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# INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE

Uprising: Curse of the Last Emperor is a fully cooperative, strategically challenging and deeply immersive experience for 1-4 Players.

The game takes place on the Isles of Azuhl - a backwater of the known world and one of the last remaining pockets of civilization.

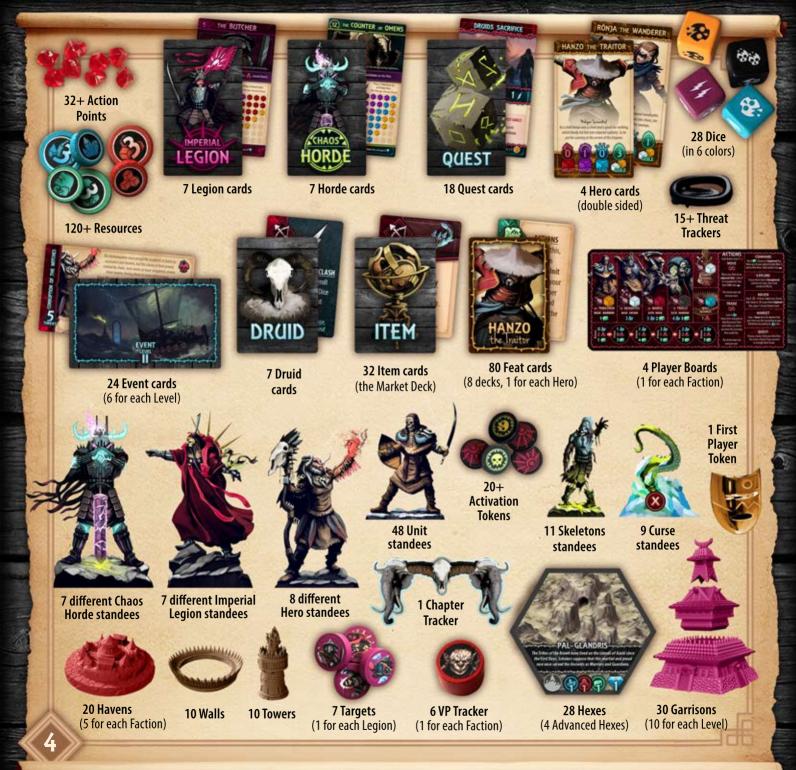
You take on the leadership of a formerly enslaved Faction - the fierce Khrow, the unbending Duerkhar, the mysterious Druwhn, and the vengeful Mohyar - and lead their Uprising against the broken remnants of The Empire. But beware - beyond the frozen seas lurks a far greater danger: the Hordes of Chaos, driven by an insatiable hunger, are on their Way to Azuhl. Both will fight you, and fight each other if they can!

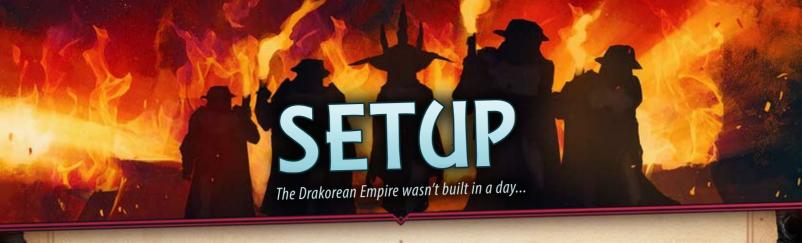
Over the course of multiple Chapters every Faction collects VP: Victory Points. The Empire and Chaos also collect VP, and their actions are controlled by the players, and the Game itself. When any Faction gain VP, move their VP Tracker around the Map.

The goal of the game is for all players, individually, to have more VP than The Empire and Chaos at the end.

You can gain VP by defeating the armies of The Empire and Chaos in Combat, providing shelter to the survivors by building Havens, or solving Quests. At the end of the game, if each player has more VP than both Chaos and The Empire, you all win together.







## THE MAP AND THE RESERVE

The game is played on the Map. Any pieces that are not on the Map or in play are in the reserve (for example Units on the Player Board). If an effect Removes a component from the game, put it back into the box. All components are limited to the number included in the box.

#### PREPARE YOUR PLAYER AREA

Your Player Board (1) is where you track your economy and the Actions you take. When you spend Resources, return them to the reserve. When you spend an AP: Action Point (2), place it on the Action (3) you took.

- Each Player decides on a Faction and takes the Player Board (1), Units (4), and Home Hex (5).
- Flip the Hero Card (6) to the Hero you want, and take its standee (7), and feat deck (8).
- From your feat deck place the feats marked "Start" (9) next to your Hero card. Shuffle your remaining Feats.
- Place your Havens (10) on your Player board, covering the Resource Production spots (11).
- Gain 5 Salt (12), 5 Plunder (13), and 5 Food (14).
- Take 8 Action Points (2) and your VP Tracker (15).









# BUILD THE MAP

- Put the three Boards (1,2 & 3) as shown above in the middle of the table. If your table isn't big enough, you can decide to leave out the two side boards (2 & 3) and organize the cards and tokens freely on your table.
- See Page 7 for the setup diagram for 1,2,3 or 4 players.
- Place the Capital Hex face-up in the middle of the Map.
- Place the Home Hex of the Player Factions on the indicated spaces on page 7, face-up.
- Place 1 random Sea Tower Hex on the indicated spaces on page 7, face-down.
- Randomly place the other Hex tiles as shown (darker hexes), face down, removing any Advanced Hexes for your first games. Return the extra Hexes to the box.

- For **Easy Difficulty** only place 3 Garrisons on The Capital.
- For **Normal Difficulty** place 3 Garrisons on The Capital and 1 Garrison on 3 adjacent Hexes. Place 1 Curse on the indicated Hexes on page 7.
- Place 1 Skeleton on the indicated Hexes on page 7.
- Place your Hero Standee, and 1 Haven (from the leftmost space on your Player Board), on your Home Hex.
- Shuffle the Druids then deal one for each Chapter, face down, on the indicated spaces the Map (4).
- Place the VP Trackers of The Empire (5), Chaos (6) and all Player Factions (7) on zero on the VP Track (8).





- Shuffle the Item Cards to make the Market Deck and place it face down on the map (1).
- Shuffle the Quest Deck and place it face down on the map (2).
- Deal 5 Horde and 5 Legion cards for a 2 player game. Add 1 Horde and 1 Legion for each additional Player, and place them face down on the Map (3 & 4). Place the Legion and Horde standees (5) and Targets (6) next to their decks.
- Place face down 1 Level | Event on Chapter 1 (7), 1 Level | Event on Chapter 2 (8), 1 Level | Event on Chapter 3 (9), 1 Level | Event on Chapter 4 (10).

# • Place the dice in a bowl or tray (11). Hint: You will spend

- Place the dice in a bowl or tray (11). Hint: You will spend a lot of time looking for them if you don't put them back after every roll!
- Place the Resources (12), Activation Tokens (13), Threat Trackers (14), Skeletons (15), Curses (16) and Garrisons (17) in the included inlays, next to the board.
- Take a look at the Player Aid. It has most of the rules you might overlook or need help with!
- Give one Player the First Player Token (18). Play passes to the left.
- Start the game by placing the Chapter Tracker (19) on the Chapter Track and resolve each step one by one.

## GAME LENGTH AND DIFFICULTY

Uprising can be challenging - therefore game length and difficulty can easily be adjusted to players' wishes.

Each Chapter features one Event. And each Event has an Event Level: I, II, III or IV, that represent increasing challenges for the players.

If you want a longer or shorter game, you may add or subtract Chapters. New players should play two Chapters, with a Level I and Level II Event in their very first game.



# APOCALYPTIC DIFFICULTY

For the biggest challenge, there are a number of Hexes and Cards (Events, Items, Quests, Legions of the Empire or Hordes of Chaos) that significantly increase the level of complexity and difficulty.

All these cards are marked with this Symbol: . We recommend new players not include these cards in the first few games. In later games, add some or all of these cards and Hexes, as you like.



# SUGGESTED GAME LENGTHS AND D

Number of Players	Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4
First Game	I	II		
1-2 Players	I	II	III	IV
3-4 Players	I	II or III	III or IV	IV



As the Hordes of Chaos lay waste around them, the lands become Cursed, forever destroyed.

#### CHAPTERS AND PHASES

A Game of Uprising can last from two to four game turns, called Chapters. Each **Chapter** is divided into seven **Phases** in which you will resolve unique Events, upgrade your Hero and Faction, build armies and fight epic battles. Use the Chapter Track on the side of the Map to keep track of where you are in the Chapter.

## **FACTIONS AND UNITS**

At the start of each game the players will choose a Faction. The different Factions all have different Units and Heros. Your bands of fighters are represented by standees, called Units, each with their individual powers shown on your Faction's Player Board. The Empire and Chaos also have Units: Legion and Horde standees that match their cards from their decks; Garrison miniatures that stack together; and Skeleton standees.

#### **HEROS**

Each Faction comes with two iconic Heros: pick the side of the Hero Card you like best, and use the matching standee. Your Hero is your avatar through which you will take all your actions in the game. A Hero has Attributes (Might, Magic, Leadership, Guile) which give Hero Dice for Quests. Each Chapter you will gain Feats from your Hero's Feat Deck to increase your power, and you can gain Items as well.

#### **ACTIONS**

The Actions of the game are performed by your Hero.

Heros use AP , or Action Points, 8 per Chapter.

Every Action costs 1 AP. First your Hero may Move any number of Hexes for 1 AP each (including no Hexes

If you like where you are). Heros in the same Hex may also Trade Resources and Items. Then your Hero may take one additional Action: Explore (to flip an unrevealed Hex); Command (to bring Units into this Hex); Haven (to build a shelter for the survivors and gain control over a Hex); Market (to buy an Item); and Quest (to go on an adventure). You MUST spend at least 1 AP on your turn.

# HEXES, HAVENS AND RESOURCES

They form a modular board, which will be different each game. You start the Game with your first **Haven** in your **Home Hex**. From there you will explore the Hexes around you, eliminating Enemy Units to place your Havens to provide shelter for the survivors. Hexes with Havens are also the primary source of the Resources that are generated in the game: **Salt**, the primary trade good of the end times; **Plunder**, to build defenses and warm your people; and **Food**, to recruit and move your Units.

## **NEMESIS: THE EMPIRE AND CHAOS**

Your enemies in the game are **Chaos** and **The Empire** - collectively called the **Nemesis**. Those two Factions are controlled by the players and the game itself. They are enemies of each other as well and will begin Combat with each other if they are in the same Hex.

The most dangerous Units of The Empire are their **Legions** and for Chaos their **Hordes**. They are represented on the

map by their unique standees, but what makes them most distinct from Player Units is their **Threat**. This number tells you which dice they roll and how much Damage they can take. Threat is tracked by a clip, called Threat Tracker, which slides up and down on the side of a Legion or Horde card.

Legions will deploy from **The Capital** (the last province of the broken Empire, in the middle of the map) and move towards the players' Havens to root out the rebellion with their Warlocks, Lizard Riders and dreaded Orgons.

The Hordes of Chaos (made of ghosts, skeletons, zombies, and monsters) emerge from the devastation beyond the lee Wastes surrounding the board to destroy the last vestiges of civilization and claim the world for their own.

#### COMBAT

Whenever your Units are in the same Hex with Enemy Units (Empire or Chaos), or The Empire and Chaos meet in a Hex, Combat occurs. Combat lasts until all Units of one side are Destroyed. Each Unit contributes their Dice. These come in six different colors, with different symbols on each:

- A **Skull** Destroys 1 Unit.
- A **Shield W** cancels 1 Skull.
- A **Bolt ≠** cancels a 1 Shield, or activates a **Godpower**.

Heros don't provide Dice in Combat, and are not Units.
But the presence of your Hero in Combat is still important, as many Feats and Items can only be used if your Hero is in the Hex with a Combat.

# HEROS AND HERO DICE

Your Hero represents you as the leader of your Faction, and is the way you take actions in Azuhl. Some Actions a Hero takes affect the Hex they are on, such as Explore and Haven; while some can be used anywhere, such as Market and Quest.

Heros don't provide Dice in Combat, and are not Units. But the presence of your Hero in Combat is still important, as many Feats and Items can only be used if your Hero is in the Hex with a Combat.

Your Hero CAN cross Impassable Terrain A , unlike Units. Like Units, your Hero can be moved with the Command Action too.

## ATTRIBUTES AND HERO DICE

Heros have **Attributes** which are important for Quests, rolls outside of combat, and Using Items:



**Might** is your ability to withstand hardship and conquer by force.



Magic affects your ability to manipulate the map and cards.



**Leadership** is your ability to inspire loyalty among the survivors.



**Guile** is your cunning and trickiness, improving your movement and profits.

## ROLLING YOUR HERO DICE

During a Quest or any other **rolls outside of Combat**, the number of each Attribute indicates how many dice of the respective color you may roll. **Guile** lets you choose **either White or Yellow** for each number.

**EXAMPLE:** Hanzo is asked to roll his Hero Dice. Because he has 1 Magic (1), he rolls 1 Purple die (2), and because he has 3 Guile (3) he chooses 3 dice from Yellow or White. He decides to roll 2 Yellow (4) and 1 White (5) with his Purple die.



# FEATS AND ITEMS

Feats are a range of powerful abilities your Hero gains, typically once per Chapter on the Build Phase. Each Hero comes with their own deck of Feats. 2 of them are marked START - you begin play with these.

# **BUYING AND USING ITEMS**

Items are always available on the Market, and can be bought during the Actions
Phase. In order to Buy an Item from the Market, or receive an Item from another
Hero during the Trade Action, your Hero must be able to Use it. This means having at least the Attribute number

printed on the Hero card. If an effect says "Gain an Item, even if you could not Use it", ignore this rule.

## **GENERAL RULES FOR FEATS & ITEMS**

- Your Hero has a 10-Card Limit for Feats and Items. If you
  would exceed the 10-Card Limit by gaining a new one, you
  may always discard any Feat or Item, even the one you just
  gained.
- Whenever a card's rules **breaks** the rules in this book, follow the card instead.
- Some cards must be **Flipped** to be used they are unavailable until the next Refresh Phase.

- Some cards say "on your Hero's Hex." The effect can only affect the Hex that your Hero is on.
- **Discarded Feats** are placed at the bottom of their decks.
- **Discarded Items** are placed in the discard pile next to the Market.
- Immediate effects on cards happen as soon as you gain them, only once.
- An item that is immediately discarded never counts against your 10-Card Limit.
- If a card says **ALWAYS** it can be used in any Phase. If a card says anything else (ACTIONS, for instance), it can only be used during that Phase when it is your turn.
- You can use **multiple** Feats and Items at the same time. They do not count as Actions.

Feats and Items that affect Combat can only be used during Combat with YOUR Units.



# **HEXES AND REGIONS**

Hexes represent the distant Islands of Azuhl, now bound together by the inhospitable frozen sea, known as the Ice Wastes.

Most Hexes begin the game **Unexplored** (face down), except for the Imperial Capital and the Player Home Hexes. Player Units cannot be Commanded or Placed onto an Unexplored Hex, but Heros and all Legions, Hordes, Garrisons and Skeletons can enter them. Players can use the Explore action to flip Hexes face up.

There is a piece limit for each Hex:

- 5 Player Units (of 1 Faction)
- 1 Haven, 1 Wall and 1 Tower (on a Haven only)
- 3 Garrisons
- 2 Skeletons (a third Skeleton becomes a Horde)
- 1 Curse

Some effects reference an Empty Hex. This is a Hex that has no Havens, Units or Curses, but could contain a Hero.

#### **REGIONS**

Once trade galleys plied the seas, bringing news and spices from afar. Now the cracking ice brings only death.

Howling White, Fog Grave, and Screaming Sea are the three Regions surrounding the map. The Hexes of the Regions are already Explored, and can be moved through normally, but the indicates you can never place a Haven in one. Any effect that names a Region can affect any of the Hexes in it. Any Region spaces covered by another Hex tile are not part of the Region.

- (1) Hex effect. Read this when you Explore (flip) the Hex. Make any decisions or rolls required. Often those effects Reinforce, or Place Skeletons or Garrisons you can find more on Placing and Reinforcing on page 50.
- (2) Terrains have a strong effect in Combat (see page 42). Terrain is not active if the Hex is unexplored (unflipped), and Cursed Hexes lose any other Terrain type.
- (3) Resources show what the Hex produces on the Production Phase if you have a Haven there (in addition to your production from the number of Havens).
- (4) Impassable Terrain represents mountains, deep swamps, canyons, and other rugged features. Units (Player Units, Skeletons, Hordes and Legions) cannot cross Impassable Terrain, but Heros can.
- **(5) VP** show extra VP you gain on the Scoring Phase if you have a Haven there (in addition to your VP from Havens).
- (6) indicates a Hex that CANNOT gain a Haven.
- (7) Ongoing effects (such as on a Sea Tower) are active as soon as the Hex is flipped.



# CHAPTERS & PHASES

Each game will be a very different story from the last, and so the story is told in Chapters.

A full game of Uprising consists of 2-4 Chapters. Each Chapter consists of **7 Phases**:

- Refresh Phase
- Events Phase
- Build Phase
- Actions Phase
- Nemesis Phase
- Production Phase
- Scoring Phase



At the end of each Chapter, if it was not the last one, start again from the Refresh Phase. The Chapter Track (on the side of the map) allows you to track the current phase and all its steps with the Chapter Tracker. It is helpful to have the player who can read and reach the Chapter Track best to champion it for the entirety of the game.

# REFRESH PHASE

Even at the end of the world, there is bookkeeping.

- Reveal a **Druid** by flipping 1 face down Druid card. The
   Druid's Godpower is now available to all Players in Combat.
- Flip all your face down cards back to face up, allowing them to be used again.
- Remove your spent Action Points from the Player Board and place them next to you.
- Deal 3 new Items (discard the old ones).
- Deal 3 new Quests (discard the old ones) and resolve any Immediate Effects on them.
- Pass the First Player Token left.

# **EVENTS PHASE**

The Events Deck represents the unfolding final days of Azuhl. The remnants of the Empire, frightened but rich, lash out. Grim hordes of undead and barbarians approach from the darkness of the Ice Wastes. And strange visitations by uncanny things breed great fear among the smallfolk.

In the Events Phase the players will populate the map with Imperial Legions and Chaos Hordes as well as other effects shown on the Event Card (1) that is revealed each Chapter.

Whenever a Horde or Legion comes into play, draw the top card of the matching deck. Place its standee on the map and set its Threat. Threat represents its fighting power and how much damage it can take (see page 45).

To set the Threat, use the Threat Tracker (2) and put it on the card at the number given by the current Event (3).

Each Legion and Horde also has an Immediate Effect (4) that occurs when it is drawn and placed. Complete all the effects written here before continuing with the Event.

THE EMPIRE STRIKES

As your scouts report, many refugees are arriving through the Nethersea Gates in Azuhl these days, among them a large number of scattered legionaries from all over the lost world.

Place 3 Legions at Threat 6 on the Capital.

Encouraged by these unexpected reinforcements, the Empire redoubles its efforts to crush the rebellion.

Place 1 Garrison on each Empty Hex with no

Activate the Legion with the highest Initiative Number (you do not need an Activation Token to Activate).

The Events Phase has the following steps:

- Add 2 Threat (by sliding the Threat Tracker up on each card) to each Legion and Horde in play. If Threat goes above their maximum, that faction gains 1 VP for each Threat missed.
- Then the First Player reveals the Event (1) for this Chapter and resolves it, reading each part aloud. Resolve each effect on the card from top to bottom. Only the First

Player makes the final decisions.

• Finally, place 1 Activation Token (5) on the card of each Legion and Horde. On the last Chapter, do this twice, so that each gets 2 Activation Tokens. An Activation Token represents how often the Legions and Hordes will move later in the game (see page 27).

If you place Activation Tokens at any other time, place it on one of the Legions or Hordes with the least Activation Tokens.



# **BUILD PHASE**

Although not as advanced as The Empire, your people are willing and resourceful, and new armies and infrastructure are constantly in production to win your freedom. Your Hero is also gaining experience...

All Players resolve this phase **simultaneously**. At the beginning of the Build Phase draw 2 Feats from your Feat Deck, then pick 1. The Feat is immediately active, so you can use it after you play it. Discard the other Feat by putting it at the bottom of the Feat Deck.

Then place any Units, Walls or Towers (see page 42) you pay for on any of your Havens. Pay the Resources listed for each Unit or Defense listed on your Player Board. Remember the **Hex Limit** of 5 Player Units, 1 Haven, 1 Tower and 1 Wall.

Unlike all other Actions listed on your Player Board, you may **ALWAYS** use the Trade Action (even on Build) to exchange 1 AP into 1 Salt.

You may ALWAYS exchange 3 of the same Resource into 1 Resource (for example, 3 Plunder into 1 Food, or 3 Food into 1 Salt) - this is not an Action and does not cost AP.

If you have no Havens, place your Hero on any explored Empty Hex and build Units there.

Hint: Build lots of your basic Units, to absorb casualties in Combat. Also make sure to save at least 1 Food and 2 Plunder, so you can attack a Hex and place a Haven.

# BUILD EXAMPLE



Yanny has 2 Havens in play, but one of them already has 5 Units (1). She decides to improve the defenses there and builds a Tower on the Haven (2), paying 1 Plunder.

On her other Haven (3) there is nothing else on the Hex, so she decides to build more Units. She places 2 Younglings (4) (which cost either 2 Salt or 2 Plunder) and a Spearsinger (5) (same choice) from the reserve there.

She decides to pay 2 Plunder for each of the Younglings and 2 Salt for the Spearsinger. In total, she spent 4 Plunder and 2 Salt for the Units and 1 Plunder for 1 Tower. If she needed to, she could have spent AP for Salt using the Trade Action, but AP are more useful to her now for taking Actions.

# ACTIONS PHASE



This is the main part of the Chapter, when Players will use their limited time to move their Heros to new lands, solve puzzles, and command their armies into battle.

During the Actions Phase, in clockwise order, players spend their Action Points (AP). This continues until all players are out of AP (1). All players start the game with 8 AP.

Every Action always costs 1 AP - some Actions also have an additional cost in Resources. You can find a short summary of each action on your Player Board together with the cost in AP and resources. They may differ for each Faction - so take a close look. When you take an Action, place 1 AP on the according box on your Player Board - this way you never lose track of what you did.

When it is your turn, you may take the Move and/or Trade Action as often as you want, and then you may take 1 other Action, You MUST take at least one of these. You cannot skip spending an AP! Then the next Player takes their turn, until everyone is out of AP.

If a Feat or Item says it can be used in ACTIONS, you can use it when it is your turn. This does not normally cost any AP.

If you have no AP you may still generate effects that do not require AP, even after you have passed. After you pass, play passes to the left. If you have passed but gain AP later, you are no longer passed.

Hint: the basic Actions you usually take at the start of Chapter 1 are, in order: 1. Move (to an unexplored Hex with Resources you want) and Explore (flipping the Hex); 2. Command your Units into that Hex to free it; 3. Haven if you have won the Combat.

Here is a closer look at each of the seven Actions:

MOVE (1 AP per Hex)

The lands around you are only rumors, and it takes a long time to march across them on foot or claw.

Place your Hero's standee on an adjacent Hex, even if it is unexplored or has Enemy Units. You may take another Move for 1 AP now, or another Action. So you could move all the way across the board and do a Quest, for instance, but it would cost you a lot of AP. Most often you will Move then take another Action.

Your Hero won't start Combat against Enemy Units without Units to fight alongside, so don't worry about Legions, Garrisons, Hordes or Skeletons. You just sneak around them. Unlike Units, Heros ignore Impassable Terrain.

The **Sea Towers** are portals to the Old Ways, magical paths used by the Empire for centuries to move their armies quickly, and are now open to you. Heros (and Player Units) on a Sea Tower are adjacent to any Hex, so if you Move from one, you may move to any Hex.

Hint: Ending a Chapter on a Sea Tower can be very advantageous.

# TRADE (1 AP per Salt, Always)

Your allies can help your tribe, if you take the time to go and parley.

Spend 1 AP to gain 1 Salt. You may take another Trade for 1 AP now, or another Action.

This Action can be taken **ALWAYS**, unlike the other Actions, which must be taken on your turn on the Action Phase, so you can use this on the Event, Build and Scoring phases too.

Heros on the same Hex during the Trade Action may also freely give or take Resources from each other, as well as any Item the receiving Hero could Use.



# MOVE EXAMPLE



Ronja wants to expand her dominion beyond

1 Haven, so she Moves onto an unexplored
Hex adjacent to her standee (1). This costs her

1 AP. She may immediately take another
Action if she wants by spending AP, but she chooses to wait and see what the other Heros do.

# TRADE\_EXAMPLE

Kha'al needs Plunder for his expensive Havens. Luckily he is close to Ronja, who agrees to help him. Kha'al Moves to her Hex for 1 AP, then begins the Trade Action for 1 AP and gains 1 Salt. Ronja then gives him 3 Plunder. Kha'al doesn't have to give anything in exchange, but he could give Ronja an Item she could use, or any Resources, if he wanted. Kha'al can now continue with his Action, or stop.

# COMMAND-EXAMPLE



Ronja explored Rigga on her last Action. She Commands by paying 1 Food and 1 AP, chooses Rigga (1) and then checks the Hexes adjacent to Rigga for her Units:

> She can move 2 Gladiators from the Home Hex (2) and 1 Berserker from the Screaming Sea (3) onto Rigga, but not the Slaver from Torment (4), because Rigga's Impassable Terrain (5) blocks it.

> > If Ronja were on an adjacent Hex, she could also be moved with the Command Action.

#### COMMAND (1 AP and 1 Food)

No matter your subterfuge, the resources of The Empire and virulence of Chaos will require your people to fight! Best is to fight them away from your home territories.

Pay 1 Food, then designate an explored Hex, then move any of your adjacent Units and/or your adjacent Hero into that Hex. This means a Hex can be Commanded into from all its neighboring Hexes. Units and Heros on a Sea Tower always count as adjacent to all Hexes.

#### Follow these restrictions:

- Players may not have more than 5 Units on a Hex.
   Supplies are scarce, and large armies are difficult for you to supply (but not for The Empire or Chaos).
- The peaks of Azuhl are deadly cold. Units may not cross Impassable Terrain, but Heros may.
- Player Units may not move onto an **Unexplored Hex**. They need a map. *Hint: the outer Ice Wastes around the map are already Explored*.
- Player Units may not move onto the Haven or Units of another Faction. Although you are cooperating, trust is still in short supply.



# EXPLORE EXAMPLE



Ronja moved onto the unexplored Empty Hex last Action. She Explores by paying 1 AP, then flips the Hex, revealing Rigga (1).

The effect (2) says "Gain 2 Food. If Empty, place 1 Garrison here; if not Reinforce here. Place 1 Garrison on an Empty Hex with no ."

She gains 2 Food immediately. Since there is no Unit on Rigga, she must place a Garrison here (3), but if there had been a Horde or Skeleton here she would have placed another Skeleton instead. Then she Places 1 Garrison, in an Empty Hex (not in Rigga, because it is no longer Empty) (4). Finally she orients Rigga's Impassable Terrain edges (5) to create a buffer against The Empire and allow her to Command through it.

# **EXPLORE** (1 AP)

Your tribes have been in hiding for so long their knowledge of their surroundings is limited at the start of the game.
The more you find, the more dangerous you learn Azuhl is...

When your Hero is on an Unexplored Hex, use the Explore Action to flip it, then read the name of the Hex and then the effects aloud. Unless stated otherwise, you make any decisions. Often the effects on a Hex will also Place or Reinforce Garrisons or Skeletons (for more details about Placing see page 50):

## If Empty, place...

means that if there are no other Units (Garrisons, Skeletons, Legions, Hordes or Players Units) then place that Unit. Note that Heros are not Units.

#### Reinforce

means that if there are Units of The Empire or Chaos here, add 1 more of the same type: A Hex with **any Garrisons or Legions** will add 1 Garrison, while a Hex with any **Skeletons or Hordes** will add 1 Skeleton. Player Units are never Reinforced.

Place 1 Activation Token on a Legion or Horde card means Place it on the Card of one of the Legions or Hordes with the least Activation Tokens.

If there is Impassable Terrain, place the Hex in any orientation you want. Only Heros can cross Impassable Terrain, but not Units.

There are many other effects on Hexes - for instance, most Hexes will give you 2 Resources when flipped. If an effect such as an Event or Item allows you to flip a Hex, the Player who flipped it gains any benefits.

Once a Hex is flipped over, it is considered Explored. **You may not Explore an Unexplored Hex with a Curse.** 

# **HAVEN** (1 AP and 2 Plunder)

The many races of Azuhl are eager for assistance against both the hated Empire and the impending invasion by the Hordes of Chaos. Building them a place of safety where their families can sleep securely will ensure their help.

Pay 2 Plunder (for most factions, but 3 for the Krowh, for instance), then place one of your Havens on a Hex. The Hex must:

- Be Explored
- Have no 
   - neither The Capital nor the outer Ice Wastes can get a Haven
- Have no Units of any other Faction
- Have no Haven (only one per Hex) or Curse

A Hex with a Haven can have Units and Defenses placed on it during Build, will generate VP, and will produce more Resources for you. You cannot have a Wall or Tower without a Haven, and if a Haven is removed, so is the Wall or Tower.

Hint: Try to build at least one Haven per Chapter.

# HAVEN EXAMPLE



Rigga has no Enemy Units or Havens, so Ronja spends 2 Plunder and 1 AP for the Haven Action, then places the leftmost Haven (1) from her Player Board onto Rigga (2). This is the third Haven she has placed.

Now she will increase her Production as shown on the Player Board (3 )by 1 more Salt and Food during the Production Phase, as well as 2 bonus Food for having that Haven on a Marsh (4).

It will also score 2 VP during the Scoring Phase, and on the Build Phase of the next Chapter she can place Units and Defenses there.



# MARKET EXAMPLE



The Market has the Whip of Thorns (1), the Flenser (2) and the Xyxrit Leaves (3):



Ronja cannot Use the Whip, because her Leadership isn't 2 or higher (4). She could Use the Flenser (5). Any Hero can Use the Xyxrit Leaves because it has no requirements except 1 Salt (6).

She spends 1 AP to take the Market Action, and turns 1 AP into 1 Salt to buy the Xyxrit Leaves. She draws a new Item and places it where the Xyxrit Leaves was on the Market.

# MARKET (1 AP and X Salt)

The Market represents the many refugees who have survived the Curse and have congregated at the Sea Towers, and even some from the Capital who do not trust Drakorea to win this conflict...

The artifacts and services offered on the Market are all called **Items**.

After taking the Market Action, if your Hero can Use an Item (1) (has the required Attribute number or higher), pay the Salt cost of the Item (2), then place it next to your Hero, then draw and place a new one on the Market immediately.



## Remember the 10-Card Limit for Feats and Items.

The Market is always full, although it is also replaced every Refresh Phase. Buying an Item on a Sea Tower reduces the Salt cost by 1, even to zero.

Hint: Don't spend all your Salt on Items on Turn 1.

More will come later.

# QUEST (1 AP)

Azuhl is filled with threats and opportunities, and a clever hero will win by fighting off of the battlefield.

When a Hero uses the Quest Action, choose a Quest, then roll your **Hero Dice** from your Attributes. Each number in Might is 1 Red die, each Magic is 1 Purple, each Leadership is 1 Blue. Before rolling, for each Guile choose 1 White or 1 Yellow.

Add any bonus dice as printed on the bottom of the Quest card (1) if your Hero meets those conditions, and for Items and any other modifiers to the roll.

To **Solve** a Quest, you need to succeed at 1 or more of its Quest Goals (2). After rolling, compare each of your symbols to the **Quest Goals (2)**. If you have enough symbols, you succeed at that Quest Goal. Most Quests require you to succeed at just one Quest Goal, indicated as 1+, but some can require more (3).

If you Solve the Quest, gain the Solve effect (4), and any Rewards (5) from Quest Goals you succeeded at (Skulls, Shields or Bolts). If you did not Solve the Quest, resolve the Fail effect (6) only - so you cannot get any Rewards from Quest Goals (5).

Some Solved Quests are taken into your play area, much like a Feat. They do not count against your Hero's 10-Card Limit, and you may not normally discard them from in front of you.

If a Quest is **discarded**, from succeeding or failing, do not replace it until the next Refresh Phase (although sometimes the Quest will also tell you to draw a new Quest immediately).

If a Quest is discarded with other cards attached (Druids or Items, for instance) they are discarded too.

Some Quests have an **Immediate Effect** when drawn, exactly like a Legion or Horde. Resolve these Effects immediately in exactly the same way.

Hint: Quests are a great way to advance the game, but be careful: if you draw too many new ones something bad might pop up.



# QUEST-EXAMPLE



Ronja wants to attempt the "Instruction of the Druids" Quest. She has 2 Might (2 Red Dice) (1), 1 Leadership (1 Blue Die) (2) and 1 Guile (3), for which she chooses to roll a White Die.

She is on a Marsh (4), so gains 1 Purple Die. She also decides to discard her Xyxrit Leaves Item (5), which lets her add a die of her choice - and chooses a Black die.

She rolls a Skull, Bolt-Skull, blank, blank, Shield and Skull-Shield. She does not succeed at the Skulls Quest Goal (6), but she achieves 2 successes from the 2 Shields (7) and 1 Bolt (8).

The Quest needs 2+ successes (9) to be Solved. She gains the Solve effect (10) and looks through her Feat deck and picks one and puts it into play immediately.



Because she succeeded at the Shield Quest Goal (11) and the Bolt Quest Goal (12), she gains their Rewards: 1 VP for each.

She discards the Quest and does not refill the space.

# **NEMESIS PHASE**

After all the Players have acted, the Empire moves methodically to recapture their territory from the rebel uprising. Then the Hordes of Chaos take their turn, attacking where their whim takes them.

## **ACTIVATION & ACTIVATION TOKENS**

On the Nemesis Phase Activate a Legion or Horde once for each Activation Token on the card by removing the Activation Tokens one by one. In Initiative (2) order (from the lowest to the highest) start the next card.

Some effects Activate a Horde or Legion - this does not use or need an Activation Token.

Whenever a Horde or Legion is Activated, it will Move across the Map following a specific ruleset. You can finde the Rules for Activating a Legion on **page 54** and for a Horde on **page 55**.

**Activation Tokens (1)** are placed on the cards of Legions and Hordes and will be used in the Nemesis Phase to Activate them.

Activation Tokens are produced at the end of every Events Phase. Outside of the Events Phase they are produced by Hexes, Quests and other effects and are placed on one of the Legion or Horde cards with the least Activation tokens.

Some effects let you **Move a Legion or Horde** - this is not an Activation. It does not leave a Garrison or Curse, and is not restricted in its direction of movement, but cannot cross Impassable Terrain.

## INITIATIVE





# PRODUCTION PHASE

The farmers, herders and miners of your loyal provinces, and the trappers and scouts in the Ice Waste, will all contribute to their bid for freedom.

The more Havens you have in play, the more Resources you gain. Look at the space on the Player Board (1) with the highest Production that is uncovered (2), and then gain those Resources. Even if you have no Havens on the map, you will still produce some Resources.

You also gain **Bonus Resources** from each Hex with a Haven. Normally a Woods or a Highlands with a Haven produces 2 Plunder; a Marsh or Badlands 2 Food; and an Ice Waste 2 Salt. A Hex with a Curse can never gain a Haven or produce Resources.

There is no limit to how many Resources you can store.



# PRODUCTION-EXAMPLE



Syndra has 3 Havens on the map, one on the Druwhn Home Hex (3), one on Grim Fangs (4), and one on the Dawngaard Sea Tower (5).

Her Player Board (2) shows that she produces 5 Salt, 2 Plunder and 1 Food for having 3 havens on the map.

Her Home Hex (3) produces 1 Salt, 1 Plunder and 1 Food, Grim Fangs (4) produces 2 Salt, and Dawngaard (5) produces 2 Salt.

In total she gained 10 Salt, 3 Plunder and 2 Food.

# SCORING PHASE

Collectively, you all must defeat the oppressive Empire and the dreaded Chaos invaders. If you fail, your people will become thralls of the enemy!

At then end of each Chapter, all Factions will score VP.

# THE EMPIRE

- 1 VP per Hex with any Garrisons
- 1 VP for each Legion on the map
- 2 VP for each Faction in the Imperial Graveyard (so if there was 1 Krowh Unit and 2 Druwhn Units The Empire would score 4 VP)

The Empire does not gain any VP shown on a Hex. After you score The Empire return any Units in their Graveyard to the reserve.

# CHAOS

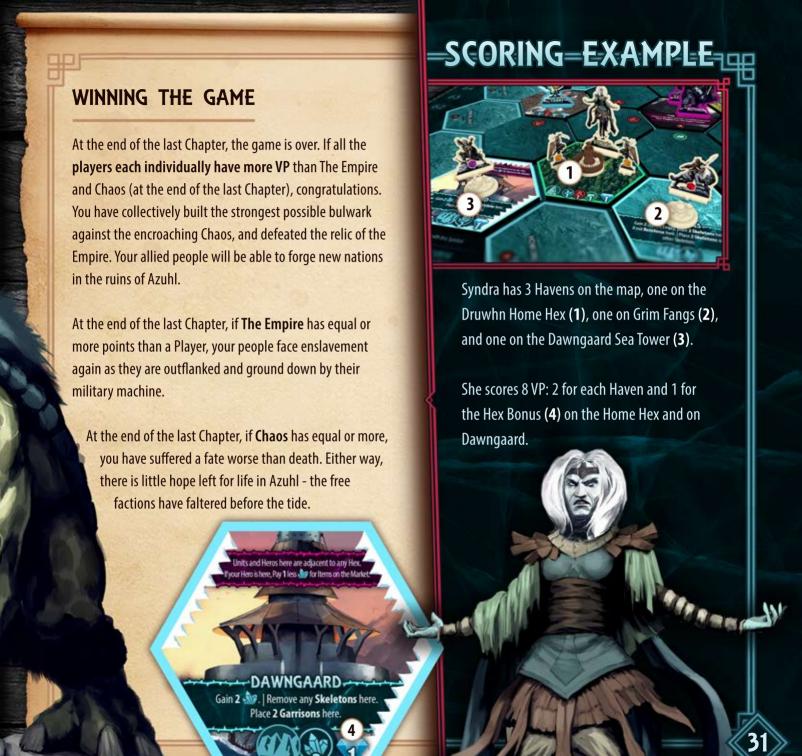
- 1 VP per Curse on the map
- 1 VP for each Horde on the map
- 2 VP for each Faction in the Chaos Graveyard

Chaos does not gain any VP shown on a Hex. After you score Chaos return any Units in their Graveyard to the reserve.

# PLAYER FACTIONS

- 2 VP per Haven they have on the map (each faction scores only their own Havens)
- Some Hexes show 1 VP next to their resources. If a player has a Haven on such a Hex, gain that VP now.
- Players may now spend any 5 Resources for 1 VP, without limit, and give each VP to any 1 Faction. This is normally done on the last Chapter, but can be done on any.







Whenever Player Units are in the same Hex with Empire or Chaos Units (or Chaos and Empire are together!), Combat occurs. Player Units do not enter Combat with each other, nor may they share the same Hex.

Combat is resolved in one or more Combat Rounds, starting with a single Archery Round, then continuing with Clash Rounds until one side is Destroyed. To resolve a Combat Round add up the dice contributed by your different Units on the Hex and roll them, and do the same for The Empire or Chaos simultaneously (it's usually faster if someone else rolls them).

Heros and Units of different Factions cannot participate in each others' Combats - the different races don't trust each other fully yet.

## DICE IN COMBAT

Your Units each add 1 die to the Combat, of the color shown on the standee (1).

Heros do not add their Hero Dice in Combat.



The Threat (2) of a Horde or Legion determines what Dice they use in the Archery or any Clash Round - just look across the row of the card (3).







# **EXAMPLE**



3 Duerkhar Younglings Units (1) enter a Combat with 2 Chaos Skeletons (2). The Duerkhar roll 3 Blue Dice, and simultaneously the Skeletons roll 2 Red Dice. The Younglings get a blank, a Skull and a Shield, and the Skeletons get a blank and a double Skull.

The Younglings cancel 1 Skull with their Shield but have to Destroy 1 Unit: They place 1 Younglings in the Chaos Graveyard. The Skeletons have no Shields, so 1 Skeleton is Destroyed: The Duerkhar score 1 VP immediately and place the Skeleton back in the reserve. Combat continues until one side is Destroyed.

Garrisons gain more dice depending on how many are in a Hex (see page 46), while Skeletons always use Red dice (see page 48). Dice from both Factions in Combat are rolled simultaneously, so Units don't normally get Destroyed before they roll. You must try to use all your symbols that you rolled.



## **SKULLS**

Skulls are damage. Each Player Unit, Garrison Level and Skeleton can take only 1 Skull of damage, then it is **Destroyed**. You decide which of your Units are Destroyed.

Hordes and Legion can take as many Skulls as they have Threat. When you damage a Legion or Horde, slide the Threat Tracker down for each Skull. If they have no Threat left, they are Destroyed.

- If The Empire Destroys a Player Unit or Skeleton, place it into the Imperial Graveyard.
- If Chaos Destroys a Player Unit or Garrison, place it into the Chaos Graveyard.
- If players Destroy a Skeleton or Garrison, they score 1 VP for each immediately. Place them back in the reserve.
- If a Horde or Legion is Destroyed, resolve the bottom effect on the card. Remove it from the game.



# SHIELDS

Each Shield you roll **cancels** 1 Skull from your Enemy Before Damage.



#### **BOLTS**

A Bolt either cancels 1 Shield from your enemy; or activates a Godpower (see page 40). 1 Bolt can do either, but not both.

## **REROLLS**

If an effect allows you to reroll 1 or 2 dice, you may choose the dice from the ones just rolled; **ANY** allows you to freely choose from the dice; **ALL** means every die MUST be rerolled.

If an effect (such as the Woods) gives The Empire or Chaos a reroll, they **only reroll blanks**. If they lose dice from an effect (such as the Highlands), they lose them in this order: White, Yellow, Blue, Red, Purple, Black.

# CARDS IN COMBAT



Many Feats and Items can be used in Combat. They will tell you which part of Combat they are used in (1).

Every card will tell you if your Hero needs to be on that Hex and the timing in the Round in red (2).

Your Feats & Items can only be used during Combat with YOUR Units.

## ON YOUR HERO'S HEX

Your Hero must be on the Hex of the Combat to use the effect of this card. All Items that are used in Combat require this, Feats will depict your Hero's face in addition.

## **BEFORE ROLLING**

Before any dice are rolled, all these abilities must be used. If the dice have been rolled, it's too late to add them!

## **BEFORE DAMAGE**

After the results of the dice are known, but before any Units are lost. This is when **Shields** are applied. If an effect generates symbols, they are added to the total, but are not on dice. If an effect **Rerolls** dice, the original symbols from the rerolled dice are lost.

## AFTER DAMAGE

After Units are Destroyed and Threat has been reduced. If you roll more dice, apply the Skulls immediately - you do not enter a new Combat Round.

## ONCE PER ROUND

An effect that can be used once in every Combat Round, no matter how long the Combat.

## ONCE PER COMBAT

An effect that can be used **once** per Combat resets if you enter a new Combat. It is helpful to turn the card to the side to note it has been used this Combat.



# **COMBAT SEQUENCE**

Every Combat is divided in 4 parts. Every part has its own icon, displayed on a card to clarify when the effect takes place.



# **BEFORE COMBAT**

(once per Combat)

Normally this is very fast: check if the **Terrain** (see page 42) has any effect; see if a Legion or Horde has any **Combat Abilities**; and check for any other effects on cards.



## ARCHERY ROUND

(once per Combat)

If any Unit has Archery Dice, roll the dice for both sides simultaneously. Destroy any Units or Threat that receive a Skull, modified by Shields and Bolts. If both sides have Units left, move on to Clash. Players score VP for any Destroyed Skeletons or Garrisons immediately, while Player Units are placed in the **Graveyard** of The Empire or Chaos (see page 42).



# **CLASH ROUND(S)**

(until one side is Destroyed)

All remaining Units roll their dice simultaneously. Destroy any Units or Threat that receive a Skull, modified by Shields and Bolts, then do Clash again if there are any survivors.

Players score VP for any Destroyed Skeletons or Garrisons, while Player Units are placed in the Graveyard of The Empire or Chaos (see page 42). Repeat Clash until one side is Destroyed.

Player Archer Units also add their Dice in Clash, but Legions, Garrisons and Hordes only use their depicted Clash Dice, not both!



# AFTER COMBAT

(once per Combat)

After all Destroyed Units have been placed in the Graveyards, if there are only Enemy Units on the Hex, they **remove any Haven and Defenses** (Walls & Towers) there immediately.
A player's Hero is **never Destroyed** but can not prevent the removal of Havens after all Units were lost in Combat.

Check the bottom of the Hordes and Legion cards - they usually give you VP if you Destroy them, and sometimes have additional effects. Once Destroyed, Legions and Hordes are **removed** from the game.

If a Legion Destroys a Horde, or a Horde Destroys a Legion, the winning faction gains the VP.

Note that Legions and Hordes are not placed in Graveyards - only Player Units are, and Skeletons and Garrisons if The Empire and Chaos fight each other.



# COMBAT SEQUENCE



## **BEFORE COMBAT**

- Check Terrain
- Use Feats and Items
- Check Combat
   Abilities on Legions or Hordes



## ARCHERY ROUND

- Start Combat Round
- Roll M Dice
- Use Feats Feats



## **CLASH ROUND**

- Start Combat Round
- Roll ♠ & ☒ Dice
- Use Feats
   and Items



### REPEAT CLASH

 Repeat Clash until one side has no Units or a Horde or Legion loses all its Threat



#### AFTER COMBAT

- Remove Havens?
- Legions Retarget
- Resolve effects of Destroyed Hordes and Legions
- Use Feats and Items
- Combat ends



## COMBAT ROUND

## **BEFORE**ROLLING

- Check Terrain
- Use Feats and Items
- Gather Dice

### ROLLING

- Roll your Dice
- Roll Enemy Dice simultaneously

### BEFORE DAMAGE

- Assign W and I
- Activate Godpowers
- Use Feats and Items
- Use Rerolls

### DAMAGE

- Assign Enemy to Units (but not Walls or Towers)
   of your choice
- Assign your 💸
- Place Destroyed Player Units into the Gravevard

### AFTER DAMAGE

- Activate Godpowers
- Use Feats and Items
- Gain 1 per
   Destroyed Garrison
   and Skeleton and
   place them back
   in the reserve





No Effect



WOODS

☐ Reroll up
to 2 Dice



SWAMP Replace with



BADLANDS

Rider Units
add their dice



HIGHLANDS Only 1 Die.



CURSE Only Chaos can use

### **EXAMPLE**





### **BEFORE COMBAT**

The New Emperor has Threat 5 and enters Combat on a Badlands against 2 Duerkhar Younglings, 2 Spearsingers and 1 Koloth. Yanny is on the Hex, and she has the Abad Warpaint Item.

Place 2 Garrisons on Empty Hexes

As this is a Badlands all Rider
Units will add their dice to
Archery, so the Koloth will add
a Black Die. Checking the The
New Emperor's Combat
ability (1) it says he will
gain 2 Red Dice in the
Archery Round on
Badlands.





### ARCHERY ROUND

According to his Threat Tracker (2), The New Emperor rolls 1 Blue and 2 White Dice, and adds 2 Red from his Combat Ability (1). He gets a Bolt-Skull, a Skull, a Shield and 2 Blanks (3).

The Spearsingers, add 1 White Die each, since they are Archer Units, in addition to the Koloth's Black Die for being a Rider on a Badlands. The Duerkhar get 3 Skulls, a Blank and a Skull (4).

The Emperor takes 3 damage after he applies his Shield to the 4 Skulls, reducing his Threat by 3. The New Emperor also uses the Bolt to activate his Godpower (5), so The Empire gains 2 VP. Yanny will take 2 damage since she doesn't have any Shields. She chooses to lose the 2 Spearsingers, who are placed in the Imperial Graveyard.





### **CLASH ROUND**

The New Emperor will only roll a Purple, a Yellow and a White die now. Yanny still has two Younglings and the Koloth left, giving her 2 Blue and 1 Black Dice. Before Rolling, Yanny decides to use the Abad Warpaint, an adds a Red die (6).

The New Emperor rolls a Double-Bolt, a Skull and a Skull-Shield (7). Uh oh. Yanny rolls a Skull, Skull-Skull, and 2 Shields (8).

The New Emperor loses 2 more Threat, and will be Destroyed this Round. With his Double-Bolt The Empire gains another 2 VP (5) and cancels 1 of Yanny's Shields with the other. Yanny has to take 2 damage but can block 1 with a Shield, and chooses to lose a Youngling, who is placed in the Imperial Graveyard. Since one side has been Destroyed, there are no further Clash Rounds.





### AFTER COMBAT

Since the New Emperor was Destroyed, let's have a look at his card (9): It says "If Destroyed, Place 2 Garrisons on Empty Hexes with no (x), remove his Target, and gain 5 VP."

Yanny Destroyed him, so she Places 2 Garrisons in a hex without an (x), removes The New Emperor's Target, and then the Duerkhar gain 5 VP. The standee and the Legion card are removed from the Game.

Yanny also has the "Younglings" Feat (10) in play and face-up, so she flips it face-down to exchange a Younglings here with an Oathsworn (11) from the reserve. She only has 2 Units left, but they are good ones.





# DRUIDS & GODPOWERS

After the Curse brought wrack and ruin upon the world, the Druids of Azuhl began their quest to awaken the Old Gods from oblivion. As the deities regain their strength through your worship, they provide you with vigor and succor.

At the start of each Chapter, a **Druid** will be revealed making their **Godpower** available to all Players. When you roll a Bolt in **Combat**, you can either use it to cancel 1 Shield from your Enemy or activate a Godpower on a Druid (1). You may activate more Godpowers if you have more Bolts. **Godpowers can not be activated outside of Combat.** 

Hordes, Skeletons and Legions have their own Godpowers (2), representing Drakorea's mastery of magic, and the primal destructive sorcery of Chaos.

Whenever a Horde or Legion rolls a Bolt, it will always activate its Godpower.

If a Legion or Horde Godpower says once per Round, additional Bolts are used to cancel Shields.

Chaos and The Empire can never use the Godpowers shown on any Druids.

### **COMBAT ABILITIES**

Most Hordes and Legions have unique powers that provide special rules in their Combats. Those **Combat Abilities (3)** are found on Legion and Horde cards. Rules that state Always take priority over rules that say Never or Cannot.





### **UNIT TYPES**

Thundering Koloths, elite Druwhn Rangers, waves of Krowh Tribesmen - prepare for battle!

### WARRIORS, RIDERS & ARCHERS

All Player Units are listed on the Player Boards with their cost (1) and their type (2) - "Warrior" for example. These designators don't do anything on their own, but many cards reference them.

#### **BASIC & ELITE UNITS**

Every Player Units is either Basic or Elite (3). Cards that just say "Unit" can affect Basic and Elite Units, but Cards that specify the type must affect that type of Unit. So a card that says "Place 1 Basic Unit" must be Basic (but could be a Warrior, Archer or Rider).

#### LEGIONS, HORDES & THREAT

Imperial Legions (4) are well-equipped and trained to die for the Emperor. Chaos Hordes (5) are seething swarms of demons and their corrupted pawns.

The strength of both is represented by their Threat, which moves up regularly each Chapter, and is usually only brought down by Combat. When you damage a Legion or Horde, slide the Threat Tracker down for each Skull.



### **TERRAIN TYPES**

The varied, wild landscapes of Azuhl present obstacles and opportunities to different Units. Be careful of where you pick your battles.

Combat always takes place on a type of Terrain. Before Combat, apply the terrain effects to the Combat for the entire Combat. Look at each Hex for these icons:



**Badlands.** The open plains give cavalry an advantage. Riders **add** their dice to Archery here.



**Highlands.** Attacking at range is difficult here. Roll **only 1 die for Archery**. Nemesis prefers a die in this order: Black, Purple, Red, Blue, Yellow, White.



Marshes. The soft terrain prevents swift maneuver. Red dice become White in Archery and Clash.



**Woods.** Trees make perfect cover for ambushes. **2 Archery dice may be rerolled**, once. Nemesis only rerolls blanks.



Ice Waste. The seas are now a great plain of ice, frozen solid enough for even Koloths to cross. Ice Wastes have no effect on Combat.



Curse. The depredations of Chaos leave a smoking ruin behind them, and even the Old Gods are powerless. A Hex with a Curse is its own type of Terrain, and loses the Terrain of the original Hex. Only Chaos can use Bolts on Cursed Lands.

### WALLS AND TOWERS

Once you have built a Haven (1), you may later build Towers and Walls, called Defenses, in the Build Phase for 1 Plunder each. Each Haven can have 1 Tower (2) and 1 Wall (3).

If your Haven is removed, so are its Wall and Tower.

Walls and Towers do not

walls and Towers do not take damage from Skulls.

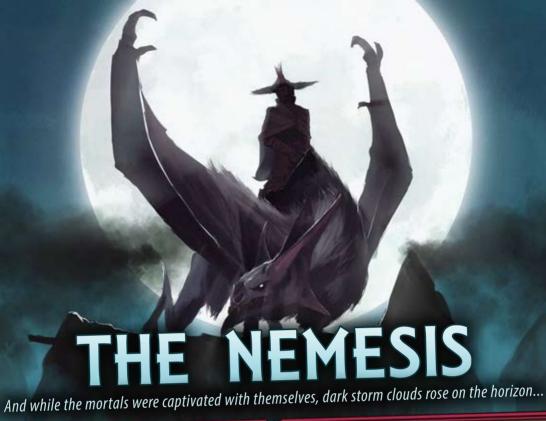
- Towers give you 1 White die in Archery and Clash Rounds if you have any of your Units on that Hex.
- Walls give you 1 Blue die in Clash Rounds if you have any of your Units on that Hex.

### THE GRAVEYARD

The Graveyard is where you place Player Units when The Empire or Chaos Destroy them in Combat. Both of these Factions have their own Graveyard. If a Unit is placed in a Graveyard, they are **unavailable** to the Player until they are returned during the Scoring Phase of the Chapter. Only effects that reference the Graveyard can access it before then.

**Skeletons** Destroyed by The Empire go to the Imperial Graveyard, and **Garrisons** Destroyed by Chaos go to the Chaos Graveyard. Legions and Hordes do not go to the Graveyard. Sometimes effects **remove** Units - these are nromally returned to the reserve instead.





Your Enemies in the game are Chaos and The Empire - collectively called the Nemesis. Those two Factions are controlled by the players and the game itself.

They are Enemies of each other as well - when they meet on a Hex, they will start a Combat.

On the map The Empire is represented by its Legions (1) and Garrisons (2) and Chaos appears with Hordes (3), Skeletons (4) and Curses (5).

The Empire and Chaos collect VP, just like the players, trying to win the game by defeating you and each other

in Combat and gaining influence on the map: The Empire will score VP for having Garrison and Legions and Chaos for Curses and Hordes.



### **THREAT**

Threat is the measure of how mighty the Legion or Horde is the single standee represents a much larger force. Its range goes fom 7 (the strongest possible Threat) down to 1 (the weakest).

To keep track of the Threat, each Legion and Hordes comes with its own card. On this card is a bar for each Threat Level that will tell you which Dice this Horde will use in Archery and Clash.

When a Legion or Horde comes into play, the latest Event card will always tell you the initial Threat in the lower left corner.

Use the Threat Tracker, the small black Clip (6), to indicate the current Threat by applying it directly to the Card.

When fighting against Legions and Hordes, your goal is to reduce its Threat to Zero to Destroy it. Every Skull you score in Combat reduces the Threat by 1.

Move the Threat Tracker up or down the card to match the new Threat whenever it changes.

If an effect would cause Threat to go above the maximum (usually 7), score 1 VP for that Faction instead for each.

### CARD EXAMPLE



- (1) Initiative Number
- **(2)** Name
- (3) Immediate Effect
- (4) Combat Ability
- (5) Godpower
- (6) Threat Tracker

- (7) Threat
- (8) Archery dice (do
- not add these to Clash)
- (9) Clash dice
- (10) Effect when
- Destroyed

### THE EMPIRE

The Empire is alert to the rumors of rebellion and is devoting its remaining forces to rooting them out before they deal with the invaders from the East. Once Imperial Spies become aware of the rebels, the Empire will keep trying to eradicate them with its technologically superior war machine.

#### **GARRISONS**

The Empire has had centuries to fortify the Isles of Azuhl. Garrisons represent the civilized towns and magical arsenals of the Empire. They count as **Units** and fight the same way (so each level of a Garrison counts as 1 Unit).

Any Player Unit or Chaos Unit on a Hex with a Garrison must begin Combat with it. A Garrison must be Destroyed **before** you engage a Legion in the same Hex. Entering a Hex with both means you will have 2 Combats in a row.

A Hex can have up to 3 Garrisons, which you track by stacking the pieces on top of each other: the largest piece is Level 1 (1), the next smallest is Level 2 (2), and the smallest is Level 3 (3).

Each Garrison increases the total fighting power, and each Level requires a Skull to be Destroyed. Remember that their Archery dice are only rolled in the Archery Round, and are not added to any Clash Rounds afterwards.

When you Destroy a Garrison, gain 1 VP per Level immediately.
If Chaos Destroys a Garrison place it into the Chaos Graveyard.

If you run out of Garrisons or cannot place a Garrison, the Empire scores 1 VP for each instead.



LEVEL	ARCHERY	CLASH		
Level 1+2+3	99900			
Level 1+2	99000			
Level 1	00000	99000		



#### **LEGIONS**

When an Imperial Legion is Placed, draw the top Legion card. Place the matching Imperial Legion standee on The Capital and set its Threat Tracker on the card, then resolve the Immediate Effect. This often leads to bad effects for the players. Then place the Legion card on the map in Initiative order.

If a Legion is Destroyed, resolve the effect at the bottom of the Card and remove it from the Game. If you generate an effect that Destroys a Legion, generate the bottom effect yourself.

### **TARGETS**

Every Legion is sent out of the Capital with a clear goal, represented by its **Target**. Every Legion has its own Target, that is Placed with its Immediate Effect: Choose one player Faction with no Target and place the Target on one of that Faction's Havens that has the least Units.

#### A Faction can only have one Target at a time.

If every player already has a Target and a new Legion is placed, place its Target on The Capital. Targets on The Capital stay there for the rest of the game - the Legion will Activate normally but won't move from the Capital.

When the Legion reaches the Hex with its Target, it will try to remove that Haven by Destroying any Player Units defending it. If the Legion survives this Battle, or encounters an undefended Haven, the Haven (and any Wall and Tower on it) is removed.

#### RETARGET

If a Haven with a Target is removed by any effect, and the Legion is still in play, the Legion will still try to root out the Uprising of that Faction.

If there are more Havens of that Faction on the map, place the Target on one that has the **least** Units. If the Faction has no other Haven, then Place the Target on The Capital. The Legion will return to the Capital and stay there generating Garrisons or VP.

#### THE CAPITAL

The Imperial Capital is the last bastion of The Empire, perhaps the only city left in the world. It is a special Hex that is always in the middle of the map. Although a dense urban sprawl filled with opportunity and adventure, The Capital has **no Terrain type**, and has no effect in Combat.

Like any other Hex, The Capital can have up to three Garrisons. But unlike other Hexes, the Empire does not gain 1 VP if you would place a **fourth** Garrison on it. Instead, place it on 1 Empty Hex with no . If there is none, place 1 Garrison with another Garrison (increasing its Level).

If there are ever **Enemy Units on The Capital** (such as from the Command Action or a Horde Activation) and **no Garrison or Legion**, Place 1 Legion on the Capital immediately. This begins a Combat. If there are still Enemy Units on The Capital after Combat, **repeat** this effect.

### CHAOS

As the forces of darkness emerge from the wastes of the East, their tendrils creep insidiously into Azuhl. Skeletons are murderous undead, monsters and cultists bent on destruction. Chaos Hordes are vast armies of these. They befoul the land and move on, leaving ruin behind them.

#### **SKELETONS**

Skeletons represent the monsters, hauntings and dread of the approaching apocalypse. Any Player Unit or Imperial Unit on a Hex with a Skeleton must begin Combat with it.

They have a Red Die in Combat, and on a **Bolt**, they Place another Skeleton on this Hex (After Damage). This can lead to a long Combat, but it is all one Combat. This can also produce a Horde if there are 3 Skeletons, (After Damage).

A Skeleton must be Destroyed before you engage a Horde in the same Hex. Entering a Hex with both means you will have 2 Combats in a row.

When you Destroy a Skeleton, gain 1 VP per Skeleton and place it in the reserve. If **The Empire** Destroys a Skeleton place it into the **Imperial Graveyard**.

#### SKELETONS BECOMING HORDES

If there are ever 3 Skeletons on the same Hex. remove them and place 1 new Horde on that Hex.

If there are no Skeletons in the reserve and you must Place one, choose a Hex with 1 or 2 Skeletons on it, remove them and place 1 new Horde on that Hex.

#### **MOVE SKELETONS**

If an effect moves Skeletons, follow the rules for Activating a Horde (see page 55), but do not leave a Curse.



LEVEL	ARCHERY	CLASH		
2 Skeletons	00000	00000		
1 Skeleton	00000	•0000		

#### **HORDES**

When a Chaos Horde is Placed, draw the top Horde card.
Place the matching standee on the appropriate Hex,
set its Threat Tracker on the card, then resolve the
Immediate Effect. If this leads to a new Horde, complete
first one's Immediate effect completely before placing and
resolving the next one. Then place the Horde card on the
map in Initiative order.

If a Horde is Destroyed, resolve the effect at the bottom of the card and remove it from the game. If you generate an effect that Destroys a Horde, generate the bottom effect yourself.

#### **CURSES**

Curses represent the total degradation of the land by Chaos, through the foul toxicity of the undead and depredations of the demons. Only the bravest venture there.

Curses are placed most often when Hordes Activate. When a Curse is placed on a Hex, **Destroy any Garrisons** (place them into the Chaos Graveyard), **and remove any Haven**, **Tower and Wall** there. You can not use the Haven Action in this Hex, and if the Hex was Unexplored, you can not use the Explore Action here.

A Hex with a Curse is its **own type of Explored Terrain**, and loses all the properties of the original Hex, except Impassable Terrain, and Explored Sea Towers. So, you can Command Units onto a Hex with a Curse, even if it was Unexplored. If the Sea Tower was Explored it provides its discounts, adjacency, etc.

During Combats on a Cursed Land, only Chaos can use Bolts.

### **REMOVING CURSES**

If an effect (through an Item or Quest for example) removes a Curse, the Hex regains its properties and is available for Haven and Explore actions. If there are **Player Units** here they remain and may be Commanded off of it; if you Explore the Hex and there are Player Units here, it is not Empty, so will not normally place a Garrison or Skeleton there, nor Reinforce anything.



### GARRISON-EXAMPLE



Rigga was just explored by Ronja, and it says "If Empty, place 1 Garrison here; if not Reinforce here. Place 1 Garrison on an Empty Hex with no (x)"(1).

Rigga already has a Level 1 Garrison, so it gains the next size to become Level 2 (2). There is only 1 Empty Hex without an (x) so 1 Level 1 Garrison must go there (3).

If there were no Empty Hexes without an (X), Ronja would have to place a Garrison with another Garrison - even on Rigga.

### PLACING NEMESIS UNITS

Through Events or other effects, Hordes, Legions, Garrisons and Skeletons will be placed on the map. Sometimes, the Event or the Hex will tell you exactly where to place them. But in some cases, they will tell you to simply "Place 1 Horde" for example, allowing the acting Player to choose.

If you cannot follow the instructions of a Place effect, or there are none, Place the Unit on either an Empty Hex or a Hex with Units of the same Faction. If you cannot Place or Reinforce a Garrison, Skeleton, Legion or Horde for any reason, give that Faction 1 VP.

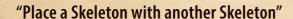
### "Place a Garrison on an Empty Hex with no 🔊 "



Take a Level 1 Garrison (the largest garrison piece) from the reserve and Place it on an Empty Hex with no (an Empty Hex contains no Havens, Units or Curse). The Hex may be Explored or Unexplored.

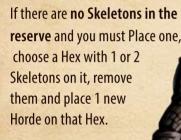
If there is no Empty Hex or you have already placed all the Level 1 Garrisons, place one on a Hex with another Garrison or Legion. Up to 3 Garrisons can be placed on a Hex, by stacking the smaller Garrisons on top of each other.

If you cannot Place or Reinforce a Garrison (by running out of models, or exceeding 3 on a Hex), the Empire gains 1 VP.



Take 1 Skeleton from the reserve and Place it on a Hex with another Skeleton. If there are ever 3 Skeletons in the same Hex, take them off the map and Place 1 new Horde in this Hex.

If there are no Skeletons on the map, place it on an Empty Hex.



If you cannot Place a Skeleton for any other reason (such as all Hordes having been placed and no Hexes for them), Chaos gains 1 VP instead.

### SKELETON-EXAMPLE



Grim Fangs was just explored by Syndra, and it says "If Empty, place 1 Skeleton here; if not Reinforce here. Place 2 Skeletons with other Skeletons" (1).

Grim Fangs already has 1 Skeleton, so it is not Empty and Syndra must Reinforce the Hex by adding another Skeleton there (2).

Now it is time for her to place the 2 Skeletons with other Skeletons: There is only one other Hex with only 1 Skeleton, so Syndra Places her first Skeleton there (3), to avoid a Horde right away.

She decides to place the last Skeleton in Grim Fangs (1). Since there are 3 Skeletons in the same Hex, they are removed and replaced by a Horde!

## LEGION EXAMPLE



The "Prolonged Eclipse" Event Places 1 Legion at Threat 4 on the Capital, so Syndra, the First Player, draws the first card from the Legion Deck (1). It is the Butcher, and she places its standee on The Capital (2), and sets the Threat Tracker on The Butcher's card to 4 (3).

The Butcher's Immediate effect (4) starts with: "Place his Target." Syndra decides she wants to fight the Butcher herself (since she has no Target yet), and places the Butcher's Target on her Home Hex (5), which has zero Units on it (even though it also has a Tower and Wall, these aren't Units).

The Butcher's Immediate effect (4) then says "Each Player loses half their Plunder (round down)." Yanny has 7 Plunder and loses 3, while Syndra has only 1 and loses zero.

After resolving the Butcher's Immediate Effect she places the Butcher's card in Initiative order (6) with the other Legions on the map (7).

### "Place a Legion on the Capital"

Draw the **top card** of the Legion Deck **(1)**. Put the matching standee on The Capital, at the center of the Map **(2)**, set its Threat Tracker (equal to the Threat on the Event Card if there are no other instructions) **(3)**, then activate its Immediate Effect **(4)**.

To place its Target, choose one Faction in play with no Target. Then place the Target on one of that Faction's Havens that has the least Units (see page 47).

Afterwards place the Legion card according to its Initiative (6) - from the lowest Initiative on the left to the highest on the right - on the map (7).

If an effect does not specify where a Legion is Placed, Place it on the Capital. If you cannot Place a Legion, the Empire gains 1 VP.



#### "Place a Horde"

Draw the **top** card of the Horde Deck (1). Put the matching standee on an Empty Hex (2) (remember, a Hex with a Curse is not empty), or a Hex with a Skeleton or Curse if you cannot, then set its Threat Tracker (3) (equal to the Threat on the Event Card if there are no other instructions), then activate its Immediate Effect (4).

Afterwards place the Horde card according to its Initiative (6) - from the lowest Initiative on the left to the highest on the right - on the map (7).

If a **Region** (such as the "Howling White") is specified, any Hex with that name printed on it is valid.

If you cannot Place a Horde, Chaos gains 1 VP.



## HORDE EXAMPLE



The "Three Bloody Comets" Event says "Place
1 Horde at Threat 4 in the Fog Grave, not adjacent
to a Haven." Kha'al, the First Player, draws the top
card from the Horde Deck (1). It is the Counter of
Omens, so he places the standee on an Empty
Hex in the Fog Grave (2), and sets the Threat
Tracker on the Horde Card to 4 (3).

The Horde's immediate effect (4) says "Place 2 Skeletons on his Hex," so 2 are placed on the Hex with The Counter of Omens (5).

After resolving the Counter of Omen's Immediate Effect (4) he places its card in Initiative (6) order with the other Hordes on the map (7).

### LEGION-EXAMPLE



The Butcher (1) has 2 Activation Tokens on his card. He must move towards its Target (2), but cannot pass through Rhun, because of the Impassable Terrain (3). On his first Activation, he goes to the unexplored Hex adjacent (4), even though the Hex doesn't have a Haven or Units, because that is the only way The Butcher can get closer to its Target. The Butcher places 1 Garrison when he leaves The Capital (5). One Activation Token is removed.

On The Butcher's next Activation, it first places another Garrison on the Hex (6), and then moves directly into the Druwhn Home hex (7). Combat begins! The Butcher wins, barely. The Druwhn Haven and its Tower and Wall (8) are removed. Since there is no other Druwhn Haven for its Target to go to, place it on The Capital. The Butcher will make his way back, placing Garrisons along the way.



#### **ACTIVATE A LEGION**

Follow these steps for each Activation, in order:

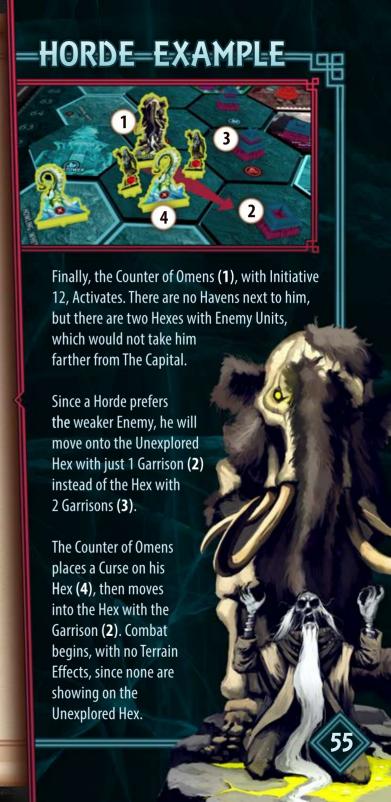
- **1. Place 1 Garrison here**, or gain 1 VP if there are already 3 in that Hex.
- 2. Move the Legion 1 Hex, closer to its Target.
  Count the Hexes that form a route to its Target hex.
  Remember, Legions cannot cross Impassable Terrain.
  If a Legion is on the same Hex as its Target, it does not move this Activation. While Moving, use this priority:
- **a.** Into a Haven. Legions always choose a Haven over another Hex, and choose the Haven with the least Units.
- **b. Into a Hex with Enemy Units**. If there is no Haven, choose the Hex wth the least Enemy Units and/or Threat.
- **c.** If none of the above apply, **onto an Empty Hex**. A Hex with a Curse or Garrison is not Empty.
- d. Any Hex closer to its Target. Count the shortest path.
- 3. **Begin Combat** if there are Enemy Units (Player or Chaos), and don't forget the Legion's **Combat Ability**.
- 4. If the Legion wins Combat, Remove any Haven.
- 5. If the Target is here, Retarget by placing the Target on a new Haven of that Faction, with the least Units. If the Faction has no other Haven, Place the Target on The Capital (where it will stay).

#### ACTIVATE A HORDE

Follow these steps for each Activation, in order:

- Place 1 Curse here, or Chaos gains 1 VP if there is already a Curse in that Hex.
- 2. Move the Horde 1 Hex, not farther from The Capital. Count the Hexes that form a route to The Capital if you are not sure. Remember, Hordes cannot cross Impassable Terrain. While Moving, use this priority:
- **a.** Into a Haven. Hordes always choose a Haven over another Hex, and choose the Haven with the least Units.
- **b. Into a Hex with Enemy Units**. If there is no Haven, choose the Hex with the least Enemy Units and/or Threat.
- c. If none of the above apply, onto an Empty Hex.

  Remember: A Hex with a Curse or Skeleton is not Empty.
- d. Any Hex. Count the shortest path to The Capital.
- **3. Begin Combat** if there are Enemy Units (Player or Empire), and don't forget the Horde's **Combat Ability**.
- 4. Remove any Haven (and Tower & Wall).



### HINTS FOR YOUR FIRST GAMES

- At the beginning, don't take big risks. Build lots of cheap Units to overwhelm the weaker enemies near you.
- Try and save 1 Food for a Command and 2 Plunder for a Haven. A good First play is to Move to a Hex whose Resource you need (especially if you didn't save), Explore it, and Command into it (unless something truly horrible appeared there). You should have a good chance of winning if you have more Units, and then you can build your second Haven, which is vital for getting more than 5 Units on the map.
- If you can then Command into a Sea Tower with your Units and build a Haven, that is your best play (but watch out for nearby Hordes, who will be attracted to them).
- Later on in the game you want to make sure you have a Unit on each of your Havens, but in the first Chapter you are (probably) safe if you leave one empty.
- It is important to stop Chaos from Cursing too many Hexes. If they have too many early on, that makes it very difficult to ever overtake them, so at least 1 Player should attack a Horde on Chapter 1 (or 2 at the latest), because more Hordes will come. By the same token, it is important to attack isolated Garrisons quickly, since a single Garrison gains 1 VP for the Empire just like a triple Garrison.

• Since The Empire moves predictably, try and fight their Legions on advantageous Terrain for you. Since you can control The Empire's VP more easily by eliminating Garrisons, it is not as critical to keep their score down early.

 Don't feel bad if you lose most or all of your Units. This usually means you got some VP, and rebuilding is quick since you can turn AP into Salt. When in doubt, attack!

 It's better to fight away from your Havens if you have no Walls and Towers.

Gaining 1 new Haven per
 Chapter is good, but getting more
 is obviously better, especially that Sea Tower.

• Don't hesitate to attack an Enemy that threatens your allies. You all win together!

 We also highly recommend a five minute break between each Chapter. This lets you talk about strategy, grab a snack, and makes the game more fun. Enjoy!

### MOST OVERLOOKED RULES

#### **COMBAT**

- Your Hero does not contribute any Dice to Combat.
- Your Hero is not a Unit and does not count against the Limit of 5 Units per Hex, or start a Combat on its own.
- Destroyed Player Units go to the Graveyard (of either The Empire or Chaos).
- Towers & Walls are not Units and cannot receive Damage and do not roll dice in Combat without your Units there.
- Archers also contribute their Dice in Clash Rounds.
- A Level 3 Garrison needs 3 Skulls to be Destroyed and is worth 3 VP. A Level 2 Garrison is 2 and 2.
- If Chaos Destroys Garrisons, place them in the Chaos Graveyard. If The Empire Destroys Skeletons, place them in the Imperial Graveyard. VP are scored later.

#### **NEMESIS**

- Legions leave a Garrison behind when they Activate, Hordes a Curse.
- When Units of The Empire and Chaos are in the same Hex, they begin a Combat with each other.
- Whenever a Garrison, Legion, Skeleton or Horde cannot be Placed or Reinforced, that Faction gains 1 VP.
- A Hex with a Curse is not Empty.
- An Activation Token is placed on one of the Legion or Horde cards with the least Activation Tokens.



#### **ACTIONS**

- You can ALWAYS turn 1 AP into 1 Salt, or 3 Resources of one type into 1 other Resource.
- The Move Action only lets you move your Hero, but Command moves Units AND your Hero.
- The Command Action cost 1 AP AND 1 Food
- The Haven Action costs 1 AP AND 2 Plunder
- The Ice Wastes around the Map are considered Explored, and can be Commanded into immediately.
- If you explore a Hex with Impassable Terrain, you can orient the Hex any way you want.

### THANK YOU...

...so very much for supporting us! We worked for three years making this game, a game that we love to play.

But before playing, there is learning the rules (or later even teaching them) - and we know this is often not the fun part. Therefore we tried to make it as easy as possible for you and your friends:

1. We set up a Website for the game under

#### https://uprising.nemesis.games

If you ever have a Rules Question, we installed a powerful search function there - try it out!

- 2. We shot Videos for nearly every topic of Uprising. We also shot a complete Learn-to-play-Video you can share with your friends you want to play with. Or you can watch us for a complete Game.
- 3. If you ever have a question that can't be answered, or there is a problem, don't hesitate to get in touch by shooting an email to info@nemesis.games or get in touch with us on Social Media.

Thanks again for your support! Cheers,

Cornelius, Pawel and Dirk

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#### **Champions of Azuhl:**

Benedikt Gereon Klocke - Heroes of the Empire

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NOT INTENDED FOR USE OF PERSONS AGES
13 YEARS OR YOUNGER.

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### CONS AND CARDS



**Before Combat** (page 36)



**Archery Round** (page 36)



**Clash Rounds** (page 36)



**After Combat** (page 36)



Skull (page 34)



(page 34)



Bolt (page 34)



White Die

Blue

Die



**Purple** 

Die

Red

Die

Black

Die

• (3) Resources show what the Hex produces on the Production Phase if you have a Haven there.

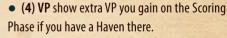
more on Placing and Reinforcing on page 50.

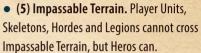
• (2) Terrains have a strong effect in Combat

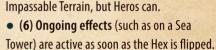
(see page 42).

HEX KEY ---

• (1) Hex effect. Often those effects Reinforce. or Place Skeletons or Garrisons - you can find









**Immediate** (page 13)



Always (page 13)



Refresh (page 15)



(page 18)



**Action Point Victory Point** (page 32)



This Hex cannot gain a Haven



Might (page 12)



Magic (page 12)



Leadership (page 12)



Guile (page 12)



Plunder (page 11)



Salt (page 11)



Food (page 11)



**Badlands** (page 42)



Marshes (page 42)



Ice Waste (page 42)



Woods (page 42)



Highlands (page 42)



ain 2 🔐. | Remove any Skele



Legion card (page 47)



Horde card (page 49)



Quest card (page 25)



**Event card** (page 16)



Hero card (page 12)



Feat card (page 13)



Item card (page 13)



5

**Druid card** (page 40)