MINIEPLEX NEWSLETTER



Issue 83 August 2022

Community Management Events, Speed Builders Tournament, A Tribute to Technoblade, and more.

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Have any feedback? We'd love to hear it. Share with us on our feedback form!

From the Editor

Happy August! I hope those in the Northern Hemisphere have enjoyed your summer thus far, despite the scorching heat a lot of us have been dealing with. Some of you might have been spending your time on the network as you usually do, however, many of you seemed to love the community events hosted (and the prizes that came with them)! Additionally, the Mineplex Oscars appeared to have brought back many players due to nostalgia, especially since it was announced that this year's Oscar would be the last.

For this month's Newsletter, we've got a bit more pizzazz—a new contest and Guess the Location being on Bedrock rather than Java. Additionally, we have some intel on future Community Management events from the Community Management Admin and a recap on the Speed Builders tournament. Lastly, one of our writers wrote an article tributing Technoblade and his lovely contributions to Mineplex and the Minecraft community as a whole. Rest in peace, Techno.

If you have any specific inquiries in which you would like to speak with me privately about the Newsletter, the team, an article, or any other concern, you're more than welcome to and can do so by messaging me on the forums. Otherwise, you can always submit comments or feedback through our official form or on the thread. I hope you enjoy this month's edition of the Mineplex Newsletter!

Have a delightful August!

- Arjun, Newsletter Program Manager

Future Community Management Events By EmmaLie

As many of you all know by now, Community Management and Event Squad merged into one team back in March. Since then, we've been busy but we're finally getting back into the swing of events! In this article, you'll be able to catch up on what we've been doing and what our plan is for the next 3 months!

Tournament Updates:

Along with all of the changes made to Community Management, we've decided to start hosting tournaments! Right now, we're hosting a Speed Builders tournament with Kaiven and punkband. It has been going really well which is why we're currently in the process of developing a similar tournament for our Bedrock players.

Community Management is looking forward to hosting more tournaments in the future and our plan is to host one every season!

Mineplex Oscars 2022 Recap:

Last month, we kicked off our event season with one of our biggest events of the year: the Mineplex Oscars. Sadly, this is the last year we'll be hosting this event due to many reasons but, in the end, we gave it a proper send-off. In total, we had over 30 winners this year which meant we got to celebrate more of our community!

Upcoming Events:

Lobby Hangout [Bedrock]

Come hangout with Community
Management and Event Assistance as
we play games in the lobby. There will
be trivia, parkour, and a handful of other
small lobby games; with prizes to go
along!

Date: Early August, TBA

Speed Builders Tournament [Bedrock]

Are you good at building? Come join us for our first ever Bedrock Speed Builders Tournament. Each round will be 1v1, with the player who has the lowest average build time over 10-25 rounds moving to the next round. And of course, winners of the final brackets will be rewarded with some awesome prizes!

Date: Mid-late August/September, TBA

CHAOS! At Mineplex

OP Games, multiple potion effects, one tap items, knockback 100+ items, and multiple blocks in multiple game modes so you can cover the whole map to your desire. Whatever happens, goes around here!

Date: August 13th

Gladiators' Paradise [Java]

As a mercenary, fighting to live and living to fight is your unavoidable fate. In all sorts of PVP games, you will get the chance to show off your best moves. Take up arms and prepare your battle cry, because only one will emerge victorious!

Date: August 20th

Back To School Special [Java]

School sucks. No one wants to celebrate the end of summer, but you know what we're going to do? Play a bunch of super fun games to ease the pain of having to go back to the daily grind of homework, tests, and mean teachers who don't let you sleep in class.

Date: September 3rd

Blast to the Past [Java]

Over the years the event team has created a lot of awesome maps, fun storylines, and whacky game mode combinations. For this event, we'll take a trip down memory lane and explore some of these past events! Have a secret love for build my thing? How about Parkour battles? We'll be playing a variety of these old classics so make sure to join us!

Date: Early September, TBA

Nature's Grasp [Java]

You wake up in a town overgrown by nature. In order to find out what happened, you need to make your way through a city-sized maze, solve redstone puzzles, beat tricky parkour, and more! This map has been in the works since 2018, so make sure you don't miss out on the fun!

Date: Mid-September, TBA

Miners' Fantasy [Java]

Grab your shovel and pickaxe, it's exploration time! Come join us for various mining adventures, as well as the release of a brand new Event Map, where you're put against other players in a free-for-all match beneath the ground. Locate and uncover long-lost treasure along the way in order to help you survive, and don't let any miner problems stop ya!

Date: Late September, TBA

Spooktober Part I [Java]

It's time to get spooky! Celebrate
Halloween all month long with us and
join in on the thrilling adventures of our
iconic characters we've created in the
past. Will GOON make an appearance?
Willow The Witch? Vladimir The
Vampire? You'll have to tune in to find
out!

Date: October 1st

Bounty Hunters [Java]

Hunt the player with a bounty on them. Get the final blow/kill on them and claim their bounty! But, wait.. everyone wants your bounty now and they made it higher than the last! You're now the target for claiming the last bounty. What did you get yourself into?

Date: October 16th

Spooktober Part II [Java]

Spooktober continues and concludes with an epic ending to our spooky story. Celebrate Halloween by wearing your favorite costume and watching the mysterious story unfold through epic games on Mineplex. Tricks and or Treats may occur. Beware!

Date: October 29th

This is our plan for right now, but we have more coming! Don't worry Bedrock players, more events for you guys will be announced soon. We're so excited to be hosting again and we hope to see a ton of you at our upcoming events!

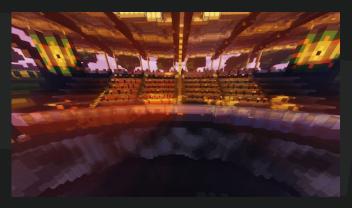
Speed Builders Tournament

By maevestarbaby

Speed Builders has taken Mineplex by storm ever since its release a few years ago, but it was only a few weeks into June 2022 that it and its competitive playerbase got the individual love it deserved in the form of a full-fledged official Java tournament.

If you are unfamiliar with Speed Builders, and have never seen it sprawled on your "for you" TikTok or Instagram pages, let me enlighten you: Speed Builders is a solo memory game in the form of memorizing and then building a mini build as quickly as possible—as the name suggests—against 7 other players. You must stay sharp or else GWEN the Guardian will in fact laser you out of existence. It is unique and fast-paced, available on both Java and Bedrock, and since its release has gathered lots of popularity on social media.

The Speed Builders tournament is an ongoing 1v1 bracket-style tournament composed of dozens of Java players of all skill levels competing on a beautiful custom map (as seen below) built by Kaiven and punkband, two of the tournament managers, with a custom pool of 327 mini builds.





I managed to get a hold of one of the Speed Builders leaderboard players and stars behind the tournament, Kaiven, to ask him a few questions regarding his Speed Builders experience, and how he's managing his first official tournament.

When did you start playing Speed Builders, and what has your experience been with the game?

Kaiven: "I've been playing Speed Builders since it was initially released back in 2016, but I never really got into it until 2018 when I ended up in a game with the tryhard community. They were all super friendly and supportive yet super good at the game, I was quickly inspired to start bettering myself at the game and being a part of the community. Fast forward to today, I now manage the community discord server, our Speedrun page, and the Speed Builders Competitive League. I have hosted many events and tournaments within the SB community as well, even though I cannot win these tournaments myself, myself and everyone who participates seems to have an amazing time and asks when the next one will be. With these experiences, I have been able to get to know and befriend the majority of players in the community and can confidently say that it is still the friendly and supportive community it was all those years ago. Overall my experience with Speed Builders has been nothing short of amazing, and I hope I can keep going for more years to come!"

What would you say has been the most challenging part of managing your first official Mineplex tournament?

Kaiven: "The most challenging part is definitely time management and scheduling. Having this being the first time I have hosted this event as a official Mineplex tournament has been a huge step up, the size of the

tournament has practically doubled since last year. Since the tournament is 1v1 bracket styled, myself and the other people hosting have to keep track of almost 100 peoples time zones and availability. We were able to develop a system where players discuss amongst themselves to schedule their game from given time slots. Overall this system has worked pretty well but it is far from flawless. It has been crazy trying to get all these schedules down. On another note, the transition from it being an nonofficial tournament to a formal official tournament was actually pretty flawless. When the tournament was originally started in 2020 me and another community member by the name duckle planned out and hosted it, when we started we quickly found a lot of issues and when the next tournament came around we made sure to fix them. For this years tournament we already had a good idea of what we were doing, but we wanted to add a lot more to make it bigger and better. After CoM agreed to help out, me and punkband sat down and discussed ideas about what more we can add, such as a custom build pool, and our very own map. After we knew what we wanted we had a meeting with CoM and presented our ideas and gave examples of how the tournament was hosted last year. They loved our scoring system and were

excited to get started, they gave us the tools we needed add our ideas in and they helped a ton with advertising and creating a prize pool for the tournament! With help from punkband and CoM the transition was super smooth and easy, I cannot thank them enough."

Do you have any other plans to host more Speed Builders tournaments in the future?

Kaiven: "As long as I am active in the Speed Builders community you bet there is going to be more tournaments and events hosted! I absolutely love hosting these type of things as it an opportunity to bring the community together and also show other people what Speed Builders is all about! As for Bedrock events, I have always had the idea lingering in my head but not sure how to go about it as I am not familiar with that network. Eventually I definitely want to expand to that network but I will definitely need a ton of help doing so."

What was the experience like building a huge, unique Speed Builders map for the tournament?

Kaiven: "When given the opportunity to create a map for this event me and punkband were super excited and got to work immediately. Originally we did not really know what we were going for so we just started creating different platforms and seeing which ones we like and which ones we did not. Eventually we settled on a stone brick platform with orange and blue colorings, we chose the orange and blue because the game on release was very guardian themed and we wanted to go with that. After that punkband had the idea of basing the map after Pokemon Stadium from Smash, and so we did that. We still wanted to 'Speed Builder-fy' the map a little so we added the flag design made by xFTL that won a competition I hosted where people got to create an 'Official Speed Builders Flag'. We also added the player heads of the top 250 perfect builds leaderboard into the stands to watch the map. The map was an overall awesome experience to create and it is probably one of the my favorite things about the tournament this year. Oh yeah, huge shout out to punkband for basically carrying the whole map as I can't build to save my life!"

If you'd like to get more information on the tournament, check out the official forum thread here. The thread also contains the invite link to the Speed Builders Competitive League (SBCL) discord where you can spectate live matches and drop your bracket predictions!

A Tribute to Technoblade

By Looof

On June 30, 2022, popular YouTuber Technoblade lost his battle with sarcoma (bone cancer). This news shocked the Minecraft community and was highly devastating to many. Technoblade was a content creator that had impacted the lives of numerous different players on different servers, with much of his popularity stemming from his participation in the Dream SMP.

Technoblade was an active player in the early days of Mineplex, creating videos such as "technoblade vs mineplex's owner" back in 2013 which had an intense One in the Quiver match against defek7. In this entertaining video, the viewers got to witness a 1 kill victory by Technoblade as he went neck and neck with the owner. This video paired with others in the following years established his position as one of the most entertaining early Minecraft YouTubers.

A lot of his success can be attributed to the minecraft server Hypixel. Technoblade was able to gain over 7000 wins in Skywars and almost 5000 in Bedwars, all while creating memorable videos on his channel. Many of his videos that were created around Hypixel have over 10 million views with one of them teaching over 24 million views titled "the Hypixel skyblock experience" and another video centered around skyblock that has over 36 million views. All of his videos increased his fanbase, where the most extreme fans would refer to themselves as the technoclan.

As his channel grew, he pivoted towards more content based on the popular Dream SMP. As one of many content creators part of this SMP, he created engaging videos along with his friends which aided him in getting over 15 million subscribers.

His passing was felt by many, regardless of whether or not they played Mineplex or were an active watcher of his channel. Minecraft has honored him by putting a crown on the pig in the launch screen, representative of his minecraft skin. In Lobby-1 on Mineplex, a statue of his skin was built to honor him as well, furthering the idea that Technoblade was loved by many.





Guess The (Bedrock Lobby) Location By WinteryOsprey38

Are you looking for some shade to cool off during this hot summer weather? Perhaps you're after some place calm and peaceful? For this month's Guess the Location, we've decided upon a location within the Bedrock lobby. If you happen to know where this place is located or if you're willing to explore, feel free to submit a response below!

Submit your guesses here, and be sure to include plenty of detail (as coordinates are not available): https://forms.gle/Wnxc86PHzE1mTZsP7

The image from last month was taken by the cave under the ruins parkour by the entrance to the staff offices. The coordinates are X: 137, Y: 45, Z: -26.

Congratulations to zchrris and OniumLK on correctly guessing the location!

Mineplex Bingo By ddgolfer

Long time no see, Mineplex Bingo is back! As a throwback to this old contest this month, the Newsletter Team will be challenging you to complete at least five of these boxes in a row. Normal Bingo rules apply: you must have at least five boxes achieved either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. The two Bingo cards are split between the Bedrock and Java servers for the platform you play on or your preference, but beware because there are forum challenges in both of them!

Do you think you have what it takes? Claim your Bingo here

<u>Java</u>



B I N G O				
Get a full set of diamond armor in 1 game of Skywars	Win 2 games of Cake Wars	Take a selfie with a staff member	Kill someone, in any game, with your fists	Make or reply to a Forum Game on the forums
Win 3 games of Dragons	Take a screenshot at the highest point on a map	Win as a bookshelf in Block Hunt	Make some type of pixel art in Creative Housing	Get past round 8 of Mob Arena without upgrading your gear
Find a screenshot of an old Mineplex memory	Win 3 games of Skywars	FREE SPACE	Take a screenshot with the Mineplex logo	Get 1st place in Master Builders
Win 2 games of Turf Wars	Take a screenshot of having a daily reward bonus above 10 days	Post a meme on your forums wall	Win a game of Speed Builders	Do the lobby Treasure Hunt
Take a screenshot of yourself or someone else in a costume	Win a game of Bomb Lobbers with at least 5 players still alive on your team	Use the bat blaster cosmetic on 5 people	Write a productive reply to any forum thread	Win a game of Micro Battles with all of your teammates still alive

Bedrock

July Staff Statistics By Arjun

This month, we wanted to issue a huge welcome to all the new staff members who joined us and say thank you to all of the staff members who have sadly resigned for all of their hard work for the network.

Java Trainee

July 9: danb76

July 16: ShadowWolfZoe (Cross-Platform)

Java Moderator

July 7: Nightys

July 9: Amg_ (Reinstatement)

July 17: Splendida

July 30: moqiee (Reinstatement)

Bedrock Trainee

July 16: Knazamn (Cross-Platform)
July 23: hazzerbr (Cross-Platform)

July 30: WingedCell48599

Resignations

July 9: xLqnax

July 23: Nolawn (Community Management)

1 Year Milestones

July 3, 2021: aiirr

2 Year Milestones

July 4, 2020: whalker

5 Year Milestones

July 29, 2017: Flaym

Meet the Team



Arjun: Hey there! I'm the Newsletter Lead. I'm also a Sr. Recruiter/Manager on the Recruitment team, a Rules Committee member, and I work on a couple of other sub-teams. Hope you enjoyed this month's issue of the Newsletter!



Tortelett: RIP TECHNOBLADE



Sophie_OGrady: Hi, I edit the newsletter.



Marzie: For your safety, this product has been carefully removed from shelves and will be carefully disposed of.

Meet the Team



EmmaLie: Hiya! I'm Em and I'm the current admin for CoM & SM! My interests include stanning Taylor Swift, tryharding in Valorant, and eating pasta.



chhase: goose admin and editor



ddglfer: Hey y'all, I am ddgolfer and I am a writer for the Newsletter!



Looof: yea yea yea yea we paid

Meet the Team



joshuart_: Your friendly neighborhood Build Team Admin



maevestarbaby: hii i'm maeve, a uni student as well as a mineplex sr moderator and writer for the newsletter!



WinteryOsprey38: Hey, I'm WinteryOsprey38! I'm a writer for the Newsletter and a big lover of sushi



Niqhtys: yessir