



# MTGA Format and Rules

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# Overview

## Rule Inheritance

These rules are based off of and should inherit from the Magic: The Gathering® Tournament Rules which are located at

[https://media.wpn.wizards.com/attachements/mtg\\_mtr\\_24jan20\\_en.pdf](https://media.wpn.wizards.com/attachements/mtg_mtr_24jan20_en.pdf)

and the Magic™ Infraction Procedure Guide located at

[https://media.wpn.wizards.com/attachements/mtg\\_ipg\\_24jan20\\_en.pdf](https://media.wpn.wizards.com/attachements/mtg_ipg_24jan20_en.pdf)

The rules outlined in this document are only additions, enhancements, or modifications to rules outlined in those two documents..

## Rule Modifications

Rules may be changed leading up to the event at the discretion of appointed tournament officials and/or Nerd Street Gamers. Players are responsible for keeping up-to-date with the latest rules and at no point are tournament officials or Nerd Street Gamers responsible for announcing or notifying players of rule changes.

In the event a rule modification needs to occur after matches have begun, players will be notified during the event by tournament admins to the best of their ability.

## Introduction

All players are expected to understand and follow the rules outlined in this document and those inherited. In the event of a disagreement or discrepancy in the rules, tournament officials will make the final ruling on a case-by-case basis. Furthermore, all players are expected to complete and sign a Player Waiver (provided in a separate document) to be handed in on the day of the event.

## Tournament Structure

The tournament will take place over a number of swiss rounds based on the number of entrants with a top 8 playoff. Tiebreakers will be the following:

- Tiebreaker 1: Match Points
- Tiebreaker 2: Opponents' match-win percentage
- Tiebreaker 3: Game-win percentage
- Tiebreaker 4: Opponents' game-win percentage



## Format

The tournament will be played in the Standard format. This tournament will also be played with open decklists and matches will be a best of 3 games.

## Banned Cards

A list of currently banned cards can be found at:

<https://magic.wizards.com/en/game-info/gameplay/rules-and-formats/banned-restricted>

## Sportsmanship

Any hostile actions during the event, including those physical and/or verbal, are grounds for disqualification and removal of a player.

## Matches and Scheduling

It is critical that all scheduled matches are started promptly in order for the event to complete on time. Players are expected to keep up to date on the bracket and will be required to check in within 10 minutes after the start of each round or be dropped from the event.

## Decklists

As this event will be played with open decklists, players may keep watch for discrepancies between what their opponent has played and what said opponent has registered for the tournament. Sufficient proof must be provided for an admin to determine if a player has in fact played with a decklist other than what was submitted. This proof may be in the form of a screenshot of a card played by their opponent which is not in their list.

## Reporting

Players are expected to report their own matches on mtgmelee.com. Although screenshots are not required for reporting, it is recommended that all players capture their Victory/Defeat screens for reference in the case of a match dispute. All disputes will be settled at the discretion of the tournament admins.

## Competitive Integrity

It is expected that players are competing individually and as such have no outside council either in person or via communication devices. Players who choose to stream their matches **must** do so on a delay, as any suggestions from chat can be considered outside council. Participating in



what is colloquially referred to as “Stream Sniping,” or watching one’s own match while it is being played, is also not permitted. If a player is discovered to be committing any of these acts they will be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of NSG and/or the tournament admins. Such actions may include a match loss or disqualification from the event based on the severity of the offense.

## Disconnects

In the event of a disconnect, players should notify an admin immediately. If a player is disconnected for under 5 minutes they will receive a warning, for between 5 and 10 minutes they will receive a game loss, and at 10 minutes they will forfeit the match and drop from the tournament unless they resolve the issue and request to remain.

## Prizes

The prize money will be given to each player individually unless arrangements are made otherwise. Players will be required to sign a W-9 Tax Form before receiving any prize distribution.