

Blizzard says it's building 'revitalized' Overwatch esports after OWL season ends

Hours after the Florida Mayhem were crowned the 2023 *Overwatch* League Grand Champions, the *Overwatch* League itself has likely come to its end. In a post on X (formerly Twitter) this morning, Blizzard said that it's working on "building our vision of a revitalized esports program."

As a result, earlier this year, a financial filing from Blizzard confirmed that franchise owners would vote on whether or not to continue the league under new terms or agree to a \$6 million per team termination fee. Though we do not know if the vote has happened, it is all but certain that – amidst an already adverse esports climate – the owners will take the money and leave.

When the news of the vote broke, *Overwatch* League director Sean Miller stated that even if franchise owners no longer wish to participate as a league, competitive *Overwatch* will continue beyond the 2023 season.

"I want to be clear on one thing in particular, that *Overwatch* remains committed to a competitive ecosystem in 2024 and beyond," he told *The Verge* in an interview. Also, even in this year, competitive *Overwatch* will not evaporate entirely as Blizzard continues its marginalized gender tournament, Calling All Heroes, and World Cup programming.

While this post is not direct confirmation (and *The Verge* has reached out to Blizzard for that confirmation), it seems to affirm what the *Overwatch* League community has known for a

while now: the *Overwatch* League, as we know it, is over.

<https://www.theverge.com/2023/10/2/23899985/overwatch-league-disbands-esports>