

Fireside Gatherings that hold open tournaments from July 4 through July 6, and August 1 through August 3, are eligible to have their winners qualify for a brand new community tournament called the Fireside Pre-Qualifier hosted by ZOTAC.

Open Tournaments

For a Fireside Gathering to be eligible to qualify their tournament winner for the appropriate Fireside Pre-Qualifier for their region, there are a few rules. Only Fireside Gatherings taking place in countries or states that are eligible for the Hearthstone World Championship may take part ([Americas Rules](#) - [Europe Rules](#)). In addition, tournaments must have a minimum of twelve (12) players entered to be eligible, but may have any number of maximum entrants.

If you have a particularly large Fireside Gathering, you may want to consider splitting the field into two or more separate tournaments of at least twelve players each. Organizers may submit multiple tournament brackets as long as the players in each tournament are unique (players can only compete in one bracket per weekend) and the other rules are followed.

The format for the open tournaments being held at Fireside Gatherings must be a single-elimination bracket with best of 3 matches. Each registered player is permitted to use only one (1) deck for the entirety of the tournament, and that deck may not be altered between games or between rounds. Tournament organizers must verify that their event took place by taking a picture with all of the contestants and providing Blizzard Entertainment with a copy of their event's completed Fireside Gatherings bracket ([color version](#) – [black and white](#)).

Once a winner is determined, the Fireside Gathering organizer must send all of the following information to firesidegatherings@blizzard.com:

1. Group photo with all participants
2. Scanned copy or legible photograph of the filled out bracket
3. The winner's contact information:
 - a. Full name
 - b. BattleTag (Ex: SleepyElf#0001)
 - c. Contact e-mail address

Please note that photographs and completed bracket verification must be submitted by **July 8 by 11:59 pm PDT** for the July open tournaments, and **August 5 by 11:59 pm PDT** for the August open tournaments to qualify. Late entries will not be accepted. After entries are received, the winners will automatically be entered into the appropriate Fireside Pre-Qualifier.

All player BattleTags submitted in completed brackets will be verified as having had played from the same city as the Fireside Gathering the weekend of the event. Brackets with fake BattleTags or with players who did not participate will be disqualified.

Fireside Pre-Qualifier

Fireside Pre-Qualifiers will be held on **July 13** and **August 17** as online-only events. On each date there will be a separate Fireside Pre-Qualifier tournament for each region. Each set of tournaments will be hosted by the same administration team as the weekly ZOTAC Cups you may already be familiar with.

The top two (2) players in each server's Fireside Pre-Qualifier (a total of eight (8) seeds) will, if eligible, earn seeds into their respective Hearthstone World Championship Qualifier, which takes place in

September. The top four (4) players from each Hearthstone World Championship Qualifier will then qualify for the Hearthstone World Championship, held at BlizzCon on November 7 and 8.