NEFS & GALLEYS v 0.2 – Rules designed by Hervé Tardy - 1992/2004

NEFS & GALLEYS

Extension for CRY HAVOC, SIEGE, OUTREMER/CROISADES and VIKINGS

The rules below allow the rules of VIKINGS to be adapted for naval combat in the Middle Ages, be it in the Mediterranean Sea or other Northern Seas. Only alterations to the standard rules are given below; if nothing is mentioned then the rules for VIKINGS will apply.

1.1 SHIP DESCRIPTIONS

Six new ship types are used in NEF & GALLEY:

1.1.1 The nef

This large ship, also called round ship, was mainly used for sea navigation. Crusaders of the XIIth

century used this type of vessel for their overseas pilgrimage. It was also used by Genoese and Pisans merchants to open profitable trade routes.

The nef depicted in NEFS & GALLEYS boasts both fore and aft decks, as well as 2 masts including one with a watch post. Sails are 7 hexes wide. The hexes of the upper deck are higher above the waterline than those of ships spreading on 3 hexes wide only.

1.1.2 The galley

The Byzantine, Saracen and Christian war fleets consisted of galleys, which were the best warships of the Middle Ages. The galley has two decks: the lower deck with the rowing benches and the upper deck for the warriors and steersman. The ship was rowed by galley slaves or war prisoners, except on Byzantines galleys: they used paid workers.

The galley is a fast ship but it is difficult to manoeuvre, and in practice it cannot move backwards. War engines such as ballistas and catapults were often installed on the upper deck. The Byzantine galleys were additionally equipped with a tube at the bow of the upper deck that served to throw the terrible Greek Fire.

The galley depicted in NEFS & GALLEYS is equipped with fore and aft decks, as well as rowing benches. The hexes of the upper deck are higher above the waterline than those of ships spreading on 3 hexes wide only.

1.1.3 The horse carrier

Called Huissier in French (from an old word meaning « gate »), this type of ship was specially designed to board horses. She is equipped with a side gate to access

directly the keel. This entrance had to be sealed during navigation, as it lays partially under water. Horses are kept in place through a belt passing under their belly.

The horse carrier depicted in NEFS & GALLEYS can accommodate 12 horses and is only equipped with an aft deck. The mast bears a 7-hex wide sail with a watch post on top.

1.1.4 The felucca

This vessel is used both by Arab merchantmen and by Saracen pirates. Moving only under sail, its triangular lateen sail allows it to capture the wind and manoeuvre easily. The felucca is represented by a Viking drakkar with a 5-hex sail.









1.1.5 The cog

A general-purpose ship, used for coastal trade and even navigation, the cog is mainly used to carry supplies and construction materials. Its rectangular sail with a complex system of control makes the boat very slow and difficult to manoeuvre. The cog is represented by a Saxon galley with a 5-hex sail.

1.1.6 The longboat

This boat is used to embark and disembark passengers from galleys and nefs when they are not moored in port. It is operated by the oars alone and has no rudder. Like the rowboat, it is easy to capsize. The longboat is represented by a Saxon galley.



