

The Paradox of Polish eSports



Polish eSports Champions

Meet Your Makers

SEC (2005 – gold, 2006 – silver, 2007 – silver, 2008 – silver)
WCG 2006 – gold
ESWC 2006 – gold
Extreme Masters 2007 – gold
eSports Team of the Year in 2007

Maciej “av3k” Krzykowski

ESWC 2006 – gold
eSports Newcomer of the Year in 2007
Revelation of 2006 in Quake

Artur 'Blackman' Michalak

WCG 2002 bronze

Krzysztof 'Draco' Nalepka

professional gamer in Korea

Krzysztof 'Chris' Sojka

SEC 2007 gold, 2008 silver



eSports Enviromnent



Polish broadband timeline



- 2000: 56k modems
- July 2002: aDSL launches
- July 2003: aDSL reaches 50,000 users
- June 2004: rapid growth of home broadband availability
- May 2008: Polish 6Mbit connection costs 2x more than German

Internet cafe boom

- Few home connections cause internet cafe growth
- Cafe gaming becomes a subculture
- Local gamers as sponsored celebrities
- Internet cafes hatcheries for talents
- 15 gaming centres in Kielce
- 5 gaming centre CS teams in Warsaw



Transition

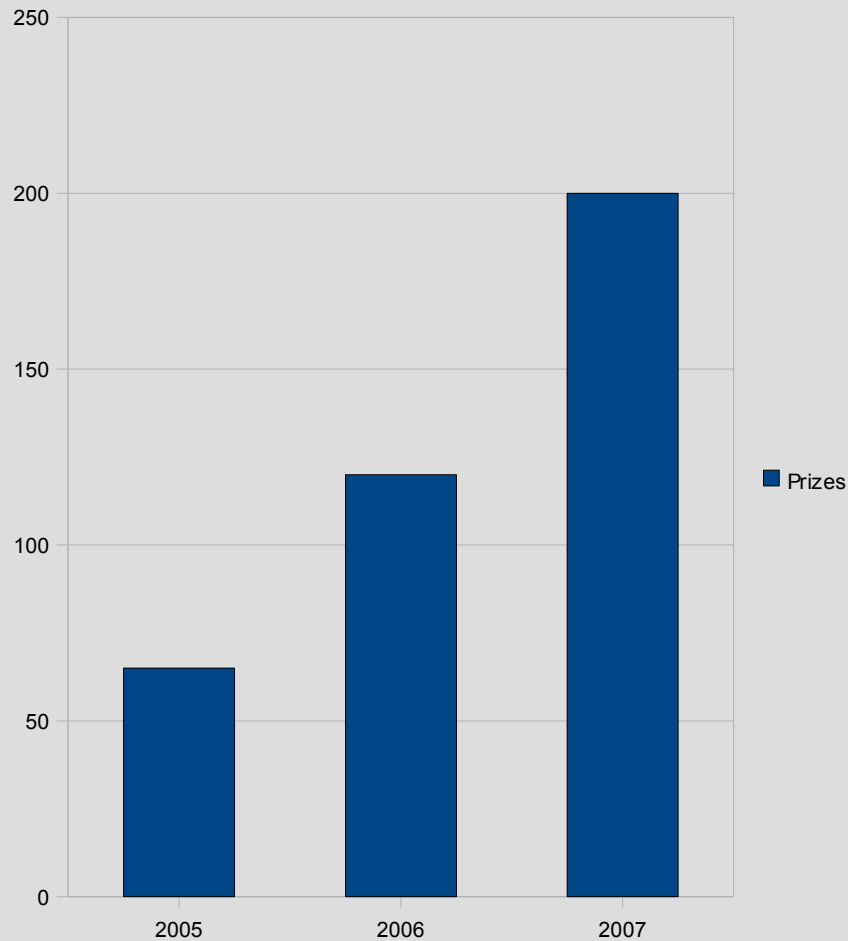


EVENTS

- Poznan Game Arena
- Kode5 Poland
- World Cyber Games
- ESWC Poland
- Heyah Logitech
Cybersport
- ESL Poland

- Professional teams
- Professional websites
- HSTV

HLC's prize purse growth



- 2005 – 65,000PLN (19,000 Euro)
- 2006 – 120,000PLN (35,000 Euro)
- 2007 – 200,000PLN (59,000 Euro)