

BLOOD BOWL®

NAF

FACT BOOK

INTRODUCTION

This series of publications is an attempt to solve a mystery that has intrigued Blood Bowl fans ever since the release of the second edition in 1988, namely, 'what did the NAF's member teams actually look like?' When it comes to the more famous ones, like the Reikland Reavers, Darkside Cowboys or Gouged Eye, we know a lot, thanks to the comprehensive profiles and rosters that were published at the time, but for a majority of the 40 teams, there is relatively little information beyond the odd star player, a handful of statistics and various bits of trivia. The aim of this book is to collect everything that has been published about the NAF teams and give each one a profile outlining their history, team honours, current roster and a selection of their records. The format I have adopted is taken directly from the team profiles published in the 'Blood Bowl Hand-Book' (1988), and 'Star Players' (1989). Taken as a whole it gives a speculative snapshot of what the league may have looked like in that fateful year of 2489, just before the NAF collapsed into oblivion.

The title, 'NAF Fact Book', is a reference to the 'NAF Facts' that peppered the various publications of the second edition. Whilst these little boxes were often amusing bits of trivia ('Fluff' to use the technical term), they played an enormously important role in adding to the richness of the Blood Bowl setting and were one of the many things that made the game so unique. That said, 'Facts' in this case is probably a bit misleading, because in making this book, I have frequently had to fill in the gaps between what little official information there is by inventing my own material. I took pains to maintain a consistency with the official literature and ensure each profile was written in a style that feels as close to the second edition as possible. Ultimately, I wanted this book to seem like a plausible third volume, following on from 'Star Players' (1989) and the 'Companion' (1990), and to that end, I have used the same design and layout as those books, and I have reused Pete Knifton's fantastic illustrations (a second edition publication without his iconic work seems unthinkable).

Finally, you will notice that the 2489 covered here is slightly different to the 2489 outlined in the official Blood Bowl timeline. In this timeline, the events leading to the league's demise have not happened, the NAF is still thriving, and the commissioner remains the shady Nikk Three-Horn. My reasoning was two-fold. Firstly, I needed the freedom of an alternate universe to invent the new material that many of the teams required, but secondly, and most importantly, Blood Bowl has always been a 'multiverse', the most obvious example of which is the way game's background has subtly changed with each new edition that has been published. The concept of multiple realities is what makes Blood Bowl compelling; anyone who's ever created a team, invented its players, and taken to the field in pursuit of glory (which, let's face it, is all of us!) has created their own unique splinter of the main timeline adding to the richness of the setting. The genius of what Jervis Johnson, Marc Gascoigne and Stewart Parkinson did all those years ago, was to create a big, anarchic, infinitely expandable universe, that captured the player's imagination and encouraged us all to dive in and make it our own. This book is an expression of that joyful creative permission, it is a book by a fan for other fans. I hope you enjoy it.

Knute Rock-Knee, 2023

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

- PART 1:** NFC Central Division and Introduction.
- PART 2:** NFC Northern Division and the Blood Bowl Calendar.
- PART 3:** NFC Eastern Division and 2488-89 NAF Team Statistics.
- PART 4:** NFC Western Division and 2489-90 NAF Schedule.
- PART 5:** AFC Central Division and 2489-90 NAF Schedule.
- PART 6:** AFC Northern Division and NAF Championship Games.
- PART 7:** AFC Eastern Division and Chaos Cup Winners.
- PART 8:** AFC Western Division and NAF Questions.

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By Knute Rock-Knee, 2023

Cover Art and Page 2 by Knute Rock-Knee 2022. All other art is by Pete Knifton 1988-1990.

DISCLAIMER: This is a work of fan fiction based on the game 'Blood Bowl' which is owned by Games Workshop. The book uses copyrighted material without permission, no challenge is intended, and this book is produced solely as a hobby-based project and is not commercially available. I hope that reading this book inspires you to visit the Games Workshop either online or in person, to purchase the most recent edition of the game and explore their extensive range of available miniatures and other games.