

MADDEN NFL 25 CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES OFFICIAL RULES

1. OVERVIEW

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED BY LAW.

The Madden NFL 25 Championship Series (“MCS”) is sponsored by Electronic Arts Inc. (“EA”), 209 Redwood Shores Parkway, Redwood City, CA 94065 and is governed by these Official Rules (“Official Rules”).

The MCS is a series of video game competitions conducted using EA SPORTS™ Madden NFL 25 (“Game”) for the PC, Xbox Series X|S and PlayStation 5 consoles (“Supported Platforms”), depending on the competition.

The following is the current list of Events in this year’s MCS (each, an “Event”):

- Kickoff Classic
- Kickoff Challenge
- Most Feared Challenge
- Unstoppable Challenge
- Zero Chill Challenge
- Last Chance Qualifier (“LCQ”)
- MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl

Each Event involves gameplay that may be broadcast over the internet or other media and/or require in-person participation at a specific place and time at a live venue (each, a “Live Event”).

All federal, state, provincial, and local laws and regulations apply.

Any third party that operates another video game competition incorporating the Game is the sponsor of such competition and will determine the applicable terms and conditions for participation in those events. Non-MCS competitions are governed by separate terms and conditions for participation.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

2.1. Player Eligibility and Requirements

Each player is required to meet the following eligibility requirements to be considered a “Competitor”:

- Be the minimum age required to have a full (not underage) EA account in their territory of residence, and be at least sixteen (16) years old at the time of registration.
- For players under the age of majority in their territory of residence, a parent or legal guardian must review and consent to these Official Rules on their behalf, and accompany them to any in-person Live Events.
- Be a legal resident of the United States, United Kingdom, Mexico, Germany, Australia, or Canada.
- Have a valid EA account (<https://www.ea.com/register>) registered with the Madden Rewards Program (<https://www.easports.com/madden-nfl/mut-rewards>).
- Own or have access to the Game on a Supported Platform and have connected it to their valid EA Account.
- Have a valid Xbox gamertag or PSN ID connected to their valid EA Account, if applicable.
- Agree to EA’s User Agreement (<https://terms.ea.com>, “User Agreement”) and acknowledge that EA’s Privacy and Cookie Policy (<https://privacy.ea.com>, “Privacy and Cookie Policy”) applies.
- Enable Two Factor Authentication on their EA Account.
- Have a valid Challengermode account (challengermode.com).

If a player is found to be ineligible after the start time of an Event, the ineligible player will be removed from the Event and may forfeit all future matches in the Event.

2.2. Registration Process and Deadlines

2.2.1. Registration Process

To be considered eligible for the MCS, Competitors are required to complete the following steps on <http://maddenchampionship.com> ("Tournament Site") by the registration dates noted in **Section 2.2.2**:

- Sign into Challengermode account;
- Link Challengermode account with EA Account;
- Fill out required fields; and
- Read and accept the Official Rules.

Certain Events may have additional registration requirements in order to participate; see the Tournament Site for details.

2.2.2. Registration Deadlines

For the Kickoff Classic: August 15, 2024

For the Kickoff Challenge: August 25, 2024

For the Most Feared Challenge: September 29, 2024

For the Unstoppable Challenge: October 29, 2024

For the Zero Chill Challenge: November 24, 2024

For the LCQ: January 11, 2025

Exact times for the registration deadlines detailed above will be posted on the Registration Site.

2.3. Acceptance of Official Rules; Changes to the MCS and Official Rules

To compete in the Events, Competitors must accept these Official Rules as well as the Event Rules for the respective Event.

These Official Rules and all Event Rules may be updated by EA without notice as necessary, including without limitation, to add further clarity, correct errors, comply with changes in applicable law, or address matters that arise after their publication.

EA reserves the right to cancel, suspend and/or modify the MCS, or any part of it, if any fraud, technical failures or any other factor impairs the integrity or proper operation of the MCS, as determined by EA in its sole discretion. EA reserves the right to disqualify any Competitor at any time for any reason, including without limitation, for tampering with the operation of the Competition, or acting in violation of these Official Rules. Any attempt by any person to deliberately undermine the legitimate operation of the MCS may be a violation of criminal and civil law, and EA reserves the right to seek damages and other remedies (including attorneys' fees) from any such person to the fullest extent permitted by law.

By participating in the MCS, Competitors agree to be bound by these Official Rules and the decisions of EA and Event Officials (as defined in **Appendix A1**).

2.4. Proof of Residency

Competitors may be required to provide proof of residency in an eligible country to compete in the MCS. The sufficiency of any such proof or documentation will be determined by EA (or its agent) in its sole discretion.

Competitors who participate in Live Events will be required to sign and return a Declaration of Eligibility, and must certify their country of permanent residence by providing a government-issued identification, such as a driver's license, identification card, or work visa with a photo, name and physical address in an eligible country.

Competitors under the age of majority in their territory of residence may provide a school identification card if government-issued identification is not available and their parent or legal guardian must also provide government-issued identification.

2.5. Employees and Conflicts of Interest

Employees of EA and its respective affiliates, subsidiaries, representatives, advertising, promotion, and publicity agencies, vendors, Challengermode AB, former employees of EA who participated in the development of the Game, and the immediate family members and persons living in the same household of each as well as the National Football League, its member professional football clubs, NFL Ventures, Inc., NFL Ventures, L.P., NFL Properties LLC, NFL Enterprises LLC and each of their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, shareholders, officers, directors, agents, representatives and employees (collectively, the “NFL Entities”) are not eligible, unless otherwise approved in advance in writing by EA (email to suffice).

2.6. Registration Data and Leaderboard

As part of the registration process, Competitors will be asked to provide information such as an MCS username, first and last names, country/territory (and state, if applicable) of residence, and optional information, such as Twitter and Twitch usernames. This information may be used in any leaderboard data created as part of the MCS. The leaderboard will be published on Tournament Site or <https://www.ea.com/games/madden-nfl/madden-nfl-25/compete> and updated with point totals on a regular basis, as determined by EA in its sole discretion.

Competitor demographics provided during registration or otherwise maintained by EA, along with gameplay statistics, may also be publicly announced as part of broadcast commentary during events. For more information about how we may process your personal information, please see **Section 9.1** of the Official Rules.

3. COMPETITION STRUCTURE

3.1. Progressions through the MCS

To progress through the MCS, a Competitor may:

- Accumulate MCS Points (as defined below) by competing in MCS Events.
- Compete in a Premier Event (Described in Section 3.4 below) to be held between November 2024 and December 2024 for a chance to participate in the LCQ.
- Compete at the LCQ to be held in January 2025 for a chance to qualify for the MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl.
- Compete at the MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl in January and February 2025 to determine the final champion of the MCS 25 season.

3.2. EA Majors

EA Majors (as listed below) are milestone tournaments that occur over the course of the MCS and determine who will be invited to compete at the MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl. EA Majors will consist of an elimination phase for qualifying Competitors (“Elimination”) and proceed to a live final phase (“Live Finals”) to determine the winner of the Event.

There will be five (5) EA Majors during the MCS season:

- Kickoff Classic in September utilizing Madden NFL 25 Head to Head gameplay (“H2H”)
- Kickoff Challenge in September utilizing Madden NFL 25 Ultimate Team gameplay (“MUT”);
- Most Feared Challenge in October utilizing MUT;
- Unstoppable Challenge in November utilizing MUT; and
- Zero Chill Challenge in December utilizing MUT;

Each Competitor who participates in an MCS Major earns MCS Points (as detailed in **Appendix C**) based on their final placement in specific rounds (i.e., Elimination, Live Finals) of the relevant Event.

Players can view their MCS point totals at maddenchampionship.com.

3.3. In-Game Content

Competitors will receive one (1) MUT Pack (“MUT Pack”) for each eligible event (as listed below) they play at least one (1) game in. Competitors may receive a maximum of six (6) MUT Packs with a maximum of one (1) MUT Pack per eligible event.

The following is the list of eligible events:

- Kickoff Classic
- Kickoff Challenge
- Most Feared Challenge
- Unstoppable Challenge
- Zero Chill Challenge
- LCQ

Competitors will receive a message with instructions on how to claim their MUT Pack to their Challengermode account inbox within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the relevant event.

3.4. Premier Events

“Premier Events” include events sponsored by third parties, with varying numbers of participants.

Eligibility and details will vary for each Premier Event. Please refer to the applicable Premier Event website for more information. Players not registered to compete in the MCS are allowed to compete in Premier Events, but only eligible Competitors registered to compete in the MCS will be allocated a Seat (defined below) to the LCQ.

Players will not earn MCS Points in a Premier Event. Instead, they will play for a reserved seat in the LCQ.

3.5. MCS 25 Kickoff Classic

The Kickoff Classic is the first Event in the MCS, and will be held August 14, 2024 through September 4, 2024.

3.5.1. Tournament Format

The Kickoff Classic follows the following format:

An “open” phase played amongst all Competitors who have secured a spot via the registration portal on the Registration Site.

Registered Competitors will participate in up to two (2) days of online ladder play on August 14, 2024 and August 15, 2024 to determine the up to five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors that will continue onto the “Single Elimination” phase of the Event.

A Single Elimination phase consisting of the top five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors. Competitors in the Single Elimination phase will participate in up to two (2) days of play on August 17, 2024 and August 18, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Single Elimination Phase of the Event are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

A Live Event phase consisting of the top eight (8) Competitors from the Single Elimination phase. Competitors in the Live Event Phase will participate in one (1) day of play on September 4, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Live Event Finals phase are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

Competitors that have advanced to the Live Event phase will determine the winner of the Kickoff Classic Event.

3.5.2. Seeding and Advancement

Online Elimination Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Single Elimination Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Ladder Play phase:

Competitors that register for the Event will be eligible to queue for a match on maddenchampionship.com during two (2) separate periods consisting of six (6) hours of the open play period and one (1) additional hour to complete their final match for each of the play periods. Open play periods will be on the following dates and times:

- August 14, 2024 between 4 PM and 11 PM Eastern Time.
- August 15, 2024 between 4 PM and 11 PM Eastern Time.

A minimum number of six (6) matches must be played by a Competitor for their leaderboard entry to be valid. If less than five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors play less than six (6) matches, then this threshold will be reduced as needed to reach five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors.

- Competitors with a minimum of six (6) matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less than six (6) matches played.
- For Competitors that play under six (6) matches, Competitors with more matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less matches played, even if those with less matches played have a higher win-loss differential.

Matchmaking in the Ladder Play Phase will preferentially select Competitors with similar scores in the current play period.

Leaderboard placement is based on win-loss differential, where one match win equates to +1 point and one match loss equates to -1 point. The top thirty-two (32) Competitors at the end of the Ladder Play phase will receive byes into the fifth round of the Online Elimination phase bracket.

Ties on the leaderboard will be resolved by the methods described in **Appendix C4.1**.

Live Event Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Live Event Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Single Elimination phase:

The Single Elimination phase will complete with eight (8) Competitors remaining. Competitors will be ranked based on their seeding from the Ladder Phase.

Match Progression for the Live Event Phase is as follows:

- Quarterfinal #1: #1 Seed vs #8 Seed
- Quarterfinal #2: #4 Seed vs #5 Seed
- Quarterfinal #3: #2 Seed vs #7 Seed
- Quarterfinal #4: #3 Seed vs #6 Seed
- Semifinal #1: Winner of Quarterfinal #1 vs Winner of Quarterfinal #2
- Semifinal #2: Winner of Quarterfinal #3 vs Winner of Quarterfinal #4
- Final: Winner of Semifinal #1 vs Winner of Semifinal #2

3.5.3. In-Game Settings

The in-game settings for the Event are described in **Appendix D**.

3.5.4. Match Process

The match process for the Event is described in **Appendix E**.

3.6. MCS 25 Kickoff Challenge

Kickoff Challenge is the second Event in the MCS, and will be held August 24, 2024 through September 11, 2024.

3.6.1. Tournament Format

Kickoff Challenge follows the following format:

An “open” phase played amongst all Competitors who have secured a spot via the registration portal on the Registration Site.

Registered Competitors will participate in up to two (2) days of online ladder play on August 24, 2024 and August 25, 2024 to determine the up to five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors that will continue onto the Single Elimination phase of the Event.

A Single Elimination phase consisting of the top five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors. Competitors in the Single Elimination phase will participate in up to two (2) days of play on August 31, 2024 and September 1, 2023. Additional gameplay rules for the Single Elimination Phase of the Event are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

A Live Event phase consisting of the top eight (8) Competitors from the Single Elimination phase. Competitors in the Live Event Phase will participate in two (2) days of play on September 10, 2024 and September 11, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Live Event Finals phase are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

Competitors that have advanced to the Live Event phase will determine the winner of the Kickoff Challenge Event.

3.6.2. Seeding and Advancement

Online Elimination Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Single Elimination Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Ladder Play phase:

Competitors that register for the Event will be eligible to queue for a match on maddenchampionship.com during two (2) separate periods consisting of seven (7) hours of the open play period and one (1) additional hour to complete their final match for each of the play periods. Open play periods will be on the following dates and times:

- August 24, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- August 25, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.

A minimum number of six (6) matches must be played by a Competitor for their leaderboard entry to be valid. If less than five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors play less than six (6) matches, then this threshold will be reduced as needed to reach five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors.

- Competitors with a minimum of six (6) matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less than six (6) matches played.
- For Competitors that play under six (6) matches, Competitors with more matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less matches played, even if those with less matches played have a higher win-loss differential.

Matchmaking in the Ladder Play Phase will preferentially select Competitors with similar scores in the current play period.

Leaderboard placement is based on win-loss differential, where one match win equates to +1 point and one match loss equates to -1 point. The top thirty-two (32) Competitors at the end of the Ladder Play phase will receive byes into the fifth round of the Online Elimination phase bracket.

Ties on the leaderboard will be resolved by the methods described in **Appendix C4.1**.

Live Event Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Live Event Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Single Elimination phase:

The Single Elimination phase will complete with eight (8) Competitors remaining. Competitors will be ranked based on their seeding from the Ladder Phase.

Match Progression for the Live Event Phase is as follows:

- Quarterfinal #1: #1 Seed vs #8 Seed
- Quarterfinal #2: #4 Seed vs #5 Seed
- Quarterfinal #3: #2 Seed vs #7 Seed
- Quarterfinal #4: #3 Seed vs #6 Seed
- Semifinal #1: Winner of Quarterfinal #1 vs Winner of Quarterfinal #2
- Semifinal #2: Winner of Quarterfinal #3 vs Winner of Quarterfinal #4
- Final: Winner of Semifinal #1 vs Winner of Semifinal #2

3.6.3. In-Game Settings

The in-game settings for the Event are described in **Appendix D**.

3.6.4. Match Process

The match process for the Event is described in **Appendix E**.

3.7. MCS 25 Most Feared Challenge

Most Feared Challenge is the third Event in the MCS, and will be held September 21, 2024 through October 23, 2024.

3.7.1. Tournament Format

Most Feared Challenge follows the following format:

An “open” phase played amongst all Competitors who have secured a spot via the registration portal on the Registration Site.

Registered Competitors will participate in up to four (4) days of online ladder play between September 21, 2024 and September 29, 2024 to determine the up to five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors that will continue onto the Single Elimination phase of the Event.

A Single Elimination phase consisting of the top five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors. Competitors in the Single Elimination phase will participate in up to two (2) days of play on October 5, 2024 and October 6, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Single Elimination Phase of the Event are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

A Live Event phase consisting of the top eight (8) Competitors from the Single Elimination phase. Competitors in the Live Event Phase will participate in one (1) day of play on October 23, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Live Event Finals phase are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

Competitors that have advanced to the Live Event phase will determine the winner of the Most Feared Challenge Event.

3.7.2. Seeding and Advancement

Online Elimination Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Single Elimination Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Ladder Play phase:

Competitors that register for the Event will be eligible to queue for a match on maddenchampionship.com during four (4) separate periods consisting of seven (7) hours of the open play period and one (1) additional hour to complete their final match for each of the play periods. Open play periods will be on the following dates and times:

- September 21, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- September 22, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- September 28, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- September 29, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.

A minimum number of twelve (12) matches must be played by a Competitor for their leaderboard entry to be valid. If less than five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors play less than twelve (12) matches, then this threshold will be reduced as needed to reach five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors.

- Competitors with a minimum of twelve (12) matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less than twelve (12) matches played.
- For Competitors that play under twelve (12) matches, Competitors with more matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less matches played, even if those with less matches played have a higher win-loss differential.

Matchmaking in the Ladder Play Phase will preferentially select Competitors with similar scores in the current play period.

Leaderboard placement is based on win-loss differential, where one match win equates to +1 point and one match loss equates to -1 point. The top thirty-two (32) Competitors at the end of the Ladder Play phase will receive byes into the fifth round of the Online Elimination phase bracket.

Ties on the leaderboard will be resolved by the methods described in **Appendix C4.2**.

Live Event Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Live Event Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Single Elimination phase:

The Single Elimination phase will complete with eight (8) Competitors remaining. Competitors will be ranked based on their seeding from the Ladder Phase.

Match Progression for Live Event is as follows:

- Quarterfinal #1: #1 Seed vs #8 Seed
- Quarterfinal #2: #4 Seed vs #5 Seed
- Quarterfinal #3: #2 Seed vs #7 Seed
- Quarterfinal #4: #3 Seed vs #6 Seed
- Semifinal #1: #1 Seed vs #4 Seed
- Semifinal #2: #2 Seed vs #3 Seed
- Final: Winner of Semifinal #1 vs Winner of Semifinal #2

3.7.3. In-Game Settings

The in-game settings for the Event are described in **Appendix D**.

3.7.4. Match Process

The match process for the Event is described in **Appendix E**.

3.8. MCS 25 Unstoppable Challenge

Unstoppable Challenge is the fourth Event in the MCS, and will be held October 26, 2024 through November 13, 2024.

3.8.1. Tournament Format

Unstoppable Challenge follows the following format:

An “open” phase played amongst all Competitors who have secured a spot via the registration portal on the Registration Site.

Registered Competitors will participate in up to four (4) days of online ladder play on October 26, 2024 through October 29, 2024 to determine the up to five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors that will continue onto the Single Elimination phase of the Event.

A Single Elimination phase consisting of the top five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors. Competitors in the Single Elimination phase will participate in up to two (2) days of play on November 2, 2024 and November 3, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Single Elimination Phase of the Event are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

A Live Event phase consisting of the top four (4) Competitors from the Single Elimination phase. Competitors in the Live Event Phase will participate in one (1) day of play on November 13, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Live Event Finals phase are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

Competitors that have advanced to the Live Event phase will determine the winner of the Unstoppable Challenge Event.

3.8.2. Seeding and Advancement

Online Elimination Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Single Elimination Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Ladder Play phase:

Competitors that register for the Event will be eligible to queue for a match on maddenchampionship.com during four (4) separate periods consisting of four (4) to seven (7) hours of the open play period and one (1) additional hour to complete their final match for each of the play periods. Open play periods will be on the following dates and times:

- October 26, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- October 27, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- October 28, 2024 between 6 PM and 11 PM Eastern Time.
- October 29, 2024 between 6 PM and 11 PM Eastern Time.

A minimum number of twelve (12) matches must be played by a Competitor for their leaderboard entry to be valid. If less than five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors play less than twelve (12) matches, then this threshold will be reduced as needed to reach five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors.

- Competitors with a minimum of twelve (12) matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less than twelve (12) matches played.
- For Competitors that play under twelve (12) matches, Competitors with more matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less matches played, even if those with less matches played have a higher win-loss differential.

Matchmaking in the Ladder Play Phase will preferentially select Competitors with similar scores in the current play period.

Leaderboard placement is based on win-loss differential, where one match win equates to +1 point and one match loss equates to -1 point. The top thirty-two (32) Competitors at the end of the Ladder Play phase will receive byes into the fifth round of the Online Elimination phase bracket.

Ties on the leaderboard will be resolved by the methods described in **Appendix C4.3**.

Live Event Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Live Event Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Single Elimination phase:

The Single Elimination phase will complete with eight (8) Competitors remaining. Competitors will be ranked based on their seeding from the Ladder Phase.

Match Progression for Live Event is as follows:

- Quarterfinal #1: #1 Seed vs #8 Seed
- Quarterfinal #2: #4 Seed vs #5 Seed
- Quarterfinal #3: #2 Seed vs #7 Seed
- Quarterfinal #4: #3 Seed vs #6 Seed
- Semifinal #1: #1 Seed vs #4 Seed
- Semifinal #2: #2 Seed vs #3 Seed
- Final: Winner of Semifinal #1 vs Winner of Semifinal #2

3.9. MCS 25 Zero Chill Challenge

Zero Chill Challenge is the fifth Event in the MCS, and will be held November 16, 2024 through December 18, 2024.

3.9.1. Tournament Format

Zero Chill Challenge follows the following format:

An “open” phase played amongst all Competitors who have secured a spot via the registration portal on the Registration Site.

Registered Competitors will participate in up to four (4) days of online ladder play on November 16, 2024 and November 24, 2024 to determine the up to five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors that will continue onto the Single Elimination phase of the Event. A Single Elimination phase consisting of the top five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors.

Competitors in the Single Elimination phase will participate in up to two (2) days of play on December 7, 2024 and December 8, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Single Elimination Phase of the Event are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

A Live Event phase consisting of the top eight (8) Competitors from the Single Elimination phase. Competitors in the Live Event Phase will participate in one (1) day of play on December 18, 2024. Additional gameplay rules for the Live Event Finals phase are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

Competitors that have advanced to the Live Event phase will determine the winner of the Zero Chill Challenge Event.

3.9.2. Seeding and Advancement

Online Elimination Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Single Elimination Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Ladder Play phase:

Competitors that register for the Event will be eligible to queue for a match on maddenchampionship.com during four (4) separate periods consisting of seven (7) hours of the open play period and one (1) additional hour to complete their final match for each of the play periods. Open play periods will be on the following dates and times

- November 16, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- November 17, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- November 23, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.
- November 24, 2024 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.

A minimum number of twelve (12) matches must be played by a Competitor for their leaderboard entry to be valid. If less than five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors play less than twelve (12) matches, then this threshold will be reduced as needed to reach five hundred forty-four (544) Competitors.

- Competitors with a minimum of twelve (12) matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less than twelve (12) matches played.
- For Competitors that play under twelve (12) matches, Competitors with more matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less matches played, even if those with less matches played have a higher win-loss differential.

Matchmaking in the Ladder Play Phase will preferentially select Competitors with similar scores in the current play period.

Leaderboard placement is based on win-loss differential, where one match win equates to +1 point and one match loss equates to -1 point. The top thirty-two (32) Competitors at the end of the Ladder Play phase will receive byes into the fifth round of the Online Elimination phase bracket.

Ties on the leaderboard will be resolved by the methods described in **Appendix C4.4**.

Live Event Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Live Event Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Single Elimination phase:

The Single Elimination phase will complete with eight (8) Competitors remaining. Competitors will be ranked based on their seeding from the Ladder Phase.

Match Progression for Live Event is as follows:

- Quarterfinal #1: #1 Seed vs #8 Seed
- Quarterfinal #2: #4 Seed vs #5 Seed
- Quarterfinal #3: #2 Seed vs #7 Seed
- Quarterfinal #4: #3 Seed vs #6 Seed
- Semifinal #1: #1 Seed vs #4 Seed
- Semifinal #2: #2 Seed vs #3 Seed
- Final: Winner of Semifinal #1 vs Winner of Semifinal #2

3.9.3. In-Game Settings

The in-game settings for the Event are described in **Appendix D**.

3.9.4. Match Process

The match process for the Event is described in **Appendix E**.

3.10. MCS 25 Last Chance Qualifier

The LCQ is the sixth Event in the MCS, and will be held January 11, 2025 through January 14, 2025.

3.10.1. Tournament Format

The LCQ follows the following format:

An “open” phase played amongst all Competitors who have secured a spot via the registration portal on the Registration Site.

Registered Competitors will participate in one (1) day of online ladder play on January 11, 2025 to determine the up to one hundred twenty (120) Competitors that will continue onto the Single Elimination phase of the Event. Additionally, eight (8) Competitors will qualify for the Single Elimination through Premier Events (as defined in Section 3.4).

A Single Elimination phase consisting of the top one hundred twenty-eight (128) Competitors. Competitors in the Single Elimination phase will participate in up to two (2) days of play on January 12, 2023 and January 14, 2025. Additional gameplay rules for the Single Elimination Phase of the Event are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

Competitors that have advanced to the Single Elimination phase will determine the winner of the LCQ Event.

3.10.2. Seeding and Advancement

Online Elimination Seeding

The following process will be used to seed Competitors into the Single Elimination Phase of the tournament based on their performance during the Ladder Play phase:

Competitors that register for the Event will be eligible to queue for a match on maddenchampionship.com during one (1) periods consisting of seven (7) hours of the open play period and one (1) additional hour to complete their final match for the play period. The open play period will be on the following date and time:

- January 11, 2025 between 1 PM and 9 PM Eastern Time.

A minimum number of six (6) matches must be played by a Competitor for their leaderboard entry to be valid. If less than one hundred twenty-eight (128) Competitors play less than six (6) matches, then this threshold will be reduced as needed to reach one hundred twenty-eight (128) Competitors.

- Competitors with a minimum of six (6) matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less than six (6) matches played.
- For Competitors that play under six (6) matches, Competitors with more matches played will be placed higher on the leaderboard than Competitors with less matches played, even if those with less matches played have a higher win-loss differential.

Matchmaking in the Ladder Play Phase will preferentially select Competitors with similar scores in the current play period.

Leaderboard placement is based on win-loss differential, where one match win equates to +1 point and one match loss equates to -1 point.

The eight (8) Competitors advanced from Premier Events will be seeded randomly as the lowest positions in the Elimination Phase.

Ties on the leaderboard will be resolved by the methods described in **Appendix C4.5**.

3.10.3. In-Game Settings

The in-game settings for the Event are described in **Appendix D**.

3.10.4. Match Process

The match process for the Event is described in **Appendix E**.

3.11. MCS 25 Playoffs and Madden Bowl

The MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl are the final Event in the MCS, and will be held in January and February 2024.

3.11.1. Tournament Format

The MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl are invitation-only. Thirteen (13) Competitors will be invited to participate in the MCS Playoffs based on the highest MCS Points totals as of January 11, 2024 and one (1) Competitor will be invited to participate in the MCS Playoffs based on the final standings of the LCQ and play in the following series of elimination events until a single Competitor is crowned winner of the Madden Bowl. Additional gameplay rules for the Live Event Finals phase of the Event are detailed in **Appendix D6**.

The event schedule (subject to change) is as follows:

- MCS Playoffs - Single Elimination Wild Card: January 2024
- MCS Playoffs - Single Elimination Quarterfinals and Semifinals: January 2024
- Madden Bowl - Single Elimination Finals: February 2024

The winner of the Madden Bowl will be considered champion of the MCS.

3.11.2. Seeding

Competitors will be seeded into the MCS Playoffs by their total MCS points.

Ties in MCS Points will be resolved by the methods described in **Appendix C4.7**.

Based on the final rankings of Competitors, the MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl matches will be as follows:

- Playoffs Round 1 Match 1: MCS Points #8 vs MCS Points #9
- Playoffs Round 1 Match 2: MCS Points #4 vs MCS Points #13
- Playoffs Round 1 Match 3: MCS Points #5 vs MCS Points #12
- Playoffs Round 1 Match 4: MCS Points #7 vs MCS Points #10
- Playoffs Round 1 Match 5: MCS Points #3 vs MCS LCQ Winner
- Playoffs Round 1 Match 6: MCS Points #6 vs MCS Points #11
- Playoffs Quarterfinals #1: MCS Points #1 vs Winner of RO12 Match 1.
- Playoffs Quarterfinals #2: Winner of RO12 Match 2 vs Winner of RO12 Match 3
- Playoffs Quarterfinals #3: MCS Points #2 vs Winner of RO12 Match 4
- Playoffs Quarterfinals #4: Winner of RO12 Match 5 vs Winner of RO12 Match 6
- Playoffs Semifinals #1: Winner of Quarterfinals #1 vs Winner of Quarterfinals #2
- Playoffs Semifinals #2: Winner of Quarterfinals #3 vs Winner of Quarterfinals #4
- Madden Bowl: Winner of Semifinals #1 vs Winner of Semifinals #2

The above order only indicates the path Competitors will progress through the MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl. The actual order matches are played in during each round may differ from the above.

3.11.3. In-Game Settings

The in-game settings for the Event are described in **Appendix D**.

3.11.4. Match Process

The match process for the Event is described in **Appendix E**.

4. PLATFORMS & EQUIPMENT

4.1. Platforms

Competitors may register and compete in the MCS on a Supported Platform using a single PSN account on the PlayStation 5, a single Xbox account on the Xbox Series X|S, or a single EA account on PC. The PSN account and Xbox account for their respective platforms may share a single EA account. All Live Events will be available on either the PlayStation 5 or Xbox Series X|S platform (as determined in EA's sole discretion).

4.2. Equipment and Accessories Provided On Site

Event Officials may provide the following equipment at Live Events to facilitate the tournament:

- Tables and chairs
- Access-restricted player lounge or equivalent practice facility
- Consoles
- TV monitors
- Controllers
- Controller conversion adaptors
- Digital game codes
- Game accounts and roster content
- Practice area

4.3. Competitor-Owned Equipment

Competitors can bring their own controllers to be used during the MCS. All controllers must first be reviewed and approved by Event Officials prior to use during an Event.

Competitors may not have possession of any personal communication devices (e.g., smartphones, tablets, or other items capable of mobile communications, etc.) while they are actively engaged in a match. Event Officials will provide a storage area for all personal items.

5. ADDITIONAL COMPETITOR REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVE EVENTS

Competitors competing in a Live Event are required to adhere to the following:

- Competitors that choose to stream their matches must utilize a minimum ten (10) minute delay.
- Attend Media Day prior to each Live Event.
- Attend one (1) mandatory virtual Player Meeting prior to each Live Event. Meeting date and time to be provided by EA at least seven (7) days in advance.
- Be available for an interview with the MCS broadcast crew for at least thirty (30) minutes following the end of each Live Event day.
- Winners from a Live Event may also be required to participate in a media session for up to one (1) hour following the end of the competition.
- Competitors should confirm the result of each match and describe any technical issues that occurred during the match to the Event Officials as soon as the match concludes.
- Competitors will be expected to be ready to begin match play at the scheduled times. If a hardware or software failure or other unexpected incident occurs in the game, both Competitors in the affected match are responsible for alerting an Event Official of the incident immediately.

6. PARTICIPATION IN LIVE EVENTS

6.1. Travel to Live Events

EA may provide travel accommodations at EA's expense for some Competitors who qualify (or are invited) to compete in a Live Event. For Competitors with travel expenses paid by EA, the selection of transportation carriers, hotels, and/or related transfers, will be at EA's sole discretion. EA reserves the right to provide ground transportation instead of airfare based on a Competitor's travel distance from a Live Event. If a Competitor requests special travel or accommodation plans,

such as different travel dates, different carriers, or departure/arrival cities other than the designated city for the tournament, and if the cost of the special travel request exceeds that of the standard tournament travel plans, EA may require the Competitor to cover the difference in cost.

Receiving travel accommodations is contingent upon compliance with these Official Rules. In the event a Competitor is disqualified, or travel is forfeited for any reason, EA may award that Competitor's transportation, accommodations, current placement in the Event, and/or the prize associated with Competitor's current placement to an alternate player.

Incidentals for travel, including, without limitation: telephone calls, facsimile charges, Internet charges, spa/beauty salon services, laundry, tours/excursions, gift shop purchases, hotel processing fees, airline service charges and any other expenses not mentioned in these Official Rules are the sole responsibility of the Competitor or parent/guardian, and the Competitor may be asked to account for any such incidental charges by providing the applicable hotel with a credit card. Hotel and airfare cannot be used separately. Travel and accommodations are subject to availability and certain restrictions. Any extra nights' stay and any additional costs associated with an extended stay are the sole responsibility of the Competitor and his or her parent/guardian. Valid passport and/or other travel documentation may be required, which is the responsibility of each Competitor. Additional restrictions may apply.

6.2. Declaration of Eligibility and Request for Biographical Information

In order to participate in Live Events, receive travel accommodations to in-person Live Events, and/or receive equipment from EA to participate in online-only Live Events, Competitors must sign a Declaration of Eligibility and complete the Request for Biographic Information. Declaration of Eligibility will be sent to Competitors at the email addresses associated with the EA Accounts used to register for Events as described in **Section 2** of these Official Rules. If a Competitor does not complete and return the Declaration of Eligibility and Request for Biographic Information within two (2) business days of attempted notification, fails to sign and/or return the Declaration of Eligibility within the required time period, refuses travel, is ineligible to accept travel, or is unavailable to travel during the required dates listed in Event Rules for the specific Event, the Competitor forfeits travel accommodations, as well as their place in the respective Event.

If a Competitor is a minor in his or her territory of residence, the Competitor's parent or legal guardian will be required to sign all necessary documents to accept travel and must accompany the Competitor to the Live Event. In these instances, travel accommodations will include additional airfare for one (1) parent or legal guardian. Competitor and parent/legal guardian must travel together on the same itinerary and will share hotel accommodations.

6.3. Background Checks

In order to participate in a Live Event, potential prize winners may first be required to submit to a background check and provide the necessary information that EA requests to be eligible to receive a prize. EA reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any potential winner based on such background check if EA determines, in its sole discretion, that awarding a prize to such winner might reflect negatively on EA.

7. ENFORCEMENT

EA Accounts, the leaderboard, and match data may be audited, including for malicious behavior and cheating. Any Competitor may be disqualified immediately from the MCS and related competitions, at the discretion of EA or its designees, for any reason, including for any failure to comply with the User Agreement, Privacy and Cookie Policy, and these Official Rules, including the Code of Conduct at **Appendix A**, which may include but is not limited to:

- using any cheats, hacks or other third-party "helper" applications;
- intentionally disconnecting from the Internet during an Event;
- colluding with other Competitors (as further described in **Appendix A2**);
- taking advantage of known exploits in the Game (it is the responsibility of players to understand and avoid all current illegal exploits); or

- abusive or disorderly behavior, including any use of harassing, negative, or profane language online.

EA, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to restart any match at any time and/or disqualify any Competitor at any time, for any reason, including but not limited to tampering with the entry process or the operation of the MCS, or acting in violation of these Official Rules or in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner and reserves the right to void all associated entries. EA's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision.

8. PRIZES

Prize amounts for Events that award prizes are detailed in **Appendix B**.

EA will also award one (1) MCS competitor with the EA Positive Player Award. Eligibility, nomination, voting, and award information for the EA Positive Player Award is detailed in **Appendix F**.

8.1. Prizes Terms and Conditions

Prizes are not transferable. No substitution of prizes for other goods and services is permitted, except that EA reserves the right to provide a substitute of approximately equal or greater value if an advertised prize is unavailable or not allowed by local law. All federal, state, provincial and local taxes, and international tariffs are the sole responsibility of the individual winner.

Potential winners will be required to complete, sign, and return a Prize Winner Declaration and Release within ninety (90) days of completion of the applicable Event to claim a prize. If a potential winner fails to sign and/or return the Prize Winner Declaration and Release, refuses the prize, or is ineligible to accept the prize, the potential winner forfeits the prize.

Failure to communicate banking information or delivery method to the prize distribution vendor in a timely manner may result in forfeiture of the prize. If a potential winner is a minor in their territory of residence, the potential winner's parent or legal guardian (as required by law) will be required to sign all necessary documents upon verification of identification. Receiving a prize is contingent upon compliance with these Official Rules. In the event a potential winner is disqualified, or the prize is forfeited for any reason, EA retains the discretion to donate the applicable prize to a charity of EA's choosing. Potential winners may be required to provide a valid shipping address to claim a prize. Allow up to three (3) months for delivery of prizes.

In the event EA cancels or suspends the MCS pursuant to **Section 2.3** above, prizes will be awarded for all Events prior to such cancellation or suspension.

9. GENERAL TERMS

Nothing in these Official Rules shall be deemed to exclude or restrict any Competitor's statutory rights as a consumer.

9.1. Personal Information

By participating in the MCS, Competitors acknowledge that EA will process their personal information (including name, address, date of birth, EA Account Name, email address, Supported Platform username, and country of residence) (collectively, "Personal Information") in accordance with the EA Privacy and Cookie Policy, available at <https://privacy.ea.com> for the purposes listed therein. If Personal Information has been collected from Competitors by another organizing entity, Competitors agree to the organizing entity transferring such Personal Information to EA.

Personal Information will be used and processed as described in the Privacy and Cookie Policy, including, but not limited to, for the purposes of:

- Organizing, running, and monitoring the MCS and prize fulfillment, including for Competitors that win a prize, publishing Competitor names and countries of residence online or in any other media in connection with the MCS, as described further below;

- Announcing player demographics, along with gameplay statistics, as part of the Event broadcast commentary;
- Sharing Personal Information with designated MCS operators and/or administrators, including for booking travel and soliciting feedback on the MCS, gameplay and features of EA game titles;
- Promotional and marketing materials that may reference Personal Information; and
- Other purposes to which Competitors consent.

Personal Information will be processed in the United States and potentially other countries in which EA, its subsidiaries, or third party agents operate. By entering the MCS, Competitors consent that their Personal Information may be transferred to recipients in the United States and other countries that may not offer the same level of privacy protection as the laws in their country of residence or citizenship, as further explained in the Privacy and Cookie Policy.

Competitors have the right to access, withdraw, and correct their Personal Information, to the extent provided by applicable law. Competitors may request such action by visiting EA's Privacy Portal, <https://www.ea.com/privacy-portal>.

Please note that EA may request background investigations for Competitors that EA invites to Live Events. EA may request Competitor consent and provide details about such investigations, if applicable and necessary.

The organizing entity for the MCS, if applicable, will be considered a data controller for the database containing the Personal Information submitted by Competitors. Please refer to the privacy policy of such organizing entity for details regarding how your data is processed and your rights with respect to it.

9.1.1. Applicability of User Agreement and Privacy and Cookie Policy

If there is any conflict between these Official Rules and the Privacy and Cookie Policy or the User Agreement, then the Privacy and Cookie Policy or User Agreement, as applicable, will control.

9.2. Release and Publication of Player Information

9.2.1. Winner's List

EA will post a winner's list on the Registration Site after all winners are confirmed within two (2) weeks after the end of each Event. This list will remain posted at least for three (3) months after the end of the MCS.

9.2.2. Grant of Rights

Competitor grants to EA and the NFL Entities the right to publish and otherwise use Competitor's statistics and rankings in connection with the MCS for any purpose, including for marketing and promotional purposes, without consent or compensation to Competitor.

By accepting a prize, Competitor grants to EA and the NFL Entities the right to use their Personal Information and any other information provided by Competitor, without further consent or compensation to Competitor, for the administration, marketing and promotion of the MCS, EA, and/or the Game, unless otherwise noted below:

- Background Information: full name, country of residency, age, Supported Platform Username (e.g., Xbox Live Gamertag, PSN ID, EA Account ID)
- Social Media Information: Twitter handle, YouTube channel, Twitch account, Discord username, Instagram username
- Photos: Any photos provided by Competitor to EA or photos of Competitor taken onsite at a Live Event
- Other Information for Event Officials only: shirt size, dietary restrictions, mobile phone number
- Any Other Biographical Information Provided by Competitor (e.g., favorite professional sports teams players)

9.2.3. EA Account Information

Competitors acknowledge and agree that EA may provide their Account Information (name, Online ID, age, country, game play stats and scores, and email address) to Challengermode AB for the purposes of administering any and all Events, including without limitation that the Challengermode AB may contact Player by email and/or other means.

9.3. Governing Law; Release of Liability

9.3.1. EA's Decisions

EA's decisions will be final and binding on all matters related to the MCS.

9.3.2. Governing Law

To the extent permissible by local law, the MCS is governed by the laws of the State of California and all claims must be resolved in the United States.

9.3.3. Release

To the extent permissible by law, Competitor agrees to release and hold harmless EA and its agents from any and all liability or any injury, loss, damage, right, claim or action of any kind arising from or in connection with the MCS or any MCS-related activity, or the receipt, acceptance, possession, use or misuse of EA-provided travel or any prize won.

Competitor irrevocably waives all claims against the National Football League, its member professional football clubs, NFL Ventures, Inc., NFL Ventures, L.P., NFL Properties LLC, NFL Enterprises LLC and each of their respective subsidiaries, affiliates, shareholders, officers, directors, agents, representatives and employees and agrees that the NFL Entities will have no liability or responsibility for any claims, damages, obligations, losses, injuries, costs or debt, and expenses (including but not limited to attorney's fees) claimed to be caused by participating in the MCS or the acceptance, possession, shipping and handling, loss, use or misuse of any prize awarded. The NFL Entities have not offered or sponsored the MCS in any way.

9.3.4. For Residents of Germany

Notwithstanding any other provision herein, nothing in these Official Rules shall have the effect to deprive a Competitor of the consumer protection rights granted by the laws of your residence that cannot be derogated from by agreement. With respect to the Prize and any other products or services given by EA and its affiliates free of charge, EA shall only be liable for intent and gross negligence. In case of slight negligence, however, EA is only liable for the breach of essential contractual obligations, such as delay or impossibility of performance, which EA can be made responsible for. The liability in the event of breach of such an essential contractual obligation is limited to the typical contractual damage, whose occurrence could be expected by the EA upon conclusion of the contract on account of the circumstances known at that time. "Essential contractual obligations" are those obligations whose fulfillment is essential to enable the proper implementation of the contract and the achievement of its purpose and whose observation you as an end consumer may rely upon. The foregoing limitations of liability shall not apply in the case of explicit guarantees by the EA, in cases of malice and injuries to life, body or health as well as in the case of mandatory statutory regulations.

9.3.5. For Residents of the United Kingdom

Notwithstanding any other provision herein, to the extent allowable under applicable law, each Competitor agrees to release and hold harmless EA and its agents from any and all liability or any injury, loss, damage, right, claim or action of any kind arising from or in connection with the MCS or any MCS-related activity or the receipt, possession, use or misuse of any prize won, except with respect to claims resulting from death or personal injury arising from EA's negligence and with respect to claims resulting from the tort of deceit or any other liabilities that may not be excluded by law.

9.3.6 For Residents of Australia

Notwithstanding any other provision herein, to the extent allowable under applicable law and subject to and without excluding, restricting or modifying any rights or remedies to which the Competitor may be entitled as a consumer under the consumer guarantee provisions of the Australian Consumer Law, each Competitor agrees to release and hold harmless EA and its agents from any and all liability or any injury, loss, damage, right, claim or action of any kind arising from or in connection with the MCS or any MCS-related activity or the receipt, possession, use or misuse of any prize won.

10. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

All commercial rights (including, without limitation, all marketing, and media rights) relating to the MCS are reserved for EA.

Competitors shall not associate themselves with the MCS and/or EA in any commercial manner, nor use any intellectual property rights of EA, nor shall they permit any third parties to do so, without the prior written consent of EA, which may be granted or withheld at EA's sole discretion.

Any Competitor or a Competitor's sponsor wishing to engage in any promotional or marketing activities with respect to the MCS, including at any MCS tournament venue, will need prior written consent from EA, which may be granted or withheld at EA's sole discretion.

The recording and dissemination of images or footage of the MCS for commercial purposes by or on behalf of any Competitor is strictly prohibited, except when explicitly authorized by EA.

11. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

EA is not responsible for: (i) inaccurate information, whether caused by entrants, typographical errors, or equipment or programming associated with the tournament; (ii) technical failures, including without limitation, network malfunctions, interruptions, or disconnections; (iii) unauthorized intervention in the entry process of the tournament; (iv) technical or human error in the administration of the tournament or the processing of registrations; (v) late, lost, undeliverable, erroneous, damaged or stolen mail or electronic communications; (vi) ineligibility for any reason, including entrant's misunderstanding of the Official Rules and requirements or the entry process.

APPENDIX A: CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct applies to all Competitors at all levels of the MCS unless otherwise specified. EA reserved the right to levy penalties, sanction or disqualify any Competitor, for violations of this Code of Conduct in its sole discretion.

A1. Competitor Behavior

Competitors are some of the best and highest profile players in the world and are therefore ambassadors of the MCS and as held to a high standard by EA, the public, and the media. Competitors must conduct themselves in accordance with commonly accepted standards of decency, social conventions and morals, and to not commit any act or become involved in any situation or make any statement which brings disrepute, contempt, scandal, ridicule, or disdain to the Competitor, EA, the MCS, or to its Competitors and sponsors.

These requirements apply to live, offline, and online interactions, in and out of the MCS, including with respect to social media conduct and activity on live streams, past conduct and during Live Events. All Competitors are expected to adhere to these standards of sportsmanship and the EA Rules of Conduct, available at <https://terms.ea.com>, at all times, including when not participating in EA sanctioned events.

Competitors must maintain an appropriate level of respect, in EA's sole judgment, towards other Competitors, referees, officials, event staff, and tournament administrators (collectively, "Event Officials"). Threatening or inappropriate behavior towards Event Officials and/or other Competitors will not be tolerated. Competitors must follow the instructions of Event Officials at all times.

Prohibited conduct includes, but it not limited to:

- Violating any law, rule or regulation, as determined by EA in its sole discretion;
- Using any software or program that damages, interferes with or disrupts an EA service or another's computer or property;
- Using any external software designed to give the Competitor an unfair advantage;
- Interfering with or disrupting other Competitor's participation in the MCS;
- Harassing, threatening, bullying, engaging in hate speech, repeatedly sending unwanted messages, including making personal attacks or statements about race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, heritage, etc.;
- Using vulgar or offensive language;
- Physical abuse, fighting, or any other threatening action directed at any Competitor, spectator Event Official, or any other person;
- Damage and/or abuse to game devices, hardware, and peripherals, tournament equipment, or the facility/venue/lodging;
- Publishing, posting, uploading, or distributing content, or organizing/participating in any activity, group or guild that EA reasonably determines is inappropriate, abusive, hateful, harassing, profane, defamatory, threatening, obscene, sexually explicit and/or exploitive, infringing, privacy-invasive, vulgar or otherwise inconsistent with the goodwill of EA or the NFL, offensive, indecent or unlawful;
- Interfering with or interrupting the broadcast or broadcast production;
- Interfering with gameplay, including purposefully breaking a game station, interrupting the power supply, leaving a station before the conclusion of a match, referring to play, and abuse of in-game pausing;
- Failure to cooperate with safety and security requirements, such as metal detectors and bag searches;
- Failure to follow instructions given by Event Officials and security personnel;
- Logging into the provided game devices with a personal account or playing any game other than the copy of the Game provided for use in the tournament;
- Failing to be available for any post-tournament awards ceremonies, interviews, and the entirety of a Live Event, as well as any promotional activities reasonably requested by EA or other sponsor;
- Competitors watching video streams and/or listening to live coverage of their own match while the match is still in progress;
- Carrying out any third-party promotional activity in connection with the MCS unless approved in advance in writing by EA;
- Using exploits, cheats, undocumented features, design errors or bugs in the MCS;

- Selling, buying, trading or otherwise transferring or offering to transfer an EA Account or any EA content associated with an EA Account, including EA virtual currency and other entitlements, either within an EA service or on a third party website, or in connection with any out-of-game transaction, unless expressly authorized by EA;
- Playing on behalf of another Competitor, or allowing someone else to play on Competitor's behalf, in any competitive game mode;
- Gambling, including betting on the outcome of MCS matches;
- Disclosing confidential information provided by EA or any of its affiliates;
- Communicating with anyone other than Event Officials in any way during an MCS match until the Competitor is eliminated;
- Accepting or giving gifts, bribes, rewards or compensation for services that are rendered in connection with competing in the MCS (with an exception for Competitors with sponsors who pay them based on their performance);
- Causing or contributing to scandal, reputational harm or risk to the integrity and reputation of the MCS or EA;
- Engaging in any other activity that significantly disturbs a peaceful, fair and respectful gaming environment of the MCS;
- Failure to attend a Live Event at the applicable date(s) and time(s) posted on the Tournament Site or otherwise communicated to Competitors by tournament sponsor or staff; and
- Promoting, encouraging or taking part in any prohibited activity described above.

A2. Collusion and Match-Fixing Policy

Any action or agreement to disadvantage other Competitors to predetermine the outcome of a match, to try to lose a match, to affect the fairness of the MCS, or to limit efforts to win a match is strictly prohibited.

Any Competitors determined by EA to be violating this rule at any phase in the MCS may be removed from the MCS. Such Competitors may be forced to forfeit or return any compensation and/or prizes and may have their EA and/or Game accounts suspended.

Examples of collusion include, but are not limited to:

- Intentionally losing a match for any reason at any portion of an Event;
- Playing on behalf of another Competitor, including using a secondary account, to aid them during any portion of an Event;
- Any form of match-fixing or communication with other Competitors related to match play or strategy;
- "Soft play", defined as a Competitor not giving their best effort or not taking reasonable and fair actions to gain advantages against their opponent(s) in a match;
- Agreeing to split prize money; and
- Allowing an opponent to score more or less points than they normally would to impact the rankings.

A3. Drug & Alcohol Policy

Competitors may not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while participating in the MCS. Competitor use of alcohol or drugs is prohibited on any Live Event premises.

Smoking, including the use of e-Cigarettes and vaporizers, is prohibited during any Live Event except in designated areas. Some Live Event venues may ban smoking entirely.

A4. Dress Code

Competitors who compete in Live Events must wear attire that is appropriate under the circumstances (as determined by EA). EA and the NFL Entities will provide apparel that must be worn by Competitors during certain Live Events and/or apparel guidelines with details on what apparel would be considered acceptable at Live Events ("Apparel Guidelines"). Personal apparel choices must be submitted to EA according to the process defined in the Apparel Guidelines and approved in order to participate in Live Events. Failure to comply with the Apparel Guidelines could result in penalties as outlined in **Appendix A6**.

Competitors shall not wear, carry, or bear any items of a political nature, or which in EA's opinion cause controversy or reflect unfavorably upon EA, its partners, or the MCS.

Competitors shall not carry out any promotional activity or marketing of brands and services in connection with the MCS unless otherwise approved in writing by EA.

A5. Reporting Violations

To report a potential breach of these Official Rules, please email maddenleagueops@ea.com.

A6. Penalties

Violation of these Official Rules or Event Rules may, at EA's discretion, result in penalties, disqualification, change in match results, loss of winner status, and/or forfeiture of prizes. All decisions and rulings of EA or Event Officials relating to the MCS are final and binding. EA reserves the right to penalize any Competitor in the Competition at any level, at any time, for any reason. Penalties may include, but are not limited to, any or all of the following:

- Warning
- Reprimand
- Forfeiture of single game
- Forfeiture of all games
- Reduction in points scored
- Loss of awards (including prize money and paid travel expenses)
- Loss of points
- Temporary or permanent suspension from the MCS
- Disqualification from the MCS and future competitions
- Forfeiture of any registration fees to participate in an Event
- Loss of future prize money
- Suspension of one (1) or multiple game accounts for the EA service(s) used by the Competitor
- An enforced 5-yard penalty (multiple enforcements allowed)
- Clock runoff for a specified amount of time
- Loss of down and a specified number of yards
- Loss of possession (i.e. forced punt)
- Disqualification of leaderboards that serve as qualifiers for Events

EA also has the right to publicly announce penalties that have been levied on Competitors, and such Competitors waive any right of legal action against EA, and/or any of its affiliates.

A7. Competitor Sponsorship

Competitors in the MCS may acquire and work with promotional sponsors. Promotional sponsorship is limited, however, to exclude certain categories and industries. If the promotional sponsor falls under one of the below categories, the Competitor may not display or promote the sponsorship in conjunction with EA, its partners, or the MCS that offer or are associated with:

- Gambling, wagering, or lottery products or services including but not limited to sports betting, fantasy sites gambling or similar websites or services;
- Alcohol, tobacco, prescription drugs, restricted drugs and/or similar products or paraphernalia;
- Firearms or any type of weapons;
- Pornographic or any sexually explicit or adult material;
- High fat, salt, or sugar foods and drinks;
- Political ads or otherwise promoting a political agenda;
- Cryptocurrency companies and/or websites promoting/relating to the trade of cryptocurrency;
- Illegal products or services, or content that otherwise violates any applicable laws in the territories where the Game is available;
- Products or services from direct competitors of EA, its partners, and its other subsidiary brands;
- Direct competitors of the NFL's Official Marketing Partners;
- Anything that is detrimental to EA's business (e.g., hacking, gold services, account/coin selling, etc.)
- Anything that is inconsistent with the ESRB, PEGI, OFLC, USK or applicable rating(s) of the Game in a given territory.

The list is illustrative and non-exhaustive. EA reserves the right to add or remove any product or service from the list at any time without notice.

A8. Stage and Player Names

Competitors will be asked to select a unique username during the registration process. This username will be used to identify Competitors during any Live Events. This username can be the same as their EA Account ID, PSN ID or XBL Gamertag, but is not required to be the same. The username must be unique from other Competitor names and must not be deemed vulgar by EA and its affiliates. Usernames must not: (a) infringe on a third party's intellectual property rights; or (b) violate the law, EA's User Agreement or a third party's right of privacy or right of publicity.

A9. Glitches

Any attempt to glitch the game in order to gain an advantage is prohibited.

Procedure After a Glitch Penalty: In the event that a tournament administrator determines that a penalty was caused by an unauthorized glitch, one or more of the following actions will be taken to return the game to a fair state depending on the result of the play. All Competitors will be given guidance on how to handle penalties once they have advanced to the Online Elimination phases of the tournament.

- If the ball wasn't advanced by the offense OR the result of the play was in favor of the defense (turnover, sack, defensive TD), then the offense will be forced to decline the penalty (in the end, the penalty for a glitch is a loss of down).
- If the ball was advanced by the offense, then the offense will be forced to take penalties until they are equal or behind the line of scrimmage at the start of the play where they intentionally glitched (in the end, the penalty for a glitch is a loss of down).

A10. Conceding a Match

Competitors are discouraged from conceding matches during the MCS. Concessions will be allowed without penalty in emergency situations as well as situations that do not impact the placement of other Competitors outside of the current match.

APPENDIX B: PRIZES

All amounts are in USD.

B1. Kickoff Classic

A total of One Hundred Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$100,000) will be awarded to Competitors based on their final placement in the Kickoff Classic as detailed below:

Thirty-Two Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$32,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Single Elimination Phase of the Kickoff Classic.

Placement	Prize
1st - 8th Place	Advancement to Live Event Finals
9th - 16th Place	\$2,000
17th - 32nd Place	\$1,000

Sixty-Eight Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$68,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Live Event Phase of the Kickoff Classic.

Placement	Prize
1st Place	\$25,000
2nd Place	\$15,000
3rd - 4th Place	\$6,000
5th - 8th Place	\$4,000

Additionally, for the Live Event Phase, up to eight (8) Competitors will receive travel to the Live Event venue (including roundtrip, economy/coach class airfare from a major commercial airport near the Competitor's residence to a major commercial airport near the Live Event venue (ground transport to be substituted for air travel at EA's discretion), hotel accommodations for up to three (3) nights near the Live Event venue, and ground transportation to/from hotel and Live Event venue) with an approximate retail value ("ARV") of One Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$1,000). Actual ARV may vary based on travel fare fluctuations and the distance between departure and destination. Winner will not receive the difference between actual value and ARV.

B2. Kickoff Challenge

A total of One Hundred Fifty Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$150,000) will be awarded to Competitors based on their final placement in Kickoff Challenge as detailed below:

Forty Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$40,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Single Elimination Phase of Kickoff Challenge .

Placement	Prize
1st - 8th Place	Advancement to Live Final Phase
9th - 16th Place	\$3,000

17th - 32nd Place	\$1,000
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One Hundred Ten Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$110,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Live Event Phase of Kickoff Challenge .

Placement	Prize
1st Place	\$50,000
2nd Place	\$20,000
3rd - 4th Place	\$10,000
5th - 8th Place	\$5,000

Additionally, for the Live Event Phase, up to eight (8) Competitors will receive travel to the Live Event venue (including roundtrip, economy/coach class airfare from a major commercial airport near the Competitor's residence to a major commercial airport near the Live Event venue (ground transport to be substituted for air travel at EA's discretion), hotel accommodations for up to four (4) nights near the Live Event venue, and ground transportation to/from hotel and Live Event venue) with an ARV of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty United States Dollars (USD \$1,250). Actual ARV may vary based on travel fare fluctuations and the distance between departure and destination. Winner will not receive the difference between actual value and ARV.

B3. MCS 25 Most Feared Challenge

A total of One Hundred Fifty Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$150,000) will be awarded to Competitors based on their final placement in Most Feared Challenge as detailed below:

Forty Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$40,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Double Elimination Phase of Most Feared Challenge.

Placement	Prize
1st - 8th Place	Advancement to Live Final Phase
9th - 16th Place	\$3,000
17th - 32nd Place	\$1,000

One Hundred Ten Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$110,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Live Event Phase of Most Feared Challenge.

Placement	Prize
1st Place	\$50,000
2nd Place	\$20,000
3rd - 4th Place	\$10,000
5th - 8th Place	\$5,000

Additionally, for the Live Event Phase, up to eight (8) Competitors will receive travel to the Live Event venue (including roundtrip, economy/coach class airfare from a major commercial airport near the Competitor's residence to a major commercial airport near the Live Event venue (ground transport to be substituted for air travel at EA's discretion), hotel accommodations for up to three (3) nights near the Live Event venue, and ground transportation to/from hotel and Live Event venue) with an ARV of One Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$1,000). Actual ARV may vary based on travel fare fluctuations and the distance between departure and destination. Winner will not receive the difference between actual value and ARV.

B4. MCS 25 Unstoppable Challenge

A total of One Hundred Fifty Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$150,000) will be awarded to Competitors based on their final placement in Unstoppable Challenge as detailed below:

Forty Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$40,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Double Elimination Phase of Unstoppable Challenge.

Placement	Prize
1st - 8th Place	Advancement to Live Final Phase
9th - 16th Place	\$3,000
17th - 32nd Place	\$1,000

One Hundred Ten Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$110,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Live Event Phase of the MCS 25 Unstoppable Challenge.

Placement	Prize
1st Place	\$50,000
2nd Place	\$20,000
3rd - 4th Place	\$10,000
5th - 8th Place	\$5,000

Additionally, for the Live Event Phase, up to eight (8) Competitors will receive travel to the Live Event venue (including roundtrip, economy/coach class airfare from a major commercial airport near the Competitor's residence to a major commercial airport near the Live Event venue (ground transport to be substituted for air travel at EA's discretion), hotel accommodations for up to three (3) nights near the Live Event venue, and ground transportation to/from hotel and Live Event venue) with an ARV of One Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$1,000). Actual ARV may vary based on travel fare fluctuations and the distance between departure and destination. Winner will not receive the difference between actual value and ARV.

B5. MCS 25 Zero Chill Challenge

A total of One Hundred Fifty Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$150,000) will be awarded to Competitors based on their final placement in Zero Chill Challenge as detailed below:

Forty Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$40,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Double Elimination Phase of Zero Chill Challenge.

Placement	Prize
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1st - 8th Place	Advancement to Live Final Phase
9th - 16th Place	\$3,000
17th - 32nd Place	\$1,000

One Hundred Ten Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$110,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the Live Event Phase of Zero Chill Challenge.

Placement	Prize
1st Place	\$50,000
2nd Place	\$20,000
3rd - 4th Place	\$10,000
5th - 8th Place	\$5,000

Additionally, for the Live Event Phase, up to eight (8) Competitors will receive travel to the Live Event venue (including roundtrip, economy/coach class airfare from a major commercial airport near the Competitor's residence to a major commercial airport near the Live Event venue (ground transport to be substituted for air travel at EA's discretion), hotel accommodations for up to three (3) nights near the Live Event venue, and ground transportation to/from hotel and Live Event venue) with an approximate retail value ("ARV") of One Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$1,000). Actual ARV may vary based on travel fare fluctuations and the distance between departure and destination. Winner will not receive the difference between actual value and ARV.

B6. MCS 25 Playoffs and Madden Bowl

One Million United States Dollars (USD \$1,000,000) will be awarded in total to Competitors based on the following final placement in the MCS Playoffs and Madden Bowl.

Placement	Prize
1st Place	\$250,000
2nd Place	\$150,000
3rd - 4th Place	\$100,000
5th - 8th Place	\$55,000
9th - 14th Place	\$30,000

Additionally, up to fourteen (14) Competitors will receive travel to the Live Event venue (including roundtrip, economy/coach class airfare from a major commercial airport near the Competitor's residence to a major commercial airport near the Live Event venue (ground transport to be substituted for air travel at EA's discretion), hotel accommodations for up to eight (8) nights (near the Live Event venue, and ground transportation to/from hotel and Live Event venue) with an ARV of Three Thousand United States Dollars (USD \$3,000). Actual ARV may vary based on travel fare fluctuations and the distance between departure and destination. Winner will not receive the difference between actual value and ARV.

Further, the winner of the Madden Bowl will be given the opportunity to design a custom MUT player item in partnership with EA.

APPENDIX C: TOURNAMENT FORMAT & SCORING

C1. Single Elimination Tournaments

The Single Elimination Phase will consist of two (2) brackets.

The first bracket (“Stage One”) will contain up to five hundred twelve (512) Competitors and played until thirty-two (32) Competitors remain.

The second bracket (“Stage Two”) will contain sixty-four (64) Competitors and be played until eight (8) Competitors remain.

Stage One will consist of Competitors ranked between 33rd place and 544th place in the Ladder Play phase. The first round of Stage One will be arranged for the best available ranked Competitor to compete against lowest ranked Competitor in each round of the bracket using the assumption that a Competitor with the best placement in the Ladder Play phase would win any given match. Competitors acknowledge and agree placement in the bracket will not be changed between rounds in Stage One.

Stage Two will consist of Competitors ranked between 1st place and 32nd place in the Ladder Play phase and the thirty-two (32) Competitors that were not eliminated in Stage One. The first round of Stage Two will be arranged for the best available ranked Competitor to compete against the lowest ranked Competitor in each round of the bracket using the assumption that a Competitor with the best placement in the Ladder Play phase would win any given match. Competitors acknowledge and agree placement in the bracket will not be changed between rounds in Stage Two.

C2. MCS Points

In addition to the cash prizes detailed in **Appendix B**, Competitors participating in EA Majors will receive MCS Points corresponding to their final placement at the EA Majors during which they were earned, as detailed below.

MCS Points serve as a leaderboard for the MCS and determine the final seeding for Competitors who qualify to compete in the Madden Bowl.

MCS Points Awarded at the Conclusion of the Elimination Phase

MCS 25 Kickoff Classic

Placement	MCS Points
1st – 8th place	Advance to Live Finals*
9th – 16th place	200
17th – 32nd place	175
33rd – 64th place	150
65th – 96th place	125
97th – 160th place	100
161st – 288th place	50
289th – 544th place	25

MCS 25 Kickoff Challenge, Most Feared Challenge, Unstoppable Challenge, Zero Chill Challenge

Placement	MCS Points
1st – 8th place	Advance to Live Finals*
9th – 16th place	400
17th – 32nd place	350

33rd – 64th place	300
65th – 96th place	250
97th – 160th place	200
161st – 288th place	100
289th – 544th place	50

*All Competitors who advance to a Live Finals would receive points based on their final placement in the Live Finals phase, as detailed below:

MCS Points Awarded at the Conclusion of Live Finals

MCS 25 Kickoff Classic

Placement	MCS Points
1st place	500
2nd place	375
3rd – 4th place	300
5th – 8th place	225

MCS 25 Kickoff Challenge, Most Feared Challenge, Unstoppable Challenge, Zero Chill Challenge

Placement	MCS Points
1st place	1000
2nd place	750
3rd – 4th place	600
5th – 8th place	450

C3. Mercy Rules

If the following conditions are met during a match, at the sole discretion of the Event Officials, a match may be ended early and victory awarded to the Competitor with the score advantage in the interest of continuing the MCS in a timely manner.

- A Competitor has a thirty-two (32) or greater point lead at the end of the first half.
- A Competitor has a twenty-five (25) or greater point lead AND the losing Competitor has had at least one opportunity to possess the ball for a full drive in the second half.
- A Competitor has a twenty-four (24) point lead with possession of the ball AND the losing Competitor has had at least one (1) opportunity to possess the ball for a full drive in the second half.

C4. Tiebreakers

C4.1 Kickoff Classic - Leaderboards

Ties on the leaderboard will be broken in the following ways:

- If the win-loss differential is tied, the Competitor with the most matches played will receive the higher ranking on the leaderboard.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be determined by point differential for each Competitor.

- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be randomly determined for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and there are fewer remaining positions in the Single Elimination Phase than there are tied Competitors a series of tiebreaking matches will be played between tied Competitors to determine which Competitor(s) will advance to the next phase.
 - Tiebreaking matches will only be played between Competitors that have played at least six (6) matches during the Ladder Play Phase.

C4.2 MCS 25 Kickoff Challenge - Leaderboards

Ties on the leaderboard will be broken in the following ways:

- If the win-loss differential is tied, the Competitor with the most matches played will receive the higher ranking on the leaderboard.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be determined by point differential for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be randomly determined for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and there are fewer remaining positions in the Single Elimination Phase than there are tied Competitors a series of tiebreaking matches will be played between tied Competitors to determine which Competitor(s) will advance to the next phase.
 - Tiebreaking matches will only be played between Competitors that have played at least six (6) matches during the Ladder Play Phase.

C4.3 MCS 25 Most Feared Challenge - Leaderboards

Ties on the leaderboard will be broken in the following ways:

- If the win-loss differential is tied, the Competitor with the most matches played will receive the higher ranking on the leaderboard.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be determined by point differential for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be randomly determined for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and there are fewer remaining positions in the Single Elimination Phase than there are tied Competitors a series of tiebreaking matches will be played between tied Competitors to determine which Competitor(s) will advance to the next phase.
 - Tiebreaking matches will only be played between Competitors that have played at least twelve (12) matches during the Ladder Play Phase.

C4.4 MCS 25 Unstoppable Challenge - Leaderboards

Ties on the leaderboard will be broken in the following ways:

- If the win-loss differential is tied, the Competitor with the most matches played will receive the higher ranking on the leaderboard.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be determined by point differential for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be randomly determined for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and there are fewer remaining positions in the Single Elimination Phase than there are tied Competitors a series of tiebreaking matches will be played between tied Competitors to determine which Competitor(s) will advance to the next phase.

tied Competitors a series of tiebreaking matches will be played between tied Competitors to determine which Competitor(s) will advance to the next phase.

- Tiebreaking matches will only be played between Competitors that have played at least twelve (12) matches during the Ladder Play Phase.

C4.5 MCS 25 Zero Chill Challenge - Leaderboards

Ties on the leaderboard will be broken in the following ways:

- If the win-loss differential is tied, the Competitor with the most matches played will receive the higher ranking on the leaderboard.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be determined by point differential for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be randomly determined for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and there are fewer remaining positions in the Single Elimination Phase than there are tied Competitors a series of tiebreaking matches will be played between tied Competitors to determine which Competitor(s) will advance to the next phase.
 - Tiebreaking matches will only be played between Competitors that have played at least twelve (12) matches during the Ladder Play Phase.

C4.6 MCS 25 Last Chance Qualifier - Leaderboards

Ties on the leaderboard will be broken in the following ways:

- If the win-loss differential is tied, the Competitor with the most matches played will receive the higher ranking on the leaderboard.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be determined by point differential for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and all tied players will receive seeding into the Single Elimination Phase then seeding will be randomly determined for each Competitor.
- If two (2) or more Competitors are tied on win-loss differential and total matches played and point differential and there are fewer remaining positions in the Single Elimination Phase than there are tied Competitors a series of tiebreaking matches will be played between tied Competitors to determine which Competitor(s) will advance to the next phase.
 - Tiebreaking matches will only be played between Competitors that have played at least six (6) matches during the Ladder Play Phase.

C4.7 MCS Points

In the event two (2) or more Competitors are tied for MCS points, ties will be resolved in the following order. If a tie is resolved resulting in fewer players tied, the tiebreaker will restart from the first criteria between all remaining tied competitors until no additional tie is able to be resolved.

- Tiebreaking match(es). (Applicable only in a tie that determines an invitation to the MCS Playoffs or placement into the Quarterfinals round)
- Head to Head Record during Live Events (only applicable in a 2-way tie)
 - This includes the Kickoff Classic, Kickoff Challenge, Most Feared Challenge, Unstoppable Challenge, and Zero Chill Challenge.
- Highest Placement in Zero Chill Challenge
- Highest Placement in Unstoppable Challenge
- Highest Placement in Most Feared Challenge
- Highest Placement in Kickoff Challenge
- Highest Placement in Kickoff Classic

In the event a tie is unable to be resolved by the above criteria Competitors will be randomly seeded amongst each other. The number of matches played will be determined by EA based on the total number of Competitors involved in the tie. If time does not permit a series of tiebreaking matches the final placements will be determined randomly by EA.

APPENDIX D: IN-GAME SETTINGS

D1. Settings Dictated by MUT Mode

Game settings are dictated by the MUT Competitive Play A Friend event and cannot be changed.

D2. Settings Dictated by H2H Mode

Game settings are dictated by the H2H Competitive Play A Friend event and cannot be changed.

D3. Team Selection in Each Phase of an Event

For MUT Team selection will be handled by the MUT Competitive Play A Friend event. Competitors will select their teams prior to each phase of an Event (e.g., online ladders, single elimination, Live Event).

For H2H Team selection will be handled by the Competitive Play a Friend event. Competitors will select their teams prior to each match.

During online ladders players will select any NFL Club. During single elimination and Live Event competitors will select their team based on the following criteria:

- The better seeded competitor will choose to either ban an NFL club from selection for the current match or let the other competitor select an NFL club to ban from selection for the current match.
- Once a competitor has banned an NFL club from selection the opposing competitor will select the NFL club to play for the current match, excluding the NFL club banned during the first step.
- The remaining competitor will then select an NFL club that was not banned or selected by the opposing competitor.

D4. Lineup and Depth Chart Requirements

Lineups are managed through the Game's lineup screen.

D5. Restricted Items List

- As of July 23, 2024, there are no restricted items.
- EA reserves the right to add or adjust the list of restricted items (e.g., player items, playbooks, teams, etc.) at any time without prior notice to Competitors.

D6. Additional Gameplay Rules (Online Elimination and Live Event Finals)

- Onside Kicks: Onside kicks are not allowed in the first half. A competitor may attempt an onside kick during the second half when they have fewer total points than their opponent.
- Excessive Offsides: Neither the offense or defense should purposefully go offsides with the intent of delaying the game nor exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct. Intent is at the sole discretion of the tournament administration.
- Improper Audibles: Competitors may not audible out of the QB Kneel, Wildcat, Field Goal, or Punt formations.

APPENDIX E: MATCH PROCESS

E1. Administration

Competitors will be briefed by designated referees and a tournament director who will have authority with respect to the operation and officiating of Live Events.

E2. Tournament Schedule

Matches will be assigned an estimated time to start, along with a check-in time given to the Competitors to be ready to play.

E3. Disconnections

The result of a Competitor's disconnection from a match depends on whether the disconnection was intentional. Whether or not a disconnection is deemed intentional or unintentional is at the sole discretion of the Event Officials.

- If a Competitor intentionally disconnects from the match and is not able to reconnect, that Competitor will incur a loss.
- If a Competitor unintentionally disconnects from the match and is not able to reconnect, Event Officials will determine if the match state can be restored. If the match cannot be restored, then the Event Officials will determine how to restart the game.

E4. Administrator Pause

At any time during a Live Event match, an Event Official may ask a Competitor to pause their game for any reason. Competitors are expected to follow this guidance promptly and within reason.

E5. Grace Period for Settings Check

Competitors have until the start of the second quarter of a match to report any settings that were configured incorrectly. If a Competitor's setting(s) was configured incorrectly, Event Officials will suspend the match, correct the setting(s), and then resume the match from the last match state.

APPENDIX F: EA POSITIVE PLAYER AWARD

EA will award one (1) Competitor with the EA Positive Player Award. The winner of the EA Positive Player Award will receive a Madden prize pack, including a trophy, with an approximate retail value of One Hundred and Ten United States Dollars (USD \$110). If for any reason an advertised prize is unavailable, EA reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value.

Winners are responsible for any applicable taxes on prizes. Prizes are not transferable, and no substitution of prizes for cash or other goods and services is permitted.

Starting September 9, 2024 at 12:00 PM PT and end on December 18, 2024 at 11:59 PM PT (the “Nomination Period”), Competitors can nominate an eligible MCS Competitor, on the nomination site <https://www.ea.com/commitments/positive-play/positive-player-award/mcs> (the “Nomination Site”), who they feel demonstrates the principles of the EA Positive Player Award of outstanding sportspersonship, including consistently supporting their teams, being an honorable opponent, exhibiting generous behavior and treatment towards teammates, opponents, and fans, and the league while playing in the MCS (the “Nomination”). Only Nominations of current, active Competitors within the MCS who are sixteen (16) years of age or older will be accepted.

At the close of the Nomination Period, qualified employees of EA (the “EA Judges”) will evaluate the eligible nominees and select between three (3) and ten (10) finalists based on how the eligible nominees exhibit outstanding sportspersonship, including but not limited to, consistently supporting their teams, being an honorable opponent, and exhibiting generous behavior and treatment of others (the “Positive Player Award Principles”).

In order to be deemed an eligible Nominee for the EA Positive Player Award, the Competitor nominated must first accept the Nomination, and to the extent permissible in the Competitor’s country/territory of residence, potential nominees will be required to submit to a background check, sign and return a release allowing EA to conduct a background check, and provide the necessary information that EA requests to be eligible to receive a prize. EA reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify any potential nominee and winner based on such background check if EA determines, in its sole discretion, awarding a prize to such winner might reflect negatively on EA.

On or about January 6, 2025, EA will post the finalists on the Nomination Site <https://www.ea.com/commitments/positive-play/positive-player-award/mcs>, at which time the community can vote on the finalist that they feel best demonstrates the Positive Player Award Principles, detailed above. Community voting will start on January 6, 2025 at 12:00 PM PT and end on January 17, 2025 at 11:59 PM PT (the “Voting Period”). Limit one (1) vote per person and per EA account.

Following the close of the Voting Period, the EA Judges will reconvene to evaluate the finalists based on the following criteria: 25% consistently supporting their teams, 25% being an honorable opponent, 25% exhibiting generous behavior and treatment of others, and 25% community votes, collected during the Voting Period.

The winner of the Positive Player Award will be announced during the MCS Playoffs.

By submitting a Nomination, you expressly grant to EA and its agents a non-exclusive, perpetual, worldwide, complete, sub-licensable and irrevocable right to quote, re-post, publish, use, adapt, translate, archive, store, reproduce, modify, create derivative works from, syndicate, license, print, sublicense, distribute, transmit, broadcast, and otherwise communicate, and publicly display and perform the Nomination, or any portion thereof, in any manner or form, without notice, payment or attribution of any kind. You agree not to assert any moral or similar rights you may have in your Nomination. EA has the right, but not the obligation, to use any of the Nominations.

The EA Judges' decisions regarding the selection of the finalists and winner are final and binding and are made in their sole discretion. EA reserves the right to cancel, suspend, or modify the Positive Player Award, (or any part of it) if fraud, technical failure, human error or any other problem impairs its proper operation. EA reserves

the right to disqualify any person it finds to not meet the Positive Player Award Principles, or is likely to adversely affect the reputation of EA, as determined in EA's sole discretion.