

§ 171.45

(d) *Defective notices of appeal.* Notices of appeal that are untimely or not accompanied by the filing fee shall not be accepted by the Proceedings Clerk absent a showing, by motion, of excusable neglect.

§ 171.45 General procedures.

The following procedural rules applicable to review of decisions of the National Futures Association in disciplinary, membership denial and registration actions shall also apply to the review of decisions of the National Futures Association in member responsibility actions:

- (a) Section 171.24 Submission of the Record.
- (b) Section 171.25 Appeal Brief.
- (c) Section 171.26 Answering Brief.
- (d) Section 171.27 Limited Participation By Interested Persons.
- (e) Section 171.28 Participation By Commission Staff.
- (f) Section 171.30 Scope of Review.
- (g) Section 171.31 Commission Review In the Absence of An Appeal.
- (h) Section 171.32 Oral Argument.
- (i) Section 171.33 Final Decision By the Commission.

§ 171.46 Standards of review.

In reviewing the decision of the National Futures Association in a member responsibility action, the Commission shall consider whether:

- (a) The proceedings were conducted in a manner consistent with fundamental fairness;
- (b) The proceedings were conducted in a manner consistent with the rules of the National Futures Association;
- (c) The weight of the evidence supports the findings of the National Futures Association concerning the reasons for the action;
- (d) The determination that summary action is necessary to protect the commodity futures markets, customers, or members of the National Futures Association rests on a reasonable interpretation of the NFA rules at issue;
- (e) The National Futures Association's application of its rules is consistent with the purposes of the Act;
- (f) In light of the findings of the National Futures Association concerning the reasons for the action and the public interest, the suspension, restriction

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or remedial action imposed by the National Futures Association is not excessive, oppressive or an abuse of discretion.

Subpart E—Delegation of Functions

§ 171.50 Delegation to the General Counsel.

(a) The Commission hereby delegates, until it orders otherwise, to the General Counsel or the General Counsel's designee, the authority:

- (1) To waive or modify any of the requirements of §§ 171.25, 171.26, 171.27 and to waive or modify any requirement of the part 171 Rules insofar as it pertains to changes in the time permitted for filing, or the form, execution, service and filing of documents;
 - (2) To enter orders under §§ 171.10, 171.12, 171.21 and 171.31(c);
 - (3) To decline to accept any notice of appeal, or petition for stay pending review, of matters specified in § 171.1(b) and to so notify the appellant and the registered futures association;
 - (4) To stay the effective date of a decision of the National Futures Association in a disciplinary, membership denial or registration action, or a decision relating to such actions issued by the Commission pursuant to these rules, for a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 10 days, when such a stay is necessary to allow the Commission to consider a petition to stay the effective date of such a decision or a motion for similar relief;
 - (5) To decline to accept any document which has not been filed or perfected as specified in these rules;
 - (6) To determine motions seeking permission to participate in a proceeding under § 171.27 and to establish the related briefing schedule;
 - (7) To establish briefing schedules under § 171.28; and
 - (8) To enter any order which, in his judgment, will facilitate or expedite Commission review of a decision by the National Futures Association in a disciplinary, membership denial or registration action.
- (b) Within seven days after service of a ruling issued pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, a party may file with the Proceedings Clerk a petition