



Competitive Gaming

Scouts BSA · Hobbies

Name

Started

Completed

Gaming can be a fun way to compete, connect with friends, and build teamwork. This badge helps you understand gaming history and esports while focusing on staying healthy, safe, and kind online. It's about being a great teammate and a balanced gamer.

Requirements

Every official requirement, in plain language. Check the official wording when you sign off (scouting.org/merit-badges/competitive-gaming/). Tips and examples are ideas, not extra requirements.

1 History of gaming

Tips for this section: Make a timeline of consoles or games you know, then fill in the gaps with research. Note examples for each genre.

Example for this section: A timeline might run from arcade cabinets and early home consoles through handhelds, online play, mobile games, and today's esports leagues. Mark a few games from each era and label their genre, like platformer, fighting, or MOBA.

- ☐ **1a** Make a timeline of how video gaming has changed since 1958, with at least one major event from each decade

- ☐ **1b** Name and define five major video game genres, with an example of each

- ☐ **1c** Explain how video gaming differs from esports, including how esports uses organized competition like teams, tournaments, rules, coaching, and spectators; name two games played both casually and in organized esports

- ☐ **1d** Name and define five major moments in esports' growth as an industry since 1990, including key tournaments, technology advances, and organizations, and discuss what you found with your counselor

2 Living the Scout Oath and Law online

Tips for this section: Think about how players treat each other online. Talk about how you can be a positive voice in games.

Example for this section: Think of a real moment: a teammate raged at someone for a mistake. Talk about what you did or could do, like muting, reporting, or saying "good try, next round," and how game ratings help families pick games.

- ☐ **2a** Define "toxicity in gaming," describe a real or made-up example of toxic online play, and explain how applying the Scout Oath and Law could prevent or resolve it

- ☐ **2b** List five ways to deal with bad online gaming experiences and explain which point of the Scout Oath or Law each one reflects

- ☐ **2c** Look into the ESRB rating system, write down the ratings of the games you own, compare them with your age, and tell your counselor if you think the ESRB descriptions are right

- ☐ **2d** List five ways to make online gaming a positive place for yourself and others, and demonstrate one with your troop, patrol, or family

3 Gamer health and balance

Tips for this section: Keep a simple log for a while of game time, activity, and sleep. Look for patterns and set a healthy goal.

Example for this section: Your log can be three columns per day: minutes gaming, minutes active, hours of sleep. Then look for patterns: "On nights I played past 10, I slept less and felt slow at practice." Set one goal you choose.

- ☐ **3a** Read two credible articles on the benefits of video gaming and two on its downsides, and make a chart showing where they agree and disagree

- ☐ **3b** Track how much you game each day for two weeks, then record and summarize the results

- ☐ **3c** Over those same two weeks, log your physical activity each day and compare it with the CDC guideline for ages 6-17: 60 minutes a day of moderate or vigorous activity

- ☐ **3d** Over those same two weeks, log your sleep each night and compare it with the CDC guideline: ages 6-12 need 9-12 hours, and ages 13-18 need 8-10 hours

- ☐ **3e** After 3b, 3c, and 3d, make a one-week balanced schedule with healthy sleep, physical activity, and agreed-on gaming time; follow it and summarize the results

4 **Gamer safety and community**

Tips for this section: Review your family's rules for online play. Never share personal information with people you meet online.

Example for this section: Explain your rules, like using a username with no real name or school, never sharing your location, and telling a parent if anyone asks to move to a private chat. Show how to block and report in a game you play.

- ☐ **4a** Explain the benefits and risks of playing games online

- ☐ **4b** Research and list 10 ways to stay safe while gaming online

- ☐ **4c** Spend at least 30 minutes playing one of your favorite games with a parent or guardian; show them how its privacy and safety settings work, tell them what you like about the game, and let them take a turn playing

- ☐ **4d** Play a team-based or cooperative multiplayer game, online or in person, with another Scout, a friend, or someone from your community (casual or competitive is fine); show good communication, teamwork, and sportsmanship while you play, then talk with your counselor about how working together and communicating shaped your team's results and fun

5 Gaming technology

Tips for this section: Compare consoles, PCs, and phones for gaming. If you look into PC building, learn what each part does.

- ☐ **5a** Explain how console and PC gaming differ and list the pros and cons of each

- ☐ **5b** Play the same game on at least two platforms (any game, free ones included, on a phone, tablet, PC, laptop, or console) and describe how gameplay and performance compare

- ☐ **5c** Design your dream gaming PC on a PC builder website (for example PCPartPicker or Micro Center), listing the graphics card, CPU, motherboard, RAM, power supply, hard drive, case, and fans you'd use; talk through your picks with your counselor

6 Leadership and service: Choose 1 of 3

Tips for this section: Teach a group about staying safe and kind online, or watch an esports event, streamed or in person, and notice how it's run.

Example for this section: Teach your patrol a 15-minute lesson on gaming safely online: pick a username with no real name or school, never share your location, block and report toxic players, and tell a parent if anyone asks to move to a private chat. End with a quick quiz.

- ☐ **6a** Teach a group (your troop, your patrol, younger Scouts, or family members) about digital citizenship or staying safe while gaming online

- ☐ **6b** Watch a live-streamed esports event at the pro, college, or school level; take notes on how the broadcasters present it, how the players talk to each other, and how viewers interact online, then tell your counselor what you learned about how online esports competitions are organized and presented

- ☐ **6c** With another Scout, a troop member, or a family member, go to a live event featuring competitive gaming, such as an esports tournament, a convention, or a community gaming event; afterward tell your counselor what the live atmosphere was like and how it changed your thinking about competing in front of a crowd

7 Careers in competitive gaming

Tips for this section: Look up college esports programs, and jobs like game designer, tester, or event organizer.

- ☐ **7a** Research two colleges with varsity esports programs and record for each: gaming scholarships offered and their amounts, gaming or IT-related degrees, games the team plays, and the league or association it competes in

- ☐ **7b** Research three careers that support esports but aren't athlete roles (such as game developer, shoutcaster, data analyst, event coordinator, or IT support); for each, find the main duties, education or training needed, and how it helps the gaming or esports world

Competitive Gaming worksheet (continued)

- ☐ **7c** Go to the jobs or careers section of a big game publisher's website (Blizzard, Riot, Epic, Nintendo, or similar), choose three openings that interest you, and find the education, skills, and experience each one asks for