

MTG Competitive Event Guidelines for Players

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Magic events held at Competitive Rules Enforcement Level (REL) represent a significant step up from more laid back events like Friday Night Magic or Prereleases. The standards of rules enforcement are higher, and breaking the rules, even unintentionally, can lead to significant penalties.

Whether you are a new player heading to your first Competitive Magic event, or a grizzled veteran grinder with many years of experience, here are a few tips to keep in mind to avoid problems and penalties.

1. **Communicate clearly and explicitly with your opponent during games**
2. **Prepare your decklist ahead of time (for constructed events), preferably printed using a tool like <https://decklist.org/>**
3. **Be on time! Better yet, be early!**
4. **Bring pen/paper and other necessary materials with you.
Dice are not allowed for tracking life totals!**
5. **When using foils or altered-art (i.e. painted) cards, be careful and check with the Head Judge!**
6. **Make sure your sleeves are in good condition and opaque**
7. **Keep ONLY your deck and sideboard in your deckbox, and NO OTHER CARDS/DECKS**
8. **Only consult outside notes (sideboard guide) BETWEEN games (not during!)**
9. **When spectating another match, do NOT intervene to fix perceived problems yourself! At most, you may ask the players to pause while you call a judge, then explain to the judge away from the table what you think went wrong, and the judge will determine if any corrective action is necessary.**
10. **Do not offer your opponent anything in exchange for a match result, or accept any such offer from an opponent. Do not offer to determine the winner of a match in an improper manner, or accept such an offer.**
11. **When in doubt, ALWAYS call a judge! We are here to help :)
Floor Judge rulings may be appealed to the Head Judge. Head Judge rulings are final. Always wait for the Floor Judge to finish delivering the initial ruling before appealing.**

References

Magic Tournament Rules:

https://media.wizards.com/2022/wpn/marketing_materials/wpn/mtg_mtr_2022jul1_en.pdf

Magic Infraction Procedure Guide:

https://media.wpn.wizards.com/attachements/mtg_ipg_5feb21_en_0.pdf