

Summer 2008 Yarn Smackdown

Rules - August 2008

Two fiber enthusiasts meet, draw their needles, and try to knit each other to death.

Yarn Smackdown is a competitive knitting game for a large number of players. The object of the game is to kill your target before your assassin kills you. Smackdown is played for the enjoyment of everyone involved.

It is important for the fun of everyone participating that you have read and understood the rules. If you have any questions about these rules, please ask for clarification from The Referee or Assistant Referees, who will be only too happy to provide it. If a dispute arises, the decision of The Referee is final and binding on all participants.

Throughout these rules and the game, a "Warrior" refers to someone who has signed up to participate in Yarn Smackdown in any capacity other than administratively. An "Assassin" or "Target" is a Warrior who is currently alive (either has not died or has resurrected after their most recent time being smacked).

To kill your Target, you knit the item in your event using the event pattern and mail it to them by USPS. Once your target receives your package, they are dead and must mail their unfinished item along with their Target's information to you, their Assassin, who uses it to kill their target.

For example, Amy is initially assigned Barbara as her target. Barbara is assigned Carol as her target. Amy kills Barbara before Barbara kills Carol. Barbara mails Amy her unfinished item (her "WIP") along with Carol's information. Amy then completes the WIP and mails it to Carol to kill Carol.

Targets and Assassins are initially assigned by The Referee, and emailed before the beginning of the game on August 8th. On August 8th, the event patterns will be posted on Yarnsmackdown.com and in the Yarnsmackdown yahooogroup.

A dead warrior must immediately post that they are dead in the database on the yahooogroups website, and must also immediately send their assassin their unfinished item, which becomes their new weapon, along with their answers to the five questions.

Each kill is worth 2 points. Points are exclusive to each event. This means that points earned in one event will not be added to points earned in another event except in Combined Knitting. For example, Amy decides to complete in Advanced Socks and Bookmark. She earns 6 points in Advanced Socks before being killed, and earns 2 points

in Bookmark. Amy is listed on the Leaderboard in the Advanced Socks event with 6 points, in Bookmark with 2 points, and Combined Knitting with 8 points.

After being killed, you are given the chance to "resurrect". At this point, you are returned to "life" and resume game play, but your ability to earn points is reduced. A resurrected warrior earns 1 point for each kill instead of 2 points for each kill. Resurrected warriors are paired together in head-to-head competition. For example, when Barbara is killed by Amy, Barbara decides she wants to continue to compete, and signs up to be resurrected. Barbara is paired against Diane, who was also killed by her Assassin. Both Barbara and Diane cast on a new weapon, and try to kill each other by completing the item and mailing it. The first to receive the item is dead. Diane is killed by Barbara, and Barbara earns one point. Diane mails Barbara her WIP and Barbara uses it to compete against another resurrected warrior.

Resurrected warriors can switch events and compete in a resurrected bracket other than the event they were killed in. For example, Elizabeth originally signs up to compete in Lace Scarf, and doesn't sign up for any other event. She is killed. She decides to be resurrected, and signed up for the resurrected bracket for bookmark.

Dead warriors and resurrected warriors will be identified on the Leaderboard as dead or resurrected. When the last alive and never resurrected warrior dies, the game ends and all resurrected warriors will complete their current duel but no new resurrected duels will start.

At the completion of the game, the single player with the highest score will be deemed the winner, per the decision of The Referee.

How to Sign-up:

You sign-up by completing the registration form on the Yarn Smackdown website, and by joining the Yarn Smackdown yahoo group. Once you become a member, you will complete your information in the group database. Do not complete the field on whether your mailing address is confirmed - The Referee is responsible for completing that field after your mailing address is received. Once registered, you will be listed on the Leaderboard by your Warrior Name and only by your Warrior Name.

Yahoo group is found at: **<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/yarnsmackdown>**

Questions - email me at helenwaittes@yahoo.com or helen@yarnsmackdown.com.

Q & A's:

Q. What are the events?

A. They are Beginner Socks, Advanced Socks, Lace Scarf, Knitted Lace Stole, Lace Bookmark, Lace Dishcloth, Knitted Animal, Crochet Stole, Crochet Amigurumi, Crochet Hat, and Goofy Mystery Event. Goofy Mystery Event is a small item which can be

mailed in a business sized envelope where both knitters and crocheters compete in the same event.

Q. Can I complete in more than one event?

A. Yes, but your points earned in each event are counted for only that event. For example, if you complete in Beginner Socks and Lace Dishcloth, points you earn in Beginner Socks stay within the Beginner Socks event and are not counted toward your ranking in the Lace Dishcloth Event.

Q. When do signups close?

A. Signups close at 11:30pm GMT on July 31, 2008.

You will be assigned your target to kill on August 4, 2008 or August 5, 2008. Weapons (yarn and needles) will be announced on July 1. Pattern will be posted to yarnsmackdown.com and posted on yahoo group website on August 8, 2008, at 9pm GMT (5pm ET).

Q. Can I send my weapon by FedEx or other private express mail service, like DHL?

A. No, the weapon must be sent by USPS or other government-sponsored mail service. This is done to level the playing field so that your death will not be determined on whether you can afford to FedEx or not. Everyone will be subjected to the same delivery issues.

Q. I live in Canada. Can I use Canada Post next day or 2 day service?

A. No. Next day or 2-day service would not be an even playing field for everyone due to the difference in cost, so they are not permitted, along with other next day delivery services.

Q. What yarn and needles will be used?

A. Both the yarn and needles will be appropriate to the Event and the pattern. For example, anticipate that the bookmark will use US Size 1 or US Size 2 needles and DMC Cotton. The Dishcloth event will use a nationally available cotton yarn commonly used for dishcloths, such as Peaches & Cream, and needles appropriate for that yarn, such as US Size 7 needles.

Q. Will warriors be organized by country?

A. Yes. It worked well for the first Yarn Smackdown, and will continue here. Where possible, warriors will be assigned by country of origin first in each event.