



Contact: John Chew

Phone: 214-810-2439, 416-876-7675

Email: info@scrabbleplayers.org

Web: www.scrabbleplayers.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

24-Year-Old Kentucky Content Creator Wins \$10,000 Top Prize in Scrabble Championship

SOUTH BEND, IN (July 24, 2024) – Top-seeded Mack Meller, a 24-year-old Scrabble content creator from Lexington, KY has just won \$10,000 playing in NASPA’s annual Scrabble Players Championship, at the Century Center in South Bend. He defeated Ian Weinstein, a 58-year-old internist from Coral Gables, FL, in an exciting come-from-behind finish to the best-of-5 finals, 427-436, 313-445, 476-373, 421-416 and 441-396.

Meller played such words as MATELOTE (a fish stew), FYTTE (a section of a poem), SLOJD (a craft-based educational system), and a stunning 45-point winning final play of ESCHAR (a scab) against Weinstein, who added a sixth top-ten finish to a career spanning 18 national championships. 301 other players scored over three million points since Saturday while trying to qualify for the finals.

Meller said “That was one of the best finals you’ll ever see in Championship Scrabble. We were playing lights out the whole way.”

In the International division, Josh Castellano, a 27-year-old software engineer from Vienna, VA, claimed a \$4,000 top prize with a straight 3-0 record in a best-of-5 finals over Waseem Khatri, a 36-year-old professional Scrabble coach and 2022 finalist from Karachi, Pakistan. Castellano took advantage of the larger international lexicon to play such words as NARTJIES (tangerines) and ZOOPEY (experimentation on animals).

Since 2009, NASPA has been the governing body for over 20,000 competitive Scrabble players in the United States and Canada.

SCRABBLE is a trademark of Hasbro, Inc. in the USA and Canada, and of Mattel, Inc. elsewhere. NASPA and its activities are neither endorsed by nor affiliated with Hasbro or Mattel.

Downloadable photos: <https://bit.ly/naspamedia> Event details: <https://bit.ly/SPC2024SB>

###