

# Napoleon at Waterloo

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### 1.0 HOW TO START

*Napoleon at Waterloo* consists of a body of rules, a separate group of cardboard playing pieces (referred to as counters) and a map.

The components should be spread out on a large table with two players sitting on either side. The die-cut counters should be carefully punched out and carefully segregated as to national group. The players should skim through the rules by reading only the bold sentence headlines in the various section rules. Then the pieces should be placed in their starting positions (as indicated by the four digit numbers on the faces of the playing pieces). At this point, the players should review the

Sequence of Play and begin a trial game, referring to the details of the rules when they have a question. Note that it is possible to play an enjoyable solitaire game against oneself simply by assuming the role of either player in proper sequence.

***Comment:*** *Napoleon at Waterloo is a simulation of the battle between the French under Napoleon and the Anglo-Allied and Prussian forces in June 1815.*

## 2.0 EQUIPMENT

The game equipment consists of these rules, charts, an 11 x 17 inch four color map, six-sided die and 80 die-cut playing pieces.

### ***2.1 The game map represents the terrain on which the battle was fought.***

A hexagonal grid is superimposed on the terrain of the map to regulate movement and positioning of the playing pieces. To make the map sheet lie flat, one should back-fold it against the machine-made folds. Players will note that each hexagon (hereafter called "hex") on the map has its own four-digit identity number.

### ***2.2 The Terrain Effects Chart summarizes how the features on the map affect the movement and combat of the playing pieces.***

### ***2.3 The Combat Results Table is the primary means for resolving combat.***

### ***2.4 The playing pieces represent the actual military units that took part in the historical battle.***

There are five items of information on the front face of each unit. The player is told what type of unit it is (infantry, cavalry or artillery), and what its name or military designation is. Additionally, the player is given the Combat Strength and the Movement Allowance of each unit. The player is also told which hex the unit starts in or what game turn the unit enters the game as a reinforcement.

## SAMPLE INFANTRY UNIT (FRENCH)

### ***2.5 Combat strength is the basic power of a unit when attacking or defending.***

The Terrain Effects Chart will detail how this number is affected by combat. The combat strength value of a unit is deemed to consist of the printed number of combat strength points.

### ***2.6 Movement Allowance is the unit's basic ability to move in one Movement Phase.***

This ability is expressed in terms of movement points. Each hex entered costs a unit one movement point.

## 3.0 BASIC PROCEDURE

### ***The Sequence of Play***

The players take turns moving their units and making attacks. The order in which they take these actions is described in this sequence of play outline. One completion of the sequence of play outline is called a Game Turn. Each game turn consists of two player turns. Each player turn consists of two phases.

### **The French Player Turn**

#### ***Step 1. French player's Movement Phase.***

**The French player may move his units and bring in reinforcements.** He may move as many or as few as he wishes, one after another, within the limitations of the rules of movement.

#### ***Step 2. French player's Combat Phase.***

**The French player must attack adjacent enemy units.** He may perform these attacks in any order he wishes; applying the results immediately as each attack is made.

### **The Allied Player Turn**

#### ***Step 3. Allied player's Movement Phase.***

**The Allied player may move his units and bring in reinforcements.** He may move as many or as few as he wishes, one after another, within the limitations of the rules of movement.

#### ***Step 4. Allied players Combat Phase.***

**The Allied player must attack adjacent enemy units.** He may perform these attacks in any order he wishes; applying the results immediately as each attack is made.

These four steps are repeated 10 times. The game is then over and the players determine the victor according to the rules on How the Game is Won. Note that the game may be ended earlier if one player achieves his victory conditions.

#### 4.0 MOVEMENT OF UNITS

Each unit has a movement allowance number printed on it that represents the basic number of hexes it may move in a single Movement Phase. Each player moves only his own units during the Movement Phase of his player turn (as outlined in the Sequence of Play).

Units move one at a time, hex-by-hex, in any direction or combination of directions that the player desires. The Movement Phase ends when the player announces that he has moved all of his units that he chooses to (or as of the time that he begins) make attacks.

##### ***4.1 A unit may never exceed its movement allowance.***

During its Movement Phase, each unit may move as far as its movement allowance permits. Basically, each unit spends one movement point of its total allowance for each hex that it enters. Individual units may move less than their movement allowance. Units are never forced to move during their movement phase. Units may not, however, lend or accumulate unused movement points.

##### ***4.2 Units must spend one movement point to enter each hex.***

Units may only enter or leave woods hexes through hex sides crossed by roads (even when advancing or retreating due to combat).

##### ***4.3 A unit may never enter nor pass through a hex containing an enemy unit.***

##### ***4.4 A unit may never end its Movement Phase in the same hex as another friendly unit.***

One or more units may move *through* a hex containing another friendly unit, but the moving units may never end the Movement Phase in the same hex as another unit. If this should inadvertently happen, the opposing player gets to choose which of the illegally placed units are to be destroyed (so that only one unit remains in the hex).

##### ***4.5 A unit must stop upon entering a hex that is in the zones of control of an enemy unit.***

Whenever a unit enters a hex that is directly adjacent to any of the enemy player's units, the moving unit must immediately stop and move no further that phase. Note there are six hexes adjacent to most hexes on the map. The six hexes adjacent to an enemy unit are called the zone of control of that unit.

A unit may not move so long as it is in an enemy controlled hex. Only freeing itself through a combat result may a unit escape the "freezing" effect of an enemy zone of control.

##### ***4.6 Except for French victory requirements, units may not leave the map.***

If forced to do so by the Combat Results Table, they are eliminated instead (see 8.3).

#### 5.0 COMBAT PRECONDITIONS

##### ***Eligibility requirements for attacking units.***

Each unit has a combat strength number printed on it that represents its basic power to attack during its Combat Phase and to defend during the Enemy Combat Phase. Whether or not a unit can attack is strictly a matter of how it is positioned with respect to enemy units. All units that are in enemy zones of control must attack during their Combat Phase; artillery units not in enemy zones of control but have enemy units within range of their guns *may* execute a special form of attack called *bombardment*.

The player examines the positions of these units, determining which are in enemy zones of control and which artillery units have enemy units within their range. Attacks are conducted using the Combat Results Table, the die, and the procedures detailed in the section Combat Resolution.

##### ***5.1 A unit that is in an enemy zone of control must attack—and every enemy unit that has a phasing unit in its zone of control must be attacked.***

If there are several possible combinations, the player may choose which of his units will attack which enemy unit—so long as every enemy unit that is required to be attacked *is* attacked.

##### ***5.2 No unit may be involved in more than one attack per Combat Phase.***

No unit may participate in more than one attack, nor may a given enemy unit be the object of more

than one attack in a single Combat Phase.

**5.3 More than one unit may participate in a given attack.**

As many units as can be brought to bear can participate in the same attack.

**5.4 More than one enemy unit can be the object of the same attack.**

So long as each participating attacking unit could have attacked every one of the defending units separately, then all may attack all the defending units in a single combined attack (see 5.8).

**5.5 A unit's combat strength is indivisible.**

Units may not use part of their strength in one attack and part in another, neither may they reserve or withhold part of their strength in an attack or defense.

**5.6 An artillery unit that is not in an enemy zone of control may make a bombardment attack against an enemy unit two hexes distant.**

The important distinction between bombardment and regular attacking is that bombardment attacks can be made only by artillery units that are not in the zone of control of any enemy unit. This bombardment attack can be used to satisfy the requirement that a given enemy unit be attacked (because some other friendly unit happens to be in its zone of control) so long as the other friendly unit can attack another enemy unit.

**5.7 Except when making a combined attack (see 5.8) bombarding artillery units may attack only a single enemy-occupied hex.**

Even though it may have several enemy occupied hexes in range, a given artillery unit may bombard only one of them in a single Combat Phase. Note that several artillery units may direct their bombardment at the same hex, in which case their strengths are totaled into one aggregate bombardment attack.

**5.8 An attack may be made which combines the strength of adjacent units with that of bombarding artillery.**

The strength of the artillery unit is simply added to that of the adjacent attacking units. Note that if the enemy is more than one hex; the contributing bombardment artillery need have only one of the enemy occupied hexes in range in order to add its strength to the attack. This is the exception to 5.4.

## 6.0 COMBAT RESOLUTION

**How Attacks are Evaluated and Resolved**

An attack is defined as the comparison of the strength of a specific attacking force with that of a specific defending force resolved by the throw of a die in connection with the Combat Results Table. The results may affect either or both the attacked and the defender.

The attacking player totals the combat strength of all of his units that are involved in a given attack and compares the total with the total combat strength of the enemy unit or units being attacked. The resulting comparison is called the combat ratio. The player locates the column heading on the Combat Results Table that corresponds to the combat ratio. He rolls the die and cross indexes the die number with the combat ratio column and reads the result. The indicated result is applied immediately, before going on to any other attacks. When he has made all of his attacks, the player announces the end of his Combat Phase.

**6.1 The attacking player must announce which of his units are involved in a given attack against a specific defending unit or group of units.**

He must calculate and announce the combat ratio, specifying which of his units are participating in the attack, before it is resolved. He may resolve attacks in any order he chooses. Once the die is thrown, he may not change his mind.

**6.2 The calculated combat ratio is always determined to represent a specific column of results on the Combat Results Table (CRT).**

If the combat ratio in an attack is higher (or lower) than the highest (or lowest) shown on the table, it is simply treated as the highest (or lowest) column available. Note that the combat ratio is always a simplified version of the literal ratio. For example, if 11 combat strength points attacks four combat strength points, the combat ratio is simplified to '2 to 1'. Ratios are always rounded off in favor of the defender.

The attacker may deliberately lower the combat ratio, if he so desires, simply by announcing the fact before the throwing the die. This is sometimes advantageous (see the CRT).

**6.3 The abbreviation on the CRT will indicate that units are either retreated or destroyed.**

**Ae = Attacker eliminated.** All units involved in the attack are destroyed (except bombarding artillery). Defending unit has the option to advance after combat.

**Ar = Attacker retreats.** All units involved in the attack (except for bombarding artillery) are forced to move one hex away from the defender. Defending unit has the option to advance after combat.

**Ee = Equal elimination.** The defending force is eliminated and the attacking force must lose a number of combat strength points at least equal to the printed value of the defending force. If any attacking units survive, one of them may advance after combat. Bombarding artillery can never suffer from this result.

**Dr = defender retreat.** The defending unit is forced to move one hex away from the attacking unit(s). One of the attacking units may advance after combat.

**De = defender eliminated.** The defending unit is destroyed. One of the attacking units may advance after combat.

**6.4 Units may be retreated (by their owners) only into 'safe' hexes.**

A safe hex is defined as a traversable hex, not in an enemy zone of control. If there is no safe hex available, the unit is destroyed instead. A traversable hex is one that the unit could legitimately enter during a movement phase.

**6.5 When the only safe hex is occupied by a friendly unit, that unit may be displaced.**

The displaced unit must itself have a hex to retreat to (if not, the original unit is destroyed instead of causing displacement). The displaced unit may itself cause a displacement in a sort of chain reaction of retreats.

Note that a retreating unit may not displace an artillery unit that has yet to perform a required bombardment attack. A required bombardment is one that is made when some other friendly unit is in the zone of control of the enemy unit being bombarded and that friendly unit is attacking still another enemy unit.

**6.6 When a hex is vacated as a result of combat, a single victorious participating unit may advance into that hex.**

Such an advance as result of combat is an option which must be exercised immediately before going on to resolve any further combat in that phase. A unit is never forced to advance after combat. A unit may advance into an enemy controlled hex (even when advancing directly from an enemy controlled hex).

**6.7 Movement during the combat phase does not expend movement points.**

Retreat and advances are, technically, not considered to be movement.

**6.8 An artillery unit that is not adjacent to the unit that it is attacking is not affected by adverse combat results.**

When an artillery unit is bombarding or making a combination attack (as described in 5.8), it is totally unaffected by combat results. Even in the case of an 'Ee' result, the defender is destroyed but the artillery unit is unaffected. Bombarding artillery units may voluntarily retreat after combat when they obtain an Ae, Ar or Ee result.

## 7.0 REINFORCEMENTS

### **How Additional Units Enter the Game**

In addition to the force with which he starts a game, the Allied player receives Prussian units during the Movement Phase of Game Turn 3.

At any time during the specified Movement Phase, newly arrive units may enter the map in non-woods hexes of hex column 2300 (that is, the easternmost hex column).

**7.1 When reinforcements arrive on the map, they behave identically to units already on the map.**

When reinforcements are placed in an entry hex, the arriving unit must pay one movement point for entering that hex. When more than one unit enters in the same place, they enter singly without regard to which one entered first (that is, it doesn't cost subsequent units more to enter the map because they are entering "behind" the first unit). The units move and they may participate in combat in the player turn of arrival.

**7.2** Units may never be placed in an entry hex that is enemy occupied or which is in enemy zones of control.

They may never be placed in an entry hex under conditions that will force a violation of the movement rules (that is, too many units in the hex at the end of the Movement Phase).

**7.3** The entry of reinforcements may be delayed for as long as the player wishes.

Should the player so desire, he may hold back all or part of the reinforcements due him in any given game turn. He should keep a record of any such delayed reinforcements. He need not reschedule their appearance; they may be brought in at will in any of his subsequent Movement Phases. They must still enter by means of the proper entry hex.

## 8.0 HOW THE GAME IS WON

### ***Demoralization & the Conditions of Victory***

It is the object of both players to destroy 40 enemy strength points before losing 40 friendly strength points. The French player has the additional objective of exiting the map (through the hexes indicated on the map).

As losses accumulate during the game, the players should array the destroyed counters off the map in easily counted groups. Players should be especially alert to losses when the 40 strength point limit is approached.

**8.1** The Allied player wins by destroying 40 French Combat Strength Points before losing 40 points of his own.

If this happens, the game stops immediately and the Allied player is declared the winner.

**8.2** The Allied player is demoralized immediately upon losing 40 Combat Strength Points.

When demoralized, all Allied attacks (including those made by Prussians units) are reduced by one ratio column (for example, a 3-1 becomes a 2-1).

When demoralized, all French attacks are raised by one ratio column (for example, a 1-2 becomes a 1-1).

If the Allies destroy 40 French strength points after losing 40 of their own, this does not demoralize the French nor does it benefit the Allies in any way. The only hope for a demoralized Allied player is to prevent the seven French units from exiting the map (thereby drawing the game).

### ***8.3 The French player wins by demoralizing the Allies and exiting seven French units from the map.***

The units must exit from the indicated hexes during one or more French Movement Phases. Units may not exit the map as a result of combat (if forced to do so they are considered destroyed instead). French units that exit the map during their Movement phase are not considered destroyed. More than seven French units may exit the map and they may do so before or after the Allies lose 40 strength points. Once the minimum French Victory conditions have been achieved, the game stops immediately and the French player is declared the winner.

### ***8.4 The game is a draw if neither side fulfills its victory conditions.***

If the French destroy 40 Allied strength points but fail to exit their seven units before the end of the game or if neither player destroys 40 strength points, the game is a draw (which is, in historical terms, an Allied moral victory).

If by some freak chance, both armies reach the 40 or greater loss level at the same instant of combat (due to an "Eel" result) then the French player would win if he had already exited the seven units from the map; otherwise the Allied player is declared the winner.

## 9.0 THE GROUCHY VARIANT

For the sake of variety and historical experimentation, the players may opt (before the start of the game) to include the possibility of the appearance of additional French forces (under the command of Marshal Grouchy) as well as a greater or lesser Prussian reinforcing group.

Before the start of the game, each player takes a set of chits numbers 1 through 6, then them face down, selects one at random and keeps it a secret until the end of the game. This number is the key number that indicates what reinforcement variant is in effect for the game.

**9.1** The additional French and Prussian forces are labeled "Gt5v" on their backs. This code is shorthand for "possible entry into the game on Game Turn 5-variant."

**9.2** Any additional French or Prussian forces arrive on the same map edge and within the same rules as the regular Prussian reinforcement contingent.

**9.3 French reinforcement codes**

1,2 or 3 indicates no change, that is Grouchy does not arrive with any additional forces.  
4 or 5 indicates that Grouchy arrives with one 5-4, two 4-4, one 2-5 and one 3-3 on Game Turn 5.  
6 indicates all French reinforcements are available on Game Turn 5.

**9.4 Prussian Reinforcement Codes**

**1** indicates no change from the standard game.  
**2** indicates no Prussian reinforcements arrive at all (including the units normally received in Game Turn 3).  
**3** indicates normal Prussian reinforcements are delayed until Game turn 5. No additional units are received.  
**4** indicates reduced Prussian reinforcements arrive on Game Turn 3. One 5-4, one 4-4, one 3-5 and one 3-3. No other reinforcements available.  
**5** indicates regular Prussian reinforcements arrive on Game turn 3. One 5-4, one 4-5, one 3-5 and one 3-3 arrive on Game turn 5.  
**6** indicates all regular Prussian reinforcements arrive on Game Turn 3 plus all other available Prussian units arrive on Game turn 5.

**9.5 Players should feel free to invent their own variations on these reinforcement options.**

The forces that could have arrived on the main field of battle were highly valuable and there was a great deal of confusion amongst those in command.