FIRST TRUST EQUITY EDGE INDEX

Index Methodology Rule Book

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None of the information contained herein constitutes a solicitation, offer, opinion, or recommendation by Bloomberg or the Index Owner to buy or sell any security, or constitutes legal, tax, accounting, or

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Section 1 Introduction

Unless otherwise specified or defined, all capitalized terms referred to in this Index Methodology Rule Book are defined in Section 3 ("Definitions").

This Index Methodology Rule Book has been made available by the Index Administrator and sets out the rules and risk factors applicable to the First Trust Equity Edge Index.

The Indices are the intellectual property of the Index Owner and its licensors. The Index Owner and its licensors own the copyright and all other intellectual property rights in the Indices as set out in this Index Methodology Rule Book. Any use of these intellectual property rights must be with the prior written consent of the Index Owner.

The administration of the Indices will be solely performed by the Index Administrator. The Index Administrator controls the creation and operation of the Indices' administration process, including all stages and processes involved in the production and dissemination of the Indices and together with its licensors owns the copyright of this Index Methodology Rule Book (subject to the intellectual property rights of the Index Owner with respect to the Indices set out herein). For the avoidance of doubt, the Index Owner does not and will not administer the Indices, or control any part of the Indices' administrative or determination process. Notwithstanding that the Indices rely on information from third party sources, the Index Administrator has primary responsibility for all aspects of the Indices' administration and determination process.

The information in this Index Methodology Rule Book reflects the policies of, and is subject to change by, the Index Administrator. The Index Administrator makes certain determinations and calculations in respect of the Indices and publishes the Index Value as further described in this Index Methodology Rule Book. The Index Owner does not have any obligation to ensure that the Index Administrator continues to publish the Index Value and the Index Administrator may discontinue publication of the Index Value, subject to the transition policies of the Index Administrator, which are available upon written request. The Index Administrator will use reasonable efforts to make available the Index Value in respect of each Index Business Day. The Index is published on the relevant Bloomberg Page (Appendix A). Certain information with respect to the Indices (or a subset thereof) may also be published on the Bloomberg Website (defined below).

Historical records relating to the past performance of the Indices are available on the relevant Bloomberg Page.

Any publication described in this Section 1 ("Introduction") may be restricted by means determined as appropriate for such purpose by the Index Administrator in its sole and absolute discretion, including, but not limited to, password protection restricting access to a limited set of persons in accordance with arrangements agreed between the Index Administrator and such persons.

Neither the Index Owner nor the Index Administrator accepts any legal liability to any person for publishing or not continuing to publish for any period of time any Index Value at any particular place or any particular time.

This version of the Index Methodology Rule Book is provided as of the date specified on the cover of this Index Methodology Rule Book (the "Publication Date"). Upon each update to this Index Methodology

Rule Book, the most recent version shall be deemed to supersede the preceding version from the date of such update such that, in the event of any conflict between an earlier version of the Index Methodology Rule Book and the most recent version, the most recent version shall prevail. The Index Administrator will use reasonable efforts to provide notice of such updates. The Index Administrator shall provide additional information about any such updates upon written request.

All determinations and calculations made by the Index Administrator will (in the absence of manifest error) be final, conclusive and binding.

The information contained in this Index Methodology Rule Book includes the methodology and material rules and risks relating to the Indices. This information is subject to change.

Section 2 Overview of the Indices

2.1. Objective

This Index Methodology Rule Book describes the calculation of the First Trust Equity Edge Index. The index tracks the performance of a long position in the respective indices according the Table 1 ("Index Information") in Appendix A.

2.2. Determination of the Index Value

The Index Value is calculated by the Index Administrator and is based on the value of each of the relevant Index Constituents as determined in accordance with Section 4 ("Index Calculation") on each Index Business Day. The determination of dates used in the calculation is based on the relevant calendars and exchange schedules available at the time of such determination. On any day where the Index Value is not calculated, no Index Value will be published in respect of such day, subject to the provisions set out below. Certain provisions in this document are expressed in both formulaic and descriptive terms. In the event of conflict between a descriptive term and a formula, the formula shall govern.

2.3. Determination of the value of each Index Constituent

The Indices have been established and designed only for the purpose of seeking to achieve the objectives stated in this Section 2 ("Overview of the Indices"). They have not been designed to reflect the performance of the wider foreign exchange market, equity market, bond market or other financial markets. The Index Value will be a function of the price, level or value of the relevant Index Constituents. In the absence of a Market Disruption Event or Index Adjustment Event, the Index Value will be calculated in accordance with the formulae in the methodology (including in circumstances where the market for an Index Constituent is illiquid or fragmented). This Section 2 ("Overview of the Indices") only provides a summary of the Indices and is subject to, and qualified by, the remainder of this Index Methodology Rule Book. Prospective Product Investors should therefore carefully read the whole of this Index Methodology Rule Book.

Prospective Product Investors should also note that any purposes, aims and intentions expressed in this Index Methodology Rule Book may not be achieved.

Section 3 Definitions

"Affiliate" means in relation to any entity, any other entity directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control with, such entity;

"Bloomberg Page" means, with respect to a Bloomberg ticker, the page on the Bloomberg Terminal® generated by entering such ticker + <GO>;

"Bloomberg Website" means the following: https://www.bloomberg.com/professional/product/indices or any successor thereto;

"Force Majeure Event" means an event or circumstance (including, without limitation, a systems failure, natural or man-made disaster, act of God, armed conflict, act of terrorism, riot or labour disruption or any similar intervening circumstance) that is beyond the reasonable control of the Index Administrator and that the Index Administrator determines, in its sole discretion, affects an Index, any Index Constituent or the methodology on which the relevant Index is based or the Index Administrator's ability to calculate and publish the relevant Index;

"Index" has the meaning given to it in the 'Important Disclaimer Information' section;

"Index Adjustment Event" means, with respect to an Index, any of the following:

- (a) a change shall have been made to any of the Index Constituents or there shall have occurred any other event that would make the calculation of any Index impossible or infeasible, technically or otherwise, or that makes the Index non-representative of market prices of the Index Constituents or undermines the objectives of the relevant Index;
- (b) the administrator of an Index Constituent makes or announces that it will make a material change in the weighting or composition of, formula for or method of calculating, such Index Constituent or modifies or announces that it will modify in any other way such Index Constituent in a material manner (other than a modification prescribed in that formula or method to maintain such Index Constituent in the event of permitted changes in its constituents and/or other routine events);
- (c) the level or value of any Index Constituent has been calculated by reference to data that, in the determination of the Index Administrator, does not reflect the true market trading prices, values or levels of such Index Constituent and/or the related underlying contract;
- (d) the administrator of an Index Constituent permanently cancels the Index Constituent;
- (e) the imposition or removal of or change in any tax (including without limitation, any excise, severance, sales, use, value-added, transfer, stamp, documentary, recording or similar tax) on, or in relation to any Index Constituent or any component thereof, by any government or taxation authority on or after the Index Commencement Date, if the effect of such imposition, change or removal is to raise or lower the price, value or level at which such Index Constituent or any component thereof trades on the relevant exchange or in the relevant market on any relevant date from what it would have been without that imposition, change or removal;
- (f) a change in law, such that on or after the Index Commencement Date (i) due to the adoption or announcement of any change in any applicable law or regulation (including, without limitation, any tax law or limitations on the repatriation of invested capital in the jurisdiction of the underlying), or (ii) due to the promulgation of or any change in the interpretation by any court,

tribunal or regulatory authority with competent jurisdiction of any applicable law or regulation (including any action taken by a taxing authority), the Index Administrator determines that the continued administration and distribution of the Index is illegal or a materially different undertaking to administer;

- (g) the exchange rate for a Constituent Currency or Index Currency splits into dual or multiple exchange rates;
- (h) an event occurs that generally makes it impossible or impracticable to convert a Constituent Currency or Index Currency into US Dollars through customary legal channels in any relevant jurisdiction, as determined by the Index Administrator;
- (i) an event occurs that generally makes it impossible or impracticable to deliver US Dollars from accounts inside the country where a Constituent Currency or Index Currency is the official currency to accounts outside such country, or to deliver a Constituent Currency or Index Currency between accounts inside such country or to a party that is a non-resident of such country;
- (j) any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations, including those laws or regulations that relate to capital controls or government control of exchange rates, prevailing in the country where a Constituent Currency or Index Currency is the official currency, or any change in any application or official interpretation of such laws or regulations, or any other governmental action that the Index Administrator determines, acting in a commercially reasonable manner, may cause another market disruption event to occur or that leads or may lead to the introduction of a currency peg regime;
- (k) the Index Administrator determines that an issuer or dealer (or any of their Affiliates) of Indexlinked notes or other Index-linked transactions would be unable, after using commercially reasonable efforts, to acquire, establish, re-establish, substitute, maintain, unwind, or dispose of any hedge position relating to such Index-linked notes or other Index-linked transactions, or to realize, recover or remit the proceeds of any such transactions; and/or
- (I) the occurrence of a default, event of default or other similar condition or event with respect to any security or indebtedness of, or guaranteed by, any governmental authority in relation to an underlying instrument of an Index Constituent;

"Index Business Day" means any day which is a common trading business day with respect to NYSE and NASDAQ trading calendars;

"Index Constituent Business Day" means, in respect of an Index Constituent, any day on which a value for the Index Constituent is scheduled to be published;

"Index Constituent" means, with respect to an Index, each index listed in Table 2 ("Index Constituents") in Appendix A;

"Index Constituent Value" means, with respect to an Index Constituent and an Index Business Day:

[&]quot;Index Administrator" means Bloomberg Index Services Limited ("BISL");

[&]quot;Index Base Date" means, with respect to an Index is 08 June 2007;

[&]quot;Index Base Value" means, with respect to an Index is 100.0000;

- (i) if such Index Business Day is also an Index Constituent Business Day, the value of such Index Constituent as calculated by the relevant administrator for such Index Business Day in accordance with the Underlying Index Constituent Methodology,
- (ii) otherwise, the value of such Index Constituent as calculated by the relevant administrator for the immediately preceding Index Constituent Business Day in accordance with the Underlying Index Constituent Methodology;

Index Constituent Values are rounded to four (4) decimal places;

"Constituent Currency" means, in respect of an Index Constituent the value specified under column 'Currency' as per Table 2 ("Index Constituents") in Appendix A;

"Index Currency" means, with respect to an Index the value specified under column 'Currency' in Table 1 ("Index Information") in Appendix A;

"Index Value" shall have the meaning given to it in Section 4 (Index Calculation);

"Index Owner" means FTIS

"Index Sponsor" means the entity that (a) is responsible for setting and reviewing the rules and procedures and the methods of calculation and adjustment, if any, related to the Index, (b) is ultimately responsible for determinations in respect of the Index, and (c) announces (directly or through an agent) the Index Level for each day;

"Determination Date" means, in respect of a Rebalancing Date, an Index Business Day immediately preceding the Rebalancing Date;

"Index Value" means, with respect to an Index and each Index Business Day, the value of the Index calculated in accordance with the methodology described in Section 4 ("Index Calculation");

"Market Disruption Event" means, with respect to an Index, the occurrence of one or more of the following events if, in the discretion of the Index Administrator, such event is material with respect to such Index:

- (a) the Index Administrator observes on any Index Business Day that there has been a declaration of a general moratorium in respect of banking activities in any relevant jurisdiction;
- (b) the occurrence of an event that makes it impossible or not reasonably practicable on any Index Business Day for the Index Administrator to obtain the value of any Index Constituent, or any other price or necessary information for purposes of calculating the Index Value in a manner acceptable to the Index Administrator;
- (c) a temporary or permanent failure by the applicable exchange or other fixing source to announce or publish the value of any Index Constituent, Constituent Currency or Index Currency on any Index Business Day on which the level of such Index Constituent, Constituent Currency or Index Currency was scheduled to be announced or published;
- (d) the administrator of an Index Constituent fails to announce or publish the level or value of such Index Constituent on an Index Business Day on which the level or value of such Index Constituent was scheduled to be announced or published;
- (e) the occurrence or existence of a lack of, or material decline in, the liquidity in the market for trading of any underlying of an Index Constituent on any Index Business Day;

- (f) a Force Majeure Event;
- (g) any event that disrupts or impairs (as determined by the Index Administrator acting in a reasonable manner) the ability of market participants in general to establish, maintain or unwind transactions in, or obtain market values for, futures, forwards, options, swaps or other over-the-counter derivative transactions indirectly included in and/or that may be used for hedging any Index Constituent;
- (h) any suspension of, or limitation imposed on, trading any Index Constituent, Constituent Currency, Index Currency or any tradable instrument, including forwards, options or swaps, in respect of an Index Constituent, Constituent Currency or Index Currency;
- (i) a failure to obtain the spot exchange rate of any Constituent Currency against the Index Currency or USD on any Index Business Day;

"Rebalancing Date" means:

- (a) If an Index Business Day, the second Friday of March, June, September, and December,
- (b) Else, the immediately following Index Business Day after the second Friday of March, June, September, and December;

"Underlying Index Constituent Methodology" means, with respect to each Index Constituent, the methodology describing the calculations, documentation and governance of an Index Constituent as set out by the relevant administrator;

"Index Units" means, with respect to an Index, an Index Constituent, and a Rebalancing Date, the value calculated in accordance with the methodology described in Section 4.2 ("Index Units Calculation");

"Target Index Units" means, with respect to an Index, an Index Constituent, and a Determination Date, the value calculated in accordance with the methodology described in Section 4.3 ("Target Index Units Calculation");

"Target Weight" means, in respect of an Index and an Index Constituent, the target weight for that Index Constituent as per Table 2 ("Index Constituents") in Appendix A;

[&]quot;Product" means any product based on or in relation to an Index;

[&]quot;Product Investor" means any investor buying, selling, entering into or holding Products;

[&]quot;Prospective Product Investor" means any investor who may be seeking to buy, sell, enter into or hold Products;

Section 4 Index Calculation

4.1. Index Calculation

The **Index Value** or *I* on the Index Base Date and any date prior to the Index Base Date, shall be the Index Base Value. The Index Value with respect to each subsequent Index Business Day shall be calculated by the Index Administrator in accordance with the following formula, subject to Section 4.8 ("*Rounding*"):

$$I_t = I_{t-1} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} [IR_{i,(t-1,t)}] - I_{t-1} \times AA \times \frac{D_t - D_{t-1}}{DC}$$

Where:

 I_t and I_{t-1} means the Index Value of Index I on Index Business Day t and t-1 respectively;

i means Index Constituent I;

n means the number of Index Constituents in that Index;

t means an Index Business Day;

t-1 means the Index Business Day immediately preceding the Index Business Day t;

AA means the Adjustment Amount for the Index as set forth in Table 1 ("Index

Information") in Appendix A;

 $D_t - D_{t-1}$ means the number of days between Index Business Days t and t-1;

DC means the Day Count Convention as per Table 1 ("Index Information") in Appendix A;

 $\mathit{IR}_{i,(t-1,t)}$ means the index return amount of Index Constituent i from Index Business Day t-1

to Index Business Day t, calculated as follows:

$$IR_{i,(t-1,t)} = Index\ Units_{i,t-1} \times (Value_{i,t} - Value_{i,t-1})$$

Where:

 $Value_{i,t}$ means the Index Constituent Value for Index Constituent i for Index Business Day t:

 $Value_{i,t-1}$ means the Index Constituent Value for Index Constituent i for Index Business Day t-1;

 $Index\ Units_{i,t-1}$ means $Index\ Units_{i,t}$ on the Index Business Day immediately preceding Index Business Day t

 $Index\ Units_{i,t}$ means, for each Index Constituent i and for each Index Business Day t the Index Units shall be calculated by the Index Administrator in accordance with the following:

a) for Index Business Day t that is a Rebalancing Day:

$$Index\ Units_{i,t} = Target\ Index\ Units_{i,d}$$

Where:

Target Index $Units_{i,d}$ shall have the value determined in accordance with Section 4.2 ("Target Index Units Calculation");

Target $Index\ Units_{i,d-1}$ in respect of the initial Determination Date d shall be deemed to be zero:

d means, in respect of that Rebalancing Period, the relevantDetermination Date;

b) for any other Index Business Day, the value determined by the following formula:

$$Index\ Units_{i,t} = Index\ Units_{i,t-1}$$

provided that $IndexUnits_{i,t}$ shall be deemed to be zero for any Index Business Day t prior to the Index Base Date.

4.2. Target Index Units Calculation

In respect of an Index and for each Rebalancing Date, the Index Administrator shall determine the Target Index Units for each Index Constituent in accordance with the formula below:

$$Target\ Index\ Units_{i,d} = \frac{Target\ Weight_{i,d}\ \times I_d}{Value_{i,d}}$$

Where:

d means the Determination Date associated with that Rebalancing Date;

 $Target\ Weight_{i,d}$ means the Target Weight of Index Constituent i for Determination Date d;

 I_d means the Index Value for Determination Date d;

 $Value_{i,d}$ means the Index Constituent Value for Index Constituent i for Determination

Date d; and

4.3. Rounding

The Index Values shall be published rounded to four (4) decimal places.

Section 5 General Rules

5.1. Consequences of a Market Disruption Event

If, on any Index Business Day, a Market Disruption Event occurs or is occurring that the Index Administrator determines, in its sole discretion, materially affects the Index, the Index Administrator may:

- **5.1.1.** defer or suspend the calculation and publication of the Index Value and any other information relating to the Index until the next Index Business Day on which such disruption event is not continuing; and/or
- **5.1.2.** make such determinations and/or adjustments in relation to (a) the methodology used to calculate that Index as the Index Administrator considers necessary in order to maintain the objectives of the Index, or (b) the Index Value of the Index as the Index Administrator considers appropriate in order to preserve the underlying objectives of the Index, including but not limited to calculating a substitute level for the Index based on but not restricted to the last published price, level or value of any disrupted Index Constituent and such price, level or value may be zero, where, in the reasonable view of the Index Administrator, this would give an objective and accurate determination; and/or
- **5.1.3.** make any adjustment or determination as it sees fit to the terms of this Index Methodology Rule Book or an Index Value in order to take into account the Market Disruption Event; and/or
- **5.1.4.** determine, where such Index Business Day would have been, but for the occurrence of the Market Disruption Event, as the case may be, a Rebalancing Date, that such rebalancing date is not a Rebalancing Date, and accordingly adjust such Rebalancing Date to the next Index Business Day on which it determines that no such Market Disruption Event as the case may be, exists; and/or
- **5.1.5.** discontinue supporting the relevant Index or terminate the calculation of the Index Value and the publication of the Index Value for such Index if the Index Administrator determines that the foregoing measures provided in clauses 5.1.1 through 5.1.4 above would produce results that are not consistent with the objectives of such Index; and/or
- **5.1.6.** if such Market Disruption Event persists for four consecutive Index Business Day immediately following the original Index Business Day on which such Market Disruption Event occurs, then the Index Administrator shall determine what further actions it may reasonably take.

5.2. Consequences of an Index Adjustment Event

If, on any Index Business Day, an Index Adjustment Event occurs that the Index Administrator determines affects the Index, the Index Administrator may:

- **5.2.1.** make such determinations and/or adjustments as the Index Administrator considers necessary in order to maintain the objectives of such Index, in relation to (a) the methodology used to calculate such Index or (b) the Index Value for such Index; and/or
- **5.2.2.** select, in its sole, good faith discretion, a successor Index Constituent to replace the Index Constituent affected by the Index Adjustment Event; and/or
- **5.2.3.** defer or suspend publication of the Index Value and any other information relating to the relevant Index until it determines that no Index Adjustment Event is continuing; and/or

5.2.4. discontinue supporting such Index or terminate the calculation of the Index Value for such Index, subject to the Index Administrator's termination and transition policies, if the Index Administrator determines that the foregoing measures provided in clauses 5.2.1 through 5.2.4 above are not feasible or would produce results that are not consistent with the objectives of such Index.

5.3. Termination

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available <u>here</u>.

5.4. Expert Judgment

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available here.

5.5. Errors and Adjustments

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available here.

5.6. Index and Data Reviews

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available here.

5.7. Construction of this Index Methodology Rule Book

This Index Methodology Rule Book is made available by the Index Administrator. In the event of any inconsistency between the English language version of this Index Methodology Rule Book and that translated into any other language, the English language version shall prevail. If there is any ambiguity in, or uncertainty or dispute about the meaning of, any of the provisions of this Index Methodology Rule Book, the Index Administrator shall, in its sole and absolute discretion, construe the relevant provision(s) in order to determine the correct interpretation, and the decision of the Index Administrator shall be final, conclusive and binding.

5.8. Availability and Publication of Index Values and Adjustments

5.8.1. Index Publication

The Index Administrator will endeavour to make available the Index Values as soon as reasonably practicable for each Index Business Day. The Index Value shall be published on the Bloomberg Page or on such other information source as the Index Administrator may select from time to time. The Index Administrator accepts no liability to any person for publishing or not continuing to publish for any period, as the case may be, any Index Value at any particular place or any particular time.

5.8.2. Adjustments

The Index Administrator will endeavour to make available any adjustments made to any Index. The Index Owner may, at any time, change the name of the Index. The Index Administrator may, at any time, change with respect to the Index, the place and time of the publication of the Index Value, and the frequency of the publication of the Index Value for such Index, upon reasonable notice.

5.9. Index Administrator

Subject to other provisions of this Index Methodology Rule Book, all determinations made by the Index Administrator will be made by it (a) acting in its sole discretion by reference to such factors as the Index Administrator deems appropriate and (b) will be final, conclusive and binding in the absence of manifest error.

5.10. Reinvestment of Dividends and Coupons

Dividends and coupon payments play no direct role in this Index Methodology Rule Book, and are therefore not accounted for by the Index.

Section 6 Backtest Assumptions

This Index Methodology Rule Book contains the index rules current as of the Publication Date, and will be updated to reflect any changes made after that date.

Section 7 Index Oversight and Governance Benchmark Governance, Audit and Review Structure

7.1. Governance Structure

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available <u>here</u>.

7.2. Conflicts of Interest

Please refer to the BISL Benchmark Procedures Handbook available <u>here</u>.

7.3. Control Framework

The Index Administrator has implemented and maintains the "Bloomberg Benchmarks Control Framework" (the "Control Framework"), a summary of which is available upon written request to the Index Administrator at info@bloombergindices.com. Neither the Control Framework nor the summary of its features may form part of any prospectus into which this Index Methodology Rule Book may be incorporated.

Section 8 Limitations of the Indices

Though the Index is designed to be representative of the markets it measures or otherwise align with its stated objective, it may not be representative in every case or achieve their stated objective in all instances. It is designed and calculated strictly to follow the rules of this Index Methodology Rule Book, and any Index Value or other output is limited in its usefulness to such design and calculation.

Markets can be volatile, including those market interests which the Index intends to measure or upon which the Index is dependent in order to achieve its stated objective. For example, illiquidity can have an impact on the quality or amount of data available to the Index Administrator for calculation and may cause the Index to produce unpredictable or unanticipated results.

In addition, market trends and changes to market structure may render the objective of the Index unachievable or to become impractical to replicate by investors.

The Index aims to provide exposure to a multi asset portfolio. The Index is therefore subject to the effectiveness of such investment strategy and the underlying volatility.

Section 9 Licensing and Trademark

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Appendix A

Table 1 – Index Information

Index Name	Currency	Ticker	Adjustment	Day Count	Index Commencement	
			Amount	Convention	Date	
First Trust Equity Edge	USD	FTEQEDGE	0.55%	365	31 January 2024	
Index						

Table 2 – Index Constituents

Asset			Target	
Class	Component	Ticker	Weight	Currency
Equity	NASDAQ US Rising Dividend Achievers Index	NQDVRIS	50%	USD
Equity	Value Line Dividend Index	VLFVD	50%	USD