

# School Shoutcasting: Your How-to Guide

We would like to invite participating schools to nominate a student or pair of students as a shoutcaster(s) to participate in commentating during the live streams. Shoutcasting refers to the running commentary of esports matches that is intended to both entertain and inform the viewer, and it is a crucial part of what makes esports so engaging.

## What is shoutcasting?



Traditionally shoutcasters are divided into two main roles:

- Colour
- Play by play

A colour caster takes over the analytical side of the match, tasked with identifying the why and how. They bring professional and educated opinions on why things are happening in the game.

Play by play casters bring the hype and energy to the match. Their role is to identify the who and what, and capture the explosive moments of the game. A successful shoutcast requires both the colour caster and play by play caster to play off each other's roles and seamlessly transition into new topics during the cast, and enhance the audience experience.

## What is shoutcasting for?

The main goal of shoutcasting is to keep the audience engaged and paint a picture for the mind's eye. Shoutcasters generate excitement and hype when the situation calls for it and provide excellent analysis of player decisions between the action. For new fans, game commentary can often be overwhelming; good shoutcasters are crucial for helping them understand what is going on and retaining their interest in the game.



Finally, great shoutcasters are there to define each esports scene. Legendary moments are captured forever by the voices that bring the play to life. The esports experience is not complete without shoutcasters.

## How can your school participate in shoutcasting?

- Schools may have a single or pair of nominated casters to shoutcast alongside the stream. You may wish to select your shoutcasters through an internal school competition before the regional qualifiers.

- Casters require an understanding of Super Smash Bros. Ultimate and the rules of the tournament to be able to participate.
  - This is important for the purpose of being able to commentate on the gameplay with little hesitation and to understand the characters and interactions of the game mode.
  - Please consult page 35 of the Tournament Starter Pack ([get Tournament Starter Pack](#)) for more information
- Casters are impartial to both teams and evaluate the gameplay as it unfolds in a fair manner.
  - Teachers, please reinforce this message.
- Games where both schools competing can produce a caster could see that their casters take turns between halves – depending on how we stage the games, which will have more clarity closer to the event.
- We cannot guarantee that your school will shoutcast every one of your matches, but we can guarantee participation
  - This is due to the tournament format. There will be multiple matches with other schools occurring during each round and we can only stream one of these at a time.

## What is required?

- A desktop or laptop with Discord installed ([get Discord](#)) and a good quality microphone/headset.
- Please follow the above hyperlink to download the app, create an account and get logged in. Discord can also be accessed in a web browser by logging in on the website.
- Please check the tabs to the left after following the hyperlink and have a light read of “a beginner’s guide to Discord”
  - Do not fret! You do not need to worry about anything it talks about in regards to hosting a server – we shall send you an invite to ours and handle the rest!
  - Please also ensure you understand how to troubleshoot any issues in regards to connecting a microphone and headset to a computer and then getting this to work with the Discord app – basic knowledge of the Device Manager in the Windows Control Panel will suffice!
  - Any further basic troubleshooting for Discord can be found here ([get Discord support](#))
  - Or drop the Tournament Coordinator, Luke - [dshesports@ukie.org.uk](mailto:dshesports@ukie.org.uk), an email and they will be more than happy to assist where they can.
  - Whilst familiarizing yourself with the above, this a good exercise for the students who want to be involved to understand some of the technical aspects - some might even have a good understanding of the troubleshooting required to begin with!

This is a terrific opportunity for students to step into the role and get a feel for the power of being a shoutcaster and to be able to learn the technology and etiquette required along the way!

Finally, the best shoutcaster(s) from each event have the opportunity to shoutcast in the following stages of the competition and compete for the title of Shoutcasting Champion!

Check out some of our previous shoutcasting footage ([click here](#)) for inspiration.

