

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOP STARCRRAFT II PLAYERS BATTLE AT INAUGURAL D.I.C.E. IPL SHOWDOWN EVENT

Tickets Now Available to See Top Players Grubby, LucifroN, Illusion, and Scarlett Compete and Attend 16th Annual D.I.C.E. Awards LIVE

CALABASAS, Calif. and SAN FRANCISCO – January 23, 2013 - The Academy of Interactive Arts & Sciences (AIAS) and IGN Pro League (IPL) today announced they are joining forces to produce the first D.I.C.E. IPL Showdown event (#DICEIPL). Four of the world's top StarCraft II players will battle it out for a \$10,000 prize pool and the title of Fight Club champion on Thursday, Feb. 7th, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. PT, in the Vinyl Nightclub at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Las Vegas. Following the Showdown, ticket holders are invited to attend that evening's 16th Annual D.I.C.E. Awards (#DICEAwards), the premier peer-based video games awards show, which will be hosted by self-proclaimed nerd and video game enthusiast Chris Hardwick.

Tickets to the two events will be open to the first 500 individuals who sign-up for the D.I.C.E. IPL Showdown through [Eventbrite](#) (details below). Included with the ticket will be full access to the D.I.C.E. IPL Showdown, and balcony seating for the 16th Annual D.I.C.E. Awards. Attendees have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to spend an evening cheering their favorite game makers as they take the stage to claim their D.I.C.E. Award for the best games of 2012.

The four top StarCraft II players competing in the head-to-head battles at the D.I.C.E. IPL Showdown are:

- **Manuel "Grubby" Schenkhuizen** is one of the most accomplished real time strategy players of all time, winning more than 38 live events, including 6 World Championships. Having a storied past in WarCraft III, Grubby has shown promise recently in StarCraft II, playing in the GSL for the first time this year. He is now living and training in Korea with two time GSTL champions FXO. Grubby is known for his great game knowledge, being a great analytical caster as well as premier player. Grubby still hopes to capture his first international live event.
- **Pedro "LucifroN" Moreno Duran** is one of the best StarCraft II players from Spain and quickly becoming one of the best players in all of Europe. LucifroN broke into eSports near the end of WarCraft III's international scene when it was very difficult for unknown players to make a splash. He won more than \$10,000 in prize money very quickly without having much of a following or being internationally reknown. He capitalized on his success early in the StarCraft II beta, winning several international tournaments, but then stopped playing competitively to focus on his academic studies. Playing alongside his brother and teammate Juan "Vortex" Moreno Duran, recently he has come back in full force. He won the WCS 2012 Spanish Championships and then finished 3rd in the WCS European Finals. He has since gone on to perform well in several international championships, including representing the World in the "GSL Korea vs World All Stars" match.
- **Chris "Illusion" Lee** has shown promise, but has yet to meet his full potential as one of North America's top players. He's taken a step back from public play amidst team turmoil. In the past, he has shown top level micro and strategic play. Chris has been training hard in Korea, and he's back to show off his skills at the D.I.C.E. IPL Showdown. IPL prides itself on developing new NA players. As an unknown, Scarlett took IPL 4 by storm, and we hope Illusion does the same here after his excellent performance in IPL's Fight Club at Hot Import Nights. Chris has the

international experience to be one of these players and IPL looks forward to some upsets at the Showdown.

- **Sasha "Scarlett" Hoshyn** came to prominence by winning the Playhem "Sponsor Me!" Tournament that gave her entry into IPL4. She did not waste her free trip as she pulled huge upsets against Terious and Ddoro before losing in the third round in a close match against Oz. She then pulled off a great victory against DeMusliM to knock him out of the tournament. Her most notable feat is winning the Battle.net North American Championship following a win in the same series for Canada. Both were won with relative ease, and Scarlett won a combined \$30,000 for her efforts. She has continued to perform well in international events, but has been unable to take down a major international title.

For more information on D.I.C.E. IPL Showdown please visit www.IGN.com/ipl. For more information on the 16th Annual D.I.C.E. Awards please visit www.interactive.org. To claim your ticket for the event, please visit <http://diceshowdown2013.eventbrite.com/>.

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