

Snowmelt Cup II

Rules

Any personnels closely related to the tournament, including while not limited to the participants and the judges, are strictly prohibited from proceeding with any form of violations against the fairness of the event, nor any form of activities aiming to harm the others' legitimate interests. Violators may face penalties and take personal responsibility for the consequences.

0 Application requirements

Contestants are required to:

1. Be able to record clear handcams.
2. Be possessing $\geq 80\%$ of the charts in their own division (see Section 2.1), including all with chart constant ≥ 10 except for those of Beyond difficulty AND being included in a song pack other than Main Story chapters.
 - If this has become an issue, please inform FLAME, the host of event in advance.

1 Number of contestants: 48

2 Formal rules

2.1 Divisions

Throughout the tournament, contestants will be split into 3 divisions: Speed (S), Technical (T) and Complicated Beats (Cb). Songs will be classified into 3 categories correspondingly, namely class songs.

Category	What to expect
S	Charts testing the ability to cope with high-speed note patterns
T	Charts testing positioning and the ability to cope with complex note patterns
Cb	Charts testing the ability to cope with complex rhythm

The specific allocation of the songs will be revealed by the time of application.

Contestants will only compete with each other within their own division, using and ban/pick'ing songs of their own category. Part of the songs may be classified into multiple categories.

2.2 Audition

Contestants may freely choose their desired division during application, by which 3 class songs for each category will be published. Once decided, the contestants will need to play through the chosen class songs in a stretch, and submit the handcam and the screenshots of all 3 play results. Retrying, re-recording and editing the handcam will be forbidden. One may also switch to another division before the deadline. If so, the contestant should inform one of the staff about the change, and go through the same procedure once more as above, using the new choice of songs.

At the end of the audition, contestants will be ranked according to their scores on the class songs. **In case of division A having > 16 contestants AND B with < 16 , the prospective contestants eliminated from A will be given the opportunity to switch to B, but with a ranking certainly lower than anyone else originally placed there.** Should a contestant wish to switch, they should go through the same audition procedure as aforementioned. Contestants who eventually ranked lower than the 16th place still will be eliminated. (Note: to successfully switch, contestants must possess the required songs as stated in Section 0.)

Otherwise, if all the divisions have had ≥ 16 contestants, those ranked lower than 16 will be eliminated. Contestants who passed will then be examined for possessing the required songs. Contestants also need to bind with Bot using their Arcaea friend code. Any contestants who do not possess the required songs will be disqualified and subsequently replaced by a previously eliminated contestant in the same division, according to the ranking order.

2.3 Round I: Group Stage, 16 into 8

Within the same division, contestants will be arranged into *groups* of 4. Each group will be allocated with a judge, who will randomly select *6 non-repeating songs* from the pool in the relevant category for the upcoming matches. Before the matches begins, both competing contestants may DM the judge to pick one and only one song, to increase its chance of being selected in their participating round by 25 %, AND/OR ban one and only one song. When applied on the same song, a pick and a ban cancel out each other. The song picked/banned must be within the pool of the corresponding division. Contestants may not make changes to their choices later.

The final ranking of each member in the group will be determined after all the matches in the group have finished. Top 2 contestants will advance to the next round.

Grouping of contestants will be decided by the rankings from the audition (e.g. contestants ranked 1, 5, 9, 13 will be grouped together).

The songs with chart constant 9.3–10.9 will be in the range of the selection for this round.

2.4 Round II: Individual matches, 8 into 4

Every victor from the last round will be paired with a runner-up from a different group for a match.

Procedure: Each contestant bans 3 songs \rightarrow the judge announces the banned songs \rightarrow each contestant picks 2 songs + the judge picks 1 song by random = 5 songs in total. The contestant with the higher points advances to the next round. (Ban/Pick must be done half an hour before the match)

Special rule: After finishing picking, a contestant may DM the judge with “high” or “low” to take a sneak peek at the approximate chart constant of the opponent’s pick (± 0.1).

The songs with chart constant 9.7–11.5 will be in the range of the selection for this round.

2.5 Round III: Comeback matches & Finals

Comeback matches. 4 eliminated contestants from Round II will rematch to yield the top 2 (ranked 5th and 6th).

The procedure and special rule will remain the same as in Round I except without picking songs and the number of songs reduces to 3. The range of the songs stays the same as in Round II.

Finals. 4 winning contestants from Round II will be ranked from 1st to 4th place according to their points.

Contestants placed 5th and 6th, the offensive, will need to each challenge any one of the top 4 contestants, the defensive. The 5th place contestant will be prioritised to make the decision.

The finals will be divided into two parts in terms of procedure.

Part 1

- When either the 1st or 2nd place contestant has been challenged: for a successful challenge, two contestants will swap places; otherwise the challenger will be eliminated.
- When either the 3rd or 4th place contestant has been challenged: in case of a successful challenge, the challengee will be eliminated, with the challenger taking over their place; otherwise the challenger will be eliminated.

Part 2

- If there are still 6 contestants left after Part 1, then the 5th and 6th place contestants must each challenge one of the 3rd or 4th place contestants, following the same rules as Part 1.
- After challenges, the 3rd and 4th place contestants must challenge one of the 1st or 2nd place contestants. The winning contestants will enter the champion match, and the losing contestants will contend for the second and third runner-up. The procedure and special rule of which will remain the same as Round II, except two more random songs will be added to the pool in the champion match.

The songs with chart constant 10.5–12.0 will be in the range of the selection for this round.

3 Scoring

3.1 Definitions

Score refers to your in-game play result. *Point* refers to your score in the tournament, derived from the play result using a calculating procedure known as *scoring*.

3.2 Single song scoring

The points of a single music play are calculated as follows:

$$\text{Points} := \frac{M + 0.9P + 0.2F}{N}$$

where M = No. of MAX PURE,
 P = No. of PURE,
 F = No. of FAR,
 N = Total count of notes

3.3 Bonus

Conditions for bonus are division-dependent. Once triggered, an alternative scoring formula will be used instead.

- Division S: require ($S_{\text{me}} - S_{\text{opponent}} \geq 10,000$), where S = Score

$$\text{Points} := \frac{M + 0.96P + 0.2F}{N}$$

- Division T: require ($L_{\text{me}} \leq L_{\text{opponent}}$), where L = No. of LOST

$$\text{Points} := \frac{M + 0.9P + 0.5F}{N}$$

- Division Cb: require ($P_{\text{me}} - P_{\text{opponent}} \geq 10$ AND $S_{\text{me}} \geq 9,970,000$)

$$\text{Points} := \frac{M + 0.9P + 0.2F + 0.75L}{N}$$

3.4 Overtime penalty

$$\text{Penalty}(\text{song}) := \text{Points}(\text{song}) \times \left(1 - \frac{T^2}{3600}\right)$$

where T = Overtime in seconds

3.5 Audition scoring

Audition points summarise the single song points for all three class songs.

4 Time allocation

- Upon confirming the grouping, contestants should reach out to their opponents in order to determine the schedule of matches and duly notify the judge.
- Should a contestant wish to ban/pick a song, they will need to notify the judge at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.
- During the group stage (Round I), every match will begin 1 minute after the song being announced. Contestants will be given 5 minutes for the music play, during which they may restart if they wish. Following that, a 4-minute moment of respite will be given before the next match begins, if any remaining.
- While matches could be separately scheduled, contestants are recommended to finish up their matches as soon as possible, for the convenience of statistics.
- Individual matches (Round II) will be using the same time allocation as in Round I.

5 Handcams & screenshots

- Handcam will be required throughout the tournament; the recording of which should remain unedited, and include timestamps at both the beginning and end of the music play, accurate to the second, based on Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).
- Contestants should always remember to capture a timestamped screenshot of the play result when finishing a music play. Therefore, in case of a mistakenly ruled overtime, the screenshot/handcam could be submitted as evidence for the judges to review.
- Only the winning contestants need to submit the handcam at the end of the match.
- Exception: one would **never** trigger the overtime penalty by retrying a song for **no more than once**, regardless of whether the timeout occurs. In case of a wrongful judgement, please appeal to the staff team.

6 Ban/Pick

Unless otherwise stated, ban/pick are defined as follows:

- Ban: to disable a song from appearing in the current round.
- Pick: to make a song definitely appearing in the current round.
- During the group stage (Round I), banned and picked song will be revealed at the end of the round.
 - **Note: repeated picks on one song will be considered as one pick only.**
- During the individual matches (Round II), the banned songs will be revealed before the commencement of each match, from which contestants will not be able to pick. Picked songs will be revealed at the end of the round.
 - **Note: repeated picks on one song will be considered as one pick only. In this scenario, a random song guaranteed not to be overlapping with the picked songs will kick in.**

7 Schedule

All the timestamps below are in form of yyyy/mm/dd (HH:MM), GMT+8.

Event	Schedule
Audition	2023/07/16 12:00–2023/07/30 00:00
Round I	2023/08/01–2023/08/10
Round II	2023/08/11–2023/08/18
Round III	2023/08/19–2023/08/26

8 Time slots

All the timestamps below use the form of HH:MM, GMT+8.

- Round I/II: 8:00–9:00, 14:00–15:00, 15:30–16:30, 19:00–20:00, 20:30–21:30
- Round III will take the same time slots as Round II but with an additional 20 minutes appended to each.
- Should you have any other time arrangements, please contact the judge who will try to accommodate as much as possible.
- Please bear in mind that the time slots do not include the ban/pick stage, which will be instead scheduled 30 minutes prior to the commencement.

9 Prizes

Achievement	Prize
Champion	Arcaea Sound Collection Album per person
First runner-up	1000 Memories per person
Second runner-up	800 Memories per person
4th–6th place	500 Memories per person
7th–8th place	300 Memories per person
9th–16th place	200 Memories to two by random

Each division would yield a set of the above standings, i.e., three champions will be produced in total—one from each division—and so will the rest be determined.

All the prizes will be awarded in form of RMB—every Arcaea Sound Collection Album converts to ¥150, and every 100 Memories converts to ¥6.