

Interview to Mitch "MHaywxrd" Hayward: PlayStation Runner-up in the ePremier League 2021 with Sheffield United

- Q: Hi Mitch, the 2021 has been the second season in a row in which you have represented Sheffield United at the ePremier League. This year you have also improved your final score, coming from the top 12 of the last year, you are now the console Runner-Up on PlayStation. What does this mean to you?**

A: It feels great to have done a lot better this season in the ePremier League, representing Sheffield United. It's just a pity that I couldn't finish as the winner of the PlayStation having got so far.

- Q: By getting to the console final, you have secured £5000 and a spot at the FIFA 21 Global Series Playoffs. What are your expectations for the end of the competitive season?**

A: I haven't really set any specific goals for the end of the season yet. My main goal at the start of the season was to make it to the Playoffs and that has now been achieved, so I'll just see how it goes from here.

- Q: The key match of your tournament is certainly the Semi-Final between the eLions, yourself versus your national teammate Hashtag Tom currently ranked #2 in Europe on [FIFA.gg](https://www.fifa.com), which you've won with an overall score of 5-3 surprising many (but not us). What were your sensations before and after the match? What are the secrets that allowed you to win?**

A: I was obviously the underdog in the matchup but I always believed in myself as you have to do in order to win. Going into the match, I felt good and well prepared. After the match I was just delighted with how I played and of course the result wasn't expected by most people.

Q: During the whole ePremier League tournament we have seen you playing mostly with a 442 formation, what players were crucial with their performances in your team? Will you add them in your current FUT squad?

A: I would say the most important player in the team was Rashford as he was the one who scored the majority of my goals. Maybe the most surprising player was Ngolo Kante who I didn't plan to have in my team but he ended up playing a key role. I think I'll continue to use the likes of Rashford and potentially Reece James in my FUT team.

4. **Q: The 10th and 11th of April are the days in which the last EU qualifier will take place. What are your motivations towards it now that you have secured a Playoffs spot?**

A: I'm still very motivated to do the best I can as I don't know any other way of competing. So I'll try to achieve the best result I can in order to prepare for the Playoffs and to climb higher up the rankings on FIFA.gg.

5. **Q: Your competitive season is really hot: Runner-Up in the ePremier League 2021 on PlayStation, qualified at the FGS 21 Playoffs and going for more. What tips would you give to a player who's trying to climb up the ladder?**

A: I would say to practice as much as you can against players that are higher in the rankings than you and to watch your matches back in order to see where you're going wrong, and then try to change that. It can be a long process but this is what is needed in order to beat the best players in my opinion.

6. **Q: Thanks a lot Mitch, we wish you all the best!**

A: Thanks!

#BeProActive