

The US Tak Association

Ben Wochinski, President USTA

The first year of Tak has been truly exceptional.

Long before its first commercial release, the game of Tak has attracted a wealth of fans and players, starting with the release of the beta rules in the fall of 2015.

By the spring of 2016 there was already a large community on Reddit, as well as an online version with multiple AI players at *playtak.com*. The idea for a national Tak organization arose from within that group of dedicated fans.

The **US Tak Association** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the game of Tak and its community of players. The association was launched on July 1, 2016.

Our first official event was the Gen Con “Year Zero” Tak Championship, a small but successful tournament that helped us establish a presence at Gen Con.

This year, the US Tak Association is working to increase awareness of the game, arrange official tournaments, and help establish Tak clubs.

During the game’s first year in retail stores, most of the USTA’s objectives will fall under two primary goals: To spread the word, and to advance competitive play.

Spreading the Word

Tak’s rules are simple and easy to teach. Sharing the game with family and friends, or running a Tak demo event at your local game store, is a joy well worth the effort.

The USTA is helping establish Tak clubs throughout the US, and we are looking for people who are interested in participating. Anyone can become a member of the USTA, and start an affiliate club. No club is too large or too small!

There’s no better way to encourage the growth of the Tak community than establishing a place to play regularly, in both friendly and competitive games.

The US Tak Association provides its affiliate Tak clubs with a listing in their club directory, which will help new players find a local club, plus free hosting of a club information web page.

Advancing Competitive Play

To encourage and advance competitive play, the USTA will maintain a national rating system. A member’s rating can be used to determine eligibility for or placement in events. An official player rating is also great for bragging rights within a local club.

Recommendations are available on the USTA website for tournament directors regarding tournament structure, match scoring, and rules of play and conduct. Anyone is free to use this information to run their own tournaments to ensure a smooth and fair event. Official USTA affiliate events will be required to meet our standards, to ensure a quality experience for players.

The USTA already runs a regular national championship tournament, the US Tak Open. The inaugural run of this event took place online at the end of 2016. 149 players signed up for the qualifying rounds.

In future incarnations we intend that all official events, including the qualifiers, playoffs, and finals of the US Tak Open, will be held in-person. Expanding tournaments into more regions is a direct step towards this objective.

Though we are currently focused on the United States, the US Tak Association is willing to help members of the Tak community organize worldwide.

Join the USTA!

Joining the US Tak Association is the perfect way to help share the game and improve your own Tak experience. If you want to get involved with the larger community, or just love sharing the deep strategy of the game, please consider becoming a member.

Tak has strategy and depth hidden beneath its simplicity, and even a novice will begin to grasp the concepts in only a handful of games. The US Tak Association is working to make games fun, fair, and available to all.

For a list of benefits and more information about the US Tak Association, please visit us at www.ustak.org. Welcome to a beautiful game!



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