

ASLOK XXXII – SEPTEMBER 30th – OCTOBER 7th, 2018
THE PLAYER'S FEST

WELCOME TO ASLOK 2018! The 33rd installment of the longest running and biggest ASL tournament in all the world. As always there will be plenty of ASL wild men gaming at the ASLOK hotel as early as Saturday, September 29th (or even Friday) and continuing for over a full week into the wee hours of Columbus Day, Monday, October 8th!

Continuing in 2018: More options in Shirts – pick from the regular cotton still available at the low price of \$10 in sizes thru XL, go long sleeve (add \$5) and/or go with an Athletic Shirt in Nylon “B-Dry Core” (add \$5). The “Big Game Hunters” service is now a Mini – for those looking to play a large pre-arranged scenario early in ASLOK week sign up for the “Big Game Hunters” on the bottom of the pre-reg form. We’ll pair you up for a 1 game per day mini looking to finish by Tuesday. Just indicate which day(s) you’d like to get started in a large game on the pre-reg form and we’ll add you and coordinate with your first opponent prior to arrival allowing a setup and scenario selection. Dropping in with a buddy for a pre-arranged opening round game is encouraged.

More Traditions: The wonderful week long celebration of ASL that you’ve come to know and love as ASL Oktoberfest, or ASLOK to its friends. The Greater Cleveland Crew will again be running the show – Bret Hildebran organizing, “Wild Bill” on the night shift along with “Wrongway” and friends helping as needed, and of course Dave Ginnard hosting the Picnic on the opening Sunday and Bill Sisler providing the T-Shirt artwork. Mini opening round time limits (2PM finish or both opponents lose) return for another year as well as the AARP, Monster & Gor-Gor Variant Wednesday minis. **The hotel is the Four Points by Sheraton Cleveland Airport and will be returning for 2018 (2019 dates will be OCT 6th thru OCT 13th).** The Four Points Cleveland Airport has been lauded by attendees & as a result we’ve locked in a contract for another two years: low room rates (\$85 + tax) [although to secure that low rate we sacrificed the free breakfast], free 24 hour airport shuttle (w/local drop off), a 20% discount at the hotel restaurant on food with a kitchen open thru 11 PM, and the 6th floor “Penthouse” convention space all to ourselves complete with a lounge reception area with TV and perhaps most importantly the cash bar. The Hotel remodel is complete and the restaurant will be open. The hotel is entirely Non-Smoking which means no more Burning Wreck room, but the good is more Non-Smoking rooms in our block and the ability to land on the 5th floor closer to the gaming space and with the conversion to a Four Points, the rooms now have mini-fridges. “Gor Gor’s Heretical Variant” Mini & “Biggest Loser No More” returns yet again having moved into “traditional mini status” along w/Godzilla, AARP & the legends: Night, Deluxe & Pacific. The Squad Bleeder mini returns for an 9th year with two new scenarios as will counting up to 2 Thursday mini wins for Grofaz, but still no mini losses. And be sure not to miss Dave Ginnard’s incomparable hosting of the ASLOK picnic on the opening Sunday for the 12th year in a row. Don’t miss the best social gathering of the ASL “season”.

ASLOK is THE PLAYER'S FEST, a festival of gaming and sportsmanship as much as it is a competitive tournament. Play is OPEN and uninhibited; many play just for the fun of it while others delve into the Big Weekend Tournament, THE GROFAZ, or sample a variety of minis.

ASLOK WEEK features at least 28 individual Tournaments (38 ran last year plus the World Cup) with plaques and cash awarded to all winners as well as to the top four places in the GROFAZ. At ASLOK the word is 'Do What Suits You'. You will find grognards, rookies, experts and average players alike. You will find comradeship, good gaming, interesting talk, some new materials and you are bound to learn and teach a few things at ASLOK. ENJOY!

HOW ASLOK WORKS

Most games at ASLOK are "OPEN" games, played for the fun of it. Find any opponent and pick any scenario; this is the 'festival' of ASLOK, a celebration of a great game. The main tournament at ASLOK is THE GROFAZ, which begins Thursday. All players are automatically entered in the GROFAZ. Once out of GROFAZ contention, players continue with OPEN & MINI-Tournament action. MINIs are more structured than GROFAZ & OPEN gaming. These are single elimination events using AVALONCON style scenario selection. MANEUVERS is intended for new players to get their feet wet - guidance from an ASL pro is included. Early arrivals can battle for the “USA vs. WORLD CUP” or Big Game Hunters “mini” which both run from arrival until Midnight Tuesday.

AGENDA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th 2018: The very early arrivals roll in (OK – they showed on Friday or maybe Thursday). The Skyline Ballroom on the 6th floor will be available as a gaming location rally point for early World Cup/open gaming (potentially including Friday if needed). Contact Bret Hildebran for early gunning.

SUNDAY-TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th thru OCTOBER 2nd 2018: Early arrivals appear w/play continuing in the Skyline Ballroom. Open play, Big Game Hunters and USA vs WORLD CUP on Sunday (and

earlier), Monday and Tuesday. Be sure to join us for the 12th Annual ASLOK Picnic hosted by Dave Ginnard – good eats & good times Sunday evening...

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3rd 2018: At 8:00 AM, “Mark Nixon” MINI tournament action begins. Wednesday MINI’s begin at 8:00 AM sharp and do NOT apply towards GROFAZ [EXC: “Godzilla mini” finalists will start Grofaz 2-0 same as Thursday mini finalists]. Plenty of OPEN action is also available.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4th 2018: At 8:00 AM gunning begins in GROFAZ and Thursday THEME events where MINI-Tournaments all began. OPEN play continues. Wed. MINI-Tournament winners awarded around 6:00 PM. GROFAZ 2-0 contenders can sign-up for a GROFAZ FRIDAY MINI!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5th 2018: GROFAZ and OPEN gaming continue. Friday “Mark Nixon” MINI’s and **GROFAZ MINI’s** kick-off promptly at 8:00 AM. Awards presented to Thursday THEME Tournament winners around 6:00 PM.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6th 2018: More GROFAZ and OPEN gaming. At 8:00 AM more “Mark Nixon” MINI-Tournaments kick-off including an ASLSK mini. Awards made to Friday MINI-Tournament winners around 6:00 PM.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7th 2018: GROFAZ and OPEN gaming surge onward. Awards presented to Saturday MINI-Tournament winners as folks depart. Awards presented to GROFAZ winner, runner-up and other top finishers sometime Sunday. Congrat-'yawn'-lations guys!

MONDAY, OCTOBER 8th 2018: GROFAZ and OPEN gaming wrap-up. All out of the arena by noon. Many thanks, happy trails; see you in 2019 for ASLOK XXXIV!

OPEN GAMING

OPEN play is THE RULE at ASLOK. Most games played are of the OPEN variety in which two players simply agree to play, select a scenario and determine balance/sides via any mutually agreed manner. It truly is as simple as that. Note that all games will be reported to AREA (www.asl-area.org) unless the players indicate they “opt-out” on the P.I.S. Agreement to opt-out should be mutually made with the opponent prior to scenario start. Games are not reported to ROAR automatically, the players themselves should do ROAR updates.

THE GROFAZ

The Big Weekend Tournament (THE GROFAZ) officially begins Thursday morning at 8:00 AM, although only two Thursday games can count towards GROFAZ. Thursday mini wins, up to two, count towards the Grofaz and any mini loss is considered a mulligan for Grofaz play. Players arriving Friday are also free to compete in GROFAZ, although their time burden will be more of a factor. Any players arriving fresh on the scene Saturday morning and hoping to seriously challenge for GROFAZ Championship must immediately report to the TD so we can determine if and how we can fit that hope into the developing competition; it may not be possible at that late stage, in which case participation in MINI-Tournaments will be recommended.

Players competing in GROFAZ must record their games on their P.I.S. and plan to play 8 games to win this event, (or the **sole** player who attains 7-0 or 6-0). GROFAZ contenders may play any one opponent only ONCE in a GROFAZ match, unless specifically permitted otherwise by the tournament director. There are no set starting times or "rounds" (EXC: optional Friday Grofaz Mini round #1 @ 8:00 AM Friday), although it is recommended players select scenarios and sleeping schedules which allow time to complete 4 or 5 games by Friday night and 6 or 7 by Saturday night, leaving only 1 or 2 more to play Sunday. For those in GROFAZ contention it is not wise to get too far ahead or behind this pace, and these individuals must remain in CC (Close Contact) with ASLOK TD's.

Players competing in GROFAZ who win their first games must play their second games vs. other GROFAZ winners; winners of two games must play other two-game winners and so forth unless explicitly matched by a TD. (Thus, 1-0 plays 1-0, 6-0 plays 6-0, 1-1 plays 1-1, 4-1 plays 4-1, etc.)

FRIDAY GROFAZ MINI'S: GROFAZ contenders who are 2-0 (**ONLY!**) can enter one of the special FRIDAY GROFAZ MINI events, competing in both GROFAZ and a Friday MINI concurrently. To ensure play in one of these events, players **MUST** report to the TD before 8:00 AM Friday, once they have attained a 2-0 GROFAZ record. See the ASLOK TD Thursday night once 2-0 to sign up for a Friday Grofaz mini.

THE WINNER OF GROFAZ: that player with the best record (probably undefeated) after 8 rounds, or that player who is the only one to reach 7-0 or 6-0. All ties will be resolved by: 1) previous head-to-head GROFAZ game, 2) a playoff game (only if time is available for both players), or 3) that tied player who played the toughest opponents [based on records **in that GROFAZ event** at the time they played – the ASLOK TD will be final judge of that elucidation, but here is how it works: if your opponents' total W/L record was 22-3 **when you played them** (.880 PCT) you would finish ahead of a player with like record whose opponents were 14-2 when he played them

(.875 PCT)]. Cash prizes (to be determined, although usually \$200/1st, \$100/2nd, \$50/3rd and \$50/4th) and plaques will be awarded for at least the top four finishers.

THURSDAY THEME MINI TOURNAMENTS

Eight unique three-round single elimination mini-tournaments, each based on a WWII THEME, will begin promptly at 8:00 AM Thursday. Each is open to 8 players. Sign up for these is based on first come, first served basis at pre-registration. Unlike OPEN play and GROFAZ, these THEMES are designed to begin promptly at 8:00 AM and to be completed Thursday. **First round games must be completed by 2PM** or both players will be eliminated. Scenario selection is AVALONCON style, with three choices available per round from which each player picks the two he would most like to play. Lists of scenarios will be available at least a week prior to the Thursday minis kicking off.

Because only two scenarios played Thursday can apply towards GROFAZ, the winner and runner-up of THEMES count two wins and no losses for GROFAZ, and may report immediately to the TD to arrange a **FRIDAY GROFAZ MINI** entry. (The theme mini winner will have actually won three scenarios, but does gain bragging rights, \$10 and a plaque for winning his THEME, and also gains one leg-up on the all-important third tie-breaker for GROFAZ, as he will have defeated opponents with combined 3-0 records in GROFAZ, whereas the THEME runner-up will have defeated opponents with only 1-0 record at this point.) Losers of round #1 can forget their one loss and losers of round #2 **count their win**, but drop their one loss. Thus, THEMES provide a chance to win a small event as well as to pile up some GROFAZ wins, all at no risk of suffering any GROFAZ losses. Losers of rounds #1 and #2 are free to immediately play up to 2 GROFAZ games on Thursday or jump into OPEN play. THEME winners and runners-up are finished with GROFAZ games for Thursday, but can still play OPEN games at their discretion.

MANEUVERS – ASL-STARTER KIT FRIENDLY

INEXPERIENCED GAMERS! CLOSET ASLers! Played only a dozen games? Play only once a month? Only play Starter Kit? Get a rules refresher and warm-up your dice in action against other Green Sergeants before entering the Cauldron of ASLOK. Veteran ASLer on hand to offer Leader Direction with quick answers/reference (teaching & assistance, not handholding) to those pesky rules which Bog down your game.

Times for MANEUVERS are a bit flexible, although we expect them to occur both Tuesday and Friday after 6:30 PM; make sure to list your choice of day and time when you pre-register. Maneuvers will be **ASL-STARTER KIT** friendly if desired.

“MARK NIXON” MINI-TOURNAMENTS (WED – FRI – SAT – SUN)

Similar to Thursday THEME Tournaments in style, ASLOK “Mark Nixon” MINI-Tournaments are designed for those who prefer a small one day event, those arriving fresh on the scene Wednesday, Friday & Saturday plus those who find themselves knocked out of GROFAZ contention yet still Berserk for more tournament action. Events begin promptly at 8:00 AM, are 8 players each, three round, single elimination AVALONCON style events. Winners get \$10 and a plaque. **Note – 1st round game must be completed by 2PM or both players are eliminated.**

Except for FRIDAY GROFAZ MINI's & WEDNESDAY “Monster Mini”, NON-THURSDAY MINI-TOURNAMENTS ARE N/A FOR GROFAZ!!

FRIDAY GROFAZ MINI'S

Friday Grofaz Minis allow GROFAZers to also compete in Friday Mini action. Only GROFAZers who are 2-0 by Friday 8:00 AM can compete. Sign-up starts Thursday; as soon as you attain 2-0 GROFAZ status you can sign-up. You will be paired with a 2-0 GROFAZer for a Friday morning showdown. Friday GROFAZ Minis count both for GROFAZ and for the single elimination GROFAZ Mini. The kicker? This guarantees you an 8:00 AM Friday GROFAZ start time! Minis are: **Best Of The Best** and **Best of 2018** (new scenarios released in 2018 with many released at ASLOK).

USA vs. WORLD CUP

The World Cup is an informal event, which begins as soon as players arrive. US players vs. World players; everyone keeps track of their games vs. competing players & late Tuesday night the tally is final. Only one game between the same two opponents may count for World Cup play. A ginormous trophy records the winning team & final score. In 2017 the World team defended their title for the 15th straight year, claiming the World Cup, with a 40-22 trouncing of US forces. Beyond the glory of the roving “Cup”, MVP plaques & \$10 cash are awarded to the top player on each team. Hope springs eternal for 2018.

ASLOK HOTEL INFO & PRE-REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

FOUR POINTS by Sheraton CLEVELAND AIRPORT [**10th year @Hotel!**]

4181 W. 150th St.

CLEVELAND, OHIO 44135

216-252-7700 FAX: 216-252-3850

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/aslok2018>

[\$85 Block Rate valid thru Sep. 6th – Call & indicate you are with “ASLOK” or book electronically via the link above]

- Make your hotel reservations directly with the Four Points Cleveland Airport. Rooms are \$85.00 per night and include a 20% discount at the restaurant. Rooms have refrigerators! Mention “ASLOK Oktoberfest Group Block Rate” for reduced rate. **Reduced rates end Sep. 6th**. Free airport shuttle!
- Before September 28th send \$30.00 to Bret Hildebran to pre-register for ASLOK. It is \$40.00 after that date and at the door. All figures are in US dollars. To pay via PayPal go to the web site’s “Pre-Reg” page, including payment via Credit Card. Do make sure to email your mini choices if paying via PayPal.
- Specify T-shirt size and quantity if you want a souvenir T w/original Bill Sisler artwork: Medium, Large and EXTRA Large are \$10.00 each (smaller sizes, including Youth available by special request also \$10). Double-XL are \$13.00 each, Triple-XL are \$15.00 each. Quad-XL-Tall are \$18.00 each. T-shirts are available in numbers based on pre-reg sales; order now to make sure you don’t get shutout!
- For an extra \$5 you can get the Souvenir T in an Athletic “B-Dry Core” T.
- Also, available for order for another \$5, get a long sleeve T instead of the standard short sleeve shirt.
- Be sure to request Mini-Tourneys you would like to enter. You will be able to pre-register for only one per day, but give a rank priority each day to receive your topmost pick which is still open. Mini pre-regs will be closed when we fill the same number as last year – if there is demand at 8AM on mini day, we’ll open more.
- Include your full name, address, phone number and email. All pre-regs are confirmed via email.

Be sure to check out the ASLOK web page at: <http://www.aslok.org/> for who’s pre-registered, late changes, additions, etc. You may email Bret Hildebran at BretHildebran@gmail.com if you have any questions.

“Mark Nixon” MINI & THURSDAY THEME TOURNAMENTS

(Rank your choices on each day: For example, 1=what you want, 2=next choice, 3, 4... etc. and then rank what you want the next day, and so on. Many of these will run more than once each day, based on demand. Note: 2 PM time limits for round 1 games – both players will be eliminated if time limit exceeded.

WEDNESDAY Mark Nixon MINIs (10/3)

- ___ Godzilla King of the Monsters
(Big scenarios – 2 day mini – finalists 2-0 for Grofaz)
- ___ AARP ASLers (50+ only please)

- ___ From Russia With Love

- ___ Welcome to the Jungle

- ___ War Dogs (bid for balance)

- ___ Gor-Gor Heretical Variant Mini
(Special Pleva SSRs in play for all scenarios)
- ___ Death To Fascism
(2 rounds – Mazzei/Struijf scenario pack)

THURSDAY THEMES (10/4)

- ___ Night
- ___ Pacific

- ___ Deluxe

- ___ Tincans & Poppuns

- ___ It’s Like Being There! (HASLs)

- ___ Attack of the Killer Hedge Rows (Bocage)

- ___ Hawkeye & Hot Lips (Korea)

- ___ The Best of Friendly Fire

FRIDAY Mark Nixon MINIs (10/5)

- ___ Land War in Asia

- ___ Schwerpunkt’s Newest Hits

- ___ Paper Tigers (Weak Troops)

- ___ Like A Boss (Great Leaders)

- ___ Heavy Metal

- ___ Biggest Loser No More (non-mini winners lifetime only please)

SATURDAY Mark Nixon MINIs (10/6)

- ___ New Kid in Town (New designs)

- ___ Cold As Ice (Snow)

- ___ Squad Bleeder VI (Fog of War – 2 rounds)

- ___ The Emperor’s Finest

- ___ Devil Squads (666s)

- ___ Wrongway’s Ready or Revise? (Pete Playtest)

- ___ Start Me Up (ASLSK rules)

MANEUVERS

TUESDAY (WHAT TIME?) _____ FRIDAY (WHAT TIME?) _____

USA vs WORLD CUP

WORLD CUP play ends Tuesday October 2nd; enter by giving the day and time you plan to arrive at ASLOK. Also if you’re arriving before Sunday & looking for a game please indicate when you’re likely to be looking for a game so the local advance scouts can find you. Finally if you show up by Sunday (9/30) evening you can attend the 12th Annual ASLOK Picnic, incomparably hosted by Dave Ginnard – an event not to be missed!

Planned Early Arrival Day & ~Time: _____

BIG GAME HUNTERS - MINI

Several players are interested in playing large pre-arranged scenarios rather than the typical tourney fare. This year we’ll organize a Mini of all who enter - If you’re interested in a “Big Game” please enter which day you can start and we will pair up players. If you want to request an opening pairing, please do so.

Big Game Availability: _____