

Northern Arena NHL 20 Cup 6v6 Series Legal/Format Document

1. **NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR QUALIFY. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.** The Northern Arena NHL 20 Cup (the "**Tournament**") is sponsored by Xbox Canada and administered by NHLGamer.com ("**NHLGamer**") (the "**Administrator**").
2. Tournament is only offered in the following regions: **United States** and **Canada**. Void outside the eligible regions.
3. By participating, you irrevocably, fully and unconditionally agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of Northern Arena and the administrator and waive any right to claim ambiguity in these Official Rules or any other tournament related advertising or materials. All NHL 20 Cup administrator decisions are final.

GENERAL

4. This document includes the legal information and the format of the event. The [FULL RULEBOOK](#), including game night & stat reporting procedures, and all other relevant information can be found [here](#). The team captains are required to be knowledgeable of both of these documents and responsible for their team adhering to the rules.
5. Tournament will consist of five (5) stages, described in greater detail in the sections below. Generally,
 - a. **Stage I: Registration Period:** Registration begins on Monday July 27th, 2020. Registration for the first qualifier will close on Tuesday August 4th, 2020 and will close for the second qualifier August 11th. There is no limit to the number of teams that may register for these qualifying tournaments. Each team is composed of a minimum of seven (7) members and a maximum of nine (9) members. For NHL Representatives who are contacting a qualified team to represent their organization through the NHL Cup, we will apply these extra conditions:
 - i. NHL Representative teams may be allowed to add additional players that are employed by actual organizations to their roster.
 - ii. In addition to NHLGamer's behaviour policies, teams associated with an NHL Representative may also need to follow more strict and professional guidelines regarding behaviour. Failure to do so may result in the player being removed from the team's roster.
 - iii. An NHL Representative(s) may be added to the roster of a team. Team Captains will still have full control in the decision-making process for the

starting lineups during the NHL Cup.

- b. Stage II: Qualifying Period:** There are a total of thirty-two (32) qualifying spots for the NHL Cup regular season. Teams may qualify in any of the three ways:
- i. Official NHL Esports Team Representative:** The NHL Cup will have four NHL Esports Team Representatives. The Florida Panthers, Columbus Blue Jackets, New Jersey Devils, and Anaheim Ducks. They will automatically be given a spot in the NHL Cup regular season. The Florida Panthers and Columbus Blue Jackets will have their own team, while the New Jersey Devils and Anaheim Ducks will choose to approach an existing qualified team to represent their brand. Qualified teams reserve the right to decline if they would rather choose a different team.
 - ii. Standings from the CBJ Summer Cup:** The top six (6) teams in the standings from the CBJ Summer Cup as of July 31st will be invited to join the NHL Cup. By directly joining, the teams will not be eligible to participate in the qualification tournaments listed in the next section. The number of top teams chosen from the standings will depend on the number of Official NHL Esports Teams being represented. If a team declines the invitation, the next highest-ranked team will be invited in their place. A total of eight (8) teams will be chosen from Official NHL Esports Teams and CBJ Summer Cup Standings. Tournament Administration reserves the right to adjust the number of teams taken from the CBJ Summer Cup standings if more NHL Esports Team Representatives apply to enter.
 - iii. Qualification Tournaments:** Teams who have not qualified in one of the aforementioned ways will need to qualify through a qualification tournament for the remaining 24 spots. There will be a total of three (3) qualification tournaments. The qualification tournaments will take place on Friday August 7th, Tuesday August 11th and Saturday, August 15th starting at 8:00pm ET. The format of these qualification tournaments will be best-of-one, single-elimination. The top eight (8) teams from each of these qualifier tournaments will advance to the next stage of the Northern Arena NHL 20 Cup. In order to prevent situations where the best teams match up in the first round of the qualifiers, the teams will be placed into tiered categories and randomly spread out throughout the bracket. To determine how the teams are distributed in the tiered categories we will be using historical data, such as the standings from the CBJGaming event, as well as from other events (e.g. NHLGamer's North American Championship League).

Emergency Scheduling: If for whatever reason the qualifying tournament cannot be completed the specified day (e.g. server outage or other act of God events), the tournament will be continued the following day.

- c. Stage III: NHL Team Selection Process:** On August 16, Team Captains will be responsible for selecting which NHL Team they will represent for the duration of the NHL Cup. 6v6 Teams are required to use the NHL jerseys (or WHL Seattle Thunderbirds for the Seattle representative) of the NHL team they are representing. The NHL Esports Representatives will automatically have their Team assigned to them (for example, the Anaheim Ducks will automatically receive the Anaheim Ducks). Teams will be seeded one (1) through thirty-two (32), with seeds one to eight (1-8) teams being composed of the Official NHL Esports Teams followed by the top-ranked teams in the CBJ Summer Cup, seeds nine to sixteen (9-16) being composed of the top eight (8) teams from Qualifier #1, and seeds seventeen to twenty-four (17-24) being composed of the top eight (8) team from Qualifier #2. The remaining seeds twenty-five to thirty-two will be the top eight (8) teams from Qualifier #3.

The Team Selection will be done using the following process:

- i. The NHL Esports Representatives will automatically have their Team assigned to them.
 - ii. Starting with the best seed, Team Captains will choose the NHL team they wish to represent. Teams can only be represented once. Team Captains are encouraged to choose a NHL team for which they already have the jerseys and logo unlocked in their EASHL team. If a team is missing the jersey(s) or logo needed for the team they represent, please contact NHLGamer Support by 11:59pm Sunday, August 16th.
- d. Stage IV: Regular Season:** The 32 teams will be divided between the East and West Conferences.
- i. Each team will play one (1) game against every team in their conference.
 - ii. Teams will compete in the Regular Season from August 18th to August 27th.
 - iii. On each game-day, teams will be scheduled for four (4) or three (3) matches at the following times (all Eastern Time): 8:45 PM, 9:30 PM, 10:15 PM, and 11:00 PM. If both Team Captains agree, a match may be rescheduled to an alternative date. Alternative dates must be before

11:59 PM on the Friday of that week. Reschedule requests must be brought to the Administrator for approval. All approved reschedules must be done using the rescheduling tool on NHLGamer.com so the online schedule is accurate. It is common courtesy to provide at least 12 hours notice when rescheduling with another team. Please note that League Administration will offer gameday support for the default dates and times listed. Rescheduled games may not have League Administration support immediately available in case of an issue.

iv. Rescheduling Tool:

After teams have agreed to postpone or play a game ahead of schedule in written form, they must make use of the rescheduling tool available inside the league/tournament schedule to reflect this change on NHLGamer. To use the tool, find the affected matchup in the schedule and click the "Reschedule" button below the puck drop time. Afterwards, the opponent's captains must confirm this action by visiting the main page, where they are alerted by a popup notification.

v. The default regular season dates are:

- Tuesday August 18th (4 games)
- Friday August 21st (3 games)
- Wednesday August 26th (4 games)
- Thursday August 27th (4 games)

All teams must have played a minimum 7 games by EOD August 21st.

vi. Attempts will be made by the Administrator to ensure that no matches result in a forfeit. This includes (but is not limited to) giving extra time for teams who are late because of a previous game taking an extended period of time due to overtime or connection issues, and coordinating with team captains to arrange alternate game-times if necessary.

vii. Using a Win/Overtime Win/ Overtime Loss/ Loss format. Teams will be given two (2) points for a regulation win, two (2) points for an overtime win, one (1) points for an overtime loss, and zero (0) points for a regulation loss.

viii. In the event of a tie, the following tie-breaking procedure will be used to sort the standings:

- Points
- Wins (including OT-wins)
- Head-to-head record
- Goal difference (across all games played)
- Goals scored (across all games played)

- ix. At the conclusion of the Regular Season, the top eight (8) teams in both conferences will qualify for the Playoffs.
- e. **Stage V: Playoffs:** There will be four (4) rounds of Playoffs to determine the NHL Cup Champion.
 - i. Each round of the playoffs will be a best-of-five, single elimination series with the exception of a 3rd-place best-of-three series, and Finals being played best-of-seven. Each round will have re-seeding for their respective conferences.
 - ii. Round 1: The first round matchups will be the 1st vs 8th seed, 2nd vs 7th seed, 3rd vs 6th seed, and 4th vs 5th seed.
Round 1 will be played Saturday, August 29th. The higher seed in every matchup is the home side for games 1, 2, & 5.
 - iii. Round 2: The second round matchups will be determined by the highest remaining seed against the lowest remaining seed and the two remaining teams in each conference.
Round 2 will be played on Wednesday, September 2nd. The higher seed in every matchup is the home side for games 1, 2, & 5.
 - iv. Round 3: The Conference Finals will be played on Friday, September 4 from 6:00pm EST and will be aired live on GINX TV and twitch.tv/NorthernArena. The higher seed in every matchup is the home side for games 1, 2, & 5.
 - v. The 3rd-Place Match and NHL 20 Cup Final will be played on Saturday, September 5 with the 3rd-Place match starting at 6:00pm EST and NHL Cup Final starting at shortly after the conclusion of the 3rd-Place series. In the both 3rd-Place series and the Finals the higher seed will be home in Games 1,2, & 5.

PRIVACY

- 6. Tournament is in no way sponsored, endorsed or administered by, or associated with NHL Entities, Microsoft Corporation, or EA SPORTS, a division of Electronic Arts, Inc. You are providing information to Administrator and not to Microsoft or EA Sports. The information you provide will only be used for administration of the Tournament and as otherwise set forth in these Official Rules. Any questions that you have about this Tournament must be directed to Administrator and not to the NHL Entities, Microsoft or EA SPORTS.

7. Northern Arena and NHLGamer will collect the information necessary to operate the Tournament at the time a team member registers their account and information collected from each team member will be shared. Northern Arena and NHLGamer may use such information to contact a team member for matters and events related to the operation of this Tournament.

ELIGIBILITY

8. To be eligible, each Team Member and any Substitute Members must live in Canada (Quebec included) or the United States. There is no age requirement. Players under the age of 15 may require a legal guardian to accept the prize on their behalf.
9. Any team member or team who is found ineligible or is disqualified at any stage of the tournament may not proceed to the next round of the tournament.

TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

10. In order to participate, you must have:
 - a. An Xbox Live Gold Account
 - b. An Xbox Live Gold ID
 - c. Access to an Xbox One system
 - d. A copy or game valid license of NHL 20 for the console
11. In order to participate, you must have a current [NHLGamer](#) account and access to the Internet. There are no fees or service charges to create or maintain an NHLGamer account, which you may create for free by visiting www.NHLGamer.com.
12. Administrator reserves the right in its absolute discretion to refuse registration or participation by any team member whom it reasonably believes is currently engaging or has previously engaged in abusive, hateful, racist, threatening, bullying, harassing, unsportsmanlike, offensive or other inappropriate conduct or speech targeting or directed at other team members, participants or tournament staff, which conduct administrator reasonably believes in its sole and absolute discretion would negatively impact the proper and fair operation/administration of the Tournament or reflect negatively on goodwill or reputation of the Tournament.
13. Gamertags, avatars, team names and player names must not include any content, language, or images that would make them inappropriate for publication or broadcast to a general audience as determined by Administrator in its absolute and sole discretion. Any player or team violating this policy as determined by Administrator in its absolute and sole discretion may be subject to mandatory replacement or disqualification.

14. Administrator reserves the right to require any team member or team (including any substitute players) to present proof of satisfaction of all eligibility requirements above, to disqualify any such team member or team who does not present adequate documentation, as determined by Administrator in its sole discretion and at any time during the Tournament.

DATES

15. As described in greater detail below, the following dates will apply to the Tournament. All times in these Official Rules refer to ET. All dates and times are subject to change. If there is a change to the date or time, Administrator will use reasonable efforts to notify all Team Members at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the relevant Stage.

Date Chart*

<i>Stage</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Registration Period	Opens: Monday, July 27th Closes: Tuesday, August 4th (1st Qualifier) Closes: Tuesday August 11th (2nd Qualifier) Closes: Friday August 14th EOD (3rd Qualifier)
CBJ Standings Cut-Off	Thursday, July 30th EOD
Online Qualifying Tournament 1	Friday, August 7th at 8:00 PM
Online Qualifying Tournament 2	Tuesday, August 11th at 8:00 PM
Online Qualifying Tournament 3	Saturday, August 15th at 8:00 PM
Team/Jersey Selection	Sunday, August 16th
Regular Season	Tuesday, August 18th at 8:45 PM Friday, August 21st at 8:45 PM Wednesday, August 26th at 8:45 PM Thursday, August 27th at 8:45 PM
Playoffs Round 1	Tuesday, September 8th at 9:00 PM
Playoffs Round 2	Tuesday, September 15th at 9:00 PM
Conference Finals	Friday, September 18th at 6:00 PM
Third-Place Series	Saturday, September 19th at 6:00 PM
NHL 20 Cup Finals	Saturday, September 19th after Third-Place Series

*** All dates and times are subject to change.
EOD means End Of Day, and is defined by
midnight Pacific Time, 3AM Eastern Time.**

PRIZES

16. All referenced prize values are in US Dollars ("**USD**") and will be awarded to the entire team, not each individual player.
17. Team Captains of each Team that wins a prize must provide the Administrator a list of how the total prize will be divided. Cash prizes will be sent directly to and in the name of the individual prize winners and will not be paid to any third party.
18. First Place Team Prizes: \$6,000.00
19. Second Place Team Prize: \$3,000.00
20. Third Place Team Prize: \$1,000.00

ALL NORTHERN ARENA NHL CUP/NHLGAMER ADMINISTRATOR DECISIONS ARE FINAL