

February 13, 2026

**SUBMITTED VIA CFTC PORTAL**

Secretary of the Commission  
Office of the Secretariat  
U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission  
Three Lafayette Centre  
1155 21st Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20581

Re: KalshiEX LLC – CFTC Regulation 40.2(a) Notification Regarding the Initial Listing of the “Will <above/below/between/exactly/at least> <count> <player category> players be selected <draft scope> in <time period> of <draft>?” Contract

Dear Sir or Madam,

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act and Section 40.2(a) of the regulations of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, KalshiEX LLC (Kalshi), a registered DCM, hereby notifies the Commission that it is self-certifying the “Will <above/below/between/exactly/at least> <count> <player category> players be selected <draft scope> in <time period> of <draft>?” contract (Contract). The Contract will initially be listed after close-of-business on **February 20, 2026**; it is listed as the day after because of limitations of the Commission's online submission portal. The Exchange intends to list the contract on a **custom** basis. The Contract’s terms and conditions (Appendix A) includes the following strike conditions:

- **<above/below/between/exactly/at least>**
- **<count>**
- **<player category>**
- **<draft scope>**
- **<draft>**
- **<time period>**

Along with this letter, Kalshi submits the following documents:

- A concise explanation and analysis of the Contract;
- Certification;
- Appendix A with the Contract’s Terms and Conditions;
- Confidential Appendices with further information; and
- A request for FOIA confidential treatment.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Xavier Sottile

Head of Markets  
KalshiEX LLC  
xsottile@kalshi.com

KalshiEX LLC

Official Product Name: “Will <above/below/between/exactly/at least> <count> <player category> players be selected <draft scope> in <time period> of <draft>?”

Rulebook: DRAFTCAT

Summary: Players drafted by category and scope of draft

Kalshi Contract Category: Sports

Kalshi Internal Category: Sports

February 13, 2026

## **CONCISE EXPLANATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE PRODUCT AND ITS COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT, INCLUDING CORE PRINCIPLES AND THE COMMISSION'S REGULATIONS THEREUNDER**

Pursuant to Commission Rule 40.2(a)(3)(v), the following is a concise explanation and analysis of the product and its compliance with the Act, including the relevant Core Principles (discussed in Appendix D), and the Commission's regulations thereunder.

### **I. Introduction**

The “Will <above/below/between/exactly/at least> <count> <player category> players be selected <draft scope> in <time period> of <draft>?” Contract is a contract relating to Sports.

Further information about the Contract, including an analysis of its risk mitigation and price basing utility, as well as additional considerations related to the Contract, is included in Confidential Appendices C, D, and E.

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Act and CFTC Regulations 40.2(a), the Exchange hereby certifies that the listing of the Contract complies with the Act and Commission regulations under the Act.

**General Contract Terms and Conditions:** The Contract operates similar to other event contracts that the Exchange lists for trading. The minimum price fluctuation is \$0.01 (one cent). Price bands will apply so that Contracts may only be listed at values of at least \$0.01 and at most \$0.99. Further, the Contract is sized with a one-dollar notional value and has a minimum price fluctuation of \$0.01 to enable Members to match the size of the contracts purchased to their economic risks. As outlined in Rule 5.16 of the Rulebook, trading shall be available at all times outside of any maintenance windows, which will be announced in advance by the Exchange. Members will be charged fees in accordance with Rule 3.13 of the Rulebook. Fees, if they are charged, are charged in such amounts as may be revised from time to time to be reflected on the Exchange’s Website. A new

Source Agency can be added via a Part 40 amendment. All instructions on how to access the Underlying are non-binding and are provided for convenience only and are not part of the binding Terms and Conditions of the Contract. They may be clarified at any time. Furthermore, the Contract's payout structure is characterized by the payment of an absolute amount to the holder of one side of the option and no payment to the counterparty. During the time that trading on the Contract is open, Members are able to adjust their positions and trade freely. The Expiration Value and Market Outcome are determined at or after Market Close. The market is then settled by the Exchange, and the long position holders and short position holders are paid according to the Market Outcome. In this case, "long position holders" refers to Members who purchased the "Yes" side of the Contract and "short position holders" refers to Members who purchased the "No" side of the Contract. If the Market Outcome is "Yes," meaning that an event occurs that is encompassed within the Payout Criterion, then the long position holders are paid an absolute amount proportional to the size of their position and the short position holders receive no payment. If the Market Outcome is "No," then the short position holders are paid an absolute amount proportional to the size of their position and the long position holders receive no payment. Specification of the circumstances that would trigger a Market Outcome of "Yes" are included below in the section titled "Payout Criterion" in Appendix A.

**CERTIFICATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 5c OF THE COMMODITY EXCHANGE  
ACT, 7 U.S.C. § 7A-2 AND COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION RULE  
40.2, 17 C.F.R. § 40.2**

Based on the above analysis, the Exchange certifies that:

- ☐ The Contract complies with the Act and Commission regulations thereunder.
- ☐ This submission (other than those appendices for which confidential treatment has been requested) has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <https://kalshi.com/regulatory/filings>.

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact the exchange at [ProductFilings@kalshi.com](mailto:ProductFilings@kalshi.com).



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By: Xavier Sottile  
Title: Head of Markets  
Date: February 13, 2026

**Attachments:**

Appendix A - Contract Terms and Conditions

Appendix B - Trading Prohibitions

Appendix C (Confidential) - Further Considerations

Appendix D (Confidential) - Source Agency

Appendix E (Confidential) - Compliance with Core Principles

**APPENDIX A – CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**Official Product Name: “Will <above/below/between/exactly/at least> <count> <player category> players be selected <draft scope> in <time period> of <draft>?”**

**Rulebook: DRAFTCAT**

## DRAFTCAT

**Scope:** These rules shall apply to this contract.

**Underlying:** The Underlying for this Contract is the official results of <draft> in <time period>, as reported by the Source Agencies, including the identity and classification of players selected and the order in which they were selected. Revisions to the Underlying made after Expiration will not be accounted for in determining the Expiration Value.

**Source Agency:** The Source Agencies are the league or association governing <draft>, the Associated Press, ESPN, CBS Sports, Fox Sports, and The Wall Street Journal.

**Type:** The type of Contract is an Event Contract.

**Issuance:** The Contract is based on the outcome of a recurrent event. Thus, Contract iterations will be issued on a recurring basis, and future Contract iterations will generally correspond to the next year that <draft> is held.

**<draft>:** <draft> refers to a professional sports league player selection event specified by the Exchange, and may include a specified year and/or other distinguishing information (e.g., "the 2026 NFL Draft," "the 2026 NBA Draft," "the 2026 MLB First-Year Player Draft," "the 2026 NHL Entry Draft"). <draft> may refer to (but is not limited to) the drafts of the National Football League, the National Basketball Association, the National Hockey League, Major League Baseball, or any other professional sports league specified by the Exchange. The Exchange may list iterations of the Contract corresponding to variations of <draft>. And/or logic (or "none" or "any of") may also be used to combine the events of multiple drafts.

**<player category>:** <player category> refers to a classification of draft-eligible or drafted players as specified by the Exchange at the time of listing. The Exchange will specify the exact definition of each <player category> at listing time. Examples of <player category> include, but are not limited to:

- **Nationality or country of birth** (e.g., "players born outside the United States," "Canadian-born players"). For nationality- or birthplace-based categories, a player's country of birth as reported by the governing league of <draft> or its official draft records shall be determinative. If the governing league does not report country of birth, the country of birth as reported by the Source Agencies shall be used.
- **Academic classification** (e.g., "freshmen," "sophomores," "juniors," "seniors"). For academic classification categories in U.S. college sports, the classification assigned the player's most recent college or university class designation at the time of the draft shall be determinative. If a player did not attend a U.S. college or university, that player shall not be classified under any U.S. academic classification category.



- Ex: If a player just finished their freshman year going into the draft, they are classified as a Freshman since that is their most recent class designation at the time of the draft, even though they are also technically incoming Sophomores.
- **Conference or league of origin** (e.g., "SEC players," "Big Ten players," "CHL players," "players from European leagues"). For conference-based categories, the conference affiliation of the player's most recent college or university at the time of the draft shall be determinative. A player who was not affiliated with any conference (e.g., an independent school) does not qualify for any conference-based category unless the Exchange specifies otherwise at listing time.
- **Position** (e.g., "quarterbacks," "centers," "goalies," "pitchers"). For position-based categories, the primary position designated by the governing league at the time of selection shall be determinative. If the governing league does not designate a position at the time of selection, the position listed on the official draft card or announcement shall be used.
- **School or institution** (e.g., "players from Alabama," "players from Michigan"). For school-based categories, the player's most recent college or university at the time of the draft shall be determinative.
- **League-specific designations** (e.g., "international players" as defined by a specific league's collective bargaining agreement or official rules). When the Exchange specifies a league-specific designation, the governing league's official definition as in effect at the time of the draft shall control.
- **Comparative categories.** <player category> may also take the form of a comparison between two player groups (e.g., "international players compared to college sophomores"). In such cases, the Payout Criterion will specify the comparison being made, and each group will be defined according to the applicable rules above.
  - In the case that a comparison is tied, the market will resolve to \$1/(the number of player groups), rounded down, unless a tie strike is listed, in which case that strike will resolve to Yes with all others resolving to No.

A single player may qualify under multiple <player category> classifications simultaneously (e.g., a player may be both a "freshman" and an "SEC player"). Unless the Exchange specifies otherwise, players who meet the definition of their respective player category at the time of declaring for the draft — specifically, the classification assigned to the player's most recent status at the time — shall be counted, regardless of whether they later changed status (e.g., transferred conferences after declaring).

**<draft scope>:** <draft scope> refers to the subset of draft selections to which the Contract applies, as specified by the Exchange. <draft scope> may refer to:

- A range of overall pick numbers (e.g., "in the top 5 picks," "with picks 1 through 10," "in the first 15 overall selections").

- A specific round or set of rounds (e.g., "in Round 1," "in Rounds 1 and 2," "in the first three rounds").
- The entire draft (e.g., "overall," "in the draft").
- Any other clearly bounded subset of selections specified by the Exchange.

Pick numbers refer to overall selection order as officially reported by the governing league, regardless of trades. If a pick is traded during the draft, the overall pick number does not change; the player selected with that pick number is counted in the applicable <draft scope>. For example, if a team trades into the third overall pick position and selects a player, that player counts as a "top 5" pick regardless of which team made the selection.

**<count>:** <count> refers to a numerical value specified by the Exchange. <count> may be expressed as a whole number (e.g., "1," "4," "10"). <count> may also refer to the count of players from a second <player category> who are selected within the same <draft scope> (e.g., "the number of college sophomore players selected in Round 1"), enabling comparison markets. The Exchange may list iterations of the Contract corresponding to variations of <count>.

**<above/below/between/exactly/at least>:** Refers to comparison operators applied to the count of <player category> players selected within <draft scope>. "Above" means strictly greater than <count>. "Below" means strictly less than <count>. "Exactly" means equal to <count>. "At least" means greater than or equal to <count>. "Between X and Y" means greater than or equal to X and less than or equal to Y, unless otherwise specified.

**<time period>:** <time period> refers to the temporal scope over which draft selections are counted, as specified by the Exchange. In most cases, <time period> will correspond to a single occurrence of <draft> (e.g., "in 2026" when <draft> is "the 2026 NFL Draft"). However, the Exchange may specify multi-year periods for aggregated counts (e.g., "from 2026 to 2028," "over the next three drafts") or sub-draft periods (e.g., "the first 10 minutes of R1"). When <time period> is not explicitly specified at listing time, it defaults to the single occurrence of <draft> as defined. If <time period> spans multiple draft years, all selections from each included draft occurrence shall be counted toward the total.

**Payout Criterion:** The Payout Criterion for the Contract encompasses the Expiration Values that the number of <player category> players officially selected <draft scope> in the <draft>, in <time period>, is <above/below/between/exactly/at least> <count>.

Only players who are officially selected (i.e., their name is announced or recorded as a draft pick by the governing league) are counted. Players who withdraw from the draft before selections are made, players who are not selected at all, and players whose selections are officially voided by the governing league before Expiration are not counted. Undrafted players are never counted regardless of subsequent free agent signings.

- If the <draft> is postponed past its originally scheduled date, the market will remain open and will resolve after the sooner of (1) the official results of the <draft> being reported or (2) one year following the <draft>'s original scheduled start date.
- If the <draft> is shortened (i.e., fewer rounds are conducted than originally scheduled), the market will resolve based on the selections that were officially made. If <draft scope> references rounds or picks that were not conducted, the count of <player category> players in those unconducted rounds or picks shall be zero.
- If the <draft> is cancelled outright and no selections are made, all markets will resolve to the last fair price as determined in the sole discretion of the Exchange.
- If a player's selection is voided or reversed by the governing league before Expiration (e.g., due to ineligibility), that player shall not be counted.
- If a player's selection is voided or reversed by the governing league after Expiration, that reversal shall not affect the market's resolution.
- If the governing league conducts a supplemental, compensatory, or secondary draft distinct from the primary <draft>, selections in such supplemental drafts are not counted unless the Exchange specifies otherwise at listing time.
- If a player is drafted but doesn't sign with the team that drafted them, that still counts as being drafted for the purposes of the contract.

**Examples that would resolve the market to Yes:** (assuming the market is "Will at least 3 SEC players be selected in the top 10 picks in the 2026 NFL Draft?"):

- Four players whose most recent college conference affiliation was the SEC are selected with overall pick numbers 1 through 10 in the 2026 NFL Draft. (Yes —  $4 \geq 3$ .)
- Three SEC-affiliated players are selected with overall pick numbers 2, 7, and 9. (Yes —  $3 \geq 3$ .)
- A player transferred from the SEC to the Big Ten after declaring for the draft, but was affiliated with the SEC at the time of declaration. That player plus two other SEC players are in the top 10. (Yes —  $3 \geq 3$ , because conference is determined at time of declaration.)

**Examples that would NOT resolve the market to Yes:**

- Two SEC-affiliated players are selected in the top 10 picks. (No —  $2 < 3$ .)
- Three SEC-affiliated players are selected, but with overall pick numbers 8, 11, and 14. Only one is in the top 10. (No —  $1 < 3$ .)
- A player attended an SEC school but transferred to a non-SEC school before declaring for the draft. The player's most recent conference affiliation at declaration was not the SEC, so the player does not count as an SEC player. Only two other SEC players are in the top 10. (No —  $2 < 3$ .)

**Examples that would resolve the market to Yes** (assuming the market is "Will more international-born players than college freshmen be selected in Round 1 of the 2026 NBA Draft?"):

- Six players born outside the United States and four players classified as freshmen are selected in Round 1. (Yes —  $6 > 4$ .)
- Three international-born players and two freshmen are selected in Round 1. (Yes —  $3 > 2$ .)

**Examples that would NOT resolve the market to Yes:**

- Four international-born players and four freshmen are selected in Round 1. If a tie strike is listed, that strike will resolve to yes and all others to No. If a tie strike is not listed, all markets will resolve to  $\$1/(\text{the number of concepts tied})$ , rounded down (in this case, \$0.50).
- Two international-born players and five freshmen are selected in Round 1. (No —  $2 < 5$ .)

**Minimum Tick:** The Minimum Tick size for the Contract shall be \$0.01.

**Position Accountability Level:** The Position Accountability Level for the Contract shall be \$25,000 per strike, per Member.

**Last Trading Date:** The Last Trading Date of the Contract will be the same as the Expiration Date. The Last Trading Time will be the same as the Expiration time.

**Settlement Date:** The Settlement Date of the Contract shall be no later than the day after the Expiration Date, unless the Market Outcome is under review pursuant to Rule 7.1.

**Expiration Date:** The latest Expiration Date of the Contract shall be one year after the originally scheduled date for <draft>. If the official results of the <draft> for the applicable <draft scope> are reported, expiration will be moved to an earlier date and time in accordance with Rule 7.2.

**Expiration time:** The Expiration time of the Contract shall be 10:00 AM ET.

**Settlement Value:** The Settlement Value for this Contract is \$1.00.

**Expiration Value:** The Expiration Value is the value of the Underlying as documented by the Source Agency on the Expiration Date at the Expiration time.

**Contingencies:** Before Settlement, Kalshi may, at its sole discretion, initiate the Market Outcome Review Process pursuant to Rule 7.1 of the Rulebook. If an Expiration Value cannot be determined on the Expiration Date, Kalshi has the right to determine payouts pursuant to Rule 7.1 in the Rulebook.

## **APPENDIX B – TRADING PROHIBITIONS**

In addition to the general prohibition against trading on material nonpublic information, the Exchange will institute additional prohibitions for trading the contract. Persons under 18 years of age are not permitted to create Kalshi accounts. The following individuals will be prohibited from trading:

- Current and former players, coaches, and staff of the league, association, or organization(s) governing the <draft>.
- For college leagues/associations specifically, or where otherwise appropriate (as identified by the Exchange), this applies to current and former players/coaches/staff of the specific teams in the <draft> rather than the league/association as a whole, (e.g., if the Division I LSU Baseball Team is playing in <baseball game>, this prohibition will restrict trades by current/former players of that team, rather than all current/former players/coaches/staff in any NCAA sport);
- Paid employees of the <draft> league and league participants;
- Ultimate beneficial owners of teams and the <draft> league; and
- Household members and immediate family of all above.

These prohibitions apply to the appropriate values of the teams involved in the <draft>. For example, former players of Major League Baseball are not necessarily prohibited from trading on iterations of the Contract related to the National Football League, unless they are part of any other group listed for that league.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Contract has not been endorsed by any league or association as of self-certification. The use of any names of leagues or associations does not indicate an endorsement of this product.