# 2021-2022 Tigers Academy Prospectus



# Welcome to the Tigers Academy....

At the QUT Tigers Academy, we provide opportunities for students to be a part of an Oceanic leading program that embraces skill-acquisition, culture and academics to create an unparalleled development experience for aspiring esports players.

Our program is brought together by national high-performance coaches and support staff, digital wellbeing advocates, industry partners and researchers, providing unrivalled opportunities that are unique to the Australian esports landscape.

The QUT Gardens Point campus is home to our state-of-the-art Esports Arena which brings together the esports community and is home to the QUT Tigers competitive team.

We are the first Australian university to offer scholarships to aspiring esports players to join the Tigers Academy, and we are the first

**Emily Rosemond QUT Sport Manager** 



university to deliver a competitive state-wide high school program that forms a pathway into QUT Esports teams.

Of course we know the value of sport goes beyond the pitch and provides powerful life experiences now and into the future. We aim to inspire and support the next generation to become leaders through innovative and cutting-edge opportunities.

We are proud of our program's evolution and success and invite you to apply to join our team.





Australian Sport Psychologist and QUT Professor Gene Moyle facilitates a workshop with the QUT Tigers.

# **Program Elements**

#### **Health & Wellbeing**

Our Academy squad undergoes physical training sessions in the gym and completes cross-training in other sports. We believe in the power of physical fitness to maximise cognition, and our research team currently work alongside esports players to complete physiological research projects. We also support our squad members with nutrition support to ensure optimal performance.

### **Academic Support**

QUT is proud to support aspiring esports players and provides academic support through our Elite Athlete Program. As a member of the Academy, players can apply for special consideration for assessments and class timetabling to ensure players can manage their study loads and achieve in both academic and esports environments.

#### **Community Engagement**

We prepare our Tigers to become community leaders and support the next generation of aspiring esports athletes, which is why our community engagement program is a key component of the Academy. Tigers visit schools, assist with our intervarsity and community events, and share their knowledge, which often provides further opportunities beyond the Academy for our players as they graduate from QUT and embark on their own journeys in the industry.

### **Team Scrims (Training)**

Improving performance requires more than casual gaming. The QUT Esports coaching team conduct regular scrim sessions throughout the week to prepare the team for national and international esports League of Legends tournaments. Scrims are run in the performance hub of our Gardens Point Esports Arena.

### **Sport Psychology**

A leading national sport psychologist and group of provisional psychologists conduct individual and team workshops for our Academy members regularly throughout the year. Sport psychology focuses on improving and maintaining team and individual performance, and maximising output as both esports players and students at QUT.

### **Competitions & Tournaments**

Academy players compete for places on QUT's official esports teams to contest events at local, national and international levels. This includes competing as part of our Oceanic Series Challenger team, intervarsity league teams, and international representative teams (e.g. World University Championship Games). In 2020, our Oceanic University Championship team won the grand final against the University of Auckland.



### **Health & Wellbeing**

As a member of the Tigers Academy, you'll be supported by a world-class support network which includes staff and students from QUT's School of Exercise and Nutrition Science. You'll also have access to our world-class fitness centers operated by the YMCA at our Gardens Point and Kelvin Grove campuses.

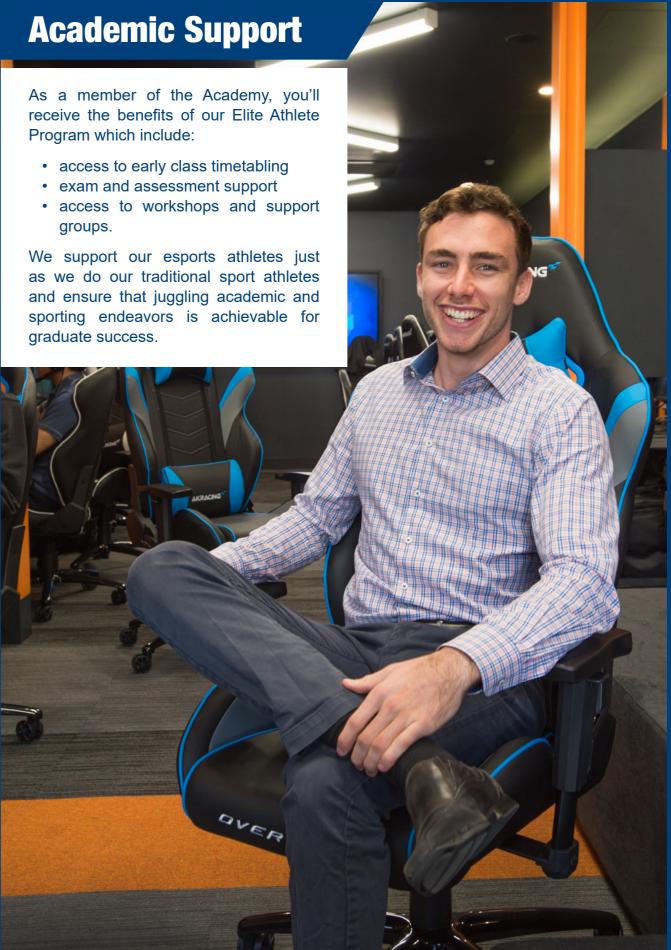
Weekly team fitness sessions are run in our gyms to ensure that your physical health is in optimum condition to support gaming scrims and competitions.



# **Team Scrims** (Training)

A key part of performing in esports games is honing your craft across varying characters and skills. Our coaching team includes leading analysts who record, assess and train our Academy players to enable continued improvements in gaming. Weekly scrim sessions are conducted in our Esports Arena, as well as in your home environments.

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### **Sport Psychology**

Our Academy is supported by a team of professionals which includes a national high-performance sport psychologist and provisional performance psychologists. These professionals conduct individual and team workshops to empower our Academy players to be proud, supportive and motivated individuals and team members, both in the Esports Arena and in their academic pursuits.

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# **Community & High School Engagement**

The Academy squad inspires and supports the next generation of players and regularly takes part in assisting QUT Esports with the operation of the High School Esports Program, which fosters positive youth development and online safety. Our squad also take part in peercoaching and developing esports players across a range of development teams.



## **Competitions & Tournaments**

We select teams from our Tigers Academy to represent the University in intervarsity, national and international teams throughout the year. Our competitive teams are currently national and Oceanic leaders in the university competitive realm, and recently represented the Oceanic region at the World University Cyber Games in Sanya, China.

> *Our Academy women's team contests a range of events. They also lead the Women in Gaming advocacy group and provide opportunities for social connections.*



# Scholarships & Industry Opportunities



### **Esports Scholarships**

In 2019, QUT became the first Australian University to offer scholarships to esports athletes. 10 x \$5000 scholarships will be offered in 2021 to aspiring League of Legends players. Applicants will be required to contest a trial at the commencement of the calendar year, and the successful candidates will be offered a place in the Tigers Academy where they can go on to represent the University in national and international events, including the Oceanic Challenge Series. For more information about the scholarship application process, visit the <u>QUT Website.</u>

# Industry Opportunities

Using strong ties to local and international industry, we connect students to opportunities and help them experience esports in the real world. Our program offers real experience across the multidisciplinary roles required in industry. Our students volunteer at events and undertake industry placements with some of Australia's premier esports companies.



# Academy Application & Selection Process

To become a member of the QUT Tigers Academy, you will need to go through a formal application and selection process. The selection process is competitive, but all interested applicants are encouraged to apply.

Selection is based on performance results, personal motivations, and esports team ethos. Selections are approved by the QUT Tigers Academy Selection Committee. Financial scholarship applications are only considered once per annum at the commencement of the calendar year, and a formal competitive trial process takes place at the Gardens Point Esports Arena for both semester intakes.

### **2022 Applications**

Sem 1 Applications open: August 9, 2021 Sem 1 Applications close: November 26, 2021

**Sem 2**\* Applications open: June 2022 **Sem 2**\* Applications close: July 2022

\*Final dates TBC

How to apply: To receive more information or apply to attend a two-day trial at the QUT Gardens Point Esports Arena please email: esports@qut.edu.au





### In-person Trial Selection Process

#### **Trial information:**

Each player will be evaluated over the course of 18 games. Players are given scores for both qualitative and quantitative criteria.

Statistical data will be used in tandem with evaluations of players' "soft-skills" and after all criteria has been considered, the coach will make an informed decision on the best players for the team.

Each criteria is not always weighted equally, and the coaches reserve the right to leverage outstanding results in different categories as reason for selection over a statistically higher performing player.

# What happens if I cannot make the trial?

If you are unable to make the trial, you may apply for special consideration by submitting evidence of inability to attend (i.e. medical certificate; inability to travel to arena; etc.).

Please email <u>esports@qut.edu.au</u> for more information.

For more information: W: <u>www.qutsport.com.au</u> | E: <u>esports@qut.edu.au</u> | Ph: 07 3138 2001