

### Smackdown tag team title



On the August 23, 2016 edition of Smackdown, Shane McMahon and Daniel Bryan announced a new tag team championship exclusively for the Smackdown brand. It would be decided in an 8-team tournament to conclude at the Backlash event.

Date	Champion	City	Arena	Event
9/11/16	Rhyno & Heath Slater	Richmond, VA	Richmond Coliseum	Backlash

-referee: Dan Engler

-Rhyno & Slater defeated The Usos in the tournament final to establish the first champion.

-The finish saw the referee distracted by Jey Uso on the outside. This allowed Rhyno to gore Jimmy Uso in the ring. Slater then made the cover for the victory.

-In the weeks preceding the tournament, Heath Slater was undrafted in the Raw/Smackdown draft. He failed in many attempts to secure a contract. Shane McMahon & Daniel Bryan allowed Slater to enter the tournament. They would sign him if his team won.

-Tournament results: Quarterfinals: The Usos: Jimmy Uso & Jey Uso d. The Ascension [8/23/16 Uncasville, CT; Mohegan Sun Arena]; American Alpha: Jason Jordan & Chad Gable d. Breezango: Tyler Breeze & Fandango [8/23/16 Uncasville, CT; Mohegan Sun Arena] Hype Brothers: Zack Ryder & Mojo Rawley d. The Vaudevillians [8/30/16 Dallas, TX; America Airlines Center]; Heath Slater & Rhyno d. The Headbangers: Mosh & Thrasher [8/30/16 Dallas, TX; America Airlines Center]; Semifinals: Rhyno & Slater d. Hyper Brothers [9/06/16 Lincoln, NE; Pinnacle Bank Arena] ; American Alpha d. Usos [9/06/16 Lincoln, NE; Pinnacle Bank Arena]; *after the Alpha-Usos match, The Usos attacked Gable and injured him. Because the team couldn't compete at Backlash, a special match was set up to take their place*; Second Chance Challenge: The Usos d. The Hype Brothers [9/11/16 Richmond, VA; Richmond Coliseum]; Final: Rhyno & Slater d. The Usos [9/11/16 Richmond, VA; Richmond Coliseum]