



THE TREE OF BATTLES

Medieval Warfare 1300-1500

Game Scenario
Mini Bosworth
22 August 1485

The Scenario

It is 22 August 1485. The fate of England will be decided at Bosworth, near Leicester.

Henry Tudor has deployed to the south of Fenn lane with his right flank protected by a marsh.

King Richard has deployed to the north of the road. The numbers of troops are fairly equal but Richard has more guns and more archers.

Henry is supported by a substantial contingent of French and Scots pikemen, both provided by the French king to advance his cause.

This scenario is for a small game using only a part of the forces available to Henry Tudor and King Richard III. It is based on the latest research on the battle, leaving out the contingents led by the Stanleys and Henry Percy.

It allows players to fight the initial clash of the front lines of the opposing armies at Bosworth with a relatively small number of miniatures, leaving out the interventions (or lack thereof) of the less reliable supporting contingents.

All numbers below are Tree of Battles bases of 5-7 foot or 2-3 mounted



Tudor's French and Scots pikemen

Royalist Order of Battle

Vanward — John Howard, Duke of Norfolk. 3 CPs

Duke of Norfolk's retinue	1 dismounted Men at Arms, full harness, A Grade
Norfolk's retainers	1 bill & 2 bow, B Grade
Earl of Surrey's retainers	2 bill & 2 bow, B Grade
Sir Robert Brackenbury	2 bill, B Grade
Shire levies	3 bill & 3 bow, C Grade
Burgundian Mercenaries	2 skirmishers, handguns, B Grade

Mainward — Richard III, 4 CPs

Knights of the Body	2 mounted Men at Arms, full harness, chivalrous, A Grade*
Royal Retainers	2 billmen, B Grade
Scourers	2 light horse, C Grade
Artillery	2 guns

* May dismount as 1 men at arms on foot in full harness

Royalist Brief

You have deployed to offer battle to Henry Tudor. Your scouts report that your forces are about equal but you have a clear archery and artillery superiority. Your advisers suggest using your missile superiority to force Henry to attack, taking casualties from your guns and archers as he closes. If Henry does not attack your position you may wish to consider a short advance to bring your archers into range.

Tudor Order of Battle

Left — Philbert de Chandée, 3 CPs.

Chandée's Retinue	1 dismounted Men at Arms, full harness, A Grade, Mercenaries
French	4 pike, B Grade, Mercenaries
Scots	2 pike, B Grade, Mercenaries
Skirmishers	2 handgunners and crossbowmen, B Grade, Mercenaries
Artillery	1 gun

Right — Earl of Oxford, 4 CPs

Oxford's Retinue	1 dismounted Men at Arms, full harness, A Grade
Oxford's Retainers	1 bill, 2 bow, B Grade
Rhys Ap Thomas	2 Welsh heavy infantry, B Grade
Sir John Savage	1 bill, 1 bow, B Grade
Sir Gilbert Talbot	1 bill, 1 bow, B Grade

Reserve — Henry Tudor, 3 CPs

Henry's Retinue	1 mounted Men at Arms, A Grade*
Henry's Retainers	2 mounted bowmen, B Grade**
Scourers	2 light cavalry, C Grade

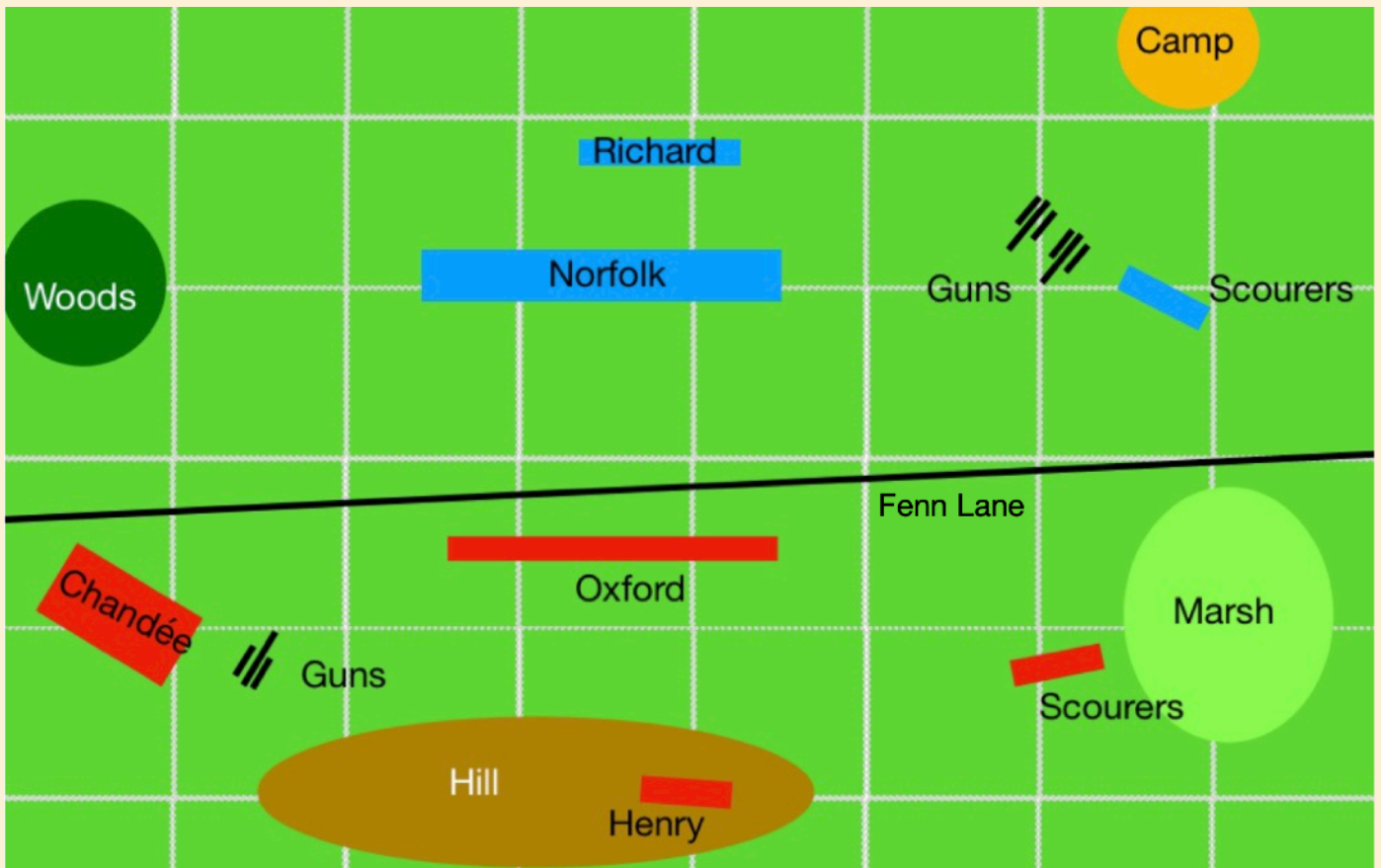
* *May dismount as 1 men at arms on foot in full harness*

** *May dismount as 1 bowmen on foot.*

Tudor Brief

You have marched from Wales towards Leicester to take the throne of England. Richard has deployed for battle blocking your advance. Your scouts report that your forces are about equal but Richard has more guns and more archers than you. Your advisers warn that Richard's missile superiority will make it difficult for you to take a defensive position. You may need to close quickly into hand to hand combat before you take too many casualties from the enemy guns and archers.





8 x 5 foot table with 1 foot grid lines showing deployment for 28 mm figures.

Deployment

All troops are deployed on table from the start as shown on the map above.

Norfolk is deployed with archers and skirmishers to the front, fighting troops behind. Nine bases wide, 2 deep.

Oxford is deployed in a single line with his 2 archers in front. Talbot's and Strange's archers in a single rank beside their billmen. Eight stands wide, 1 deep (except for Oxford's 2 archers in front)

Chandée's pikemen deployed 2 ranks deep. All others one rank deep.

Objectives

To win, the Royalists need to either capture or kill Henry Tudor. If his army wins the field but he is eliminated, the war is over and King Richard has won. If Richard wins the field but Henry is able to fight another day, he may still lose the throne so it would be a partial victory at best.

The Tudors need to drive Richard from the field of battle. If they succeed then his prestige will be destroyed and the throne will eventually be Henry's. If they manage to capture or kill Richard then the kingdom is immediately Henry's regardless of the battlefield outcome. Anything less than a decisive win or death of Richard will cause Henry's followers to desert him and probably end his chance of ever becoming king.