SOLAS

Game Master's Guide

Setting

Whether you're using a real world time and location like prohibition in Boston, adding a twist to a time period like medvieval fantasy, or creating a planet-hopping future, you have to build out at least an idea for a setting. World or universe maps aren't necessary, and are typically not worth the effort put in. Develop first the core concepts of your setting and time period. Is religion prevalent? What level of technology is widely used? All of these questions will help both the players and you properly flavor weapons, tricks, and much more.

Adventures

A setting is not enough to explore. An adventure is a way of developing a full story, where the players can affect outcomes and reach their goals. The three main points of an adventure are exploration, social interaction, and combat. Try to make sure that there is intrinsic motivation for the players, like the desire to conquer a great enemy, stop encroaching doom, or even just achieve character growth. Keep in mind the scale of the adventure, if your adventure is going to span a couple hours or years.

Combat

Balancing combat is a difficult thing, especially given the randomness of dice, the multitude of different abilities. For a standard "4 round combat" (which typically ends quicker due to player abilities), here are pre-calculated standards for different levels and parties.

Note: These are totals, and can (and sometimes should) be split among multiple enemies and/or attacks. The number of the item is the level of the party.

One-Player Parties

- 1. 6 heart, R3 damage/round
- 2. 8 heart, R4 damage/round
- 3. 11 heart, R5 damage/round
- 4. 14 heart, R7 damage/round
- 5. 16 heart, R9 damage/round
- 6. 18 heart, R11 damage/round
- 7. 21 heart, R13 damage/round
- 8. 25 heart, R16 damage/round

Two-Player Parties

- 1. 11 heart, R3 damage/round
- 2. 16 heart, R4 damage/round
- 3. 21 heart, R6 damage/round
- 4. 27 heart, R7 damage/round
- 5. 32 heart, R10 damage/round
- 6. 36 heart, R12 damage/round
- 7. 41 heart, R15 damage/round
- 8. 49 heart, R17 damage/round

Three-Player Parties

- 1. 16 heart, R4 damage/round
- 2. 24 heart, R5 damage/round
- 3. 31 heart, R6 damage/round
- 4. 40 heart, R8 damage/round
- 5. 48 heart, R11 damage/round
- 6. 54 heart, R13 damage/round
- 7. 62 heart, R16 damage/round
- 8. 74 heart, R19 damage/round