

2026-2027 MPA CO-ED ESPORTS BULLETIN

(9/21/26)

FALL SEASON 2026

April 29, 2026	Enrollment Opens
August 3 – August 16, 2026	MPA “Hands-off Period”
September 7, 2026	Preseason
September 21, 2026	Regular season begins
October 2, 2026	Late Registration deadline
November 9, 2026	Regular season ends
November 18, 2026	Super Smash Bros – Round of 16
November 19, 2026	Mario Kart Quarterfinals / Rocket League Semifinals
November 30, 2026	Smash Trio Quarterfinals
November 30, 2026	Marvel Rivals Semifinals
December 2, 2026	Smash Trio Semifinals
December 3, 2026	Mario Kart Semifinals
December 5, 2026	State Championships at Thomas College

- Mario Kart 8 Deluxe Finals – 11:00 a.m.
- Super Smash Bros. Solo Semifinals – 11:00 a.m.
- Super Smash Bros. Solo Finals – 12:30 p.m.
- Super Smash Bros. Trio Finals – 1:00 p.m.
- Rocket League Finals – 2:30 p.m.
- Marvel Rivals Finals – 3:30 p.m.

*Teams should bring their own unlocked Switches for Mario Kart and Super Smash Bros. and controllers for Rocket League.

*Teams should bring their own headsets.

Championships streamed on the PlayVS YouTube channel: <http://twitch.tv/playvs> (Mario Kart will be streamed locally on MCI's Twitch).

Rocket League Bracket: [The bracket with dates and team standings is available here.](#)

Match Days/Times *All match times are 4:00 pm EST

No MPA competition is permitted on Sundays

- Mondays: Marvel Rivals
- Tuesdays: League of Legends, Splatoon 3
- Wednesdays: Super Smash Bros.™ Ultimate, NBA 2K
- Thursdays: Rocket League, Madden, Mario Kart™ 8 Deluxe

PlayVS contact information:

- For new schools – charles.odonnell@playvs.com

SPRING SEASON 2027

January 11, 2027	Preseason Begins
January 15, 2027	Registration deadline
January 18, 2027	Regular season begins Maine teams
February 15-19, 2027	February Vacation – Bye week for all Maine Schools
March 19, 2027	Regular season ends
March 22, 2027	Round of 16 – Super Smash Bros./Quarterfinals – Marvel Rivals
March 24, 2027	Quarterfinals – Super Smash Bros. Trios & Solos
March 25, 2027	Quarterfinals - Mario Kart
March 29, 2027	Semifinals – Marvel Rivals
March 31, 2027	Semifinals - Super Smash Bros. Trios
April 1, 2027	Semifinals - Rocket League & Mario Kart
April 3, 2027	State Championships – TBA

State Championship Schedule

- Mario Kart 8 Deluxe Finals – 11:00 a.m.
- Super Smash Bros. Solo Semifinals – 11:00 a.m.
- Super Smash Bros. Solo Finals – 12:30 p.m.
- Super Smash Bros. Trio Finals – 1:00 p.m.
- Rocket League Finals – 2:30 p.m.
- Marvel Rivals Finals – 3:30 p.m.

May 10, 2027 CNESSPA New England Esports Championship – Prelims and Quarterfinals
Online

2 Sessions:
Session # 1 @ 3:00pm Session #2 @ 4:30pm
*No remote play from home is permitted. All teams must compete together as a team, on-site at their school.

Prelim's (8v9, 7v10, 6v11, 5v12) #1thru #4 have bye
Quarter Finals #1 seed plays winner of #5vs#12 (Match#5)
2 seed plays winner of #6vs#11 (Match#6)
3 seed plays winner of #7vs#10 (Match#7)
#4 seed plays winner of #8vs#9 (Match#8)

May 12, 2027 CNESSPA New England Esports Championship – Prelims and Quarterfinals
Online

2 Sessions:
Session # 1 @ 3:00pm Session #2 @ 4:30pm
*No remote play from home is permitted. All teams must compete together as a team, on-site at their school.
Winner of (Match #5) Vs Winner of (Match #7)
Winner of (Match #6) Vs Winner of (Match #8)

May 15, 2027 CNESSPA New England Esports Championship – TBA

- Rocket League time TBA 12:00 p.m.
- Super Smash Bros time TBA 1:00 p.m.
- Mario Kart time TBA 2:30 p.m.

*Titles will include Mario Kart 8, Rocket League, and Super Smash Bros. Ultimate.
Each New England state may send two teams to the New England Championships. Selections for Maine entries in the New England Championships will be the following order for each title:

1. Spring Champion
2. Fall Champion
3. If both are the same team, the Spring Runners-up
4. Alternate would be the Fall Runners-up

Match Days/Times

No MPA competition is permitted on Sundays

*All match times are 4:00 pm EST

MANDATORY RULES CLINICS AND EDUCATION

1. All coaches must meet the MPA Coaching Requirements.
2. Each coach must complete the NFHS “*Concussion in Sport – What You Need to Know*” video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).
3. Each coach must complete the NFHS “*A Guide to Heat Acclimatization and Heat Illness Prevention*” video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).
4. Each coach must complete the NFHS “*Sudden Cardiac Arrest*” video that is available at the NFHS website (www.nfhslearn.com).

Resources

For schools:

- [MPA Esports Overview with Links \(Fall '22\).pdf](#)
- [Why esports](#)
- [Pricing](#)

For coaches:

- [Help Center](#)

High School Competition Rulebook

- [League of Legends](#)
- [Rocket League](#)
- [Splatoon™ 2](#)
- [Super Smash Bros.™ Ultimate](#)
- [Mario Kart™ 8 Deluxe](#)
- [Madden NFL 22](#)
- [Hearthstone](#)

Play VS Support

- [Help Center](#)
- For new schools → sean.goodman@playvs.com
- For returning schools → adilene.venegas@playvs.com
- Jason Lund from Cape Elizabeth High School is a PlayVS Supercoach for Maine and is available at jlund@capeelizabethschools.org.
- Sean Stackhouse from Maine Central Institute is a PlayVS Supercoach for Maine and is available at sean.stackhouse44@gmail.com.

Authorization: the MPA ESports Committee authorizes PlayVS to administer all games for the Fall and Spring seasons for MPA member schools.

Team Rosters: Teams are coed. Teams are comprised of a variety of team members depending on the game played.

Equipment: Equipment for each game varies.
FIFA and Madden – Console only
Super Smash Bros. Ultimate is played on Switch

Hands-off Period: Esports played under the MPA through PlayVS do not follow the MPA Sports Season Policy. Coaches are restricted from organizing play in the state titles until two weeks prior to the PlayVS preseason for registration, tryouts, and organization. The season would end with the MPA/PlayVS championship. Summer is open to all activity until the MPA two-week Hands-off Period prior to fall sports.

Post Season: The Maine Principals' Association post season will be scheduled with PlayVS.

The MPA/PlayVS will host an in-person State Championship for fall Rocket League, Mario Kart, and Super Smash Bros. Ultimate at Central Maine Community College in Auburn on Saturday, April 5, 2025.

Awards: The Maine Principals' Association will award a Champions plaque and a Runner-up plaque in each PlayVS league that has 20 or more schools participating or PlayVS sponsors a Maine State Championship with the MPA.

ESPORTS CLASSIFICATION

For 2025-2026 all Maine schools will compete in one class per game.