# GOUGED EYE

Over the last few seasons, the Gouged Eye have changed from being a laughing stock to become arguably the best Orc team in the leadership of longserving Varag Ghoul-Chewer they continue to improve, and another Blood Bowl title cannot be far off.









The Eagles are a young team (young in Elf terms, of course; many players are 250 or over!), but this hasn't stopped them realising their potential as one of the finest passing play teams in the world. Last year they made it all the way to the Blood Bowl semi-finals, and many experts are tipping them for the top in the '88 season.



### BRIGHT CRUSADERS

The Crusaders could be a truly great Blood Bowl team, if it wasn't for one serious handicap they never, ever, cheatl While other teams are preparing for their next match by bribing referee's, the Crusaders are performing charity matches - a fact that will keep them in the middle of their Divisions until they shape up and learn to play dirty!



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This is a list of what should be in this box, and what you are going to use to play Blood Bowl. If any components are damaged or missing, please write to the following address (enclosing the ticket from the box as proof of purchase):

Blood Bowl Components, Games Workshop Ltd, Chewton Street, Hill Top, Eastwood, Notts, NG16 3HY.

 A large polystyrene playing pitch

- 5 card End Zones (printed both sides)
- 2 card Dug-Outs 32 playing pieces -
- 16 per team 32 'slotta-bases'
- for the two teams
- 20 special player bases, in 4 different colours
- 1 sheet of stickybacked numbers
- 4 plastic footballs 1 plastic range
- ruler 2 transparent
- templates
- 2 plastic score markers
- 2 Team Cards
- This rulebook
- The Blood Bowl
- Handbook 4 six-sided and 1
- eight-sided dice

## INTRODUCTION

"Hi there, sports fans, and welcome to game one in a new season of the world's most violent and anarchistic sport, Blood Bowll! I'm Jim Johnson, and I'll be your commentator for today's match along with Bob Bifford. Howdy, Bob!"

"Howdy Jim, and a very special hello to all our viewers! It's truly unbelievable to be back with you again, isn't it, Jim?"

"You said it, Bob! Well, let's get right down to business. The capacity crowd here in Middenheim are going absolutely crazy with expectation. Any moment now the two teams for today's match will step out of the tunnel and onto the Astrogranite® pitch, and then the mayhem will really break loose. Today we've got top-of-the-league Reikland Reavers

fending off a challenge from the Orc team The Gouged Eye, and it's guaranteed to be a close game. Just before this happens, though, Jim's gonna run through the rules one more time?"

"OK, Bob - here we go! As you know, folks, Blood Bowl is an epic conflict between two teams of heavily-armed and usually psychopathic warriors of all races. Players pass, throw or run with the ball, all the while attempting to get it into the opposite end of the field, the End Zone. Of course, the other team must try to stop them, using tackles and blocks, and recover the ball for their side. If a team gets a ball over the line into their opponent's End Zone it's called a Touchdown; at the end of the match the team with the most Touchdowns wins the game! How do they do it? Just like this ... "

# 1. GAME COMPONENTS

Playing Field: This is the pitch on which the game of Blood Bowl takes place. It is divided into squares to regulate movement & combat; each square can hold only one Blood Bowl player at any one time.

At either end of the field is the End Zone. If a team gets the ball into their opponent's End Zone they score a Touchdown. These are good things to score, as the team with the most Touchdowns wins!

To set up the pitch for your first game, simply align the three pieces on a flat surface with the Blood Bowl logo in the middle section. Select the two card End Zone markers with the names of the two opposing teams, and drop them into the recesses at each end.

Also on the field are four lines, two in each half. The two lines nearest to the middle show where players can set up at the start of the game.



Each team's players may be set up in one of the shaded areas shown in the diagram.

Playing Pieces: The plastic playing pieces represent the sixteen players from each team's squad, of whom eleven will be on the field at any one time. They should be carefully removed from the sprue, and then slotted into the plastic slotta-bases like this:

The special coloured player bases are only used with the Veterans Rules. Put them to one side for the time being.

The plastic football provided with the game can be held by a player by simply placing it on their base.

The next task is to fix the sticky numbers to the backs of the players. Each team has sixteen players, by a remarkable coincidence numbered from 1-16. This is where the stickers should go:

During a game of Blood Bowl players will often be knocked over by tackles, blocks and the like. To show that a particular player has been knocked over, when you are instructed to, place them like this:













**Plastic Range Ruler.** The ruler is used to measure the range when a player throws the ball. When you are instructed to measure the range by the rules, place the ' $\$ ' at one end over the head of the player throwing the ball and the red line that runs up the centre of the ruler over the head of the player the ball is being thrown to, as shown below.

If the receiving player overlaps a boundary line between two different ranges on the ruler, you should take the longer range of the two choices.

The ruler is also used to decide if an opposing player is eligible to make an interception, and grab the ball before it gets to the player waiting to catch it. To be able to make an interception, the player must be between the player who threw the ball and the player who was meant to receive it, and the plastic ruler must pass over at least part of the intercepting player's base. For example:



If the ball is thrown to Human player A, it will be a Short pass. If it is thrown to player B it will be a Long Bomb pass, as the player's base overlaps the borderline between Long range and Long Bomb range. Only Orcs X & Y are eligible to intercept the ball. Orc Z is not, because no part of the Range Ruler passes over his base.

**Dug-Outs:** Each player is given one Dug-Out at the start of the game. It is used to hold players that have been injured and, perhaps more importantly, to show the current score for the team!

Transparent Templates: There are two plastic templates provided with Blood Bowl: the Scatter Template and the Throw-In Template.

To use the Scatter Template (you'll be told when to do this by the rules), position the central square over the football and roll the eight-sided dice. Then move the ball to the square indicated by the result of the die roll.



Important Note: The eight-sided die included with the game is only ever used with this Scatter Template. Use it like a normal dice, reading the number on the upward-facing side. All other references to dice in these rules refer to the standard six-sided dice.

To use the Throw-In Template, position the square marked with the football over the last square the ball crossed before going off, with the centre arrow (the one marked 3-4) pointing inwards (ie, at the opposite sideline). Roll one six-sided die. The result will show the direction

the ball travels in. Then simply roll two dice to see how many squares the ball will travel in that direction, counting from the square marked with the ball.



*Team Cards*: The team cards are used with the Veterans Rules. Put them to one side for the moment; you won't need them for your first few games.

The Handbook: This doesn't contain any rules for play, being a collection of background facts and figures about many of the various Blood Bowl teams and star players (amongst much more great stuff!), but we're sure you'll find it an interesting and informative read whenever you aren't playing Blood Bowl.

The Coaches: Don't look in the box for these, because there aren't any - you and your opponent are the coaches! To avoid confusion with the teams' players (the plastic playing pieces), we will refer to you and the other reallife players as the teams' coaches. All references to coaches are to you or your reallife opponent; all references to players are to the Blood Bowl pieces. Did you know? That contrary to popular belief and despite frequent and very persistent rumours, the revolutionary new Astrogranite° playing surface is defnitely not made from the bones of defeated Blood Bowl Trophy finalists. Honest. Well, that's what they told us



INTRODUCTION

GAME COMPONENTS



Did you know? That the impressive collective fan movement known as the Wave has now been replaced by the Chuck, in which the largest fans in sequence toss the smallest fans as high into the air as possible! Catching them again is apparently optional.

## 2. SETTING UP THE GAME

Before you start, it's a good idea to read through these rules at least once so you get some idea of what you are doing. They aren't complicated, and reading as far as the Veterans Rules won't take you very long.

Once you have done this, assemble the board and the plastic players as shown above. One coach should take all the red pieces, the other the blue ones, and both should decide which team they're going to be coaching. Although the pieces in the box are Humans and Orcs, there's no reason not to imagine them being Elves, Skaven, or whatever you fancy (details of the current members of the two Blood Bowl leagues can be found in the Handbook - or you can always invent your own). How you make these difficult decisions is up to you, but don't hurt each other too much or you won't be able to play the game!

Next take the players numbered 1 to 11 to make up each team; the full squad of 16 players is only used with the Veterans Rules. Place the other players, those numbered 12-16, for the present. Each coach will also need a Dug-Out, with the score marker placed in the '0' space of the score track.

Each coach may set up their 11 players between their End Zone and the second line on their half of the pitch, one player per square. Decide how long the game is going to last. For your first game we recommend you declare the winner to be the first side to score two Touchdowns (see section 12, *Winning The Game*). Then toss a coin to see who moves their players first, and the match can start.

In the rules that follow, the team that moves first is known as the Offensive Team and that which moves second as the Defensive Team. The coach for the Offensive Team should give the ball to one of the players in his team, placing it on their base as shown above. Of course, the Defensive Team may grab the ball later in the game - these terms are used only to differentiate between the teams.



The moment that always seems to last forever -Bright Crusaders and Gouged Eye Teams wait for the starting whistle to blow.



BRIGHT CRUSADERS Human Thrower



REFEREE Human



GOUGED EYE Orc Catcher



ORC CHEERLEADER

These figures are a few of the vast variety available from Citadel Miniature's Blood Bowl range.

#### THE SEQUENCE OF PLAY з.

Blood Bowl is played using a simple but strict sequence of play, which runs as follows:

### A. Offensive Team Turn. B. Defensive Team Turn.

Repeat A and B, one after the other, until a Touchdown is scored.

During a particular Team Turn, the team in play may perform any or all of the following actions, provided they do so in the following strict order. The other team may do nothing (except stand up and tackle - see below) until their own Team Turn comes round.

This is what the team in play can do:

1. Stand Up: Any players (including players from the opposing side) which were knocked over the turn before last can stand up again.

2. Move/Attack: Each player, in turn, may move and/or block, or do nothing. While moving the player may be tackled by an opponent.

3. Throw/Hand-Off: If a player on this side has the football they may throw it, or hand it off to another player, or simply keep hold of it.

These actions must be performed in this specific sequence by the whole team; in other words, a player can't stand up once a player has been moved, and players can't move or block after another player has thrown the ball. Each player may only move and/or block once per Team Turn. The football may only be thrown or handed-off once per Team Turn.

A team may not do anything during the other team's Turn, except perhaps stand up or tackle, and must wait for their own Team Turn.

## 4. MOVEMENT

A player may move up to 6 squares, and may move in any direction or combination of directions, including diagonally, as long as they do not enter a square that holds another player (from either team), and are not tackled by an opponent. A player does not have to move the entire 6 squares in their turn; they don't need to move at all, if the coach wishes.



Movement: The Human player cannot make move A as the space is occupied, but may make move B, a combination of diagonal and straight moves.

Each opposing player has a Tackle Zone, which is basically the area they can reach as an opponent runs past them. If a player moves from a square in a Tackle Zone to another square in a Tackle Zone they may be tackled by an opposing player. Tackle Zones and tackles themselves are explained further in the the square where they injured themselves (see next section.

If a player moves into a square in which the football is lying, they may pick it up, and - if they wish and are able - carry on moving.

Players move and/or block one at a time. In other words, the coach may move a player and then make a block with that player, then move and block with another player (blocks are explained in rules section 6, below). This carries on until all the players have moved and/or blocked, or the coach does not want to move or block with any more players. Note that players must complete their move before they block; you cannot move a player 2 squares, make a block, and then move the player on another 4 or more squares.



#### Moving Extra Squares

After a player has moved 6 squares, they can try to move an extra 1 or 2 squares instead of making a block. As the player enters each of the extra squares, roll one die. If it comes up with a 6 the player has been injured. Roll for each extra square entered; a player can move a maximum of 2 extra squares.

Injured players should be removed from the board and placed in the Injured box in the Dug-Out. Injured players will drop the football if they were carrying it, which will scatter from 8, Scatter).

Did you know? That Skurfrik Stone-Sucker, running back for the imaginatively-named Hobgoblin Team, often turns up for a match severa days before match day. Well, it takes him that long to tie up his boot laces!

SETTING UP

MOVEMENT

THE GAME SEQUENCE

OF PLAY

2

з

4





6

Did you know? That possibly the most heroic effort ever was put in by Evil Gits lineman Karg Stabneck, who managed to crawl 94 paces to score, despite having both legs torn off by a rampaging Oldheim Ogres player at his own 6-pace line!

## 5. TACKLE ZONES

Every standing player has a Tackle Zone, which covers the eight adjacent squares around him. It is the area he can reach as he tries to grab an opponent who tries to get past him:



The player's Tackle Zone is shown by the shaded squares.



If a player moves from a square in any opposing player's Tackle Zone to another square in any opponent's Tackle Zone, roll one die. On a 5 or 6 the player has been tackled and is knocked over in the square they moved into. If the player was also trying to move an extra square, as described above, they must still roll for the chance of an injury.



If the Human player makes moves A or B, the Orc coach would be allowed to make a Tackle roll (as the player is moving from a square in a Tackle Zone to another square in a Tackle Zone).

If the Human player makes move C, he is not moving to a square in a Tackle Zone, and the Orc coach will not be allowed to make a tackle.

A player who is carrying the ball will drop it if they are successfully tackled. Roll for scatter to see where the ball ends up (see Section 8, below).



# 6. BLOCKS

After a player has moved, they may try to block any opposing player in a square next to them. Each player may make one block per Team Turn. Only players on the moving team may make a block. A block is like a rougher tackle, designed to really stop an opponent in his tracks!

To see if the block works, roll two dice and total the score, and then refer to this block table:

	BLOCK TABLE
DICE ROLL	RESULT
2	The blocking player is injured; remove him from the board.
3-4	The blocking player is knocked over.
5-7	Stand-off - nothing happens to either player.
8	Both players are knocked over.
9-11	The defending player is knocked over.
12	The defending player is injured; remove him from the board.

Players who are knocked over should be placed face down as described above. See 10 - Standing Players Up, (p10) to find out when and how the player can stand up.

Injured players should be placed in the *Injured* box of the team's Dug-Out. They may be able to return to play after a Touchdown has been scored, but not before.

Ball-carrying players who are knocked over or injured will drop the football. Roll for scatter to see where the ball will end up (see 8, Scatter).

Players who have been knocked over do not have a Tackle Zone, and may not move or block until they have stood up again. The football can never be put in a square with a player who has been knocked over. If the ball should end up in a prone player's square, roll for scatter to see where it goes.

### **Blocking Knocked Over Players**

A player may block a player who has been knocked over. If they try to do so, resolve the block on this table instead of the usual one:

PRONE BLOCK TABLE					
Dice Roll	Result				
2-3	The blocking player is knocked over.				
4-9 10-12	Nothing happens. The defending player is injured; remove him from the board.				



TACKLE 5 ZONES 5 BLOCKS 6

Did you know? That the late Engel "The Exterminator" von Evilstein was probably the most violent player ever. This frontline blitzer for the Chaos All-Stars was often sent off for illegal use of automatic weaponry. Just before he was unfortunately killed during an explosive attempt to wipe out the entire Underworld Creepers team at one go, he was reckoned to have accounted for an unbelievable 824 players!



-

# 7. THROWING THE FOOTBALL

After all movement, tackles and blocks have been completed, a player who is holding the football may throw it, or hand it to a fellow player who is in an adjacent square. The ball may be handed-off or thrown once per Team Turn. If the ball is in the hands of an opposing player nothing can be done.

### Handing-Off

Handing-off the football is easy: simply transfer the ball to any other player in an adjacent square.



#### Throwing

Throwing the football is more difficult. First of all, the coach must declare who the player is trying to throw the ball to. The football must always be thrown to another standing player; it cannot be thrown to an empty square or to a player who has been knocked over. Next the coach must measure the range using the ruler (see p3). The coach should roll two dice, and refer to the throwing table:

2	-		1							
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I	м	M	м	ç	с	с	с	с	С	с
I.		м	м	м	с	с	с	с	С	с
Г	1	I	м	м	м	с	С	с	C	С
L	I,	I	ļ	м	м	м	С	с	С	с
	1	1 1 1 1	I I M	IIMM	IIIMMM M	I I M M M C	I I M M M C C	I I M M M C C C I I I M M M C C	I I M M M C C C C C I C I C I C I C I C	I I M M M C C C C C C

**Caught:** If the ball is caught, all is well and the receiving player now has the ball.

Interception: If the ball was intercepted, it may be caught by any opposing player who is eligible to intercept the ball (as determined by the ruler; see above). The opposing coach can choose which player intercepts if there is more than one. If there are no eligible players, count the result as a miss *unless* the throwing player is in an opposing player's Tackle Zone. If this is the case, the thrower has fumbled the throw, and the ball will scatter from their square (see section 8).

Note that the ball can only be intercepted by players from the opposing side, not by players on the same team as the thrower.

**Missed:** If the ball misses, roll for scatter to see where it went. If the ball ends up in a square with a standing player they have caught it. If it ends up in a square with a prone player it will scatter again from that square. If it ends up in an empty square it should be placed on the ground in the square.





A Short pass has been thrown to player A, but has missed! Therefore it will scatter from player A's square. The eight-sided 'scatter dice' is rolled, coming up with a 7, and the ball is moved as shown in the diagram.

# 8. SCATTER

Whenever you have to roll for scatter, use the Scatter Template as described on page 3. If the ball scatters into a square with a standing player, that player may pick up the ball immediately. If it scatters into a square containing a knocked over player, it will immediately scatter again from that square.

If the ball scatters off the pitch, it will be thrown back in immediately. A ball may scatter into the End Zone, if a player from the appropriate side manages to move into the ball's square, a touchdown is scored, see section 11. Touchdowns for what happens then.

### 9. THROW-INS

When a ball scatters off the pitch it is immediately thrown back in by the eager spectators! Use the Throw-In Template to work out where the ball goes, using the last square that the ball crossed before going off as the starting point. If the ball is thrown into a square containing a standing player, that player has caught the ball. If a ball is thrown to a square with a prone player, the ball will scatter from that square.

Throw-ins may not be intercepted. If a Throwin results in the ball going off the pitch again, it will be Thrown-in again, centred on the last square it was in before it left the pitch.

THROWING THI FOOTBALL	<sup>E</sup> 7
SCATTER	8
THROW-INS	9

9

Did you know? That the Scarcrag Snivellers once kidnapped the coach of rival team, the Lowdown Rats, to discover their play secrets. The coach held out for months and eventually the Goblins sent him home only to discover that he had stolen details of all of the Snivellers' own special plays!







Did you know? That one of the most notorious Freebooters the NAF has ever known, Erik 'the Dog' Jorgson - who regularly played in lycanthropic form went through an uncontrolled metamorphosis while waiting in the dugout. After he ate the rest of the subs, Blood Bowl organisers decided to install cages in all stadium dug-outs. Were-players have complained that this is a form of discrimination, but there are no plans to change the ruling as yet.

## 10. STANDING PLAYERS UP

Stand up any players who are lying face up at the start of each Team Turn. Having done this, turn over any players that are face down so that they are face-up (but still lying on the ground). Note that the players from both teams are stood up and turned over at the start of each and every turn.

It is important to always place a player facedown when they are first knocked over. This is because whenever a player is knocked over they must stay down for the rest of the turn, and the whole of the next Team Turn. This means, for example, that a player knocked down in the Defensive Team Turn will not be able to stand up until the start of the next Defensive Team Turn.

# 11. TOUCHDOWNS

A team scores a Touchdown when one of their players moves into the opposing team's End Zone while holding the football. As soon as this happens, play stops, the crowd cheer and whistle, and cheerleaders dance about waving pom-poms. The coach of the scoring side has our permission to leap about and cheer a bit too, while moving his score marker along on his Dug-Out.

Any player may enter either End Zone at any time, even if they are not carrying the ball. If the ball is thrown to them and they catch it, or they are able to pick up the football while in their opponent's End Zone, they score a Touchdown. If a player is tackled when moving into the End Zone, or if they injure themselves by moving extra squares, they do not score a Touchdown, and the ball scatters as usual.

Either coach is allowed to concede a Touchdown at the very start of their Team Turn. You may want to do this if you have too many injured players off the field, as it will give you a chance to get some of them back into play. mayhem starts all over again!

### Restarting After A Touchdown

After a Touchdown has been scored, play is restarted and the match continues (unless someone has won, of coursel). First of all, however, each coach should roll one die for each injured player. On a roll of 5 or 6 the player is fit enough to return to play, on any other result they must stay in the Dug-Out. The coach may try again after the next Touchdown has been scored.



Both coaches may then set up any fit players just as they did at the start of the game. The team against whom the Touchdown was scored becomes the Offensive Team and is given possession of the football. And then the



## 12. WINNING THE GAME

A game of Blood Bowl is played until one team has scored a certain number of Touchdowns. The coaches should agree between them before the match starts how many Touchdowns will be needed to win. For your first game, we suggest the first team to score 2 Touchdowns is the winner. This will give you a chance to get the hang of these rules before you play your first *competition* game! As an alternative, try playing to a time limit, such as an hour or ninety minutes. At the end of this time the team with the most Touchdowns is the winner. If you are playing to a time limit, each coach is only allowed 5 minutes to take their Team Turn, to stop time wasting by a team that is in the lead! If a coach runs out of time they must finish their turn right there.



STANDING<br/>PLAYERS UP10TOUCHDOWN11WINNING<br/>THE GAME12

Did you know? That according to their unholy religion, the Chaos All-Stars must cook and eat their coach if they lose a game? If they win, of course, they're allowed to eat him raw!



11







Did you know? That the sorcerous owner of the nowdisbanded Mirkheim Mages was the unfortunate victim of a cross-time misunderstanding. He had attempted to summon a new coach for his team through a timewarp into the future, but was unluckily crushed when a single-decker bus fell on him!

# **BLOOD BOWL VETERANS RULES**

The Veterans Rules which follow are all optional. In other words, you don't have to use them if you don't want to. Indeed, if you do want to try some of them out in a game, we insist you agree with your opponent just which you are going to use, and which you are not, before the game starts. The rules below add more detail and 'realism' (if you can say such a thing about a fantasy game) to Blood Bowl, but at the cost of greater complexity and a longer playing time. Don't feel that you have to use all these rules to play the 'proper' version of Blood Bowl - play the version of the game you and your friends enjoy the most! Above all, have fun!

# 1. THE TEAMS

In the Veterans Rules the number of players in each team is increased to 16, from whom 11 players are on the field at any one time (so you now have reserves to substitute for injured players). Furthermore, each team also now

includes a number of specialist players who are expert at doing a specific task. This is why we've included the coloured, special-player bases, for you to tell the different players apart. The special player bases are attached to the slotta-bases like this:



Each team now consists of the following players:

- 2 Blitzers (red base)
- 4 Blockers (green base)
- 2 Catchers (yellow base)
- 2 Throwers (white base)
- and then a further

6 Linemen (who are distinguished by the fact that they don't have anything attached to their bases at all!)

- giving a grand total of 16 players in the team. However, as we said, only 11 players may be on the field at the same time.

Blitzers are just about the best all-round players on the field. They are quite fast and agile, but strong enough to smash their way through an opposing line when they have to. Ace Reavers player Griff Oberwald is a typical Blitzer: fast, strong and just a bit too flash!

Blockers are very strong, and wear extra armour to protect themselves in the powerful head-to-head blocks that are their speciality. However, they are not all that fast, and against an agile opponent with room to dodge they will almost always come off second best. Ogres and Storm Giants seem to make the best Blockers, usually because of their great size, but all races have their experts.



Catchers are the opposite of Blockers. Lightlyarmoured and very agile, they can't afford to get into fights. In the open field, however, they are unmatched - and nobody is better at catching the football. Catchers specialise in waiting in the End Zone for that all-important Touchdown pass to come sailing in out of the blue. The only problem in being a Catcher is if someone should catch you!

Throwers are the most glamorous players on the field, able to throw an inch-perfect Long Bomb to the waiting hands of a player far down the pitch. Or at least that's the theory; throwing the football well takes admirable skill.

Linemen are the standard players of the team, not brilliant at any one thing, but capable enough to fill in for an injured player when necessary. Some teams seem to be made up of nothing but Linemen - which is why they are always at the bottom of the league!

#### Characteristics

To show their differing abilities, each player has seven characteristics which show how fast, strong, agile and accurate they are, as well as how heavily armoured:

Movement Allowance (abbreviated to MA): This shows the number of squares the player may move in the Team Turn if they don't Sprint (see section 4. Movement - p16).

Sprint Allowance (SP): This is the number of extra squares the player can move if they Sprint.

Strength (ST): A player's Strength represents how physically powerful he is, and is used to block opponents.

Agility (AG): The higher a player's Agility, the more likely they are to be able to avoid tackles attempted by opposing players.

Throwing Skill (TS): This shows the player's skill in throwing the football across the field.

Cool (CL): The Cool characteristic reflects the player's ability to remain calm and concentrate under pressure, especially when trying to catch the football.

Armour Value (AV): This shows the amount of armour the player is wearing. The higher the number, the more armour the player has on. Catchers, for example, have very light armour.



The different types of player have the following characteristics:

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV
Lineman	4	+2	3	3	0	0	9
Blitzer	4	+3	4	3	0	0	9
Blocker	4	+1	4	2	-1	-1	10
Catcher	4	+4	2	4	0	+1	8
Thrower	4	+3	з	3	+1	0	8

This information is also found on the Team Card, one of which is provided for each team. The Team Card also contains all the new charts and tables used in the Veterans Rules, so that you won't have to flick through the rulebook each time you want to look something up.

# 2. SETTING UP

Each coach should take all 16 players in their team. The special player bases should be divided evenly between the coaches (so that each has 2 red bases, 4 green, etc) and attached as described above. Each coach may

set up a maximum of 11 starting players on the field. The remaining five players are placed in the Reserves box in the Dug-Out. The remaining rules for setting up given in the Standard Rules are unchanged (see p4).

# 3. THE SEQUENCE OF PLAY

The sequence of play given in the Standard Rules is unchanged, and still consists of the following:

Repeat A & B until a touchdown is scored.

### A. OFFENSIVE TEAM TURN

- Stand-up players (both teams)
- Move/block/tackle
- Throw/hand-off

**B. DEFENSIVE TEAM TURN** 

- Stand-up players (both teams) Move/block/tackle

- Throw/hand-off



Did vou know?

That half-orc Uthar

Hagg of the

Middenheim Marauders once

punched out four

referees during a pre match coin-toss - and vas promptly made Player of the Year by appreciative

Marauders fans!

BLOOD BOWL VETERANS RULES THE TEAMS 1 SETTING UP 2 SEQUENCE з

OF PLAY



16

Did you know? That the Halfling team, the Stunted Stoutfallows, were once blessed with good fortune when their opponents, the Chaos All-Stars,

failed to arrive for their match until halftime - by which time the plucky little guys were only 2-1 down!

# 4. MOVEMENT

Instead of moving the standard six squares, each player may now move a number of squares equal to their *Movement Allowance*. (You'll notice that Orc and Human players all have a basic **MA** of 4. Details of the MAs of other races can be found on page 22 of this rulebook).

If a player moves into a square with the football, they may pick it up. However, they may not carry on moving - unless they Sprint.

#### Sprinting

After they have taken their normal move, a player may Sprint on for a few extra squares, as long as they are not in a *Tackle Zone* when they have finished their normal move. When a player makes a Sprint they may move a number of extra squares equal to their SP characteristic. This move is carried out exactly like a normal move, except that the player may not enter an opponent's Tackle Zone.

A player who is Sprinting may then try to move one or two extra squares, exactly as detailed in the Standard Rules (but note that a player may not try to move extra squares unless they Sprint). A player who rolls an Injury is placed in the Injured box in the Dug-Out, and may not return to play this game.

#### Heroic Tackles

Once per Team Turn, a single player on the moving team (ie, the team whose Team Turn

it is!) may attempt a Heroic Tackle. Heroic tackles represent those truly desperate leaps to bring down an opposing player - usually made just as they are sprinting for the End Zone and glory!

A player making a Heroic Tackle may move as normal, and may Sprint and try to move extra squares. Unlike normal Sprint moves the player is allowed to enter a Tackle Zone, although they must stop moving as soon as they do so. After the player has moved, they must make the Heroic Tackle against any one adjacent opponent.

The Heroic Tackle is resolved in the same way as a normal Veterans Rules tackle (see 5, below) except that the player making the tackle is always knocked over - no matter what the result - and must also subtract 2 from their **AV** when making their *Armour Roll*.

If a player tries to move one or two extra squares, they must roll for injury before making the Heroic Tackle.

Sometimes a coach will want to make the move to enter a Tackle Zone, but not make a tackle at the end of it. In this case the coach must roll one die. On a 4-6 the player has been knocked over by the opposing player and must roll for injury as above. On a 1-3 the player remains standing.

# 5. TACKLE ZONES

Whenever a player moves from one Tackle Zone to another they may be tackled, as before. However, instead of rolling the dice and getting the tackle on a 5 or 6, the *Veterans Tackle Table* given below is used instead.

#### Tackles

when resolving a tackle, the player whose Tackle Zone is being moved into is the tackler.



Orc B is the player who will make the tackle.

The player who is moving is the defender except in the case of Heroic Tackles (see above), when the moving player is the tackler, and the player being tackled is the defender.

To resolve a tackle, roll two dice and modify the total depending on both players' Agility scores (see p17). Then refer to this table:

VETERANS TACKLE TABLE					
Dice Roll	Result				
4 or less	Where'd he go? The defender may keep on moving.				
5-6	Tackler is knocked over; the defender may keep on moving.				
7-8	Both players are knocked over.				
9 or more	Defender is knocked över.				

If the defender is knocked over, he is placed face down in the square he was moving to. If the tackler is knocked over, he is placed face down in the square he is in. Any player who is knocked over must make an Armour Roll to see if they were injured (see *The Armour Roll* - p17).

### Agility

Whenever a tackle is being resolved, compare the Agility scores of the two players involved. If the tackler has the higher score, add the difference between the two Agilities to the dice total. If the defender has the higher score, subtract the difference from the dice total.

### Multiple Tackle Zones

Even if a player moves out of a square that is in several opposing players' Tackle Zones, only one of those players gets to tackle. Their coach may decide which player attempts the tackle. However, for each extra player that could have made a tackle, an extra 1 is added to the dice roll.



Either Orc A or B may make the tackle with +1 on the roll.

### The Armour Roll

Whenever a player is knocked over, their coach must make an Armour Roll to see if they were injured. Roll two dice, and if the total is greater than the player's AV score they have been hurt; roll the dice again and refer to the Veterans Injury Table to see just what has happened to them:

VETER/	VETERANS INJURY TABLE					
Dice Roll	Result					
2-6 7-8 9-11 12	Stunned. KO'd. Serious Injury. Dead.					

All players who are injured are immediately removed from the board and placed in the appropriate box in the Dug-Out. After the next Touchdown is scored, all the players in the Stunned box are moved to the Reserves box. A die is rolled for each KO'd player: on a 1-3 they are moved to the Stunned box, but on a 4-6 they are moved to the Reserves box. Players who suffer a Serious Injury are out of the game and cannot return to play. Players who are Dead may not return to play (and won't be playing next week either!).





Varag Ghoul-Chewer has moved three squares, but since he's now moving from one Tackle Zone to another he can be tackled by Gruff Hackson. The Orc is a Blitzer, the Human a Blocker. The dice are rolled, giving a score of 7. However, comparing Varag's Agility of 3 to Hackson's 2, we get a modifier of -1, giving a result of 6. Hackson crashes to the ground, but is lucky because his armour protected him from further damage (his coach rolled an 8). Varag keeps moving, heading for the End Zone...

### Substitutes

When a player is injured, he can be replaced by another player from the Reserves box of the Team's Dug-Out.

Substitutes enter play at the start of their next Team Turn and can be placed in any square beside the team's Substitute Entry Line (as long as the square is not occupied by another player, of course). Each team has their own Entry Line - the four squares beside the steps on their half of the pitch.

Substitutes can move and attack normally on the turn they enter the pitch.



SUBSTITUTE ENTRY LINES

### MOVEMENT

TACKLE ZONES 5



Did you know?

That Stengard

Wolfback of the

Bluchen Berserkers

was so rough and



Did you know? That the Craggen Counts, a team from the vampire-infested Border Principalities, were banned from the league in 2485. Why? Well, when everyone else was sucking an orange at half-time the Counts were usually helping themselves to the crowd!

# 6. BLOCKS

Players on the moving team may still attempt a block after making their move. To resolve a block, roll two dice, modify the total depending on the players' Strength scores (see below) and then refer to the *Block Table*:

VETERANS BLOCK TABLE						
Dice Roll	Result					
2 or less 3-4 5-7 8 9-11 12 or more	Attacker is stunned. Attacker knocked over. It's a stand-off - nothing happens. Both players are knocked over. Defender is knocked over. Defender is stunned.					

Whenever a player is knocked over, make an *Armour Roll* to see if they were injured (see 5 - above). Players who are knocked over but not injured should be placed face-down on the board, as usual. A stunned player should be removed from the board, and placed in the Stunned box in the Dug-Out. Do not make an Armour Roll for the player.

When making a block against a player who has been knocked over, add 2 to the dice roll, in addition to any other modifiers.

### Strength

Whenever a block is being resolved, compare the Strengths of the two players involved. If the attacker has the higher score, add the difference between the two Strengths to the dice total. If the defender has the higher score, subtract the difference from the dice total. Then look up the result on the above table.



# 7. THROWING THE FOOTBALL

Throwing the football is handled in a similar way to that in the Standard Rules, apart from the following modifiers which are applied to the dice roll. In addition a player may not throw the ball is they have moved in the same turn.

The dice roll is modified by the thrower's TS and the receiver's CL values. For example, a CL of +1 means add one to the die roll.

Subtract 1 from the dice roll for every opposing player that exerts a Tackle Zone on the thrower's square, and subtract 1 for each player that exerts a Tackle Zone on the receiver's square too.



The dice roll will be modified by -3. -1 for Orc A next to the thrower, and another -2 for Orcs B & C, next to the receiver.

An unmodified roll of 2 on the dice is always an *Interception*.

An unmodified roll of 12 always means the ball has been *Caught*.

### Missed Throws

With a missed Long Pass, roll for the direction of scatter as normal, but move the ball two squares in that direction. With a Long Bomb, move the ball three squares in the direction indicated by the scatter roll.



The ball is thrown to the target square and misses! A 4 is rolled for scatter. If the throw was a long pass, the ball will scatter two squares to 'A', if it was a long bomb, 3 squares to 'B'.

## AND FINALLY

All the other rules given in Standard Blood Bowl are unchanged - for the time being. Feel free, however, to experiment with whatever modifications you decide on yourself. There's only one rule - that you and your opponent agree on them being in force before the game starts. Apart from that, the game's yours have fun!





(remember that a player who makes a Heroic Tackle always ends up prone). Furthermore, 'both players must roll to see if they were injured in the tackle. The Orc coach rolls a 5 and a 6 for a total of 11. This is more than the Skullhack's Armour Value, so he's injured and

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the coach must roll on the Injury Table to see what happened. This time the dice come up with a total of only 4, resulting in the Orc being stunned. Skullhack's figure is removed from the board and placed in the 'Stunned' box of the Gouged Eye's Dug-Out.

Armour Value, so he's injured and The human coach now rolls to see

dice and adding 2 to the score because Griff made a Heroic Tackle. Fortune smiles on the Reaver's star player again as the dice come up 1 and 5; this, after 2 is added because of the Heroic Tackle, is still less than his AV of 9. Griff is down, but far from out. Now where did that football go?

### SPECIAL TEAMS

Apart from the teams you will read about in this Rulebook, and in the Blood Bowl Handbook you'll find in this set, there are many others, playing in recognised leagues all over the world. There are many other Human and Orc teams, for example, which you can play using the playing pieces in this set.

All the different races that play Blood Bowl (as well as specific teams and star players) will receive detailed coverage in future supplements. However, so you can get started with your very own Elf team straight away, this section presents the basic rules for the most popular Blood Bowl-playing races. For now, you'll have to use the Human and Orc playing pieces, but at least you'll be able to recreate some of the famous games you will have read about in the Handbook staright away. Could you be the successful coach of the Darkside Cowboys? Read on.

You can use these teams either with the plastic figures provided, or by using the appropriate figures from the Blood Bowl range of Citadel Miniatures. If you are using the plastic figures you'll need to write down what type of player each player is, as the special player bases provided will not always work with these teams. For example, if you were using an Elf team you might say that players 1 and 2 were Throwers, players 3 to 6 were Catchers and so on.

Obviously, the normal Veterans Rules apply, and you should substitute the team's attributes as set out below for the Orc and Human attributes that were used in that. section.



**ORCLAND RAIDERS Orc Catcher** 



**BIL BALI ARCHERS Elf Catcher** 



GOUGED EYE **Orc Blitzer** 

**CODILLIAN CLARIONS** 

Elf Blitzer

CHAMPIONS OF DEATH

Skeleton Lineman



KHAINS KILLERS Dark Elf Lineman



DWARF ANVILS Dwarf Blocker



ULTHUAN RENEGADES Dark Elf Thrower







DEATHS HEADS

**Orc Lineman** 

DURUMS DESTROYERS **Dwarf Blitzer** 





LAURELORN PALADINS Elf Lineman



SPECIAL TEAMS





Did you know? That the Broadcasting networks have perfected a signalprotection device that stops coverage of Blood Bowl games being pirated by the glass balls of villege witchdoctors and wisewomen! Unfortunately, they are now being sued by the Clairvoyants' Guild for causing interfarence with lines to the astral plane.

### DARK ELVES

Dark Elf teams use similar tactics to their more reasonably behaved cousins, since they are most suited to a throwing game. But sheer spite makes the Dark Elves enjoy the running game, particularly when a side throws up a remarkable running player like Jeremiah Kool. In fact, it is hard to believe that the Flashing Blade won't be tempted out of retirement, if not by the Darkside Cowboys, then by some other team.

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV
Lineman	4	+3	3	3	+1	+1	8
Blitzer	4	+3	4	3	+1	+1	9
Catcher	4	+4	2	4	0	+2	8
Thrower	4	+3	3	3	+2	0	8

A standard Dark Elf team is made up of 8 Linemen, 4 Catchers, 2 Throwers and 2 Blitzers.

### DWARFS

In complete contrast, Dwarfs know they are never going to work out a successful passing game against teams who can intercept their passes while they are lying down. There have been individual Dwarfs who made good catchers (nerves of steel), but that icy calm is better displayed by noted Blitzers, like Grimwold Grimmbreath of the Giants. Most successful Dwarf teams work to the principle that if their Blitzers can take out all of the other team's potential scorers, and then wear down the rest, they ought to have somebody left over to score the winning TDs.

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV
Lineman	3	+2	4	2	-1	0	10
Blocker	3	+1	5	2	-1	-1	10
Blitzer	3	+3	4	3	0	+1	10

Linemen.

### ELVES

Most Elf teams reckon that senseless violence has its place, but the quickest way to get out of the cold air and back to somewhere they can recite lyric poetry is to score quick Touchdowns. More than most teams, Elves rely on the accuracy of their throwers and the icy calm of their catchers. Valen Swift of the Elfheim Eagles is the most famous curent example, but one can also think of the muchfancied Cloud Spiralthorn, of the Unsettled Sea Elves, who play in the Lustrian Central League. The unglamourous Linemen simply hold off the other sides' more homicidal players until the pass is thrown. Being lightly armoured, they don't appreciate it if this takes too long.

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV
Lineman	4	+3	3	. 3	+1	+1	8
Catcher	4	+4	2	4	0	+2	88
Thrower	4	+3	3	3	+2	0	8

Elf teams have 2 Throwers, 6 Catchers, and 8 Linemen.

#### GOBLINS

The game plan of a Goblin team like The Lowdown Rats seems to owe more to hope than potential. Many Goblins make superb Catchers, since they dart into clear spaces where their lack of height isn't a problem. However, the art of throwing is almost lost to them, and many Goblin Catchers - 'Handy' Slitsides, for example - have spent whole games waiting for one of their comrades to send something over the top. But ''da fightz da fing'' with Goblins, and the ball is only ever an incidental thing.

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV
Lineman	4	+2	3	3	0	-1	8
Catcher	4	+3	2	4	0	+1	7

#### HALFLINGS

The technical deficiencies of Halfling teams are legendary. But tactically, they present even more problems. How can you rely on a Catcher who might slip off the field for a Hot Dog? Most Halfling Coaches, aware they are short of material, try to make up for quality with quantity. If you can get six Catchers in the enemy End Zone and, by some miracle, you manage to end up with the ball, then one or two of them might not be jelly by the time you throw the thing...

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV
Lineman	з	+3	2	4	-1	-1	7
Catcher	3	+4	2	5	-1	+1	7

Halfling teams have 6 Catchers and 10 Linemen.

### SKAVEN

It would be a mistake to believe that the recent lack of success enjoyed by Skaven teams in Blood Bowl means they aren't potentially useful players. You don't have to go too far back into history to the time when the Skaven Scramblers won the Blood Bowl trophy two seasons running! Of course, their close association with Chaotic Warpstone and the resulting mutations helps, but the basic Skaven player has a lot going for him. And they have managed to produce great players in most positions.

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV
Lineman	5	+1	3	3	0	-1	8
Blitzer	5	+2	4	3	0	-1	8
Catcher	5	+3	2	4	0	+1	7
Thrower	5	+1	3	3	+1	0	8

Skaven teams have 2 Blitzers, 4 Catchers, 2 Throwers, and 8 Linemen.

### SKELETONS

Even Tomolandry, famous coach of the Champions of Death admits you can't expect a lot of individual skeletons. They aren't fast, they throw poorly, and they are habitually carried off the field in batches of threes and fours. But, with just a small dab, of the magic sponge, the Undying Coach can have the whole squad back in rattling good form. The longer the game goes on, the more likely it is that the opposition will be bone-tired.

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV
Lineman	3	+2	3	.2	-1	-1	7
Thrower	3	+2	3	3	0	0	7
Catcher	4	+3	2	3	-1	0	7

Skeleton Teams are made up of 12 Linemen, 2 Catchers, and 2 Throwers.

Being Undead, Skeletons are rather difficult to kill or injure. Use the following special rule with regards to injuries:

KO'd, Stunned, Serious Injury and Dead results represent various levels of damage to the skeleton (a skeleton who has been stunned may have had his head bone disconnected from his neck bone, for example, while a 'dead' skeleton is a heap of separated bones). When skeletons are injured, place them in the appropriate box of the dug-out. However, instead of recovering after a Touchdown has been scored, the Skeletons coach may move one player one box towards the reserves box at the start of each of their turns. After a Touchdown is scored, the Skeletons coach may move all of their players to the Reserves box.

SPECIAL TEAMS REFERENCE PAGE

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# **REFERENCE PAGE**

## STANDARD GAME

### The Sequence Of Play:

- A. OFFENSIVE TEAM TURN
  - Stand-up players - Move/block/tackle
  - Throw/hand-off
  - mow/nanu-on
- B. DEFENSIVE TEAM TURN - Stand-up players
  - Move/block/tackle
  - Throw/hand-off

Repeat A & B until a touchdown is scored.

BLOCK TABLE		
Dice Roll	Result	
2	The blocking player is injured; remove him from the board.	
3-4	The blocking player is knocked over.	
5-7	Stand-off - nothing happens to either player.	
8	Both players are knocked	
9-11	The defending player is knocked over.	
12	The defending player is injured; remove him from the board.	

PRONE BLOCK TABLE			
Dice Roll	Result		
2-3	The blocking player is knocked over.		
4-9 10-12	Nothing happens.		
10-12	The defending player is		
	injured; remove him from the board.		

THROWING TABLE			
Range	Interception	Missed	Caught
Quick Pass	2	3-5	6-12
Short Pass	2-3	4-6	7-12
Long Pass	2-4	5-7	8-12
Long Bomb!	2-5	6-8	9-12

## VETERANS RULES

The different types of player have the following characteristics:

	MA	SP	ST	AG	TS	CL	AV	
Lineman	4	+2	3	3	0	0	9	
Blitzer	4	+3	4	3	0	0	9	
Blocker	4	+1	4	2	-1	-1	10	
Catcher	4	+4	2	4	0	+1	8	
Thrower	4	+3	2	з	+1	0	8	

VETE	RANS TACKLE TABLE
Dice Roll	Result
4 or less	Where'd he go? The defender may keep on moving.
5-6	Tackler is knocked over; the defender may keep on moving.
7-8 9 or more	Both players are knocked over. Defender is knocked over.

VETE	RANS BLOCK TABLE
Dice Roll	Result
2 or less	Attacker is stunned.
3-4	Attacker knocked over.
3-4 5-7	lt's a stand-off - nothing happens.
8	Both players are knocked over.
9-11	Defender is knocked over.
12 or more	Defender is stunned.

### The Armour Roll

Whenever a player is knocked over, roll two dice. If the score is greater than the players AV they have been injured.

VETERANS INJURY TABLE			
Dice Roll	Result		
2-6	Stunned.		
7-8	KO'd.		
9-11	Serious Injury.		
12	Dead.		



Did you know? That bribery is now so common amongst referees that rules have been introduced concerning where, when and how one can accept a bribe. The situation has become so bad that the NAF governing body is considering appointing a second bunch of referees to govern the conduct of the first lot!



### CREDITS

GAMES DESIGN Jervis Johnson

BLOOD BOWL HANDBOOK Marc Gascoigne

COVER ART Colin Dixon, based on a drawing by Brett Ewins

INTERNAL ART Pete Knifton, Colin Dixon, Dave Andrews, Sid

#### ADDITIONAL ILLUSTRATIONS Aly Morrison

PRODUCED BY THE GAMES WORKSHOP DESIGN STUDIO: Managing Director: Bryan Ansell: Studio Managar: Tom Kitky: Production Managar: Alan Menrett: Print Buyer: Bob Malin, Art Manager: John Blancher, Citadel Design Managar: Phil Gallagher: Editorial Manager: Phil Gallagher: Assistant Production Manager: Steve Bruce: Assistant to Art Manager: Ian Cocke: Graphic Design: Mark Craven, Brian George H. Bli Sedgwick: Designers/Developers: Mike Brunton, Brian George H. Bli Sedgwick: Norton. Rick Priestley. Nigel Stillman: Photographer: Phil Lewis: Artistalillustrators: Tony Ackland, Dave Artistalillustrators: Tony Ackland, Dave Artistalillustrators: Tony Ackland, Dave Artistalillustrators: Tony Ackland, Dave Anterew, Ian Cooke, Colin Dixon, Derren Matthews, Mike McVey, Sid, Citadel Designers: John Thomson, Bob Olley, Alan Perry & Michael Perry: Plastics Montison, Fish Monison, Bob Olley, Alan Perry & Michael Perry: Plastics Montison, Fish Monison, Bob Olley, Alan Perry & Michael Perry: Plastics Montison, Fished Artists: Katy Brigg, Dave Clemmett, Christ Colston, Doux Petro, Finished Artists: Katy Brigg, Dave Clemmett, Christ Colston, Oston, Dave Clemmet, Tony Osborne, Divel Michael Perry: Plastics Massingen Tich Monison Montison, Tony Osborne, Divel Montison, Tich Monison, Bob Michael Perry: Plastics Manager, John Thomathwaita; Typesetting: Dewn Duffy, Lindsey D Ia

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Games Workshop US, 1220 Key Highway, Baltimore, Maryland 21230





### DARKSIDE COWBOYS

The Cowboys are, many say, the best of the Dark Elf teams. Their combination of high intelligence, natural grace, degenerate violence and a hatred of all other living beings has helped them to the top several times.





# LOWDOWN RATS

What can one say of a team like the Lowdown Rats? Well, some unkind folk would say that 'Lowdown' refers to the team's perpetual position in their Division, or to the ability of their players on a scale of 1-10. Still, the Rats do try hard and, who knows, maybe one day they'll actually manage to win a game...



### REIKLAND REAVERS

The Reavers are the finest all-round team in the AFC, if not the entire NAF, with no other team coming close to matching their consistent winning record (4 time Blood Bowl winners, 18 time Chaos Cup winners!). Under the captaincy of star Blitzer Griff Oberwald, they continue to go from strength to strength.

