

The Battle of Ashdown 871AD

Scenario 4 for Conquerors and Kings ancient battle rules.

Setting the scene

This battle is smaller than most ancient battles, but is quite large by dark age English standards. It is winter.

The Viking and Saxon armies had been bashing it out around the town of Reading (pronounced *red ing*). The Vikings. The Saxons had been beaten by the Vikings at the assault upon Reading.

The Vikings decided to come out of Reading and finish off the Saxon menace.

The Vikings draw up their army in front of a long ridge in two big blocks.

The Saxons draw up behind the ridge also in two big blocks.

The Saxon left wing is late to the fight either by design or prayer.

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 but use those listed in the army make up.
- ◆ No scenario 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 unless specified otherwise.

Special scenario rule

- The pale coloured hill marks the point of a delaying action by Viking units. It should have a single bare thorn tree upon it.



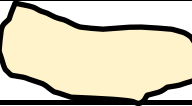





Viking army

1x mounted skirmishers
 1 x auxiliary
 8 x close order (3x veteran, 4x armoured)
 4x Foot skirmishers

General1= Halfdan Gifts = Valiant, Fight

General 2= Bagsac Gifts = Morale, Fight

Battle tactics= Fury x2, Brace shields x3

Viking (Danish) army (Attacker)					Start positions
	Close order x2 General 1	Close order x2	Close order x2 General 2	Close order x2 Auxiliary x1	
					
			Close order x3	Close order x3 General 2	
				Auxiliary x2	
Close order x3 General 1	Close order x2 Auxiliary x1	Auxiliary x1			
Saxon(English) army (Defending)					Start positions

This layout is for the normal CK battle table. The 6 raggedy shapes are gentle hills.

Saxon army

11 x Close order (1x veteran, 1xElite, 2 armoured)
 4x auxiliary
 4x Foot skirmishers

General1= Ethelred Gifts = Valiant, morale

General 2= Alfred Gifts = Valiant, morale

Battle tactics= 2x Advance, 2x Brace shields, 1x Die hard

What really happened at the battle of the long bridges

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

Havia uma neblina matinal de inverno que reduzia a visibilidade.

Os dois exércitos estavam em lados opostos ao longo do cume.

Esses exércitos consistiam em blocos de infantaria de ordem aproximada e movimento relativamente lento.

Ambos os exércitos foram divididos em dois comandos.

O comando saxão sob Alfredo subiu a colina para reivindicar o terreno maior. Os vikings responderam com um ataque frontal. Em seguida, os vikings moveram sua segunda metade do exército para o flanco do terreno elevado saxão. Os vikings não tinham conhecimento da outra metade do exército saxão. Ou talvez eles soubessem, mas decidiram matar a metade de Alfred primeiro?

As tropas de Alfredo lutaram bem e mantiveram terreno mais elevado.

Depois de um tempo (40 minutos ??), a outra metade do exército saxão atacou a metade viking que flanqueava.

A batalha continuou por um bom tempo. O Rei Viking, Bagsac, foi morto e Halfdan decidiu se retirar da batalha com as unidades Viking restantes.

A retirada foi ordenada, mas fortemente perseguida noite adentro pelos vingativos saxões.

Deve-se notar que os saxões eram certamente tão ferozes quanto os vikings nas batalhas. O cristianismo era um verniz fino.

December 2023