



Console Clone High Score Tournament System

High Score Tournament System (HSTS) is a web-based emulation and contest system. You can add games from arcades and various console systems. Play the games in a browser and hold exciting world-wide high score tournaments. You can run multiple tournaments, scheduled to run as many days as needed.

Tournaments can be a single game with its own leaderboard or multiple games that all feed their rankings into one large Standings Leaderboard with its own scoring system.

This system is available for any webhost that includes the use of PHP. No database or any other server-side modules required as it's built with HTML, JavaScript, PHP and data is stored in XML.

HSTS is not a secure system designed to thwart cheaters at every turn, it's design to be easy to install, easy to use and simple to maintain. Users submit their own scores for the tournaments, and are expected to prove their winning claims with screenshots at the end of the tournament. Score submission is built in, screenshot proof will require you to find a way to accept screenshots (email, discord, Facebook group, etc.)

Features

Preconfigured Emulators:

For playing games in a browser that support Xbox, PlayStation and other controllers and gamepads. You can also play using keyboard and mouse, as well as the ability to rebind your keys and buttons as needed. (Everything is local to your web server and does not use any off-site API or filesystems.)

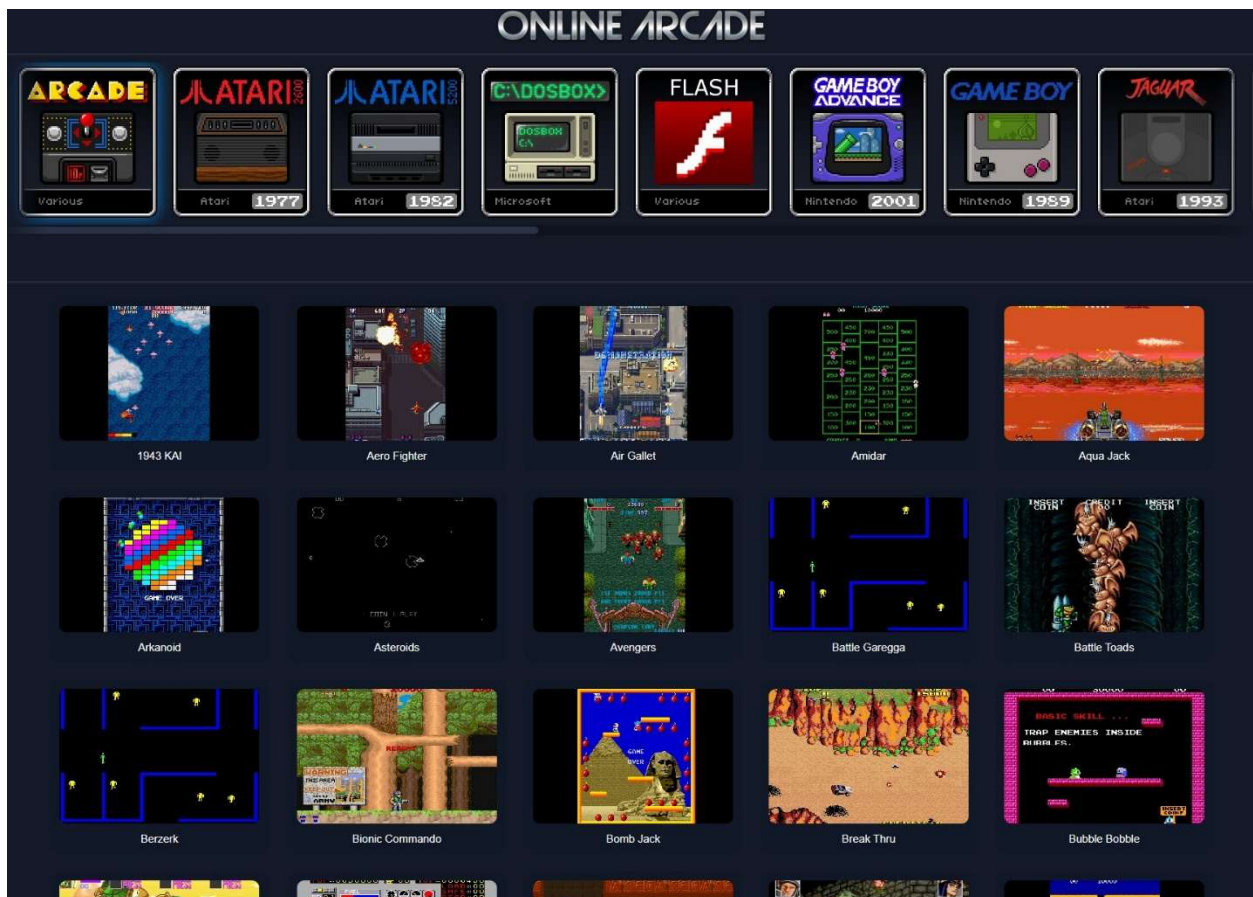
You can add new consoles and games for each in the XML backend that can be edited in a basic text editor, no special tools or database knowledge or coding skills needed.

Arcade & Consoles: EmulatorJS 4.2.3

Dos: JSDOS 6.22.60

Flash: Ruffle 03-06-2026

Note: Tournaments are not supported for WEB games.



Practice and Tournament Game Views:

Practice game view lets the player enjoy any game on Console Clone and tournament view locks the player into one game, but allows them to have access to a timer and the ability to submit a score. The practice view address and the tournament view address and game name will come into play when setting up a tournament later in this document.

[Practice game View with emulator option at the bottom and instructions tab in the bottom middle and a back to library button on the top right to take you back to choose other games to play.]



[Tournament Game View with the tournament sidebar giving the player access to enter their name, view the name of the game, enter the competition name if needed for their official screenshots (optional) the date and time as well as access to a timer for speed running or timed events. And last but not least a button to submit their score to the back-end tournament system. You will also notice a lack of back to library button to prevent any confusion about where and what to play.]

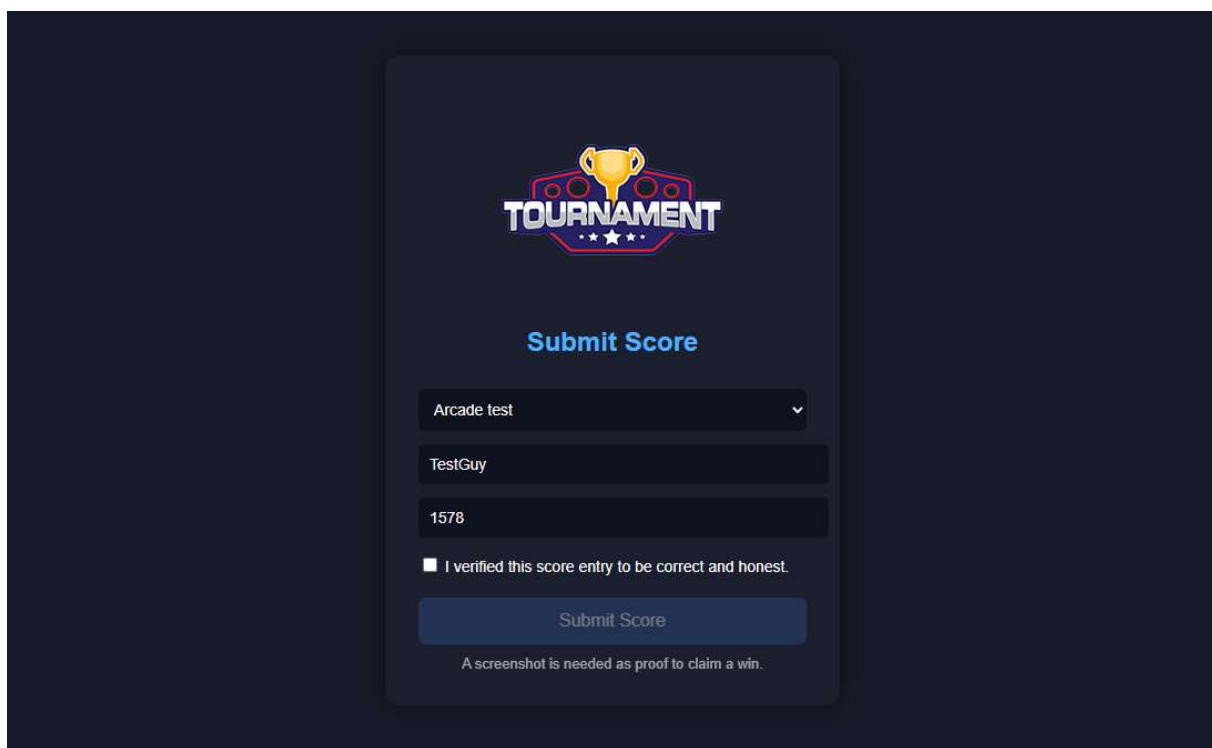


Online High Score Submission System:

Allows players to submit a high score for any currently active tournament using the game they are playing in tournament view. They are instructed how to take a proper screenshot and are asked to confirm that the score they are submitting is valid and honest. *Note: An admin can delete or add scores manually as needed.*

The players can't submit scores before the tournament starts or after it ends as they will get a warning that the tournament hasn't begun or has ended.

[The dropdown will only let the player choose tournaments that are using the game they have been playing, they can update their name if needed, enter a score (still open in the other browser tab) and check a box that says "I verify this score entry to be correct and honest". When they submit their score, it's automatically added to the tournament they chose in the dropdown.]



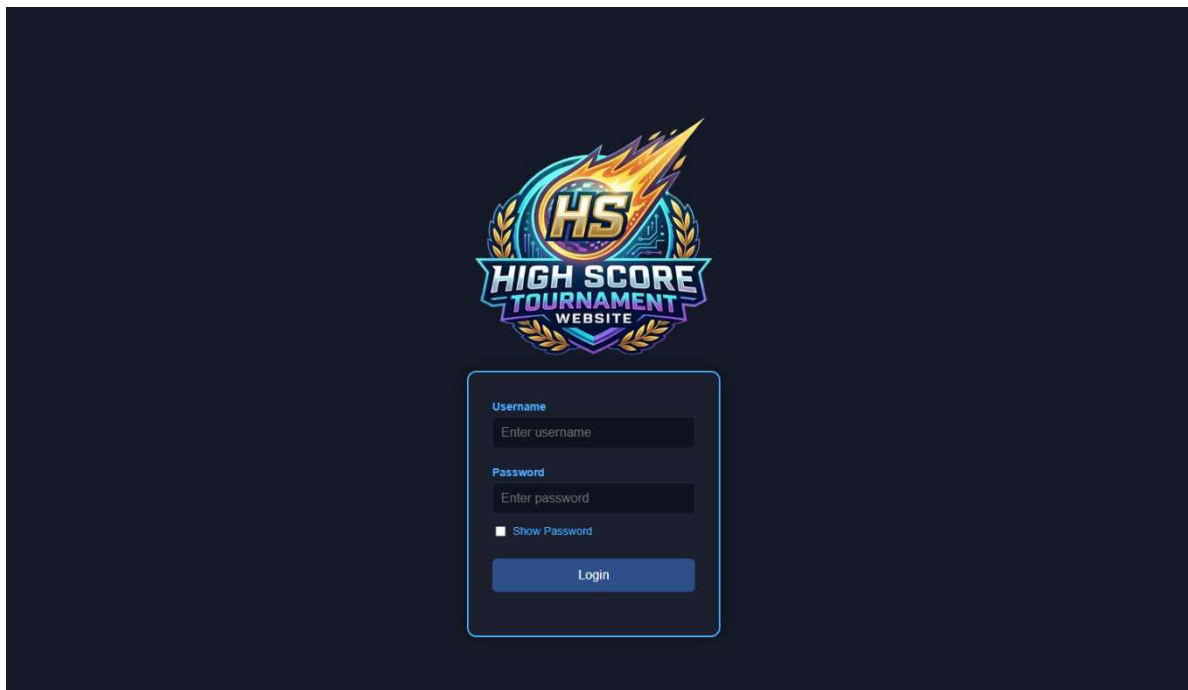
The image shows a dark-themed user interface for submitting a score. At the top center is a logo featuring a gold trophy on a purple and red shield with the word "TOURNAMENT" in white, bold, capital letters below it, flanked by three stars. Below the logo, the text "Submit Score" is displayed in a light blue font. The form consists of several input fields: a dropdown menu currently showing "Arcade test", a text input field containing "TestGuy", and another text input field containing "1578". Below these fields is a checkbox that is checked, with the text "I verified this score entry to be correct and honest." To the right of the checkbox. At the bottom of the form is a large, dark blue button with the text "Submit Score" in white. Below the button, a small note reads "A screenshot is needed as proof to claim a win."

Login System: (The only link admins need)

Only used by administrators setting up and running tournaments. This system is also a plain text XML file used to setup multiple accounts as needed. Each account can setup unlimited tournaments but each accounts tournaments are all used for the Standings Leaderboard. If you only run single game tournaments you only need one account to be created. This is how you get to the admin page.

Link: yourhostingsite.com/play/tournament/admin/login.php

[The person who is running the website must manually create an account for admins in an XML file for the to get access here. This is not a secure system so please use basic passwords]



HSTS Admin Page:

Used to Create, Edit and Schedule tournaments as well as manual add and remove scores. This is where all the back-end magic happens and gives you all the info and links you need to run a successful tournament of any scale.

[Admins have total power over the tournaments on this page as well as access to all links needed to share info about the tournaments.]

High Score Tournament Admin

Tournaments

- View Calendar
- View Standings
- Refresh Data

Scores

Add Score

Player Name

Score

yyyy-mm-dd

Add Score

Create New Tournament

Tournament Name

Game Name

Start Date
yyyy-mm-dd

End Date
yyyy-mm-dd

Practice Link

Tournament Play Link

Sponsor Name

Sponsor Link

Create Tournament

HSTS Calendar View: (The only link players need)

An interactive calendar you can share with the players or in posts about the tournaments. It shows the dates when the tournaments are running, and has a link to the tournaments single game leaderboard and a button to access the Standings Leatherboard. This is the only link players need to have as it offers everything needed to practice and play the tournament games. You can get the link to this from the admin page or from the calendar page.

[A very simple to use calendar system that auto populates with tournament events. Each tournament shows the duration on each day it running as well as the name of the game being played which also acts as a link to the single game leaderboard. At the bottom is a button to view the Standings Leaderboard]


The screenshot displays the 'Tournaments Calendar' interface for the account 'mumdragon'. The calendar is for March 2026 and shows a grid of dates from 1 to 31. Each date cell contains information about the tournament events scheduled for that day. The events listed are '1943 KAI Arcade test' and 'Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test'. A 'View Standings' button is located at the bottom center of the calendar.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	1943 KAI Arcade test	1943 KAI Arcade test	1943 KAI Arcade test Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test	1943 KAI Arcade test Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test	1943 KAI Arcade test Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test
22 1943 KAI Arcade test Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test	23 1943 KAI Arcade test Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test	24 1943 KAI Arcade test Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test	25 1943 KAI Arcade test Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test	26 1943 KAI Arcade test Blaster Master 2 Genesis Test	27 1943 KAI Arcade test	28 1943 KAI Arcade test
29 1943 KAI Arcade test	30	31				

HSTS Single Game Leaderboard:

Each tournament game has its own leaderboard to spark competition. On the leaderboard itself are the rankings of the active players and their scores. Information about the tournament. The sponsor of the tournament and their link, as well as links to the practice version and tournament play version of the game. You can get the link to this from the admin page or from the calendar page.

[Everything needed to engage in this tournament is available in the single game leaderboard. The game name, dates it's running, a link to the practice game, a link to the tournament play game, the name of sponsor and a link to the sponsor as well as the rankings of all the players that have submitted a score.]






Genesis Test - Leaderboard

Refresh Data

Tournament Information

Game	Blaster Master 2
Dates	2026-03-19 - 2026-03-27
Practice	http://mwmsserver.ddns.net/play/play.html?rom=Blaster_Master_2.zip&core=segaMD
Play	http://mwmsserver.ddns.net/play/tournament.html?rom=Blaster_Master_2.zip&core=segaMD
Sponsor	Me
Sponsor Link	None

Trophy	Place	Name	Score	Date
	1	John	2002	2026-03-20
	2	kuf	65	2026-03-16
	3	DOF	20	2026-03-19
	4	dip	1	2026-03-16

HSTS Standings Leatherboard:

This special leaderboard takes into account all tournaments being run by this admin account and awards a score to the players based on how they are doing in all of the tournaments combined. This allows for not just small tournaments but also huge gaming challenges. A player is given points for their rank on each leaderboard available, the higher the rank the more points they get.

- Rank 1 (Gold) on a single game leaderboard = 100 points
- Rank 2 (Silver) on a single game leaderboard = 99 points
- Rank 3 (Bronze) on a single game leaderboard = 98 points
- Rank 4 on a single game leaderboard = 97 points
- And so on until Rank 100 which gets 1 point, every rank after that gets 0 points.

Example: Mike is rank 1 in one tournament, rank 90 in another and rank 50 in the last, that equals 160 points on the Standings leaderboard that has 3 single game tournaments running.

Every player gets ranks in this way but you don't have to use the standings leaderboard if you are just wanting to run some single game tournaments. And only one Standings Leaderboard can exist per login admin account, and yes, you can make multiple accounts. You can get the link to this from the admin page or from the calendar page.

[Ever single game tournament is shown in the right column as well as all the players ranked by their score. In the left column is each player's rank based on the standing points they earn from their current ranking in the single game leaderboards.]

Overall Standings

#	Player	Points
1	miketest	100
2	John	100
3	joe	99
4	kuf	99
5	Nyub	98
6	DOF	98
7	dip	97

All Tournament Leaderboards

1943 KAI
Arcade test

#	Player	Score
1	miketest	2002
2	joe	342
3	Nyub	10

Blaster Master 2
Genesis Test

#	Player	Score
1	John	2002
2	kuf	65
3	DOF	20
4	dip	1



We're now going to assume you have an admin account already made for you and show you how to create and manage a tournament.

Step 1: Login to HSTS using the login page.

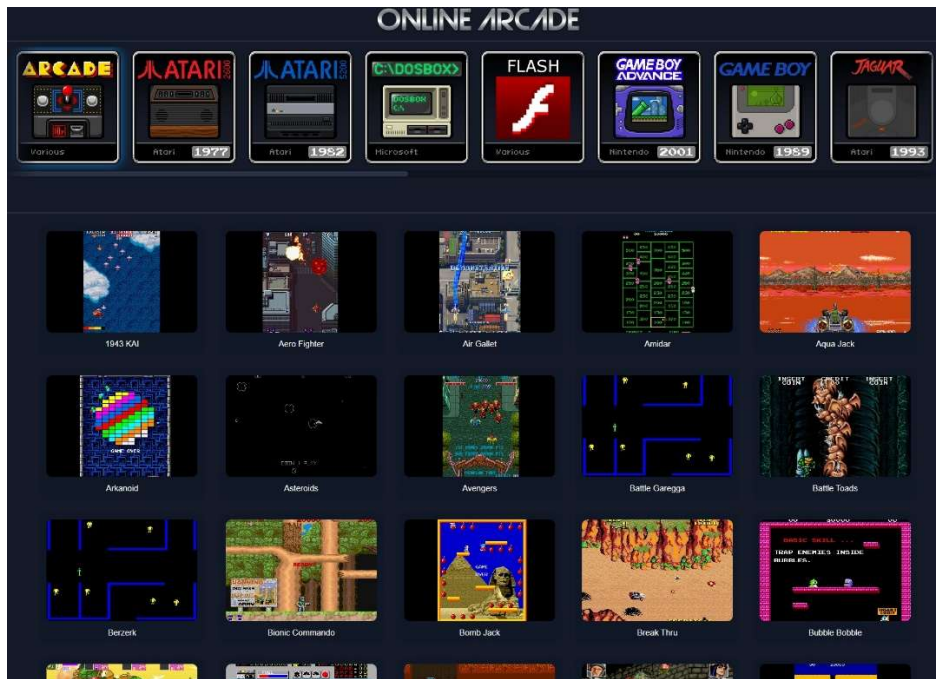
Example: <http://consoleclone.com/play/tournament/admin/login.php>

Step 2: Enter your login information and click the "Login" Button

A screenshot of the login page for the High Score Tournament Website. The page has a dark blue background. At the top center is the logo seen in the first image. Below the logo is a white-bordered box containing the login form. The form has two input fields: one for 'Username' with the placeholder text 'Enter username', and one for 'Password' with the placeholder text 'Enter password'. Below the password field is a checkbox labeled 'Show Password' which is checked. At the bottom of the form is a blue button labeled 'Login'.

Step 3: Open the Game Play Page in another tab of your browser

Example: <http://consoleclone.com/play/launcher.html>

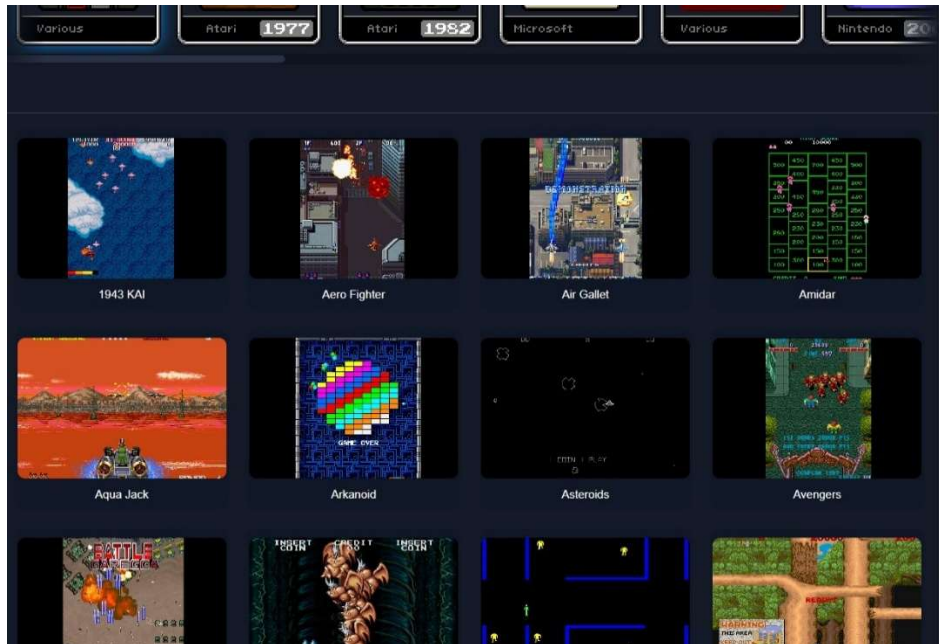


Step 4: Choose a game system from the game libraries at the top of the page by clicking on one of the images. (Note: DOS and Flash games don't support tournaments yet.)



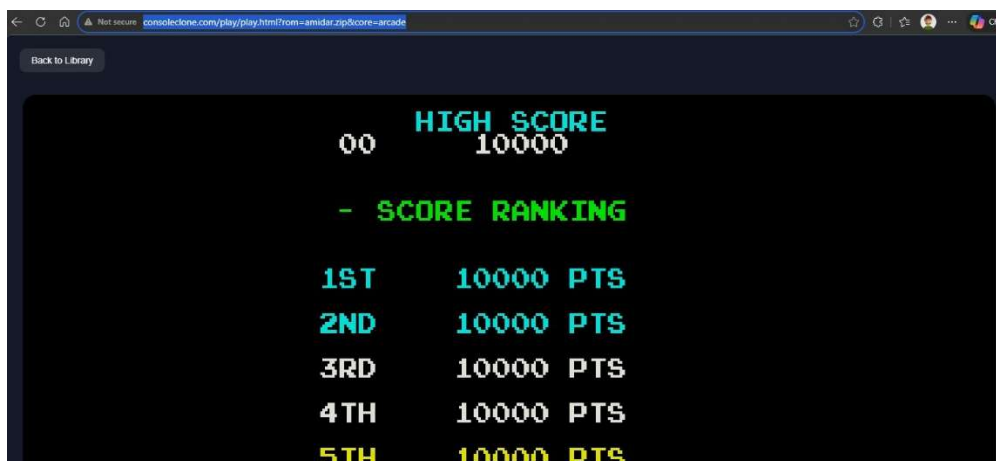
Step 5: Choose a game from within the game library you clicked on, by clicking on a games image.

(Note: for this example we will choose the game Amidar.)

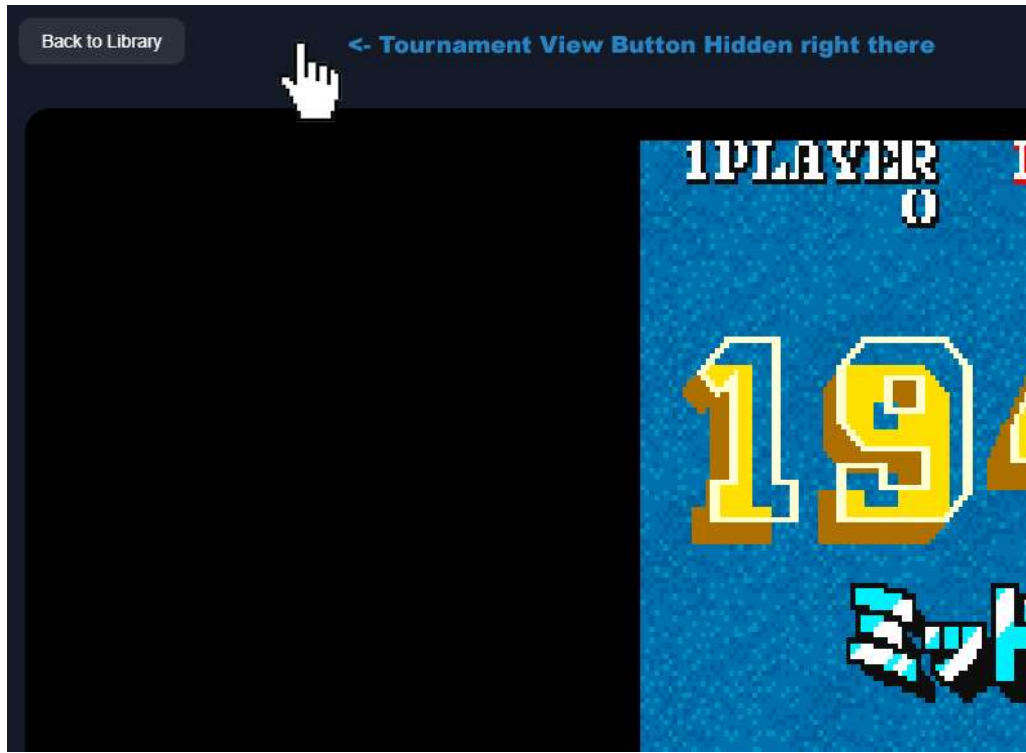


Step 6: Once the game loads copy the URL from the address bar of your browser and paste it into a text document as we will need it later.

Example: <http://consoleclone.com/play/play.html?rom=amidar.zip&core=arcade>



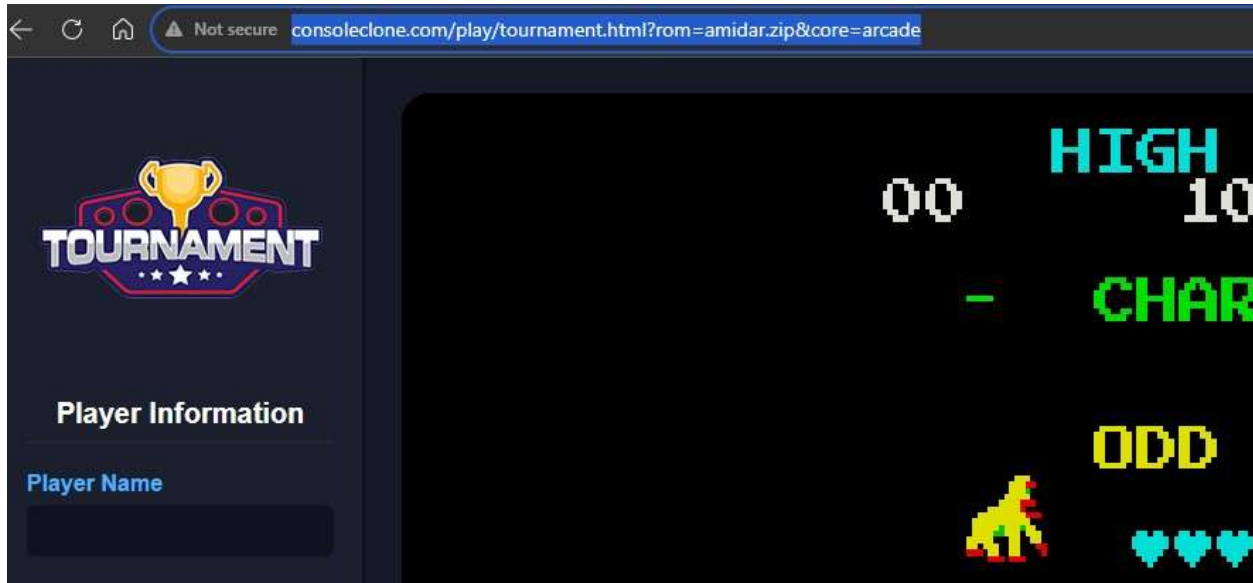
Step 7: Click on the invisible (to normal players) tournament view button, hidden here beside the back to library button. When you move your mouse over it you will see the button clicking hand icon.



[This button is hidden because you don't want every visitor to this public site submitting scores to your tournaments.]

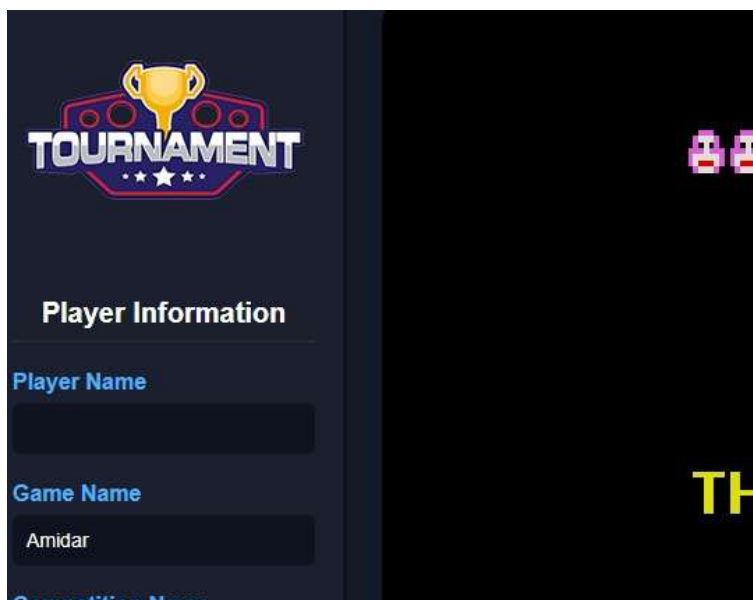
Step 8: If you clicked the correct spot, you will now see the game in tournament view. Copy the address from the address bar of your browser tab and paste it into a text document, we will be needing this later as well.

Example: <http://consoleclone.com/play/tournament.html?rom=amidar.zip&core=arcade>

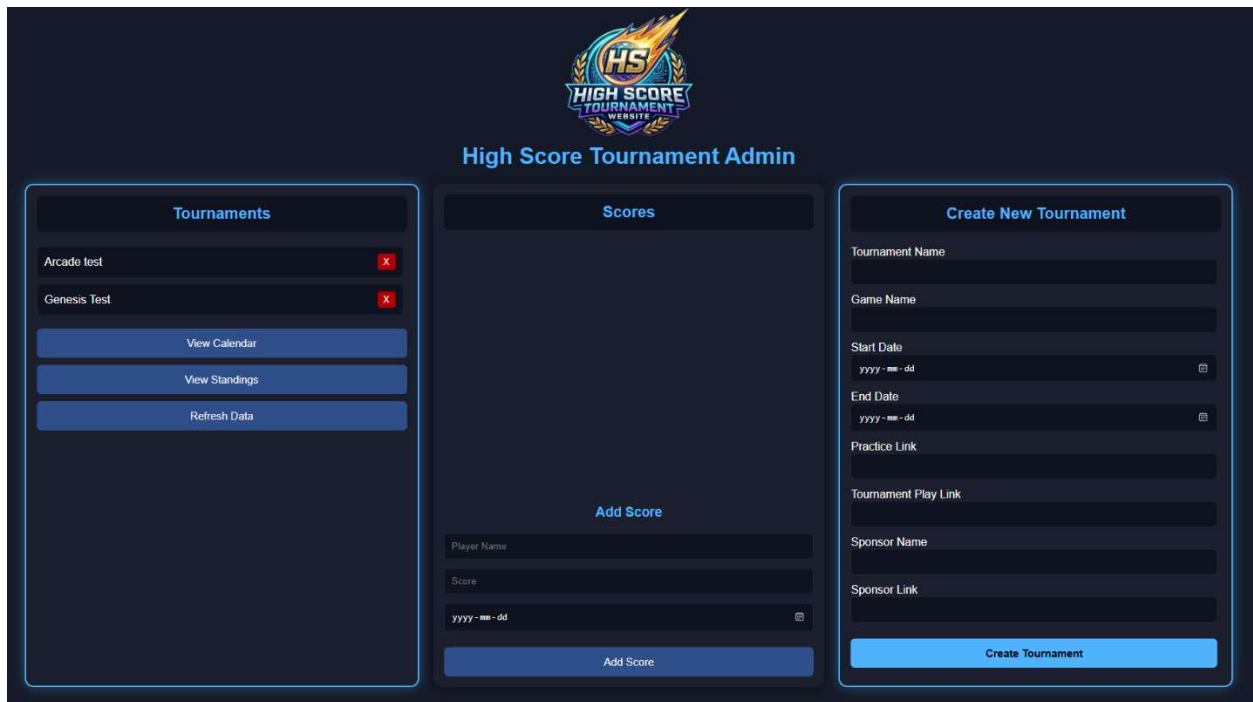


Step 9: On that same tournament game view page copy the game name and paste it into a text document as we will also be needing it later to setup the tournament. This name needs to be exact for the score submission to work so don't change this at all.

Example: Amidar



Step 10: Go back to your browser tab that has the admin page open in it, or open a new browser tab and log in again if you accidentally closed it from Step 1.



Step 11: Using the Create New Tournament area of the admin page fill in the following information. Don't be lazy please fill it all in, your players depend on this information being correct.

Tournament Name: Something Your Players Will See and use to identify as the tournament they need to submit a score to.

Example: March Amidar Challenge

Game Name: Copy the game name from your text document into this space. Don't edit it or copy any extra spaces or characters with it as it needs to be exact for the score submit system to work.

Example: Amidar

Start Date: Use the calendar icon to choose a starting date for this tournament. This is what the calendar uses to show the players when the tournament is taking place.

Example: March 16 2026

End Date: Use the calendar icon to choose an ending date for this tournament. This is what the calendar uses to show the players when the tournament is ending.

Example: March 23 2026

Practice Link: Paste the normal game view link you put into your text document in step 6.

Example: <http://consoleclone.com/play/play.html?rom=amidar.zip&core=arcade>

Tournament Play Link: paste the tournament game view link you put into your text document in step 8.

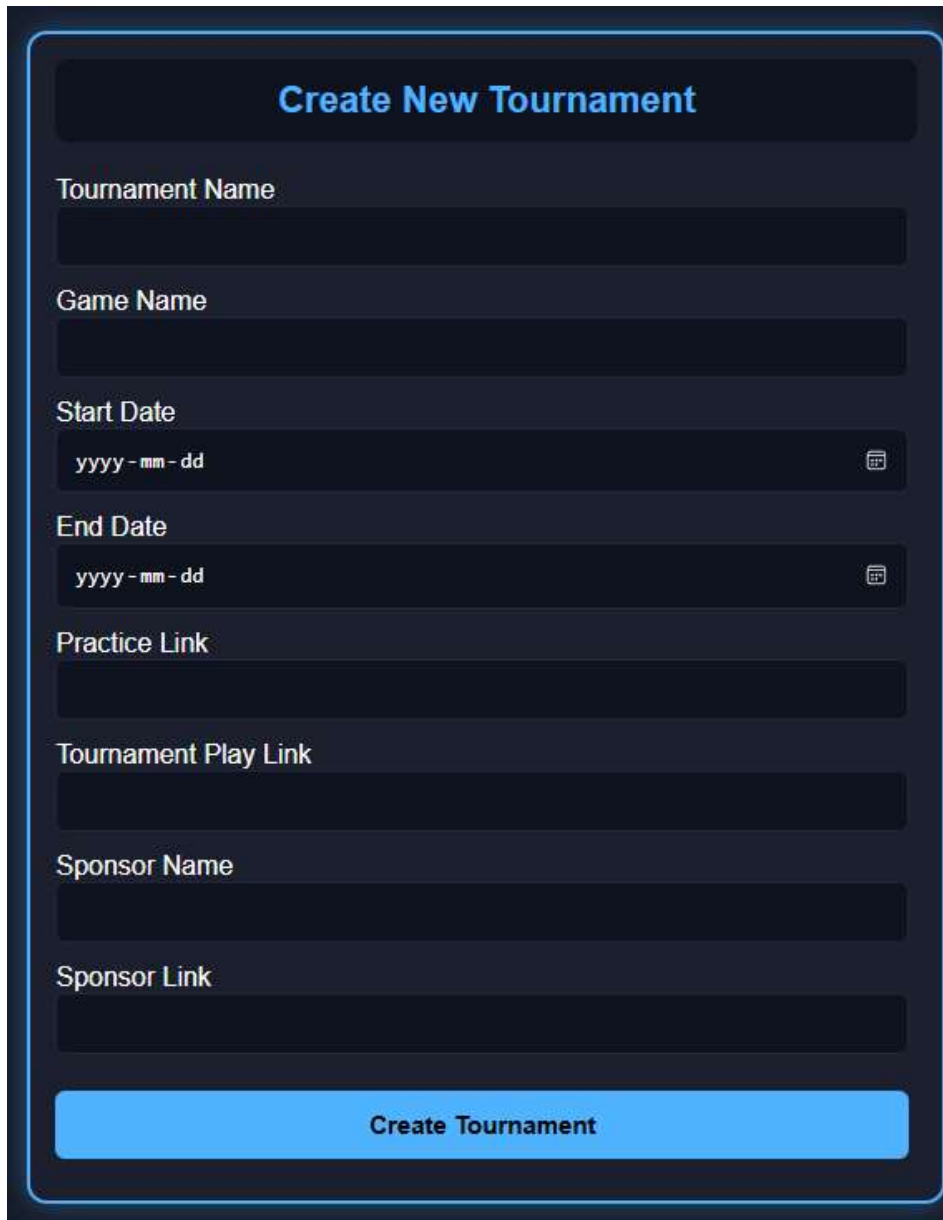
Example: <http://consoleclone.com/play/tournament.html?rom=amidar.zip&core=arcade>

Sponsor Name: Put any sponsoring company name here or just put "None".

Example: Console Clone

Sponsor Link: Put any sponsoring company website or promotional link here or just put "None".

Example: <http://www.consoleclone.com>

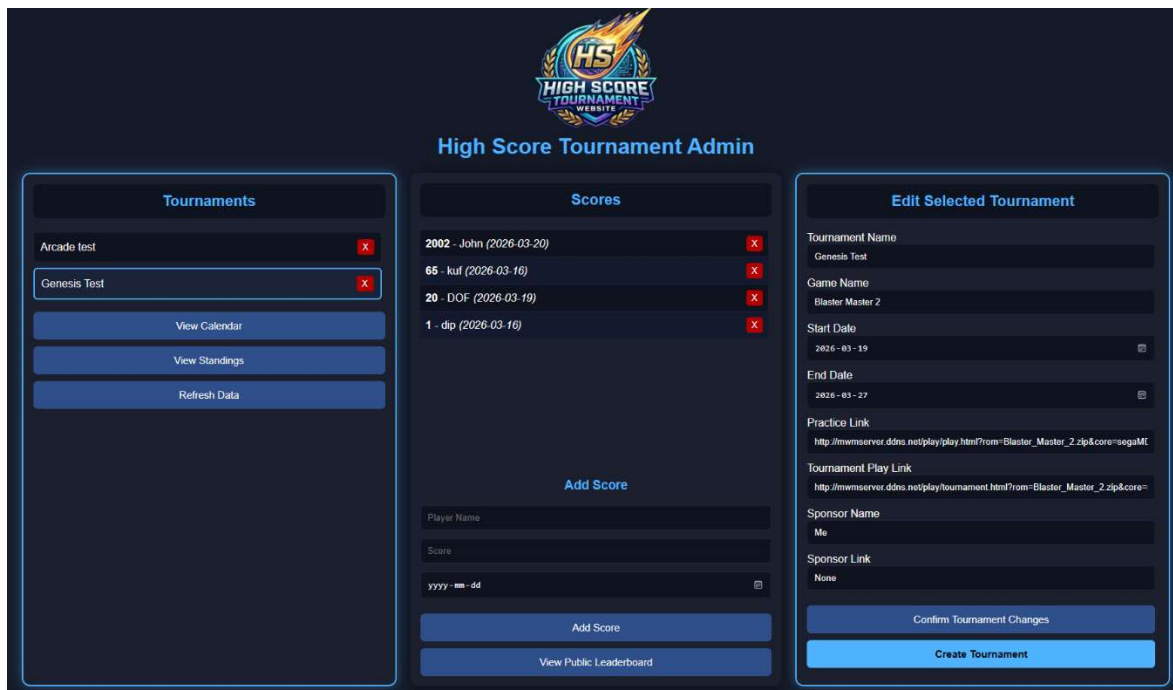


The image shows a dark-themed form titled "Create New Tournament" with a light blue border. The form contains several input fields and a submit button:

- Tournament Name:** A text input field.
- Game Name:** A text input field.
- Start Date:** A date input field with a placeholder "yyyy - mm - dd" and a calendar icon.
- End Date:** A date input field with a placeholder "yyyy - mm - dd" and a calendar icon.
- Practice Link:** A text input field.
- Tournament Play Link:** A text input field.
- Sponsor Name:** A text input field.
- Sponsor Link:** A text input field.
- Create Tournament:** A large, light blue button at the bottom.

Step 12: Click the “Create Tournament” button. If your browser isn’t using cache files to display your admin page you will now see the tournament on the left side of the page. If nothing is listed there press CTRL+F5 for force your browser to refresh the data.

Step 13: Click on that new tournament on the left side to select it. Be careful **not to click** on the little red X button next to it or that will delete it.



Step 14: You can now use the “View Calendar”, “View Standings” or “View Public Leaderboard” buttons to view everything as the players will see it. Let’s test to make sure it’s working properly and then share the Calendar view link with some players so they can test it for you as well and you can get some experience with managing scores.

Note: Repeat these steps to add more single game tournaments to your calendar and if you want to run them all at the same time you can. Also, a reminder that while signed into this one admin account all of the tournaments you make will all feed stats into the Standings Leaderboard!

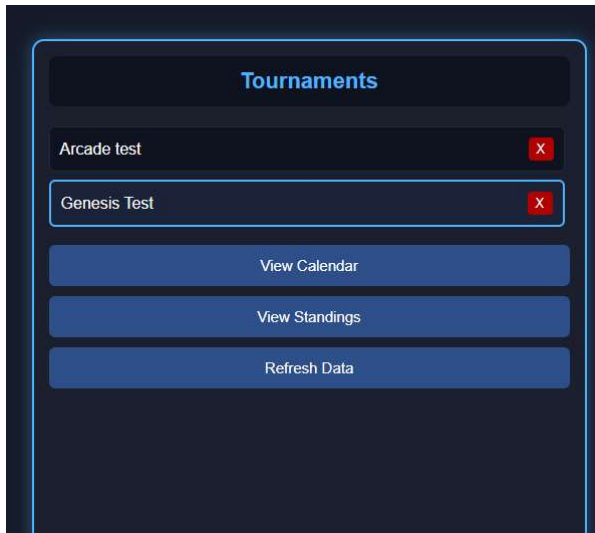
If you want to have more than one Standings Leaderboard you can get the web admin to make you another HSTS account, or if you are the admin, you can make more accounts for yourself. Some admins would find this useful for splitting up tournaments by console, game type (fighting, driving, platformers) to the tournament can appeal to all types of gamers.

Testing the Tournament You Just Created

Testing Step 1: Log into your admin page using the login link and your username and password.

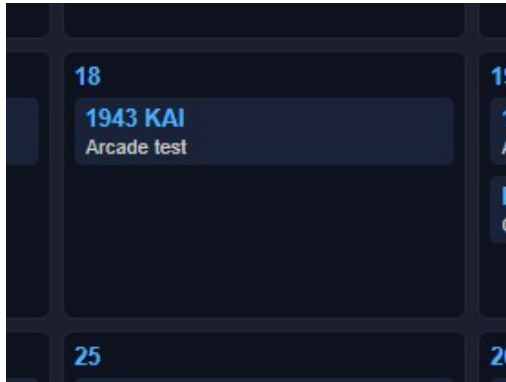
Example: <http://consoleclone.com/play/tournament/admin/login.php>

Testing Step 2: Click on the tournament you want to test in the left column. It will turn blue to show you that it's selected.




Testing Step 3: Click on the "View Calendar" button shown in the image above. This will open the calendar view in another tab.

Testing Step 4: Choose one of the days in the calendar where a tournament is shown to be running and click on the game name shown in Blue text to view the single game leaderboard to see the information your players will see.



Tournament Information

Game	1943 KAI
Dates	2026-03-17 - 2026-03-30
Practice	http://mwmsserver.ddns.net/play/play.html?rom=1943kai.zip&core=arcade
Play	http://mwmsserver.ddns.net/play/tournament.html?rom=1943kai.zip&core=arcade
Sponsor	None
Sponsor Link	None

Trophy	Place	Name	Score	Date
				

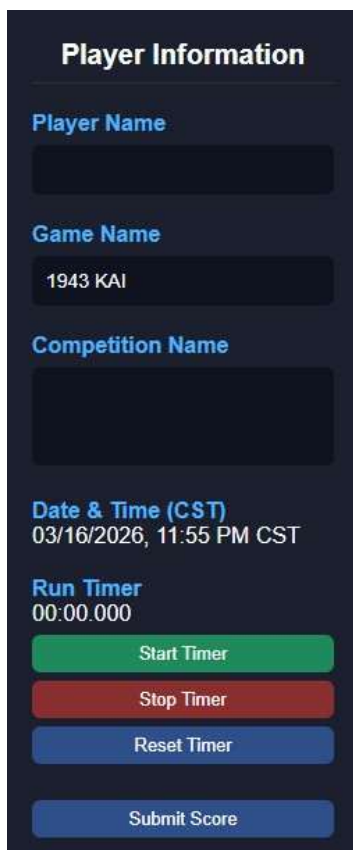
Testing Step 5: Click on the Practice Link and it should open the game in another browser tab.



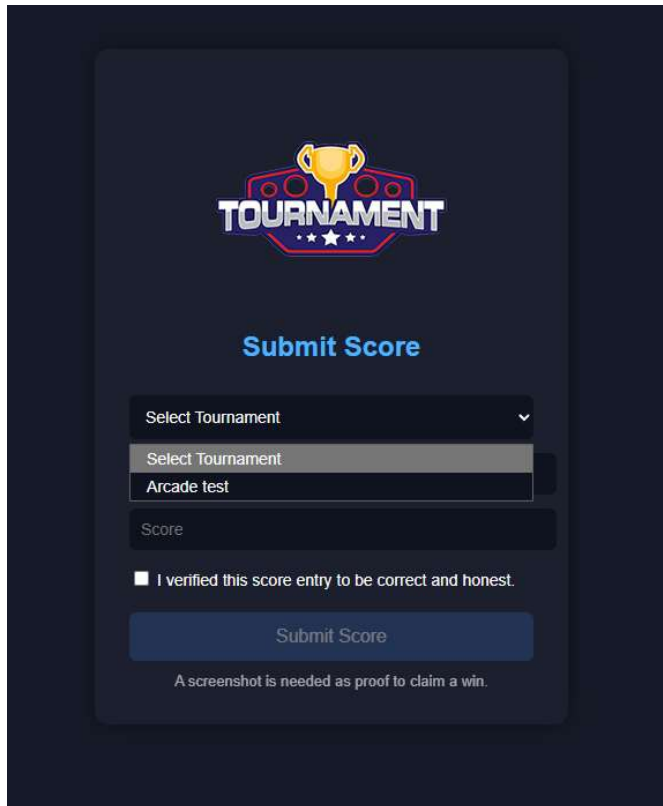
Testing Step 6: Next try clicking the Play Link and it should open the tournament version of the game in another browser tab.



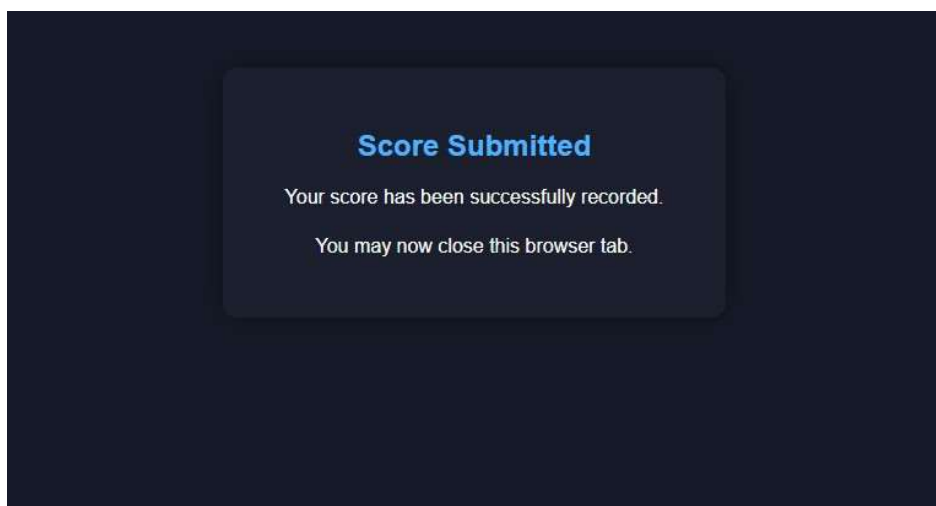
Testing Step 7: Type your name into the “Player Name “ area and then click the “Submit Score” button.



Testing Step 8: Once the Score Submit page loads click on the drop down to select the tournament from the list. It automatically only lists tournaments using that game.



Testing Step 9: Type a numerical score into the “Score” area and click to check the “I verify this score entry to be correct and honest” box and then click the “Submit Score Button and your score will be submitted.



Testing Step 10: Go back the browser tab that your admin page is in, or login again. You may need to force refresh the admin page using CTRL+F5 to reload the pages data. Now click on the tournament you just submitted a score for, to highlight it and load its scores. You should now see your score in the center column. Feel free to delete your test score by clicking the little red X button next to it so it doesn't affect the real tournament players!



Congratulations you have successfully setup your first tournament!

Note: If any of this test failed you can click the red X next to the tournament you created to delete it and you can start the tutorial again.

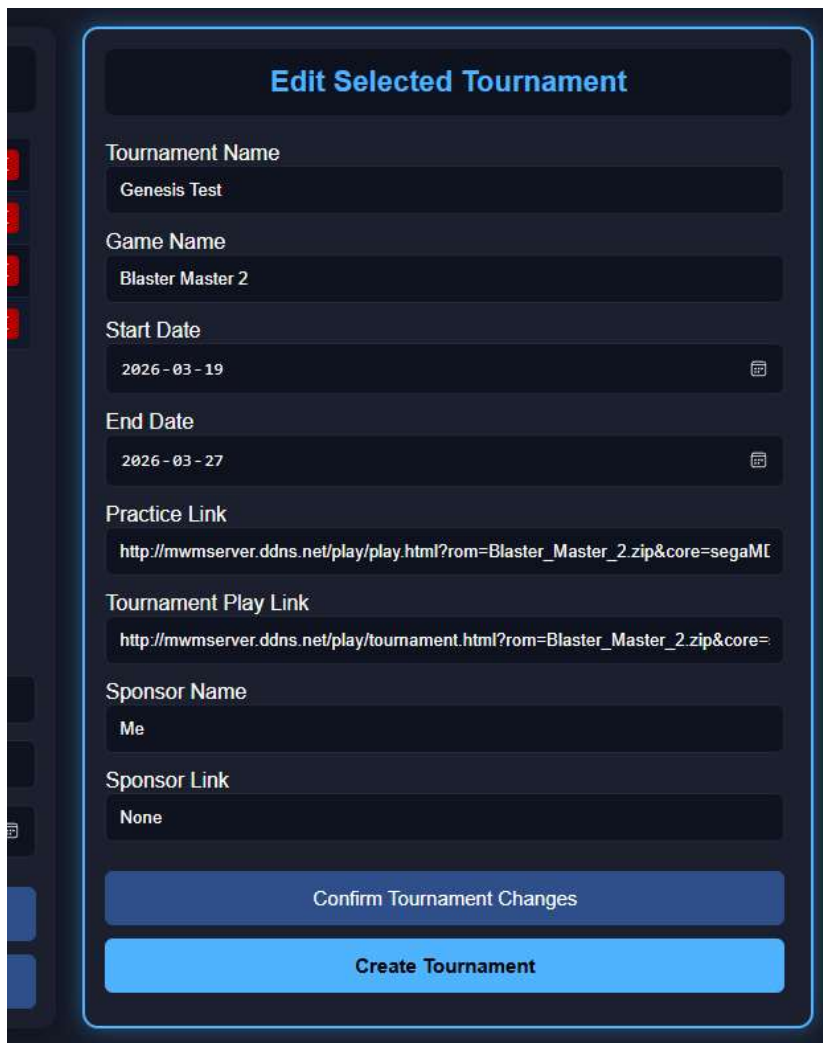
Get Some Players

Simply share the calendar view link with your player group or community and explain that they click on an event in the calendar to view the tournament information and leaderboard. Explain that the practice link is where they can practice playing the game for fun and that the play link is where they play the game for the tournament. You will also need to explain how to submit a score. Another thing you may want to mention is the Standings Leaderboard button at the bottom of the calendar view showing the standing across all games in the tournament.

Note: We will probably create a "Players" guide or quick reference link you can share with players to help them play in tournaments with step-by-step instructions.

Editing a Tournament

At anytime you can login to your admin account and from the admin page you can click on a tournament in the left column to load its information and then you can change information in the right column to change anything about the tournament. When you are done making edits click the “Confirm Tournament Changes” button to save the changes.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed admin interface with a form titled "Edit Selected Tournament". The form contains several input fields for tournament details, each with a calendar icon for date selection. At the bottom, there are two buttons: "Confirm Tournament Changes" and "Create Tournament".

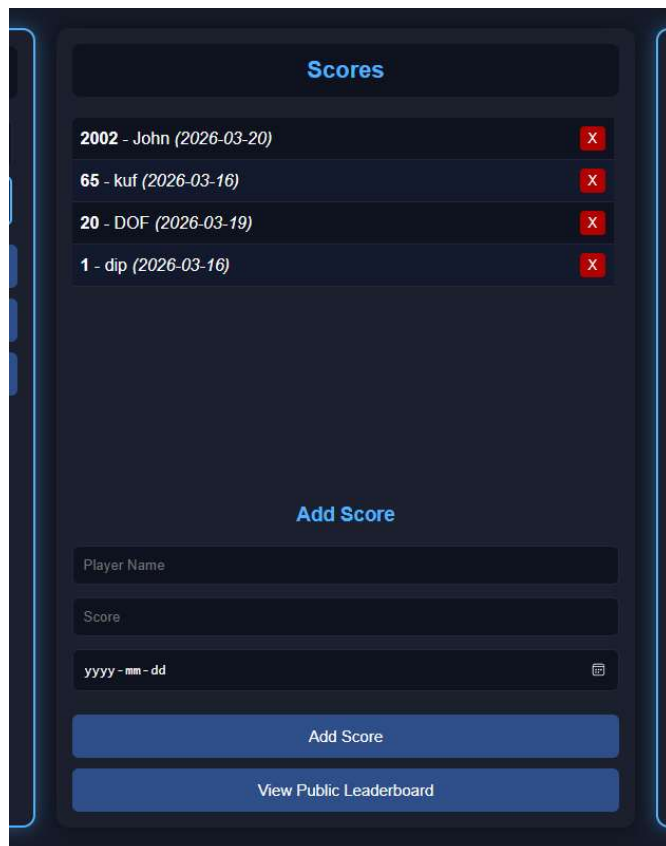
Field	Value
Tournament Name	Genesis Test
Game Name	Blaster Master 2
Start Date	2026 - 03 - 19
End Date	2026 - 03 - 27
Practice Link	http://mwmsserver.ddns.net/play/play.html?rom=Blaster_Master_2.zip&core=segaM
Tournament Play Link	http://mwmsserver.ddns.net/play/tournament.html?rom=Blaster_Master_2.zip&core=
Sponsor Name	Me
Sponsor Link	None

Confirm Tournament Changes

Create Tournament

Manually Managing Tournament Scores


You can login to the admin area and on the admin page you can select a tournament from the left column to view the scores submitted to that tournament. You may need to delete scores for many reasons but a common one is someone entering the score wrong and contacting you for fix it. Just find the name of the player, view the score and use the little red X button to delete that single score from the tournament. You can also add a new score using the “Add Score” area at the bottom of the center column.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed interface for managing tournament scores. At the top, there is a section titled "Scores" containing a list of four entries. Each entry consists of a score, a player name, and a date in parentheses, followed by a red "X" button for deletion. Below this list is an "Add Score" section with three input fields: "Player Name", "Score", and a date field with a calendar icon. At the bottom of the "Add Score" section are two buttons: "Add Score" and "View Public Leaderboard".

Score	Player Name	Date	Action
2002	John	2026-03-20	X
65	kuf	2026-03-16	X
20	DOF	2026-03-19	X
1	dip	2026-03-16	X

Add Score

Player Name
Score
yyyy - mm - dd 

Add Score
View Public Leaderboard

Simply enter the players name in the “player name” field, add a numeric score in the “score” field and use the little calendar icon to set the date you want the score to say it was submitted. After all of that just click the “Add Score” button. If the score doesn’t show up in the Scores list above use CTRL+F5 to force refresh the page data.

End of this Guide for Now!