First Bull Run

July 21, 1861 Virginia

"In every case I believe that the firing of the rebels was better than ours. At any rate I am sure that ours was very bad, the rear files sometimes firing into and killing the front ones."

Col. William B. Franklin

Background
During the early months of the war political pressure was brought on the Union field commander Irwin McDowell to quickly advance, engage the enemy, and end the rebellion. Also, on McDowell's mind was the fact that many of his troops were three month volunteers whose enlistment would shortly expire, leaving him without a sufficient force with which to confront the Confederates. Marching out of Washington on the 16th July, McDowell came up with a plan to outflank the Rebel defenses on Bull Run. His columns set out from Centreville, just to the north of the Confederate lines, on July 21.

The Confederates, on the other hand, had deployed their army to cover the many fords which offered a crossing of Bull Run. Aware of the Federal advance, the Confederates had carried out a strategic movement by rail, the first such use of railroads in military history, bringing east the forces in the Shenandoah to reinforce the troops spread out behind Bull Run. The sighting of the approaching Federals was immediately relayed throughout the Rebel command, and, acting alone, Brigadier General Nathan Evans quickly moved to intercept the Yankee columns. More Rebel brigades were set in motion towards Henry Hill while Evan's advanced to buy time for their deployment.

McDowell was initially victorious and destroyed the first three Confederate Brigades in his path. Their stubborn resistance, however, ensured that when the disorganized Yankees assaulted Henry Hill, they met a careful defense orchestrated by Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. After some bitter fighting, the Northerners were repulsed. The arrival of further Rebel reinforcements from their far right flank sealed the fate of the battle and the Union withdrawal degenerated into a rout.

Federal losses were 418 killed, 1,011 wounded and 1,216 missing. Confederate accounts show 387 dead, 1,582 wounded and 12 missing.

THE WARGAME
The action begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m.

DEPLOYMENT
Porter's Brigade is arriving at point A, further reinforcements arrive as follows:
10 a.m., Franklin's Brigade and Heintzelman at A;
10:30, Wilcox's Brigade at A;

12 noon, Sherman's Brigade at B;
12:15, Keyes' Brigade and Tyler at B;
1:30, Howard's Brigade at A.

Confederate reserves arrive as follows:
10 a.m., Hampton's Legion at D, Squires' Battery at C;
10:30, Jackson's Brigade, Rockbridge Artillery and Alburtis' Battery at C;
11 a.m., Standard's Battery and Beauregard at C, 1st Virginia Cavalry at D;
11:30, 49th and 8th Virginia, Loudan Artillery and Cocke at C;
1 p.m., 18th Virginia at C, 6th North Carolina at D;
1:30, Kershaw's Detachment and Kemper's Battery at D;
2 p.m., 28th Virginia at D;
3 p.m., Smith's Brigade and Beckham's Battery at D;
3:30 p.m., Early's Brigade and 19th Virginia at D.

TERRAIN
All woods, and the slopes of Henry Hill are normal movement.

VICTORY CONDITIONS
The Federals must drive the Confederates from Henry Hill, which means they must have more regiments on the hill at the end of the game than do the Rebels.

COMMANDS:
Union - 7
Confederate - 8

SCALES:
Time – 15 minutes per turn
Units – Strengths are base roughly on 100 to 1000 man Regiments and their Experience.
The nonlinear numbers for Infantry and Cavalry can be changed to a linear numbers, by reducing the next number in the row by one, down to the last number which should be a one.
Map - 1" = 40 yards / Each square is 12 inches

This Scenario was developed from **"Forward the Colours!"** *by* George Anderson & Ryan Toews, Potomac Publications. Their scenarios books can be Purchased at the Wargames Vault:
https://www.wargamevault.com/browse/pub/4892/Potomac-Publications?term=potomac **Highly recommend!**

To use this scenario, you will need a copy of the **"Blücher"** rules by Sam Mustafa are available at:
https://sammustafa.com/store/ **Also, highly recommended!**

Updated: 01.31.22

UNION ORDER OF BATTLE	CONFEDERATE ORDER OF BATTLE
Army of North Eastern Virginia	**Army of the Potomac**
BG. Irwin McDowell	BG. Pierre G.T. Beauregard
(2)	**(2)**
First Division	**Detachment, First Brigade**
BG. Daniel Tyler	Col. Joseph Kershaw
(2)	**(2)**
	2nd SC ⑤⑤④④③ -/+1 **II**
First Brigade	8th SC ⑤⑤④④③ -/+1 **II**
Col. Erasmus D. Keyes	
(1+1d6)	**Fifth Brigade**
1st CT ⑥⑤④③③ -/- **II**	Col. Philip St. George Cocke
2nd CT ⑥⑤④③③ -/- **II**	**(3+1d6)**
3rd CT ⑥⑤④③③ +1/- **II**	8th VA ⑤⑤④④③ -/-1 **II**
2nd ME ⑥⑤④③② -/+1 **II**	18th VA ⑤⑤④④③ -/-1 **II**
	19th VA ⑥⑥⑤⑤④④ +1/-
Third Brigade	28th VA ⑤⑤④④③ +1/- **II**
Col. William T. Sherman	49th VA ⑤④③③② +1/- **II**
(2+1d6)	
13th N Y ⑥⑤④③② -/+1 **II**	**Sixth Brigade**
69th NY S.M. ⑦⑥⑤④④③ +1/-	Col. Jubal A. Early
79th NY S.M. ⑦⑥⑤④③② -/+1	**(1+1d6)**
2nd Wis. ⑦⑥⑤④④③ -/-	17th LA ⑤⑤④④③ +1/- **II**
	13th MS ⑥⑥⑤⑤④④ -/+1
Second Division	7th VA ⑤⑤④④③ -/-1 **II**
Col. David Hunter	
(2)	**Evans' Command**
	Col. Nathan G. Evans
First Brigade	**(3)**
Col. Andrew Porter	4th SC ⑤⑤④④③ +1/- **II**
(3+1d6)	1st La (Wheat) ⑦⑥⑤⑤④③② -/+1
8th NY S.M. ⑦⑥⑤④③② -/+1	Davidson's & Latham's VA Bty.
14th NY S.M. ⑦⑥⑤④③② -/+1	④④③③②② **SBL** +1/-
27th NY ⑥⑤⑤④③ +1/- **II**	
Sykes' U.S.Inf. ⑦⑥⑤④④③② -/+1	**Unattached**
Reynolds' U.S. Marines ⑤④③③② -/+1 **II**	Hampton's SC Leg. ⑥⑥⑤⑤④④ -/-
Palmer's US Cav. ⑦⑥⑤⑤④③② +1/- **CC-RR**	
D, 5th U.S. Art.	**Artillery**
⑥⑤⑤④③③ **SBL** +1/-	Kemper's VA Bty.
	⑤④③③②② **SBL** +1/-
	Loudan VA Art.
	⑤④③③②② **SBL** +1/-
	Squires' & Washington LA Art.
	⑤④④③②② **SBL** +1/-

Second Brigade
Col. Ambrose E. Burnside
(3+1d6)
2nd NH ⑤⑤④③② +1/- **II**
1st RI Mil. ⑥⑥⑤⑤④④ -/+1
2nd RI ⑤⑤④③② +1/- **II**
71st NY ⑥⑤④③② -/+1 **II**

- attached Bty. ④④③③②② **SBL** +1/-
- attached Bty. ⑤④④③②② **RL** -/-

Third Division
Col. Samuel P. Heintzelman
(2)

First Brigade
Col. William B. Franklin
(2+1d6)
5th MA Mil. ⑥⑥⑤⑤④④ -/+1
11th MA ⑤⑤④④③ +1/- **II**
1st MN ⑥⑥⑤⑤④④ +1/-
I, 1st U.S. Art.
⑥⑤⑤④③③ **SBL** +1/-

Second Brigade
Col. Orlando Willcox (2+1d6)
11th NY ⑤⑤④④③ -/+1 **II**
38th NY ⑤⑤④④③ -/+1 **II**
1st MI ⑤④④③③ -/+1 **II**
D, 2nd U.S.
⑥⑤⑤④③③ **SBL** +1/-

Third Brigade
Col. Oliver O. Howard
(1+1d6)
3rd ME ⑤⑤④④③ -/+1 **II**
4th ME ⑤⑤④④③ +1/- **II**
5th ME ⑤⑤④④③ +1/- **II**
2nd VT ⑤⑤④④③ +1/- **II**

Army of the Shenandoah
First Brigade
BG. Thomas J. Jackson
(3+1d6)
2nd VA ⑥⑥⑤④③② +1/- **II**
4th VA ⑤⑤④③② -/+1 **II**
5th VA ⑤⑤④③② -/+1 **II**
27th VA ⑤④④③③ +1/- **II**
33rd VA ⑤④④③② -1/-1 **II**

Second Brigade
BG. Francis S. Bartow
(1+1d6)
7th GA ⑥⑤④③② +1/- **II**
8th Ga. ⑥⑤④③② +1/- **II**

Third Brigade
BG. Barnard E. Bee
(2+1d6)
4th AL ⑥⑥⑤④③② -/+1
2nd MS ⑥⑤④③③ +1/- **II**
11th MS ⑤④③②② -/- **II**
6th NC ⑥⑤④③② +1/-**II**

Fourth Brigade
BG. Edmund Kirby Smith
(3)
1st MD ⑦⑥⑥⑤④③② -/-
3rd TN ⑥⑤④④③ +1/- **II**
10th VA ⑦⑥⑤④③② +1/-

Unattached
1st VA Cav. ⑥⑤④③③② -1/0 **CC**

Artillery
Alburtis' VA Bty.
⑤④③③②② **SBL** +1/-
Beckham's Va. Bty.
⑤④③③②② **SBL** +1/-
Imboden's VA Bty.
⑤④③③②② **SBL** +1/-
Rockbridge & Stanard's VA Art.
⑤④③③②② **SBL** +1/-

Cavalry & Mobile = CC	**Sharpshooters = SS**
Impetuous = II	**Repeaters = RR**
Counter Battery = CB	

27 N.Y. | A
Marines
Matthews Hill
D, 5 U.S.
71 N.Y.
1 R.I.
2 N.H.
2 R.I.
71 N.Y.
2 R.I.
Wheat
Buck Hill
_atham
4 S.C.
Bee
Bartow
Warrenton Turnpike
Imboden
Henry Hill
Chinn Ridge
N
B
C
D