

# Sword and Dagger!



Skirmish rules for the Medieval period 500AD-1500AD

*Tyneside Wargames Club*

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### Figure types:

All figures are armed and equipped as depicted on the model. It is ok to have a figure armed with 1 Javelin to count as having more, etc.

### Figure costs:

Horses can be	Courser	3 pts
	Rounsey	2 pts
	Nag	1 pt

Men can be:	Lord	4 pts
	Knight	3 pts
	Sergeant	2 pts
	Peasant	1 pt

Weapons can be:	Longbow	2 pts	Polearm	2 pts
	Modern Handgun	1 pt	Lances	1pt
	Primitive Handgun	Free	Spears,Pikes,Sword/axe mace, Dagger etc.	Free
	Shortbow	1 pt	Improvised weapon	free
	3 Javelins/Darts etc	1 pt		
	Crossbow	1 pt		
	Sling or Staff sling	1 pt		

Armour can be:	Unarmoured (U)	No armour except helmet	Free
	Padded (P)	Leather/Aketon/Quilted etc	2 pts
	Light Armour (LA)	Mail/Good Jack etc	3 pts
	Armoured (A)	Partial Plate body armour	4 pts
	Full Armour (FA)	Complete Plate + Mail	5 pts

Shields can be	Large Shields – 24” or more across	1 pt
	Small Shields – Bucklers, targes etc	½ pt
	Pavisses	1 pt
	Pavaises	½ pt

The total cost of a figure is the total of Man, Mount, Weapons, Armour and Shield. Horse armour must be bought separately.

### Organisation:

Figures should be chosen from the relevant army list if available.

Figures in a force should then be divided into groups, which should be composed mostly of figures of similar class and armament.

Lords act as Individuals, but can attach themselves to other groups freely at any time.

Figures composing a group should try to remain within 2" of each other, unless detached for a specific purpose, messengers, scouts etc.

### Play Sequence:

Each game turn is played in the following order;

(1) First Player moves his units and shoots with  $\frac{1}{2}$  (rounded up) of his missile armed figures.

The other Player shoots with  $\frac{1}{2}$  (rounded down) of his missile figures.

(2) Both players calculate the result of any close combat.

This process is then repeated with the other player as First Player.

### Movement Rates:

Units move as the owning player decides, at the following Movement Rates;

U-P infantry	8"	Rout/Charge 10"	Evade 4+d6"
LA-FA infantry	6"	Rout/Charge 8"	Evade 2+d6"
Courser/Nags	8"	Rout/Charge 16"	Evade 10+d6"
Rounseys	8"	Rout/Charge 18"	Evade 12+d6"

Movement by unengaged foot figures of a unit in melee is limited to 2".

Half speed if Shooting, or crossing a low linear obstacle on foot.

Count double distance of movement through difficult going or up a steep hill, or up a ladder. Mounted figures move  $\frac{1}{4}$  speed through woods.

Crossing obstacles over man height take a full move.

Figures movement is reduced by 1" if wounded.

Figures may only charge to make contact with enemy figures, and may only evade to avoid contact by enemy. Evading prevents moving in the evaders next turn.

### Morale:

Test when group;

- (1) Suffers a casualty.
- (2) Attempts to Charge/is being Charged.
- (3) Lord is Wounded or worse within 24".
- (4) Attempting to rally (before each Movement phase).

Throw 1d6:	+2:	Lord with unit.
	:	Group winning melee.
	+1:	Knights form most of unit. : In cover/uphill of nearest enemy.
	-1 :	Being charged by greater numbers or better quality enemy ,or by better armed enemy. : Peasants form most of unit. : Per 25% of unit Killed, Disabled Wounded, Pushed back.
	-2:	Group losing melee.
	-3 :	Mounted , charging spears frontally.
	-4 :	Routing.

Result:	1	May not advance toward enemy in next move.
	0	Attempt to Form line on any figure in the unit.
	-1	Fall back to form line on the rearmost figure in the unit, unless defending either a hilltop, wall or barricade etc
	-2+	Rout.

Routers may neither fight nor shoot.

They move immediately at time of test, then during their own sides' movement. They move away from the nearest enemy in sight, and towards the nearest table edge.

Figures which leave the table may not return during the game.

Routers may check (on Morale chart) to rally before their movement phase in any turn when they are not within 6" of enemy.

Routers rally if the test result is +1 or better.

### Shooting:

This is calculated for individual figures. Enemy figures may be targets if a direct line can be drawn from the centre of the shooting figures base to the centre of the target figures bases, and may be over another figure the shooter is in base to base contact with. Individual figures within a group may not normally be targeted separately.

Any figures within 2" of this line are treated as part of the target group, though not for range calculation.

If a hit is scored, randomize the result among the target group and any figures within 2" of them (or the target line- see above)

At short range, Shooters can target individual figures in clear sight. If they miss, the shot hits a random figure within 1" of the target figure on a 3+ (D6).

Figures in melee may not be chosen as targets-though they can be part of a target group if within 2" of them.

### Loading:

Loading times are as follows;

- Most weapons can load and fire in one turn.
- X-Bows/Staff slings, modern Handguns must spend 1 move stationary between shooting turns.
- Primitive Handguns must spend 3 moves stationary between shooting turns.

Ranges:	Short	Medium	Long
Bows/Staff slings:	8"	24"	48"
Crossbows:	10"	30"	60"
Slings:	10"	20"	30"
Hand hurled:	4"	10"	18"
Late Handgun	8"	16"	30"
Primitive Handgun:	3"	12"	24"

Shooting effect is calculated by an opposed roll between the target group and the shooter.

(A) Shooters roll: 1d6; if peasant.  
1d8; if sergeant or better.  
-1 to roll per wound shooter has.

Targets roll: D8; Short range.  
D10; Medium range.  
D12; Long range.

And D6; if shielded or in cover/in contact and behind a shielded man.

*(NB – Fist bucklers do not count as shields against shooting, only in melee)*

(B) Dice at this point to see which target group member is hit.

(C) Calculate effect; if either target roll beats shooters roll, the shot misses. Otherwise, compare the highest target roll with the shooters roll on chart below.

Die roll difference	Target Armour class					
	U	P	LA	A	FA	
1	LW	-	-	-	-	-1 to difference if rock/sod. +1 to difference if Crossbow, Longbow or Staff sling.
2	LW	LW	-	-	-	
3	W	LW	LW	-	-	
4	W	W	LW	LW	-	Count all targets unarmoured if hit by Handguns.
5	K	W	W	LW	LW	
6	K	K	W	W	LW	
7	K	K	K	W	W	
8	K	K	K	K	W	
9+	K	K	K	K	K	

NB:If shooter scores a maximum on his dice, and the target throws a 1 on his Range die , the target is killed automatically.

### Woods and other cover

Visibility into woods from outside is 1”

Within woods visibility is limited to 4”

Up to 2 ranks of troops can fight or shoot from the edge.

## Close Combat:

Melee occurs when opposing figures are in base to base contact. When figures charge into contact, any figures contacted by the charge turn freely to face the best most dangerous opponent.

Missile armed figures may choose to evade if charged, and make an evade move away from any chargers. This prevents them shooting in their next move.

- A figure may be engaged by up to 4 opponents, up to 1 on each of his figures 4 sides, or by spearmen fighting over other spear/sword/ hand axe-men already in base to base contact. Spearmen cannot fight overhead in woods etc.
- Spearmen and Polearms may choose to strike the mount of an opponent if they choose, others will hit the rider only.
- Figures may only fight to the figures front, unless mounted who can fight to either flank as well.
- Each round of melee, both sides throw a dice;
  - Non Combatants: -D4
  - Peasants: -D6.
  - Sergeants: -D8.
  - Knights: -D10.
  - Lords: -D12.

Dice modifiers are:	+2; Large Shield unless facing polearm/ Behind palisade etc
	+1: Small Shield.(Not if behind palisade!) unless facing polearm : Group Charging. If move at least 3". : Uphill of enemy. : Mounted on Courser.
	-1 : Wounded : Per enemy over 1 you are fighting. : Mounted on Nag.

Compare the modified results, the loser (and any unengaged figures in the way!) are pushed back 1 base depth (if possible). The loser also suffers the result below;



Armour class						+2 to difference if hit by Polearm or by charging mounted Lance/Spear.  -1 to difference if hit by Dagger or by Improvised Weapon.  NB: P/B = Push back 1 base depth  NB: LW = Light Wound. W = 2 Light Wounds. K = Killed.
Dice Difference	U	P	LA	A	FA	
1	-	-	-	-	-	
2	P/B	-	-	-	-	
3	P/B	P/B	-	-	-	
4	W+ P/B	P/B	P/B	-	-	
5	W	W+ P/B	W+ P/B	-	-	
6	W	W	W	P/B	-	
7	K	W	W	W+ P/B	P/B	
8	K	K	W	W	W+ P/B	
9	K	K	K	W	W	
10	K	K	K	W	W	
11	K	K	K	K	W	
12+	K	K	K	K	K	

NB: Figures without room to be pushed back take a light wound instead.

#### Push backs and Following up:

If a figure beats another in combat and pushes him back or kills him, the winning figure may move into the space vacated by his opponent if he chooses.

Figures cannot be pushed back if this would meet enemy figures or solid obstacles above knee high. Friends in melee can be passed round/through instead, other friends are moved back to make space for the push back.

#### Shield Use:

Shields cannot be used by figures using a 2 handed weapon this turn, or shooting with any weapon other than hand hurled.

#### PIKES:

Spears 10ft or longer may be used as pikes and follow these rules;

Up to 3 ranks of pikemen from the same group may fight in support of a pikeman in contact frontally with an enemy figure if they are directly behind the fighting figure facing the right direction and in contact with him or another supporting pikeman.

No further figures may aid the melee as there are already 4 in contact!

Individual Pikemen count as spear armed in melee until they lose a round of melee, they then count as fighting with any sidearm they have.

*(It is best to indicate this by moving supporting ranks back a small distance)*

They may only fight as Pikemen again if the entire group spends a turn stationary out of melee.

Other pikemen in the group may fight on as normal until they lose as above.

## **Pavisses:**

Free standing Pavisses and back slung Pavaises may be given to Crossbow armed figures.

Pavisses count as cover to a single figure in contact and behind it. If they are reloading they may not be shot at.

Pavisses may be carried at half the figures normal speed, but may not be carried if the figure is shooting or loading or in melee.

Pavaises count as a shield against shooting if the carrying figure is not shooting (IE they turn their back to the enemy to reload but must turn to shoot)

They may not be used in melee.

Figures carrying Pavaises count as Armoured for movement, even if the figure is Unarmoured.

## Breaking off:

Figures engaged frontally may only break off if they beat the enemy's modified die roll in any melee turn.

Break offs are up to 1" directly away from the enemy. This can be used to replace a front rank man with one from directly behind him in combat.

## Effect of Wounds:

Wounds diminish missile/melee effect as detailed above.

Also; 4 Light Wounds equivalent results in a figure becoming Disabled (Treat as killed).

## Notes on Cavalry:

Mounted figures should follow the following rules;

- After charging into melee, and fighting 1 round on combat, mounted figures should move a further 2D6" further on, knocking any foot figures they meet over (Horsemen should dice individually for this).
- Mounting/dismounting takes a full move stationary.
- Figures falling from a horse take a wound on a 6 (D6). Figures fallen from horses, and those knocked over by charging horsemen take ½ a move to stand up again!

## Earthworks:

- ❖ Figures fighting from behind defences count as though using large shields.  
They do not count as uphill, as they are impeded by the palisade.
- ❖ They always have ammunition reserves of hand hurled weapons. Even figures without missile weapons count as throwing rocks and similar things.
- ❖ When fighting over a parapet only 1 man may fight a man at the top of the ladder. Men with spears may fight in support if next to the man in combat.
- ❖ If the Attacker wins he enters the defences. If he is pushed back he and the ladder are cast down causing a wound on the falling man on a 6(d6), wound on a 7, kill on a 8. +1 to the dice per 1" fall!
- ❖ Siege engines have a range of 80", and always count as firing at Short range. The crew determine the quality of the Shooting!.
- ❖ Wooden structures count as Protected armour.  
More sturdy structures count as Light Armoured.
- ❖ Buildings and structures count as 10 men equivalent as a rough guide.
- ❖ 2" of Palisade counts as 10 men equivalent.
- ❖ Earthen banks count as 50 men equivalent  
-- Occupants cannot be targeted directly by Siege engines, however;
- ❖ When a Kill is scored on a structure, a random occupant throws a D6:  
1-3: OK . 4: Light wound. 5: Wound 6: Killed.
- ❖ Once 10 men equivalent have been Killed or Disabled, the building collapses, killing occupants on a 3+ (D6).
- ❖ Fire weapons or men with lit torches set light to unprotected wooden structures on a 5+ (D6). These cause a Kill on a building on a 3+ (D6) each enemy turn they are alight.  
Fires are extinguished if any figure within 2" doing nothing else that turn scores a 6 (D6)

