



# 2018 BLIZZCON ESPORTS MEDIA GUIDE







BlizzCon is home to major international tournaments for all of Blizzard's esports. This year, those tournaments include the Hearthstone Global Games, Heroes Global Championship Finals, Overwatch World Cup Finals, StarCraft II World Championship Series Global Finals, and World of Warcraft Arena World Championship. We'll also be showcasing two exhibitions, the World of Warcraft Mythic Dungeon Invitational All-Stars and KSL vs. ASL, a StarCraft Remastered exhibition.

## OPENING WEEK

Throughout the course of the year, the best of the best battled it out across the globe to earn their coveted seats at BlizzCon. The esports action kicks off with Opening Week at Blizzard Arena Los Angeles from October 25–29, where competitors will fight against their global rivals in hopes of climbing to the coveted grand finals of their respective esports at BlizzCon November 2–3.

All the action during Opening Week will be streamed live and free of charge on BlizzCon.com, as detailed below. The schedule also can be viewed on <https://blizzcon.com/en-us/schedule>.

Times listed are PDT	10/25 (Thurs)	10/26 (Fri)	10/27 (Sat)	10/28 (Sun)	10/29 (Mon)
Heroes of the Storm	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	
StarCraft II		9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	
WoW Arena					11:00 a.m.





## HEARTHSTONE GLOBAL GAMES

For the last several months, Hearthstone teams representing 48 countries and regions have been competing in the Hearthstone Global Games (HGG) to determine which nation is the best. After more than eight weeks of matches—held from July through September—the field has been whittled down to just eight regional teams who will square off in the playoffs at BlizzCon 2018.

## INTRODUCING HGG CHEER

Fans have been supporting regional teams competing in HGG by Cheering more than 20 million Bits for them on Twitch. As fans Cheer for a team using their dedicated, custom Cheermote, a portion of the revenue will be granted to the players on that team.

When fans Cheer for a team, they can unlock special Twitch emotes and in-game Hearthstone rewards based on how much they Cheer. In addition to personal rewards, as overall milestones are reached, community support can unlock global rewards for everyone who has Cheered.

Fans can Cheer until Nov. 4, the day after BlizzCon 2018 ends, on the official Hearthstone Twitch channel: <https://www.twitch.tv/playhearthstone>.







The following matches will be hosted on the BlizzCon Hearthstone Tournament Stage, North Hall. Please note – Group A and B Initial matches, and one Winners Match on Friday, Nov. 2 will be played off-stage.

Schedule (All times PDT):

Friday, Nov. 2 on the Hearthstone Tournament Stage, North Hall:

- » Group A Elimination – 12:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
- » Group B Elimination – 2:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- » Winners Match – 4:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
- » Decider Group A – 5:45 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- » Decider Group B – 7:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 3 on the Hearthstone Tournament Stage, North Hall:

- » Semifinal 1 – 9:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- » Semifinal 2 – 11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
- » Finals – 1:45 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

#### STREAM:

<https://blizzcon.com/watch>

#### PHOTOS:

<https://blizzard.gamespress.com/Esports-Hearthstone>

#### MORE INFO:

<https://playhearthstone.com/en-us/esports/global-games/>





# TEAMS

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## BRAZIL

Lucas "Rase" Guerra Romano  
Rodrigo "Perna" Castro  
Lucas "Luca" Claudio Ribeiro Teixeira  
Lucas "Neves" Neves Figuero



## SPAIN

Ricardo "riku97" Mata Otero  
Esteban "AKAWonder" Serrano Bozada  
Ignacio "Dalesom" Cos Per  
Jacobo "Jac0b0" Sanchez Lopez



## BULGARIA

Dimitar "friki" Vasilev  
Kaloyan "BestUdyrEu" Petkov  
Petar "SilentStorm" Radev



## HONG KONG

Wai "blitzchung" Chung Ng  
Tsz "kin0531" Kin Lo  
Wing Fai "losefield" Winfield Tsun  
Pak "Shy" Kan Leung



## NEW ZEALAND

Ki "Mage" Yin So  
Jack "Jakattack" Gifford  
Pathra "Pathra" Cadness  
Jakob "TINGTONG" Ettles



## SINGAPORE

Samuel "Sequinox" Chan Bing Kiat  
Toh "katsucurry" Jin Shuen  
Khai "Khaius" Kiat Chew  
Ong "Crumpled" Jun Hao



## CHINA

Gao "Leaoh" Yang  
He "Trunks" Huan  
Zhang "YouLove" Lichen  
Lin "OmegaZero" Zheng



## NORWAY

Casper "hunterace" Pettersen  
Eirik "ntR" Midtstue  
Jahn-Erik "Zorkthar" Gangstøe  
Jens "Kolbein" Bratheim





## HGG TOP 8 TO BATTLE AT BLIZZCON

In the first group, Spain and Hong Kong will face off initially, as will both teams making repeat HGG top eight appearances, New Zealand and China. At the end of the Swiss rounds, all four of these teams had 4-2 match records; none had gone head-to-head up to this point. China had the strongest placement on tiebreakers (finishing Swiss in sixth place), but Spain finished with the fewest game losses (even despite New Zealand's sixth-round bye).

<https://playhearthstone.com/en-us/blog/22548006/hgg-top-8-to-battle-at-blizzcon>



## WELCOME TO THE HEARTHSTONE GLOBAL GAMES 2018

HGG 2018 will once again feature 48 countries and regions. This time, the first phase will be a Swiss-format bracket that includes all 48 teams. The Swiss rounds will run from mid-July to early September, and will pare the bracket down to just 16 teams. After that, we'll take a short break before heading into the Round of 16, which will be played in dual tournament format. This will last two weeks in September and will identify the eight teams advancing to the playoffs. The HGG playoffs this year will take place at BlizzCon 2018!

<https://playhearthstone.com/en-us/blog/21704585/welcome-to-the-hearthstone-global-games-2018v>



## INTRODUCING HGG CHEER

As you Cheer for a team using their dedicated, custom Cheermote, a portion of the revenue will go back to the players on that team. When you Cheer for a team, you'll also be able to unlock special Twitch emotes and in-game rewards for Hearthstone based on how much you Cheer. In addition to personal rewards, community support can unlock global rewards for everyone who has Cheered as overall milestones are reached.

<https://playhearthstone.com/en-us/blog/22462796/introducing-hgg-cheer>





## HEROES OF THE STORM GLOBAL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

Only 12 of the best Heroes of the Storm teams in the world remain standing at the end of it all, with the final home stretch before them. The Heroes Global Championship (HGC) Finals pits the top teams from North America, Europe, China, Korea, Taiwan, and Australia/New Zealand to face off for \$1,000,000 and the coveted Championship trophy.

The group stage, which will be played out at Blizzard Arena Los Angeles, will split the field of 12 teams into two groups of six. Each group will play a best-of-two round-robin format to determine playoff seeding. At the end of the group stage the first- and second-place teams will be seeded into the upper bracket, with the third- and fourth-place teams seeded into the lower. The fifth- and sixth-place teams will be eliminated.

The HGC Finals, played on its own stage during BlizzCon at the Anaheim Convention Center, will be a single-elimination bracket beginning November 2. The quarterfinals on day one of BlizzCon will be best-of-three and begin right after the Opening Ceremony, with the best-of-five semifinals and grand finals coming on day two of BlizzCon.





## SCHEDULE:

(All times PDT)

Thursday, October 25 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, October 26 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, October 27 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, October 28 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, November 2 on the Heroes of the Storm  
Tournament Stage (Hall B):

- » 12:00 p.m. – Quarterfinals, best-of-three
- » 2:00 p.m. – Quarterfinals, best-of-three
- » 4:00 p.m. – Quarterfinals, best-of-three
- » 6:00 p.m. – Quarterfinals, best-of-three

Saturday, November 3 on the Heroes of the Storm  
Tournament Stage (Hall B):

- » 9:30 a.m. – Semifinals, best-of-five
- » 12:45 p.m. – Semifinals, best-of-five
- » 4:15 p.m. – Finals, best-of-five

## STREAM:

<https://www.twitch.tv/blizzheroes>

## PHOTOS:

<https://blizzard.gamespress.com/Esports-Heroes-of-the-Storm>

## More info:

<https://esports.heroesofthestorm.com/en-us/schedule?week=14613&region=NA&year=2018>

## PRIZE POOL DISTRIBUTION

# \$1,000,000

1ST	.....	\$500,000
2ND:	.....	\$200,000
3RD – 4TH:	.....	\$80,000
5TH – 8TH:	.....	\$25,000
9TH – 12TH:	.....	\$10,000



# TEAM ROSTERS



## TEAM DIGNITAS (EUROPE #1 SEED)

Vilhelm "POILK" Flenmark  
Jerome "JayPL" Trinh  
Jonathan "Wubby" Gunnarsson  
Joshua "Snitch" Bennet  
Kenn "Zaelia" Oster Rasmussen



## TEAM LIQUID (EUROPE #2 SEED)

Liam "Arcaner" Blake Simpson  
Ivan "SportBilly" Koturic  
Dennis "HasuObs" Schneider  
Aleksandar "eternal" Milanov  
Nils "Nurok" Gebhardt



## LEFTOVERS (EUROPE #3 SEED)

Mark "Linked" Šepec  
Arkadiusz "BI3kitny" Czarnecki  
Mateusz "Deeaybe" Michalski  
Mikołaj "PotiBoss" Potera  
Maksym "Mopsio" Szczypa



## GEN.G ESPORTS (KOREA #1 SEED)

Wonho "KyoCha" Jeong  
Junghyuk "Sake" Lee  
Jaewon "Rich" Lee  
Jinwoo "Reset" Im  
Oonsung "Ttsst" Kang



## TEMPEST (KOREA #2 SEED)

Jihoon "Sign" Yoon  
Judalm "dami" Park  
Sunghun "Good" Moon  
Gyeonghwan "Hide" Chin  
Jaehun "Lockdown" Chin



## MIRACLE (KOREA #3 SEED)

Tae Hoon "Sniper" Kwon  
Tae Seok "Judy" Oh  
Yeon Su "BlueB2tle" Kim  
Jae Yeop "Frankle" Jeong  
Jin Su "NaCHoJin" Park



# TEAM ROSTERS (CONT.)



## HEROESHEARTH (NORTH AMERICA #1 SEED)

Chase "BBJ" Dixon  
Chris "Ishb00" Martin  
Stafford "McIntyre" McIntyre  
Khalif "Khroen" Hashim  
Cesar "Homi" Peterson



## TEMPO STORM (NORTH AMERICA #2 SEED)

Ben "cattlepillar" Bunk  
Mike "Glaurung" Fisk  
Fan "Fan" Yang  
Vi "ViN" Nguyen  
Jun "Jun" Jang



## BEYOND THE GAME (CHINA #1 SEED)

Jin "Dancing" Yu Wang  
Haiyu "365" Ling  
Qi "LLK" Ren Hu  
Jing "Loktar" Yang  
Kaixiang "619" Zhuang



## THE ONE (CHINA #2 SEED)

Yi "hehe" Shen  
Zhijian "Hugo" Liu  
Tianqi "Meng" Zhang  
Jinze "Zjz" Zhou  
XiangZhi "Lies" Zheng



## MINDFREAK (AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND)

Benjamin "FAT94" Vinante-Davies  
Jack "John" Rees  
Matthew "Vanilla" Dang  
Ryoo "Ryoo" Tae Hyung  
Geoffrey "Madhax" Li



## LUNA MEOW (TAIWAN)

Li "Booy005" Chia-Lin  
Tu "Virgil" Meng-Chien  
Wong "Kim" Kim Fung  
Wei-Hao "IMmORTaL" Wang  
Ming-Hsuan "Bakecheese" Tsai





## WILL KOREA WIN THE HGC FINALS?

There are some truly epic matchups on the schedule page as of today. While every team has a shot at pulling off an upset, there are some particularly serious series on the docket between Korea and Europe that promise to deliver. These two regions have distinguished themselves from the rest, with representatives from both in the grand finals of every major event in 2018. Assuming history repeats itself, these are the matches you should keep an eye out for during BlizzCon Opening Week.

<https://esports.heroesofthestorm.com/en-us/articles/22549779/will-korea-win-the-hgc-finals?>



## THE MID-SEASON BRAWL WAS NO FLUKE

No matter how good you are at Heroes of the Storm, Gen.G is better. They have always been better. From the moment they qualify, it's assumed that Gen.G will be the final boss and inevitable victor at any event. The near-\$2,000,000 they've earned in prize money is enough to extinguish any doubt of that. Challengers come and go, but there is a trajectory in place for the latest Team Dignitas, your Western Clash Champions. Assuming nothing tips the scales, we are all buckled in for the apex of this saga in Heroes Esports at the HGC Finals.

<https://esports.heroesofthestorm.com/en-us/articles/22312933/what-we-learned-from-the-clashes>



## HGC CHEER WITH TWITCH RETURNS

During HGC broadcasts, viewers can express their fandom by Cheering with Bits—a virtual good offered by Twitch—in chat. Cheering for teams can unlock unique Twitch chat emotes and an expanded list of in-game items for use in Heroes of the Storm, such as banners, mounts, and Loot Chests. When fans Cheer for a team, a portion of the revenue Twitch receives from those Bits goes to the HGC team receiving the Cheers.

<https://esports.heroesofthestorm.com/en-gb/articles/21838196/hgc-cheer-with-twitch-returns-bigger-and-better-for-2018>





## OVERWATCH WORLD CUP

In 2016, we debuted the Overwatch World Cup—the first global competition for the team-based action game. Since then, we have seen Overwatch esports grow to unprecedented heights. The inaugural season of the Overwatch League concluded with a sold-out Grand Finals at Barclays Center in New York City.

During the Overwatch League offseason, the 2018 Overwatch World Cup serves as an additional premiere global competition. More than 40 Overwatch League representatives, along with 70+ up-and-coming Contenders players and aspiring ladder heroes, have come together to showcase the best skills their nations have to offer in an effort to be crowned the 2018 Overwatch World Cup champions.

After four Group Stages that took place in Incheon, Los Angeles, Bangkok, and Paris, we're down to the Top 8 teams. Will South Korea, winners of the 2016 and 2017 Overwatch World Cups, be dethroned?

## SCHEDULE:

(All times PDT):

### Friday, November 2:

- » 12:15 p.m. – Quarterfinal #1: United States vs United Kingdom
- » 2:15 p.m. – Quarterfinal #2: France vs Canada
- » 4:15 p.m. – Quarterfinal #3: China vs Finland
- » 6:15 p.m. – Quarterfinal #4: South Korea vs Australia

### Saturday, November 3:

- » 9:30 a.m. – Semifinal #1
- » 11:30 a.m. – Semifinal #2
- » 1:30 p.m. – Bronze Medal Match
- » 3:30 p.m. – Finals Preshow
- » 3:45 p.m. – Finals

## STREAM:

<http://blizzcon.com/watch>

## PHOTOS:

<https://blizzard.gamespress.com/Esports-Overwatch>

## More info:

<http://playoverwatch.com/worldcup>

# TEAM ROSTERS



## **SOUTH KOREA** (1ST SEED, INCHEON GROUP STAGE)

Jae-Hyeok "Carpe" Lee  
Pan-Seung "Fate" Koo  
Jun-Ho "Fury" Kim  
Byung-Sun "Fleta" Kim  
Hae-Seong "Libero" Kim  
Seong-Hyun "Jjonak" Bang  
Tae-Sung "Anamo" Jung  
Kyu-Hyung "YongBongTang" Hwang (General Manager)  
Hyeon-Sang "Pavane" Yu (Coach)  
Hyuna "Flowervin" Lee (Community Lead)



## **FINLAND** (2ND SEED, INCHEON GROUP STAGE)

Joonas "zappis" Alakurtti  
Benjamin "BigGoose" Isohanni  
Timo "Taimou" Kettunen  
Joona "fragi" Laine  
Tuomo "Davin" Leppanen  
Jiri "LiNkzr" Masalin  
Jonas "Shaz" Suovaara  
Petri "Procyon" Hämälä (General Manager)  
Joni "Seita" Paavola (Coach)  
Nasim "Nasse" Haque (Community Lead)



## **USA** (1ST SEED, LOS ANGELES GROUP STAGE)

Grant "Moth" Espe  
Shane "Rawkus" Flaherty  
Joao Pedro "Hydration" Goes Telles  
Indy "SPACE" Halpern  
Zachary "ZachaREEE" Lombardo  
Austin "Muma" Wilmot  
Jay "Sinatraa" Won  
Scott "Bearhands" Tester (General Manager)  
Aaron "Aero" Atkins (Coach)  
Analynn "Bawlynn" Dang (Community Lead)



## **CANADA** (2ND SEED, LOS ANGELES GROUP STAGE)

Christopher "Bani" Benell  
Liam "Mangachu" Campbell  
Brady "Agilities" Girardi  
William "Crimzo" Hernandez  
Félix "xQc" Lengyel  
Lucas "NotE" Meissner  
Lane "Surefour" Roberts  
Andrew "ID" Trulli (General Manager)  
Justin "Jayne" Conroy (Coach)  
Nathan "KarQ" Chan (Community Lead)



# TEAM ROSTERS



## CHINA

(1ST SEED, BANGKOK GROUP STAGE)

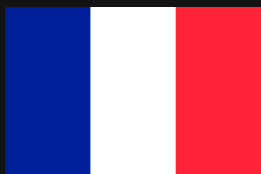
Shilong "Krystal" Cai  
Junjian "Sky" He  
Xin "Leave" Huang  
Xianyao "Yveltal" Li  
Tianbin "LateYoung" Ma  
Qiulin "Guxue" Xu  
Yangjie "Shy" Zheng  
Qiong "ChiXiaoTu" Li (General Manager)  
Xingrui "RUI" Wang (Coach)  
Tsung-Yu "Xiaogui" Huang (Community Lead)



## AUSTRALIA

(2ND SEED, BANGKOK GROUP STAGE)

Dario "Akraken" Falcao-Rassokha  
Leyton "punk" Gilchrist  
Scott "Custa" Kennedy  
Felix "Ckm" Murray  
Ashley "Trill" Powell  
Huseyin "Hus" Sahin  
James "Yuki" Stanton  
Andrew "Rqt" Haws (General Manager)  
Jordan "Gunba" Graham (Gunba)  
Oasis "Oasis" Nip (Community Lead)



## FRANCE

(1ST SEED, PARIS GROUP STAGE)

Dylan "aKm" Bignet  
Michael "winz" Bignet  
Benjamin "Unkoe" Chevasson  
Benjamin "BenBest" Dieulafait  
Gael "Poko" Gouzerch  
Nicolas "Nicogdh" Moret  
Terence "SoOn" Tarlier  
Philippe "Lanf3ust" Rivain (General Manager)  
Julien "Daemon" Ducros (Coach)  
Mathias "Troma" Szanto (Community Lead)



## UNITED KINGDOM

(2ND SEED, PARIS GROUP STAGE)

Michael "MikeyA" Adams  
Finley "Kyb" Adisi  
Isaac "Boombox" Charles  
Kai "KSP" Collins  
Cameron "Fusions" Bosworth  
Eoghan "Smex" O'Neill  
Harrison "Kruise" Pond  
Tom "Stylosa" Stewart (General Manager)  
Elliot "Hayes" Hayes (Coach)  
Philip "ChipSa" Graham (Community Lead)



## OWWC TOP 8 PREVIEW STORY

South Korea may still be favorites to make it a three-peat at the Overwatch World Cup, but their dominance isn't as overwhelming or clear-cut as in years past. They've also made several major substitutions, keeping only four of seven players that took the stage in Incheon—but the talent pool is deep enough that there won't be any drop in performance. The addition of Fleta alongside Libero and Carpe, in particular, gives Korea even more DPS flexibility than they already had (if possible).

<https://overwatchleague.com/en-us/news/22569409/overwatch-world-cup-top-8-preview>



## WORLD CUP ORIGINS: #AVECLE6

If you dabble in the Overwatch esports Twitterverse, you may have seen this hashtag come up a lot: #avec6. The catchcry of the Overwatch World Cup French team since 2017, you'll see it in Twitter handles and spammed underneath any post even vaguely related to Team France—it's even the team's official Twitter handle. "It means 'with the six,'" AlphaCast explained. "It comes from the French rugby team, 'the 15 of France.'" Troma decided to go with a similar format and apply it to Overwatch, with six players.

<https://overwatchleague.com/en-us/news/22531872/world-cup-origins-avec6>



## FOND FAREWELL FROM INCHEON

For three days, hundreds of fans filled Studio Paradise to watch the matches. It wasn't just a lot of women, it was mostly women. The women—many dressed in Overwatch League jerseys—were incredibly organized, armed with high-quality homemade signs and bags of gifts for their favorite players. This was their chance to see their idols in the flesh, and they clearly didn't waste the opportunity.

<https://overwatchleague.com/en-us/news/22312194/fond-farewell-from-incheon>





## STARCRAFT II WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES GLOBAL FINALS

The 2018 StarCraft II World Championship Series (WCS) Global Finals is the championship event for the premier global StarCraft II competition. Eight players from the WCS Circuit will join the top eight players from WCS Korea at BlizzCon Opening Week for the group stages beginning October 26. After group competition, the top eight remaining players will advance to the quarterfinals at the Anaheim Convention Center on November 2 for a shot at the Gosu Trophy.

The total prize pool now stands at \$700,000, thanks to fan support for the new War Chest—an in-game cosmetic purchase that has a portion of its proceeds going directly to StarCraft II esports. Whether they're Protoss, Terran, or Zerg, the best of the best are going all out in a battle for prestige, global acclaim, and, most importantly, a chance to add to his chapter to the continuing history of StarCraft II esports.



## KSL VS. ASL

The top StarCraft: Remastered pro players in the world will step up at BlizzCon for a one-of-a-kind show match on the biggest stage in esports. In this “KSL vs. ASL” event, the reigning Korea StarCraft League (KSL) champion, Seunghyun “Last” Kim, and the current AfreecaTV Star League (ASL) king, Yoonjong “Rain” Jung, will face each other in a best-of-five exhibition match that should settle all debate on who is the world’s top StarCraft player. The battle will take over the StarCraft II stage at BlizzCon on November 2 beginning at 6:30 p.m. PDT.

<https://starcraft.com/en-us/articles/22596830>

## SCHEDULE:

(All times in PDT)

- » Friday, October 26 beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- » Saturday, October 27 beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- » Sunday, October 28 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

### Friday, November 2 on the StarCraft II Tournament Stage (Hall A):

- » 12:00 p.m. – Pre-Show
- » 12:30 p.m. – Quarterfinals #1
- » 2:00 p.m. – Quarterfinals #2
- » 3:30 p.m. – Quarterfinals #3
- » 5:00 p.m. – Quarterfinals #4
- » 6:30 p.m. – StarCraft Remastered Exhibition Match

### Saturday, November 3 on the StarCraft II Tournament Stage (Hall A):

- » 1:30 p.m. – Semifinals Pre-Show
- » 2:00 p.m. – Semifinals #1
- » 3:30 p.m. – Semifinals #2
- » 5:00 p.m. – Grand Final Pre-Show
- » 5:30 p.m. – Grand Final

## STREAM:

[blizzcon.com/watch](http://blizzcon.com/watch)

## PHOTOS:

[blizzard.gamespress.com/Esports-StarCraft-II](http://blizzard.gamespress.com/Esports-StarCraft-II)

## More info:

<http://wcs.starcraft2.com/en-us/tournament/4031/>

## PRIZE POOL DISTRIBUTION

# \$700,000

1ST	.....	\$280,000
2ND:	.....	\$140,000
3RD – 4TH:	.....	\$42,000
5TH – 6TH:	.....	\$21,000
9TH – 16TH:	.....	14,000



# WCS CIRCUIT PLAYERS

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Joona "Serral" Sotala

Finland  
Zerg  
Ence Esports



Tobias "ShoWTime" Sieber

Germany  
Protoss  
Arma Team



Juan Carlos "SpeCial" Tena Lopez

Mexico  
Terran  
Predators Esports



Alex "Neeb" Sunderhaft

United States  
Protoss  
Ting



Gabriel "HeroMarine" Segat

Germany  
Terran  
mousesports



Kp "Has" Yu-Feng

Taiwan  
Protoss  
J Team



Artur "Nerchio" Bloch

Poland  
Zerg  
Iron Chain and RedBull



Julian "Lambo" Brosig

Germany  
Zerg  
Team QLASH

# WCS KOREA PLAYERS



Cho "Maru" Sung Choo

Terran  
Jin Air Green Wings



Kim "Stats" Dae Yeob

Protoss  
Splyce



Kim "Classic" Doh Woo

Protoss  
The Gosu Crew



Joo "Zest" Sung Wook

Protoss  
Scythe Esports



Jun "TY" Tae Yang

Terran  
Splyce



Lee "Rogue" Byung Ryul

Zerg  
Jin Air Green Wings



Park "Dark" Ryung Woo

Zerg  
n/a



Kim "sOs" Yoo Jin

Protoss  
Jin Air Green Wings





## OPENING WEEK PREVIEW STORY

Whether fans want to see defending champion Lee “Rogue” Byung Ryul become the first back-to-back WCS Global Champion or the dream matchup of Joona “Serral” Sotola versus Cho “Maru” Sung Choo for the championship, nothing will come easy in this year’s WCS Global Finals—and that climb begins with a treacherous group stage during BlizzCon Opening Week.

<https://wcs.starcraft2.com/en-us/news/22596828/No-Easy-Path-to-the-WCS-Global-Championship/>



## WHY MARU WILL DOMINATE THE ASIAN GAMES

The Asian Games are bringing some of the region’s top players to Jakarta for a showdown that should help move StarCraft II one step closer to becoming the game of choice for the international sports community. To help that cause, South Korea’s representative will be Jin Air Green Wing’s Cho “Maru” Seong Ju, the two-time GSL champion who began his career at 13 and turned into a grizzled veteran of pro StarCraft II. He is in perfect position to show the Asian Games’ audience just how good one of the world’s best can be.

<https://wcs.starcraft2.com/en-us/news/22448250/Why-Maru-Will-Dominate-the-Asian-Games/>



## INSIDE THE CHAMPIONSHIP: SERRAL ON THE BRINK

In Montreal, Joona “Serral” Sotola finished off what has been a remarkable season for any World Championship Series (WCS) player, let alone someone of whom expectations were middling coming into 2018. He’s the first WCS grand slam winner—a self-created category of success for Serral—and is the undisputed top seed heading into the WCS Global Finals. Having said that, Serral looked more vulnerable than he has at any other tournament in 2018, going 13-8 in the knockout phase (all Zerg vs. Zerg matchups) after a perfect 4-0 in the group stage.

<https://wcs.starcraft2.com/en-us/news/22481495/Inside-the-Championship:-Serral-on-the-Brink/>





## WORLD OF WARCRAFT ARENA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

In 2018, World of Warcraft Arena teams battled through regional qualifiers and grueling regional championship events to secure one of 12 berths in the World of Warcraft Arena World Championship (AWC). The race to secure points in local events was tough enough, but then teams had to ascend to stages at live events for a shot at a regional championship and a ticket to BlizzCon. Experience in front of a live crowd could mean all the difference, as these teams from Europe, Latin America, China, North America, and the Asia-Pacific regions battle for a piece of the \$280,000 prize pool with a massive gathering of World of Warcraft players watching live.



### PRIZE POOL DISTRIBUTION

**\$280,000**

1ST	.....	\$120,000
2ND:	.....	\$50,000
3RD – 4TH:	.....	\$25,000
5TH – 6TH:	.....	\$15,000
7TH – 12TH:	.....	\$5,000





## MYTHIC DUNGEON INVITATIONAL ALL-STARs

This special live exhibition tournament summons some of the best dungeon-running teams from around the globe. Four of the top teams from the Mythic Dungeon Invitational (MDI) Global Finals will be invited to the MDI All-Stars, where they'll tackle the newest Battle for Azeroth dungeons live on stage in front of thousands of attendees and esports fans watching online. This will be the first MDI tournament to feature Battle for Azeroth, so get ready for a whole new set of dungeons, bosses, and cunning strategies.



## SCHEDULE:

Monday, October 29 beginning at  
11:00 a.m. PDT

Friday, November 2 on the  
World of Warcraft Tournament Stage,  
Hall C:

12:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 1  
1:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 1  
2:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 1  
3:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 1  
4:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 3  
5:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 3  
6:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 2  
7:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 2  
8:15 p.m. – AWC Upper Semis

Saturday, November 3 on the  
World of Warcraft Tournament Stage,  
Hall C:

9:30 a.m. – MDI Match 1 (exhibition)  
11:00 a.m. – MDI Match (exhibition)  
12:30 p.m. – MDI Finals (exhibition)  
2:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 3  
3:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Round 3  
4:15 p.m. – AWC Loser Semis  
5:15 p.m. – AWC Lower Finals  
6:15 p.m. – AWC Finals

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## STREAM:

<http://blizzcon.com/watch>

## PHOTOS:

[https://blizzard.gamespress.com/  
Esports-World-of-Warcraft](https://blizzard.gamespress.com/Esports-World-of-Warcraft)

## More info:

[https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/  
esports](https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/esports)

# AWC TEAMS



## REFORMED (EUROPE)

Marcus "Disyo" Jonsson  
Miles "Relzah" Bennett-Davies  
Thomas "Flappers" Gercs  
Calum "Gelubaba" Fraser



## METHOD BLACK (EUROPE)

Oscar "Whaazz" Wulff  
Josef "Chas" Stoianov  
René "Swapxy" Pinkera  
Shaun "Raiku" Meaney



## SKILL CAPPED EU (EUROPE)

Magnus "Wallirikz" Clausen  
Martin "Loony" Moazzez  
Emil "Zeepeye" Ek  
Maro "Blizo" Molcan



## MAKING A MOVIE (EUROPE)

Youri "Ratapai" Van de Wtering  
Vasili "Akrololz" Artemev  
Maro-Simon "Maro" Franke  
Artur "Vilaye" Riabtchenko



## TEMPO STORM (EUROPE)

Alexander "Alec" Sheldrick  
Simon "Boetar" Heinks  
Niki "Niksi" Hietala  
James "Jaime" McKeever



## THE GOSU CREW (NORTH AMERICA)

Carlos "Absterge" Correa  
Jason "Pikaboo" Smith  
Conner "Wizk" Torrence  
Vincent "Jellybeans" Tran





# AWC TEAMS (CONT.)



## METHOD ORANGE (NORTH AMERICA)

Ryan "Trill" Costello  
Michael "Samiyam" Hlubek  
Richard "Mes" Simpson  
Charles "Cdew" Dewland



**SUPER FROGS**

## SUPER FROGS (NORTH AMERICA)

Adam "Chanimal" Chan  
Marcel "Wealthyman" Rodriguez  
Cameron "Kubzy" MacDonald  
Xavier "Chunli" Alan



**PEN & PAPER**

## PEN AND PAPER (CHINA)

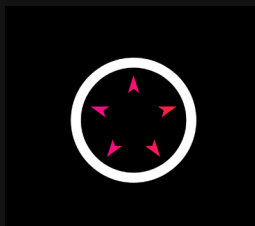
Fu "Sagiy" Dongjian  
Cui "Danisinner" Jinbo  
Yan "Ppcat" Pan  
Zhao "Dou" Guangyu



**Cohesion dream**

## COHESION DREAM (CHINA)

Shen "Beethovenx" Wei  
Dai "Yiyang" Yuhan  
Wang "Straybloopers" Yuxiang  
Jiang "Alastorlol" Zhen



## ORDER (ASIA PACIFIC)

Nicholas "Fresh" Berton  
Mitchell "Oxygen" Pritchard  
Jia Xing Kent "Yoske" Foong  
Jordan "Featherfeet" Thompson



## UNITAS (LATIN AMERICA)

Francisco "Hozitojones" Toriello  
Jaime "Aiden" Martinez  
Rodrigo "Pride" Yanez  
Felipe "Shdwx" Gueicha



## WOW AWC AND WOW MDI ALL-STARS

Those of you who tuned into the later part of the AWC Fall Season Cups for North America and Europe would have seen our new Twitch extension, /Inspect. This allows you to inspect your favorite Arena players in real time, just like you would in-game. So if you're spending time in the Arena as you fight for your faction in BfA, you now have more reasons than ever to tune in and find out just how the pros dominate their foes.

<https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/news/22568650/arena-world-championship-at-blizzcon-a-viewers-guide>



## THE RIVALRIES AND SURPRISES OF THE AWC SUMMER FINALS

The World of Warcraft Arena World Championship (AWC) Summer Finals wrapped up in Katowice, Poland this past weekend, as the very best from North America and Europe clashed for a spot at BlizzCon. The Summer Finals was one of the most diverse competitions of the entire expansion, with each team bringing a unique composition and mindset into the tournament. Though the comps were extremely diverse, a few things remained constant: Upsets everywhere, Shaman healers, and a crazy rivalry between Europe and North America.

<https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/news/21965463/the-rivalries-and-surprises-of-the-summer-finals>



## FROM GROUP FINDER TO GRAND CHAMPIONS: MDI GLOBAL FINALS

Kjell's Angels were the sixth seed in the Mythic Dungeon Invitational EU Regionals, where they took out the top four seeds for first place in their region. Along that road, they powered through all three Method-sponsored teams, including a rematch with Method NA to take the Championship. This is beyond impressive for a team that only came together with the help of the in-game Dungeon Finder tool this year.

<https://worldofwarcraft.com/en-us/news/21918050/from-group-finder-to-grand-champions-mdi-global-finals>