



2025 COMMANDANT'S CUP WARGAMING TOURNAMENT

WHEN: PRELIMINARY MATCHES – MARCH-APRIL 2025

-Fought virtually in MCU's Wargaming Cloud

FINALS: 29 APR – 2 MAY 2025

-Fought in-person at Modern Day Marine in Washington D.C. at the Walter E. Convention Center

WHO: The 2025 Commandant's Cup Wargaming Tournament is open to active and reserve military personnel from the US Armed Forces and Allies. The primary focus is on PME schoolhouses but it is open to operating force units as well. However, this is an INVITATIONAL tournament with key factors driven by availability to participate in the Finals event at Modern Day Marine, organizations and countries represented, and demonstrated proficiency in the wargames (as evidenced by Fight Club participation and the preliminary matches). Those wishing to be considered for invitation need to apply via the registration link and compete in the preliminary matches. **TEAM PLAY:** The Commandant's Cup is primarily a competition between 2-PERSON teams that represent organizations and military services. Competing players on the same team must be from the same organization subordinate to the first general officer / flag officer in the chain of command (such as two players from any units within 2nd Marine Division representing 2nd Marine Division in the tournament). In some cases, multiple teams from the same general officer organization may be allowed to compete (such as teams representing each school under Marine Corps University).

WHAT WARGAMES: The 2025 Commandant's Cup finals will consist of 3 wargame events:

- (1) **Flashpoint Campaigns Pro (with Amphibious Mod).** This is the Pacific Guard scenario which showcases a Marine Expeditionary Unit in an amphibious assault. This leverages an existing scenario at Expeditionary Warfare School. Players compete individually in a paired match using the computer wargame Flashpoint Campaigns Pro.
- (2) **Company Commander Modern.** The scenario for this is TBD. Game play is at the company level and will showcase the challenges of contemporary operations and loitering munitions. Players will compete individually in a paired match using this computer wargame from HexWar that is only available in the MCU Wargaming Cloud.
- (3) **Joint Tactics Arena.** This is an MCU developed table top wargame that is a derivative of the Operational Wargame System tailored to enable tournament play at a more tactical level. Players compete in a single joint operations scenario using mirrored forces. Players will not be afforded the opportunity to play this in advance of the tournament.
- (4) **Team Scoring.** The individual scores are aggregated for both players on a team into an overall Team score for the tournament. All players will compete in each of the above 3 events during the Commandant's Cup Finals at MDM during the first two days in Washington D.C. The top two highest scoring teams will then advance to the Finals on the

3rd day of MDM. Our current tournament framework is planned to support a maximum of 12 teams (2 players each) at Modern Day Marine. While the final invite list is TBD, the current plan is for 6 USMC teams and 6 Joint & Allied teams. But final team list will be based on the previous factors mentioned.

- (5) **Preliminary Tournament Events.** During March, MCU will host in the Wargaming Cloud tournament events for Company Commander Modern and Flashpoint Campaigns Pro which will help identify by merit and participation which teams to invite to the Finals. The first event kicks off 3 March 2025. Coordinating instructions will be passed to registered players during the last week of February.

HOW TO FORM A TEAM: There are two ways to form a team. (1) You recruit your team partner and then register (there is a place on the form to identify your teammate). (2) You register individually and we will assist in matching you with another registered player from your organization. During the prelims, there can be multiple teams from the same organization – who are essentially competing against each other for the invite.

TRAVEL TO MODERN DAY MARINE (WASHINGTON D.C.):

- (1) US Marine Corp teams are eligible for TAD funding provided by Marine Corps University. Only those teams selected for invitation to the Finals are eligible for funding. Whether or not OCONUS Marine Corps teams are funded will hinge on overall travel costs and the number of teams selected.
- (2) All other organizations (Joint & Allied teams) invited to participate in the Finals in Washington D.C. will have to cover their own travel costs. Teams may enter the PRELIMS without confirmation of funds for the Finals. However, players are encouraged to pursue funding early in the event that an invitation to participate in the Finals is extended.

REGISTRATION: Players wishing to enter the 2025 Commandant's Cup tournament must register using the below link or QR code **NLT 21 February 2025**. This registration only gains virtual admission to the Preliminary matches. Invitations to the Finals will be distributed NLT first week of April so that participating teams can secure funding and make travel arrangements for the Finals, 29 Apr – 2 May.

<https://forms.office.com/r/Qa2cB04WYq>



QUESTIONS:

Email: wargaming@usmcu.edu

WEBSITE WITH RESOURCES:

<https://www.usmcu.edu/Academic-Programs/Brute-Krulak-Center/Wargaming-Directorate/>