



Nightfall

THE GOONHAMMER UK OPEN MARCH 2025

What: Narrative Warhammer: The Horus Heresy Event

When: 14th and 15th March 2025

Where: De Montfort Students' Union, Campus Centre Building, Mill Ln, Leicester LE2 7DR

Games: Four singles games of 2500pts a side and optional 500pt Missions.

Version 1.0: Initial Release

NIGHTFALL

Great forces of the Loyalists gather on the Eastern Fringes: the stoic Ultramarines, the fierce Blood Angels and relentless Blood Angels. Each has passed through their own trials in the Heresy's opening salvos, but still remains mighty. They have not been shattered like the fools who fell into the Warmaster's trap at Istvaan. These Legions are the greatest threat the Traitors still face on their path to Terra, and it is the Warmaster's will that they remain far distant from the Throneworld.

Enter Curze: the Night Hunter, Dark King, the King of Terrors, the Last Judge. Trusted for nothing and by none, reviled but for his skills at butchery and bloody terror. Aboard his vessel, the Nightfall, his Legion were set a brutal task by the Warmaster: distraction and mayhem. This campaign started at the Tithe Road and spread to the Thramas Sector and the Gulgorahd Protectorate, and before long the entire Eastern Fringe was set aflame with fire and phosphex and blood. Every Primarch sent their most despicable and unruly commanders to join Curze's campaign of terror, considered a posting for the undesired and unmeritorious, not trusted with their Legion's greater goals. Some of these new Pirate lords become little more than Blackshields, contributing to the cause with bolter and blade, but keeping the stolen spoils for themselves.

The Lion answered the call, responding with the grand Orders of his own Legion, and assembling a battleforce of Loyalists in what he called the "Thramas Crusade", to reclaim and salvage the vital ground Curze had ravaged.

Over years, they battled for the fate of the Eastern Fringe, and this is the story we are here to tell.

Welcome to **Nightfall**, a Warhammer: The Horus Heresy narrative event. This pack is designed to familiarise you with the format, the specific rules we'll be using, how to create an army for the event, and to give you some information about the venue and timings.

In Nightfall, the players join two coalitions of Warlords under the command of Konrad Curze and Lion El'Johnson. The two teams will battle in a series of asymmetric missions of rapid assault, sabotage and subterfuge which play out the years long Thramas Crusade. Players will be both competing for victory and the favour of their Commander, under whose watchful eye the battle will occur.

Missions will be highly asymmetric and will evolve over the course of the weekend. We encourage players to bring custom modelled Objective Markers, representing valuable stockpiles of equipment, infrastructure, military targets, emotionally-significant Legion relics or unlucky civilians.

EVENT FORMAT

The weekend will consist of 4 games over the course of 2 days. If your game finishes early, we'll be taking this opportunity to run 500pt playtest games of the new Goonhammer Horus Heresy Skirmish Format.

This is **not** a competitive event. This is a **narrative** event.

We're all here to play games, shove models around the table, and experience the thrill of having tanks blow up and warlords run away like cowards. Bring fun, interesting lists and not just the thing you think will dominate on the table. In fact, there are no personal awards for winning the most games or scoring the most victory points, it all goes into the narrative. However, please do be aware that you may end up facing *any* kind of army and plan accordingly - make sure you have the key elements of any list and can face down a variety of foes.

We'll be playtesting new rules for Goonhammer's low points skirmish heresy format. We'll set up some additional tables for players who have finished their first games and want to try test the new rules, with ad hoc pairings and additional campaign victory points on the line.

We're not allowing Primarchs at the event, they will be played by the Goonhammer Event Team. We will be allowing Unique Characters, but only if they were feasibly present at the Thramas Crusade in the early and mid Heresy.

ARMY LIST SELECTION

Each player should create a 2500pt from any Faction (including Knight Household or Titan Ordinal detachments). The army may not feature Primarchs or any Unique characters not present during the Thramas Crusade.

For the 500pt side missions, players should build their army using the Crusade Primary Detachment. This detachment has no High Command slot and only 1 Command Slot, which can be used to unlock a single Auxiliary Detachment. You may not unlock only Apex Detachments. Only one unit may have a 2+ Save. No vehicle may have more than 33 combined AV.

We encourage players to bring flexible and mobile lists capable of holding and scoring objectives, as well as defending positions. Your army may be called to both attack or defend objectives in highly asymmetric missions.

LIST SUBMISSION

Lists should be submitted in Best Coast Pairings no later than 23:59 on 23rd February 2026 to give the organisers time to review. Please make sure your list is as clear as possible for your opponent. Lists created in Battlescribe should use the Chat Text export to make them easier to read.

If you want to send your list to the EOs for feedback ahead of submissions or to check you've done everything correctly, please email contact@goonhammer.com with "GHO UK HH LISTS" at the start of the subject line.

The event is available on Best Coast Pairings via this [link](#).

ALLEGIANCES

Tickets are for either the Traitor or Loyalist Allegiance, representing the forces that served under Curze and the Lion.

RULES, FAQs AND ERRATA

The event will use the latest version of Warhammer: The Horus Heresy - Age of Darkness (i.e. 3rd Edition). All Games Workshop FAQs and errata published up to two weeks ahead of the event. It will use rules supplements published up to four weeks ahead of the event. Anything published after this date will require EO approval.

If you have any queries related to list building, rules interaction and event rulings, please submit them to contact@goonhammer.com and specify "GHO UK HH" in the subject line.

SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

8:30 - 9:00 Registration
9:00 - 13:15 Game 1
13:15 - 14:00 Lunch
14:00 - 14:15 Briefing
14:15 - 18:15 Game 2

SUNDAY

08:45 - 09:00 Registration
09:00 - 12:15 Game 3
12:15 - 13:15 Lunch and Best Army Judging
13:15 - 17:25 Game 4
17:30 Prizegiving

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING

- 3-6 40mm Objective Markers, representing valuable stockpiles of equipment, infrastructure, military targets, emotionally-significant Legion relics or unlucky civilians.
- Your 2500pt army list
- Your optional 500pt army list
- Two printed copies of your lists
- A copy of the core rulebook and any books containing the profiles that your army is drawn from, physical or digital (e.g. *Liber Astartes*)
- A printed copy of any units you are using from a PDF resource (e.g. *Legacies of the Age of Darkness*)
- Dice, templates, measuring tapes, a pen/pencil
- A good attitude and willingness to embrace that this might be people's first exposure to the new edition

ARMY REQUIREMENTS

- All models are to be *Battle Ready*, painted and based as a minimum.
- All models are to be modelled WYSIWYG for main guns and armaments, but you do not need to model grenades, non-optional wargear and other minor items.
- Conversions are encouraged as long as it is still clear to your opponent what is going on.

While we respect that assembling and painting a full army is a time consuming and difficult challenge, we want all players to have the experience of playing against opponents who have put care and detail into their force.

If you're unsure whether a model or conversion is appropriate, reach out to us contact@goonhammer.com with "GHO UK HH" at the start of the subject line.

EVENT SPECIAL RULES

These changes may be updated or changed before the event depending on the publications, FAQs and errata released.

- A new sub-phase is added at the end of the Start Phase: the Line Sub-Phase:
- The Line (X) Special Rule and Comptroller (X) Special Rule has the following text, replacing its original rules:
 - If the unit with a model with this special rule controls an objective during the Line Sub-Phase of the controlling player's turn, they gain X Victory Points. Furthermore, the value of X is added to the Tactical Strength of a model that has this special rule. If Models with multiple variants of this Special Rule are part of the same Unit, then the values of X do not stack and only the highest value is used.
- Shot Selector only provides the Breaching (5+) rule.
- Legion Seeker Squads gain Support Squad (2).
- All Dreadnoughts gain Eternal Warrior (1).

The Line changes are designed to encourage Line units to stay on objectives to score points, to increase risk taking, and also to improve the power of Vanguard.

Before starting any game, please ensure you and your opponent have agreed on how each item of terrain works and will impact line of sight. The terrain rules will be played by the book by default, unless otherwise agreed by both players before starting their game.

PRIZES AND SPONSORS

The Goonhammer Open could not happen with support from our Event partners and sponsors. We'd like to thank each of them and encourage you to check them out!



Our sponsors have come through with some amazing prize support for everyone. Prizes will be awarded for the following:

- Best Army (Painting/Modelling) - Judges shortlist which players then vote on.
- Best Traitor / Loyalist - Combined sporting votes, game performance and hobby votes from opponents.
- Best Objective Markers - Player voted.

Commission painted models and armies cannot be considered for Best Army and Best Objective Markers awards.

REFUNDS

Requests for a refund on the ticket price can be made on Eventbrite up to 30 days ahead of the event.

ACCOMODATION

Being in the heart of Leicester there are plenty of options for accommodation for all different budgets within short walking distance.

PHOTOGRAPHY

The Goonhammer team will also be taking photos throughout the event. Our privacy policy is published on the Goonhamer Open UK events page on the website.

ACCESSIBILITY

We want to ensure our event is accessible to everyone. If you have any specific accessibility requirements or if there is anything we can do to make your experience more comfortable please let us know at contact@goonhammer.com with UK GH0 in the subject line.

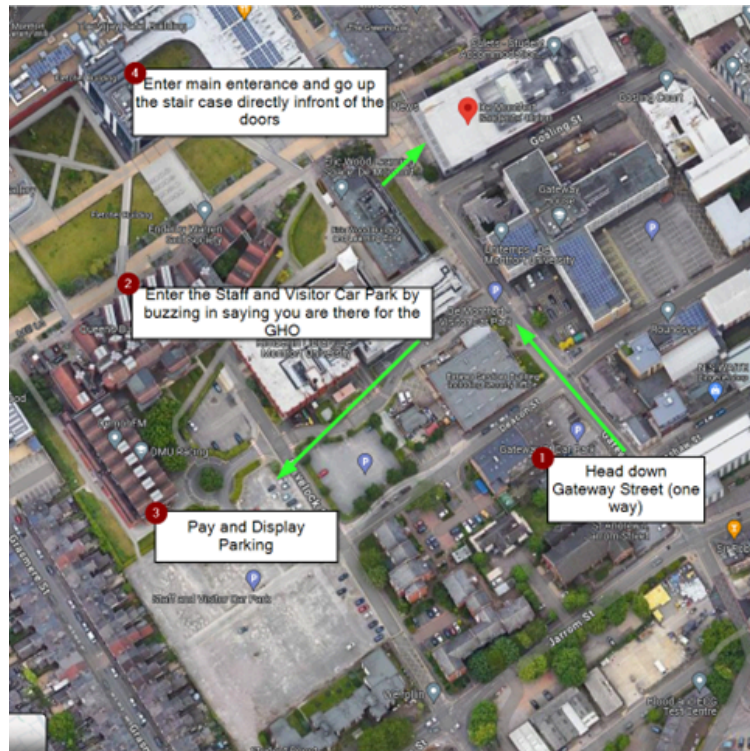
FOOD AND VENDORS

The venue will have a staffed bar serving refreshments and snacks throughout the weekend. Alcoholic beverages are available; we kindly ask that you check with your opponent before getting a drink out of courtesy. Any drunken behaviour will not be tolerated at the event, drink responsibly.

The Student Union is well placed for a short walk to numerous different food options - such as Tesco, Dominos and burger joints five minutes away. The lobby has a lounge ideal for having your lunch if you bring it in or have it delivered. There is no issue with bringing outside food into the venue.

FINDING THE VENUE AND PARKING

The event is hosted at the De Montfort Student Union building (LE2 7DR) pictured below. We have use of the onsite parking at the Staff and Visitor Car Park. This can be prebooked for the whole of Saturday and Sunday using this [link](#) or via the pay machines (will need to top up every 24 hours).



As inner Leicester is all one way roads, do not overshoot the parking entrance (pictured below) – this will cost you 5 minutes of looping back around! **At the security gate (pictured below), if the gate is down say you are here for the Warhammer and they'll let you in!**

