

LURE XI – COOL PLAY TOURNAMENT REPORT



The propaganda machinery was rolling upwards *Bacharach* to the castle *Stahleck*. Heavy advertising due to flyers in the doorways, on refrigerators and even on some players' beds made the *Cool Play Tournament* event possible. Scheduled at the very same time as the famous *General Opponent Tournament* we gathered eleven *Cool Players* without playing resource cards like (*Muster* or *Tempering Friendship*).

The subtitle this year was "Hazards Double Score" and by the end of the event the participants received a special gift: The *Fell Fowl*, Lugbúrz Leghorn the Chicken of the Black Gates. Actually the plan was to give double the amount of *Cool Play Points* for hazards

~~Hazards Double Score~~

but the announcement would have come too late (so it was dropped).

Yet another vegetarian player decided to play »green«. With two vegetarian players we got ¼ of all available vegetarian players at *Lure* participating *Cool Play Tournament* this year.

Heartfelt thanks to *Thomas Hermann*, who did a great job as *Rule Guru in Charge* and holding the fearsome time limit in check!

1st round: Alex vs. Uli

I knew he would play his scenarios *Marvels of the Northern World* / *The Wizard's pupil* / *Alatar on the Hunt*. So I sidebored some hazards versus *Gap of Isen*, *Fangorn* and *Rohan* into my deck. *Uli* was playing a dragon hazard deck, even I noticed that after facing *Itangast* twice and *Smaug* once. First ate up both *Elladan* and *Elrohir* and second wounded my *Radagast*. Since *Radagast* is the smartest beeing in the woods, except the fox, and the owl, and the raven, and the ... well, I did burn my *Sacrifice of Form* into the detainment automatic-attack at *The Worthy Hills*?! Fool. I came to the conclusion that this might have been a mistake, if I had played a smarter avatar. Someone could say my game was a paved path of errors using *Mouth of Sauron* while knowing my opponent plays *The Hunt* and *The Old Thrush*, but I would declare this as a minor epic failure. But on the other hand some *Cool Play Turns* worked quite well. For some odd reason my hazards barely harmed my opponent. Maybe it was the amount of warrior based cards like *Risky Blow* and *Lucky Strike*. My *Elrond* got his two dwarven factions and *Thráin* his two elven factions. *Radagast* became *The White Wizard*, held *The White Council* and recognized all of a sudden all his mistakes that cost me points.

Counting *marshalling points* total we end up in a draw. Adding all the *Cool Play Turns* and *Cool Play Scenarios* to the score made it a victory for me. Hurray!





2nd round: *Alex vs. Gert »Busy« Dollen*
 Ha! He played one of the **Cool Play Challenge Decks** (*Pallando / Denethor*). All the advantages should be on my side. I knew when and where his scenarios would bring him to what sites and regions. Unfortunately I could not use those advantages, I didn't have the proper cards in hand, nor in deck. Last help was my sideboard and I got *Mordor in Arms* and *Corsairs of Umbar*. But *Pallando* was a much smarter wizard than my *Radagast*, who lost his white wizard status at start of the match again. A lot of

cancellation later the marvels were told, that *Mordor in Arms* went down the discard pile. At least *Mouth of Sauron* saved the day, letting *Corsairs of Umbar* strike in *Mouths of the Anduin*. I could not stop *Pallando* nor *Denethor* (yeah I wounded him, but failed at the almost impossible bodycheck of six). Well, guess what epic fail my wizard did. He brought *Thranduil* under direct influence in round one. Maybe he thought about the fact, that it is hard to make a decision on what to discard and at end of each movement hazard phase. He let me with two copies of *Sacrifice of Form* in the deck and the unfulfilled *Radagast* scenario behind. *Gert* outscored me with **Cool Play** stuff but normal *marshalling points* did favor me this time. I won my second match in a row.

3rd round: *Alex vs. Thomas*

Yet another **Cool Play Challenge Deck** I knew. Advantages on my side again and what could happen in the worst case? Dragon hazard strategy and *Radagast* had *Sacrifice of Form*. I simply have to stop *Boromir* and all would be fine. But things went in the opposite direction. *Thomas'* first turn was a total surprise for me. Expecting two companies doing the stuff I had planned for this deck *Thomas'* dudes split into four groups rushing out to overrun my hazard deck. Throwing every creature into that first rush I ran out of hazards to really do harm to *Boromir* this turn. Amazed by this opening I stumbled into my first turn. *Thorin* showed up and I thought he might be a good character to help out *Radagast* and *Thrain*. That was a big mistake again, but of course I didn't notice that yet. I did notice it again, as I draw up my *Sacrifice of Form*. *Bairanax* was hungry for elven flesh. *Elrond* and his sons did much better than versus *Itangast* in round 1. Double *Vilya* power and a *Risky Blow* for the little elf slaughtered the lizard. Sideboard was my friend again to raise some nasty surprises for my little *Boromir* boy on his journey to *Minas Tirith*. With all those companies *Thomas* shoved around in *Gap of Isen*. I tried to ignore the odd feeling to know I forgot to put *Cave Worms* into my hazard deck while deck building! So *River* and *Enchanted Stream* had to at least delay his companies. But I couldn't stop him from planting *The White Tree* in *Minas Tirith*. And how could someone stop *Alatar* on *The Hunt*? The end of the match was as epic as the match between *Gimli* and *Legolas*. It was a single point granting my victory, hurray.





Bravest *Cool Player* was *David Munos* this year. He played with german cards, that he couldn't read. He only read two pages of the *Cool Play Rule Booklet*, so didn't know the *Cool Play Turns* and *Cool Play Scenarios* proper. And all this while suffering from his *Drinking Game* intoxication. It is no surprise that he did not know what hazards are lurking in vegetarian players' decks at *Cool Play Tournament*. Hmm... pickles while feeling sick, yum yum yum. We convinced his soul to rejoin next years *Cool Play* .

Hans-Werner Milpetz alive and kicking! Hail to the champion from 2009. He boggled on the concept scoring 15 tournament points in his first match while playing the infamous *Women Power Deck*. Heroically he prevented *Arwen* from *Selery Slayers* by eating pickles he normally dislikes. (even two times). Did you know dunking *The One Ring* twice in the same game would only give you 14 TP?

Hans-Werner is back. Bow down to our new champion from 2011.



Sooo... Mr. *Laxander*!

Unless you want to sleep in *Cool Play* bedclothes or worse. You shall reconsider joining next years *Cool Play Tournament*. No-one will blame you, if you should be afraid of vegetarian hazard creatures. Nor would someone tease you not playing *General Opponent*, if you do win the *Cool Play Tournament* at the same time.

So grant *Fallen Radagast* a rest next year Mr. *Laxander*. Join *Cool Play*.

Many thanks to all helpers and participants of this year's *Cool Play Tournament*. I look forward to meeting you again next year. For all of you who never tried, join *Cool Play Tournament*.

