



**BZX Information Circular 14-016**  
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**Date:** February 13, 2014

**Re:** AdvisorShares Trust

Pursuant to Rule 14.11(j)(2) of the Rules of BATS Exchange, Inc. and 14.1(c)(2) of the Rules of BATS Y-Exchange, Inc. (each referred to hereafter as “BATS” or the “Exchange”), this Information Circular is being issued to advise you that the following securities have been approved for trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges (“UTP”) on the Exchange as UTP Derivative Securities pursuant to Chapter XIV of the Exchange’s Rules.

| <b><u>Securities (the “Funds”)</u></b> | <b><u>Symbol</u></b> |
|--|----------------------|
| AdvisorShares Gartman Gold/Euro ETF    | GEUR                 |
| AdvisorShares Gartman Gold/Pound ETF   | GGBP                 |
| AdvisorShares International Gold ETF   | GLDE                 |
| AdvisorShares Gartman Gold/Yen ETF     | GYEN                 |

**Commencement of Trading on the Exchange:** February 14, 2014

**Issuer/Trust:** AdvisorShares Trust

**Issuer Website:** [www.advisorshares.com](http://www.advisorshares.com)

**Primary Listing Exchange:** NYSE Arca

Compliance and supervisory personnel should note that, among other things, this Information Circular discusses the need to deliver a prospectus to customers purchasing shares of the Fund (“Shares”) issued by the AdvisorShares Trust (“Trust”). Please forward this Information Circular to other interested persons within your organization.

The purpose of this information circular is to outline various rules and policies that will be applicable to trading in these new products pursuant to the Exchange’s unlisted trading privileges, as well as to provide certain characteristics and features of the Shares. For a more complete description of the Issuer, the Shares and the underlying market instruments or indexes, visit the Issuer Website, consult the Prospectus available on the Issuer Website or examine the Issuer Registration Statement or review the most current information bulletin issued by the Primary Listing Exchange. The Issuer Website, the Prospectus and the Issuer Registration Statement are hereafter collectively referred to as the “Issuer Disclosure Materials.”

**Background Information on the Fund**

The AdvisorShares Trust (the “Trust”) is a management investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), consisting of several investment portfolios. This circular relates only to the Funds listed above (each, a “Fund” and together, the “Funds”).

The shares of the Fund are referred to herein as “Shares.” AdvisorShares Investments, LLC (the “Advisor”) is the investment adviser to the Funds.

The Gartman Gold/Yen ETF (GYEN) seeks to provide positive returns by utilizing the Japanese Yen (JPY) to invest its assets in the gold market.

In seeking to achieve the Fund's investment objective, Treesdale Partners, LLC (“Treesdale” or the “Sub-Advisor”) will invest the Fund's assets in instruments that provide exposure to the international gold market utilizing the Japanese Yen. This strategy provides an investment vehicle for investors who believe that the value of the Fund's investments in gold purchased in Japanese Yen will appreciate. Accordingly, in managing the Fund, the Sub-Advisor will use the Japanese Yen, obtained synthetically through the sale of either exchange-traded currency futures or “over-the-counter” foreign exchange forward contracts, as the currency in which purchases of gold are made. This “Gold Financed in Yen” investment strategy enables the Sub-Advisor to provide an alternate gold investment vehicle that seeks to reduce U.S. dollar exposure.

The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by primarily holding exchange-traded Japanese Yen futures, Japanese Yen forward contracts, swaps, and cash and cash equivalents and investing up to 25% of the Fund's total assets in the Subsidiary (as that term is defined below). Through its investment in the Subsidiary, the Fund will obtain long exposure to the international gold market. The Fund may also invest in exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) and other types of exchange-traded vehicles (collectively, “ETPs”).

The Sub-Advisor will rebalance its positions in the Fund and in the Subsidiary periodically as the value of gold relative to the value of the Japanese Yen fluctuates in international markets.

On a daily basis, the Sub-Advisor will evaluate the gold market to determine whether the exchange-traded markets or the over-the-counter markets provide the Fund with optimal investment opportunities. As part of its daily evaluation, the Sub-Advisor utilizes information from The Gartman Letter, a daily commentary on the global capital markets, including political, economic, and technical trends from both long-term and short-term perspectives. The Sub-Advisor will carefully consider the liquidity of the investment, the cost of executing the purchase or sale, and the creditworthiness of the counterparty. Similarly, the Sub-Advisor will evaluate the market for the Japanese Yen to achieve the optimal duration at which to finance gold purchases for the Fund. The Sub-Advisor will not participate in transactions in Japanese Yen where the maximum duration exceeds ninety days.

In managing the Fund, the Sub-Advisor will consider the asset size of the Fund, as well as liquidity conditions in both the gold and currency markets, in an effort to ensure best execution and minimize potential market disruption.

As discussed above, the Sub-Advisor seeks to gain additional exposure to gold through its investment in a wholly-owned and controlled subsidiary organized in the Cayman Islands (the “Subsidiary”). The Fund's investment in the Subsidiary may not exceed 25% of the Fund's total assets at each quarter end of the Fund's fiscal year. The purpose of the Fund's investment in the Subsidiary is to provide the Fund with additional exposure to commodity returns within the limits of the federal tax requirements applicable to investment companies, such as the Fund. The Subsidiary's investments in commodity-linked derivative instruments are subject to limits on leverage imposed by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”). Except as noted, references to the investment strategies and risks of the Fund include the investment strategies and risks of the Subsidiary.

The Gartman Gold/Euro ETF (“GEUR”) seeks to provide positive returns by utilizing the European Union's Euro to invest its assets in the gold market.

In seeking to achieve the Fund's investment objective, Treesdale will invest the Fund's assets in instruments that provide exposure to the international gold market utilizing the Euro. This strategy provides an investment vehicle for investors who believe that the value of the Fund's investments in gold

purchased in Euros will appreciate. Accordingly, in managing the Fund, the Sub-Advisor will use the Euro, obtained synthetically through the sale of either exchange-traded currency futures or “over-the-counter” foreign exchange forward contracts, as the currency in which purchases of gold are made. This “Gold Financed in Euro” investment strategy enables the Sub-Advisor to provide an alternate gold investment vehicle that seeks to reduce U.S. dollar exposure.

The Fund will seek to achieve its investment objective by primarily holding exchange-traded Euro futures, Euro forward contracts, swaps, and cash and cash equivalents and investing up to 25% of the Fund’s assets in the Subsidiary (as that term is defined below). Through its investment in the Subsidiary, the Fund will obtain long exposure to the international gold market. The Fund may also invest in exchange-traded funds (“ETFs”) and other types of exchange-traded vehicles (collectively, “ETPs”). The Sub-Advisor will rebalance its positions the Fund and in the Subsidiary periodically as the value of gold relative to the value of the Euro fluctuates in international markets.

On a daily basis, the Sub-Advisor will evaluate the gold market to determine whether the exchange-traded markets or the over-the-counter markets provide the Fund with optimal investment opportunities. As part of its daily evaluation, the Sub-Advisor utilizes information from The Gartman Letter, a daily commentary on the global capital markets, including political, economic, and technical trends from both long-term and short-term perspectives. The Sub-Advisor will carefully consider the liquidity of the investment, the cost of executing the purchase or sale and the creditworthiness of the counterparty. Similarly, the Sub-Advisor will evaluate the market for the British Pound to achieve the optimal duration at which to finance gold purchases for the Fund. The Sub-Advisor will not participate in transactions in the British Pound where the maximum duration exceeds ninety days.

In managing the Fund, the Sub-Advisor will consider the asset size of the Fund, as well as liquidity conditions in both the gold and currency markets, in an effort to ensure best execution and minimize potential market disruption.

As discussed above, the Sub-Advisor seeks to gain additional exposure to gold through its investment in a wholly-owned and controlled subsidiary organized in the Cayman Islands (the “Subsidiary”). The Fund’s investment in the Subsidiary may not exceed 25% of the Fund’s total assets at each quarter end of the Fund’s fiscal year. The purpose of the Fund’s investment in the Subsidiary is to provide the Fund with additional exposure to commodity returns within the limits of the federal tax requirements applicable to investment companies, such as the Fund. The Subsidiary’s investments in commodity-linked derivative instruments are subject to limits on leverage imposed by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”). Except as noted, references to the investment strategies and risks of the Fund include the investment strategies and risks of the Subsidiary.

The International Gold ETF (“GLDE”) seeks to provide positive absolute returns by investing in exchange-traded products that provide diversified exposure to the international gold market.

The Fund is considered a “fund of funds” that seeks to achieve its investment objective by primarily taking long positions in other exchange-traded funds (the “Underlying ETFs”) that offer diversified exposure to the international gold market. Treesdale will seek, as appropriate, to maintain a balanced allocation of the Fund’s assets in each of the Underlying ETFs, which may be both affiliated or unaffiliated with the Fund. The affiliated Underlying ETFs are the Gartman Gold/Yen ETF, Gartman Gold/British Pound ETF, and Gartman Gold/Euro ETF (the “Affiliated ETFs”). The Fund will also invest a proportion of its assets in one or more unaffiliated closed-end funds, Underlying ETFs, exchange-traded notes (“ETNs”), and/or other exchange-traded products (collectively, with closed-end funds, Underlying ETFs, and ETNs, “ETPs”) to gain additional exposure to the international gold market.

In determining the Fund’s investment allocation, the Sub-Advisor will follow a proprietary investment process to assess the relative value of gold versus each of the currencies represented in the ETPs. In general, if the Sub-Advisor determines that the price of gold versus a particular currency offers an expected return that exceeds that offered by gold versus other currencies, the ETP that offers that exposure, all things being equal, will receive a larger allocation of the Fund’s assets for investment. While

the Sub-Advisor will actively determine the allocation of the Fund's investments among ETPs, the value of these investments may change on any day due to market fluctuations thus altering such allocation.

The Sub-Advisor will also consider the relative price volatility of gold versus each of the currencies represented within an ETP in making allocation decisions. In general, the higher the volatility of the price of gold versus a particular currency (defined as the standard deviation of historical daily returns), the lower the allocation of capital to that ETP.

Periodically, the Sub-Advisor may decide to purchase downside market protection to hedge against the risk of a large downward movement in the price of gold, based on a proprietary assessment of the expected return from holding gold over a time horizon of generally no more than ninety (90) days. The Sub-Advisor may implement this portion of its investment strategy by employing a number of option-based strategies using U.S. listed equity options with maturities of no more than 90 days. The Sub-Advisor may pay a premium to buy a put option tied to the price of gold, which should rise in value when the price of gold declines, thus protecting the value of the Fund in the event of a large downward movement in the price of gold. The Sub-Advisor also may employ a strategy of buying a put option tied to the price of gold and simultaneously selling a call option tied to the price of gold, known as a "collar" hedging strategy. Both options should increase in value as the price of gold declines, while the combination of the put and call options is intended to reduce the premium cost of the hedge transaction. However, writing gold options may limit the potential profit the Fund would earn if the price of gold rises. Regardless of the option-based strategy employed, the Sub-Advisor will not utilize any strategy in which the value of the options sold exceeds the value of the Fund's portfolio investments thereby limiting the potential losses to the Fund.

The Sub-Advisor will utilize this option strategy only as a means to hedge its long position in gold.

In managing the Fund, the Sub-Advisor will consider the asset size of the Fund, as well as liquidity conditions in both the Affiliated ETFs and ETP markets, in an effort to ensure best execution and minimize potential market disruption.

For more information regarding each Fund's investment strategy, please read the prospectus for the Funds.

As described more fully in the Trust's prospectus and Statement of Additional Information ("SAI"), the Funds issue and redeem Shares at net asset value ("NAV") only in large blocks of 25,000 Shares (each block of Shares called a "Creation Unit"). As a practical matter, only broker-dealers or large institutional investors with creation and redemption agreements (called Authorized Participants) can purchase or redeem these Creation Units. Except when aggregated in Creation Units, the Shares may not be redeemed with the Funds.

Shares are held in book-entry form, which means that no Share certificates are issued. The Depository Trust Company or its nominee is the record owner of all outstanding Shares of the Funds and is recognized as the owner of all Shares for all purposes.

The NAV per Share for each Fund is computed by dividing the value of the net assets of the Fund (i.e., the value of its total assets less total liabilities) by the total number of Shares outstanding. Expenses and fees are accrued daily and taken into account for purposes of determining NAV. The NAV of each Fund is determined each business day after the close of trading (ordinarily 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time or "ET") of the New York Stock Exchange. Any assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are converted into U.S. dollars at the current market rates on the date of valuation as quoted by one or more sources.

### **Principal Risks**

Interested persons are referred to the discussion in the prospectus for the Funds of the principal risks of an investment in the Funds. These include tracking error risk (factors causing a Fund's performance to

not match the performance of its underlying index), market trading risk (for example, trading halts, trading above or below net asset value), investment style risk, sector risk, investment approach risk, non-diversification risk, issuer-specific risk, management risk, gold risk and currency risk.

### **Exchange Rules Applicable to Trading in the Shares**

Trading in the Shares on BATS is subject to BATS equity trading rules.

### **Trading Hours**

The value of the Index underlying the Shares will be disseminated to data vendors every 15 seconds during Regular Trading Hours.

The Shares will trade on BATS between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. ET. Please note that trading in the Shares during the Exchange's Pre-Opening and After Hours Trading Sessions may result in additional trading risks which include: (1) that the current underlying indicative value may not be updated during the Pre-Opening and After Hours Trading Sessions, (2) lower liquidity in the Pre-Opening and After Hours Trading Sessions may impact pricing, (3) higher volatility in the Pre-Opening and After Hours Trading Sessions may impact pricing, (4) wider spreads may occur in the Pre-Opening and After Hours Trading Sessions, and (5) because the indicative value is not calculated or widely disseminated during the Pre-Opening or After Hours Trading Sessions, an investor who is unable to calculate an implied value for the Shares in those sessions may be at a disadvantage to market professionals.

### **Dissemination of Data**

The Consolidated Tape Association will disseminate real time trade and quote information for the Shares to Tape B.

| <i><b>Name</b></i>                                    | <i><b>Listing Market</b></i> | <i><b>Trading Symbol</b></i> | <i><b>IOPV Symbol</b></i> | <i><b>NAV Symbol</b></i> |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| AdvisorShares<br>Gartman Gold/Euro<br>ETF             | NYSE Arca                    | GEUR                         | GEUR.IV                   | GEUR.NV                  |
| AdvisorShares<br>Gartman<br>Gold/British Pound<br>ETF | NYSE Arca                    | GGBP                         | GGBP.IV                   | GGBP.NV                  |
| AdvisorShares<br>International Gold<br>ETF            | NYSE Arca                    | GLDE                         | GLDE.IV                   | GLDE.NV                  |
| AdvisorShares<br>Gartman Gold/Yen<br>ETF              | NYSE Arca                    | GYEN                         | GYEN.IV                   | GYEN.NV                  |

### **Delivery of a Prospectus**

BATS Members should be mindful of applicable prospectus delivery requirements under the federal securities laws with respect to transactions in the Fund. Prospectuses may be obtained through the

Fund's website. The prospectus for the Fund does not contain all of the information set forth in the Funds Registration Statement (including the exhibits to the Registration Statement), parts of which have been omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. For further information about the Fund, please refer to its Registration Statement.

In the event that the Fund relies upon an order by the SEC exempting the Shares from certain prospectus delivery requirements under Section 24(d) of the 1940 Act and in the future make available a written product description, BATS Rule 14.1(c)(3) require that BATS Members provide to all purchasers of Shares a written description of the terms and characteristics of such securities, in a form prepared by the Issuer of the Fund, no later than the time a confirmation of the first transaction in the Shares is delivered to such purchaser. In addition, BATS Members shall include such a written description with any sales material relating to the Shares that is provided to customers or the public. Any other written materials provided by a BATS member to customers or the public making specific reference to the Shares as an investment vehicle must include a statement in substantially the following form: "A circular describing the terms and characteristics of [*the UTP Derivative Securities*] has been prepared by the [*open-ended management investment company name*] and is available from your broker. It is recommended that you obtain and review such circular before purchasing [*the UTP Derivative Securities*]."

A BATS member carrying an omnibus account for a non-member broker-dealer is required to inform such non-member that execution of an order to purchase Shares for such omnibus account will be deemed to constitute agreement by the non-member to make such written description available to its customers on the same terms as are directly applicable to BATS member under this rule.

Upon request of a customer, BATS Members also shall provide a copy of the Prospectus.

### **Suitability**

Trading in the securities on BATS will be subject to the provisions of Exchange Rule 3.7. Members recommending transactions in the securities to customers should make a determination that the recommendation is suitable for the customer.

### **Trading Halts**

BATS will halt trading in the Shares of a security in accordance with BATS Rules. The grounds for a halt include a halt because the intraday indicative value of the security and/or the value of its underlying index are not being disseminated as required, a halt for other regulatory reasons or due to other conditions or circumstances deemed to be detrimental to the maintenance of a free and orderly market.

### **Exemptive, Interpretive and No-Action Relief Under Federal Securities Regulations**

The Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has issued letters granting exemptive, interpretive and no-action relief from certain provisions of rules under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for exchange-traded securities listed and traded on a registered national securities exchange that meet certain criteria.

**AS WHAT FOLLOWS IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE RELIEF OUTLINED IN THE NO-ACTION LETTERS REFERENCED ABOVE, THE EXCHANGE ADVISES INTERESTED PARTIES TO CONSULT THE NO-ACTION LETTERS FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION REGARDING THE MATTERS COVERED THEREIN AND THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RELIEF GRANTED IN RESPECT OF TRADING IN SECURITIES. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD ALSO CONSULT THEIR PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS.**

### **Regulation M Exemptions**

Generally, Rules 101 and 102 of Regulation M prohibit any "distribution participant" and its "affiliated purchasers" from bidding for, purchasing, or attempting to induce any person to bid for or purchase any

security which is the subject of a distribution until after the applicable restricted period, except as specifically permitted in Regulation M. The provisions of the Rules apply to underwriters, prospective underwriters, brokers, dealers, and other persons who have agreed to participate or are participating in a distribution of securities.

The SEC has granted an exemption from Rule 101 under Regulation M to permit persons participating in a distribution of shares of the above-mentioned Funds to engage in secondary market transactions in such shares during their participation in such a distribution. In addition, the SEC has granted relief under Regulation M to permit persons who may be deemed to be participating in the distribution of Shares of the above-mentioned Funds (i) to purchase securities for the purpose of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations of Fund Shares and (ii) to tender securities for redemption in Creation Unit Aggregations. Further, the SEC has clarified that the tender of Fund Shares to the Funds for redemption does not constitute a bid for or purchase of any of the Funds' securities during the restricted period of Rule 101. The SEC has also granted an exemption pursuant to paragraph (e) of Rule 102 under Regulation M to allow the redemption of Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations during the continuous offering of Shares.

### **Rule 10b-10 (Customer Confirmations for Creation or Redemption of Fund Shares)**

Broker-dealers who handle purchases or redemptions of Fund Shares in Creation Unit size for customers will be permitted to provide such customers with a statement of the number of Creation Unit Aggregations created or redeemed without providing a statement of the identity, number and price of shares of the individual securities tendered to the Funds for purposes of purchasing Creation Unit Aggregations ("Deposit Securities") or the identity, number and price of shares to be delivered by the Trust for the Funds to the redeeming holder ("Redemption Securities"). The composition of the securities required to be tendered to the Funds for creation purposes and of the securities to be delivered on redemption will be disseminated each business day and will be applicable to requests for creations or redemption, as the case may be, on that day. This exemptive relief under Rule 10b-10 with respect to creations and redemption is subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Confirmations to customers engaging in creations or redemptions must state that all information required by Rule 10b-10 will be provided upon request;
- 2) Any such request by a customer for information required by Rule 10b-10 will be filed in a timely manner, in accordance with Rule 10b-10(c); and
- 3) Except for the identity, number, and price of shares of the component securities of the Deposit Securities and Redemption Securities, as described above, confirmations to customers must disclose all other information required by Rule 10b-10(a).

### **Section 11(d)(1); Rules 11d1-1 and 11d1-2**

Section 11(d)(1) of the Act generally prohibits a person who is both a broker and a dealer from effecting any transaction in which the broker-dealer extends credit to a customer on any security which was part of a new issue in the distribution of which he participated as a member of a selling syndicate or group within thirty days prior to such transaction. The SEC has clarified that Section 11(d)(1) does not apply to broker-dealers that are not Authorized Participants (and, therefore, do not create Creation Unit Aggregations) that engage in both proprietary and customer transactions in Shares of a Fund in the secondary market, and for broker-dealer Authorized Participants that engage in creations of Creation Unit Aggregations. This relief is subject to specific conditions, including the condition that such broker-dealer (whether or not an Authorized Participant) does not, directly or indirectly, receive from the Fund complex any payment, compensation or other economic incentive to promote or sell the Shares of a Fund to persons outside the fund complex, other than non-cash compensation permitted under NASD Rule 2830(l)(5)(A), (B) or (C). (See letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.) The SEC also has taken a no-action position under Section 11(d)(1) of the Act that broker-dealers may treat Shares of a Fund, for purposes of Rule 11d1-2, as "securities issued by a registered open-end investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act" and thereby extend credit or maintain or arrange for the

extension or maintenance of credit on Shares that have been owned by the persons to whom credit is provided for more than 30 days, in reliance on the exemption contained in the rule.

#### **Rule 14e-5**

An exemption from Rule 14e-5 has been granted to permit any person acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a component security of the Funds (1) to redeem Fund Shares in Creation Unit Aggregations from the issuer that may include a security subject to such tender offer and (2) to purchase Fund Shares during such tender offer. In addition, a no-action position has been taken under Rule 14e-5 if a broker-dealer acting as a dealer-manager of a tender offer for a security of the Fund purchases or arranges to purchase such securities in the secondary market for the purpose of tendering such securities to purchase one or more Creation Unit Aggregations of Shares, if made in conformance with the following:

- 1) such bids or purchases are effected in the ordinary course of business, in connection with a basket of 20 or more securities in which any security that is the subject of a distribution, or any reference security, does not comprise more than 5% of the value of the basket purchase; or
- 2) purchases are effected as adjustments to such basket in the ordinary course of business as a result of a change in the composition of the underlying index; and
- 3) such bids or purchases are not effected for the purpose of facilitating such tender offer.

#### **SEC Rule 15c1-5 and 15c1-6**

The SEC has taken a no-action position with respect to Rule 15c1-5 and Rule 15c1-6 as to the required disclosure of control by a broker or dealer with respect to creations and redemptions of Fund Shares and secondary market transactions therein. (See letter from Catherine McGuire, Chief Counsel, SEC Division of Market Regulation, to Securities Industry Association, Derivative Products Committee, dated November 21, 2005.)

**This Information Circular is not a statutory prospectus. BATS Members should consult the prospectus for a security and the security's website for relevant information.**

Please contact Membership Services at 913.815.7002 with any inquiries regarding this Information Circular.