



THE PROFESSOR'S MINUTE

Pokémon League is a fun and accessible way for Pokémon fans to get together and have some fun! League events are open to all Pokémon TCG and video game players regardless of experience level or skill. Using your own cards and Pokémon video games, you can play, trade, and even earn cool prizes! The best part is that you can do all this with other Pokémon players who love collecting and playing just as much as you do.

MARCH-APRIL 2019

Latest News



March 2019

March Promo card for this season will be the Jumpluff #14. Be sure to get a new score sheet at the beginning of each month and update your score sheet often.



APRIL 2019

April Promo card for this season will be Lost Blender #181. Be sure to get a new score sheet at the beginning of each month and update your score sheet often.

The TAG TEAM Pokémon-GX in the Pokémon TCG: Sun & Moon-Unbroken Bonds expansion show the colossal power of teamwork, including Reshiram & Charizard-GX, the Ultra Beasts Pheromosa & Buzzwole-GX, and Gardevoir & Sylveon-GX...plus, Lucario teams up with the newly discovered Melmetal! With trust and practice, these Pokémon can tackle just about anything, so check out the amazing Pokémon pairings in the Sun & Moon - Unbroken Bonds expansion!



- Over 210 cards
- 7 brand-new TAG TEAM Pokémon-GX
- 7 more Pokémon-GX
- More than 25 Trainer cards and a new Special Energy card

The Team Up Unbroken Bonds set is scheduled to release on May 3rd. Elite Trainer Boxes will also be made available.

Sun & Moon Unbroken Bonds Prerelease Tournaments are being scheduled for:

Greenville

Red Barn 2333 N. Pleasantburg Dr
Greenville, SC 29609
(864) 412-7887
Cost \$30

April 20 - Easley Library 1p
April 23 - Red Barn 6p
April 25 - Easley Library 6p
April 27 - Barn Yard Brawl Convention
11a and 4p
April 28 - Barn Yard Brawl Convention
2p

Anderson

Planet Comics 2704 N Main St
Anderson, SC 29621
(864) 261-3578
Cost \$25 (plus tax)

April 20 - 2p
April 21 - 2p
April 27 - 2p
April 28 - 2p

Greenville

Boardwalk 1175 Woods Crossing Rd,
Greenville, SC 29607 - \$26

April 20 - 6p

Information about the Prerelease Tournaments, dates, locations and entry fees are subject to change. Announcement of changes will be posted on our website and/or Facebook sites.

Find more information on our...

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/EasleyPokemonGym/> or our website at www.easleypokemongym.gq



Pokemon Event Central

March

- 7 – Easley League Smash Brothers
- 9 – Red Barn League Challenge – Greenville (Expanded)
- 14 – Easley League Professor's Challenge
- 15 – 17 – Regional Tournament – Greensboro, NC (Expanded)
- 16 – Easley League Challenge – Easley (Standard)
- 16 – VGC Easley – Easley (Moon Series)
- 30 – League Cup – Greenville – Red Barn (Standard)

April

- 2 – League Cup – Anderson – Planet Comics (Expanded)
- 4 – Easley League Smash Brothers
- 9 – Red Barn League Challenge – Greenville (Expanded)
- 11 – Easley League Professor's Challenge
- 19-21 – Regional Tournament – Daytona Beach, FL (Expanded)
- 20 – Easley League Challenge – Easley (Expanded)
- 20 – Prerelease Easley, Greenville, Anderson
- 20 – Prerelease Boardwalk Greenville
- 21 – Prerelease Greenville, Anderson
- 22 – Prerelease Greenville, Anderson
- 26 – Prerelease – Greenville, Anderson – Red Barn – Barn Yard Brawl Convention
- 27 – Prerelease – Red Barn Barn Yard Brawl Convention – Greenville, Anderson
- 28 – Prerelease Red Barn Barn Yard Brawl Convention – Greenville, Anderson

Pokemon Sun & Moon Unbroken Bonds Prerelease

The tenth Sun & Moon English set will be named Unbroken Bonds and will release on May 3rd!

The set will contain over 210 cards, including seven new Tag Team Pokemon-GX, seven regular Pokemon-GX, more than 25 Trainer cards, and a new Special Energy card.

Its Elite Trainer Box will feature Charizard & Reshiram-GX.

The set will thus include Night Unison's Venomoth-GX, Dedenne-GX, Greninja & Zoroark-GX, and Gardevoir & Sylveon-GX, the unrevealed Buzzwole & Pheromosa-GX and Lucario & Melmetal-GX from Full Metal Wall, and the unrevealed Charizard & Reshiram-GX from Double Blaze. There are of course more Pokemon-GX to be revealed from those sets.

Multiple prerelease tournaments will occur around our area starting April 20th - April 28th.



How to Prepare for a Pokémon TCG Tournament

Tournaments are great fun to participate in. There's a lot to do in preparing for a tournament, and if you've never attended one before, you need to know a few important things. You may have been practicing with your deck, fine tuning it and getting it ready for competition, and you may know all about the popular strategies and how to beat them. But preparation goes far beyond having a deck you think is good enough to win.

Let's look at some ways you can give yourself the best chance of having a successful tournament experience.

Your Deck

The biggest decision you have to make before a tournament is building yourself a deck to play. You only get to use one 60-card deck for the entire tournament, and you can't swap out any cards during the event. Each tournament is set in a Standard or Expanded format. Your deck must comply with the format of the tournament is set. Be sure to look at the event listing for what the tournament format is and build your deck accordingly.

A great deck isn't enough to win matches at a tournament. Researching and predicting what decks other players are likely to bring to the event is an extremely important part of tournament play. It is good to practice against a wide variety of strategies so you're prepared for anything that comes your way.

Once you've decided on a deck, you'll need to fill out a deck list. Deck lists can be on plain pieces of paper, but it's easier to use a pre-made official, typed deck list. This might seem like a trivial step, but if you forget to list a card or don't put down all of the correct information, there's a high chance you'll earn a penalty later in the tournament.

For each Pokémon in your deck, list out their quantity, card names, the set they're from, and their collection numbers. For Trainer and Energy cards, you just have to list their quantity and card names. We recommend filling everything out in advance at your first major event. You can complete and print a deck list from Pokebeach at <https://www.pokebeach.com/deck-list>.

Before the day of your event, take a moment to figure out what supplies and accessories you need to bring. Each player is required to bring damage counters, a randomizer (such as a die or coin), GX marker, Poison and Burn markers. Deck boxes are commonly used to store cards, and card sleeves protect your cards and make them easier to shuffle through the duration of the event. It's always a good idea to bring extra card sleeves, just in case the ones you're using get damaged during a match. Also remember to bring your Player ID so your attendance and record can be accurately noted. You can't participate in the tournament without it.

The Tournament

Playing in a tournament is much different than practicing with friends or even playing at local events. Nearly all Pokémon TCG sanctioned competitions use the Swiss round tournament structure, meaning everyone plays the same number of rounds: even if you lose, you keep playing. In each round you'll be paired with someone who has a record similar to yours.

In smaller events, like League Challenges, the tournament ends when all of the rounds have completed. In bigger events the top eight



How to Prepare for a Pokémon TCG Tournament

players from the Swiss rounds move onto a single elimination bracket. Then players get eliminated round-by-round until a champion emerges. To win a tournament, you'll have to battle through a lot of matches and face a lot of opponents.

The biggest difference between casual play and tournament play is the introduction of time limits. Regional Championships and other large scale events have a 50-minute time limit—plus three extra turns once time has expired—to decide a winner in best-of-three matches. If you win two games, you win the match. If you win the first game and time expires before the second game completes, you also win. (If you're on the losing side of this equation, you lose the match.) However, if both players have won the same number of games when time has expired, the match ends in a tie—incomplete games don't count for anything in the Swiss rounds.

The order of finish in the Swiss rounds is determined by match points: a win is worth 3 match points, a loss is 0 points, and a tie is 1 point. With this in mind, a major part of tournament play is understanding how time limits affect your chances of winning (rather than tying or losing). In a practice game, you may be inclined to play a game out to the end, trying to find any way to win.

However, in a best-of-three series with limited time, you must learn to recognize when your chances of winning aren't very good. By drawing out a battle you probably aren't going to win, you're wasting precious time that you'll need to complete the other games in the series. Sometimes the best strategy for winning a best-of-three match is a counter-intuitive one: conceding a game so you have enough time left to win the next two. It's hard to remember this during the heat of an intense match, but you'll need to keep these things in mind to give yourself the best chance of winning.

Tournament Time

Be sure to arrive early, well before the competition begins. For most tournaments you'll register on site prior to the event. You don't want to be late for the pre-tournament players' meeting, where you'll go over the rules, schedule, and other important information prior to the first match (usually held in larger tournament events).

At every competition you'll find judges and tournament organizers there to keep track of the rounds and results, as well as to make sure every match is played fairly. If you ever have a question about the schedule, tournament format, or anything else, don't be afraid to ask! The judges and organizer's whole purpose is to make sure everyone knows what's going on and to ensure a fair and fun competition.

The Pokémon TCG has a lot of rules and things to keep track of. Every once in a while, game-play errors occur, such as playing two Supporter cards in a turn. If you ever find yourself in a situation like this during a match, don't try to fix the situation yourself. Stop the game and call over a judge as quickly as possible. The judge will resolve the issue to the best of their ability, and a penalty will be issued if necessary. If you end up making a game-play mistake and receiving a penalty, you'll have to deal with another major part of tournament play: the mental game

Local Tournaments - League Challenges

A local Pokemon League Challenge tournament is an entry level tournament into the Pokemon Championship series. In all these tournaments players usually play in their respective age groups if

How to Prepare for a Pokémon TCG Tournament

enough of the players are attending the tournament. Even if you are paired with older or younger players the tournament software will maintain your information during the tournament and will place in your final standings according to how you did in the tournament. League challenge tournaments are fun and relaxed tournaments. You can gain championship points depending where you placed in the final standings. Junior and Senior age groups average 3 to 4 players per tournament. Each age group will have a top four players in the tournament in the final standings.

We encourage players to attend Pokemon League Challenges when ever possible. It's a great way to meet new players that may not attend our leagues and get the feel of an official Pokemon Tournament.

How Do you find Pokemon Tournaments and Events?

You can find Pokemon Tournaments and events by going to Pokemon.com website and use the Event Finder. Once you plug in your information it will find Pokemon events that are close to your location. Once you click on the link you will find all the information of the event along with the contact information of the organizer in case you have any questions. It's a great way to find Pokemon Sanctioned events in your area.

Upcoming Gaming Conventions

Pokemon is a growing community. As we grow our community here in the Upstate of South Carolina, we get invited to multiple gaming and Comicon conventions throughout our area. For 2019 we are looking at participating in three gaming convention events in 2019. The upcoming Barnyard Brawl Gaming Convention in Greenville, SC in April, The Southeast Game Gaming Convention in Greenville, SC and the Electric City Comicon in Anderson, SC in August. With these three events we need volunteers to assist us in representing the Pokemon League community to the Upstate of South Carolina. These events are a lot of fun and we meet people who would not normally know about Pokemon or our Pokemon Leagues. At these events our staff will play Pokemon in the TCG and VG, teach new players, assist in tournaments in some of these venues. You also get free access to the conventions and get to enjoy the activities of the events. If you would like to volunteer, please see Professor Jeff or email you interest to our email at easleypokemongym@gmail.com. The dates are as follows:

The Barnyard Brawl Gaming Convention - April 26-28 - Greenville Shrine Event Center 119 Beverly Rd, Greenville, SC 29609. Games played are Pokemon TCG and VG. We will host prerelease tournaments for Sun & Moon: Unbroken Bonds.

The Southeast Game Exchange - August 24-25 - Greenville Convention Center (Formerly TD Convention Center) - 1 Exposition Drive Greenville, SC 29607. Games played Pokemon TCG and VG.

Electric City Comicon - Anderson Main Library - 300 N McDuffie St, Anderson, SC 29621 - TBA

We will announce more information about these events as they approach the time. I hope you will join us for these exciting events.





Pokemon GO Community Days

Pokemon GO is designed to get people out and playing together at a certain time, each limited-time event will offer featured Pokémon with a unique and exclusive move that will spawn for three hours, alongside a resource bonus - such as double XP, Stardust or Lure Modules - as incentives to get out there and playing.

The developer Niantic hopes the regular event will add to the "excitement of local events and meet-ups", suggesting it's a good time to get your friends together at this set time, and possibly make a few new ones while out there.

The heightened player activity might make it easier to take on Raids and Gyms, so keep that in mind during the three hour period, as well as making savvy use of the resource multiplier in effect with things like Lucky Eggs and Stardust, too.

Pokemon GO Community Days:

March 23rd (Saturday) 3p-6p EST - Featured Pokemon Treeko
April - TBA

New features to Pokemon GO are being added periodically to the game. Enhancing the VR experience for each player. Catching Pokemon, battling friends, traveling around to the Pokestops makes Pokemon GO an interesting and fun game.

Our website and Facebook pages will have the latest information when announcements are made by Niantic.

PokeTech

The Pokémon Company International has released the new app Pokémon TCG Card Dex for iOS and Android. It became available worldwide (except in mainland China, South Korea, and Japan) on February 8, 2019, although it launched in Sweden on February 4, 2019. This app allows users to search and catalog their TCG collection from the Sun & Moon TCG Series.

The app utilizes the device's camera to scan cards and add them to the player's collection in the app. The app also allows players to search cards from the Sun & Moon Series. The search function allows the player to filter by multiple options including Pokémon Type, Card Type, Rarity, Energy Type, and HP.

Scanned cards appear in the app in the language the player has selected, even if the physical card is in a different language. The app supports the languages English, French, Italian, German, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Source Information: https://bulbanews.bulbagarden.net/wiki/Pok%C3%A9mon_TCG_Card_Dex_now_available_for_iOS_Android

Video Game - Get Rare Berries

You may obtain Rare berries for your Pokémon Ultra Sun, Pokémon Ultra Moon, Pokémon Sun, and Pokémon Moon games via the Mystery Gift option in your games. These selection of special Berries have not previously been unavailable in the games. The Mystery Gift contains an Enigma Berry, a Micle Berry, a Custap Berry, a Jaboca Berry, and a Rowap Berry.

Each of these rare Berries has useful effects when held by a Pokémon. You can plant the Berries to grow more of them by traveling to Poké Pelago in your game. With proper maintenance,

Video Game - Get Rare Berries

your supply of these handy items will never run out.

These Berries can be used in Pokémon Global Link Rating Battles and Online Competitions (unless the regulations state otherwise). They can also be used for the 2019 Video Game Championship Series from the Moon Series onward.

Rare Berry distribution runs from January 7, 2019 (8:00 p.m. PST), to September 2, 2019 (4:59 p.m. PST)

To get your Berries via Nintendo Network:

- Select Mystery Gift on the main menu.
- Select Receive Gift.
- Select Get via Internet, then Yes, and then Yes again to connect to the internet.
- Watch as you receive your Berries.
- Speak to the delivery person in any Pokémon Center to add the Berries to your inventory.
- Be sure to save your game!

Wireless internet access is required for online features. For more info, go to support.nintendo.com.

Source Information: <https://www.pokemon.com/us/pokemon-news/get-rare-berries/>

Leagues Supported By The Following:

The Red Barn
2333 N.Pleasantburg
Dr, Greenville, SC 29609
(864) 412-7887

The Red Barn located across from Home Depot on N. Pleasantburg Dr carry's a great selection of Pokemon, Magic the Gathering, War Hammer, Dragon Ball Super, Jewelry and Art. Coffee and snacks as well. Safe and clean. Very family friendly.

Planet Comics
2704 N Main St, Anderson, SC
29621

Comics, Games, Pokemon
Singles and TCG Merchandise

Boardwalk
1175 Woods Crossing Rd,
Greenville, SC 29607
(864) 2976924

Boardwalk offers a large selection
of games and has a great
selection of Pokemon TCG and
related products.

EMPIRE GAMES
118 N McDuffie St, Anderson,
SC 29621
Phone: (864) 3289418

We provide a well lit, well
stocked, clean environment to
enjoy your favorite tabletop
games with yourfriends!

Plaform 42
104 Middleton Way, Suite 3
Greer, SC 29651
(864) 416-1293

Pokemon TCG Merchandise

The Pickens County Library system, Captain Hampton Memorial Library staff, we thank you for all that you do and have done for the league over the years. Heath we really appreciate all your efforts and hard work in our league. May we continue to find more Pokemon adventures into the future.