

CASLO XXIII AAR



Introduction

CASLO XXIII was held in Ottawa, Ontario. A record 36 players took part over three days, May 17-19, 2019. The tournament featured a strong field, with 5 former tournament winners present, including the two-time defending champ. We also welcomed a number of first time CASLO participants, some from the local gaming community and others from across the continent. Many thanks to all for coming out and making it a great event!

Sponsors and Prizes

Once more our loyal sponsors were very generous: everyone was going home with a prize. Many thanks to Battleschool, Lone Canuck Publishing, MMP, LFT, BFP, Alex Key's Hobbies and Games, and Broken Ground Design for their support and friendship. As well, two local gamers, Rob MacDonald (dice-tower) and Steve Hewitt (Canadian Sherman tank model) contributed special prizes.



Game On!

The tournament opened Friday at noon with the traditional toast to Jim McLeod, founder of the CASLO tournament. As part of the tradition, a wee dram of Scotch was offered to all, and with spirits lifted, play began.

Round 1: The Fat Lady Sings

This round featured late war scenarios. But it wasn't all monster AFVs and special weapons. Tin cans showed up, captured weapons were central, and second line troops and Partisans played their parts as occupied countries rose up to help their liberators while the Third Reich tried to land its last punches.

CASLO pits the top half of the field against the bottom half in this round. All 5 scenario options were played with Axis players holding a 12-5 advantage over the Allies, due to a perfect 6-0 records in SP259 Corridor to Extinction. Defense!

| Round 1 | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|--|
| Scenario Name | Allied Player | Result | Axis Player | Result | |
| FrF76 Pain in the Neck | Jean-Pierre Raymond | Won | Alain Chabot | Loss | |
| SP259 Corridor to Extinction | Tim Kelly | Loss | Andy Beaton | Won | |
| ELC04 Dragoons, Parachutistes, and the Dutch Resistance | James Rimmer | Loss | Rich Domovic | Won | |
| FrF76 Pain in the Neck | Andrew Ryerson | Loss | Kevin Killeen | Won | |
| FrF76 Pain in the Neck | Rob MacDonald | Loss | Ken Young | Won | |
| V24 Eagles Against Lions | Keith Hill | Won | Kurt Berger | Loss | |
| SP259 Corridor to Extinction | David Garvin | Loss | Erik Lindblad | Won | |
| FrF76 Pain in the Neck | Michael Rodgers | Won | Jim Suderman | Loss | |
| FrF76 Pain in the Neck | Jim Rudek | Loss | Jonathan Kay | Won | |
| FrF100 Deutsch Lesson | Doug Rimmer | Loss | Bruce Stevenson | Won | |
| SP259 Corridor to Extinction | Blair Bellamy | Loss | Jeff Wasserman | Won | |
| FrF76 Pain in the Neck | Ray Woloszyn | Won | Steffen Knippel | Loss | |
| SP259 Corridor to Extinction | Ray Kruger | Loss | George Kelln | Won | |
| V24 Eagles Against Lions | Jean-Francois Fortin | Won | Brent Pollock | Loss | |
| SP259 Corridor to Extinction | Dan Braund | Loss | Darren Kovacs | Won | |
| SP259 Corridor to Extinction | Denis Leclair | Loss | Dino Limosani | Won | |
| FrF100 Deutsch Lesson | Mike Rosberg | Loss | Rene Cote | Won | |

Round 2: Canada

Scenarios in this round covered Canadian attacks in Italy, starting in December '43, and across France, with a final scenario seeing them defend against a German counterattack in the last months of the war. Sturmtigers, Kangaroos, Crocodiles, deluxe boards, HASL maps, HIPsters, OBA and Mines were just some of the ingredients that players mixed together in search of victory. Our boys had a 10-6 record in this round, with the attacking and defending side each claiming 8 victories. Canadian players held a 3-2 against non-Canadians (aka Americans), with both US victories coming while playing the Canadian side. Four of five scenarios were played with MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet, played on deluxe boards, being the crowd favourite.



| Round 2 | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|--|--------|---------------------|--------|
| Scenario Name | Allied Player | | Result | Axis Player | Result |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | James Rimmer | | Loss | Ray Kruger | Won |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | Keith Hill | | Won | Andy Beaton | Loss |
| HS32 A Few Rounds | Steffen Knippel | | Won | Tim Kelly | Loss |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | Mike Rosberg | | Won | Kurt Berger | Loss |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | Erik Lindblad | | Won | Kevin Killeen | Loss |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | Jean-Francois Fortin | | Loss | Jean-Pierre Raymond | Won |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | Rich Domovic | | Loss | Bruce Stevenson | Won |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | Jonathan Kay | | Loss | Ken Young | Won |
| HS32 A Few Rounds | Ray Woloszyn | | Won | Michael Rodgers | Loss |
| CDN17 Heart of Oak | George Kelln | | Won | David Garvin | Loss |
| HS32 A Few Rounds | Denis Leclair | | Loss | Doug Rimmer | Won |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | Darren Kovacs | | Won | Dino Limosani | Loss |
| CDN17 Heart of Oak | Andrew Ryerson | | Won | Jim Suderman | Loss |
| ELC03 Kangaroos in Louisendorf | Jim Rudek | | Won | Dan Braund | Loss |
| HS32 A Few Rounds | Jeff Wasserman | | Won | Rene Cote | Loss |
| ELC03 Kangaroos in Louisendorf | Rob MacDonald | | Loss | Alain Chabot | Won |

Round 3: Gurkhas!

Now things began to get serious; after two pleasant rounds on Friday, Saturday morning started to separate the best from the rest. And what better way to separate than by Gurkha! Set in Italy, Tunisia and Burma, against German, Italian and Japanese forces, round 3 scenarios required the Gurkhas to attack in close quarters, hold their ground and carry out fighting withdrawals. Three of the scenarios were set in PTO terrain. While several were quite small, two of them featured 15-20 squads per side. It was time to find out if it's okay for Gurkhas to bring a knife to a gunfight!

And the results were the most even round so far. The Gurkha sides went 7-10 with the Attacking sides going 9-8. After the fighting was done, 5 players stood 3-0: Keith Hill, George Kelln, Jean-Pierre Raymond, Bruce Stevenson, and Jeff Wasserman.

| Round 3 | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
| Scenario Name | Allied Player | Result | Axis Player | Result |
| SP242 Ciao Gurkha Ciao! | James Rimmer | Won | Denis Leclair | Loss |
| SP242 Ciao Gurkha Ciao! | Brent Pollock | Won | Rob MacDonald | Loss |
| SP242 Ciao Gurkha Ciao! | David Garvin | Loss | Kurt Berger | Won |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | Doug Rimmer | Loss | Andy Beaton | Won |
| SP80 Die Gurkha Die! | Keith Hill | Won | Ken Young | Loss |
| SP242 Ciao Gurkha Ciao! | Blair Bellamy | Won | Tim Kelly | Loss |
| SP242 Ciao Gurkha Ciao! | Rene Cote | Loss | Jean-Francois Fortin | Won |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | Andrew Ryerson | Loss | Jonathan Kay | Won |
| SP80 Die Gurkha Die! | Steffen Knippel | Loss | Kevin Killeen | Won |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | Alain Chabot | Loss | Dino Limosani | Won |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | Jean-Pierre Raymond | Won | Rich Domovic | Loss |
| ASL156 Broken Bamboo | Erik Lindblad | Loss | Jeff Wasserman | Won |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | Dan Braund | Won | Jim Suderman | Loss |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | Jim Rudek | Loss | Mike Rosberg | Won |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | Ray Kruger | Loss | Michael Rodgers | Won |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | George Kelln | Won | Darren Kovacs | Loss |
| ASL156 Broken Bamboo | Ray Woloszyn | Loss | Bruce Stevenson | Won |

Round 4: Tin Cans

From the first weeks of the war to September '42, round 4 featured scenarios using 8 different nationalities, each trying to use their underwhelming AFVs to secure victory. Tin Cans abounded in battles on 3 continents. And there was more: air support, PTO, simultaneous setup, OBA, and armor leaders gave players different choices to achieve their missions.

Despite all those options, most players choose Kotovskij, Russia as their hill to die on: 11 of the 17 games played J130 The Art of Dying, including virtually all of the top matches. It was a day for the Allies: as shooting stopped in the early hours of Sunday, the Allies had 12 victories, all of them achieved in defense.

And then there were three 4-0: Keith, Jean-Pierre, and Jeff.

| Round 4 | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| Scenario Name | Allied Player | Result | Axis Player | Result |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Michael Rodgers | Loss | Kevin Killeen | Won |
| BoF2 A Polish Requiem | Jeff Wasserman | Won | George Kelln | Loss |
| J130 The Art of Dying | David Garvin | Loss | Andrew Ryerson | Won |
| BoF2 A Polish Requiem | Ray Kruger | Won | Rene Cote | Loss |
| J130 The Art of Dying | James Rimmer | Won | Alain Chabot | Loss |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Keith Hill | Won | Erik Lindblad | Loss |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Andy Beaton | Won | Dino Limosani | Loss |
| BoF2 A Polish Requiem | Doug Rimmer | Won | Mark Kraatz | Loss |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Blair Bellamy | Loss | Brent Pollock | Won |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Ken Young | Won | Darren Kovacs | Loss |
| WO22 The Cost of Non Compliance | Steffen Knippel | Loss | Rich Domovic | Won |
| BoF2 A Polish Requiem | Jim Suderman | Won | Rob MacDonald | Loss |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Jean-Pierre Raymond | Won | Bruce Stevenson | Loss |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Rob MacDonald | Loss | Jim Rudek | Won |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Dan Braund | Won | Kurt Berger | Loss |
| J130 The Art of Dying | Ray Woloszyn | Won | Mike Rosberg | Loss |
| BFP35 Mai Phu | Jean-Francois Fortin | Won | Jonathan Kay | Loss |

Round 5: Something New

The idea behind this round was to give players something new: two were from new HASL releases and featured special SSRs which are included. Two more were set during the Korean War and required Forgotten War counters. Players focused on one of the HASL scenarios as HF6 Jackpot Jones got 9 players, including both matches with the 4-0 players to determine the new CASLO Champion. This round went well for the Allies who won 12 times.



TD Doug Rimmer (left) presents award to 2019 CASLO Champion Jean-Pierre Raymond

In the championship matches, Jean-Pierre Raymond won as the Allies, while Jeff Wasserman won as the Axis. Under CASLO rules, players get 10 points for a win and 1 bonus point for each game won by the opponents that the player beats. The player with the most points wins the tournament. In 2019, that victory went to Jean-Pierre Raymond on the strength of one extra bonus point!

| Round 5 | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------|----------------|--------|
| Scenario Name | Allied Player | Result | Axis Player | Result |
| RO3 Defenders of Stalingrad | David Garvin | Won | Alain Chabot | Loss |
| RO3 Defenders of Stalingrad | Brent Pollock | Won | Andrew Ryerson | Loss |
| FrF98 Amerikanskaya Suka | Doug Rimmer | Won | Olivier Poulin | Loss |
| RO3 Defenders of Stalingrad | Darren Kovacs | Won | Mike Rosberg | Loss |
| A70 Wintergewitter | Denis Leclair | Loss | Mark Kraatz | Won |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Michael Rodgers | Won | Jim Rudek | Loss |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Jim Suderman | Won | Blair Bellamy | Loss |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Jean-Pierre Raymond | Won | Ken Young | Loss |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Keith Hill | Loss | Jeff Wasserman | Won |
| FrF98 Amerikanskaya Suka | Ray Kruger | Won | Erik Lindblad | Loss |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Bruce Stevenson | Loss | Kevin Killeen | Won |
| FrF98 Amerikanskaya Suka | Andy Beaton | Won | George Kelln | Loss |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Rich Domovic | Won | Dan Braund | Loss |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Steffen Knippel | Won | Kurt Berger | Loss |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Dino Limosani | Won | James Rimmer | Loss |
| RO3 Defenders of Stalingrad | Rob MacDonald | Loss | Rene Cote | Won |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | Jean-Francois Fortin | Loss | Ray Woloszyn | Won |

Scenario Analysis

Of the 25 scenarios offered in the 5 rounds, 20 were played, showing a strong, balanced set of choices. From those 20, 11 had at least three playings each. Disappointingly, in round 5 neither of the two scenarios set during the Korean War were selected. Overall, Allied players went 46-38 with over half of those wins coming in the last two rounds while Attacking players were 37-47, having been thumped in both rounds 1 and 4.

| Scenarios Played | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------|----------------|----------|----------|----------------|-------|
| Scenario | Allied Wins | Axis Wins | Overall Record | Attacker | Defender | Overall Record | |
| ELC04 Dragoons, Parachutistes, and the Dutch Resistance | 0 | 1 | 0-1 | | 1 | 0 | 1-0 |
| FrF76 Pain in the Neck | 3 | 3 | 3-3 | | 3 | 3 | 3-3 |
| FrF100 Deutsch Lesson | 0 | 2 | 0-2 | | 0 | 2 | 0-2 |
| SP259 Corridor to Extinction | 0 | 6 | 0-6 | | 0 | 6 | 0-6 |
| V24 Eagles Against Lions | 2 | 0 | 2-0 | 5-12 | 2 | 0 | 2-0 |
| MWT7 The Streets of Carpiquet | 4 | 4 | 4-4 | | 4 | 4 | 4-4 |
| ELC03 Kangaroos in Louisendorf | 1 | 1 | 1-1 | | 1 | 1 | 1-1 |
| HS32 A Few Rounds | 3 | 1 | 3-1 | | 1 | 3 | 1-3 |
| CDN17 Heart of Oak | 2 | 0 | 2-0 | 10-6 | 2 | 0 | 2-0 |
| SP242 Ciao Gurkha Ciao! | 3 | 2 | 3-2 | | 3 | 2 | 3-2 |
| FrF65 War Ensemble | 3 | 5 | 3-5 | | 5 | 3 | 5-3 |
| SP80 Die Gurkha Die! | 1 | 1 | 1-1 | | 1 | 1 | 1-1 |
| ASL156 Broken Bamboo | 0 | 2 | 0-2 | 7-10 | 0 | 2 | 0-2 |
| WO22 The Cost of Non Compliance | 0 | 1 | 0-1 | | 0 | 1 | 0-1 |
| J130 The Art of Dying | 7 | 4 | 7-4 | | 4 | 7 | 4-7 |
| BoF2 A Polish Requiem | 4 | 0 | 4-0 | | 0 | 4 | 0-4 |
| BFP35 Mai Phu | 1 | 0 | 1-0 | 12-5 | 0 | 1 | 0-1 |
| RO3 Defenders of Stalingrad | 3 | 1 | 3-1 | | 3 | 1 | 3-1 |
| FrF98 Amerikanskaya Suka | 3 | 0 | 3-0 | | 3 | 0 | 3-0 |
| HF6 Jackpot Jones | 6 | 3 | 6-3 | | 3 | 6 | 3-6 |
| A70 Wintergewitter | 0 | 1 | 0-1 | 12-5 | 1 | 0 | 1-0 |
| Totals | | | | 46-38 | | | 37-47 |

Thank yous

First of all, a big thank you to all of our registered players, from near and far. Everyone of you was a great addition to the tournament. CASLO moves from city to city each year. I hope to see many of you again next year wherever we are, and when CASLO comes back to Ottawa in the near future.

Many people from Ottawa helped and in particular Rob MacDonald, Denis Leclair, Rene Cote, Reg Plummer, Adrian Earle, Chris Doary, Steve Hewitt, and James Rimmer all made important contributions.

My two CASLO colleagues, Michael Rodgers and Darren Kovacs were also of great assistance in the months leading up to the tournament.

Thanks for the memories!

Doug Rimmer
CASLO XXIII Tournament Director