

NTMR CEO - Back against the wall, once more.

Where 2025 started:

- 2025 actually started in Utah with SSG for myself. I saw no possibility in being able to host a team and ride out a year in an attempt for the Partner Program for NTMR, so I looked for other ways to stay in the game. However, I was quickly convinced that NTMR 1.0 could still see the light of day.
- Eventually, after the partner teams did make their selections, the talent still untouched in the region was absolutely incredible. We decided to build around our remaining players from last year: Clear, Zeruhh, Lethal, and Admiral who were not selected by partner teams. We added Cuffa to the mix as he was with most of the team at ISU. UltraViolet was the top and easy choice for flex support.
- With UV came the coaching as well, Wheats and Ggultaek. The coaching staff we brought on really changed my understanding of truly how much impact the role could make.
- This group brought us our first regional championship, in which I am forever grateful, and continued to make amazing strides internationally with their incredible champions clash run.
- After stage 1, the team left for an offer more fitting for their placement. With that, NTMR hits a reset.

Roster Reset:

- With the entirety of my old roster officially departed from the organization, we needed some quick thinking. As of that moment, the most important thing to me was making sure that we could still be a top competitor in the region and continue to make LAN events.
- Within 24 hours of losing the team, I called Lep, an experienced player who I have been friends with since I started NTMR. The roster was set to be Painkiller RhynO Kronik Wmaimone Lep Lukemino with Slippery coaching. However, Zeruhh still had more to say.
- Team Liquid picked up the ZR7 to complete their full NA roster. A very respectable move. With this, a shift to everything below him: Wmaimone to Geekay and Rokit to NTMR. I love Willy, an amazing talent, but I couldn't be more happy that my path crossed with Rokit.
- With this full reset, I think of this new NTMR roster (Painkiller RhynO Rokit Kronik Lep Lukemino) as "NTMR 2.0" with the old core being "NTMR 1.0." And from the get go, I knew we were going to EWC.

- The complete coaching staff for this roster came together slowly. I knew exactly who I wanted in a coach, I just had to find them. After weeks of searching, we found Seon.
- Seon brought this new angle from his experience in Korea. A first time learning from a Korean coach for the entire team I believe. Seon got to work quickly and he worked very hard. His focus on gameplay and Slippery's focus on preps and bans made for an excellent pairing that held us strong through the end of Stage 2.

Miami and Korea Bootcamp:

- The shining piece of my offer to NTMR 2.0 was the Miami bootcamp for playoffs. My initial thought when picking up this roster was that the qualification was everything, and a bootcamp could only help our chances.
- Meeting the team initially in person was incredible, I was able to bond quickly with everyone. Each so unique, caring, funny, and EVO BOTS in their own ways. The dream was alive again, and we were back to our regularly scheduled NTMR Overwatch.
- After a successful bootcamp and a 3rd place finish in NA, I felt a sense of worry. I had never provided 2 bootcamps during 1 stage and it was a spend I wasn't able to make. The night after our match against SSG, we got to planning, looking into any option to get us the preparation needed to not just fall over at EWC.
- Sign came along looking to get into Esports, an excellent find from Cointree to help us secure that bootcamp. My goal had changed at this moment, I was no longer looking for just another NTMR LAN appearance. I was looking to make this team the best they could be. We signed the deal to loan the roster and immediately started prepping for Korea (VERY LATE).
- GenG was an incredible host, shout out to RakAttack, Jkieth, and HenryKim for making it possible on a pretty short notice. A first time in Korea for myself and everyone on the team with Seon as our translator and guide. We had an unreal experience. The people I was able to hang out with from the other teams practicing there were also enjoyable.
- The team wasn't able to secure the best of the scrim circle since we showed up to the party late, but the experience was still much better than staying home. Everyone worked their asses off and it was incredible to see things come together for this roster.

Esports World Cup:

- The first LAN for most of the team, and it was a pretty solid showing. NTMR is always good for their upset on international stages. The moment we beat Twisted Minds for our first match, I knew this team could face a challenge.
- A loss to T1 and a loss to the now fully prepped Twisted Minds sent us home, but our heads have never been higher. Now, it was just a matter of keeping the gang together.

Stage 3 Start:

- No surprise to anyone, we got poached from. Shocker. However, the opportunities Lep and Kronik received were not able to be declined. The writing was on the wall.
- For hitscan options, there really was only one in our eyes, that being Seeker. Someone who was good friends with most of the team already and a nice welcome back to NTMR. Love Seeker.
- With Seeker came Squid, “he’s a really good teammate” said Seeker, and we were sold. Plus, it enabled double Flex support.
- Seon wanted to bring on a student to learn from him to eventually take his place if needed. That student has been EmolGa. He is very kind, fits the team's humor, and has been a great resource to Seon and the entire team.
- For the main support, we ran some trials, but I had a feeling Nenwhy would be the pick. On a team now kicking a good amount of LAN experience, Nenwhy was a good up and coming pick.
- We were ready to kick ass, but the start of the season was really stacked against us. Between having to mold the new players and playing 2 of the top 3 teams opening weekend. It was a rough way to begin, but everyone was still confident.
- As the regular season wrapped up, we began bootcamp preparations.

Miami Bootcamp (Again):

- After the success of the last, we decided to bootcamp with ROK in Miami once more for playoffs. It was great seeing the guys again, seeing Seeker after a while, and meeting Squid and Nenwhy.
- We went into the Liquid game with confidence, but were knocked down, but I mean it is Liquid so it is whatever.
- Sakura vs NTMR, a match that marked history in OW Esports: Denied NTMR their 5th consecutive LAN event. I was pretty speechless, a flood of emotions filled my brain, but sadness was the top thing.

- I think I was more sad for the players having missed this experience than NTMR having missed it. I know these guys worked really hard, but perhaps the NTMR spark had run dim.
- I was more sad watching the team leave the Miami bootcamp slowly than I was when the team lost. Seeing them go with so much time on our hands was really upsetting.
- I know the team will stay strong, I love each of them individually very much and I will make sure everyone stays happy, stays practicing, and ready to hit hard for 2026, no matter where they may be playing.

NTMR Overwatch 2026

- I think our goals in Overwatch are really obvious, so I won't spell them out, but I am ready to continue to support the OWCS scene. I would say still a pretty darn successful year for NTMR in OW, and I couldn't be more proud and thankful of every player and coach I have mentioned in this.
- A lot will happen in the coming weeks, and even more after those weeks, but I am not deterred. The sadness my heart still holds from the loss doesn't affect my will to keep pushing.
- I am still really uncertain of how things will shake out, but to you all, I promise I will try my best. I have never given less than my all to this game, this community, and I won't be stopping now.
- Despite the future looking uncertain and possibly rough, I am committed to making the perfect crime a reality.
- To the NTMR fans, I am sorry for a sad ending to our year, but you guys are the thing that keeps us going. I love you guys.
- Thank you all for the support you always show to everyone here at NTMR. We work hard day in and day out to care for our rosters and build our company to be something everyone can be proud of.
- I will leave you all with some quotes from Rokit that he gave to OWTV (By the way, OWTV is such a blessing, go check it out if you haven't already).
- *"I'd consider Stage 3 to be a complete failure for NTMR. Although there were multiple factors that hindered our performance compared to last stage, (losing players, tricky early stage meta), we just weren't capable of performing when it mattered most and I apologize on behalf of everyone for the "performance" we put on."*

- *“As for 2025 I’d say it was an overall success for both myself and NTMR as a whole. This year I made my first international event and felt like I proved I’m capable of competing at the highest level. As for NTMR, they made 2/3 LANs as an unpartnered organization and did so by qualifying over a partnered team each time...I do believe no matter what that the organization will continue to prosper and keep upsetting the best teams in the world.”*
- <https://owtv.gg/news/statements-and-surprises-owcs-na-stage-3-playoffs-week-1-summary>

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