It's been a while since I've been involved with some osu! community projects. I was given the opportunity to help out organizing the <u>first osu!catch World Cup</u> back then in 2011-2012, which was held 10 years ago. Since then, I was able to help out in every CWC either in the organization part or as a mappool selector. Later on, I could join the rest of the World Cups as a referee (and part-time manager in the early years), starting with the <u>osu!mania World Cup 2014</u> (which was the first MWC held, having both 4K and 7K simultaneously).

Since then, I've been helping in every World Cup as a referee and simultaneously as a mappool selector for the CWCs. It's been a fun ride to be able to be part of those tournaments and it was exciting to see and spectate those matches in first person.

However, refereeing comes with the downside that for ~6 consecutive weekends for every World Cup being done 4-5 times a year (depending if there was a 7K one or not) I wasn't able to spend some time with my beloved ones. This, together with the fact that my full-time job doesn't allow me much free time for a while, really paid a toll on me after so many years.

Moreover, mappool selecting for CWC is, hands down, one of the most stressful and somewhat unrewarding jobs, which is done for 8-10 weeks straight every year. I've been able to put aside my BAT/QAT/NAT workload for that period of time for 7 consecutive years, but it's reached the point where it's become both time-consuming and personally hard to manage. Not because of its organization itself, but because my best days as a player are over, and it's hard to keep up and help out with the later stages of the tournament with a good judgement.

This year however, implementing custom maps into the mappool was a success, where we were learning how to handle it in the process, and which also helped improve the mappools. The final Tie Breaker commissioned song provided by Frums has been a nice cherry on the top to finalize this CWC 2021, and I hope more Featured Artists continue with the trend of releasing a song for this purpose!

After 10 long years being involved in such tournaments, I believe there should be enough people involved within the community that could continue doing a good job and keep these tournaments alive. With a clear mind, I'm ready to take a long rest from this task and also give others the opportunity to keep these tournaments great.

I couldn't leave without acknowledging the people I've met in this long journey:

- Nyan-Zapo + Weez: You guys counted on me with the early CWCs that were still more community-driven and helped me back then.
- **Loctav:** Thanks for hiring me for the World Cups as a ref/manager and for some early guidance with backup streaming!
- **p3n/shARPII**: As the earlier referees we had to deal with manual commands and 4-5 simultaneous matches. It was hella tiring, but you guys made it easy to deal with! Script-Chan came to the rescue later on, also thanks to you guys.

- **Borengar:** Together with p3n for the later development of the bot and the release of Script-Chan v2. You've made the referee work much easier to manage with your tools!
- **smoogipooo:** You did a ton behind the scenes and helped us adjust the !mp commands to make rooms easier to manage.
- **Ephemeral:** For keeping the hype of the tournaments and advertising them on other platforms.
- **peppy:** Well, without you there wouldn't be any tournaments of this kind;)
- **deadbeat/ztrot:** You've saved us with commentary when needed and also assisted us over the years.
- **Mappool selectors I've worked with:** ZiRoX, F D Flourite and -Ken being the ones that suffered with me the longest, but also others that I've met during these tournaments, you guys deserve an extra cookie for the great job!
- **juankristal/Waltertoro:** Thanks for trusting me to help out reffing in the later years. You kept doing a great job as organizers.
- Other refs I've met later on (Yazzehh, tigereyes144, etc): It was a pleasure to have worked with you, and thanks for taking the late night matches and letting me sleep some more zzzzz.
- **HappyStick/Trosk-:** You've done a great job keeping the stream working these last years, and also dealing with us refs on some occasions. Thanks for being our operators!
- **Commentators:** Thanks for keeping the hype up on those matches, and making great moments out of every tournament.
- **NWolf:** For keeping the stats sheet always up-to-date and pulling out such interesting data.
- **Puffbuck (and later on others):** For keeping the twitch chat out of spam and mean people. You're the all-seeing eye there :eyes:

I hope I haven't forgotten anyone, and if I did I hope you can forgive me for being such a forgetful person.

In any case, I hope you've enjoyed these tournaments as much as I've enjoyed being part of them. I won't say goodbye, but rather a "see you soon", as it's hard to tell what the future will bring us and if needed I'd be happy to counsel the people who'll continue with these tournaments.

Until then, see ya! Deif

PD:

