

2019 HEARTHSTONE® GRANDMASTERS OFFICIAL COMPETITION RULES v1.3

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION 2
2. INVITATION ONLY 2
   2.1 Invitation Only. 2
3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS 2
   3.1 Grandmasters Regions and Residency Requirements. 2
   3.2 Eligibility Subject to Local Law. 3
   3.3 Changes of Residency. 3
4. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE 4
   4.1 Tournament Rules. 4
   4.2 Grandmasters Seasons 4
   4.3 Grandmasters Generally 4
   4.4 Grandmasters Season 1 Match Format. 6
   4.5 Grandmasters Season 2 Match Format. 6
   4.6 Grandmasters Global Finals. 6
   4.7 Promotion and Relegation 7
5. PRIZING 8
   5.1 Grandmasters Prizing in General. 8
   5.2 Seasonal Prize Awards. 9
   5.3 Global Finals Prize Awards. 9
6. PLAYER CONDUCT AND PRIZE DEDUCTIONS 10
   6.1 Prize Deductions and Standards of Conduct. 10
   6.2 Effects of a Disqualified/Removed Players. 12
7. SPONSOR, BRANDING, AND STREAMING REQUIREMENTS 13
   7.1 No Streaming During Matches in Your Region. 13
   7.2 No Implied Endorsements. 13
   7.3 Reserved Sponsors In General. 14
   7.4 Examples of Possible Reserved Sponsor Categories. 15
   7.5 Background Requirements During Broadcasts. 15
8. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS 16
   8.1 No Employment Relationship. 16
   8.2 Changes to these Official Rules. 16
   8.3 Communications. 16
9. GLOSSARY 18

1. INTRODUCTION

These 2019 Hearthstone Grandmasters Official Competition Rules ("Official Rules") govern participation and competitive play of *Hearthstone* in the 2019 Hearthstone Grandmasters Tournament ("Grandmasters").

These Official Rules, in conjunction with the 2019 Hearthstone Tournament Player Handbook (the "Handbook"), establish the rules of tournament play, including rules governing player eligibility, tournament structure, point structures, prize awards, sponsorships, player conduct, etc. The Handbook can be found here: blizz.ly/HSrules

THE TERMS OF THE HANDBOOK CONTAIN A MANDATORY ARBITRATION PROVISION IN SECTION 8 WHICH LIMITS YOUR AND BLIZZARD'S ABILITY TO LITIGATE CLAIMS; AS WELL AS A LIMITATION OF LIABILITY IN SECTION 9 WHICH LIMITS THE LIABILITY OF BLIZZARD AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BLIZZARD GROUP TO YOU FOR ALL HARM, DAMAGES, INJURY OR LOSS.

Please review the terms contained in these Official Rules and the Handbook carefully. You must agree to the terms contained in these Official Rules and the Handbook in order to participate in Grandmasters. You must abide by these Official Rules and adhere to the terms of the Handbook in order to remain eligible to play in Grandmasters and receive prizes.

2. INVITATION ONLY

2.1 Invitation Only.

(a) You may only participate in Grandmasters if you have received an official written invitation from Blizzard, and have also entered into a written 2019 Hearthstone Grandmasters Player Participation Agreement and Acceptance Form as provided by Blizzard. Blizzard reserves the right to issue Grandmasters invitations in its sole discretion.

3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Grandmasters Regions and Residency Requirements.

(a) In order to be and remain eligible to participate in Grandmasters, you must be a legal resident of one of the countries listed below as of March 1, 2019 and all times thereafter until the conclusion of Grandmasters. You will participate in one of three player regions depending on your country of residence as of March 1, 2019:

i. You will participate in Grandmasters in the Americas region if, as of March 1, 2019, you are a legal resident of one of the following countries: Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

ii. You will participate in Grandmasters in the Asia Pacific region if, as of March 1, 2019, you are a legal resident of one of the following countries: Australia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, New Zealand, The Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

iii. You will participate in Grandmasters in the Europe region if, as of March 1, 2019, you are a legal resident of one of the following countries: Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, State of Qatar, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom.

3.2 Eligibility Subject to Local Law.

(a) You may only participate in Grandmasters so long as your participation does not violate your applicable local laws. You are responsible for ensuring that your participation in Grandmasters is compliant with all laws of the jurisdiction(s) in which you are a resident, and you must take all steps necessary to ensure such compliance. You may only travel to participate in a Grandmasters event in-person if you hold a valid passport for your travel and participation. You must also obtain any necessary visa or other governmental authorization required for your participation in any such Grandmasters event, whether online or in-person (including any travel required to or from any venue for the event). Blizzard does not take responsibility for your compliance with local laws and visa requirements.

3.3 Changes of Residency.

(a) If, after March 1, 2019, you change your residency to a country that is not on the list of your applicable Grandmaster region (as described in Sections 3.1.(a).i. through iii. above), or a

country which is not listed in 3.1.(a).i. through iii., Blizzard reserves the right to remove you from Grandmasters at its sole discretion at any time.

4. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

4.1 Tournament Rules.

(a) Grandmasters is governed by these Official Rules and the terms contained in the Handbook.

(b) For all tournament matches, each player will use *Hearthstone* card decks that they have created using special Tournament Play Accounts provided by Blizzard. Players will play matches in the region determined by Blizzard.

4.2 Grandmasters Seasons.

(a) The Grandmaster tournament is split into two seasons ("Season(s)"), with a global finals ("Global Finals") event to occur thereafter.

(b) Season 1 shall commence on or about May 17, 2019 and is expected to conclude on or about July 14, 2019.

(c) Season 2 shall commence on or about August 23, 2019 and is expected to conclude on or about October 13, 2019.

(d) The Global Finals shall occur between September 1, 2019 and November 30, 2019 on dates to be determined by Blizzard.

4.3 Grandmasters Generally.

(a) All Tournament matches for Grandmasters will be held remotely online, with the exception of the Global Finals which will take place at a live venue.

(b) Competition for each Grandmaster Season is split into three geographic regions based on player residency: Americas, Asia Pacific, or Europe.

(c) Each Grandmaster region has a maximum of 16 participants. The 16 participants in each region are further divided into two divisions of 8: Division A and Division B. Divisions will be determined via a random draw conducted by Blizzard.

(d) During each Season, players in each division will play matches against other players within their own group. Each player will play matches against the other 7 players in their division

twice during a Season ("Double Round Robin" format).

(e) Blizzard, in its sole discretion, will determine the dates and times of all Grandmasters matches ("Match Schedule"). The Match Schedule for each Season will be communicated to players no later than 2 weeks prior to the start of the respective Season.

(f) Players will submit deck lists to Blizzard's designated tournament administrator for matches for the whole competition week prior to the deadline designated by the tournament administrator. Players will submit the same decklists for each of their matches during that week. Decklists in Grandmasters will be revealed to opponents prior to a match.

(g) Following the conclusion of all Double Round Robin format matches, players will be ranked within their own division according to the number of wins they accumulated ("Season Score") with tiebreakers breaking Season Score ties in the following order of priority starting from top to bottom:

i. In a two-way tie, players head-to-head performance. The player who accumulated the most wins in matches against the other will be ranked higher. In a three-way or more tie, this tiebreaker is not used.

ii. Modified *Neustadtl Sonneborn–Berger* score, calculated for each player by adding the sum of the Season Scores of the players he or she has defeated. Each time the player is defeated, their score is added to the sum.

iii. A special playoff bracket constructed to output the appropriate number of players to advance. Both the bracket construction and seeding is at the discretion of Blizzard.

(h) At the end of each Season, the top 3 players in each division following the Double Round Robin format, as determined by the standings outlined in Section 4.3(g) above, will advance to the dual tournament format followed by single elimination bracket ("Seasonal Playoff(s)") with:

i. In the first group: 3rd place from Division A playing 2nd place from Division B; and 1st place from Division A receiving an automatic win to advance to the next stage of the dual tournament group. These are initial matches.

ii. In the second group: 2nd place from Division A playing 3rd place from Division B; and 1st place from Division B receiving an automatic win to advance to the next stage of the dual tournament group. These are initial matches.

iii. Remaining necessary matches in each dual tournament groups play out as described in section 4.7 of the Handbook.

iv. The player with the two wins record from the first dual tournament group playing against the player with two wins and one loss record from the second dual tournament group; and the player with the two wins record from the second dual tournament group playing against the player with two wins and one loss record from the first dual tournament group. These are the semifinal matches in the 4-person single elimination bracket.

v. The winners of their respective semifinal matches play a best of 5 match final.

4.4 Grandmasters Season 1 Match Format.

(a) The tournament match format for Season 1 is best of 3 Specialist format as described in the Handbook, unless otherwise stated.

4.5 Grandmasters Season 2 Match Format.

(a) The tournament format Season 2 will be announced on playhearthstone.com and communicated to Grandmasters players no later than 4 weeks prior to the start of Season 2 . If no such announcement happens by the deadline, the format will default to the same format as Season 1.

4.6 Grandmasters Global Finals.

(a) The Grandmasters Global Finals will take place between competitors at a live venue on the date(s) and at the location(s) to be announced by Blizzard at least 4 weeks prior to the event.

(b) Each finalist for each region for both seasons in 2019, together with 2 players from China's *Gold Series* program, will comprise the 8 players invited to participate in the 2019 Grandmasters Global Finals. Should a player be unavailable or disqualified from participation, invitations will pass down to the second place Seasonal Playoffs finisher in the region, then third place and so on in sequential order.

(c) The tournament match format for Grandmasters Global Finals will be announced on playhearthstone.com and communicated to Grandmasters players no later than 4 weeks prior to the start of the Grandmasters Global Finals. If no such announcement happens by the deadline, the format will default to the same format as Season 2.

(d) Grandmaster Global Finals matches will be best of 3 matches. The finals will be a best of 5 match.

(e) Grandmasters Global Finals will be a Dual Tournament into Single Elimination structure. The seeding for the two groups are

i. Group 1: Season 1 - Americas player vs. Season 2 - China player and Season 1 - Asia-Pacific player vs. Season 2 - Europe player;

ii. Group 2: Season 1 - China player vs. Season 2 - Asia-Pacific player and Season 1 - Europe player vs. Season 2 - Americas player.

(f) For the single elimination portion of the tournament, players who exit out of the group with a 2-1 match win record will be paired against the player from the other group who exists the group with a 2-0 match win record.

(g) Blizzard will provide travel and lodging accommodation for all players who participate in the Grandmasters Global finals, subject to the requirements described in Section 4.9 of the Handbook.

4.7 Promotion and Relegation.

(a) In the event that Blizzard hosts a Grandmasters tournament program in 2020 which is substantially similar to the Grandmasters competition described under these Official Rules ("2020 Grandmasters"), each of the players who finish above last place in each of the divisions at the end of Season 2 will be invited to compete in 2020 Grandmasters. Blizzard reserves the right to withhold, revoke, or terminate any invitation to compete in 2020 Grandmasters at any time should you: (i) commit any criminal offense; (ii) engage in any act that, in Blizzard's discretion, brings you into public disrepute, offends a portion or group of the public, or otherwise reflects unfavorably on Blizzard; (iii) stop playing in, be removed, become disqualified, or otherwise become ineligible from competing in 2019 Grandmasters; or (iv) become a resident of any country not listed in Section 3 above.

(b) Following the conclusion of Season 2, the player who finishes in last place in each of the divisions at the end of Season 2 becomes at risk for relegation from Grandmasters 2020 ("Player(s) At Risk of Relegation").

(c) Following the conclusion of Season 2, all players who have earned monetary prizes from the

2019 Masters Tour program shall be ranked in descending order based on the amount of money they have earned from all three (3) 2019 Masters Tour competitions ("Earned Cash Ranking"). For the avoidance of doubt, any supplemental prizing a player receives in a Masters Tour tournament as a result of equitable distribution of minimum cash prize due to lower than expected tournament turnout; or any additional crowdfunded prizing for any Masters Tour tournament is not considered in the calculation of the Earned Cash Ranking. The top two players in the earned cash rankings for each of the Americas, Europe, and Asia-Pacific regions (as defined by the regional country lists in Section 3 above) becomes eligible for selection to participate in 2020 Grandmasters ("Candidate(s) for Promotion").

(d) If a Candidate for Promotion is unable, unwilling, or unfit based on past personal and/or competitive conduct (as determinable in Blizzard's sole discretion) to join 2020 Grandmasters, the candidacy for promotion passes down to the third place player by Earned Cash Ranking from the region, and so on until there exists two Candidates for Promotion in each region.

(e) It is possible that a Player At Risk of Relegation is also a Candidate for Promotion. In this case, this player is simultaneously relegated and promoted.

(f) Provided that the 2020 Grandmasters takes place, Blizzard, in its sole discretion, will choose players to replace the Players At Risk of Relegation from the pool of Candidates for Promotion. Becoming a Candidate for Promotion does not automatically grant an invitation to compete in 2020 Grandmasters. All invitations for 2020 Grandmasters will be issued in Blizzard's sole discretion, and may be subject to additional terms and requirements.

5. PRIZING

5.1 Grandmasters Prizing in General.

(a) Prizes for Season 1 are not earned until the conclusion of the Season 1 Grandmasters Seasonal Playoff, and are subject to the deductions set forth in Section 6 below until such time. Prizes earned during Season 1 will be paid out after the conclusion of the Season 1 Grandmasters Seasonal Playoff. Players are not entitled to any Season 1 prize until such time.

(b) Prizes for Season 2 and the Global Finals are not earned until the end of the Global Finals, and are subject to the deductions set forth in Section 6 below until such time. Prizes earned during Season 2 and the Global Finals will be paid out after the conclusion of the Global Finals.

Players are not entitled to any Season 2 or Global Finals prize until such time.

(c) Prize totals cannot be reduced below $0 USD, and may not be deducted from once paid out to a player.

(d) All prizes are non-transferrable and are subject to the prize award terms contained in Section 4.8 of the Handbook. The awarding of prizes is void where prohibited or restricted. State and local taxes, including but not limited to VAT, which are associated with the receipt or use of any prizes, are the sole responsibility of the prize winner.

5.2 Seasonal Prize Awards.

(a) Each player in Grandmasters starts each of the two Seasons with a base prize total of $7,000 USD, which may be reduced according to the deductions described in Section 6 below or increased based on tournament performance as set forth below.

(b) Each player will add an additional $500 USD to their prize total for each match won during the Double Round Robin portion of each Season.

(c) In addition to the above, the top finishers in each of the Seasonal Playoffs will add the following to their prize total:

Seasonal Playoffs Prizes	
1st place	$2,000 USD
2nd place	$1,500 USD
3rd place	$1,000 USD
4th place	$1,000 USD
5th place	$500 USD
6th place	$500 USD

5.3 Global Finals Prize Awards.

(a) In addition to the above, the top finishers in the Global Finals will add the following to their prize total:

Grandmasters Global Finals Prizes	
1st place	$200,000 USD
2nd place	$100,000 USD
2 Semifinalists	$50,000 USD each
4 players who do not advance past the group stage.	$25,000 USD each

6. PLAYER CONDUCT AND PRIZE DEDUCTIONS

6.1 Prize Deductions and Standards of Conduct.

(a) Grandmasters players will be held to the highest standards of personal integrity and good sportsmanship. Grandmasters players are bound by the standards of Player Conduct outlined in Section 6 of the Handbook, and the rule infractions and penalties outlined in Section 7 of the Handbook. In addition to the foregoing, the following conduct will reduce Grandmaster player prize totals by the following amounts (prize totals cannot be reduced below $0 USD). All prize deductions will be decided in Blizzard's sole discretion and are final and binding once communicated to the player receiving the deduction.

(b) A Grandmasters player found to be in violation of sponsorship requirements in Sections 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, or 7.5 below will have $500 USD deducted from their prize total. This deduction doubles for each subsequent violation of any of the foregoing sections by the same player.

(c) A Grandmasters player found to be in violation of the streaming Blackout Periods described in Section 7.1 below will have $500 USD deducted from their prize total. This deduction doubles for each subsequent violation by the same player.

(d) A Grandmasters player found to be sharing a Battle.net Account with another person will have $1,000 USD deducted from their prize total, in addition to other remedies which may be provided for under the Handbook and Blizzard's Website Terms. This deduction doubles for each subsequent violation by the same player.

(e) A Grandmasters player found to be engaging in "account boosting" (e.g., assisting another person with artificially boosting their account stats or in-game rank except for as exempted below) or playing in a *Hearthstone* tournament impersonating another player will have $1,000

USD deducted from their prize total, in addition to other remedies which may be provided for under the Handbook and Blizzard's Website Terms. This deduction doubles for each subsequent violation by the same player.

i. As long as such play otherwise complies with Blizzard's Website Terms , co-streaming, co-playing or coaching ranked play is acceptable when either:

- The player whose account is being used is already invited into the Master Tour for which there is a current qualifying period on ladder, or
- Play is occurring more than 5 days before the end of the season ladder season.

(f) A Grandmasters player found to be in violation of the in-game disruption or harassment standards described in the "License Limitation" section of the Blizzard End User License Agreement will have $500 USD deducted from their prize total, in addition to other remedies which may be provided for under the Handbook and Blizzard's Website Terms. This deduction doubles for each subsequent violation by the same player.

(g) A Grandmasters player found to be in violation of Section 7.2 of the Handbook, Failure to Submit Decklist, will forego the standard Game Loss penalty described in the Handbook, and will instead have $500 USD deducted from their prize total. This deduction does not escalate for subsequent violations by the same player.

(h) A Grandmasters player found to be in violation of Section 7.6 of the Handbook, Failure to Check in on Time, in addition to the penalty described in the Handbook, will have the following amounts deducted from their prize total:

i. $500 USD for being late to a match as defined in Section 7.6 of the Handbook. This deduction does not escalate for subsequent violations by the same player.

ii. $1,000 USD for failure to participate in a scheduled match as defined in Section 7.6 of the Handbook. This deduction does not escalate for subsequent violations by the same player.

(i) A Grandmasters player who fails to utilize any travel or lodging benefit paid for and booked by Blizzard for any live Grandmasters-related event will have the actual cost of the unutilized travel or lodging benefit deducted from their prize total. This deduction does not escalate for subsequent violations by the same player.

(j) A Grandmasters player who damages or otherwise harms any lodging accommodations paid for and booked by Blizzard in connection with any live Grandmasters-related event will have the actual cost of the damage charged to Blizzard deducted from their prize total. This deduction does not escalate for subsequent violations by the same player.

(k) A Grandmasters player found to be in violation of Section 7.10 of the Handbook, Failure to Follow Specific Tournament Official Instructions, in addition to the penalty described in the Handbook, will have $500 USD deducted from their prize total. This deduction does not escalate for subsequent violations by the same player.

(l) A Grandmasters player found to be in violation of Section 7.12 of the Handbook, Unsporting Conduct Minor, in addition to the penalty described in the Handbook, will have the following amounts deducted from their prize total:

i. $250 USD for the first instance by the same player.

ii. $500 USD for the second instance by the same player.

iii. $1,000 USD for the third instance by the same player.

iv. Reduction of the player's prize total to $0 USD for the fourth instance by the same player.

(m) Any infraction described in the Handbook which carries a penalty of disqualification from a Tournament or suspension from competitive Tournament play will result in removal from Grandmasters and reduction of the player's prize total to $0 USD, in addition to other remedies which may be provided for under the Handbook and Blizzard's Website Terms.

(n) Being charged or convicted of committing a criminal offence by a state, local, or national government will result in removal from Grandmasters and reduction of the player's prize total to $0 USD, in addition to other remedies which may be provided for under the Handbook and Blizzard's Website Terms.

(o) Engaging in any act that, in Blizzard's sole discretion, brings you into public disrepute, offends a portion or group of the public, or otherwise damage's Blizzard image will result in removal from Grandmasters and reduction of the player's prize total to $0 USD, in addition to other remedies which may be provided for under the Handbook and Blizzard's Website Terms.

6.2 Effects of a Disqualified/Removed Players.

(a) If a player is disqualified or otherwise removed from Grandmasters prior to the completion of all matches during the Double Round Robin stage of either Season 1 or Season 2, the match results of all matches played against the disqualified/removed player will be removed from consideration in the standings for all remaining players for the remainder of the Season (e.g. all wins and losses against the disqualified/removed player and any influence on other player's tie breaker scores will be nullified). Any prize additions which resulted from match wins against the disqualified/removed player will remain in the applicable player's prize total.

(b) If any region has less than sixteen (16) players at the end of Season 1, Blizzard will invite additional player(s) from the vacant position's region based on current Earned Cash Ranking (as described in section 4.7(c)) at the end of Season 1 until each region has sixteen (16) players. Eligible players based on current Earned Cash Ranking at the end of Season 1 will be considered "Midyear Candidate(s) for Promotion". If a Midyear Candidate for Promotion is unable, unwilling, or unfit based on past personal and/or competitive conduct (as determinable in Blizzard's sole discretion) to join Grandmasters, the candidacy for promotion passes down to the second place player by Earned Cash Ranking from the region, and so on until there exists a suitable number of Midyear Candidates for Promotion to fill the vacant position(s).

7. SPONSOR, BRANDING, AND STREAMING REQUIREMENTS

7.1 No Streaming During Matches in Your Region.

(a) During live broadcasts of Double Round Robin matches between players in your Grandmasters region, the Seasonal Playoffs, and the Global Finals, you may not: (i) livestream any form of video content on any platform or channel (other than as part of an official live Grandmaster broadcast); or (ii) rebroadcast any recorded video content on any platform or channel, with the exception of video-on-demand content ("Blackout Period(s)"). Your personal livestream channel(s) must either be offline during Blackout Periods, or be "hosting" or "raiding" an official live Grandmasters broadcast. Blizzard will communicate all Blackout Periods to you in advance.

7.2 No Implied Endorsements.

(a) Following the public announcement by Blizzard of the Grandmasters players rosters in your region, you are permitted to publicize the fact that you are participating in Grandmasters. However, you may not use Blizzard's brands or trademarks (including but not limited to Grandmasters, *Hearthstone* Masters, and *Hearthstone*) to promote or otherwise imply any

endorsement or brand collaboration with any product or service not specifically authorized by Blizzard. You must comply with all of Blizzard's requirements when using Blizzard's brands or trademarks publicly, as well as comply with all applicable laws.

7.3 Reserved Sponsors In General.

(a) Blizzard wants players to be successful in their efforts to build their own brand and sponsorship opportunities. However, Blizzard needs to reserve the right to have enterprise-wide sponsorships or sponsorships for particular game titles or particular events in order to fund the development and expansion of *Hearthstone* and *Hearthstone* Esports. Accordingly, Blizzard may from time to time designate certain products or services as a "Reserved Sponsor Category" by providing you with written notice. A Reserved Sponsor Category may include but are not limited to the examples listed in Section 7.4 below. Should Blizzard exercise its right to declare certain products or services as a Reserved Sponsor Category, you will be prohibited from Actively Promoting (as defined below) any sponsor in such Reserved Category in connection with your participation in Blizzard's *Hearthstone* esports other than the reserved sponsor(s) designated by Blizzard. You may Passively Promote (as defined below) sponsors in a Reserved Sponsor Category even after Blizzard exercises its right to reserve it. You are solely responsible for determining whether your compliance with the terms contained in these Official Rules and the Handbook conflict with any present or future sponsorship agreement which you have or may enter into. You agree to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Blizzard Group from and against any and all expenses, judgments, awards, fines, and fees (including reasonable attorneys' fees) with respect to any claims or actions brought against any member of the Blizzard Group by third parties which arise out of any agreement for sponsored activity which you have or may enter into.

(b) "Actively Promoting" means drawing attention to a sponsor via intentional conduct, which includes but is not limited to: (i) verbally mentioning a sponsor during Grandmasters activities; (ii) pointing or otherwise gesturing in the direction of a sponsored logo on your clothing or otherwise; (iii) consuming a sponsored food or beverage while on camera during a Grandmasters broadcast or official interview; and (iv) displaying a sponsored logo, product, or material in the background or foreground of online video feeds which are incorporated into a Grandmasters broadcast (e.g., displaying a sponsored beverage or sponsor-branded refrigerator in the shot).

(c) "Passively Promote" means: (i) wearing a sponsored logo on your clothing; (ii) wearing a sponsored article of clothing or glasses; (iii) using a sponsored computer peripheral in the normal course of competition (other than headphones at live events, due to the nature of requiring player noise cancelling at live venues); and (iv) any other sponsored activities which Blizzard specifically permits.

7.4 Examples of Possible Reserved Sponsor Categories.

(a) A Reserved Sponsor Category may include but are not limited to the following examples:

i. Complete desktop computers.

ii. Complete laptop computers.

iii. Computer monitors.

iv. Computer CPUs.

v. Computer memory.

vi. Non-alcoholic beverages, which includes but is not limited to: (i) anything consumed by drinking, whether or not such beverages contain nutritive, food, or dairy ingredients, or are in a frozen form; (ii) powders, syrups, grounds (such as for coffee), herbs (such as for tea), concentrates, beverage pods, and all other beverage bases from which beverages can be made; (iii) brands and products used for water purification or beverage making; (iv) "flavor enhancers" and "liquid water enhancers"; and (v) non-alcoholic beverages sold as "shots" or "supplements." The definition of "Beverage" will apply without regard to a product's labeling, marketing, or packaging.

vii. Beer and other alcoholic beverages.

viii. Payment services.

ix. Travel services, which includes but not limited to: (i) air travel, (ii) ground transportation, (iv) lodging, and (iv) travel agencies.

x. Any other product or service type which Blizzard declares in writing to you to be a "Reserved Sponsor Category."

7.5 Background Requirements During Broadcasts.

(a) Blizzard will provide all Grandmasters players with a background for use during online matches (the "Background"). You must cover all background areas visible within the frame with the Background provided by Blizzard when remotely participating in online video feeds which are incorporated into a Grandmasters broadcast. The Background will contain *Hearthstone* and/or Blizzard elements only, but will not contain the logos of Blizzard's sponsors. You must not remove, cover up, or otherwise prevent the display of the Background when remotely participating in online video feeds which are incorporated into a Grandmasters broadcast.

8. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

8.1 No Employment Relationship.

(a) You agree that you are not an employee or contractor of Blizzard or any other Blizzard Group member and are not entitled to employee or fringe benefits.

(b) Nothing in this document or the Handbook shall be deemed or construed to create a partnership, joint venture or similar relationship or create fiduciary duties or responsibilities on the part of Blizzard or any other member of the Blizzard Group.

8.2 Changes to these Official Rules.

(a) These Official Rules and the Handbook contain the rules, policies and practices of the Blizzard for the Grandmasters that are in effect at the time of their publication. All previously issued rules, policies and practices (other than the Website Terms), whether in print, online, or in individual communications with players relating to the Grandmasters are superseded.

(b) Blizzard reserves the right, subject to the approval of the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux, to revise, modify, change, delete or add to these Official Rules at any time, in its sole discretion, and to suspend, cancel or modify the Grandmasters or any player's participation in the Grandmasters should viruses, bugs, unauthorized human intervention, hacks or other causes beyond Blizzard's control affect the administration, security or proper play of the Grandmasters, or Blizzard otherwise becomes (as determined in its sole discretion) incapable of running the Grandmasters as planned.

8.3 Communications.

(a) We both agree that these Official Rules and the Handbook together constitute a written agreement signed by both you and Blizzard under applicable law.

(b) To the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, these Official Rules, and any other notices, requests and other communications provided for herein, may be provided to you electronically, and you agree to receive all such communications from Blizzard electronic form. Electronic communications will be delivered to you at the email address listed on your Battle.net Account.

(c) If you have any questions or comments about these Official Rules or Qualifiers, please email them to HearthstoneAdmin@blizzard.com or send written questions to: **2019 Hearthstone Grandmasters c/o Blizzard Entertainment Esports, P.O. Box 18979, Irvine, CA 93623.**

9. GLOSSARY

“Battle.net Account” means a full Battle.net account registered on Blizzard’s Battle.net service that is in good standing and that remains in good standing throughout Tournament competition. “Battle.net Account” does not refer to a Battle.net lite account; a lite account is not sufficient for participation in any Tournament.

“Battle.net lite account” means a version of Battle.net that mobile users can create without accepting the Battle.net End User License Agreement.

“Blizzard”, **“we”** or **“us”** means Blizzard Entertainment, Inc. and its affiliates.

“Blizzard Group” means Blizzard, its parent and any of their respective affiliate companies and subsidiaries.

“Official Rules” means these 2019 Hearthstone Grandmasters Official Competition Rules.

“Handbook” means the 2019 Hearthstone Tournament Player Handbook.

“Website Terms” means the Blizzard End User License Agreement applicable to your use of the *Hearthstone* game client and Blizzard’s Battle.net service, the Blizzard Entertainment Online Privacy Policy applicable to your use of Blizzard’s games, services, and websites, and the other terms and conditions governing use of Blizzard’s games, services, and websites.