1. **Blizzard; Eligibility.** BLIZZARD ENTERTAINMENT, INC. (“BLIZZARD”) IS THE SPONSOR OF THIS TOURNAMENT (“TOURNAMENT”). THE TOURNAMENT IS OPEN ONLY TO PLAYERS WHO: (I) HAVE AN ACTIVE BATTLE.NET ACCOUNT THAT IS IN GOOD STANDING; (II) WHO, AS OF JUNE 3, 2017, ARE OVER THE AGE OF MAJORITY IN THEIR COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP, OR WHO ARE OVER THE AGE OF THIRTEEN YEARS OF AGE AND HAVE WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THEIR PARENT OR GUARDIAN; (IV) RESIDE IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, ALGERIA, AUSTRIA, BAHRAIN, BELARUS, BELGIUM, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, BULGARIA, CROATIA, CZECH REPUBLIC, CYPRUS, DENMARK, EGYPT, ESTONIA, FINLAND, FRANCE, GERMANY, GEORGIA, GREECE, HUNGARY, ICELAND, IRELAND, ISRAEL, ITALY, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, KAZAKHSTAN, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA, MACEDONIA, MOROCCO, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SERBIA, SLOVAKIA, SLOVENIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, TURKEY, TUNISIA, UKRAINE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (“ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES”). Blizzard directors, officers and employees of Blizzard, its respective parents, affiliate companies, subsidiaries, agents, professional advisors, advertising and promotional agencies (collectively, “Released Parties”), and immediate families (spouse, parent, child, sibling and their respective spouses, regardless of where they reside) and household members, whether or not related, of each are not eligible to enter or win any prizes in this Tournament. All applicable laws and regulations apply. An individual entrant may only win one prize during the Tournament.

2. **Tournament Information**
   
   **Tournament:** 2017 Overwatch® Contenders
   
   **Commencement Date:** June 3, 2017
   
   **Finals:** July 1, 2017 through July 2, 2017.

3. **Teams.**

   3.1 The Tournament is a regionally based, online, competition, where teams play the PC version of Overwatch that are comprised of up to nine (9) Overwatch players, each of whom must be an Eligible Participant, and each of which sign up for the Tournament as part of a team (“Team(s”)”). None of the Team members may be associated with more than one Team in this Tournament.

   3.1.1 Teams must elect one Team Manager either from within the Team roster or add an additional member to the Team who will not be considered an Eligible Participant. The role of the Team Manager is to be the primary point of contact for the Team.

   3.1.2 The North American Region will be made up of Teams from the United States and Canada.

   3.1.3 The European Region will be made up of Teams from Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

4. **Tournament schedule.**

   4.1 **Week 1 Phase of the Tournament (June 3-4, 2017 - North American Region).** This phase of the Tournament will be held online, with Teams able to compete through open signups at overwatchcontenders.com. Each day during this Week 1 Phase of the Tournament will feature a single elimination Overwatch Team tournament where all matches will be determined on a “Best of 3,” games basis.

   4.1.1 As of 11:59 PST, on June 3, 2017, the top eight (8) North American Teams will advance to the Week 3 & 4 Group Stage of the Tournament; and
4.1.2 As of 11:59 PDT on June 4, 2017, the top seven (7) North American Teams advance to the Week 3 & 4 Group Stage of the Tournament.

4.1.3 Additionally, Cloud9 from TakeTV Teams will receive an automatic berth to the Week 3 Group Stage of the Tournament.

4.2 Week 2 Phase of the Tournament (June 10-11, 2017– The European Region). This phase of the Tournament will be held online, with Teams able to compete through open signups at overwatchcontenders.com. Each day during this Week 2 Phase of the Tournament will feature a single elimination Overwatch Team tournament where all matches will be determined on a “Best of 3,” games basis.

4.2.1 As of 11:59 GMT, on June 10, 2017, the top eight (8) European Teams will advance to the Week 3 & 4 European Group Stage of the Tournament; and

4.2.2 As of 11:59 GMT on June 11, 2017, the top eight (8) European Teams advance to the Week 3 & 4 European Group Stage of the Tournament.

4.3 Week 3 (June 17-18, 2017) and Week 4 (June 24-25, 2017): This phase of the Tournament will be held online, with Teams who qualified for this stage of the Tournament through their Weeks 1 and 2 performances, and invites from Blizzard. The format for both the North American Region and the European Region shall be four (4) groups of four (4) Teams each, seeded based on the Team’s performance during Week 1 (North American Teams), and Week 2 (European Teams), where each Team will compete in Overwatch Team play against the other Teams in its group twice through the course of Week 3 (North American Teams), and Week 2 (European Teams). The top two (2) Teams per group per region will advance to the Week 5 stage of the Tournament.

4.4 Week 5 (July 1-2, 2017). This phase of the Tournament will be held online, with the top eight (8) North American Teams from Week 3, and the top eight (8) European Region teams from Week 4 (European Teams) will compete in Overwatch Team play in regional single elimination brackets. Matches will be determined using a “Best of 5,” format for the Round of 8 and Round of 4 portion of the Week 5 stage of the Tournament, and the finals of the Week 5 stage of the Tournament will be determined using a Best of 7 format. The European Region Week 5 stage of the Tournament will take place on July 1, 2017, and the North American Region Week 5 stage of the Tournament will take place on July 2, 2107.

5. Tournament Operations.

5.1 Map selection and order for all groups and matches will be decided by Blizzard.

5.2 Competition will take place on a server environment defined by Blizzard, using accounts provided by Blizzard.

5.3 Team seeding and groupings will be determined by Blizzard in its sole discretion.

5.4 After the preparation period is over, players will begin the match. Teams will be given time to set up at their station prior to each match.

5.5 Teams must make a Tournament Administrator aware of any client stability or connectivity issues as they occur. Any decision to restart a match will be made at the discretion of a Tournament Administrator.

5.6 If players believe an opponent has violated a rule during a match, the match should continue as normal. At the end of the match, the player shall notify one of Organizer’s Tournament officials immediately of the issue. Any disputes will be handled at the discretion of Organizer.

5.7 Players must use a character name that is similar to their name submitted for the show brochure and tournament broadcast. (i.e., if your known handle is “Voice”, your name must be something that starts with “Voice” for the entire duration of the event, such as “Voicey,” “Voicemonger,”...
“Voicez,” or “Voicebeast.” You will not be permitted to change handles during any portion of the event.)

5.8 No automated scripts or any add-ons are allowed for the duration of the Tournament.

6. Cheating

6.1 Players must compete to the best of their ability at all times. It is each Eligible Participant’s responsibility to know and understand the rules as they exist during the Tournament period. Any form of cheating will not be tolerated. If the Blizzard determines that an Eligible Participant is cheating or otherwise interfering with the Tournament, the Eligible Participant will be immediately disqualified and removed from the Tournament and may be restricted from participating in any events in the future, and have all of their licenses to all Blizzard Entertainment games revoked. Players may be requested to install software on their computers for the duration of the Tournament which is specially designed to detect cheating. Examples of cheating would include, without limitation:

6.1.1 Actions to maliciously intentionally alter, or attempt to alter, the results of any match, including losing a match to advance one Team or another Team’s position in the Tournament. If Blizzard determines that an Eligible Participant is colluding or match fixing, the Eligible Participant will be immediately disqualified and removed from the Tournament and may be restricted from participating in future events and have all of his or her licenses to all Blizzard games revoked; and

6.1.2 Attempts to interfere with another Eligible Participant’s connection to the Game service through Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) or any other means; and

6.1.3 Any incidence of Players allowing individuals who are not the Players to play on an Eligible Participant’s Battle.net account in any of Blizzard games.

ALL PLAYERS MUST BE VERIFIED BY BLIZZARD TO ENSURE THEIR ELIGIBILITY PRIOR TO BEING DECLARED A WINNER (AS DEFINED BELOW) AND/OR RECEIVING ANY PRIZE. DISPLAY OF STATISTICS IN THE GAME (E.G. ON A LEADERBOARD) DURING THE TOURNAMENT PERIOD DOES NOT ENTITLE ANY ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT TO A PRIZE.

6.2 Gambling. Players are not allowed to place or attempt to place wagers on any matches or actions in, or around, any Blizzard title.

6.3 Unsportsmanlike Behavior. Should Blizzard determine that an Eligible Participant commits, or threatens to commit, violent acts against any other Eligible Participant in the Tournament, a Blizzard representative, or any spectator of the Tournament, or engages in any unsportsmanlike behavior, the Eligible Participant may be disqualified from the Tournament. Blizzard reserves the right at its sole discretion to disqualify any individual suspected of tampering with the entry process or the operation of the Tournament; or to be acting in any manner deemed by Blizzard to be in violation of the Official Rules; or to be acting in any manner deemed by Blizzard to be unsportsmanlike or disruptive, or with intent to annoy, abuse, threaten or harass any other person. CAUTION: ANY ATTEMPT BY A USER OR ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANT OR ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL TO DELIBERATELY DAMAGE ANY WEBSITE RELATED TO THE TOURNAMENT OR UNDERMINE THE LEGITIMATE OPERATION OF THE TOURNAMENT IS A VIOLATION OF CRIMINAL AND CIVIL LAWS AND SHOULD SUCH AN ATTEMPT BE MADE, BLIZZARD RESERVES THE RIGHT TO SEEK DAMAGES AND COSTS (INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, ATTORNEYS' FEES) FROM ANY SUCH PERSON TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

7.0 Conduct. All competitors and spectators are required to act in a respectful sportsmanlike manner at all times. It is always required that players have their Battle.net accounts set to “Do Not Disturb.”

8.0 Rule Violations. Any violation of the Tournament rules by one or more members of a Team will result in immediate disqualification of that Team from the Tournament, and removal from event where the Tournament is taking place, and the forfeiture of any prize that the players on that Team may otherwise
have won. All decisions of Organizer regarding rule violations, or any other issues regarding the Tournament, are final.

9.0 Tournament Prizing.

9.1 North American Regional Winners.

9.1.1 The Team that finishes in First Place in the North American Region will win Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $25,000.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.1.2 The Team that finishes in Second Place in the North American Region will win Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $10,000.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.1.3 The Teams that finish in Third and Fourth Place in the North American Region will win Four Thousand Dollars ($4,000.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $4,000.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.1.4 The Teams that finish in Fifth and Sixth Place in the North American Region will win Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($2,500.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $2,500.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.1.5 The Teams that finish in Seventh and Eighth Place in the North American Region will win One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $1,000.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.2 European Regional Winners.

9.2.1 The Team that finishes in First Place in the European Region will win Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $25,000.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.2.2 The Team that finishes in Second Place in the European Region will win Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $10,000.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.2.3 The Teams that finish in Third and Fourth Place in the European Region will win Four Thousand Dollars ($4,000.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $4,000.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.2.4 The Teams that finish in Fifth and Sixth Place in the European Region will win Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($2,500.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $2,500.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.2.5 The Teams that finish in Seventh and Eighth Place in the European Region will win One Thousand Dollars ($1,000.00 USD), that will be disbursed to the players in checks equal to $1,000.00 USD divided by the number of players on the Team.

9.3 Prizes are not transferable. No substitutions or exchanges (including for cash) of any prizes will be permitted, except that Blizzard reserves the right to substitute a prize of equal or greater value for any prize. All prizes are awarded "AS IS" and WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, express or implied (including, without limitation, any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose). STATE, LOCAL TAXES, INCLUDING VAT TAXES WHICH ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE RECEIPT OR USE OF ANY PRIZES ARE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WINNER. All cash prizes will be paid in U.S. currency, and can take the form of a check or direct deposit, as determined by Blizzard. Winners will be required to complete and submit to Organizer an IRS form W-8 or W-9 and bank account by December 10, 2017 to receive their cash prize. Should a Winner experience any issues providing the required documentation by December 10, 2017, the Winner should contact Blizzard immediately to arrange for additional time. Whether additional time is provided for a Winner to provide the required documentation will be at the discretion of Blizzard.
10.0 **Affidavit & Release.** As a condition of being awarded any prize, potential winners may be required to execute and deliver to Blizzard within a specified time period an Affidavit of Eligibility, Release of Liability and, unless prohibited by law, Publicity. Failure to do so within the time period specified or noncompliance with these Official Rules will result in disqualification and Blizzard may, at its discretion, award the prize to an alternate winner.

11.0 **General Release.** As a condition to being allowed to participate in the Tournament and to the greatest extent permitted by the applicable laws and regulations, entrants agree to release and hold harmless Released Parties from any liability whatsoever, and waive any and all causes of action, related to any claims, costs, injuries, losses, or damages of any kind arising out of or in connection with the Tournament or delivery, misdelivery, acceptance, possession, use of or inability to use any prize (including, without limitation, claims, costs, injuries, losses and damages related to personal injuries, death, damage to or destruction of property, rights of publicity or privacy, defamation or portrayal in a false light, whether intentional or unintentional), whether under a theory of contract, tort (including negligence), warranty or other theory.

12.0 **Miscellaneous.** Entrants agree to be bound by these Official Rules and by the decisions of Blizzard and Organizer, which are final and binding in all respects. Blizzard reserves the right, subject to the approval of the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux, to change these Official Rules at any time, in its sole discretion, and to suspend or cancel the Tournament or any entrant's participation in the Tournament should viruses, bugs, unauthorized human intervention or other causes affect the administration, security or proper play of the Tournament or Blizzard otherwise becomes (as determined in its sole discretion) incapable of running the Tournament as planned. If terminated, Blizzard may, at its discretion, select make up dates to run a “make up” tournament. Entrants who violate these Official Rules, tamper with the operation of the Tournament or engage in any conduct that is detrimental or unfair to Blizzard, the Tournaments or any other entrant (in each case as determined in Blizzard's sole discretion) are subject to disqualification from entry into the Tournament. Blizzard reserves the right to lock out persons whose eligibility is in question or who have been disqualified or are otherwise ineligible to enter the Tournament. All disputes that arise out of or relate to the Tournament, a Tournament event or these Official Rules, or the breach thereof, shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the United States of America and the law of the State of Delaware, without regard to choice of law principles, provided that Blizzard shall have the right to disqualify any players that are rendered ineligible due to local law. If you are a resident of Quebec, you may submit any litigation respecting the conduct or organization of a publicity contest may be submitted to the Régie des alcools, des courses et des jeux for a ruling. Any litigation respecting the awarding of a prize may be submitted to the board only for the purpose of helping the parties reach a settlement. If you have any questions about these Official Rules or the Tournament, please e-mail them to or send written questions to “2017 Overwatch® Contenders - Information Request,” 1 Blizzard Way, Irvine, CA 92618, or to tourneyinfo@blizzard.com.