

THE CONNECTING LINK

Aug-Sept 2026

What are Committees,
anyway?

Event Calendar!

E-sports, tabletop games,
casual gamers, oh my!

Pssst... want to improve our cover?
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The Linktroduction

What or who is a Tilburg Student E-Sports Association Link, you might ask? We are Tilburg's very own E-sports and gaming association, with a very generous sprinkle of board game and tabletop role-playing games (TTRPG) thrown in there as well!

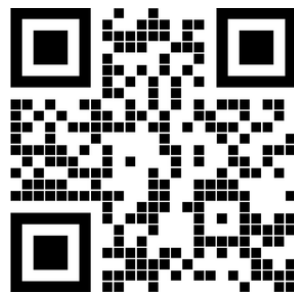
Link allows for gamers to find like-minded people to play with, or against. You may find fellow gamers who play at high levels in games such as CS2, League of Legends, or Guilty Gear Strive. Maybe you prefer to keep it to casual gaming with Minecraft, Mario Kart, or any number of other games played by Link's 150+ members. Nothing is healthier than a varied diet, which is why the members of TSEA Link also dabble in the world of tabletop and board games. During our board game evenings you may find other enjoyers of games ranging from the ever-reliable Uno, to Werewolves, to the unbelievably popular Magic: The Gathering. Or maybe you enjoy playing tabletop roleplay games like Dungeons and Dragons, Pathfinder, or Lancer? TSEA Link provides would-be players and game-masters the chance to connect with others to play these with.

Now, contrary to what the old South-Park episode may have you believe, the gamers at TSEA Link actually go outside every now and then. One of the main places they go to is our very own meeting and training-grounds, Spawnpoint. Spawnpoint is located in the TIAS building, and provides members of TSEA Link with their very own hub where they can talk to friends and meet new people, to play the aforementioned board and video games, and to study (we are a student association after all.)

If any of this sounds interesting to you, you are free to join our open-events such as the First Tuesday of the Month to get a feeling for the atmosphere. Alternatively, come talk to us at TIAS building, room T50A, where our banner will serve as your waypoint! If you want to sign up, or just want to learn a bit more, scan the QR code below for our socials and website!



Interested?
Check out the
QR-code!



Meet the Committees!

Audit Co

Audit Co works to keep the association's financial affairs in good order. They coordinate with the Treasurer and provide advice and support, and also review financial sheets and receipts to make sure there are no errors or irregularities.

How much time needed?

Roughly 2 hours per month, depending on the needs of the Treasurer.

E-sports Co

The E-sports committee organizes tournaments in all your favourite games, and it has a hand in organizing LANs – local area networks, events where gamers can gather to play and bond over their favourite games. If you like casual competition in games ranging from Mario Kart to CS2, E-sports Co is the place for you to organize events for your friends (or enemies)!



How much time needed?

About 1-4 hours per month, depending on how many events are being planned.

Event Co

Event Co is in charge of getting everyone together to have a good time! From hosting pub quizzes to organising seasonal parties, Event Co works to organise different activities, providing opportunities to make new friends, loosen up and forget your worries. They're the beating heart of the outgoing side of Link, and always come up with fun activities to get us out of Spawnpoint (or not. It is pretty comfortable, after all!)



How much time needed?

Around 2-3 hours per month.

Meet the Committees!

Freshie Co

The Freshie committee ensures that new Linkies are able to integrate into the association by hosting fun events and offering a separate group chat for any questions and shenanigans! If you want to be a buddy to new Linkies, Freshie co is the place for you!

How much time needed?

You'll be attending a few events a year with new members, and keeping an eye on the group chat.

Marketing Co

Do you enjoy writing, visual design, and/or promoting your favourite association? Link's marketing committee is the place to be for all things regarding its external promotion. The members of this committee design all Link-branded flyers, posters, and merchandise. Additionally, Marketing Co helps out with occasional in-person promotional events during the winter and summer TOP weeks.

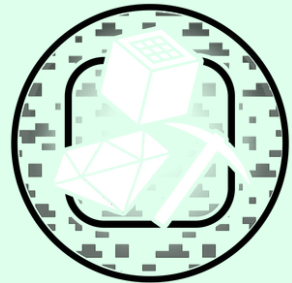


How much time needed?

Meetings are typically organised every 2-4 weeks, with tasks ranging from 0-3 hours.

Minecraft Co

The Minecraft committee concerns itself with the maintenance of the official TSEA Link Minecraft server. Part of the work done by the committee focuses on the technical aspects of the server, while other work includes the organization of events, such as a PvP tournament where the committee members worked together to create the arena. For the creative minds, the committee also held an event that connected to the official trial chamber update last year, with a story and environment built by committee members.



How much time needed?

1-3 hours per month, which may increase depending on events.

Meet the Committees!

Spawnpoint Co

Spawnpoint is Link's very own association room, fitted with gaming equipment as well as board games. Members of Spawnpoint Co. open and close Spawnpoint every day, and keeping an eye on what's happening. Besides opening or closing Spawnpoint and getting an awesome key to add to your keychain, your only responsibility is to be present.



How much time needed?

A typical day shift at Spawnpoint takes 4 hours. Meetings are sporadic.

Tabletop Committee

What is it? Tabletop committee organizes all events regarding tabletop and boardgames. The biggest of these activities are boardgame nights and one-shot nights. During boardgame nights, people bring their own games (or they can ransack Link's hefty supply) for an evening of boardgames and merriment. During one-shot nights, would-be game,-masters get the chance to practice their art for an evening, while players get to try out what it is like to play TTRPGs.



How much time needed?

On average about 2 to 3 hours per month. Not that much!

Trip Co

Have you ever gone or wanted to go anywhere at all with a group of people? Trip Co are the ones who help you make it happen! This committee organises Link's annual international trip, our semi-regular trips to the Efteling, and other trips to different places. The committee's biggest task is planning the international trip. Last year's travels brought the association to Florence and Pisa, who knows where Link will end up this year? (Hint: the answer rhymes with "Dip Co!")



How much time needed?

About 2.5 hours per month on average. The biggest time commitment is in the second semester, since the international trip happens in April!

Upcoming Events

TOP Week 013 Fair - Tuesday 18 August

Link's first activity of the year! Come find our booth at the fair to learn more about the association and meet your first Linkies :D

TOP Week Fit - Wednesday 19 August

Link's second activity of the year, unfortunately exclusive to TOP week attendees. If possible, come meet some Linkies and play some board-/videogames!

Pizza party! - Tuesday 25 August (private)

Link's first actual association event of the year, a pizza party as promised by last year's board when they reached the namesake Charity Stream donation goal of €850,- . Only for members and signup required.

Spoorpark Chilltime - Thursday 27 August

Link's first actual event of the year that is open to anyone and everyone! Join Linkies in Spoorpark for some good old-fashioned chilling and socialising, come have some snacks and most importantly, a good time!

FTOTM - Tuesday 1 September

This year's first instalment of our monthly First Tuesday of the Month drinks! Meet new Linkies and play some cardgames while enjoying a refreshing beverage of your choice.

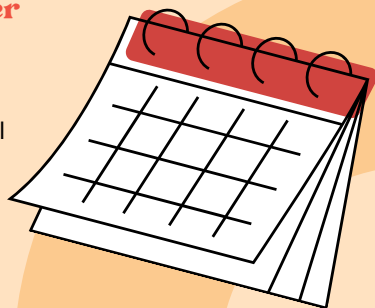
Boardgame Night! - Thursday 3 September

Boardgames! Boardgames! Boardgames! Come play boardgames! Bring your own or play one of the games supplied by Link's vast catalogue of boardgames, make friends, crush your foes, and have fun!

Speedfriend Event! - Tuesday 15 September

Are you new to Link and want an easy way to meet other new members of the association? Link's Speedfriending got you covered! In this event you will get to know your fellow Link freshies during multiple fun (I promise!) ice-breaker games.

(freshies only)



Spotlight: E-Sports

Interview with a Pawfessional

With their recent win in the DCES Lan finals for Counter Strike, the Pawfessionals are now back-to-back-to-back-to-back champions - our champions went undefeated this entire season! Fynn "schrievi" shed some light on his own journey and the Pawfessionals' success.

How did you first start playing CS2?

"I think for CS2 (then CS:GO) I started playing in 2014. Through my cousin I was already playing the predecessor, CS:Source, and eventually switched over to CS:GO."

When did you start playing tournaments?

"Around 2016 was probably the first time that I started to try making teams with friends that I made while playing, but most of them didn't lead anywhere for quite some time. I think it was around 2019 where I queued for a match alone and got queued with four other Germans, who eventually "adopted me". Eventually, we formed a team to participate in the 99damage-League (the biggest CS:GO tournament circuit in Germany at the time)."

How did the Pawfessionals form?

"Around the same time I moved to the Netherlands for my studies and joined TSEA Link. I pretty much immediately signed up to play in a CS team and got placed. Most of these CS:GO teams from 2020-2023 didn't perform well. We had huge rank mismatches and overall differences in motivation and goals so it was very dysfunctional. After August 2023 I think the first iteration of TSEA Link Pawfessionals was founded with new Linkies who also played CS on a high level."



Spotlight: E-Sports

Interview with a Pawfessional

Right from the beginning, the Pawfessionals performed amazingly. Do you have any standout memories?

"For the team as a whole it was probably the first season we played as Pawfessionals. I don't think we practiced a single time before or during the season and just relied on pure skill, and we ended up winning the season without dropping a single map throughout. So that made me realize that CS is kind of in the hands of TSEA Link now. After one of the seasons, our Esports-Officer Mirjam even managed to get us into the BeNeLux Qualifier for the IESF World Championships. Sadly I couldn't join them due to the lack of Dutch citizenship, which stung a little.

"The biggest individual standout for myself is probably winning the finals on LAN in Enschede in June (these were the DCES CS2 season finals, which cemented the Pawfessionals' flawless season). I never had the chance to play on LAN before. After Pawfessionals was founded in 2023, LAN finals repeatedly got cancelled, so I figured that I missed my chance having graduated. But I was still eligible for this final run, so it feels nice to have a medal to my name after having been the only member to play in basically every iteration of our TSEA Link CS teams."

Do you plan to continue playing CS tournaments after this year?

I'd say yes, but I'm not sure if it will still be with the Pawfessionals as most of the other Link-members of the team are leaving the association this year, so this was likely the last year that the team can play under the banner of TSEA Link. As for myself, I will probably continue focusing on my German teammates.

If this was the last season of the Pawfessionals, you definitely went out with a bang. Nevertheless, maybe some new people will be inspired and want to form a team of their own. Do you have any words of advice for them?

Really make sure you are on the same page in terms of how serious you want to play. If you want to really play serious while other people just want to have some fun or vice versa, it's going to get frustrating rather quickly. But other than that, just have fun, make sure you enjoy playing with your teammates :)

Did you know that Link was originally established to be an E-Sports association? Tilburg Student E-Sports Association Link was made by a bunch of passionate gamers more than 10 years ago and is one of the oldest Student E-Sports Associations in the Netherlands.

Interested in e-sports? Check the Link Announcements chat for the signup sheet! Worried you may not be good enough to make the cut? Don't worry – tournaments are often organized into different divisions, ensuring that a team will be matched against players of similar skill levels.

Spotlight: Tabletop

If you're looking to play games with new friends, look no further! Link's own tabletop committee hosts many events every year, and there's guaranteed to be something for everyone. During these event nights, Linkies either gather around a table to play one-shots of their favourite tabletop role-playing games, or to play board- and card games with each other.

Some of Link's most-loved tabletop games are social deduction games, including the age-old beloved game of Werewolves, as well as slightly lesser-known games such as Secret Hitler. In Secret Hitler, players are divided into liberals and fascists, and fight to advance their agendas through a series of elections. If card games with simple rules are more your speed however, Uno and Exploding Kittens are also commonly played during our game nights.

During one-shot nights, many weird and whacky systems are explored. One of these systems, which you've probably never heard of (unless you're a one-shot night enthusiast), is called Everyone is John. This is a competitive roleplaying game where each player takes up the mantle of one of John's Personalities, and the GM (Game Master) plays Everyone Else. John, of course, is an insane man in Detroit. If you sign up for a table of Everyone is John, be prepared for plenty of shenanigans and chaos.

Looking for a more serious option? The most exciting part about one-shot nights may be that GMs fluctuate every time. No two one-shot nights are ever the same! With different systems being played, from horror to sci-fi comedy, there's bound to be something for everyone.



Spawnpoint

Do you love hanging out, chatting with your friends and playing games? Or do you prefer studying in a room that isn't filled to the brim with strangers? Then Spawnpoint might be the place for you!

Our new-and-improved association room sports five awesome gaming PCs complete with headsets, controllers aplenty, a PlayStation, Xbox, and even a Wii! Want to watch a movie? Aside from our TV, we have a great sound system and a projector to fulfill all of your movie night dreams.

Spawnpoint is the home of Link, and many events take place here, from mini painting nights to arts and crafts or gaming tournaments. It's a great place for unwinding from a long day and playing a few games, napping on the couch – or cramming for your next exam – and the members of Spawnpoint's committee are always present to make sure everything runs smoothly while you're there.

Spawnpoint can be found in Room T50A (TIAS building)

Convention Highlights!

On the 21st and 22nd of November Heroes Dutch Comic con returns! HDCC is the Netherlands' biggest convention for everything pop-culture and media, from comics to anime, from the newest games to decades-old movies.

During the two-day event, which spans from 10.00 to 18.00 both Saturday and Sunday, tens of thousands of people gather in Jaarbeurs, Utrecht, to play games, present and appreciate cosplays, meet their heroes, and shop. The venue has seven separate areas, including an outdoors area, a gaming hall and an experience hall.

Throughout the days interviews are conducted with famous actors, content creators, cartoon artists or other interesting personalities, and every hall hosts different events that are either walk-in or can be signed up for., such as a speed-dating event, DND sessions, gaming tournaments and more!

If you're planning on going, my advice is to block out a decent chunk of time to visit the artist's alley and dealer hall. While they are without a doubt the most crowded areas of the con, this is not without reason – the art and trinkets you can find there are unmatched if you have the patience to look. I hope to see you there!

Game Spotlights

Upcoming Releases

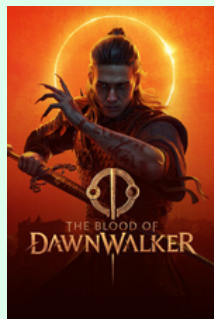
The Blood of Dawnwalker

The Blood of Dawnwalker is an open-world dark fantasy action RPG set in 14th-century Europe. You play as Coen, human by day and vampire by night, fighting to save your family in a story shaped by your actions and the secrets you uncover.

Genre: RPG, open world, adventure, dark fantasy

Release date: 8 Sept 2026

Content warning: violence, gore, some nudity and/or sexual content, general mature topics

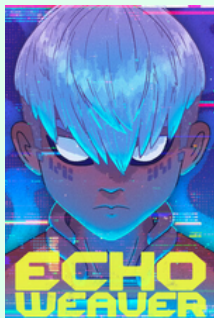


Echo Weaver

Time is your greatest resource and secrets are your only upgrades. Master an unraveling time loop in this knowledge-based Metroidvania. As the last Weaver, exploit time-altering anomalies and use what you learn to break the cycle. Explore what remains. Uncover the mystery. Perfect the loop.

Genre: adventure, puzzle, action, 2D

Release date: 8 Oct 2026



Game Sales

Date Everything! - 69% off until 24 Aug 2026 (€9,29)

Date Everything! is a sandbox dating simulator set in the comfort of your own home, featuring 100 fully voice acted datable characters! Are you ready to Date Everything?

Genre: dating sim, romance, choose your adventure, visual novel

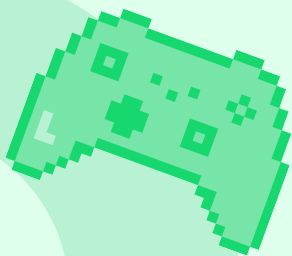
Content warning: "bad" language, sexual innuendo, sexual references, alcohol reference and use, tobacco reference



Snufkin: Melody of Moominvalley - 50% off until 20 Aug 2026 (€9,99)

Join Snufkin in this musical adventure about restoring harmony and balance to Moominvalley, protecting it from the industrious Park Keeper.

Genre: RPG, puzzle, 2D



Game Spotlights

Game Review: Lost & Found Co

Final Score:



I have played many hidden-object games in my time. Lost & Found Co, to my pleasant surprise, offered up a good variety in the types of items to find, extremely charming art, a fun story to follow, and an in-depth decorating mechanic that you can really go ham with. The levels can get quite tricky as well. Objects are sometimes hidden behind multiple clicks, which had me scratching my head a few times. You also have to find your hint currency, which is a fun way of preventing users from just spamming the hint button to find everything. The levels are varied in their setting, and feature primary objectives, which have to be finished to unlock the next level, and secondary objectives, which are only required if you want to 100% complete each level.



The Creative Link



Crochet pieces by Jay



Want to see your work showcased in the next edition? Contact the editors today!

Meet the Board!

Angela - Candidate President

Hii Everyone, I'm Angela, the candidate President (once again)! I enjoyed this year so much, that I decided to run it back 😊 In my free time, I love to crochet & knit, but you can also usually find me on the rift or playing other games such as TFT, Stardew Valley & Valorant (I'm almost freee). Looking forward to another amazing year with all of you!! 🐾



Jay - Candidate External Affairs Officer

Hey guys! I'm Jay, the candidate External Affairs Officer for Link. If you've been to the boardgame nights or FTOTMs, you've probably seen me there! I love TTRPGs like D&D, both playing and DMing. I crochet while watching anime when I can :) I really love games like BG3, civ6, zelda, and skyrim. I'm excited to be part of the candidate board for Link this year!

Noah - Candidate Treasurer

Hello everyone, I am Noah Peters, the candidate Treasurer. I think a lot of people have already seen me when going to many of the Link events, since I am at a lot of events. I like to play board and video games. For video games, I like grand strategy games such as EU4 and HOI4. And with board games I play social deduction, classical and strategy board games. I also play DND sometimes and love to play tennis. I am really excited to be treasurer for the candidate board.



Meet the Editors!

Troy (or Aenetroy)

Hello! My name is Troy and welcome back to another episode of "Who's that The Connecting Link writer?", featuring your host and resident noisemaker, me! I've been here ~~the whole time!~~ for the last three years. You may have seen me in Spawnpoint, at a ftotm, during a boardgame night, or chatting in one of Link's many Whatsapp groupchats! Besides hanging out with my favourite people, I'm also an avid enjoyer of Mario Kart, puzzle games, physical activities, and puns. Feel free to say hi or challenge me to a silly contest when you inevitably stumble across my presence!

Gina (Discord @quilleX_)

Heya! I'm the resident Link retiree of the magazine, unofficially repping Respawn. I was a Link member for a year and a half, and working on this magazine is the biggest highlight of my time with the association! When not roaming around in crafting stores, you'll find me playing (and modding) Stardew Valley, slowly chipping away at my Steam backlog, or reading all the murder mysteries I can get my hands on.

Ilse @thanafox on discord

Hi everyone! I'm Ilse, 3-year Link member and fantasy enthusiast. You may have met me at a FTOTM or during a DnD night, or otherwise hanging around at Spawnpoint. I'm very happy that we're finally able to bring you this first edition of the Connecting Link, as we've been working on it for months! I have a love for both E-Sports and tabletop games, and this magazine was born out of the hope that we could bring these parts of Link closer together. Beyond being a student and working on this here magazine, I enjoy writing, reading, baking, and of course playing videogames. I'm trying my hand at singleplayer, story-driven games these days – something I mostly say to sound cool and interesting while booting up Minecraft. If you see me, please come have a chat!

Job

Hello there! My name is Job and I'm proud to be one of the happy few who brought you this magazine! Last year I haven't been as active in Link, but my recent moving to Tilburg should allow me to catch up on lost time. I joined Link primarily to play Dungeons and Dragons and to meet new people with shared hobbies. I can safely say I succeeded on both fronts, as I've met most of my current friends through Link, some of which I then invited to play Dungeons and Dragons with me. We are entering the third year of my (completely homebrew) campaign and have already done well over 40 sessions!

Recently I've also gotten back into playing video games, with a primary focus on single-player, story-based games. In the past ~half a year I have completed more games than I had in the 3 years before then and I have no intention to stop. In general I am very grateful for everything Link has done for me and am happy to finally give something back!

