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## CALL OF DUTY WORLD LEAGUE: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

Over the past decade, Call of Duty eSports competition has exploded as professional gamers battle head-to-head to determine who's got the fastest reflexes, smartest tactics, and best team at the highest level of play. With the introduction of the Call of Duty World League, Activision has continued to expand on the eSports tradition with bigger competitions, greater prize pools, and more opportunities for fans to get involved than ever before. Whether you're a player or a spectator, newcomer or veteran, here's everything you need to know about the Call of Duty World League's inaugural season.

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## ORIGINS

Whether it's online, in their living room, or at organized LAN events around the world—competition has long been a staple of the Call of Duty series. In 2013, however, Activision held the first-ever Call of Duty Championship, where it invited the top teams from all over the world to compete for a \$1 million prize pool. The Championship has gone on to become an annual event and has helped propel Call of Duty to the top competitive console first-person shooter in the world. Now, with the debut of Call of Duty: Black Ops 3 and the Call of Duty World League, we're taking Call of Duty eSports to the next level.

## SEASON STRUCTURE

The Call of Duty World League season consists of two major competitive stages leading up to Call of Duty Championship 2016. Throughout the year, top teams will be practicing day in and day out, learning every corner of every map, and perfecting their strategies in a bid to qualify for Championship.

## PRO VS. CHALLENGE DIVISION

While the Pro Division consists of professional eSports teams across three major regions—North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific—new and amateur players got the chance to compete in the worldwide Challenge Division. Challenge Division competitors were able to earn a spot at the Call of Duty Championship through a series of Call of Duty World League-hosted LAN and online events, making the Call of Duty World League our most accessible competitive season yet.

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## **WORLD LEAGUE POINTS AND THE CALL OF DUTY CHAMPIONSHIP**

Pro Division teams earned World League Points based on their performance in the tournaments leading up to the Call of Duty Championship. Challenge Division teams also got the chance to earn World League Points throughout the year to earn the right to qualify for the Championship.

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## **PRIZE POOL**

World League is raising the stakes with over \$3 million in cash prizes for Pro Division participants, including \$250k per stage in North America, \$200k per stage in Europe, and \$150k per stage in Australia & New Zealand. The best and most coordinated teams walk away with the lion's share, making each and every match count.

## CWL CHAMPS GROUP DRAW AND FORMAT

The Call of Duty World League Championship is the premier event of the year. 32 international teams from North America, Europe and Australia/New Zealand will descend on Southern California to attend Call of Duty XP from September 1st through 4th, where they'll compete for worldwide prestige and a prize pool totaling \$2 million.

It's been a long road coming, with teams battling for a spot across two competitive stages and a host of high stakes tournaments.

Teams have qualified based on their placings in the Stage 1 and 2 Finals, as well as from World League online qualifiers seeded by CWL Pro Points.

In making up the 32 COD Champs teams, Europe gets 12 spots, ANZ gets four, and North America gets 16.

COD Champs play begins on September 1st with the group stage, as the teams in each group play amongst each other in round-robin play. Only the top two teams from each group will advance to the double elimination knockout stage, where the run towards the next Call of Duty World Champion begins.

The group draw is complete and the Day 1 matchups have been determined for the Call of Duty World League Championship at Call of Duty XP. From now until then, each of the 32 teams will be practicing day in and day out and looking for any and all weaknesses in their group stage opponents.

## GROUP PLAY DRAW

### GROUP A



MILLENIUM



SPLYCE



LIVIN THE DREAM



REVOLTABLES

### GROUP B



RISE NATION



HYPERGAMES



APOTHEON ESPORTS



SUPREMACY

### GROUP C



LUMINOSITY



MINDFREAK



FAB GAMES ESPORTS



CHIEFS ESPORTS

### GROUP D



GROUND ZERO



ALLEGIANCE



EPSILON



PULSE GAMING

## GROUP PLAY DRAW

### GROUP E



FAZE CLAN



ELEVATE



CORN



GIANTS GAMING

### GROUP F



INFUSED



TEAM KALIBER



MOST WANTED



TAINTED MINDS

### GROUP G



TEAM ENVYUS



ORBIT



CLOUD9



VITALITY

### GROUP H



OPTIC GAMING



COMPLEXITY



PANDA GAMING



TEAM LDLC

The teams in each group will compete in round-robin play starting September 1st, with the top two from each group advancing to the double elimination knockout stage and the path to a prize pool of over \$2 million and the honor of being named the next Call of Duty World Champion.

#### **SOURCES:**

<https://www.callofduty.com/uk/en/esports/story/2016-08/CWL-Champs-GroupDraw>

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#### **OTHER USEFUL LINKS:**

<https://www.callofduty.com/uk/en/esports/story/2016-02/Call-of-Duty-World-League-Challenge-Division>

<https://www.callofduty.com/uk/en/esports/story/2015-12/call-of-duty-esports-101-hardpoint>

<https://www.callofduty.com/uk/en/esports/story/2015-12/call-of-duty-esports-101-capture-the-flag>

<https://www.callofduty.com/uk/en/esports/story/2015-12/call-of-duty-esports-101-uplink>

<https://www.callofduty.com/uk/en/esports/story/2015-12/call-of-duty-esports-101-search-and-destroy>

<https://www.callofduty.com/uk/en/esports/story/2015-12/black-ops-3-protects-bans-specialist-draft-overview>





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