



WHAT IS THE ADEPTICUP ARMY SHOWCASE?

From the war-torn worlds of the 41st millennium to the red fields of Wesetros, from the beaches of Normandy to Midtown Manhattan, forces are gathering. Twelve-meter-tall 'mechs power up, while the war-horns of Rohan call the hosts to muster at Dunharrow.

The vast and varied armies, teams, and warbands that clash in AdepticCon's Team Tournaments represent the pinnacle of the tabletop miniatures hobby. The results of months of effort are displayed at AdepticCon in an unrivalled presentation and the best of the best are invited to exhibit their skill in the AdepticCup Army Showcase.

The best displays from the various Team Tournament events at AdepticCon will be asked to exhibit their armies in a special AdepticCup area on Saturday night. This place of honor spotlights the range of amazing projects and the Showcase has become one of the convention's highlights.

WHICH EVENTS PARTICIPATE?

For AdepticCon 2026, the following events will participate in the AdepticCup Army Showcase:

- A Song of Ice and Fire Team Tournament
- Star Wars: Shatterpoint: Team Premier Showdown
- Marvel: Crisis Protocol Teams Tournament
- Star Wars: Legion Doubles
- Adeptus Titanicus: Doubles - The Ruin of Maerdan
- BattleTech Alpha Strike 350 Doubles Tournament
- Bolt Action Doubles
- Halo: Flashpoint Duos Tournament
- Horus Heresy: Grand Team Event
- Infinity Fireteam Duo Tournament
- Judgement Team Event
- Middle-earth SBG Friendly Doubles Tournament
- SAGA Grand Melee - Historical Doubles
- Warhammer 40,000 Kill Team Doubles Tournament
- Warhammer 40,000 Team Tournament
- Warhammer 40,000: The Long War Doubles
- Warhammer: Age of Sigmar Team Tournament
- Warhammer: The Old World Doubles
- Warmachine: 2-Player Doubles Tournament
- Warmachine: Americas Team Championship

WHAT IS THE ADEPTICUP?

The AdeptiCup is a traveling trophy awarded to the "Best in Show" team in the Army Showcase. This team represents the pinnacle of hobby achievement at AdeptiCon. The trophy will reside in the hall of the winning team's game system until the next year's AdeptiCup Army Showcase, to the weeping and lamentations of the other game systems.

HOW DO WE ENTER?

Participation is optional, but unless judges are told otherwise, teams entered into any of the participating events will automatically be considered for the AdeptiCup Army Showcase. Army Showcase Finalists will receive a formal invite, details on setup, and expectations for all finalists.

HOW ARE ARMIES SELECTED FOR THE SHOWCASE?

Each tournament organizer will be responsible for working with the AdeptiCon Army Showcase team and selecting worthy entries from their own event.

Generally, the selection is based on a holistic consideration of army appearance, display quality and theme/composition. But, as a northstar for guidance, event organizers should be considering "is this entry something that should be shared with the broader AdeptiCon audience and celebrated?"

The number of showcase slots available for each event will be decided on the weekend by the AdeptiCup Army Showcase Coordinator based on tournament size, available space, and quality of entries in each event.

Being selected for the Showcase is an achievement in its own right – selected teams will be hand delivered an exclusive invitation to attend the Showcase.

HOW DOES JUDGING FOR THE ADEPTICUP WORK?

Teams will be given a time window to present their armies to a panel of three judges. The judges will then come to a consensus decision, selecting the winning team.

Selection is subjective and based on a holistic assessment of everything about a team's army/display including, but not limited to:

- Creativity
- Painting Quality
- Narrative on Display
- Visual Impact (Wow! factor)
- Technical Execution

THE ADEPTICUP AWARDS

- AdeptiCup Best of Show
Overall Top Winner
- AdeptiCup Reserve Best of Show
Overall Runner-Up
- Commended Entries
Deserving the highest level of praise
- Best Skirmish
Best of small-format game systems
- Best Display
Display board earning the highest marks
- Best Painted
Focused on the painting of the miniatures
- People's Choice
Voted on by event attendees
- Judge's Choice
Each of the five judges' personal favorite

LOCATION AND SCHEDULE

Baird Center Exhibit Hall E (3rd Floor)
Saturday March 28th, 2026

6:30 PM	Pre-Showcase Instructional Meeting
7:00 PM	Set-up for Showcase Finalists
8:00 PM	Viewing, Judging, People's Choice Voting
10:00 PM	Awards Ceremony
11:00 PM	Tear-down

WHAT ELSE SHOULD WE KNOW?

Competition for the Army Showcase and the AdeptiCup is fierce, and truly excellent armies are often not asked to participate. This is no slight on the amazing work of individual teams, but a testament to the vast amount of amazing hobby work that is featured at AdeptiCon.

PLEASE NOTE: While gift-giving and handing out swag is a beloved tradition at Adepticon, our judging team is not allowed to receive anything during the Showcase judging process. If you would like to give something to one of our renowned judges, please hold off until after the awards ceremony.

WHO TO SEND QUESTIONS TO?

Please send an email with your questions with the subject line "AdeptiCup 2026" to info@adepticon.org.

THE 2026 ADEPTICUP JUDGING TEAM



SAM LENZ

INSTA: @samsonomas
*EXPERTISE: COMPETITION
MINIATURE PAINTING*

Sam Lenz, long time artist, instructor and self proclaimed "Heavy Metal Painting Wizard." Featured in The Art Of..Vol 11. Painting the world, one day at a time. Sam is extremely accomplished in the world of tabletop miniature painting, having won Golden Demons, Crystal Brushes, and many other awards. He brings his expertise to determine who is the best of the best at the AdeptiCup!



COURTNEY DeVRIES

INSTA: @figuratively_speakingminis
*EXPERTISE: PAINTING AND
COMPETITION JUDGING*

Courtney DeVries is a Canadian miniature painter, international instructor, and competition judge known in the hobby as Figuratively Speaking Minis. With a focus on creativity, storytelling, and strong technical foundations, she is passionate about supporting painters at every level and celebrating growth within the community.



JASON CRAZE

WEBSITE: MONUMENT HOBBIES
*EXPERTISE: AIR BRUSH AND MIXED
HOBBY TECHNIQUES*

Chief hobby nerd and founder of Monument Hobbies, Jason not only knows how to make some of the best hobby products out there, but also how to apply them with amazing results. Jason lends his decades-long experience of building, painting, and playing to provide a valuable perspective when it comes to judging. Things like build quality, consistency, and overall theme are important to Jason and he is always on the lookout for armies that excel at each of these.



DUNCAN RHODES

*WEBSITE: DUNCAN RHODES
PAINTING ACADEMY*
EXPERTISE: FULL ARMY PAINTING

I started in the hobby when I was 11 and found that learning to paint was quite difficult! Once I got a job at GW, first in retail, then the studio, and finally Warhammer TV, I found that I really enjoyed teaching painting techniques to make it as easy to learn as possible. Five years ago I started the Duncan Rhodes Painting Academy with my friend Roger. We are dedicated to teaching skills for painting miniatures, we now run painting competitions, and even have our own high quality range of hobby paints.



DAVE TAYLOR

INSTA: @davetaylorminiatures
*EXPERTISE: DIVERSE STYLES
OF PAINTING*

Dave Taylor has painted more than 12,000 minis for countless armies in his hobby career (and has even written a book or two about painting wargaming armies). He also publishes high-quality art books about miniatures artists! A staunch supporter of AdeptiCon, he stands ready to celebrate the passion and enthusiasm that everyone is bringing to this new era.