**Asicius**

We have been forced to endure slavery and mistreatment for too long. We’ve fought in arenas for their entertainment, and we’ve been treated as property. Fallen warriors have proved to us that we are capable of joining forces. It is up to us to learn from their mistakes in order to be successful in our fight.

As half of our population worked as slaves or grew up in the countryside, we have a significant advantage in our knowledge of the terrain. I think that with the use of guerrilla warfare we will have an advantage in attacking the Roman Army. By sending out scouts we can coordinate the legion’s directions, in which we can eliminate smaller groups. Spreading out a portion of our forces will enable us to camp out on the routes where the legion will pass. Our knowledge will enable us to conceal ourselves effectively to attack and surprise the enemy. As rebels we must be wise and strategic as opposed to forceful.

One of the biggest problems we will face is natural threats. The first being disease we must improve living and camping conditions. In the gladiator living quarters, I found that disease spread much quicker in close arrangements. Perhaps we can avoid it by spreading out our men amongst our camps. In terms of the unpredictability of the terrain and nature, we must develop a system for different emergencies. We cannot predict the natural punishments that the God’s will send on us, therefore preparation is crucial.  Hellfire and wildfire have proven to be incredibly destructive as a result of the direction of the winds from the Mediterranean Sea. While they take a toll on our men, we may be able to use it to our advantage. After a disaster we must be able to act quickly to destroy enemy camps. It is at this time that they will expect our arrival the least, and we will be able to eliminate the enemy when they are their most vulnerable.

We face a wealthy and powerful enemy; it would be unwise to overlook that. While we have passion and motivation to achieve our freedom, we do not have the resources and weapons that the legion has. I find it imperative that the rebels accumulate any wealth we have. In preparing and training new gladiators, I will carry out inspections. Before they fight they must bring their valuables and goods so that I can sell them for weapons and supplies. I will act as the rebel quaestor and treasurer and manage our wealth.

Being a gladiator meant that we were simply pawns for their entertainment. We were purchased to fight to the death in the arena. While they may have taken away our freedom and forced us to kill or be killed, the arena did prove to be beneficial. For us champions, the knowledge and the strength we developed in the arena will serve us well in war. We will pass on our tactics and now we will kill for our own reasons, and for our freedom. By joining forces across the Roman Empire, we slaves will be able to defeat the Roman Army. I am determined to make my brothers proud, and we will achieve justice.

May Mars bring us honour, good fortune, and success.

Regards,

Asicius