

The Witcher for Cogent RP

Moritz Bär

06-09-2021

Contents

1	The world	4
1.1	Important regions	4
1.2	Nations and states	6
2	Character creation	10
2.1	Race	10
2.2	Professions	11
2.3	Witchers	12
3	Magic system	15
3.1	Witcher signs	15
3.2	Witcher potions	16
3.3	Runes	17
4	Special items	18
4.1	Weapons	18
5	Detailed currencies	19
5.1	Temerian coinage	19
5.2	Redanian coinage	20
5.3	Nilfgaardian coinage	20
6	Additional combat modifiers	22
7	Bestiary	23
7.1	Beasts	23
7.2	Humanoids	23
7.3	Necrophages	24
7.4	Spectres	25
8	List of abilities	27

Introduction

This document is meant to aid in organizing tabletop roleplaying sessions set in the world of The Witcher using the system Cogent Roleplay. It is by no means exhaustive, and does not attempt to be: Anyone seeking to narrate a campaign in so complex a world had best have some first-hand experience of it, and both the original books and the games will convey more details on any given topic than this plugin. It is concerned mostly with creating rules that (more or less) faithfully convey the experience of the original works in this roleplaying system, as well as keeping the spirit of simplicity and learnability of the underlying system. Yet it endeavours also to serve as a reference for players who have never heard of this setting before, not to give detailed descriptions of the world, but to provide names and points of reference that can be used to look up detailed information wherever desired.

Since my only direct exposure to The Witcher has hitherto been the series of games, these to a large degree shape the gameplay elements. For the same reason, the time all descriptions are appropriate to is roughly between the first two games, though of course, the same rules (and most of the descriptions) can be used to play during any time a couple decades sooner or later.

The document contains very few images, as I do not hold the right to any. I believe the Bestiary in particular would benefit greatly from depictions of the various creatures, but 1) It would be a lot of effort to find fitting portraits and 2) It would be even more effort to ensure I do not encroach on copyright of any sort. Happily, images can be easily found by looking up the creatures' names online.

This version of the plugin is by no means complete, more content is to be added (hopefully soon).

1 The world

1.0.1 A map of the North



https://vignette.wikia.nocookie.net/witcher/images/1/17/Northernkingdoms_full.jpg/revision/latest?cb=20110530105156

1.1 Important regions

This section ignores the political Situation of the Northern Realms, it is concerned exclusively with geographic features.

1.1.1 The Dragon Mountains

The northern border of civilization. They were never crossed, or at least not crossed twice, so no report of the lands the other side of the mountains has come into the south. This

is explained by their extreme remoteness and the considerable population of dragons the mountain range draws its name from.

1.1.2 The Blue Mountains

Home to the free elves and a natural border to Haakland and Zerrikania. Here is Dol Blathanna, the Valley of Flowers, a wonder of the northern world. Roughly halfway along the range lies the ancient city of Loc Muine that was built by the mysterious Vran.

1.1.3 The Pontar River and the Pontar Valley

The Pontar is one of the chief rivers of the north, separating the land in a nearly straight line from the The Blue Mountains to the sea. The valley, formed over millenia out of reckoning by the river, is the granary of the north: Nigh on all tradeable foods are grown here, including the northern wines.

1.1.4 The Mountains of Mahakam

These mountains form the border between Aedirn and Temeria and are known for the great wealth of ore found there. It is hardly surprising that the mountains, homeland of dwarves and gnomes, have produced some of the finest pieces of smithcraft to be found at this age in the world. The regions largest settlement is situated beneath Mount Carbon, where its inhabitants mine incessantly for the worlds best iron and gnomes in their smithies forge excellent weapons, such as the renowned Gwyhir.

1.1.5 The Skellige-Isles

A collection of six islands to the continent's west. Their rough cliffs and grey sea have an untamed, perilous beauty. No traveller in the north should forgo the sight of the sun sinking into the sea from a summit of a mountain in Skellige.

1.1.6 Brokilon

Called by men the "Forest of Death," the home of the Dryads stretches across the north's largest wood. It offers a refuge to all those pursued and discriminated against by men and stands as the last realm never conquered by the younger race.

1.2 Nations and states

This section is concerned with politics, as well as social structures and institutions.

1.2.1 Aedirn

Situated between the mountains of Mahakam to the west, Kaedwen to the north and the Blue Mountains to the east, Aedirn is shielded from harsh weather by the surrounding mountain ranges. This kind and consistant climate, along with the Pontar Valley, have enabled a strong agricultural economy to flourish. Further, the proximity to Mount Carbon has lead to the development of considerable industry in the western parts of the kingdom. Aedirn is ruled by king Demavend the Third.

Key cities

Vengerberg The capital city of Aedirn and in days gone by one of the richest and most populous cities in the north. In the most recent war with Nilfgaard, however, it was sacked, and has since only slowly begun rebuilding.

1.2.2 Cintra

1.2.3 Kaedwen

The largest of the Northern Realms, Kaedwen shares borders with both Redania and Aedirn. The kingdom's ruler is king Henselt, who has continued the petty wars and skirmishes with Aedirn that have been occurring for many decades over which realm gets to control the Pontar Valley. To date, the region is held by Aedirn.

Key cities

Ard Carraigh The capital city of Kaedwen, though lesser in most ways than Ban Ard.

Ban Ard Likely the most important city in Kaedwen and home to the powerful sorcerers' academy.

1.2.4 Nilfgaard

The North is faced by one singular Enemy: The Nilfgaardian Empire that subjugated or conquered all provinces south of the Yaruga. It's recent line of emperors was broken by the Usurper, who had Fergus var Emreis assassinated and seized the throne for himself. He was in turn overthrown by the previous emperor's heir, Emhyr var Emreis. Emhyr undid the Usurper's reforms and began reaching northwards, but was defeated twice, claiming only Cintra after his second failed invasion. The empire's strong economy led to a victory

of sorts, however: The devastated North was forced to rely on grain and goods imported from their southern foe, weakening their own economies.

Vassal states

- Cintra
- Toussaint

Key cities

The city of Nilfgaard The ‘City of Golden Towers’ is the heart and cradle of the empire. It lies on the river Alba and is connected to the sea by a nearby harbour.

1.2.5 Redania

Ruled at the moment by king Radovid the Stern, the kingdom profits greatly from trade with the other realms of the north. The chief source of Redania are her export of grain to less fertile regions, though recently cheaper imports from Nilfgaard have begun threatening this key factor of the Redanian economy. Redania stands in a long tradition of war with Temeria, however, the two kingdoms have grown closer during the reign of Radovid.

Key cities

The Free City of Novigrad Although geographically part of Redania, the city of Novigrad is not ruled by Radovid but rather self-governed. She has by trade become the richest city of the north, a success due largely to her haven - one of the greatest on the entire continent.

The Church of the Eternal Fire has an influence greater than anywhere else in the Free City, its greatest temple towers over the city atop a sheer cliff. Hence it is an unfortunate truth that nowhere else can such animosity towards non-humans be found, and witch-hunts are a gruesome factor of life in Novigrad.

Officially, the Free City is governed by a city council, but in fact all real power rests in the hands of four criminal organizations:

- Whoreson Junior’s gang, involved in gambling and brothels and the like. They are, as a rule, despised even by their peers.
- Sigi Reuven’s gang, lead by the former redanian agent Sigismund Dijkstra, mostly lurks in the shadows of the town. How exactly they make ends meet is unknown, however the assumption that it is connected to clandestine activities of some sort is quite obvious.
- The inhabitants of the secret street aptly named “the Putrid Grove” led by Francis Bedlam, the “King of Beggars”. The group consists mostly of thieves and beggars who find refuge and pawn shops in their home street.

- Cleaver's gang mostly consists of dwarves, quite sensibly, as Cleaver himself is a dwarf. It specializes on thuggery of all kinds and practically amounts to a small army.

Oxenfurt A small town by comparison, with its centre situated on an island in the Pontar. It is well renowned for it's academy which supports the natural sciences and almost entirely fills the cities centre, either directly with its large campus, or indirectly with pubs and similar establishments frequented by students and teachers alike. The town was built upon the ruins of an elven settlement, however, the ancient brickwork can nowadays only be admired by anyone unfortunate enough to find their way into the sewers.

Tretogor The capital city of Redania, known mostly for the annual horse race, the "Grand Tretorian," held here.

1.2.6 Temeria

Temeria lies south of the Pontar and west of Aedirn. To her west lie the smaller realms of Cidaris and Verden, as well as the ancient forest of Brokilon. The Temerian army defeated the recent Nilfgaardian invasion and King Foltest used this success and the chaos left behind by the war to expand his influence over the mountains of Mahakam and the southern regions of Sodden and Brugge.

Key cities

Gors Velen The city lies in a natural bay by the ocean, a little south of the Pontar. Thanks to it's location, Gors Velen is an importand northern trade centre, second only to The Free City of Novigrad. Considering the spot is a good one to put a city, it is hardly surprising that Gors Velen, too, is built upon the ruins of an older Elven city.

Vizima The capital city of Temeria lies beside the beautiful Lake Vizima. It is the meeting-point of many important trade routes and holds within it's walls the Royal Palace of the Temerian Dynasty.

1.2.7 Toussaint

Toussaint appears as an idyllic region right out of a wondertale: Mild climes, blue waters and volcanic rock make the duchy the source of the continent's finest wines. It is a vassal of Nilfgaard, but largely autonomous and gouverned in most matters by the duchess Anna Henrietta. Traditions of chivalric virtue are held in high esteem by the Toussaintese, and the executive arm of gouvernement consists almost entirely of Knights-errant, bound by honour rather than pay. The duchy was also the location in which, during the conjecture of spheres, the gate to the world of vampires opened.

Key cities

Beauclair ...

2 Character creation

In this chapter, the impact of the characters race on stats and gameplay will be described. A short and intentionally vague paragraph on starting equipment is also included after each “class”. These are only suggestions and not meant to be exhaustive, anyone playing this plugin is likely to know the franchise well enough to figure out for themselves what is reasonable equipment.

2.1 Race

A character’s race has little influence over their stats, instead, the chief effect it has is a social one: Humans, particularly in the North, pursue and dislike any of the other races, though the extremity varies from area to area. An elf may be well-advised to cover his ears when taking a stroll around Novigrad, whereas a human will be in deep trouble when trespassing into Brokilon. Discrimination needn’t be limited to open hostility, however: A cunning narrator will perhaps charge a dwarf double when he tries to shop in human territory.

2.1.1 Elves

Elves appear somewhat feminine regardless of gender, their ears are pointed and they seldom wear beards. They have a knack for plants and animals, and are rarely seen in metal armor.

Elves gain one additional attribute point in REF, as well as a bonus success to perception.

2.1.2 Dopplers

Dopplers live a dangerous life: Should they be found out, most would burn them at the stake or try to exploit them in criminal endeavours. They can take the shape of any humanoid creature¹ they have seen before, which not only makes them look practically identical but also allows the doppler to use some of their skills. Any permanent markings on the body, such as scars or tattoos, will be present in any form the doppler takes. The doppler may not change his shape while touching silver, and cannot create silver accessories. Clothes and the like can be manifested, but turn into unsightly lumps of flesh when

¹Whose size is not too different to their own, roughly from 80cm to 280cm

out of contact with the doppler's body.

Dopplers don't gain any points by default, but may *transform*. When transformed into another character, their effective skill points in any skill² are the average between their own and those of whoever they impersonate. They are, unless marked by some permanent feature, indistinguishable from the people they copy, but may still be found out if they behave strangely.

2.1.3 Dwarves

Dwarves are shorter than humans, but typically a bit taller than halflings. They make excellent heavy infantry, but can also be prolific craftsmen. It should also be mentioned that the world's largest bank is run by the Vivaldis, a family of dwarves.

Dwarves gain one additional attribute point in STR, one extra success in grappling and no penalty when unarmed in close combat.

2.1.4 Halflings

Halflings, as a rule, are on better terms with humans than most other races. One possible explanation for this is that they tend to live in secluded farmsteads and keep out of the way of humans while supplying them with honey, roots and other agricultural commodities.

Halflings may roll one extra die on *aim/throw*, *acrobatics* and *sleight of hand* checks, and they are immune to magic³. They must not exceed one attribute point in STR.

2.1.5 Humans

Since Cogent Roleplay assumes humans as the standard, so shall this plugin. Humans' stats are simply the default, but they will not draw any special attention to themselves in most regions. If some advice may be given, it makes for a less interesting game to pick one's character by giving them the best stats possible than by coming up with a character concept and picking skills consistent with that concept.

2.2 Professions

Naturally, the typical professions found in most fantasy settings can be applied here, too; it is advised, however, to talk over specifics with the narrator, as social positions might

²Explicitly not in attributes

³This includes hypnosis and the like. Magic can still harm them, as, for example, while they cannot be magically set ablaze, their surroundings can, and they are not immune to heat. Nor large rocks, for that matter.

be and organizations will be unique to this world. Since this document should allow even those with no prior experience of The Witcher at least to participate in a campaign, some of the less obvious professions are listed here.

2.2.1 Havekar

Smugglers who sell arms to the Scoia'tael, some out of sympathy but most out of greed. They are scarcely less hated than the ones they supply, and slightly named Hawkers by their enemies. Their equipment need not differ greatly⁴ from that of other men of similar wealth, which, in turn, could reasonably range from 3 to 5.

2.2.2 Scoia'tael

Guerrilla fighters in league with Nilfgaard, they joined the second northern war to fight for a free country of non-humans. They are mostly elves and dwarves, but some halflings have also joined the ranks. Even now, in times of peace, they continue to harass the unwary, turning more and more into terrorists. Men call them Squirrels and pay good money for their heads. High-ranking Scoia'tael are likely to wield a Gwyhir, but light armour, sword and bow are likely part of any Guerrilla's equipment. They should not start out with wealth above the equivalent of two commerce points.

2.2.3 Knight-errant

...

2.3 Witchers

Since being a Witcher determines both one's profession and genetic makeup, they will be treated separately from all other types of character. Quite appropriately, when you think about it.

Witchers, similarly to non-humans, suffer distrust and harassment in most places, especially cities far removed from the monsters Witchers were made to combat. They are generally tolerated, however, much in the way that whalers are: They're nasty, unrefined, and they stink, but their jobs have to be done by someone. It is also commonly accepted that the mutations Witchers undergo rob them of any emotions. Their eyes are like those of a cat, and by this, they can be told from regular humans, if the two swords did not already give the game away.

⁴Or even at all

Witchers gain one additional attribute point to be spent on either STR or REF. Their vocation is *Witcher*⁵, and they must put at least two skill points into this vocation, as well as one skill point each into proficiency with longsword and signs. Witchers needn't make any dice rolls to determine their compatibility with Witcher potions.

Starting wealth will typically range from 1 to 3. The Witcher will likely be equipped with light or medium armor, a steel and a silver longsword and perhaps one or two potions.

2.3.1 Witcher schools

In the hay-day of witcherdom, several schools for training the next generation of witches were strewn across the land. These days, however, their fortresses lie are ruined and desolate, the once-great schools reduced to a handful of vagabonds and the secrets of the mutations all but forgotten. Still the roving witches are associated with their respective schools by the shape of their medallions, a stylized head of the animal that gave the school its name.

School of the Bear: The first school to split off from the more ancient Order of Witchers established their base in the Amell Mountains by Cintra. After failing to rid the area of a cabal of vampires, the local villager's frustration boiled over and the witches, feeling no great loyalty to their school or each other, dissolved the school and abandoned the fortress. It is supposed that some of the former bears still rest there from time to time, though the castle has long lain in ruin.

School of the Cat: After an internal conflict which destroyed their castle in the south, the rag-tag leftovers formed into the Dyn Marv Caravan and embraced nomadship. They hired themselves out to anyone for any job, so long as the pay was good. Like the Wolves, they were betrayed and nearly destroyed by king Radowit II. in an attempt to secure his power.

School of the Griffin: The School of the Griffin most closely retains the code of the ancient Order of Witchers that predated all the schools: Alongside swordcraft and alchemy, young Griffins are educated in etiquette. Their castle was Kaer Seren in Kovir, but it was badly damaged in a feud with envious mages who summoned a landslide in the mountains above it. Griffins, unlike all other witches, are not averse to slaying dragons.

School of the Viper: The Vipers split from the School of the Bear soon after its foundation and moved south, into Nilfgaard. They accepted contracts on humans as well as monsters, though their purpose was another: to defeat the Wild Hunt. When they refused to enter the service of the Usurper, he ordered his armies to destroy their keep, scattering

⁵This vocation can be used to assist in most perception checks, as it includes the Witchers' senses. It also includes herboire, knowledge about monsters and all things part of the profession

the students. They have since been banned from entering any city large enough to control this edict.

School of the Wolf: Once occupying the fortress of Kaer Morhen in the The Blue Mountains, the Wolves fell victim to a pogrom roused by mages and priests that destroyed their home and their order. Now the keep only serves as a place for the last remnants of the school to winter.

3 Magic system

3.1 Witcher signs

A Witcher may cast these signs as long as he has at least one free hand. If he casts one of these signs in combat, their base modifier is +0D6.

3.1.1 Aard

The character issues a shockwave from their hand. Can replace strength checks (use two thirds of successes).

In combat: Cannot damage opponents, but only *stagger*, *disarm* or *trip*. Add 2 successes.

3.1.2 Axii

Mild form of hypnosis. May be used to assist in persuasion, deception or any other skill attempting to influence someone's mind. Some monsters and most mages are immune to such manipulation.

In combat: Detract victory level over victim from victim's successes next turn. If the victim's successes thereby become negative, they are doubled to assault their partners (if any).

3.1.3 Igni

The character issues small amounts of flame from their hand. Can be used to light fires, candles etc.

In combat: +1D6 in close combat. The player may choose to blind the opponent if he achieves a victory level of 3 or higher.

3.1.4 Quen

The character draws up a shield around themselves. This protects them from fire as well as small objects, such threats as falling trees, for example, are not averted by Quen. The shield fits one character for every 2 successes rolled.

In combat: Purely defensive round, but the successes are doubled.

3.1.5 Yrden

The character sets up a magical trap in a circle 1 or 7 feet in diameter. They must be able to physically reach the perimeter to do this. Only one such trap may be active at any one time.

Small circle: The first opponent to step into the circle is immobilized for one turn of combat for every success above 3.

Large circle (CL4): Every opponent within the circle rolls one fewer die on every roll. Spectres may be harmed by any weapon while within a trap set by Yrden.

In combat: Setting up a small circle takes one turn of combat, the large circle takes three.

3.2 Witcher potions

The potions' effects typically last about 8 hours.

If any non-Witcher tries taking a Witcher potion, they must make a destiny roll. If this roll is an eight or worse, they are poisoned by the potion, the severity ranging from day-long nausea to incapacitation and serious risk of death, unless medical action is taken. If the result ranges from nine to twelve, the character drinking the potion throws it up but suffers no long-term damage from it. If the result is thirteen or higher, the potion develops its effect partially or fully.

A Witcher attempting to consume more than 3 potions in 36 hours is treated like any non-Witcher for every potion he drinks after his third.

Penalties for repeated incompatability may be issued as seems fit.

Rarity of ingredients: The rarity of ingredients determines the challenge level on a survival check on finding them in the wild¹. It should also inform the availability and cost when attempting to purchase them.

3.2.1 Black blood

Turns the consumers blood into a lethal poison. Any creature drinking it while the effect lasts immediately receives poisoning equivalent to a level 4 injury.

Rarity of ingredients: 3

¹Though, of course, depending on one's surroundings, penalties or boni may be issued

3.2.2 Cat

Negates all penalties to perception checks caused by darkness.

Rarity of ingredients: 2

3.2.3 Swallow

Immediately heals all level 1 injuries. Over time reduces the injury levels of all injuries by up to 2.

Rarity of ingredients: 4

3.2.4 Thunderbolt

Grants one extra die for each combat roll, but negates boni for defensive actions.

Rarity of ingredients: 4

3.2.5 White honey

Cancels the effects of all other potions and removes any poisoning caused by potions.

Rarity of ingredients: 3

3.3 Runes

Weapons and armor may be inlaid with runes by some skilfull craftsmen. These provide minor boni.

4 Special items

4.1 Weapons

These are some particular weapons which, technically, fall into one of the categories of the Cogent rule book, but receive superior stats to reflect their renown within the world.

Gwyhir: Forged by cunning gnomes in the deep smithies of Mount Carbon, These swords are widely considered the best to be bought for money.

+3D6, reduces an opponent's armor by 3.

5 Detailed currencies

Since haggling can be quite fun, and makes much more sense when playing with actual numbers than with commerce points¹, here is a proposal for a more detailed financial system. To make it more realistic (and true to the games), different nations will use different coinage, so travel may well include some measure of exchanging one currency to another. For the player's convenience, the narrator may simply pick the coinage they like best and pretend it were universal.

Since there is already some level of complexity within each currency, it may be most convenient to simply split one's wealth into copper, silver and gold coins as is usual elsewhere and keep in mind the conversions between the metals. If one currency is to be converted to another, different rates may be applied to different metals, so one should not simply add a silver coin if one has gained the appropriate number of coppers - an actual exchange is needed. Additionally, coins have weight. The narrator may apply penalties for carrying too many coins, so higher denominations can be important if large purchases are to be made.

I want to be very clear about the fact that the coins listed below were, aside from the three well-known ones, invented or at least introduced to the world of the Witcher by me. They are not canon and may, in some cases, even conflict with the canon, but I have taken the liberty to create systems of coinage which I find at least credible both within the context of the Witcher and without it. My hope is that asking for two trees will be more immersive than asking for twenty copper-pieces, and also that the handful of names necessary to play in one location are not too many to remember.

5.1 Temerian coinage

The most well-known Temerian coin is doubtlessly the crown. Making this the *only* Temerian coin, however, would be blatantly ignorant of actual systems of currency as well as simple practicality. Here, then, is the full system:

- **Studs:** Small copper coins, named in times long past after the studs on the crown of Temeria. Their original name no one now recalls. Four studs will buy a hot meal or a bed in an inn for a night.

¹Raising the reward for taking care of some monster from the price of a sword to the price of a house, for instance, is rather unrealistic

- **Trees:** Large copper coins, named after the large tree-shapes on the crown of Temeria. Trees are the value and weight of ten studs.
- **Crowns:** Small silver coins, valued at 60 studs. A crown's worth of studs weighs precisely half a Temerian pound. Expensive swords may cost around one crown, perhaps more if made by renowned craftsmen or decorated lavishly.
- **Towers:** Silver coins the weight and value of 24 crowns, named for the depiction of Vizima's chief gate impressed on them, on which a tower features prominently.
- **Royal crowns:** Small gold coins, valued at 120 crowns. Officially, they are called eagles, but since for a long time only nobility dealt in large enough sums to need these, they were commonly called 'Nobleman's crowns', 'King's crowns' or 'royal crowns'. The latter name stuck.

5.2 Redanian coinage

What the crown is for Temeria, the oren is for Redania. For the reasons explained above, here is a more detailed set of denominations.

- **Pennies:** Small copper coins, of similar value to the Temerian studs².
- **Guinnies:** Medium sized copper coins. They are the exact weight and value of 12 pennies.
- **Hierarchs:** Large copper coins, first commissioned by a hierach of Novigrad to be the precise weight and value of 36 pence.
- **Orens:** Medium sized silver coins, valued at 240 pence. An oren's worth of pennies weighs precisely one Redanian pound.
- **Barges:** Small gold coin with an impression of a trade ship, commissioned by the Novigrad city council to celebrate their new-found wealth soon after the city gained independence. A barge is valued at 24 orens.

5.3 Nilfgaardian coinage

The 'Nilfgaardian crown' is the floren. Below is a list of further coins.

- **Silans:** Very small copper coins of about half the weight and purchasing power of the Temerian stud.
- **Deniers:** Small copper coins. They are the exact weight and value of 4 Silans.

²Conversion rates may differ and change, of course

- **Petalens:** Large copper coins. They are the exact weight and value of 100 Silans.
- **Florens:** Medium sized silver coins, valued at 500 Silans. A Floren's worth of Silans weighs precisely 500 Nilfgaardian grams.
- **Usurper's gold:** Very small gold coins with an impression of the Usurper's face. Valued at 20 Florens.
- **Suns:** Small gold coins, valued at 50 Florens.

6 Additional combat modifiers

Positive

Name	Effect
------	--------

Negative

Name	Effect
Blindness	-4D6, Destiny roll to determine target of attack

7 Bestiary

In this chapter will be listed some of the typical monsters one might face in the world of The Witcher. Stats are, once again, only suggestions

7.1 Beasts

While not magical in the ordinary sense of the word, these wild animals pose a serious threat to any wanderer foolish enough to disturb them.

7.1.1 Bears

Large heaps of muscle and fur. Any wounds ordinary weapons can inflict are likely only to make them more irate still.

Stats: 4-6 STR, 0-1 REF, 0-1 Claw'n'Maw (proficiency)

7.1.2 Wargs

The larger, stronger, nastier cousins of wolves. It is said they delight in evil and cruelty, though scholars are dubious on this point. It is generally agreed, however, that wargs tend to lead packs of their lesser kin instead of banding together themselves.

Stats: 1-2 STR, 0-2 REF, 1-2 Claw'n'Maw (proficiency)

7.1.3 Wolves

Slender, but strong, and silent until they attack. A single wolf should not pose a great threat to a determined man¹ with a sword, but they tend to come in packs.

Stats: 0-1 STR, 0-2 REF, 0-1 Claw'n'Maw (proficiency)

7.2 Humanoids

These are the various monsters of human shape prowling the world.

¹Or a woman, for that matter

7.2.1 Harpies

Roughly Halfling-sized, feathered creatures, chiefly found in areas with rough cliffs.

Stats: (-1)-0 STR, 1-2 REF, 0-1 Claw'n'Maw (proficiency)

Abilities

Fly The creature can fly for several minutes or even hours at a time. While flying, any melee attack gains *charge*, however, it takes at least one turn of combat to circle around for the next swoop. If any injury is inflicted upon a flying creature, it is staggered or tripped, it will fall for at least one turn of combat. If it reaches the ground in that time, it will take damage as appropriate, but certainly receive the *prone* combat-modifier. To take off, the creature must not receive any damage or attack for one turn of combat, this may be attempted in a defensive action.

7.3 Necrophages

Here are listed the manifold corpse-eaters plaguing the war-torn areas of the North. Wherever there are corpses unburied, one can be sure to come across a handful of these truly unsanitary creatures.

7.3.1 Rotfiends

Of humanoid shape, but with pale, sickly yellow-ish skin and thick, protruding, deeply red veins. Like with most necrophages, their stench precedes them. When terminally wounded, they are prone to explode spectacularly. This is their true danger, since their blood is poisonous.

Injuries dealt by non-silver weapons are halved.

Stats: 0-1 STR, 0-1 REF, 0-1 Strangle (proficiency)

Abilities

Self-detonation (Rotfiends) The rotfiend begins to swell and wriggle. After one turn of combat, any combattant standing next to the creature without cover receives an injury (greater the closer) and is poisoned. If they are not treated within a day, grave illness and even death may ensue. This ability is always triggered once the injuries dealt to the Rotfiend reduce its combat roll to a third of its original or if it receives a level 4 injury.

7.4 Spectres

This section contains all those incorporeal beings whose origins can be found in the deceased. They cannot be harmed unless by silver weapons or specialized magic. The weaker ones can be dispelled by silver, but those with uncut ties to the world of the living may simply reappear the next day if defeated.

7.4.1 Noonwraiths

Usually the restless souls of those who came to a violent end in the fields by day. They scorch the earth around them and can become quite dazzlingly bright. Since they are scalding hot, every turn in close combat results in a minor injury.

Stats: 1-2 REF, 0-1 STR, 1-2 Wraith's wrath (proficiency, used in ability-rolls)

Abilities

Blinding All combattants (with vision) within sight must roll a REF-check, CL2. Every level they fail their check by results in one turn of blindness. If the CL is met exactly, the shielding of one's eyes results in a penalty of -1D6 for this turn. If the CL is exceeded, no adverse effects occur.

Restoration (Spectres) The spectre turns to fog or smoke and creates a number of copies in the near vicinity. These copies are harmless and can be immediately defeated by any victory level, but for any n copies alive at the end of one round of combat, the spectre may heal one even n injury. The copies roll half the original's dice, but penalties to the original do not apply. The original is forced to reappear once the last copy is taken out.

7.4.2 Nightwraiths

Usually the restless souls of those who came to a violent end in the fields by night. They freeze the grass around them and can emit fearsomely frosty fog. Since they are deadly cold, every turn in close combat results in a minor injury.

Stats: 1-2 REF, 0-1 STR, 1-2 Wraith's wrath (proficiency, used in ability-rolls)

Abilities

Freezing Fog The user throws a cloud of fog and tiny ice-shards in every direction. Every combattant with exposed skin takes level one injuries according to the amount of skin in contact with the attack. If players want to dive for cover, that counts as a defensive action and is pitted against the user's roll.

Restoration (Spectres) The spectre turns to fog or smoke and creates a number of copies in the near vicinity. These copies are harmless and can be immediately defeated by any victory level, but for any n copies alive at the end of one round of combat, the spectre may heal one less than n injury. The copies roll half the original's dice, but penalties to the original do not apply. The original is forced to reappear once the last copy is taken out.

8 List of abilities

Blinding All combattants (with vision) within sight must roll a REF-check, CL2. Every level they fail their check by results in one turn of blindness. If the CL is met exactly, the shielding of one's eyes results in a penalty of -1D6 for this turn. If the CL is exceeded, no adverse effects occur.

Fly The creature can fly for several minutes or even hours at a time. While flying, any melee attack gains *charge*, however, it takes at least one turn of combat to circle around for the next swoop. If any injury is inflicted upon a flying creature, it is staggered or tripped, it will fall for at least one turn of combat. If it reaches the ground in that time, it will take damage as appropriate, but certainly receive the *prone* combat-modifier. To take off, the creature must not receive any damage or attack for one turn of combat, this may be attempted in a defensive action.

Freezing Fog The user throws a cloud of fog and tiny ice-shards in every direction. Every combattant with exposed skin takes level one injuries according to the amount of skin in contact with the attack. If players want to dive for cover, that counts as a defensive action and is pitted against the user's roll.

Restoration (Spectres) The spectre turns to fog or smoke and creates a number of copies in the near vicinity. These copies are harmless and can be immediately defeated by any victory level, but for any n copies alive at the end of one round of combat, the spectre may heal one to n injury. The copies roll half the original's dice, but penalties to the original do not apply. The original is forced to reappear once the last copy is taken out.

Self-detonation (Rotfiends) The rotfiend begins to swell and wriggle. After one turn of combat, any combattant standing next to the creature without cover receives an injury (greater the closer) and is poisoned. If they are not treated within a day, grave illness and even death may ensue. This ability is always triggered once the injuries dealt to the Rotfiend reduce its combat roll to a third of its original or if it receives a level 4 injury.