

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

**2020**

**Open to Public Inspection**

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form, as it may be made public.

▶ Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990EZ](http://www.irs.gov/Form990EZ) for instructions and the latest information.

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**A** For the 2020 calendar year, or tax year beginning 2020, and ending 2020

**B** Check if applicable:  
 Address change  
 Name change  
 Initial return  
 Final return/terminated  
 Amended return  
 Application pending

**C** Name of organization North American Word Game Players Association  
 Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) PO Box 12115 Room/suite \_\_\_\_\_  
 City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code Dallas, TX 75225-0115

**D** Employer identification number 264328248

**E** Telephone number [REDACTED]

**F** Group Exemption Number ▶ [REDACTED]

**G** Accounting Method:  Cash  Accrual Other (specify) ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**H** Check  if the organization is **not** required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

**I** Website: ▶ www.scrabbleplayers.org

**J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) –  501(c)(3)  501(c) ( 4 ) ◀ (insert no.)  4947(a)(1) or  527

**K** Form of organization:  Corporation  Trust  Association  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**L** Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B)) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (see the instructions for Part I)   
 Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

		1	2	3	4	5c	6d	7c	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received								5,525														
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts								10,373														
	3	Membership dues and assessments								32,771														
	4	Investment income																						
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory																						
	5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses																						
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (subtract line 5b from line 5a)																						
	6	Gaming and fundraising events:																						
	6a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)																						
	6b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)																						
6c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events																							
6d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)																							
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances							4925																
7b	Less: cost of goods sold							4900																
7c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (subtract line 7b from line 7a)							25																
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)								10,144															
9	<b>Total revenue.</b> Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8									58,838														
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)									3,435													
	11	Benefits paid to or for members																						
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits																						
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors										46,885												
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance																						
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping										3,930												
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)										27,596												
17	<b>Total expenses.</b> Add lines 10 through 16										81,846													
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (subtract line 17 from line 9)																				(23,008)		
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)																						
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)																				25,384		
	21	<b>Net assets or fund balances at end of year.</b> Combine lines 18 through 20																					2,376.	

**Part II Balance Sheets** (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments . . . . .	299,380	335,515
23 Land and buildings . . . . .		
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .	12,445	10,509
25 <b>Total assets</b> . . . . .	311,825	346,024
26 <b>Total liabilities</b> (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .		31,822
27 <b>Net assets or fund balances</b> (line 27 of column (B) <b>must</b> agree with line 21) . . . . .	311,825	314,202

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments** (see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? Promote community of SCRABBLE crossword game play

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

**Expenses**  
 (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations; optional for others.)

28		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	
29		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	29a	
30		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	30a	
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O) . . . . .		
(Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	31a	
32 <b>Total program service expenses</b> (add lines 28a through 31a) . . . . .	32	

**Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees** (list each one even if not compensated—see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
C. Christopher Cree President	5	0	0	0
Eliabeth Phifer Vice President	5	0	0	0
Mary Rhoades Secretary	2	0	0	0
Judith Cole Administrative Assistant	20	0	0	0
John Chew III Administrative Assistant	20	0	0	0

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O. See instructions		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
35a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	If "Yes" to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions	37a	
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee; or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II, and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911; section 4912; section 4955		
b	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958		
d	Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization		
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed	Texas	
42a	The organization's books are in care of	C. Christopher Cree	Telephone no.
	Located at		ZIP + 4
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country	42b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR).		
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the United States? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country	42c	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041—Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year	43	<input type="checkbox"/>
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d	If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ. See instructions	45b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Yes	No
46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I . . . . .		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Part VI Section 501(c)(3) Organizations Only**

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

	Yes	No
47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II . . . . .		
48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E . . . . .		
49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? . . . . .		
b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? . . . . .		

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees, and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **Note:** All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A . . . . . ▶  Yes  No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

<b>Sign Here</b>	Signature of officer	Date
	C. Christopher Cree, President	4-15-2021
Type or print name and title		

<b>Paid Preparer Use Only</b>	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
	Firm's name ▶	Firm's EIN ▶			
	Firm's address ▶	Phone no.			

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions . . . . . ▶  Yes  No

**SCHEDULE O**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on  
Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Go to [www.irs.gov/Form990](http://www.irs.gov/Form990) for the latest information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

**2020**

**Open to Public  
Inspection**

Name of the organization

North American Word Game Players Association

Employer identification number

26-4328248

Other inventory assets include chess clocks, Scrabble racks, Scrabble tiles, word lists and other office equipment - \$6,909

Other revenue - licensing fee from Scopely, Inc - \$10,000, Miscellaneous revenue \$144.

Other Asset - Deposit with Raddisson of Baltimore for 2021 North American Scrabble Championship - \$3,600

Other Liabilities - entry fees for cancelled 2020 North American Scrabble Championship carried forward to 2021 - \$31,822

Grants paid - 5 different School Scrabble programs - \$3,435

Increase in value of securities - 25,384.

Other expenses

Credit card fees - \$5,005

WESPA dues - 155

Insurance - 5,690

Championship Supplies - 2,711

Championship logo - 554

Computer Software - 1,020

Computer Hardware - 1,861

Telecommunications - 6,893

Website Maintenance - 2,881

Fuel reimbursement - 36.

Committee Meals - 642.

Office Supplies - 148.