, triggered by a 10% or a 20% decline in the Dow Jones Industrial Average, has been declared in the primary securities market, and trading in the primary securities market has recommenced, then the 10.0% or 20.0% Price Limits shall become inapplicable, respectively. E.g., when the NYSE Rule 80B 10.0% price limit provisions are suspended after 2:30 p.m. Eastern time, then the 10.0% Price Limit shall become inapplicable. Trading on the E-Mini Nasdaq 100 Index futures contract shall continue and the next applicable Price Limit shall apply.

¹ Revised May 2000; November 2000; May 2001; December 2007; January 2008.

² Revised November 2010; October 2011.

Opening Time¹: If either a trading halt was in effect or the primary futures contract was locked at a limit at the close of trading, then the opening time of trading on GLOBEX® shall be delayed until 6:00 p.m.

During Electronic Trading Hours (ETH), there shall be no trading of E-Mini Nasdaq 100 Index futures at a price more than the 5.0% Price Limit above or below the Reference RTH Price. If the market is limit bid or limit offered fifteen (15) minutes prior to the opening of the RTH, and remains limit bid or limit offered five (5) minutes prior to the opening of the RTH, there shall be a trading halt in effect until the commencement of Regular Trading hours (RTH). During the trading halt, the Exchange shall provide an indicative opening price for the re-opening of trading on GLOBEX, if applicable, pursuant to Rule 573. Once RTH commences, the next applicable trading limit shall be in effect.

35903. SETTLEMENT PROCEDURES

Delivery under the E–Mini Nasdaq 100 Index futures contract shall be by cash settlement.

35903.A. Final Settlement Price²

The Final Settlement Price shall be determined on the third Friday of the contract month or, if the Nasdaq 100 Index is not scheduled to be published for that day, on the first earlier day for which the Index is scheduled to be published.

The Final Settlement Price shall be a Special Opening Quotation of the Nasdaq 100 Index to be determined by the Nasdaq Stock Market Inc. (“Nasdaq”). If the Nasdaq does not open on the day scheduled for the determination of the Final Settlement Price, then the Final Settlement Price shall be the Special Opening Quotation of the first subsequent day on which Nasdaq does open.

The Special Opening Quotation of the Nasdaq 100 Index shall be based on the Nasdaq Official Opening Price (NOOP) of Nasdaq 100 Index stocks.

If a component stock in the index does not trade after 8:30 a.m. and before 3:00 p.m. on the day scheduled for determination of the Final Settlement Price while Nasdaq is open for trading, the price of that stock shall be determined, for the purposes of calculating the Final Settlement Price, based on the closing price of that stock on the preceding trading day. However, if the President of the Exchange or his delegate determines that there is a reasonable likelihood that trading in the stock shall occur shortly, the President or his delegate may instruct that the price of stock shall be based, for the purposes of calculating the Final Settlement Price, on the NOOP of the stock on the next day that it is traded on its primary market. Factors to be considered in determining whether trading in the stock is likely to occur shortly shall include the nature of the event and recent liquidity levels in the affected stock.

35903.B. Final Settlement

Clearing members holding open positions in an E–Mini Nasdaq 100 Index futures contract at the time of termination of trading in that contract shall make payment to or receive payment from the Clearing House in accordance with normal variation performance bond procedures based on a settlement price equal to the final settlement price.

35904. ACTS OF GOVERNMENT, ACTS OF GOD AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

(Refer to Rule 701. – ACTS OF GOVERNMENT, ACTS OF GOD AND OTHER EMERGENCIES)

35905. - 06. [RESERVED]

(End Chapter 359)

INTERPRETATIONS AND SPECIAL NOTICES RELATING TO CHAPTER 359

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¹ Revised April 2001; May 2001; December 2007; January 2009.

² Revised December 1999; December 2001; Revised following June 2005 expiration

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