Gunboat - A Module Variant

Version 18

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Introduction

A Gunboat game is one where each player plays two or three nations (chosen from pre-paired nations), and there is no communication allowed.

Any modifications to the following rules for a specific game can be found in the main body of the email containing your turn. PLEASE always check for any changes to the basic rules covered here.

Neutral nations are pre-aligned (they begin the game either on the side of the Free Peoples or the Dark Servants). One of the Neutral nations is not played to ensure an even number of nations on each side at the start of the game. Its population centres, armies and characters are removed from the game, and any artefacts it might have are dropped at random locations on the map.

This document details the normal (basic) Gunboat rules. However, these are subject to change for specific games, so before playing, please check for any special alterations to the rules.

With the exception of rules detailed either in this document or in the specific variants for a given game, the rules used are those for the normal Middle-earth PBM game, as found in the Middle-earth Guide (available on request or from our website: www.middleearthgames.com)

Nation Duos

Nation Duos (also known as pairings) are the pre-paired nations available to play.

1650 Game

Free People

Nation IDs	Nations
1/4	Woodmen/Arthedain
2/8	Northmen/Dwarves*
3/7	Eothraim/South Gondor
5/9	Cardolan/Sindar
6/23	North Gondor/Dunlendings
10/22	Noldo/Harad

Dark Servants

Nation IDs	Nations
11/20	Witch King/Dark Lieutenants
12/21	Dragon Lord/Corsairs
13/15	Dog Lord/Blind Sorcerer
14/24	Cloud Lord/Rhudaur**
16/19	Ice King/Long Rider
17/18	Quiet Avenger/Fire King

^{*}The Northmen get a Fort on 4217

2950 Game

Free People

Nation IDs	Nations
1/7	Woodmen/South Gondor
2/8	North Men/Dwarves
3/10	Riders of Rohan/Noldo
4/9	Dunadan/Sindar Elves
5/24	Silvan Elves /White Wizard
6/23	North Gondor /Dunlendings

Dark Servants

Nation IDs	Nations
11/21	Witch King/Corsairs
12/25	Dragon Lord/Khand Easterlings
13/14	Dog Lord/Cloud Lord
15/16	Blind Sorcerer/Ice King
17/19	Quiet Avenger/Long Rider
18/20	Fire King/Dark Lieutenants

Kin-strife Game

Free People

Nation IDs	Nations
1/2	Eldacar / Rebels
3/5	Rhovanion / Kingdom of Arnor
4/6	Horselords / Quendi

Dark Servants

Nation IDs	Nations
11/31	Castamir / Elendin
14/15	Southron Kingdoms / Morlaen
12/16	Morlaen / Witch-realm

^{**}The Cloud Lord town at 3428 is reduced to a to village, and the Cloud Lord town at 3629 is upgraded to a Major Town. Rhudaur get a fort on 1910.

Nation Trios

Nation Trios are the pre-paired nations available to play in 3-nation Gunboat Games.

1650 Game

Free People

Tree respie	
Nation IDs	Nations
1/8/9	Woodmen / Dwarves /
	Sinda Elves
2/3/6	Northmen / Eothraim /
	North Gondor*
4/5/10	Arthedain / Cardolan /
	Noldo Elves
7/22/23	Southern Gondor / Haradwaith /
	Dunlendings

Dark Servants

_ *************************************	Durii Ser varies	
Nation IDs	Nations	
11/14/24**	Witch King / Cloud Lord /	
	Rhudaur	
12/13/20	Dragon Lord / Dog Lord /	
	Dark Lieutenants	
15/16/18	Blind Sorcerer / Ice King /	
	Fire King	
17/19/21	Quiet Avenger / Long Rider /	
	Corsairs	

^{*}The Northmen get a Fort on 4217

Splitting a Duo or Trio

If you only wish to play one nation, you may choose to start up with another player or two players as a team, with each of you playing one nation.

Joining A Game

To join a game, send us at least three Duos or Trios that you are willing to play, in order of preference. When the game is full, we will then allocate you a Duo or Trio to play. You will usually be able to play your first or second choice.

Neutral Nations

Starting Allegiances in 1650

Dark Servants: Corsairs and Rhudaur Free People: Harad and Dunlendings

Not played: Easterlings

Starting Allegiances in 2950

Dark Servants: Corsairs and the Khand Easterlings Free People: Dunlendings and the White Wizard

Not Played: Rhun Easterlings

Starting Allegiances in Kin-strife

Not Played: Khazad, Tirkhor

^{**}The Cloud Lord town at 3428 is reduced to a to village, and the Cloud Lord town at 3629 is upgraded to a Major Town. Rhudaur get a fort on 1910.

Nation Relations

Your relations to other nations should have been altered as appropriate (nations on your side should be Tolerated, nations on the opposing side should be Disliked). However, please check these, and if there are any errors, let us know.

Offensive Actions Against Characters

Your Own Nations

You can take any actions you wish against characters of your own nations.

Characters At Your Population Centres

You are permitted to take offensive actions against unknown characters at your own population centres.

Characters At Other Locations

You may not take offensive actions against unknown characters, or characters of nations on your team being run by other players, at population centres which you do not own or who are not at population centres. Offensive actions include but are not limited to doubling, influencing, stealing, sabotaging, cursing, etc. If you are unsure whether something is permitted, please ask us before attempting it.

Characters from Dead Nations

If you know for certain that a nation on your team is dead, you may challenge or assassinate their characters in order to gain their artefacts, even if they are not on your population centre.

Doubling

In line with the above, doubling is permitted on any enemy character, or character belonging to your other nation/s. But you may not double characters that you know belong to nations of your allegiance run by other players.

Offensive Actions Against Allies

You may not take offensive actions against known allied armies, characters or population centres of nations on your team being run by other players. Offensive actions include but are not limited to doubling, influencing, stealing, sabotaging, cursing, etc. If you are unsure whether something is permitted, please ask us before attempting it.

Offensive Actions Against Your Own Nations

You can take any actions you wish against your own nation/s.

Nation Lists

Every 3 turns (or whenever we get the chance) we will update the lists of nation Duos, dead nations, etc., that are made available. Inactive nations will, by default, be revealed, but not specifically mentioned. If you think we have made an error, or forgotten to update the lists, please remind us!.

Dropped Nations

A player cannot normally run more than two nations in a 2-nation game, or three nations in a 3-nation game. If a nation or nations become available due to a player dropping, we will first attempt to find a player to take them over who is not currently playing in the game, before, if necessary, splitting up the nations and offering them singularly to existing players within the game. The following, then, is the full procedure in the event of a player dropping:

Multipe Nations

- 1. The nations will be advertised as available to all our players.
- 2. If no one who is not already playing the game is interested in taking them over, the nations will be split, and offered individually to any players on the same team who do not have 2/3 nations.
- 3. If we still can't find a player to take them up, then we reserve the right to offer them to the players on the team who already have 2/3 nations, whilst keeping the balance of the game as best we can.

Single Nations

- 1. The nation is offered to other players on the same team who only have one nation.
- 2. If no one on the team is interested in playing the nation, it will be advertised as available to all our players.
- 3. If we still can't find a player to take over the nation, we reserve the right to offer it to the players who already have 2/3 nations, whilst keeping the balance of the game as best we can.

Offering a Position

When a nation or nations become available, only the fact that a nation is available is first made known, not which nation. However, soon after that, or if that information is key to picking up the nation, the nation ID will be revealed. Where more than one player is interested in a position, we will seek to keep strong combinations of players apart, in order to ensure as challenging and even a game as possible.

Shadow Orders

Obviously team mates cannot submit shadow orders in Gunboat games. Instead, if we do not receive orders from a player by the end of the day that the game is due to run, then the following day we (the GMs) will write basic shadow orders and use those to run the game. The player will be charged for these at normal turn cost.

Game End

In addition to the usual ways in which a game can be won, a Gunboat game can also end in one of the following three ways:

Vote

A player may request that their team vote on whether or not to concede the game. A vote can only take place a maximum of once every five turns (i.e. once during turns 1-5, once during turns 6-10, etc.). Each surviving nation (not Duo) on the team gets one vote, and if 2/3 or more of the surviving nations on the team vote to concede, the game ends.

Votes are confidential (including which player requested the vote), and are organised by ourselves. A "noresponse" from an active nation is considered to be a vote to continue play. The opposing team is not informed that a vote is taking place unless the vote is successful, at which point all players are notified, the final turn is run, and the game ends.

Nation Advantage

If there is at any time there is a greater than 3:1 ratio of surviving nations on a particular allegiance, the game ends automatically with victory going to the allegiance with the greater number of nations. All players are notified, and turns will be run to end the game immediately.

After 50 Turns

After 50 turns (or 52 turns in a Fourth Age game) the game ends, and the allegiance with the most combined victory points wins.

If, however, the victory points of both allegiances are within 10% of each other, the game is considered a draw.

Communication

Almost no diplomacy is allowed in Gunboat games.

The only communication allowed between players of the same allegiance is a short diplomatic message, which can be sent **via us** to all members of your team on certain specified turns.

You will be told on which turns you are allowed to send diplos. For example, on turns 6/11/16/21, etc.

The message is limited to 50 words in 2 nation games, and 70 words in 3 nation games.

Hexes are one word, "Dark Lieutenant" is considered to be one word, "it's" is two words. If in doubt, please ask the GM to clarify.

To send a diplo, email us in the following format:

Subject line: ME Game 77 Diplo for FPs.

Email body:

START

Dwarves need gold at 2004, under heavy attack. Quiet Avenger stealing gold from Iron hills.

END

No form of contact at all is permitted with players of other allegiances.

Information gathering

Techniques Permitted

Information from 925 orders, Lore spells, etc.

Transfer of products/gold from your nation to other nations in the game.

Any actions against your second nation from your first nation (or vice versa!).

Techniques Not Permitted

Information transfer of any kind. For example, transferring 23 gold to suggest an attack on nation 23, or 3221 gold to request an attack on a population centre at 3221. The essence of a Gunboat game is little or no communication, so any attempt against the spirit of this is strictly prohibited.

Trust

Gunboat games require an element of trust, both between us and yourselves, and between players. The essence of the game lies in the lack of communication, and we trust you not to seek to abuse this rule. If in doubt as to whether something is permitted, please contact us to ask before attempting it.

Adanedhel, Adelard Took, Adom, Adrahil captain to Ondoher, Adrahil father of Imrahil, Aduiai, Adünaic, Adünakhör, Adurant, Aeglos, Aeglos, Aegnor, Aelin-uial, Aeluin, Aerandir, Aerin, Afterbom, Aftercomers, Afterlithe, Afteryule, Agarwaen, Aglann, Aglann, Aglann, Aiglos, Ailinel, Ainulindalë, Ainur, Music of the Ainur, Aiwendil, Akallabêth, Akallabêth, Aklalabêth, Alatari, Alatáriel, Alcarin, Alcarin, Alcarin, Alcarin, Aldarion, Ald Amon Obel, Amon Růth, Amon Sůl, Tower of Amon Sůl, Amon Ulios, Amras, Amrod, Amroth, Cerin Amroth, Anach, Pass of Anach, Anadünê, Anar, Anardili of Gondor, Anardili of Númenor, Anárion son of Elendil, Anárion son of Ancalimě, Anhom, Ancalagon, Ancalimě, Andram, Andrast, Andrath, Andrast, Andrath, Androin, Androin, Androin, Androin, Androin, Androin, Androin, Androin, Andram, Andrast, Andrath, Androin, And of Barad-dür, Siege of Barad-dür, Baragund, Barahir grandson of Faramir, Barahir son of Bregor, Ring of Barahir, Barahir son of Hador, Baran, Baranduin, Baranor, Baraz, Barazinbar, Bart I, Bard II, Bardings, Bare-n-Dimoved, Battle of Day of Land Battle of Land Battle of the Fords of Isen, Battle of the Homburg, Battle of the Peak, Battle of the Peak, Battle of Tunnumbered Tears, Battle of Tunnumbered Tears, Battle of the Fords of Isen, Bauglir, Bay, Bay of Andinië, Bay of Balar, Bay of Eldamar, Bay of Balar, Balar, Bay of Balar, Bay o Cotton, Tolman Cotton junior, Tolman Cotton senior, Wilcome Cotton, Council of Efrond, Council of the Seeptre, Council of the Wise, Cracks of Doom, Cram, Crebant, Crackhollow, Crassaegam, Crossings of Teiglin, Cross-roads, Crown of Gondor, Cuviréene, Culumidal, Curufin, Cu of relagind, Dor Cardantinit, for Disection, Dor Dinner, Dor Firm-1-culmar, Joras as against, Dor-Charino, Lord of Dor-Iomin, Doran, Drain, Ring of Dornatin, Ring of Dornatin, Rung of Dornatin, Doran, Doran, Drain, Drai Mariner, Star of Eärendur, King of Amor, Eärendur Lord of Andúnië, Eärendur son of Tar-Amandil, Eämil I, Eämur, Eärrámë, Eärwen, East Beleriand, East Bight, East-gate of Moria, Eastlands of Middle-earth, Eastlands of Númenor, Eastmarko of the Shire, First Eduse of the East-gate of Moria, East-gate of Moria, Eastlands of Middle-earth, Eastlands of Númenor, Eastmarko of the Shire, East-mark, Marshal of the East-mark, East-victor, East-West Road, Echoing Mountains, Echoriath, Echuir, Ecthelion I, Tower of Ecthelion, Echelion of the Fountain, Edain, First House of the Edain, Third House of the Edain, Third House of the Edain, Edhellond, Edhil, Ednew, Edoras, Muster of Edoras, Edrahil, Egalahoth, Egladil, Eglador, Eglantine, Eglantine, Eglantine, Eglantine, Eglantine, Eglantine, Eglantine, Eglantine, Eglantine, Eder Kinger, Eilede, Ellendil, Edison, Edhellond, Edhamar, Bay of Eldannar, Bay of Eldannar, Eldar, Eldarin, Elder Kinger of Arnor, Eldacar of Gondor, Eldadian, Eldadonde, Eldannar, Bay of Eldannar, Eldarin, Eldarin, Elder Kinger of Arnor, Eldacar of Gondor, Eldalain, Eldendi, Eldarin, Eldarin, Eldarin, Eldarin, Elder Kinger of Arnor, Eldacar of Earendil, Elennific (Ellendil, Elernific (Ellendil), House of Elendil, Elennific (Ellendil), Ellennific (the Énhéod, Éowyn, Ephel Brandir, Ephel Dúath, Eradan, Érchamión, Érebor, Dragon of Erebor, Dragon, Erebora, Ere Forgoil, Forlindon, Forlond, Forlond, Forlong, Formenos, Form, Fornost, Amlaith of Fomost, Battle of Formost, Forsche Ruger, Forsco Raggins, Fourth Age, Fram, Frár, Fréa, Fréaláf Hildeson, Fréawine, Freca, Fredegar Bolger, Free Peoples, Frerin, Friend-of-Men, Frodo Baggins, Frodo Gardner, Frogmorton, Front Gate, Frór, Frum, Galador, Galadrin, Galadhrin, Galadhrin, Galador, Galadrin, Galadhrin, Galadhrin, Galador, Galadrin, Galador, Galadrin, Galadhrin, Galador, Galadrin, Galadhrin, Galador, Galadrin, Galadrin, Galadrin, Galadhrin, Galador, Galadrin, Galadhrin, Galador, Galadrin, Graut Mount, Great Armament, Great Battle, Great Darkness, Great Gate of Gondolin, Great Gate of Minas Tirith, Great Gates, Great Hall of Feasts, Great Hall of Fnasin, Great Rong, Great Roys, Great Dress, Great Roys, Great Haven of Umbar, Haven-finder, Havens of Sirion, Havens of the Falas, Elves of the Havens, Hay Gang, Haysend, Haysend, Haysend, Hayend, Headstrong, Malv a Headstrong, Heart of Fire, Heart of the Mountain, Heat Havens, Hele or Heads, Elves, Hele Faroth, Hele of Elendil, Helen, Belean, Helen, Belean, Helen, Belean, Helen, Hel Isidur, Scroll of Isidur; Isidur's Bane, Isidur's Heir, Isimë, Isimo, Island of Nûmenor, Isle of Almaren, Isle of Nûmenor, Isle of Werewolves, Istar, Istar, Isumbras Took II, Isumbras Took II, Islumbras Took IV, Ithil, Islumbras Took IV, Wood, Lady of the Seas, Lady of the Sharel-orw, Lady of the Stars-brow, Lady of the Lady Garden and Helm, Land of Gift, Land of Steven Rivers, Land of the Halflings, Land of Willows, Landrow Halflows, Landrow Halflows, Landrow Halflows, Landrow Halflows, Lady English, Lamber Landrows, Lady Garden Stars-land, Lasy Holly House, Last Battle, Last Bridge, Last Desert, Last Gate, Last Homely House, Last Riding of the Keepers, Láthspell, Laura Grubb, Laurelin, Laurelindórenan, Lay of Leithian, Leaflock, Lebennin, Lebethron, Lefnui, Legolas Greenleaf, Legolin, Lembas, Lenwé, Léod, Léofa, Líthia Gelide, Ládine, Lidies Seye, Lieutenant of the Tower of Barad-dir, Light-elves, Lities, Water-lifes, Lily Brown, Limlaith, Limlight, Linaewen, Linda Baggins, Lindir, Lindon, Elves of L

worms, Lóni, Lord and Lady, Lord of Andúnië, Lord of Balrogs, Lord of Barad-dûr, Lord of Dole, Lord of Dol Amroth, Lord of Dol-Iómin, Lord of Eagles, Lord of Emyn Armen, Lord of Eregion, Lord of Forests, Lord of Gifts, Lord of Gondor, Lord of Morgal, Lord of Morgal, Lord of Morgal, Lord of Morgal, Lord of Rohan, Lord of the Breath of Arda, Lord of the Eothéod, Lord of the Gittering Caves, Lord of the Mark, Lord of the Nazgil, Lord of the Ning, Lord of the Rings, Lord of the Rings, Lord of the West, Lord of the Valer, Lords of the West, Lordin, Lords of Lorien, Lord of Lorien, Lords of Lorien, Lord of the Marks, Lords of the Wats, Lords of Lorien, L Age), Men of the North (Third Age), Men of the Vales of Anduin, Men of the West, Men of Westerreasse, Menegroth, Menel, Meneldor, Meneld tathen, Nár, Narbeleth, Narchost, Nardol, Ñargothrond, Elves of Nargothrond, King of Nargothrond, Lord of Nargothrond, Sack of Nargothrond, Karie, Narmacii I, Narmacii II, Narm i Hin Hirin, Narog, Vale of Narog, Narquelië, Narrow Lee, Narsii, Narvi, Narvi, Narvinyë, Narya, Nauglamír, Naugrim, Nazgůl, Lord of the Nazgůl, Near Harad, Necklace of the Dwarves, Neithan, Neldoreth, Nellas, Nen Girith, Nen Hithoel, Nen Lalaith, Nénar, Nénimě, Nenning, Nenual, Nenya, Nerdanel, Nerwen, Nessa, Nevrast, New Row, Newbury, Nibin-noeg, Bar-en-Nibin-noeg, Nibin-Nogrim, Nibs Cotton, Nieck, Cotton, Nieck, Otton, Nieck, Otton, Nieck, Otton, Nieck, Niendor, Niede, Nieder, People of Halotr, People of Halotr, People of Halotr, People of the Jewel-smiths, People of the Stars, Peredhil, Peregrin Took, I Periannath, Pervinca Took, Petry-dwarves, Pharazôn, Phial of Galadriel, Phurunargian, Pillar of Heaven, Pimpern Took, Pimple, Pincup, Pines, Pinnath Gelin, Pipe-weed, Pippin Gardner, Pippin Took, Plateau of Gorgoroth, Polo Baggins, Ponies, Ponto Baggins, Pool, Pools of Ivrin, Poppy Chubb-Baggins, Poros, Crossing of Poros, Fords of Poros, Fords of Poros, Porto Baggins, Pose Baggins, Pose Baggins, Pose Baggins, Pose Baggins, Pose Baggins, Pool, Pools of Ivrin, Poppy Chubb-Baggins, Poros, Crossing of Poros, Fords of Poros Sador, Saeros, Salmac, Sam Gamgee, Sammath Naur, Samwise Gamgee, Samcho Proudfoot, Sandbeaver, Sandyman, Mouth of Sauron, Wolf-Sauron, Sauron is Isle Scary, Scatha, Scattergold, Sceptre, Council of the Sceptre, Sceptre of Nauron, Score of Isladur, Sea of Sauron, Sauron, Sauron is Isle Scary, Scatha, Scattergold, Sceptre, Council of the Sceptre, Sceptre of Nauron, Score of Sauron, Score of Sauron, Sauron, Sauron is Isle Score, Scatha, Scattergold, Sceptre, Sceptre of Nauron, Score of Sauron, Sco Stormerow. Straight Way, Strangers, Strawberries, Strawbeads, Straider, Strongbow, Stunned People, Stybba, Stiline, Stillino, Stummerfilth, Tower of the Setting Sun, Sundering Seas, Stirion, Swanfleet, Swandhawen, Haven of the Swans, Sweeting Galenas, Sweetings, Swood Habeat, Swandhawen, Haven of the Swans, Sweeting Sun, Sweetings, Swood Habeat, Swandhawen, Haven of the Swans, Sweeting Galenas, Sweetings, Swood Habeat, Swandhawen, Habeat, Swa

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