



HEARTHSTONE® EMEA
Battlegrounds Cup Rules v1.0

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1. INTRODUCTION

These Hearthstone EMEA Battlegrounds Cup Official Competition Rules (“Official Rules”) govern competitive play of *Hearthstone* in the Hearthstone EMEA Battlegrounds Cup (“Tournament”) as of the date of its publication.

These Official Rules, in conjunction with the 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. In order to participate in the Tournament, you must agree to the terms contained in these Official Rules and the Handbook. You must also abide by these Official Rules and adhere to the terms of the Handbook in order to remain eligible to play in the Tournament and receive prizes.

2. HEARTHSTONE EMEA BATTLEGROUNDS CUP

2.1 Acceptance of the Official Rules.

- (a) You acknowledge your acceptance of these Official Rules by:
 - (i) signing or accepting a player participation form, either in print or online; or
 - (ii) entering or participating in any game or match that is part of the Tournament.
- (a) If you are over the age of 13 but under the age of majority (as described in the Handbook), your parent or legal guardian must accept these Official Rules on your behalf.
- (b) If you (or your parent or legal guardian) do not accept these Official Rules or you do not meet the player eligibility requirements in Section 3 below, you may not participate in the Tournament.

3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Regional Eligibility.

- (a) You may participate in the Tournament if, as of the start date of the Tournament, you are a legal resident of one of the following countries: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, 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.
- (b) You may only participate in the Tournament so long as your participation does not violate applicable local laws and/or the federal, state and local laws of the United States, including any such laws applicable to jurisdictions outside the United States. You are responsible for ensuring that your participation in the Tournament 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.

3.2 Invited Player Eligibility.

- (a) You may only participate in the Tournament if you have received an official written invitation from Blizzard, which may be withdrawn by Blizzard at any time in its sole discretion.
- (b) 8 players will be selected by Blizzard based on achievements and contribution to the Hearthstone community.
- (c) The top 8 players from the Europe Battlegrounds leaderboard by September 28, 2020 at 11:59 PM CET will also be invited. If a player is ineligible or declines the invitation, or if Blizzard withdraws an invitation to a player, the next eligible player on the leaderboard will be invited. This will continue until 8 eligible players have accepted an invitation to the tournament.

4. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

4.1 Tournament Rules.

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

- (b) For the Tournament, each player will use the current version of *Hearthstone* Battlegrounds in the Europe region where the Tournament is held.

4.2 Tournament Structure

- (a) The Tournament will be held over 3 days starting from October 16, 2020 and concluding on October 18, 2020, or such other dates as Blizzard may determine.
- (b) The 16 invited players will be split into 8 teams of 2 players at Blizzard’s discretion. Teams will then be placed evenly into either Division A or Division B at random.
- (c) During the initial matches, each Division will play 6-8 *Hearthstone* Battlegrounds matches with Division A playing on Friday, October 16, 2020 and Division B playing on Saturday, October 17, 2020.
- (d) Individuals will be awarded points based on performance in each individual *Hearthstone* Battlegrounds match according to the following table. A team’s score will be determined by combining the individual scores of the players on the team

| Match Placement Points | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 1st place | 7 points |
| 2nd place | 6 points |
| 3rd place | 5 points |
| 4th place | 4 points |
| 5th place | 3 points |
| 6th place | 2 points |
| 7th place | 1 point |
| 8th place | 0 points |

- (e) The top 2 performing teams in each division after the initial matches have concluded will advance to the Finals, which will be played on Sunday, October 18.
- (f) The final teams will play 6-8 *Hearthstone* Battlegrounds matches with points following the Match Placement Points outlined in 4.2 (d). A team’s score will be determined by combining

the individual scores of the players on the team. After all matches have concluded, teams will be ranked based on the number of points acquired in the Finals. Ties will be resolved by the following tiebreakers in the following order of priority starting from top to bottom:

- i. The highest combined number of 1st place finishes achieved by both players on a team in all the lobbies played during the tournament day. Previous days won't influence this tiebreaker. This is tiebreaker 1.
 - ii. The highest combined number of 2nd place finishes achieved by both players on a team in all the lobbies played during the tournament day. Previous days won't influence this tiebreaker. This is tiebreaker 2.
 - iii. The highest finish in the last lobby played during the tournament day by one of the players on a team. This is tiebreaker 3.
- (g) Players are expected to compete to the best of their ability in all matches. In the event players are absent from competition or do not complete all of their matches, Blizzard at its sole discretion may reduce or remove prizes for that player and may remove that player's eligibility in future tournaments.

4.3 Prizes.

| Prizes | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Placement | Prize |
| 1st place | \$5,000 USD (\$2,500 USD per Player) |
| 2nd place | \$2,400 USD (\$1,200 USD per Player) |
| 3rd place | \$1,600 USD (\$800 USD per Player) |
| 4th place | \$1,000 USD (\$500 USD per Player) |

- (a) All prizes are a non-transferrable and are subject to the prize award terms contained in the Handbook. The awarding of prizes is void where prohibited or restricted. State and local taxes, including VAT taxes which are associated with the receipt or use of any prizes, are the sole responsibility of the prize winner.
- (b) For other terms and conditions relating to the awarding of prizing, see Section 4.8 of the Handbook

5. GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

5.1 Changes to these Official Rules.

- (a) These Official Rules and the Handbook contain the rules, policies and practices of the Blizzard for the Tournaments 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 or online, relating to the Tournament are superseded.
- (b) Blizzard reserves the right 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 Tournament or any player's participation should viruses, bugs, technical problems, unauthorized human intervention, hacks, or other causes beyond Blizzard's control affect the administration, security or proper play of the Tournament, or Blizzard otherwise becomes (as determined in its sole discretion) incapable of running the Tournament as planned.

5.2 Communications.

- (a) You agree that these Official Rules and the Handbook together constitute a written agreement entered into 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 the Tournament, please email them to HearthstoneAdmin@blizzard.com or send written questions to: Hearthstone EMEA Battlegrounds Cup c/o Blizzard Entertainment Esports, P.O. Box 18979, Irvine, CA 93623.

6. GLOSSARY

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

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

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

“Europe” means Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, 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. Notwithstanding the foregoing, participation is prohibited if such participation in your jurisdiction is in violation of applicable local laws and/or the federal, state and local laws of the United States, including any such laws applicable to jurisdictions outside the United States.

“Handbook” means the Hearthstone Tournament Player Handbook, which among other things, establishes the rules of tournament play, including rules governing player eligibility, tournament structure, point structures, prize awards, sponsorships, player conduct, etc.

“Official Rules” means the Hearthstone EMEA Battlegrounds Cup Official Rules as amended from time to time in Blizzard’s sole discretion (i.e., the terms as set forth this document).

“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.