

Field is Set for Inaugural Call of Duty World League Pro Division Stage One

Final 30 Teams are Determined for Call of Duty World League Pro Division Presented by PlayStation®4

Over 800 Teams Competed for Chance to Play for More Than \$3 Million in Cash Prizes in Call of Duty: Black Ops III in 2016

SANTA MONICA, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- After intense days of regional competitions worldwide, 30 teams from around the globe have successfully secured a coveted spot in the first ever Call of DutyTM World League (CWL) Pro Division presented by PlayStation®4. More than 800 professional Call of DutyTM eSports teams across North America, Europe, and Australia/New Zealand competed last week for the chance to join the premier Call of Duty eSports circuit. These teams will spend the coming year competing for more than \$3 million in cash prizes playing *Call of Duty®: Black Ops III*, culminating with the Call of Duty Championship Presented by PlayStation 4 in the fall of 2016.

In the North American LAN qualifier, sixteen competed live for eight spots in the CWL Pro Division. The teams were seeded into four groups, with the top two performing teams from each group qualifying into the CWL Pro Division. Team EnVyUs was the only team worldwide to sweep every match, finishing with a perfect 6-0 record to lock in its Pro Division spot. Other North American CWL Pro Division qualifying teams include: OpTic Gaming, Apotheon Esports, Rise Nation, Team eLevate, Team Kaliber, FaZe Clan and compLexity Gaming.

Once the LAN qualifiers were complete, players from all over North America fought it out online in a week long tournament that included more than 460 teams. After hard fought matches, Counter Logic Gaming, Luminosity Gaming, Dream Team, and Question Mark all secured their spots as part of the first stage of the inaugural season.

Of the eight European CWL Pro Division teams that competed in the regional finals, the team that finished with the best record hailed from the UK and Ireland, Millenium, who closed with an impressive 6-1 series overall event. Other European Call of Duty World League Pro Division qualifying teams include: Epsilon eSports (UK). Team Infused (UK) and Splyce (UK).

In European online competition more than 350 teams across 19 countries battled for the six open spots in the CWL Pro Division. Three French teams, Team Vitality, Team Spartan and PuLse Gaming, UK teams of excel and NGZB, and Giants Gaming from Spain each played at least six matches against top European teams to secure their spots in the CWL Pro Division.

The action continued in Sydney as teams from the Australia/New Zealand region faced off on LAN. Fan favorites were bested in some early drama in the Australia/New Zealand CWL Pro Division. Newcomer Skyfire topped perennial Call of Duty Championship top placer Mindfreak in an early 3-2 victory with both teams eventually qualifying based on final standings. Other Australia/New Zealand CWL Pro Division qualifying teams include: Tainted Minds and Team Immunity.

Four spots were still available in the ANZ online qualifier. Fighting through four rounds of matches, Nv, Fast as boii, OrbitGG, and newcomer Pure N3gs all qualified to move on and go for a share of the Stage 1 prize pool.

With incredible *Call of Duty: Black Ops III* action taking center stage during the qualifying events and online qualifiers, it is creating a great foundation leading into the CWL Pro Division which will be begin on January 5.

For the more information about the Call of Duty World League Pro Division Presented by PlayStation 4, to see live matches, and meet all the teams check out <u>CallofDuty.com/esports</u>, and follow <u>@CODWorldLeague</u>Â on Twitter for the latest coverage and news.

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