

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
Form 19b-4

File No. * SR 2024 - * 06

Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)

Filing by MIAX Sapphire, LLC

Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendment * <input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(A) * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(B) * <input type="checkbox"/>
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Pilot <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Expires * <input type="text"/>	Rule		
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)	

Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010
Section 806(e)(1) *

Section 806(e)(2) *

Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
Section 3C(b)(2) *

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document

Description

Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).

The Exchange proposes to amend the strike interval for options on SPDR Gold Shares.

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 * Greg Last Name * Ziegler

Title * Senior Counsel

E-mail * gziegler@miaxglobal.com

Telephone * (609) 897-1483 Fax

Signature

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, MIAX Sapphire, LLC has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date 08/01/2024

(Title *)

By Gregory P. Ziegler

Senior Counsel

(Name *)

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.

Gregory Ziegler Date: 2024.08.01 15:40:12 -04'00'

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and astericks.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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

Form 19b-4 Information *

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SR-SAPPHIRE-2024-06 19b-4 STOS

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-SAPPHIRE-2024-06 - 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

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SR-SAPPHIRE-2024-06 Exhibit 5 STC

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. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) MIAX Sapphire, LLC (“MIAX Sapphire” or “Exchange”), pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² proposes to amend Exchange Rule 404, Series of Option Contracts Open for Trading.

Notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register is attached hereto as Exhibit 1, and the text of the proposed rule change is attached hereto as Exhibit 5.

(b) Inapplicable.

(c) Inapplicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by the Chief Executive Officer of the Exchange or duly appointed designee pursuant to authority delegated by the MIAX Sapphire Board of Directors on July 23, 2024. Exchange staff will advise the Board of Directors of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by the Exchange is necessary for the filing of the proposed rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule changes may be directed to Gregory P. Ziegler, Senior Counsel, (609) 897-1483.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

a. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Exchange Rule 404, Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading.

Proposal

The Exchange proposes to amend Exchange Rule 404, Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Interpretations and Policies .10 to allow for the interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares³ of SPDR® Gold Trust or “GLD” to be \$1 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200. The Exchange also proposes to amend paragraph (g) to add rule text related to the interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares to provide that the interval will be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200. Today, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (“Cboe”) permits the interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares to be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200.⁴ Today, the Exchange may fix the interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares at such intervals as may have been established on another options exchange prior to the initiation of trading on the Exchange. The Exchange proposes to adopt Cboe’s language to provide a strike interval for Exchange-Traded Fund Shares in the event a different interval is not elected at a price per share which is reasonably close to the price per

³ Exchange-Traded Fund Shares include shares or other securities that are traded on a national securities exchange and are defined as an “NMS stock” under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS. See Exchange Rule 402(i).

⁴ See Interpretation and Policy .07(a) of Cboe Rule 4.5.

share at which the underlying security is traded in the primary market at or about the same time such series of options is first open for trading on the Exchange, or at such intervals as may have been established on another options exchange prior to the initiation of trading on the Exchange.

Further, Policy .10 of Rule 404 allows for the interval between the strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares of the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (“SPY”), iShares S&P 500 Index ETF (“IVV”), Invesco QQQ Trust (“QQQ”), iShares Russell 2000 Index Fund (“IWM”), and the SPDR Dow Jones Industrial Average ETF (“DIA”) to be \$1 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200.

At this time, the Exchange proposes to modify the interval setting regime to be \$1 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200 for GLD options, similar to SPY IVV, QQQ, IWM, and DIA. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would make GLD options easier for investors and traders to use and more tailored to their investment needs.

GLD is an Exchange-Traded Fund Share designed to closely track the price and performance of gold bullion. GLD is widely quoted as an indicator of gold stock prices and is a significant indicator of overall economic health. Investors use GLD to diversify their portfolios and benefit from market trends. Additionally, GLD is a leading product in its asset class that trades within a “complex” where, in addition to the underlying security, there are multiple instruments available for hedging such as, COMEX Gold Futures; Gold Daily Futures; iShares GOLD Trust; SPDR GOLD Minishares Trust; Aberdeen Physical Gold Trust; and GraniteShares Gold Shares.

Accordingly, the Exchange believes that offering a wider base of GLD options affords traders and investors important hedging and trading opportunities, particularly in the midst of current price trends. The Exchange believes that not having the proposed \$1 strike price intervals above \$200 in GLD significantly constricts investors’ hedging and trading possibilities. The

Exchange therefore believes that by having smaller strike intervals in GLD, investors would have more efficient hedging and trading opportunities due to the lower \$1 interval ascension. The proposed \$1 interval above the \$200 strike price, will result in having at-the-money series based upon the underlying ETF moving less than 1%. The Exchange believes that the proposed strike setting regime is in line with the slower movements of broad-based indices. Considering the fact that \$1 intervals already exist below the \$200 price point and that GLD have consistently inclined in price toward the \$200 level, the Exchange believes that continuing to maintain the current \$200 level (above which intervals increase 500% to \$5), may have a negative effect on investing, trading and hedging opportunities, and volume. The Exchange believes that the investing, trading, and hedging opportunities available with GLD options far outweighs any potential negative impact of allowing GLD options to trade in more finely tailored intervals above the \$200 price point.

The proposed strike setting regime would permit strikes to be set to more closely reflect the increasing value in the underlying and allows investors and traders to roll open positions from a lower strike to a higher strike in conjunction with the price movements of the underlying ETF. Under the current rule, where the next higher available series would be \$5 away above a \$200 strike price, the ability to roll such positions would be impaired. Accordingly, to move a position from a \$200 strike to a \$205 strike under the current rule, an investor would need for the underlying product to move 2.5%, and would not be able to execute a roll up until such a large movement occurred. The Exchange believes that with the proposed rule change, the investor would be in a significantly safer position of being able to roll his open options position from a \$200 to a \$201 strike price, which is only a 0.5% move for the underlying. As a result, the proposed rule change will allow the Exchange to better respond to customer demand for GLD strike prices more precisely aligned with the smaller, longer-term incremental increases in the underlying ETF. The

Exchange believes that the proposed rule change, like the other strike price programs currently offered by the Exchange, will benefit investors by providing investors the flexibility to more closely tailor their investment and hedging decisions using GLD options. Moreover, by allowing series of GLD options to be listed in \$1 intervals between strike prices over \$200, the proposal will moderately augment the potential total number of options series available on the Exchange. However, the Exchange believes it and the Options Price Reporting Authority (“OPRA”) have the necessary systems capacity to handle any potential additional traffic associated with this proposed rule change. The Exchange also believes that Members⁵ will not have a capacity issue due to the proposed rule change. In addition, the Exchange represents that it does not believe that this expansion will cause fragmentation of liquidity, but rather, believes that finer strike intervals will serve to increase liquidity available as well as price efficiency by providing more trading opportunities for all market participants.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.⁶ Specifically, the Exchange believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5)⁷ requirements in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing

⁵ The term “Member” means an individual or organization that is registered with the Exchange pursuant to Chapter II of MIAX Sapphire Rules for purposes of trading on the Exchange as an “Electronic Exchange Member” or “Market Maker.” Members are deemed “members” under the Exchange Act. See Exchange Rule 100.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in, securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes the proposed change will allow investors to more easily use GLD options. Moreover, the proposed rule change would allow investors to better trade and hedge positions in GLD options where the strike price is greater than \$200, and ensure that investors in both options are not at a disadvantage simply because of the strike price.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(1) of the Act, which provides that the Exchange be organized and have the capacity to be able to carry out the purposes of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, and the rules of the Exchange. The proposal allows the Exchange to respond to customer demand to allow GLD options to trade in \$1 intervals above a \$200 strike price. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule would create additional capacity issues or affect market functionality. As noted above, ETF options trade in wider \$5 intervals above a \$200 strike price, whereby options at or below a \$200 strike price trade in \$1 intervals. This creates a situation where contracts on the same option class effectively may not be able to execute certain strategies such as, for example, rolling to a higher strike price, simply because of the \$200 strike price above which options intervals increase by 500%. This proposal remedies the situation by establishing an exception to the current ETF interval regime for GLD options to allow such options to trade in \$1 or greater intervals at all strike prices.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change, like other strike price programs currently offered by the Exchange, will benefit investors by giving them increased flexibility to more closely tailor their investment and hedging decisions. By way of example, GLD is a

leading product in its asset class and it trades within a “complex” where, in addition to the underlying security, there are multiple instruments available for hedging such as, COMEX Gold Futures; Gold Daily Futures; iShares GOLD Trust; SPDR GOLD Minishares Trust; Aberdeen Physical Gold Trust; and GraniteShares Gold Shares.

With regard to the impact of this proposal on system capacity, the Exchange believes it and OPRA have the necessary systems capacity to handle any potential additional traffic associated with this proposed rule change. The Exchange believes that its members will not have a capacity issue as a result of this proposal.

4. 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 that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Rather, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will result in additional investment options and opportunities to achieve the investment and trading objectives of market participants seeking efficient trading and hedging vehicles, to the benefit of investors, market participants, and the marketplace in general. Specifically, the Exchange believes that GLD options investors and traders will significantly benefit from the availability of finer strike price intervals above a \$200 price point. In addition, the interval setting regime the Exchange proposes to apply to GLD options is currently applied to SPY, IVV, QQQ, IWM, and DIA options, which are similarly popular and widely traded ETF products and track indexes at similarly high price levels. Thus, the proposed strike setting regime for GLD options will allow options on this an actively traded ETF with index levels at corresponding price levels to trade pursuant to the same strike setting regime. This will permit investors to employ similar investment and hedging strategies for each of these options.

5. **Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others**

No written comments were either solicited or received.

6. **Extension of Time Period for Commission Action**

Not applicable.

7. **Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)**

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁸ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)⁹ thereunder, the Exchange has designated this proposal as one that effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest. As noted above, the proposed rule change will allow investors to more easily use GLD options. Moreover, the proposed rule change would allow investors to better trade and hedge positions in GLD options where the strike price is greater than \$200, and ensure that investors in both options are not at a disadvantage simply because of the strike price. The proposal allows the Exchange to respond to customer demand to allow GLD options to trade in \$1 intervals above a \$200 strike price. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule would create additional capacity issues or affect market functionality. As noted above, ETF options trade in wider than \$5 intervals above a \$200 strike

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

price, whereby options at or below a \$200 strike price trade in \$1 intervals. This creates a situation where contracts on the same option class effectively may not be able to execute certain strategies such as, for example, rolling to a higher strike price, simply because of the \$200 strike price above which options intervals increase by 500%. This proposal remedies this situation by establishing an exception to the current ETF interval regime for GLD options to allow such options to trade in \$1 or greater intervals at all strike prices, to the benefit of investors.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change, like other strike price programs currently offered by the Exchange, will benefit investors by giving them increased functionality to more closely tailor their investment and hedging decisions. As noted above, GLD is a leading product in its asset class and it trades within a “complex” where, in addition to the underlying security, there are multiple instruments available for hedging such as, COMEX Gold Futures; Gold Daily Futures; iShares GOLD Trust; SPDR GOLD Minishares Trust; Aberdeen Physical Gold Trust; and GraniteShares Gold Shares. In addition, the interval setting regime the Exchange proposes to apply to GLD options is currently applied to SPY, IVV, QQQ, IWM, and DIA options, which are similarly popular and widely traded ETF products and track indexes at similarly high price levels. Thus, the proposed strike setting regime for GLD options will allow options on this an actively traded ETF with index levels at corresponding price levels to trade pursuant to the same strike setting regime. This will permit investors to employ similar investment and hedging strategies for each of these options.

With regard to the impact of this proposal on system capacity, the Exchange believes it and OPRA have the necessary systems capacity to handle any potential additional traffic associated with this proposed rule change. The Exchange believes that its Members will not have a capacity issue as a result of this proposal.

Further, the Exchange believes that the proposal does not impose any significant burden on competition, as all market participants will be treated in the same manner under this proposal. As noted above, the proposed rule change is substantively the same as a rule change proposed by the ISE, which the Commission recently approved.¹⁰

Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement. Furthermore, a proposed rule change filed pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6) under the Act¹¹ normally does not become operative for 30 days after the date of its filing. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹² permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The Exchange respectfully requests that the Commission waive the requirement that the proposed rules changes, by its terms, not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing as set forth in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii),¹³ so that the proposed rules changes may become operative immediately. The proposed rule change is not novel, as it is substantively identical to a proposal filed by another exchange that the Commission recently approved.¹⁴ The proposed rule change is intended for competitive purposes, and waiver of the operative delay will permit the Exchange to

¹⁰ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100447 (June 28, 2024), 89 FR 55293 (July 3, 2024) (SR-ISE-2024-17) (Order Approving a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Strike Interval for Options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares and To Allow \$1 Strike Price Intervals Above \$200 for Options on SPDR Gold Shares (GLD)).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹² Id.

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

¹⁴ See supra note 10.

implement the proposal immediately, thus creating competition among GLD options throughout the industry.

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 necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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

The proposed change is substantively identical to a proposal recently submitted by Nasdaq ISE.¹⁵

9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

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 the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register.
5. Text of the proposed rule change.

¹⁵ See supra note 10.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-SAPPHIRE-2024-06)

August____, 2024

Self-Regulatory Organizations: Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change by MIAX Sapphire, LLC to Amend Exchange Rule 404, Series of Option Contracts Open for Trading

Pursuant to the provisions of 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 August 1, 2024, MIAX Sapphire, LLC (“MIAX Sapphire” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend Exchange 404, Series of Option Contracts Open for Trading.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/markets/us-options/miax-sapphire/rule-filings>, at the Exchange’s principal office, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Exchange Rule 404, Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading.

Proposal

The Exchange proposes to amend Exchange Rule 404, Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Interpretations and Policies .10 to allow for the interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares³ of SPDR® Gold Trust or “GLD” to be \$1 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200. The Exchange also proposes to amend paragraph (g) to add rule text related to the interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares to provide that the interval will be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200. Today, Cboe Exchange, Inc. (“Cboe”) permits the interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares to be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200.⁴ Today, the Exchange may fix the interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares at such intervals as may have been established on another options exchange prior to the initiation of trading on the Exchange. The Exchange proposes to adopt Cboe’s language to provide a strike interval for Exchange-Traded Fund Shares in the event a

³ Exchange-Traded Fund Shares include shares or other securities that are traded on a national securities exchange and are defined as an “NMS stock” under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS. See Exchange Rule 402(i).

⁴ See Interpretation and Policy .07(a) of Cboe Rule 4.5.

different interval is not elected at a price per share which is reasonably close to the price per share at which the underlying security is traded in the primary market at or about the same time such series of options is first open for trading on the Exchange, or at such intervals as may have been established on another options exchange prior to the initiation of trading on the Exchange.

Further, Policy .10 of Rule 404 allows for the interval between the strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares of the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (“SPY”), iShares S&P 500 Index ETF (“IVV”), Invesco QQQ Trust (“QQQ”), iShares Russell 2000 Index Fund (“IWM”), and the SPDR Dow Jones Industrial Average ETF (“DIA”) to be \$1 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200.

At this time, the Exchange proposes to modify the interval setting regime to be \$1 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200 for GLD options, similar to SPY IVV, QQQ, IWM, and DIA. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would make GLD options easier for investors and traders to use and more tailored to their investment needs.

GLD is an Exchange-Traded Fund Share designed to closely track the price and performance of gold bullion. GLD is widely quoted as an indicator of gold stock prices and is a significant indicator of overall economic health. Investors use GLD to diversify their portfolios and benefit from market trends. Additionally, GLD is a leading product in its asset class that trades within a “complex” where, in addition to the underlying security, there are multiple instruments available for hedging such as, COMEX Gold Futures; Gold Daily Futures; iShares GOLD Trust; SPDR GOLD Minishares Trust; Aberdeen Physical Gold Trust; and GraniteShares Gold Shares.

Accordingly, the Exchange believes that offering a wider base of GLD options affords traders and investors important hedging and trading opportunities, particularly in the midst of current price trends. The Exchange believes that not having the proposed \$1 strike price intervals above \$200 in GLD significantly constricts investors’ hedging and trading possibilities. The

Exchange therefore believes that by having smaller strike intervals in GLD, investors would have more efficient hedging and trading opportunities due to the lower \$1 interval ascension. The proposed \$1 interval above the \$200 strike price, will result in having at-the-money series based upon the underlying ETF moving less than 1%. The Exchange believes that the proposed strike setting regime is in line with the slower movements of broad-based indices. Considering the fact that \$1 intervals already exist below the \$200 price point and that GLD have consistently inclined in price toward the \$200 level, the Exchange believes that continuing to maintain the current \$200 level (above which intervals increase 500% to \$5), may have a negative effect on investing, trading and hedging opportunities, and volume. The Exchange believes that the investing, trading, and hedging opportunities available with GLD options far outweighs any potential negative impact of allowing GLD options to trade in more finely tailored intervals above the \$200 price point.

The proposed strike setting regime would permit strikes to be set to more closely reflect the increasing value in the underlying and allows investors and traders to roll open positions from a lower strike to a higher strike in conjunction with the price movements of the underlying ETF. Under the current rule, where the next higher available series would be \$5 away above a \$200 strike price, the ability to roll such positions would be impaired. Accordingly, to move a position from a \$200 strike to a \$205 strike under the current rule, an investor would need for the underlying product to move 2.5%, and would not be able to execute a roll up until such a large movement occurred. The Exchange believes that with the proposed rule change, the investor would be in a significantly safer position of being able to roll his open options position from a \$200 to a \$201 strike price, which is only a 0.5% move for the underlying. As a result, the proposed rule change will allow the Exchange to better respond to customer demand for GLD strike prices more precisely aligned with the smaller, longer-term incremental increases in the underlying ETF. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change, like the other strike price programs currently

offered by the Exchange, will benefit investors by providing investors the flexibility to more closely tailor their investment and hedging decisions using GLD options. Moreover, by allowing series of GLD options to be listed in \$1 intervals between strike prices over \$200, the proposal will moderately augment the potential total number of options series available on the Exchange. However, the Exchange believes it and the Options Price Reporting Authority (“OPRA”) have the necessary systems capacity to handle any potential additional traffic associated with this proposed rule change. The Exchange also believes that Members⁵ will not have a capacity issue due to the proposed rule change. In addition, the Exchange represents that it does not believe that this expansion will cause fragmentation of liquidity, but rather, believes that finer strike intervals will serve to increase liquidity available as well as price efficiency by providing more trading opportunities for all market participants.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.⁶ Specifically, the Exchange believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5)⁷ requirements in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in, securities, to remove impediments to

⁵ The term “Member” means an individual or organization that is registered with the Exchange pursuant to Chapter II of MIAX Sapphire Rules for purposes of trading on the Exchange as an “Electronic Exchange Member” or “Market Maker.” Members are deemed “members” under the Exchange Act. See Exchange Rule 100.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes the proposed change will allow investors to more easily use GLD options. Moreover, the proposed rule change would allow investors to better trade and hedge positions in GLD options where the strike price is greater than \$200, and ensure that investors in both options are not at a disadvantage simply because of the strike price.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(1) of the Act, which provides that the Exchange be organized and have the capacity to be able to carry out the purposes of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder, and the rules of the Exchange. The proposal allows the Exchange to respond to customer demand to allow GLD options to trade in \$1 intervals above a \$200 strike price. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule would create additional capacity issues or affect market functionality. As noted above, ETF options trade in wider \$5 intervals above a \$200 strike price, whereby options at or below a \$200 strike price trade in \$1 intervals. This creates a situation where contracts on the same option class effectively may not be able to execute certain strategies such as, for example, rolling to a higher strike price, simply because of the \$200 strike price above which options intervals increase by 500%. This proposal remedies the situation by establishing an exception to the current ETF interval regime for GLD options to allow such options to trade in \$1 or greater intervals at all strike prices.

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change, like other strike price programs currently offered by the Exchange, will benefit investors by giving them increased flexibility to more closely tailor their investment and hedging decisions. By way of example, GLD is a leading product in its asset class and it trades within a “complex” where, in addition to the underlying security, there are multiple instruments available for hedging such as, COMEX Gold

Futures; Gold Daily Futures; iShares GOLD Trust; SPDR GOLD Minishares Trust; Aberdeen Physical Gold Trust; and GraniteShares Gold Shares.

With regard to the impact of this proposal on system capacity, the Exchange believes it and OPRA have the necessary systems capacity to handle any potential additional traffic associated with this proposed rule change. The Exchange believes that its members will not have a capacity issue as a result of this proposal.

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 that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Rather, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will result in additional investment options and opportunities to achieve the investment and trading objectives of market participants seeking efficient trading and hedging vehicles, to the benefit of investors, market participants, and the marketplace in general. Specifically, the Exchange believes that GLD options investors and traders will significantly benefit from the availability of finer strike price intervals above a \$200 price point. In addition, the interval setting regime the Exchange proposes to apply to GLD options is currently applied to SPY, IVV, QQQ, IWM, and DIA options, which are similarly popular and widely traded ETF products and track indexes at similarly high price levels. Thus, the proposed strike setting regime for GLD options will allow options on this an actively traded ETF with index levels at corresponding price levels to trade pursuant to the same strike setting regime. This will permit investors to employ similar investment and hedging strategies for each of these options.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁸ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)⁹ thereunder, the Exchange has designated this proposal as one that effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

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 necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act.

Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

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-SAPPHIRE-2024-06 on the subject line.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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-SAPPHIRE-2024-06. 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-SAPPHIRE-2024-06 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.¹⁰

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

EXHIBIT 5

New text is underlined;
Deleted text is in [brackets]

MIAX Sapphire Options Exchange Rules

* * * * *

Rule 404. Series of Option Contracts Open for Trading

* * * * *

(g) The interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved for options trading pursuant to Rule 402(i) will be \$1 or greater where the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5.00 or greater where the strike price is greater than \$200 or shall be fixed at a price per share which is reasonably close to the price per share at which the underlying security is traded in the primary market at or about the same time such series of options is first open for trading on the Exchange, or at such intervals as may have been established on another options exchange prior to the initiation of trading on the Exchange.

Interpretations and Policies:

* * * * *

.10 Notwithstanding any other provision regarding the interval of strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares in this rule, the interval of strike prices on SPDR S&P 500 ETF (“SPY”), iShares S&P 500 Index ETF (“IVV”), Invesco QQQ Trust (“QQQ”), iShares Russell 2000 Index Fund (“IWM”), [and the]SPDR Dow Jones Industrial Average ETF (“DIA”), and the SPDR[®] Gold Trust (“GLD”) options will be \$1 or greater.

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