Page 1 of * <mark>37</mark>	s	ECURITIES AND EXCH WASHINGTON Form 1	I, D.C. 20549		File No. * SR 2025 - * 045 No. (req. for Amendments *)	
Filing by The N	lasdaq Stock Market LLC					
Pursuant to Rule	e 19b-4 under the Securities Exchang	e Act of 1934				
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) * Section 19(b)(:	3)(A) * Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		Rule 19b-4(f)(1) 19b-4(f)(2) 19b-4(f)(3)	19b-4(f)(4) 19b-4(f)(5) 19b-4(f)(6)	
Notice of pro	posed change pursuant to the Payme	ent, Clearing, and Settleme Section 806(e)(2) *	ent Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap Securities Exchange Section 3C(b)(2) *	Submission pursuant to the Act of 1934	
Exhibit 2 Sei	nt As Paper Document	Exhibit 3 Sent As Pape	er Document			
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). A proposal to amend The Nasdaq Options Market LLC NOM Rules at Options 7, Section 2, Nasdaq Options Market - Fees and Rebates.						
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.						
First Name *	Olumuyiwa	Last Name *	deniyide			
Title *	Director & Associate General Cour	nsel				
E-mail *	Olumuyiwa.Odeniyide@nasdaq.com					
Telephone *	(202) 817-7995	Fax				
Signature						
Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.						
Date	06/16/2025		(Fitle *)		
Ву	John Zecca	EV	/P and Chief Legal (Officer		
	(Name *)					
form. A digital s	NOTE: Clicking the signature block at right will initiate digitally signing the form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed. Date: 2025.06.16 13:57:01 -04'00'					

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.

Form 19b-4 Information *					
Add Remove View					
SR-NASDAQ-2025-045 19b-4.docx					

The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *

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SR-NASDAQ-2025-045 Exhibit 1.doc)

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

Exhibit 1A - Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies *

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The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

Exhibit 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

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Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F , they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G .

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

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Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies

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The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.

Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text

Add Remove View

SR-NASDAQ-2025-045 Exhibit 5.docx

The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change

Partial Amendment

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If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to amend The Nasdaq Options Market LLC ("NOM") Rules at Options 7, Section 2, Nasdaq Options Market - Fees and Rebates. Specifically, NOM proposes to (1) increase the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM Market Makers³ and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive (2) increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants⁴ to achieve Tier 5 status, and (3) amend the note 6 incentive for Participants.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached as <u>Exhibit 1</u>. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as <u>Exhibit 5</u>.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the "Board"). Exchange staff

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

The term "NOM Market Maker" or ("M") is a Participant that has registered as a Market Maker on NOM pursuant to Options 2, Section 1, and must also remain in good standing pursuant to Options 2, Section 9. In order to receive NOM Market Maker pricing in all securities, the Participant must be registered as a NOM Market Maker in at least one security. See Options 7, Section 1(a).

The term "Options Participant" or "Participant" mean a firm, or organization that is registered with the Exchange pursuant to Options 2A of the NOM Rules for purposes of participating in options trading on NOM as a "Nasdaq Options Order Entry Firm" or "Nasdaq Options Market Maker". See Options 1, Section 1(39).

will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Olumuyiwa Odeniyide Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 202-817-7995

3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

a. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend NOM's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section

2, Nasdaq Options Market - Fees and Rebates.

Background

Today, NOM assesses certain fees and rebates for execution of contracts on NOM as follows:

Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6
Customer	(\$0.20)	(\$0.25)	(\$0.43)	(\$0.44)	(\$0.45)	(\$0.48)
Professional	(\$0.20)	(\$0.25)	(\$0.43)	(\$0.44)	(\$0.45)	(\$0.47)
Broker-Dealer	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)
Firm	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)
Non-NOM Market Maker	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)
NOM Market Maker	(\$0.20)	(\$0.25)	(\$0.30)	(\$0.32)	(\$0.44)	(\$0.48)

Fees and Rebates to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols

Customer (\$0.80)
Professional (\$0.80)
Broker-Dealer \$0.45
Firm \$0.45

Non-NOM Market \$0.45

Maker

NOM Market

\$0.35/\$0.00/(\$0.20)/(\$0.40)

Maker

Fees to Remove Liquidity in Penny and Non-Penny Symbols

	Penny Symbols	Non-Penny Symbols
Customer	\$0.49	\$0.85
Professional	\$0.49	\$0.85
Broker-Dealer	\$0.50	\$1.25
Firm	\$0.50	\$1.25
Non-NOM Market Maker	\$0.50	\$1.25
NOM Market Maker	\$0.50	\$1.25

Further, Customer⁵ and Professional⁶ Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols are paid per the highest tier achieved below. To determine the applicable percentage of total industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume, unless otherwise stated, the Participant's Penny Symbol and Non-Penny Symbol Customer and/or Professional volume that adds liquidity will be included.

Monthly Volume

Tier 1 Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM

Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of up to 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume ("ADV") contracts per day in a month

Tier 2 Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM

Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts

per day in a month

The term "Customer" or ("C") applies to any transaction that is identified by a Participant for clearing in the Customer range at The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") which is not for the account of broker or dealer or for the account of a "Professional" (as that term is defined in Options 1, Section 1(a)(47)). See Options 7, Section 1(a).

The term "Professional" or ("P") means any person or entity that (i) is not a broker or dealer in securities, and (ii) places more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s) pursuant to Options 1, Section 1(a)(47). All Professional orders shall be appropriately marked by Participants. See Options 7, Section 1(a).

Tier 3 Participant: (a) adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.20% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b) adds Customer and/or Professional liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.05% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month and qualifies for MARS

Tier 4 Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.30% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month

Tier 5 Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month

Tier 6 Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.70% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, or Participant: (1) adds Customer and/or Professional liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of 0.10% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (2) has added liquidity in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 1.00% or more of Consolidated Volume in a month or qualifies for MARS (defined below)

Finally, NOM Market Makers Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols are paid per the highest tier achieved based on the below 6 tiers.⁷

Monthly Volume

Tier 1 Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of up to 0.10% of

[&]quot;Total Volume" is defined as Customer, Professional, Firm, Broker-Dealer, Non-NOM Market Maker and NOM Market Maker volume in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols which either adds or removes liquidity on NOM.

Tier 6

total industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume ("ADV") contracts per day in a month

Tier 2 Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month

Tier 3 Participant: (a) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.20% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.15% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (2) transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent (i) 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market or (ii) 50 million shares or more ADV which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market, and (3) executes 1.5 million shares or more ADV in the same month utilizing the M-ELO order type on The Nasdaq Stock Market Tier 4 Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny

Fier 4 Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.60% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month

Tier 5 Participant: (a) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.00% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month and transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 0.40% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market

Participant: (a)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.95% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (2) executes Total Volume of 250,000 or more contracts per day in a month, of which 30,000 or more contracts per day in a month must be removing liquidity, and (3) adds Firm, Broker-Dealer and Non-NOM Market Maker liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols of 10,000 or more contracts per day in a month; or (b)(1)

adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (2) executes Total Volume of 250,000 or more contracts per day in a month, of which 15,000 or more contracts per day in a month must be removing liquidity

Proposal

First, NOM proposes to increase the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM Market Makers from \$0.44 to \$0.46 and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive, which states that "NOM Participants that qualify for the Tier 5(b) NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols and add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols of above 0.50% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, will receive a \$0.46 per contract rebate to add liquidity in Penny Symbols as Market Maker in lieu of the Tier 5 rebate."

Second, for the NOM Market Maker rebate to add liquidity in penny symbols, NOM proposes to increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants to achieve Tier 5 status from 1.00% to 1.25%. Currently, to achieve Tier 5 status, a Participant must (a) add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.00% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b) add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month and transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 0.40% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market.

NOM proposes to change "1.00% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month" to 1.25% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month.

Last, NOM proposes to amend the note 6 incentive to allow Participants that qualify for either the Tier 5 or 6 NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols to receive a \$0.86 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols. The Exchange believes that these above changes will attract a greater amount of order flow to NOM to the benefit of other Participants who may interact with that order flow.

b. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁸ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁹ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system "has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies."10

Likewise, in NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange Commission¹¹

("NetCoalition") the D.C. Circuit upheld the Commission's use of a market-based approach in evaluating the fairness of market data fees against a challenge claiming that Congress mandated a cost-based approach. As the court emphasized, the Commission "intended in Regulation NMS that 'market forces, rather than regulatory requirements' play a role in determining the market data . . . to be made available to investors and at what cost."

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Further, "[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is 'fierce.' ... As the SEC explained, '[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution'; [and] 'no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted' because 'no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers'...." Although the court and the SEC were discussing the cash equities markets, the Exchange believes that these views apply with equal force to the options markets.

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Tier 5 rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM Market Makers and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

¹¹ NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525 (D.C. Cir. 2010).

See NetCoalition, at 534 - 535.

^{13 &}lt;u>Id.</u> at 537.

^{14 &}lt;u>Id.</u> at 539 (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

is reasonable because it will attract additional order flow to NOM and all NOM Market Makers would be eligible to receive the \$0.46 per contract rebate to add liquidity in Penny Symbols. Further, the proposal aligns with the goals of the note 6 incentive, which would allow Participants that qualify for either the Tier 5 or 6 NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols to receive a \$0.86 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols. The Exchange's proposal to increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants to achieve Tier 5 status for the NOM Market Maker rebate to add liquidity in penny symbols is reasonable because of the corresponding *increase* to the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM Market Makers. Additionally, the Exchange's proposal to amend the note 6 incentive for Participants is reasonable because it would allow Participants that qualify for the Tier 5 NOM Market Maker Rebate to receive a \$0.86 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols which may attract additional order flow to the Exchange. To the extent NOM Market Maker Participants continue to add liquidity in penny symbols on NOM to meet the proposed volume threshold to receive the incentive, the Exchange believes that its proposal will benefit all market participants who will be able to interact with the additional liquidity.

The Exchange's proposal to increase the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by all NOM Market Makers and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will uniformly assess all NOM Market Makers the applicable penny symbol rebate for adding liquidity provided they meet the requirements for the rebate. The Exchange's proposal to increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants to achieve Tier 5 status for the

NOM Market Maker rebate to add liquidity in penny symbols is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will uniformly assess all NOM Market Makers with the applicable monthly percentage volume in determining whether they meet the requirements for the rebate. The Exchange's proposal to amend the note 6 incentive for Participants is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will uniformly assess all NOM Market Makers the applicable penny symbol rebate for adding liquidity provided they meet the requirements for the rebate.

The Exchange's proposed differentiation between NOM Market Makers and other market participants is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it recognizes the differing contributions of NOM Market Makers. NOM Market Makers have obligations to the market and regulatory requirements which do not apply to other market participants. A NOM Market Maker has the obligation, for example, to make continuous markets, engage in a 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 a course of dealings.

4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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

Inter-market Competition

The proposal does not impose an undue burden on inter-market competition. The Exchange believes its proposal remains competitive with other options markets. The

See NOM Options 2, Sections 4 and 5.

Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees and rebates to remain competitive with other exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees and rebates in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee and rebate changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited.

Intra-market Competition

The Exchange's proposal to (1) increase the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM Market Makers and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive (2) increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants to achieve Tier 5 status, and (3) amend the note 6 incentive for Participants does not impose an undue burden on competition. Offering these discounts to NOM Market Makers does not impose an undue burden on competition because NOM Market Makers have obligations to the market and regulatory requirements which do not apply to other market participants. A NOM Market Maker has the obligation, for example, to make continuous markets, engage in a 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 a course of dealings. The proposed differentiation as between NOM Market Makers and other market participants recognizes the differing

See NOM Options 2, Sections 4 and 5.

contributions of NOM Market Makers. For the above reasons, the Exchange believes that NOM Market Makers are entitled to discounted fees, provided they qualify for the discount.

- 5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>
 - No written comments were either solicited or received.
- Extension of Time Period for Commission Action
 Not applicable.
- 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,¹⁷ the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission</u>

Not applicable.

¹⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

- 9. <u>Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act</u>
 Not applicable.
- 10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

- 1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.
- 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2025-045)

June , 2025

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend The Nasdaq Options Market LLC ("NOM") Rules at Options 7, Section 2, Nasdaq Options Market - Fees and Rebates.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹, and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on June 16, 2025, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend The Nasdaq Options Market LLC ("NOM")
Rules at Options 7, Section 2, Nasdaq Options Market - Fees and Rebates. Specifically,
NOM proposes to (1) increase the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM
Market Makers³ and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive (2) increase the

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

The term "NOM Market Maker" or ("M") is a Participant that has registered as a Market Maker on NOM pursuant to Options 2, Section 1, and must also remain in good standing pursuant to Options 2, Section 9. In order to receive NOM Market Maker pricing in all securities, the Participant must be registered as a NOM Market Maker in at least one security. See Options 7, Section 1(a).

applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants⁴ to achieve Tier 5 status, and (3) amend the note 6 incentive for Participants.

* * * *

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/nasdaq/rulefilings, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend NOM's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 2, Nasdaq Options Market - Fees and Rebates.

Background

Today, NOM assesses certain fees and rebates for execution of contracts on NOM as follows:

The term "Options Participant" or "Participant" mean a firm, or organization that is registered with the Exchange pursuant to Options 2A of the NOM Rules for purposes of participating in options trading on NOM as a "Nasdaq Options Order Entry Firm" or "Nasdaq Options Market Maker". See Options 1, Section 1(39).

Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6
Customer	(\$0.20)	(\$0.25)	(\$0.43)	(\$0.44)	(\$0.45)	(\$0.48)
Professional	(\$0.20)	(\$0.25)	(\$0.43)	(\$0.44)	(\$0.45)	(\$0.47)
Broker-Dealer	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)
Firm	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)
Non-NOM Market Maker	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)
NOM Market Maker	(\$0.20)	(\$0.25)	(\$0.30)	(\$0.32)	(\$0.44)	(\$0.48)

Fees and Rebates to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols

Customer (\$0.80)
Professional (\$0.80)
Broker-Dealer \$0.45
Firm \$0.45
Non-NOM Market \$0.45

NOM Market

Maker

Maker \$0.35/\$0.00/(\$0.20)/(\$0.40)

Fees to Remove Liquidity in Penny and Non-Penny Symbols

	Penny Symbols	Non-Penny Symbols
Customer	\$0.49	\$0.85
Professional	\$0.49	\$0.85
Broker-Dealer	\$0.50	\$1.25
Firm	\$0.50	\$1.25
Non-NOM Market Maker	\$0.50	\$1.25
NOM Market Maker	\$0.50	\$1.25

Further, Customer⁵ and Professional⁶ Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols are paid per the highest tier achieved below. To determine the applicable percentage of total

The term "Customer" or ("C") applies to any transaction that is identified by a Participant for clearing in the Customer range at The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") which is not for the account of broker or dealer or for the account of a "Professional" (as that term is defined in Options 1, Section 1(a)(47)). See Options 7, Section 1(a).

The term "Professional" or ("P") means any person or entity that (i) is not a broker or dealer in securities, and (ii) places more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a

industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume, unless otherwise stated, the Participant's Penny Symbol and Non-Penny Symbol Customer and/or Professional volume that adds liquidity will be included.

Monthly Volume

Tier 1	Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of up to 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume ("ADV") contracts per day in a month
Tier 2	Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month
Tier 3	Participant: (a) adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.20% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b) adds Customer and/or Professional liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.05% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month and qualifies for MARS
Tier 4	Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.30% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month
Tier 5	Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month
Tier 6	Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.70% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, or Participant: (1) adds

calendar month for its own beneficial account(s) pursuant to Options 1, Section 1(a)(47). All Professional orders shall be appropriately marked by Participants. See Options 7, Section 1(a).

Customer and/or Professional liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of 0.10% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (2) has added liquidity in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 1.00% or more of Consolidated Volume in a month or qualifies for MARS (defined below)

Finally, NOM Market Makers Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols are paid per the highest tier achieved based on the below 6 tiers.⁷

Monthly Volume

Tier 1 Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of up to 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume ("ADV") contracts per day in a month

Tier 2 Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month

Tier 3 Participant: (a) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.20% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.15% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (2) transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent (i) 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market or (ii) 50 million shares or more ADV which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market, and (3) executes 1.5 million shares or more ADV in the same month utilizing the M-ELO order type on The Nasdaq Stock Market

Tier 4 Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.60% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month

[&]quot;Total Volume" is defined as Customer, Professional, Firm, Broker-Dealer, Non-NOM Market Maker and NOM Market Maker volume in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols which either adds or removes liquidity on NOM.

Tier 5

Participant: (a) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.00% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; **or** (b) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month **and** transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 0.40% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market

Tier 6

Participant: (a)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.95% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (2) executes Total Volume of 250,000 or more contracts per day in a month, of which 30,000 or more contracts per day in a month must be removing liquidity, and (3) adds Firm, Broker-Dealer and Non-NOM Market Maker liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols of 10,000 or more contracts per day in a month; or (b)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (2) executes Total Volume of 250,000 or more contracts per day in a month, of which 15,000 or more contracts per day in a month must be removing liquidity

Proposal

First, NOM proposes to increase the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM Market Makers from \$0.44 to \$0.46 and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive, which states that "NOM Participants that qualify for the Tier 5(b) NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols and add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.50% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, will receive a \$0.46 per contract rebate to add liquidity in Penny Symbols as Market Maker in lieu of the Tier 5 rebate."

Second, for the NOM Market Maker rebate to add liquidity in penny symbols, NOM proposes to increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants to achieve Tier 5 status from 1.00% to 1.25%. Currently, to achieve Tier 5 status, a Participant must (a) add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.00% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b) add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month and transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 0.40% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market. NOM proposes to change "1.00% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month" to 1.25% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month.

Last, NOM proposes to amend the note 6 incentive to allow Participants that qualify for either the Tier 5 or 6 NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols to receive a \$0.86 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols. The Exchange believes that these above changes will attract a greater amount of order flow to NOM to the benefit of other Participants who may interact with that order flow.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁸ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁹ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system "has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies." ¹⁰

Likewise, in NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange Commission¹¹

("NetCoalition") the D.C. Circuit upheld the Commission's use of a market-based approach in evaluating the fairness of market data fees against a challenge claiming that Congress mandated a cost-based approach. ¹² As the court emphasized, the Commission "intended in Regulation NMS that 'market forces, rather than regulatory requirements'

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

¹¹ NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525 (D.C. Cir. 2010).

See NetCoalition, at 534 - 535.

play a role in determining the market data . . . to be made available to investors and at what cost." ¹³

Further, "[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is 'fierce.' ... As the SEC explained, '[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution'; [and] 'no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted' because 'no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers'...."

Although the court and the SEC were discussing the cash equities markets, the Exchange believes that these views apply with equal force to the options markets.

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Tier 5 rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM Market Makers and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive is reasonable because it will attract additional order flow to NOM and all NOM Market Makers would be eligible to receive the \$0.46 per contract rebate to add liquidity in Penny Symbols. Further, the proposal aligns with the goals of the note 6 incentive, which would allow Participants that qualify for either the Tier 5 or 6 NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols to receive a \$0.86 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols. The Exchange's proposal to increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants to achieve Tier 5 status for the NOM Market Maker rebate to add liquidity in penny symbols is reasonable because of the corresponding *increase* to the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols

^{13 &}lt;u>Id.</u> at 537.

^{14 &}lt;u>Id.</u> at 539 (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

by NOM Market Makers. Additionally, the Exchange's proposal to amend the note 6 incentive for Participants is reasonable because it would allow Participants that qualify for the Tier 5 NOM Market Maker Rebate to receive a \$0.86 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols which may attract additional order flow to the Exchange. To the extent NOM Market Maker Participants continue to add liquidity in penny symbols on NOM to meet the proposed volume threshold to receive the incentive, the Exchange believes that its proposal will benefit all market participants who will be able to interact with the additional liquidity.

The Exchange's proposal to increase the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by all NOM Market Makers and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will uniformly assess all NOM Market Makers the applicable penny symbol rebate for adding liquidity provided they meet the requirements for the rebate. The Exchange's proposal to increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants to achieve Tier 5 status for the NOM Market Maker rebate to add liquidity in penny symbols is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will uniformly assess all NOM Market Makers with the applicable monthly percentage volume in determining whether they meet the requirements for the rebate. The Exchange's proposal to amend the note 6 incentive for Participants is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will uniformly assess all NOM Market Makers the applicable penny symbol rebate for adding liquidity provided they meet the requirements for the rebate.

The Exchange's proposed differentiation between NOM Market Makers and other market participants is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it recognizes the

differing contributions of NOM Market Makers. NOM Market Makers have obligations to the market and regulatory requirements which do not apply to other market participants. ¹⁵ A NOM Market Maker has the obligation, for example, to make continuous markets, engage in a 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 a course of dealings.

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

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

Inter-market Competition

The proposal does not impose an undue burden on inter-market competition. The Exchange believes its proposal remains competitive with other options markets. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees and rebates to remain competitive with other exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees and rebates in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee and rebate changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited.

See NOM Options 2, Sections 4 and 5.

Intra-market Competition

The Exchange's proposal to (1) increase the rebate for adding liquidity in penny symbols by NOM Market Makers and remove the corresponding note 11 incentive (2) increase the applicable monthly percentage volume for Participants to achieve Tier 5 status, and (3) amend the note 6 incentive for Participants does not impose an undue burden on competition. Offering these discounts to NOM Market Makers does not impose an undue burden on competition because NOM Market Makers have obligations to the market and regulatory requirements which do not apply to other market participants. ¹⁶ A NOM Market Maker has the obligation, for example, to make continuous markets, engage in a 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 a course of dealings. The proposed differentiation as between NOM Market Makers and other market participants recognizes the differing contributions of NOM Market Makers. For the above reasons, the Exchange believes that NOM Market Makers are entitled to discounted fees, provided they qualify for the discount.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.¹⁷

See NOM Options 2, Sections 4 and 5.

¹⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

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

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-NASDAQ-2025-045 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange
 Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to file number SR-NASDAQ-2025-045. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's internet website (https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent

amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-NASDAQ-2025-045 and should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. ¹⁸

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

¹⁸

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EXHIBIT 5

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

THE NASDAQ STOCK MARKET LLC RULES

* * * * *

Options Rules

* * * * *

Options 7 Pricing Schedule

* * * * *

Section 2 Nasdaq Options Market – Fees and Rebates

The following charges shall apply to the use of the order execution and routing services of The Nasdaq Options Market for all securities.

(1) Fees and Rebates for Execution of Contracts on The Nasdaq Options Market*

Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5	Tier 6
Customer 1,9,10	(\$0.20)	(\$0.25)	(\$0.43)	(\$0.44)	(\$0.45)	$(\$0.48)^7$
Professional 1,9,10	(\$0.20)	(\$0.25)	(\$0.43)	(\$0.44)	(\$0.45)	(\$0.47)
Broker-Dealer	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)
Firm	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)
Non-NOM Market Ma	nker (\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)	(\$0.10)

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NOM Market Maker ³	(\$0.20)	$(\$0.25)^4$	$(\$0.30)^4$	$(\$0.32)^4$	$(\$0.\underline{46}[44])^{[11]}$	(\$0.48)		
Fees and Rebates to Add	Liquidity in N	Jon-Penny Symbo	ls					
Customer 9,10,12	(\$0.80)							
Professional 9,10,12				(\$0.80)				
Broker-Dealer				\$0.45				
Firm				\$0.45				
Non-NOM Market Make	r			\$0.45				
NOM Market Maker 5,6			\$0.35/\$	0.00/(\$0.20)/(\$0.4	40)			

Fees to Remove Liquidity in Penny and Non-Penny Symbols

	Penny Symbols	Non-Penny Symbols
Customer	\$0.49	\$0.85
Professional	\$0.49	\$0.85
Broker-Dealer	\$0.50	\$1.25
Firm	\$0.50	\$1.25
Non-NOM Market Maker	$$0.50^{2}$	\$1.25
NOM Market Maker	$$0.50^{2}$	\$1.25

^{*}Orders executed in the Opening Cross per Options 3, Section 8 are not subject to Options 7, Section 2(1) pricing, instead, these orders are subject to the pricing within Options 7, Section 2(2).

¹ The Customer and Professional Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols will be paid per the highest tier achieved below. To determine the applicable percentage of total industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume, unless otherwise stated, the Participant's Penny Symbol and Non-Penny Symbol Customer and/or Professional volume that adds liquidity will be included.

Monthly Volume

Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Tier 1

> Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of up to 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume

("ADV") contracts per day in a month

Tier 2 Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or

> Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in

a month

Tier 3 Participant: (a) adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker

and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.20% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b) adds Customer and/or Professional liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.05% of total industry customer

equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month and qualifies for MARS

Tier 4 Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above

0.30% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in

a month

Tier 5 Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or

> Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in

a month

Tier 6## Participant adds Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or

> Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.70% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, or Participant: (1) adds Customer and/or Professional liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of 0.10% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (2) has added liquidity in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 1.00% or more of Consolidated Volume in a month or

qualifies for MARS (defined below)

² Participants that add 1.10% of Customer, Professional, Firm, Broker-Dealer or Non-NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month will be subject to the following pricing applicable to executions: a \$0.48 per contract Penny Symbols Fee for Removing Liquidity when the Participant is (i) both the buyer and the seller or (ii) the Participant removes liquidity from another Participant under Common Ownership.

Participants that add 1.30% of Customer, Professional, Firm, Broker-Dealer or Non-NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month and meet or exceed the cap for The Nasdaq Stock Market Opening Cross during the month will be subject to the following pricing applicable to executions less than 10,000 contracts: a \$0.38 per contract Penny Symbols Fee for Removing Liquidity when the Participant is (i) both the buyer and seller or (ii) the Participant removes liquidity from another Participant under Common Ownership.

Participants that add 1.55% of Customer, Professional, Firm, Broker-Dealer or Non-NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month will be subject to the following pricing applicable to executions less than 10,000 contracts: a \$0.38 per contract Penny Symbols Fee for Removing Liquidity when the Participant is (i) both the buyer and seller or (ii) the Participant removes liquidity from another Participant under Common Ownership.

**Participants that add Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.80% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, or Participants that (1) add Customer and/or Professional liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of 0.20% or more of total industry adds customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (2) have added liquidity in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 1.00% or more of Consolidated Volume in a month or qualify for MARS (defined below) will receive an additional \$0.01 per contract rebate for Professional volume which adds liquidity in Penny Symbols only.

³ The NOM Market Maker Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols will be paid per the highest tier achieved below.

Monthly Volume

Tier 1

Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of up to 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option average daily volume ("ADV") contracts per day in a month

Tier 2

Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.10% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month

Tier 3

Participant: (a) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.20% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.15% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (2) transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent (i) 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market or (ii) 50 million shares or more ADV which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market, and (3) executes 1.5 million shares or more ADV in the same month utilizing the M-ELO order type on The Nasdaq Stock Market

Tier 4

Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.60% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month

Tier 5

Participant: (a) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.[00]25% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; **or** (b) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month **and** transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 0.40% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market

Tier 6

Participant: (a)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.95% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (2) executes Total Volume of 250,000 or more contracts per day in a month, of which 30,000 or more contracts per day in a month must be removing liquidity, and (3) adds Firm,

Broker-Dealer and Non-NOM Market Maker liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols of 10,000 or more contracts per day in a month; or (b)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.40% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (2) executes Total Volume of 250,000 or more contracts per day in a month, of which 15,000 or more contracts per day in a month must be removing liquidity

⁴ Participants who achieve the NOM Market Maker Tier 2 Rebate to Add Liquidity and execute 1 million shares or more ADV in the same month utilizing the M-ELO order type on The Nasdaq Stock Market will receive a \$0.33 per contract to add liquidity in SPY, QQQ, and IWM, provided the Participant also transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent (i) 0.45% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market or (ii) 45 million shares or more ADV which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market. Participants who achieve the NOM Market Maker Tier 3 or Tier 4 Rebate to Add Liquidity will receive \$0.39 per contract to add liquidity in the following symbols: SPY, QQQ, and IWM.

⁵ The NOM Market Maker Fee for Adding Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols will apply unless Participants meet the volume thresholds set forth in this note. Participants that add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols of 0.03% to 0.05% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month will be assessed a \$0.00 per contract Non-Penny Options Fee for Adding Liquidity in that month. Participants that add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.05% to 0.08% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month will receive a Non-Penny Rebate to Add Liquidity of \$0.20 per contract for that month instead of paying the Non-Penny Fee for Adding Liquidity. Participants that add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.08% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month will receive a Non-Penny Rebate to Add Liquidity of \$0.40 per contract for that month instead of paying the Non-Penny Fee for Adding Liquidity.

⁶ Participants that qualify for <u>either[the]</u> Tier <u>5 or</u> 6 NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols will receive a \$0.86 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols. Participants that qualify for Tier 7 or higher in the MARS Payment Schedule in Section 2(4) will receive an additional \$0.02 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols, in addition to receiving a \$0.86 per contract NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols. Participants that qualify for note "5" and note "6" incentives will receive the greater of the note "5" or note "6" incentive, but not both.

⁷ Participants that: (1) add Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of 1.15% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month will receive an additional

^{* &}quot;Total Volume" shall be defined as Customer, Professional, Firm, Broker-Dealer, Non-NOM Market Maker and NOM Market Maker volume in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols which either adds or removes liquidity on NOM.

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\$0.02 per contract Penny Symbol Customer Rebate to Add Liquidity for each transaction which adds liquidity in Penny Symbol in that month; or (2) add Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of 1.30% or more of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month will receive an additional \$0.05 per contract Penny Symbol Customer Rebate to Add Liquidity for each transaction which adds liquidity in Penny Symbols in that month; or (3) (a) add Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.80% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (b) add Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols above 0.12% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (c) execute greater than 0.04% of Consolidated Volume ("CV") via Market-on-Close/Limit-on-Close ("MOC/LOC") volume within The Nasdaq Stock Market Closing Cross within a month will receive an additional \$0.05 per contract Penny Symbol Customer Rebate to Add Liquidity for each transaction which adds liquidity in Penny Symbols in a month. Consolidated Volume shall mean the total consolidated volume reported to all consolidated transaction reporting plans by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities during a month in equity securities, excluding executed orders with a size of less than one round lot. For purposes of calculating Consolidated Volume and the extent of an equity member's trading activity, expressed as a percentage of or ratio to Consolidated Volume, the date of the annual reconstitution of the Russell Investments Indexes shall be excluded from both total Consolidated Volume and the member's trading activity.

⁹ NOM Participants that transact in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 3.00% or more of Consolidated Volume in the same month on The Nasdaq Stock Market will receive a \$0.50 per contract Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols as Customer, a \$0.48 per contract rebate as Professional, a \$1.10 per contract Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols as Customer, and a \$0.90 per contract Rebate to Add liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols as Professional. Participants that qualify for this rebate would not be eligible for any other rebates in Tiers 1-6 or other rebate incentives on NOM for Customer and Professional order flow in Options 7, Section 2(1).

¹⁰ NOM Participants that (a) add Customer, Professional, Firm, Non-NOM Market Maker and/or Broker-Dealer liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 1.50% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (b) execute greater than 0.04% of Consolidated Volume ("CV") via Market-on-Close/Limit-on-Close ("MOC/LOC") volume within The Nasdaq Stock Market Closing Cross within a month, and (c) add greater than 1.5 million shares per day of non-displayed volume within The Nasdaq Stock Market within a month will receive a \$0.55 per contract Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols as Customer, a \$0.48 per contract Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols as Professional, and a \$1.15 per contract Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols as Customer, and a \$0.90 per contract Rebate to Add Liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols as Professional. Participants that qualify for this rebate would not be eligible for any other rebates in Tiers 1-6 or other rebate incentives on NOM for Customer and Professional order flow in Options 7, Section 2(1).

⁸ Reserved.

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¹¹ [NOM Participants that qualify for the Tier 5(b) NOM Market Maker Rebate to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols and add NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.50% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, will receive a \$0.46 per contract rebate to add liquidity in Penny Symbols as Market Maker in lieu of the Tier 5 rebate.] Reserved.

¹² A Participant that qualifies for Customer or Professional Penny Symbol Rebate to Add Liquidity Tiers 2, 3, 4, or 5 in a month will receive an additional \$0.10 per contract Non-Penny Symbol Rebate to Add Liquidity for each transaction which adds liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols in that month. A Participant that qualifies for Customer or Professional Penny Symbol Rebate to Add Liquidity Tier 6 in a month will receive an additional \$0.20 per contract Non-Penny Symbol Rebate to Add Liquidity as Customer and an additional \$0.10 per contract Non-Penny Symbol Rebate to Add Liquidity as Professional for such transactions which add liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols in that month.