

LURE XII – COOL PLAY TOURNAMENT REPORT

“And now the best promoted tournament ...” *Birks* announcement of the **Cool Play Tournament** this year was a successful flattery attempt on me. It was the first **Cool Play Tournament** event with that many champions and outstanding players. For example we got *Marcos Cárceres*, *Hans-Werner Milpetz*, *Bernd Brunner* ... But we had a famous drop out too, *Heiner Viehfues* was too exhausted after 5 rounds of General Opponent. Poor *Manuel Cabezahl* was ill and had to stay in Madrid. Get well soon *Manuel*. But most impressive were two other players who joined. *Franck Stassin* who rouse the Ents of Fangorn to march versus *Isengard* (that’s cool by itself if *Franck* plays Ents) and *Patric Laxander* who gave *Radagast* a break from General Opponent and let him join **Cool Play Tournament**.



The card shown is titled "DRÚADAN FOREST" and "WOSES OF THE DRÚADAN FOREST". It features an illustration of a forest scene with a large, muscular, grey-skinned Wose in the foreground. The card includes the text "ANÓRIEN" and "WOSE FACTION". Below the illustration, it says "Nearest Haven: Lórien" and "Unique. Playable at Drúadan Forest if the influence check is greater than 9".

1st round: *Alex* vs. *Patric*

I thought ° o O (That would be easy, ain't it? I knew the *Radagast* Deck better than him, knew what company would move where to play what resource. Also I knew the hazard strategy and all possible **Cool Play Turns** he could make.) but a question of *Patric* broke my concentration: “*I havn't looked at the deck at all or the rules, could you help me a little with it?*”

My dream of a victory over a real **MECCG champion** burst like a soap bubble. Of course I had to help him with his deck. It wouldn't be cool take advantage of this situation, ain't it? He played like a young god and scored many marshalling points per turn. We both played with agents and the table got crowded far too soon. At some point he managed to attack my *Fatty* with *My Precious* in *Wellingshall*. I had the choice to use *Concealment* but I took the local decision to fight. His *My Precious* was hidden and got modified prowess of 4 while my *Fatty* had prowess 1 but *Ghân-buri-Ghân* and *Sam* tapped for support to boost him to prowess of 3. We rolled 11 vs. 10 and had a tie by both 14. We agreed to let it be worth one **Cool Play Point** each. I accidentally played *Torque o Hues* with my warrior company and not with the hobbits. *Gimli* whield *Durin's Axe* and had allready slain *Wild Trolls* and “*Bert*”

(Bûrat) as I draw my *Legolas*. During my organisation phase I meet him by a chance in *Minas Tirith* and announced *Patric*: “I rise to the challenge, whoever kills the most minions will get an additional Cool Play Point at the end of the game. So either your *Gimli* or my *Legolas*.” *Patric* agreed to the terms. So I headed to *Isengard* to get *Legolas* a weapon, it was *Glamdring*. In the end *Gimil* should proven himself to be the tougher slayer and won the challenge. *Bombur* became Guzzler under the Mountain and *Patric* scored 47 marshalling points, he fulfilled his scenario and received 2 additional Tournament Points. Since he played more **Cool Play Turns** he got another 2 additional. It got pulverized with a 3:8 lost.

2nd round: Alex vs. David

David still suffered from his intoxication from Drinking Game. He played the *Pallando* Deck and the advance was once again on my side. He got and asked me to help him with the deck. What did. He did surprisingly well and his characters attacks of Trolls and Agents. He besieged my accompanied by two hobbits in *Bree*. The took the the Orcs! And played a *Nouble Hound*. At this me, if I only went there to play a *Noble Hound* What shall I say? The doleful truth was “Yes, I was not able to stop his *Denethor* from fulfilling my wose agents didn’t *Seek without Success* wizard back and delayed his scenario till the end Since I was in lead I marveled my own *Siege* company. *David* was rewarded with Points for the *Denethor* scenario missed all his factions rolls *Lindon*, *Rangers of Ithilien*) and *Easterling Camp* nor *Southron* my wose factions. Victory for the



0 points from his 1st round should I say, of course I survived my combind *Ghân-buri-Ghân* fight and beaten back point *David* asked and nothing else. *that’s all.*” Yet his quest but and send his of the game. to release his 2 Tournament but since he (the *Elves of* didn’t reached *Oasis* I doubled wose and I won.



3rd round: Alex vs. Thomas

After playing my deck two times by now and knowing how to unleash the full power of the agents it was gruelling match. It like 02:00 AM in the night already and *Thomas* was tired. He played the *Return of the Tyrant* combind with *Pallando* scenarios. I send all my agents southwards and besieged his companies or send them back. Holding him out of *Mordor* area was key to win the game. I pulled over *Mordor in Arms* from the sideboard. He got neither *Marvels Told* nor *Withdrawn to Mordor*. So the *Siege* and agents bascially did everything and not my poor resource play. He forget to put *Searching Eye* in his sideboard and was totally helpless versus my sneaking company. He got good stuff to play on my warrior company thought. *Corsairs* and *Sellswords* with *Rank upon Rank*. *Éomer* and *Erkenbrand* struggled and one got killed the other wounded. I dragged around the wounded warrior till almost end of the game since I simply had not the time to go to *Lorien* to get him healed. Won in the last round brought me to place 5 on the ranking.