



REIKLAND REAVERS

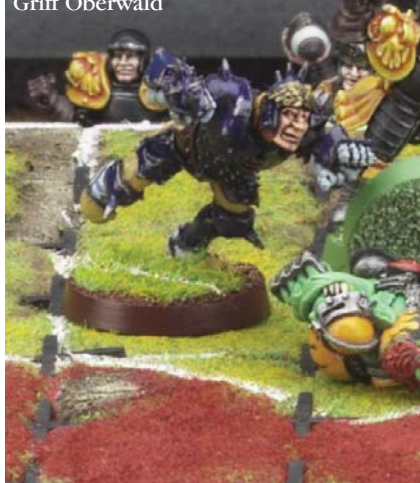
The Reavers were formed almost a century ago, in 2389, when a vacant franchise came up in what was then the Oldlands Conference. Known during their first few years as the Altdorf Acolytes, the team quickly established their reputation for great skill and ability, as original owner DD Griswell Snr poached and bought up the best players throughout the western lands! This policy of marrying awesome buying power with the best money can buy has seen the Reavers in good stead throughout their long life. Today, under DD's great-grandson JJ Griswell Jr, the Reavers are probably the finest all-round team in the AFC.

2389 Altdorf Acolytes formed by business consortium in association with the people of Altdorf. Make their base at the Griswell Memorial Stadium. Thanks to the sterling efforts of head coach Johann Weisshaupt and the large chequebook of DD Griswell, in their first season they come fourth in the Whiteskull Challenge Cup (now the Chaos Cup).

2396 When the Griswell Memorial Stadium collapses during a storm (amid rumours of paybacks and cost-cutting by the firm who built it), the team changes its name to the Reikland Reavers and sets up home at the new Altdorf Oldbowl. No one is quite sure where either of those names comes from, but both help the Reavers to their first cup win, beating the Wüppertal Wotans in the final.

2399 Legendary match against visiting Dwarf Giants team ends in uproar when it's discovered that each team is using its own version of the rules. Game abandoned at 17-4.

Reavers' Star Player and Team Captain Griff Oberwald



2411 DD Griswell Jr takes over as owner of the team on the death of his father. Head coach at this time now Blind Willy Müller. Reavers slump to their worst placings ever. Müller reputed to have got the job through blackmailing DD Jr over some rather indiscreet moments with the entire Reaver's cheerleading squad.

2432 Reavers start the first season of a fourteen-year low patch when eleven members of the first team are infected during an injudicious Nurgle's Rotters game. Transfers of eight players to the Subterranean Slimeballs helps ease the crisis, but the loss hits the Reavers hard. DD Griswell Jr replaced by son JJ Griswell Snr.

2468 JJ Griswell dies after getting too close to the sidelines during an Asgard Ravens fixture, and is replaced by current owner JJ Griswell Jr. New head coach Helmut Zimmer arrives soon after, and institutes his 'New Order' of training and preparation.

2485 Reikland thrash the Darkside Cowboys to win Blood Bowl XXIV, but only after surprise substitute Orlak Stürmdrang replaces fatally-injured captain, Wolfram von Beck, after only ninety seconds. The legendary Zug sets up his still-unbeaten Most Opponents Bitten In One Match record.

2487 Griff Oberwald (incidentally, Stürmdrang's half-cousin) replaces Orlak as team captain after his predecessor finds the pressures of running the team and posing for the girls as an all-round Blood Bowl megastar too much. The team go from strength to strength, winning their fourth Blood Bowl.

(Former) Conference: AFC
(Former) Division: Central
Team Colours: Blue and yellow
Symbol: Skull and blade
Owner: JJ Griswell Jr
Head Coach: Helmut Zimmer
Home Stadium: The Altdorf Oldbowl (capacity 71,411; surface astrogranite)
Players: Humans

2487 The Reavers are one of the few teams to survive the collapse of the NAF unscathed, thanks mainly to the astute financial planning of team owner JJ Griswell Jr.

Present The Reavers silence sceptics who said they couldn't adjust to the new style of the open tournaments by coming back to win Blood Bowl XXXI in a hard fought final against the Marauders.

Behind the Scenes

Behind every good (and bad!) Blood Bowl team there's a large team of very highly skilled professionals who handle everything except the actual playing of the game. The Reikland Reavers, for example, include the following 'backroom boys':

Management: At the very top there's owner and president JJ Griswell Jr, together with his staff of eleven directors, yes-men and secretaries. These follow JJ everywhere, noting down any important decisions, ideas or pearls of wisdom which may fall from his lips as he strides through the stadium sacking people. Behind this lot are a further ten financial, legal and administrative staff who handle the day-to-day running of the club.

Coaching: Helmut Zimmer has the responsibility of getting the team in peak fitness, assisted by ten further specialist coaches and two assistants. The specialists each teach and train the players in one particular aspect of the game, be it throwing, catching, maiming, throttling or whatever.

Health: The Reavers employ a medical team of four apothecaries and healers, and also have a full-time counsellor (and lawyer) whose job it is to look after the players' well-being between matches, or in the Reavers' case to bail them out so they can play the next day!

Public Relations: This department employs eighteen people, whose various jobs include producing the programmes and club magazines and selling tickets. They also organise the half-time entertainment and train the team of 26 cheerleaders, the Reavettes (and their two bodyguards!).

Add to this number all the locker room boys, equipment cleaners, washerwomen, crowd security men, bar staff, merchandise sellers, rat-on-a-stick vendors and general hangers-on and dogsbodies, and you've got much more than just a team of 11 battle-trained psychos!

Griff Oberwald

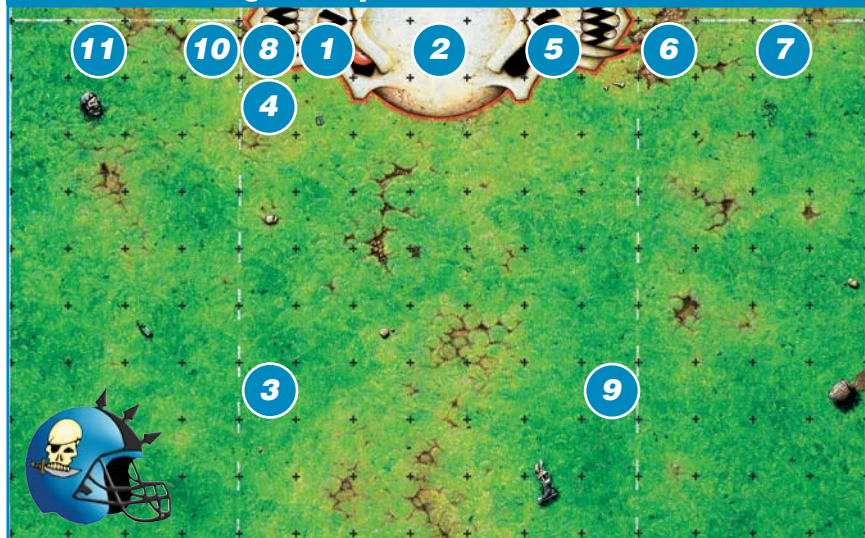
It isn't often that Head Coach of the Reikland Reavers, Harry Zwimmer, has a nice word to say about any other human being, but it is recorded that when he first saw the young Griff Oberwald play, he actually declared: "Zat boy is almost above average!" Such immense praise from the tight-lipped coach was only the first in a great many compliments paid to the young superstar from Streissen, who has since been called "Griff the godlike!" (Spike! magazine), "Phew! what a scorer!" (Middenheim Mirror) and "The greatest single gift to our profession since Morg'th N'hthrog first bit a Goblin's head off in the Chaos Cup!" (Undertaker's Gazette). High praise indeed.

The young Oberwald first came to the attention of Reavers fans in his first game for the team at the end of 2483, in which his ferocious tackle play garnered him three ears, a nose and a two-match suspension. Undaunted by this minor setback, Griff gained a permanent place in the Reavers' first team, where he battled his way through the lines alongside his half-cousin and team captain Orlak Stürmdrang. A quite remarkable second season for the Reavers earned him a precious Best Newcomer Medal, and culminated in his scoring the winning Touchdown against the Darkside Cowboys in the full-scale rout that was Blood Bowl XXV.

Oberwald's qualities are those of the classic Blood Bowl hero. He's tall, super-fit and strong, with a grace and co-ordination that can leave most other players standing. Instantly recognisable across a murky Blood Bowl field by the usual splattering of gore across his kit, Oberwald cuts a very dashing figure and it's no surprise the girls go wild when he has the ball in his capable hands.

At the beginning of last season, after leading the Reavers through some of the best years in their 91-year history, captain Orlak Stürmdrang decided to step down from the post and return to simply being a player. There was only one man to replace him, and Oberwald duly started the second match of the '87 season as team captain. He immediately made his mark on the team, driving them harder than ever with startling results. Reikland finished the year as Blood Bowl champions yet again, and Oberwald was voted AFC Player of the Year by a panel of his peers. Quite simply, this young man is a star!

Reaver's Starting Line-up



Hall of Fame

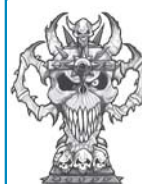
Walter damm Kempft

Erdrich Holstein

Coach Johann Weisshaupt

Jules Winder

Team Honours



Chaos Cup Winners
2396, 2399, 2400,
2401, 2402, 2403,
2405, 2412, 2422,
2423, 2424, 2425,
2426, 2427, 2448,
2461, 2463, 2470
2498



Blood Bowl Winners
2471
Blood Bowl XI
2479
Blood Bowl XIX
2485
Blood Bowl XXV
2487
Blood Bowl XXVII
2491
Blood Bowl XXXI
2499
Blood Bowl XXXVIII

Reavers' Starting Eleven

1. **Griff Oberwald**Captain
2. **Zug**Blocker
3. **Jacob von Altdorf**.....Thrower
4. **Gregor Meissen**.....Catcher
5. **Ritter von Baum** ...Lineman
6. **Ziggi Abschuss**Lineman
7. **Ivan Kellhooper**Lineman
8. **Hans von Broken**..Lineman
9. **Fat Mittbrot**.....Thrower
10. **Pieter von Gullet**....Blocker
11. **Matthias Meier**.....Blitzer

Substitutes

'Fast' Ben JansenCatcher
Luigi di PassellaLineman
Helmut RoksteinBlocker
Gerhard Linebreaker..Lineman
Jean-Paul Mussen.....Lineman



Team Rating

321