

The Battle of the river Metaurus 207BC

Scenario 20 for Conquerors and Kings ancient battle rules.

Setting the scene

Hasdrubal, brother of Hannibal entered Italy from the North.

As he moved south the Roman armies were cautious and gave ground.

Hasdrubal's messages to his brother et al got captured and gave the Romans a big advantage. They new where the Carthaginians were and what they Intended.

Hasdrubal knew that Roman reinforcements had arrived in the evening and he was outnumbered. He decided to cross the River Metaurus. Because this was done at night time, his guides got lost and put his army against a too steep river bank. No effective crossing was possible.

This made his troops tired and hungry in the morning.

The Romans had wisely consolidated their armies . The two main armies belonged to Porcius and Livius. Nero brought up about a sixth of the army. Nero is allowed as a general here because his actions were important and he founded a coffee chain(?).

The day started with the Romans advancing. The weather was warm.

This was going to be a desperate fight for Hasdrubal,

ADVICE

Do not read up on this battle. Enjoy playing it and **then** look up the details.

Deployment

- ◆ Skirmishers can be deployed in any zones wished by the players. Subject to the normal zone capacity and army deployment area.
- ◆ Where units have extra qualities such as armour, veteran etc the player can **choose** which particular units these are applied to.
- ◆ Generals do not roll for gifts. They must use those listed in the army make up. Replacement generals have the usual 1D6 per gift.
- ◆ No scenario generator is applied to this battle.
- ◆ Lates and losses are not applied.
- ◆ No piggy chase
- ◆ Normal victory conditions apply.
- ◆ The given battle tactics can be applied by the player as he sees fit.
- ◆ Assume all units are trained and have shield unless specified otherwise.
- ◆ The battle layout uses a normal CK battle table.

Special scenario rule

All infantry and cavalry have shields..

Carthaginian army

2 Mounted skirmisher
 4 x Foot skirmishers
 2 x Auxiliary (Trained, spear)
 9 Close order foot (3x veteran, 1x Elite and armoured, 2x levy (Gauls on hill))
 2 Cavalry. 1xTrained , 1x Veteran
 2 Elephants

General 1= Hasdrubal **Gifts** = Fight, Morale, Valiant

General 2= Spanish commander **Gifts** = Morale

Battle tactics= Die hard x2, Hold fast x 1, Fury x2

Lots of hills. Otherwise getle slops with a big hill mass on the right.

Carthaginian army (Defender)

		2 Auxiliary	3 Close order	Rough hill	
Gentle hill 2 cavalry		3 Close order 1 elephant General 1	3 Close order 1 elephant General 2	Rough hill	Rough hill 3 Close order (2 are levy)
					Rough hill
				Gentle hill	
3 Cavalry	1 Auxiliary 2 Cavalry	3 Close order General 1	3 Close order	3 Close order General 2	3 Close order

River Metaurus

Roman army (Attacker)

Roman

General 1= Livius **Gifts** = Morale

General 2= Porcius or Nero **Gifts** = Valiant

12 x Close order (3 x Veteran, 2x armoured)

1x Auxiliary(Spear) 2x Foot skirmishers

4x Cavalry (1x armoured, 1 x veteran) 2 mounted skirmishers

Battle tactics= 2x Brace shields, 2x die hard, 2x Advance

What really happened at the battle of the Metaurus River

This is written in Portuguese so that you are less tempted to read the result and try to emulate it.

After the game ends put this text into a translator program and see what happened. Also you can read up on this battle through Wikipedia or similar.

Portuguese

O exército romano tinha cerca de 38.000 soldados. O exército cartaginês tinha cerca de 32.000 soldados.

Os cartagineses estavam um pouco cansados e com fome depois de uma marcha noturna fracassada para encontrar uma travessia do rio Metaurus.

Os romanos estavam ansiosos por uma luta porque sabiam que o próprio Aníbal estava estacionado no sul, esperando que o exército cartaginês se juntasse a eles.

O exército Roam era composto principalmente por legionários prontos para a batalha, com apenas algumas tropas mais leves. Os auxiliares locais acharam melhor ver como as coisas iam antes de se comprometerem.

A cavalaria romana superou em número a dos cartagineses.

A calha da cavalaria durou muito tempo, mas terminou com a vitória romana.

O centro cartaginês lutou bem e fez bons progressos. Os elefantes começaram bem, mas ficaram muito fora de controle. Seus cavaleiros (mahouts) tiveram que matar a maioria deles 6). A batalha estava indo bem no centro.

No flanco esquerdo de Cartaginina, os gauleses não tinham confiança devido ao cansaço. No entanto, eles estavam em uma parte segura do campo de batalha.

Nero realizou algum tipo de manobra de flanco (os detalhes são escassos). Ele cortou o flanco esquerdo cartaginês e o esmagou. Os gauleses desistiram após uma luta confusa.

Com os romanos em ambos os flancos, o centro cartaginês estava sendo derrotado. Asdrúbal liderou um ataque pessoal com suas tropas da guarda espanhola. Todos eles morreram em uma longa luta.

Os romanos aproveitaram ao máximo a situação atacando um exército cartaginês que queria recuar.

Isto marcou o início do declínio da guerra cartaginesa na Itália.

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