

NASPA Zyzzyva 3.2.3: What's New

Following the recommendations of the NASPA Dictionary Committee and the mandate of the NASPA Executive Committee, this version adds new tournament/club (NWL2020) and school (NSWL2020) lexicons, with the removal of words deemed to be offensive slurs. In keeping with this change, the judge function now uses the terms “valid” and “not valid” rather than “acceptable” and “unacceptable”.

This version also adds sorting and column-rearrangement features to word tables, using the list headers. There are some related changes to how wildcard characters are presented, which help with sorting.

See the following section for important information about transitioning from earlier versions of NASPA Zyzzyva that created encrypted databases.

NASPA Zyzzyva 3.2.1: What's New

This is the first version of NASPA Zyzzyva to feature lexicons published by NASPA, including only those used in current club and tournament play, and omitting all previous lexicons published by Merriam-Webster (OTCWL, SSWL, OSPD).

The current lexicons are NASPA Word List 2018 Edition (NWL2018), NASPA School Word List 2018 Edition (NSWL2018), and Collins Scrabble Words 2019 Edition (CSW19) and 2015 Edition (CSW15), the latter published by HarperCollins. The NWL and NSWL lexicons, including definitions, are made available for the use of NASPA members only, but without the licensing and export restrictions that encumbered the use of the OTCWL, SSWL, and OSPD lexicons in previous versions of NASPA Zyzzyva. Note: The licensing requirement on Collins lexicons has been removed in version 3.2.1, and NASPA Zyzzyva will automatically decrypt any encrypted CSW15 databases that it finds; however, note the advice in the last paragraph, below.

Most users of NASPA Zyzzyva 3.2.1 will have run quizzes with the previous lexicons, and will want to preserve the quiz data already built up. The following advice will help you transition your studies to the current lexicons.

Lexicon Styles / Word Tables: When building lexicon databases, NASPA Zyzzyva attaches symbols to show differences between lexicons; for example, in previous versions, new words would be flagged with a “+”. In NASPA Zyzzyva 3.2.1, there is no previous version for the current NWL and NSWL lexicons, so this feature is ineffective for that purpose. Instead, the definition of all new words has been tagged “(2018)”, allowing you to find them by searching for that substring using the “Definition” search condition.

Quiz Statistics Databases / Cardbox Data: Because of the licensing restrictions that existed on pre-2018 lexicons in earlier versions of NASPA Zyzzyva, the personal databases that recorded quiz statistics (including cardbox data) for those lexicons are encrypted and thus accessible only with a valid license installed. With all lexicons no longer subject to licensing restrictions in NASPA Zyzzyva, newly created databases are no longer encrypted, but users need to be able to import those old

data for use with the new lexicons. To do this, open a Cardbox pane, use the controls to select the new lexicon and quiz type (usually Anagrams), click Import..., and select the lexicon for which you have an existing quiz statistics database file.

Unlike previous versions, that Import Quiz Statistics dialog now allows you to choose lexicons not currently loaded, including obsolete ones such as OTCWL2016 and OTCWL2014. Note: A valid license is required to import data from an encrypted database (.dbll) file, though not to use those data with a current lexicon thereafter.