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Alpha v1.18

November 8, 2024

Contents

Author's note:

The following is designed to amend any edition of the Warhammer 40k rules.

These rules were written with 7th in mind, but are intentionally edition-agnostic where possible. Profiles and mechanics from any edition may be used with minimal alteration.

These rules replace the standard movement, shooting, assaulting phases with an orders-based system instead. Imperial Guard orders are their own still, anything outlined here will not refer to them unless explicitly specified otherwise

The TurnThe Turn

The standard Warhammer 40k turn structure is now replaced by the following:

1. Start & Reserves
2. Orders Phase
3. Assault Phase
4. Rally & End

1.1 Start of TurnStart of Turn

Resolve any triggers or effects that would occur during the start of a player or game turn. If an ability would trigger at the start of the movement phase, it triggers at the start of the turn instead.

If using 7th edition, generate warp charges as if it were the start of the psychic phase.

1.2 OrdersOrders

During the turn, a player may issue each a single order in sequence, until all units have acted or passed. An order must be fully resolved before another is issued.

When issuing a reaction order, the unit should be marked with an appropriate token to designate that it is waiting to carry it out. The order may be declared and “spent” later on. Remove the token at the start of the reaction order’s resolution.

When resolving an order, treat each step as its own phase. Any ability that would trigger during one of these phases will trigger during the relevant step of the order instead.

Reaction orders may be carried out at any point during the game, and a reaction order may be performed as a response to another reaction order. Resolve these in last-in, first-out order.

Unless noted otherwise, a step of an order as it would normally occur during a gameplay phase (movement, shooting, etc.) must be fully completed before the next one resolves.

1.2.1 Top SpeedTop Speed

The unit may move or disembark from a transport the normal distance, plus the distance for running or moving flat-out.

1.2.2 Maneuver and FireManeuver and Fire

The unit moves or disembarks up to its movement allowance and makes a shooting attack. This may be done in any order, but each action must be fully completed before starting the next. Units that fire before moving must fire as if

1.2.3 Open Fire

The unit fires once as it normally would during the shooting phase with no penalties taken from movement. If the unit is not Gone to Ground, it may shoot as though it had Split Fire.

1.2.4 Close Assault (Charge)

The unit may Maneuver and Fire, then follow the standard procedure for resolving a charge.

If a unit could fire overwatch, ignore these rules. Units on Ambush Fire may carry out that order during the Charge Sub-phase instead.

1.2.5 Request Support

HQ units, or any character with Scout may attempt to request off-map support. The unit targets an enemy, or a point on the map as if it were a shooting attack.

The unit may select a single friendly off-map Barrage unit or selection taken from Additional Fire Support and attempt a communications test (Ld). The unit may perform no other action this turn as it relays coordinates and directs fire.

If the communications test is passed, the support unit may perform an order as described in the rules for Support Strikes. If the test is failed, the order ends with no further resources spent.

1.2.6 Tactical Coordination

HQ Units only. The command unit can do nothing else this turn, but may nominate a friendly unit anywhere on the table that has Gone to Ground or routed to attempt to Rally or stand up. The unit must pass a leadership test.

1.2.7 Ambush Fire (Reaction Order)

Mark the unit with any appropriate marker. The waiting ambush unit may now interrupt any enemy unit's order to use their Open Fire order.

1.2.8 Reserve Move (Reaction Order)

A unit given the Reserve Move order does not move in its own turn but instead waits, and can then interrupt the enemy turn (but not an order) to take the Top Speed order.

If a unit would reserve move after a shooting attack is declared but before it is performed, the firing unit may choose to change targets after the reserve move is resolved.

If the moved unit is out of range or line of sight, the firing unit may fire snap shots at the target as if it were at any point along its movement path.

Note: In general, orders or abilities that allow for an interrupt resolve at any point during movement, or before/after a shooting attack or other action is resolved.

1.3 Assault Phase

Resolve the Assault phase as the Warhammer 40k Fight Sub-phase.

1.4 Rally & End turn

Routing units may attempt to rally as normal, except for units that routed as the result of a combat resolution on the Assault Phase of this turn.

Units belonging to the active player that have Gone to Ground may stand up.

Resolve any other effects that would resolve at the end of a turn.

Core RulesCore Rules

2.1 Deep StrikeDeep Strike

If a unit would be brought in using deep strike, instead place a deep strike marker. This marker scatters following the rules for the unit itself.

If the marker or unit would land in a location that would result in a Mishap, roll on the table as normal. The Marker is not a unit, but follows all rules for unit placement as if it were.

At the beginning of the player's following turn, replace the marker with the first model in the unit as normal. The unit may receive orders as if it had been on the board for a full turn. The unit counts as having moved for the purposes of any abilities.

2.1.1 MishapMishap

If the marker or any model in the unit would land in a location that would result in a mishap, the opposing player may select one of the following options:

- **Delayed:** The unit re-enters reserves until the start of the next game turn
- **Misplaced:** The opposing player may choose a valid placement for the unit within 18" of the center of the Deep Strike marker.

2.2 FlyersFlyers

Any unit with the Flyer type may only be used in hover mode and treated as a Fast Skimmer, unless it (or any Fast Skimmer mutually agreed upon to have the ability to act as a Flyer) is taken as a Support Strike.

Flyers that could otherwise zoom may only be charged by units with Jump Packs, Jet Packs or other flyers.

2.3 Go To GroundGo To Ground

Units that Go to Ground gain +2 to their cover save and 4+ unmodifiable cover save in the open, but fight at WS 1 in melee while gone to ground.

Units that have Gone to Ground may perform an Open Fire order to fire snap shots, but may perform no other actions.

2.4 Psychic ManifestationPsychic Manifestation

Psykers may attempt to cast a psychic power as if it were the psychic phase at any point during an order. This may be done instead of moving or shooting as part of another order. Spend warp charges or take tests as usual, if relevant.

2.5 Support Strikes

A unit taken from Additional Fire Support may be called in to perform one of the following via a Request Support order.

2.5.1 Long-Range Bombardment

Artillery units may be taken as a battery or squadron for 10% of their normal cost. They may be called upon to use an Open Fire order that is treated as One Use Only per battery. A unit that fires this way must follow the procedure outlined in the Barrage section.

2.5.2 Death From The Skies

Single-model Flyer units may be taken for 20% of their usual points cost. This does not count toward a player's unit count for the purposes of counting objectives.

Flyers with Transport Capacity may carry units embarked upon it declared before the start of the game. Units that disembark from a zooming Flyer ignore any replacement effects for Deep Strike markers and are deployed immediately, treating any Mishap results as Misplaced.

Support Flyers enter the controlling player's board edge, and immediately perform a Maneuver and Fire order. The Flyer may move up to any point wholly within the controlling player's half of the board treated as having moved Combat Speed, or anywhere on the opponent's half as Cruising Speed. All other rules for Zooming Flyers apply.

During the end phase, remove the flyer from the board. Flyers that leave the board this way are not counted as a casualty, but may not return to the board. They are still counted as a casualty if they are destroyed by other causes.

2.6 Sweeping Advance

After winning combat, units automatically attempt a Sweeping Advance if eligible.

2.6.1 Restrain or Pursue

The winning player may attempt to restrain the unit by passing a morale test. If the attempt is failed or the unit does not attempt to restrain, make the initiative test for Sweeping Advance as normal.

2.6.2 CAUGHT! CAUGHT!

If the chasing unit wins, the retreating unit suffers a number of wounds equal to double the model count of the chasing unit with no saves of any kind. Bulky and other rules that affect transport capacity may be counted toward a unit's model count as it would for a transport.

2.6.3 Move Fleeing Unit

If the fleeing unit was not destroyed, it falls back.

2.6.4 Follow-up move

Move the pursuing unit its own Fall Back distance toward the fleeing unit. If the pursuing unit successfully caught its target, they may move within 1" of the fleeing unit and combat continues. Otherwise, move them up to, but not within 1".

2.7 Tank Riders

Riding a tank beats walking. A Tank that does not already have a transport capacity may carry up to 4 Infantry models per hull point as Tank Riders (as if it were a transport.)

Infantry units with a 4+ save or lighter may be deployed as Tank Riders. A tank and its riders count as a single unit for purposes of deployment and reserves, as if it were a transport. They are treated exactly as transport passengers, but are far more exposed.

Tank Riders may be targeted separately from the vehicle, may be Pinned separately, and count as having 5+ cover. If the unit would Go to ground, they immediately disembark.

If the transporting tank is hit by fire that could remove a hull point, the riding unit is immediately disembarked and treated as if they had failed a pinning test. If the vehicle is destroyed while they are embarked, d3 models are removed with no saves of any kind allowed.

2.8 Transports

Infantry may declare a disordered charge out of a transport that does not have the Assault Vehicle special rule if that transport did not move this turn. A transport that had infantry disembark this way may not move for the rest of the turn.

2.9 Wound Allocation

The player targeted by an attack or ability that could cause wounds may choose which model to allocate wounds of any type, unless specified by another rule. For units with mixed saves, this must be declared before rolling saves of any kind. Wounds must be allocated to models already wounded.

Look out Sir! may not be used against wounds of any kind.

Force Organization

Instead of the usual Combined Arms Detachment, or Formations, army lists must conform to the Battlegroup detachment configuration. An army composed this way gains the same benefits as if it were a Combined Arms detachment.

3.1 Frontline Assets

HQ and Troops units may be taken in any quantity, following any other limitations for list building.

3.1.1 HQHQ

For each HQ unit taken in your roster, you may include a single unit from Elites or Additional Fire Support.

HQ units may not exceed 25% of an army's points.

3.1.2 TroopsTroops

For each Troops unit taken, you may include a single unit from Elites, Fast Attack, or Heavy Support.

One Troop unit must be taken per 1000 points minimum.

3.2 Support Assets

These are specialist units, and may only be taken in limited quantities. Elites, Heavy Support, and Fast Attack units may only be taken as described below:

3.2.1 Fast AttackFast Attack

Each unit taken from Fast Attack allows a support choice from Additional Fire Support.

3.2.2 Heavy SupportHeavy Support

Heavy Support units composed entirely of Infantry models may be taken as a Troops unit.

Units taken this way do not receive any bonuses or provide an additional force organization slot as regular troops would, and do not fulfill the compulsory requirements for troops.

Troops slots filled this way may not outnumber slots filled by standard Troops.

3.2.3 **Fortifications**

Fortifications may only be taken by the defender in an Attack/Defense scenario, in any quantity. It is recommended to determine the scenario before lists are written to account for this.

3.2.4 **Additional Fire Support**

Any Artillery or Flyer unit may be used in a support role for a fraction of its normal points value. These units are not deployed on the map normally, nor placed in reserves. Refer to the Support Strike section for full details.

3.2.5 **Lords of War**

One Lord of War may be taken in place of a Heavy Support for every full 3000 points in the game's limit.

3.2.6 **Restricted Units**

Restricted units and wargear are rare items to which an army just would not have easy access. Restricted units are limited by the size of a game. Players may take only one restricted unit or wargear option per 1000 points, unless a scenario or special rule would apply otherwise.

The following units (and wargear) are considered to be Restricted:

- Relics (or Relics of the Armoury)
- Vehicles with 5 or more Hull Points
- Monstrous Creatures with 5 or more Wounds
- Grav & Graviton Weapons
- Lords of War

Scenarios

4.0.1 Objectives

Objectives have a 3" capture radius, and control may be denied by any eligible units within 6". (Objective Secured, for example)

Standard objectives must be placed at least 12" apart and 12" away from any table edges unless otherwise noted.

The point must be in line of sight of a unit to capture or deny, in addition to any other restrictions.

4.0.2 Out-Scouted

If one player deployed more Recon units, that player may claim the Out-Scouted secondary objective for 1 VP

4.0.3 Reconnaissance Units

Scenarios may refer to Reconnaissance (or Recon) units. Unless otherwise specified, the following unit types are considered Recon units:

- Non-Flyer Fast Attack
- Units with Scout or Infiltrate

4.0.4 Victory Conditions

In addition to any scenario rules, if a player controls all objectives, or the opponent controls no units that are not Gone to Ground or routing, they win the game. Fortifications alone do not count for units remaining on the table.

4.0.5 VP Limits

Some scenarios will use a VP limit instead of the usual scoring. A recommended VP limit for a given scenario is triple the number of objectives on the field, plus the average unit count of both or all players.

When an objective is captured, VPs are awarded immediately. If a point that was previously captured is seized by an enemy, these VPs are not lost.

4.0.6 Turn 0

Some scenarios include a Turn 0, where reconnaissance units may operate before events that would normally occur during the first turn of the game.

4.1. COUNTER ATTACK <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1C94dwA319858NZs3uMV27P7I8CMHYWCPA>

4.1 Counter

Attack

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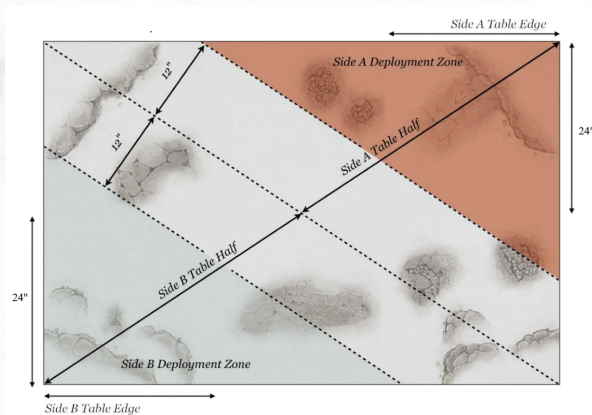


Figure 4.1: image info

SITUATION REPORT

An enemy attack has broken through which may force a withdrawal of troops at the front. Your battlegroup has been held in reserve to counter. Move fast to intercept and halt the enemy breakthrough.

Both sides are on the move, there is little time for preparation.

Scenario Type: Meeting Engagement

TERRAIN

Set up the terrain in any mutually agreed manner.

VICTORY

Victory Points are scored cumulatively until the VP limit is reached:

Capturing an Objective (+3VP)

Enemy Unit slain (+1VP)

Slay the Warlord (+1VP)

Out-Scouted (+1VP)

The recommended VP limit is triple the number of objectives on the field, plus the average unit count of all players rounded down.

DEPLOYMENT

1. Determine table corners

Both sides roll a D6 and add the number of Recon units in their army. The player with the highest total chooses which table corner will be his deployment zone, the opponent automatically gets the opposite table corner.

2. Place Objectives

Place D3+2 objectives on the table. The side that chose deployment zones places the first, then both sides alternate placement.

3. Reconnaissance Forces

Players alternate deploying all Recon units in the same order. These can be placed anywhere in their half of the table, but not within 12" of the table's centerline. Units alternate Infiltrate deployments after all other units are placed.

Recon units may be declared held in reserves instead of deploying. The side that deployed more Recon units may claim the Out-Scouted secondary objective.

If one side has deployed no units, then the opponent may position their units anywhere on the table on Ambush Fire.

4. Turn 0

Both players roll a D6 adding the number of units deployed in step 3. The side with the highest total takes the first turn. On a tie, the side that deployed the most Recon units wins.

5. Main Force Arrival

From turn 1 onwards, players bring in units from reserves equal to the turn number. Units entering the board may be placed fully within 6" of the player's table edge (24" each direction from the table corner). Continue this until all the forces are on the tabletop.

*For every 2000 points of game size, roll an additional D3

Experimental RulesExperimental Rules

5.1 BarrageBarrage

Units firing indirectly using Barrage use the following procedure instead. Indirect Fire must be resolved using a Request Support order

Artillery units with a Barrage weapon may elect to be deployed off-map. Units deployed this way may only fire indirectly, and may not draw Line of Sight to any unit on the table. They do not count toward a player's unit count.

A player may purchase a Pre-registered Target Point for 15 points as an Additional Fire Support choice. An artillery battery may choose to fire on this point without requiring a Request Support order. Spotter rounds targeting this area deviate as normal. Pre-registered Target Points are noted after Fortifications are deployed, but before any units are set up.

1. Position Spotter Round

Place a spotter round marker anywhere on the table within the spotter's line of sight and within 48" of the spotter.

2. Spotter Round Deviation

The spotter round scatters 3D6". If a direct hit is rolled on the scatter die, scatter 2D6" instead. This distance may be reduced by the spotter's Ballistics Skill.

3. Fire for Effect

Resolve each attack from the battery with Pinning as the corresponding blast size, hitting the unit closest to the spotter round on 6+ instead of 4+. Blast modifiers apply.

5.2 TemplatesTemplates

Templates use the following rolls to hit, noted as (number of dice) / (to-hit):

Small Blast	3 / 4+
Large Blast	6 / 4+
Flame	6 / 4+ (6" Range)

If a target unit has double the number of models or more compared to a weapon's dice pool to hit, template weapons gain an additional +1 to hit.

If the target unit did not move after the start of the previous turn, template weapons gain an additional +1 to hit.

If a target unit is in cover, flame weapons get an additional +1 to hit

If another unit is within Point Blank range of a target being hit by a Blast weapon, to-hit rolls of 1 hit that unit instead.

5.3 Point BlankPoint Blank

Shooting attacks made within 6" of their target gain Ignores Cover, unless that unit declared Go to Ground or Jink against this attack. (Units that are Gone to Ground or Jinking as the result of another attack do not gain the benefit of cover)

5.4 FearlessFearless

All Fearless non-vehicle units use the rules for And They Shall Know No Fear instead. If another rule would normally affect a fearless unit, that rule still applies to that unit.

Monstrous Creatures that lose 25% of their wounds in a single turn must take a Morale test as if it took 25% casualties. If a Monstrous Creature would fail a pinning test, it falls back instead.

5.5 Re-rollsRe-rolls

If an ability would allow a unit to re-roll a failed Morale or Pinning test, that ability may not be used again until the beginning of the next turn.

5.6 AlliesAllies

Any army may include selections from another army selection rated as Battle Brothers as part of the same Force Organization detachment.

Slots enabled from a given selection must be taken from the same faction list. (e.g. an Imperial Guard troop may only unlock slots for Imperial Guard units)

Codex ChangesCodex Changes

6.1 TyranidsTyranids

6.1.1 Special RulesSpecial Rules

Synapse: Creatures in Synapse range may use the highest leadership of Synapse creatures in range

Psychic Consonance: Synapse creatures in Synapse range of other Synapse creatures may be counted as having +1 Toughness for the purposes of Instant Death.

Synaptic Lapse: If a Synapse creature fails a Morale or Pinning test, its Synapse Range is reduced to 0" until it Regroups or is no longer Gone to Ground.