

# MARVEL RIVALS INVITATIONAL

North America Tournament Rules Official Rules v1.0

#### Introduction

Marvel Rivals Invitational (North America) (referred to as the "Tournament") is a Marvel Rivals tournament hosted and operated by UK NetEase Interactive Entertainment Limited and its affiliates, hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Organizer", "Officials", or "the Organizing Committee". Marvel Rivals Invitational (North America) Tournament Rules (referred to as the "Tournament Rules" or "Rules") constitute an agreement between all Factions and players (collectively referred to as "Participants") outlining the general regulations for participating in the Tournament, including eligibility, tournament structure, point allocation, prize allocation, and player code of conduct. It also includes liability limitations, licensing terms, and other legally binding contract terms. All Participants must read, understand, and agree to the Tournament's rules before participating.

All Participants must agree to these rules before participating in the Tournament. Any of the following actions indicate that a Participant has agreed to the Tournament Rules:

1. Accepting an official invitation and joining the Tournament.

2. Participating in any match associated with this Tournament.

3. Signing a participation confirmation form, either in paper or electronic format.

#### **Terms Definitions**

1.Round: Refers to a series of matches that, in the double-elimination format, affects Participants' score or promotion. One round typically refers to the total number of matches in a series, namely best-of-five (BO5), best-of-seven (BO7) where all matchups are included.

2.Match: Refers to the smallest unit of a game, starting from the game loading and ending when the final result of the round is displayed.

#### **Participants**

Participants must ensure that all their registered "Marvel Rivals" game accounts maintain a good standing and have no violations of the "User Agreement and Privacy Policy" or any other official regulations.

Participants must not be serving as directors, executives, or employees of the Tournament's Organizer or its affiliated companies (referring to any entities that control, are controlled by, or jointly controlled by the organization), nor be relatives of such individuals. If such a relationship exists, it must be disclosed to the Organizer and written authorization must be obtained.

Participants must not be serving as directors, executives, or employees of Marvel, Disney, or their affiliated companies (referring to any entities that control, are controlled by, or jointly controlled by Marvel or Disney), nor be relatives of such individuals. If such a relationship exists, it must be disclosed to the Organizer and written authorization must be obtained. Participants agree to abide by these Tournament Rules and accept the decisions made by the Organizer.

Participants must ensure that their participation in this Tournament complies with the applicable laws and regulations of their place of residence, and must take all necessary measures to ensure their compliance. If required, they must obtain authorization from the relevant government authorities.

Participants must not have any legal charges or criminal records issued within the past 3 years, and must not be currently involved in any pending criminal cases.

Participants must not make any illegal, inappropriate, or disrespectful comments toward other Players or Participants on any social platforms, in-game channels, in-game friend systems, in-game voice chat systems, during livestreams, or in any other public forums. Otherwise, the Organizer has the right to impose penalties based on the severity of the situation, including but not limited to verbal warnings, disqualification from the current match, disqualification from the current round, removal from the Faction, temporary suspension, or permanent suspension. Age Limit:

1. Participants from NA regions must be at least 16 years old on the date the Tournament begins. Participants who are aged 16 years or older but are still regarded as minors at the time of registering must submit a fully signed guardian consent form to the Organizer before they can participate (the legal adult age will be determined according to the legal requirements of the Participant's country of nationality).

### **Participant Names**

The Participant's in-game name must comply with the official requirements. The Official Organization reserves the right to impose restrictions on the Participant's in-game name and request changes for any non-compliant names. If a Participant's in-game name is offensive or inappropriate, or the Participant makes improper or insulting use of the intellectual property of NetEase, Marvel, Disney, or any third party, or the name is otherwise deemed inappropriate by the Official Organization, the Official Organization reserves the right to enforce a mandatory name change or disqualify the Participant based on the severity of the situation.

The Participant's name must not contain personal information, such as gender, race, religion, political views, financial status, or any other sensitive content.

In certain periods of the Tournament, Participants' names may be temporarily locked without prior notice, and Participants will not be able to modify their names during this period.

During the Tournament, the Official Organization may temporarily disable the name of a Participant or force the Participant to modify their in-game name without prior notice.

#### Factions

Marvel Rivals Invitational (North America) is open to Factions by invitation only. Factions must provide the organizer with a roster of participants and ensure that all participants obey the regulations above. The organizer will review this roster. The Faction Name and Faction Tag are the primary identifiers of Factions. This content should be appropriate and not contain any illegal or content deemed inappropriate or unacceptable by the Organizer (such as names including the names of sponsors or Marvel Rivals' competitors). The compliance of the Faction Name and Faction Tag will be solely determined by the Organizer.

The Organizer has the right to decide on restrictions or modifications to the Faction Name and Faction Tag. If the Faction Name or Faction Tag is deemed by the Organizer to be offensive, inappropriate, or improperly or insultingly using the intellectual property of NetEase, Marvel, Disney, or any third party, or is otherwise considered inappropriate, the Organizer reserves the right to enforce a mandatory name change or disqualify the Faction from the Tournament. Once a Faction confirms their participation in the Tournament, barring special situations recognized by the Organizer, they will be seen as having agreed to complete all matches of the Tournament and not withdraw or be absent without reason. If a Faction fails to participate as planned, the Organizer reserves the right to bar Faction members' participation

## Platforms

The Tournament will only take place on PC in the NA region. For the PC version of this Tournament, Participants must adhere to the PC registration requirements and use a PC account to compete.

#### Livestreams

Participants can livestream their gameplay during the Tournament.

Participants must not make any illegal, disrespectful, or inappropriate comments towards other Players or Participants during livestreams.

Participants who choose to livestream their matches should set an appropriate delay to prevent opponents from streamsniping. If a delay is not set, the Participant will bear the consequences, including but not limited to the potential leaking of tactics to opponents.

Participants should consciously comply with the laws, regulations, and policy requirements of their local country, actively cooperate with regulatory authorities, adhere to professional ethics, and actively prevent undesirable behavior.

Participants should respect the good brand image of "Marvel Rivals" and its related intellectual property.

Participants should be cordial with other users, listen to their reasonable suggestions, view user evaluations rationally, and avoid harmful words and actions (including but not limited to verbal abuse, personal attacks, insults, defamation, etc.).

Prohibited behaviors include (but are not limited to):

1. Promoting or advertising any third party outside of "Marvel Rivals" on the relevant livestreaming page while livestreaming "Marvel Rivals" without prior approval from the Organizer.

2. Wearing clothing deemed too revealing, using foul language, smoking, drinking alcohol, using illicit substances, using the livestream for gambling, or engaging in any behavior deemed harmful to minors' physical or mental health while livestreaming.

3. Engaging in passive gameplay, malicious inactivity, boosting, spreading computer viruses, using third-party plugins or cheats not approved by the Organizer, and other similar behaviors.

4. Publishing or disseminating materials that violate laws and/or regulations, including but not limited to obscenity, pornography, gore, violence, terrorism, etc.

5. Invading the personal privacy of others, disclosing others' personal information ("doxxing"), or otherwise infringing on the legitimate rights and interests of others.

6. Other behaviors that violate the rules stipulated by the Organizer and/or the organizers of events/activities related to "Marvel Rivals," affect the "Marvel Rivals" brand, user experience, or violate other relevant laws, regulations, policies, or social morals, social order, or ethical standards.

## Equipment

In the PC Tournaments, Participants may use either a keyboard and mouse, or a controller.

If a Participant violates the Tournament's equipment usage rules, the Organizer reserves the right to disqualify them from the event and revoke any prizes won.

In PC Tournaments, the use of any adaptors (including but not limited to equipment made by XIM, etc.) to simulate controller input with a keyboard and mouse is strictly prohibited. The Official Organization will continuously monitor for violations and disqualify any Participants found to be breaching this rule.

The Official Organization may require Participants suspected of violating the above equipment usage rules to record their screen and hands during all subsequent matches. These recording files must be submitted within 6 hours after the end of each round and before the start of the next round, through the method specified by the Official Organization. Participants who refuse this request may be considered by the Official Organization as having violated the equipment usage rules or as engaging in the use of cheats or third-party software. The Official Organization reserves the right to determine the appropriate actions to be taken against such Participants. When making recordings, Participants should clearly display their monitors (if multiple monitors are used, the recording should include all monitors), their keyboard and mouse/controller, their hands, and the actions performed on their equipment. If the recording process violates any one or more of the above requirements, the recording may be deemed by the Official Organization as non-compliant. The Official Organization's actions may include, based on the severity of the situation, verbal warnings, disqualification from the current round, removal from the Faction, temporary suspension, permanent suspension, disqualification of the Faction, and restriction of prize eligibility.

#### **Ban-Lock Process**

All matches in this Tournament follow a captain ban & lock process, which occurs as follows:

- 1. Faction A bans a hero;
- 2. Faction B bans a hero;
- 3. Faction B locks a hero;
- 4. Faction A locks a hero;
- 5. Faction A bans a hero;
- 6. Faction B bans a hero;

Locked heroes cannot be banned later.

Captains can choose not to ban or lock heroes. The process will be skipped after the countdown ends.

After the ban & lock process ends, up to 4 heroes will be banned from the match. Participants can then choose other heroes from those available.

The Organizer will not handle issues like banning/locking incorrect heroes and skipping the process due to Faction mistakes (e.g. operational errors and the countdown ending). The match will proceed with the consequences borne by the Faction.

For a BO5 or above match, the Organizer will randomly assign one side to ban a hero first in the first match. The winner of each match will then ban first in the subsequent match.

The "leader" responsible for bans and locks will be selected from the Participants in the following order:

- 1. Faction captain;
- 2. Faction coach;

3. The first Participant in the preparation room;

4. Randomly decided;

If the "leader" responsible for bans and locks goes offline during this process, the system will randomly assign another Participant as the new "leader". Therefore, all Participants should remain attentive during the process. Note: Even if the original "leader" reconnects, the ban & lock duty will remain with the newly assigned Participant.

## **Map Selection Rules**

The Tournament features all maps available in competitive mode at the start of the season. Competitive maps added during the season will not be included in the Tournament.

In the double-elimination stage, the map and initial sides for a round's first match will be randomly decided by the Organizer. From the second match onward, if the selected map involves attack and defense, the loser from the previous match will start as the attacker.

From the second match onward, the Organizer will prioritize a map that is different from the previous one.

## **Double-Elimination Stage Rules**

The tournament will invite 4 Factions to compete in a double-elimination stage, which will run for 3 days: from December 20, 2024 to December 22, 2024. The Knockout Stage and the First Round of the Lower Bracket will be held in a BO5 format, while the Upper Bracket Finals, Lower Bracket Finals, and Grand Finals will be held in a BO7 format. Matchups will be randomized on livestream via the Coin Flip website (https://flipsimu.com/), and the Tournament will proceed as follows: Knockout Stage: BO5 Dec. 20, 17:00-20:00 (UTC-5): TBD vs TBD (Match 1) Dec. 20, 20:00-23:00 (UTC-5): TBD vs TBD (Match 2) Lower Bracket:BO5 Dec. 21, 17:00-20:00 (UTC-5): Match 1 Losers vs Match 2 Losers (Match 3) Upper Bracket Finals: BO7 Dec. 21, 20:00-23:00 (UTC-5): Match 1 Winners vs Match 2 Winners (Match 4) Lower Bracket Finals: BO7 Dec. 22, 17:00-20:00 (UTC-5): Match 3 Winners vs Match 4 Losers (Match 5) Grand Finals : BO7 Dec. 22, 20:00-23:00 (UTC-5): Match 4 Winners vs Match 5 Winners (Match 6)

#### **Tournament Guide**

The match results and data are mainly determined by the Organizer according to the game result. In case of any major disputes, the Organizer's decision will prevail.

Each match will be played on the latest game version, which may be updated during the Tournament. Participants should prepare their gaming devices and solve any network issues beforehand. A stable wired network is recommended. Please set up the network in advance. Participants are responsible for any network or device issues during the Tournament.

The Organizer requires Participants to cooperate when checking devices and network IP addresses.

Factions are required to submit their lineups, including captains, coaches, starters, and substitutes in accordance with The Organizer's requirements. Without special circumstances, the roster can not be changed once submitted. Factions can replace Participants with other registered members before and between matches, but temporary substitutes are not permitted. Factions must join the preparation room before the start deadline stipulated by the Organizer. If a Faction has fewer than 6 members in the preparation room by the elimination stage's match start deadline, it will be considered a

forfeit for that round.

The Organizer will establish a specific communication channel for the Tournament. Participating Faction Captains or other persons responsible for the Faction must join to stay updated on the latest information and promptly communicate any disputes or issues during the Tournament.

#### **Issue Resolution**

There will be no pauses or rematches at any stage of the Tournament. Participants should manage their network connection and ensure its stability. If disconnected, Players can use the "Reconnect" feature to quickly rejoin the game. Since this is not a Tournament-specific feature, the Organizer does not guarantee its effectiveness or stability and is not responsible for failed reconnections. The Organizer will not handle complaints about disconnections due to network issues. Using boosters, changing nodes, or disconnecting may lead to unstable connections, disconnections, or failing to reconnect. The Organizer will hold no responsibility for such outcomes.

### **Objections/Complaints Rules**

The Organizer is the highest authority for this Tournament. For any major disputes during the Tournament, the Participants involved must submit evidence. If a new round has started, or more than 6 hours have passed since the end of the match, the Organizer will no longer accept any appeals for that match.

The complainant must be a member of the participating Faction, and the involved Participants must promptly provide evidence.

Below is the standard procedure for objections/complaints: The involved Participants save evidence and submit it to the Organizer through the captain group or other official channels. Afterward, the Organizer investigates and announces the results.

Once the complaint is accepted, the Organizer will immediately conduct an investigation, and collect, analyze, and examine the evidence on the principles of transparency, fairness, and justice. All Participants must report truthfully. If a Participant conceals information or misleads the Organizer to hinder the investigation, both the Participant and their Faction will be penalized.

The Organizer will then make a ruling based on the facts and rules. The decision will be announced through the captain group or other official channels. After the official investigation results are announced, Participants cannot raise objections. But if new and more accurate evidence arises with substantial objections to the original decision, the Organizer may consider reopening the complaint.

Actions that follow in-game match and Tournament Rules, such as character selection, map use, and kill methods, will not be accepted for complaints.

#### **Code of Conduct for Participants**

This Tournament aims to provide an exciting competitive experience for all Participants yearning for victory. In order to ensure that every match holds significant value, it is essential for fair conditions to be maintained for all Participants. The Organizer strives to create a fair environment for all Participants, ensuring the value of each match. To create a fair gaming environment, we insist there should be no cheating, system abuse, harassment, or other actions that prevent Participants from performing to the best of their abilities.

Participants should address conflicts with mutual respect, avoiding physical/mental violence, threats, or intimidation.

Violence against other Participants, fans, judges, official staff, or anyone else is strictly forbidden at all times. The following actions will be considered violations, and the Organizer has the right to impose penalties such as verbal warnings, rematches, disqualifications from matches/rounds, or forfeitures of prizes/rewards if the actions disrupt the fairness of the game or are deemed inappropriate: Faction Captains or other managers are responsible for the behavior and speech of Participants in their Faction. Any individual Participant's violation may be deemed Faction behavior and result in penalties to their Faction depending on the situation.

1. Failing to use the designated device to compete.

2. Passive gameplay or illegally obtaining confidential information from other Factions (including but not limited to screen information, internal voices, internal chats, or tactical secrets).

3. Using any game bugs to gain an advantage, unless explicitly allowed by the Organizer (Participants are obligated to promptly report any bugs encountered during the Tournament and avoid using them).

4. Colluding, fixing matches, or committing acts that severely affect other Participants.

5. Making inappropriate remarks, spamming excessively, or disrupting the Tournament or livestream in the Tournament area, livestreams, group chats, or in-game chats.

6. Modifying the game client in any way.

7. Using cheat devices and/or programs, or any similar cheating methods (signal devices, macro commands, emulators, XIM, etc.).

8. Using another Participant's account, or hiring/encouraging/guiding others to use another Participant's account to compete.

9. Threatening, insulting, attacking, bribing, provoking, harassing, or defaming staff of the Organizer or other Participants.
10. Posting discriminatory or offensive comments about gender, race, religion, political views, financial status, etc. in any form in the Tournament area, livestreams, group chats, or in-game chats.

11. Inciting or promoting hate/discrimination in any form in the Tournament area, livestreams, group chats, or in-game chats.

12. Engaging in behavior that violates the User Agreement, Privacy Policy, or any applicable community guidelines/rules.

## **Rule Changes & Improvements**

To ensure fairness and integrity in the Tournament, the Organizer reserves the right to revise, amend, or supplement these Rules as needed.

For major changes, the Organizer will notify Participants before the next event or match where the new rules apply. By participating in subsequent events or matches, Participants are deemed to have accepted the revised rules.

The officially published rules shall prevail in case of any inconsistency with official communications.

The Organizer has the right to take any necessary measures without restriction to protect the interests of Marvel Rivals, its affiliates, individuals or entities providing products or services for the Tournament, individuals or entities authorized to create and/or release media content during the Tournament, and individuals attending Tournament-related events. All decisions made by the Organizer are final.

The Organizer reserves the right to interpret all provisions of these Rules and to determine penalties for violations.

#### Prizes

A specific prize pool is set for this Tournament, with all prizes listed in "Tournament Prizes" being pre-tax. Winners are responsible for any taxes or fees related to the prizes. Winners agree that the Organizer will withhold and prepay the individual income tax and any other relevant taxes (if any) according to the law, and will deduct them from the prizes. For

additional taxes that are incurred during personal income tax filing, the responsibility lies with the winners, not the Organizer.

After the Tournament ends, the Organizer will contact the winning Factions for prize distribution. Winners must follow the official procedure to sign a prize claim form. Unless otherwise agreed upon in writing, a prize will be equally divided among all Faction members listed at the registration deadline, regardless of their participation in the Tournament. Prizes cannot be transferred or redeemed for other rewards. If a particular prize is unavailable, the Organizer has the right to replace it with an equivalent or higher-value prize. All cash rewards in the NA PC Region will be paid in USD. Potential prize winners are responsible for all liabilities for the use of the prizes.

Note: Marvel/Disney is neither a sponsor of this Tournament nor the provider of the prizes.

### **Tournament Prizes**

Faction Prizes (in USD):

- Champion: \$10,000
- Runner-Up: \$7,000
- Third Place: \$3,000

## **Non-Compete Restrictions**

Participating Factions and Players shall ensure that their participation in this Tournament is not in violation with any agreements signed with third parties, including but not limited to non-compete agreements with other livestreaming platforms, game developers/publishers, etc.

If Participants or participating Factions are held responsible by a third party for violating the aforementioned noncompete agreement, then the Organizer shall not bear any responsibility. Participants and participating Factions shall bear all consequences arising from the violation of non-compete agreements, including but not limited to legal liability and economic losses.

#### **Tournament Material Use Agreement**

The Organizer may use all or part of the game footage recorded during the Tournament as original content for official promotions or broadcasts. This content may include the club's logo, Factions' and Participants' public logos, player name, gameplay, etc. By successfully registering for the Tournament, the Participants agree to the following terms: I hereby grant NetEase, Marvel, Disney, their affiliates, and authorized parties absolute and irrevocable rights and permissions to use and adapt my in-game names, logos, characters, footage,

data, and any streaming content generated from my participation in this or any other games, and to create derivative works based on the aforementioned.

The above content may be used in whole or in part in "Marvel Rivals" marketing and promotional materials (collectively referred to as "Marketing Materials") and may be distributed, marketed, and/or used in any form through any channels operated or designated by NetEase, Marvel, or Disney, whether in written or oral form, and whether using my real name or a pseudonym.

## Limitation of Liability & General Disclaimer

To participate in this Tournament, each Participant agrees, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable laws and regulations, to release and indemnify NetEase, Marvel, Disney, and their affiliates, as well as their respective executives, directors, employees, and other representatives ("Released Parties") from any liability, and to waive any claims, costs, injuries, losses, or damages arising from participating in this Tournament or from receiving, delivering, accepting, possessing, or using any prize. This includes, but is not limited to, claims, costs, injuries, losses, and damages related to personal injury, death, property damage, violations of publicity/privacy rights, or defamation (intentional or not), whether based on contract, tort, warranty, or other legal theories. Participants hereby waive any right to bring lawsuits, request injunctions, or seek other equitable relief against the released parties regarding this Tournament, or its production, distribution, display, advertising, promotion, or publicity.

According to these Tournament Rules, the released parties are not liable for any consequential, incidental, indirect, exemplary, special, or punitive damages to any Participant or any individual/entity claiming rights from the Participant. This includes loss of data, income, prizes, or profits due to breach/negligence or based on any other legal theories, whether or not there are foreseeable or whether the Organizer, Marvel, Disney, or any affiliates/representatives have been informed of the possibility of such damages.

Each Participant acknowledges the risks, dangers, and hazards associated with the Tournament and, to the fullest extent permitted by law, voluntarily accepts and fully assumes all such risks and the possibility of personal injury, death, property damage, or loss resulting from participating in the event.

Each Participant acknowledges and agrees that NetEase, Marvel, and Disney are not responsible for their property or personal safety. If Participants feel the need to take out insurance, they should seek it from a third party.

#### Disclaimer

This Tournament is part of the official online championships. References to prizes or brand names related to "Marvel Rivals" do not imply or constitute official endorsement by NetEase, Marvel, or Disney.