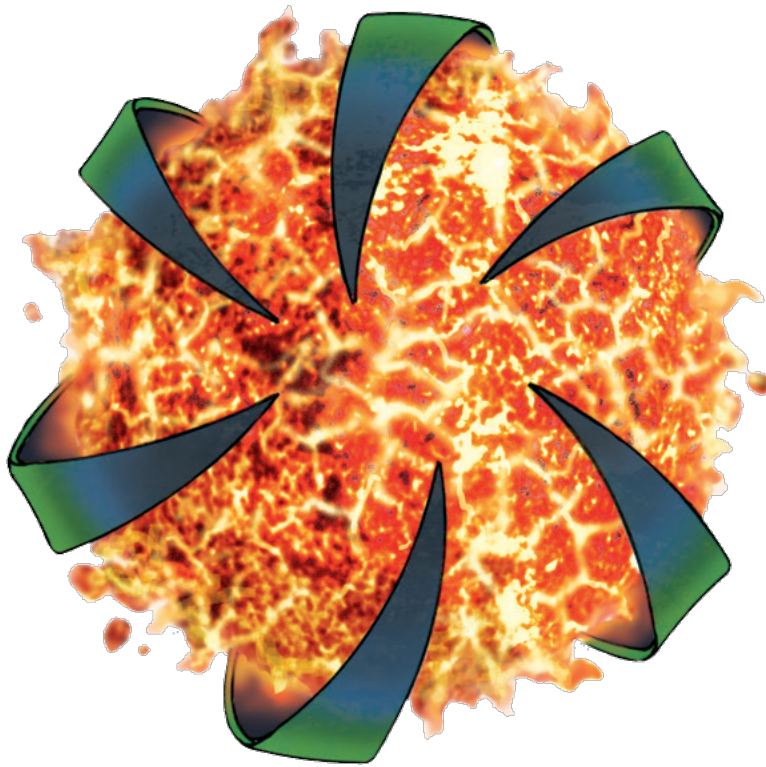


# Outworld Wastes

Casual Battletech League Guide



Outworlds Wastes is a casual Battletech league framework with simplified logistics rules. Players will take the role of commander of a mech force searching the Outworld Wastes for lost technology and glory. Completing objectives in scenarios will earn C-bills that commanders can use to upgrade their forces. Various forms of Battletech game-play are supported, such as Classic Battletech, Alpha Strike, and Battletech Destiny.

## Goals

- Have buckets of fun while fostering a friendly and welcoming environment.
- Give players an opportunity to build personalized lore for their own mechwarrior forces.
- Provide a lightweight framework for players to track the accomplishments of their forces.
- Explore Battletech lore and equipment.

# 1 Region Background

The Outworlds Alliance was founded in 2413 and enjoyed prosperity throughout the Star League Era. By the start of the Amaris Civil War in 2766, the Outworlds Alliance contained over 135 major systems across 7 administrative districts. Unfortunately, the Outworlds Alliance suffered during the Succession Wars that followed the fall of the Star League in 2780, and they had to steadily abandon systems they no longer had the resources to support.

Clan Snow Raven began exploring the Periphery for resources soon after the battle of Tukayyid ended Operation REVIVAL. In 3064, Clan Snow Raven and the Outworlds Alliance began developing mutual respect and tentative alliance. Following their abjuration from the Clan Homeworlds in 3075 as a result of the Wars of Reaving, Clan Snow Raven took refuge in the Outworlds Alliance. In 3083, Clan Snow Raven and the Outworlds Alliance merged to form the Raven Alliance.

By the ilClan Trial in 3151, the Raven Alliance contained only 47 systems. At least 88 systems that were part of the Outworlds Alliance during the Star League era have been lost. Many factions are eager to explore these lost worlds in the Outworlds Wastes in search of lost Star League technology or to take refuge from the complex political machinations of Inner Sphere factions.

# 2 Overview

You will take the role of commander of a mech force exploring the Outworld Wastes for your faction. Common factions for the region include

- Raven Alliance
- Draconis Combine
- Federated Suns
- Mercenary groups
- Pirate gangs
- Clan Dark Caste

Commanders should pick the faction they are most interested in representing. While Outworlds Wastes scenarios will generally be focused on the lore of the major factions in the region, listed above, additional factions may have a small presence in the Outworlds Wastes. For example, the Raven Alliance has relationships with nations on the far side of the Periphery, such as Magistracy of Canopus.

Any era after the fall of the Star League can be used for league play. The era determines unit availability and the most common factions in the Outworld Wastes.

Commanders will compete with other factions in the Outworlds Wastes to grow their force and recover lost technology. These scenarios will be primarily designed for Classic Battletech, but content for Alpha Strike and Battletech Destiny is also supported and will be included.

## 3 Force Management

Unit commanders will start with Battle Value points (BV) budget they can use to purchase their initial units. Participation in scenarios and accomplishing objectives will earn C-bills for commanders to spend on training their pilots, upgrading units, and acquiring new equipment.

### 3.1 Force Construction

Commanders start with 10,000 BV to acquire initial units for their force. BV costs for all units are listed in the Master Unit List. Force construction must follow these rules:

- Commanders have a modified Union class dropship with 16 configurable maintenance bays to hold their units. Each bay can hold 1 mech, 2 combat vehicles, 5 protomechs, or 5 tons of infantry/battle armor. Infantry/battle armor can be split across multiple bays; for example, 4 bays can hold 20 tons, which is 5 squads of inner sphere standard battle armor. The dropship can support a maximum of 12 mech bays, 5 combat vehicle, 5 protomech bays, and 5 infantry/battle armor bays. You may leave bays unconfigured or change their configuration in the future. Your entire force must fit onto your dropship.
- Commanders should select units from their era and faction on the Master Unit List. Forces can include units with introductory, standard, and advanced technology but should not include experimental units. For example, the Marauder MAD-3R, Marauder MAD-7R, and Marauder II MAD-6C are legal ilClan era mercenary units while the Marauder II MAD-6M is not. Forces can include one unique unit of any technology level.
- Each force can start with no more than 7,000 BV in mechs. Commanders are encouraged to try to use the typical mech unit composition of their faction. However, this can be difficult to accomplish for clan or ComStar forces, so this is not a requirement.
- Each force can include any number of supporting units, such as combat vehicles, protomechs, infantry, and battle armor. Some scenarios will require infantry/battle armor or combat vehicles with cargo capacity, so commanders should have at least one of each of these units in their force.
- Forces cannot contain off-map battlefield support units, such as artillery or aerospace fighters. However, forces can contain any on-map units.
- The BV costs of a unit includes the pilot or crew skills. Skill levels should generally be close to the average skill levels given on page 40 of *Battletech: Total Warfare*. Skills may be no better than Gunnery 3/Piloting 4.
- Any unspent BV during force creation is lost.

One of the goals of the Outworlds Wastes framework is to explore different equipment. Commanders are encouraged to know where in the rulebooks other commanders can read about the rules pertaining to any special equipment for units in their force.

Learning new types of units can be intimidating, especially in Classic Battletech. Commanders are welcome to limit the number of types of units in their 3,000 BV non-mech forces. For example, a force could include only troop transports and battle armor so the commander can meet any objective while keeping new rules to a minimum.

Two sample initial forces are provided; the first force is a Civil War era mercenary company and the second force is an ilClan era Raven Alliance nova. Mech pilot names are encouraged, as one of the goals is to develop the personalized lore for your force.

Bay	Unit	Pilot	Gunnery	Piloting	BV	Adj BV
Mechs						
1	Atlas II AS7-D	Megan 'Meg' Courant	3	4	1,897	2,504
2	Phoenix Hawk PXH-2K	Dietrich 'Bison' Helge	4	5	1,271	1,271
3	Blackjack BJ-2	Rowan 'Lizard' Baker	4	5	1,148	1,148
4	Locust IIC	Corey 'Casper' Poole	4	5	1,100	1,100
Combat Vehicles						
1	Maxim Hover Transport		4	5	764	764
1	Maxim Hover Transport		4	5	764	764
2	Galleon GAL-102		4	5	651	651
2	Galleon GAL-102		4	5	651	651
3	Warrior H-7		4	5	295	295
3	Warrior H-7		4	5	295	295
Infantry						
1	IS Std BA, LRR		4	5	255	255
2	IS Std BA, Laser		4	5	231	231
9	Total Bays					
	Total BV					9,929

Table 1: Civil War Era Mercenary Force - Meg's Magpies

Bay	Unit	Pilot	Gunnery	Piloting	BV	Adj BV
Mechs						
1	Carrion Crow A	Sarah Magnus	3	4	1,622	2,141
2	Nova U	Bryn	4	5	1,413	1,413
3	Adder J	Ada	4	5	1,222	1,222
4	Kit Fox V	Soton	3	4	974	1,286
5	Fire Moth A	Tina	3	4	639	843
Combat Vehicles						
1	Karnov UR Transport		4	5	125	125
Infantry						
1	Gnome BA		3	4	580	766
2	Elemental BA, Laser		3	4	447	590
3	Elemental BA, HMG		3	4	415	548
4	Elemental BA, Flamer		3	4	404	533
5	Elemental BA, Flamer		3	4	404	533
11	Total Bays					
	Total BV					10,000

Table 2: ilClan Era Raven Alliance Force - Raven Expeditionary Cluster, Alpha Nova

Both forces can support additional units on their dropships. However, the Raven Expeditionary Cluster, Alpha Nova cannot support any additional infantry/battle armor maintenance bays.

### 3.2 Spending C-Bills

After earning C-bills from scenarios, commanders can spend C-bills to improve their force. Possible improvements are listed below. C-bill costs for all units are listed in the Master Unit List.

- **Train:** Pay the difference in BV skill multiplier times 500,000 C-bills to upgrade a unit's skill levels. For example, a Gunnery 4/Piloting 5 pilot has a BV skill multiplier of 1.0 and a Gunnery 3/Piloting 4 pilot has a BV skill multiplier of 1.32. Therefore, it costs 160,000 C-bills to train a 4/5 pilot to be a 3/4 pilot. Units cannot be upgraded past Gunnery 1/Piloting 2. New units cannot be upgraded past Gunnery 3/Piloting 4. Existing units that did not participate in the most recent scenario cannot be upgraded past Gunnery 4/Piloting 5. See *Battletech: Techmanual*, page 315, for the BV skill multiplier table.
- **Replace:** Pay 50% of the C-bill cost, rounded up, to replace a *destroyed* unit. If the mech pilot or vehicle crew was killed, the replacement cost includes a 5/6 pilot or crew. If an entire infantry or battle armor unit was destroyed, the replacement cost includes 5/6 troops. The new personnel can be trained as above. See *Battletech: Total Warfare* for the definition of *destroyed* for different types of units.
- **Repair:** Pay 25% of the C-bill cost, rounded up, to repair all structure damage and critical components for a mech or combat vehicle that has not been *destroyed*. If the pilot or crew was killed, the repair cost includes a 5/6 pilot or crew. Armor damage is repaired for free.
- **Recruit:** Pay 50% of the C-bill cost, rounded up, recruit new troops to replace troops in an infantry or battle armor unit that has not been *destroyed*. For example, if 1 out of 4 troops was killed in a battle armor squad, pay 50% of the C-bill cost for 1 suit. To replace 1 troop in a squad of 4 IS Standard Battle Armor with Lasers, pay 293,125 C-bills. Damage to battle armor troops that survive a scenario is repaired for free.
- **Refit:** Pay the difference in C-bill cost to refit a unit to a different variant. A Phoenix Hawk PXH-2 with a 4/5 pilot costs 4,348,840 C-bills. A Phoenix Hawk PXH-1K with a 4/5 pilot costs 3,628,553. A commander may pay 720,287 C-bills to convert a PHX-2 into a PHX-1K or to convert a PHX-1K into a PHX-2.
- **Omni Refit:** Omnimechs can be temporarily converted to a cheaper variant for a scenario for free, but refitting is required to use more expensive variants. For example, the Carrion Crow C is worth 10,336,492 C-bills. The Carrion Crow A only costs 9,704,829 C-bills, so a Carrion Crow C can be temporarily configured as a Carrion Crow A for a scenario. However, a Carrion Crow B costs 15,617,992 C-bills, so a Carrion Crow C would need a 5,281,500 C-bill refit to be converted to the Carrion Crow B variant. Once the Carrion Crow C is refitted to a Carrion Crow B, the omnimech can be configured as a Carrion Crow A, B, or C for any scenario.
- **Purchase:** Pay the C-bill cost to get a new unit. Commanders are encouraged to purchase units from their faction and era list on the Master Unit List.
- **Salvage:** Pay 50% the C-bill cost, rounded up, to salvage units that you destroyed in a scenario. A War Crow Prime costs 22,057,358 C-bills. A salvaged War Crow Prime costs 11,028,679 C-bills. The new pilot of the salvaged unit can be trained as above. Salvage is the primary way for commanders to get units that are not on their Master Unit List faction list.
- **Sell:** Commanders can sell old equipment for 50% of the C-bill cost, rounded up. A Locust LCT-1E costs 1,574,200 C-bills and can be sold for 787,100 C-bills. Commanders can earn 25% of the C-bill cost for selling a salvaged unit instead of paying 50% of the C-bill cost to repair the unit. A salvaged War Crow Prime could be sold to earn 5,514,340 C-bills instead of paying 11,028,679 C-bills to repair it.

## 4 Scenarios

Commanders earn C-bills to spend on their forces through participation in scenarios and accomplishing objectives. Common formats for the scenarios include

- **Classic Battletech:** Scenarios for this format will primarily focus on mid scale combat, with each side controlling approximately one lance with supporting assets.
- **Alpha Strike:** Scenarios for this format will primarily focus on large scale combat, with each side controlling approximately one company with supporting assets.
- **Battletech Destiny:** Scenarios for this format will focus on small scale combat, with each side controlling approximately one or two mechs.

Scenarios award BV in two ways, through participation and completing objectives. The BV awarded in a scenario will tend to follow these guidelines

- **Objectives:** Forces earn 7,000,000 C-bills for completing primary objectives and 3,000,000 C-bills for completing secondary objectives. This C-bill payment represents bonus pay in a mercenary contract and the value of resources or technology acquired by completing mission objectives.
- **Participation:** If the force did not complete any objectives, then the force earns 2,000 C-bills for every 10 BV for the scenario, with a minimum of 1,000,000 C-bills. For example, a 6,000 BV vs 6,000 BV scenario will have a base payout of 1,200,000 C-bills. This C-bill payment represents the baseline cost of a mercenary contract or supplies sent by a faction.

Outworlds Wastes scenarios will often be built to represent lore and objectives relevant to specific worlds in the Outworlds Wastes. The Outworlds Wastes scenarios will often include special bonuses, such as recovering equipment from the 61st Royal Jump Infantry Division so a commander can add an advanced jump infantry unit to their force for free.

### 4.1 Scenario Forces

Both sides should agree upon a BV and unit count limit before starting the scenario. A typical BV limit would be 6,000 BV per side for 1v1 or 10,000 BV per side for 2v2. A typical unit limit would be 7 units per side for 1v1 or 10 units per side for 2v2.

### 4.2 Scenario Balancing

One of the goals for the Outworlds Wastes league framework is to foster a friendly and welcoming environment. It is common for commanders with decades of experience playing Battletech to be participating alongside new people in the hobby. Here we propose some options to help balance scenarios so gameplay is welcoming to newer commanders while also staying fresh and challenging for more experienced commanders.

- **Setup:** When setting up a scenario, slight preference should generally be given to the commander whose force has the lower total BV, including all units and pilots. For example, the commander with the lowest total BV could be offered the choice between attacking and defending for the casual scenarios given below. For a scenario with a terrain setup phase, the commander with the lowest total BV could be offered the first placement of terrain piece.

- **2v2:** Many scenarios are described as 1v1; however these scenarios can often support 2v2 or similar play. When playing on teams, experience should be divided roughly equally between the two teams. Teammates are encouraged to collaborate on strategy for the scenario.

### 4.3 Scoring Casual Scenarios

While there will be Outworlds Wastes themed scenarios, the Outworlds Wastes framework also supports scoring casual games between commanders to give their forces more chances to earn C-bills and glory. Some primary and secondary objectives are included here as examples.

#### 4.3.1 Primary Objectives

1. **Extraction:** The attackers select a hex within 5 rows of the defenders home edge. This hex contains a target to extract. A unit with cargo capacity can pick up the target by being in the same hex at the end of the turn. The target is not destroyed if the carrying unit is destroyed. A unit completes the objective by exiting their home edge while carrying the target.
2. **King of the Hill:** A hex in the center of the map contains a building with valuable files. The building is medium with a construction factor of 60, unless the players agree upon a different configuration. The force earns 1,000,000 C-bills for every turn that they have an infantry/battle armor unit inside of the building at the end of the turn.
3. **Supply Raid:** 3-7 supply depots are on the map, near the center. Any unit with hands or cargo capacity can load supplies from the depot if they end their turn in the same hex. A unit carrying supplies in their hands cannot fire any arm mounted weapons. A unit carrying supplies earns 1,000,000 C-bills for bringing the supplies to their home edge. Each side cannot score from the same supply depot twice until they score from every other supply depot.
4. **Reconnaissance:** The map contains 15 buildings that are at least hex large, 7 of which contain hidden objectives. The attacker earns 1,000,000 C-bills for each hidden objective they find. The defender earns 1,000,000 C-bills for each hidden objective the attacker does not find.

#### 4.3.2 Secondary Objectives

1. Cripple or destroy a mech.
2. Cripple or destroy a combat vehicle.
3. Destroy an internal section of the opponents highest BV unit.