

Nationals 2020: Team Rules Addendum

Just to expand on this year's rules on combining groups into one larger team, and give a couple of examples of how the rules work.

There's been controversy on this issue in previous years, and we feel that the most important thing is for everything to be transparent and above-board; this is why we're requiring any combinations to be all sorted before the signup deadline of 31st December, so no-one feels that there have been any last-minute shenanigans.

As one of the larger groups that attend the Nationals, we in Sheffield are very aware that bigger teams do tend to have a substantial advantage, and we'd like to try to level that playing field a little and encourage some sporting competition - so we have decided to give the go-ahead for smaller teams to combine into one, provided they don't gain any additional advantage by doing so. A combined team has the exact same category allocations and limits as any other team would.

It's up to you to handle the admin of combining into one team, getting your whole team onto one entry form, soothing ruffled feathers when more than two of you want to play Paranoia, etc etc.

If you're planning to combine teams, especially from different cities, with the intent of winning and hosting the Nationals next year, please make sure you have thoroughly discussed how this would work between your groups first! Seriously, Sheffield are a big group and we're already stretching ourselves to get this thing off the ground, so do be aware of how Herculean a task this can be to get it all organised.

If your group is large enough that you want/need to split into multiple teams, please decide in advance who will be on which team, send the entry forms in separately, and pay separately.

Example 1:

The New York Spiders and the New York Avengers are two of our smaller societies at the Nationals. They decide to combine into the Big Apple Marvels! It gives them a better shot at winning the Nationals, but as a single team the Big Apple Marvels only get two places in the Superheroes RPG category.

The Spiders send all their details over to the Avengers. Nick Fury puts everyone's details onto a single entry form and sends the form in on behalf of the whole team.

Tony Stark persuades Peter Parker that Avengers Mansion is probably a better potential venue than Aunt May's garage.

Example 2:

Westchester GameSoc is one of the largest groups at the Nationals, much too large to fit into a single team. After a little bit of squabbling, they split into two different teams: the Westchester X-celsiors and the Westchester X-boyfriends. Each team fills in a separate form, sends them through to us separately, and buys their players' tickets separately. Each team has its own full allocation of category places, and they are scored as completely separate teams.

They also remind their players to tell their GMs which Westchester team they're with, to help avoid confusion.

Note that you are not permitted to be on more than one team unless you are actually Wolverine.