



**VAMPIRE**  
THE ETERNAL STRUGGLE

# *Kindred Spirit*

*Welcome to Paris!*



29-30-31 OCTOBER 2010

<http://ec2010vtes.com>  
[info@ec2010vtes.com](mailto:info@ec2010vtes.com)

**PARIS 2010**  
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

**VENN**  
FRANCE





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# VAMPIRE

THE ETERNAL STRUGGLE

## Week of Nightmares



### WEEK OF NIGHTMARES PROGRAM

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#### Will YOU become the KING OF PARIS ?

(A competition will be held to determine the winner of the WoN league, ask or be there on Monday for further details)

### MONDAY *le lundi au soleil*

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**WELCOME TO PARIS BRUNCH AND QUIZZ:** Starting at **noon** at St Michel area near Notre Dame

**CASUAL GAMES:** Starting at **1P.M** at the same place

(name of the restaurant/Pub welcoming us is to come later)

**SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT :** Starting at **5P.M** at store **Le Repaire du Dragon**

(You can go in less than 20 minuts with subway from the restaurant)

2 Rounds + Final Constructed Tournament, winner qualifies for EC , 20 slots

### TUESDAY *laissez-moi danser*

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**CASUAL GAMES DAY :** starting from **11A.M** at store **Troll2Jeux** and nearby pub for those who wants

### WEDNESDAY *les filles du mercredi...*

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**SANCTIONED TOURNAMENT :** Starting at **2P.M** at store **Troll2Jeux**

3 Rounds + Final Constructed Tournament, winner qualifies for EC, 25 slots

### THURSDAY *c'est demain jeudi*

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**SANCTIONED DRAFT TOURNAMENT :** Starting at **1P.M** at the Résidence Internationale de Paris (place of the EC) – 3 rounds + Final, mandatory pre-registration to come.

**WELCOME PARTY DRINKS AND QUIZZ :** Starting around **6P.M**





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## European Championship Schedule

The week-end every one is waiting for!

### Schedule

- \* About 4 days before the LCQ : **Week of Nightmares**
- \* Thursday, 28 october : **Welcome Party**
- \* Friday, 29 October : **Last Chance Qualifier (LCQ)** or **Legendary Vampire**
- \* Saturday, 30 October : **EC Day 1** or **Adaptability**
- \* Sunday, 31 October : **EC Day 2** or **First Chance Qualifier (for EC 2011)**
- \* Monday, 1 November, 10 am : Leave the rooms

### Fees

- \* **30 €** for attending the 3 tournaments of the week-end (20 € you only start playing on Saturday, or even 15 € only participate at one tournament).
- \* **27,50 €** per person per night at the tournament's site (see I Register to RIP )
- \* **12,50 €** per meal (the breakfast is included in the room fare)

### Welcome Day (Thursday, October 28th)

- \* 15h: Welcome Day
- \* 18h: Start of Welcome Party : DoubleDuffin Draft, V:tES Quizz, board games, aperitifs (bring your national drinks!)
- \* 19h00 - 20h30: Dinner
- \* 21h00: Welcome party continues in the evening (and all the night if you want)

Some board games will be provided by the organisation team : Battlestar Galactica (+ Pegasus Expansion), Chaos in the Old World, Robot Rallye, Prince of the City...

The Only And One Rule : don't lose some parts, please !!!

### Other days (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)

- \* 07h00-09h15 : Breakfast
- \* 08h45-09h45: Inscription to the day's event
- \* 10h00-12h00 : Round 1
- \* 12h00-13h30 : Lunch
- \* 14h00-16h00 : Round 2
- \* 16h30-18h30 : Round 3
- \* 19h00-19h15 : Tombola
- \* 19h00-20h30 : Dinner
- \* 21h00-23h00 : Final
- \* Games all night (the room is accessible at any hour of the day and of the night)





# VAMPIRE

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### **Legendary Vampire, October 29th, Paris**

The second edition of the Legendary Vampire will take place in Paris, October 29th, on the same day as the LCQ. In this tournament, 25 of the most challenging players will fiercely compete in a hostile environment, as they are all brilliant and seasoned Methuselahs!

Rules of the Legendary Vampire format are available on the EC2010 website.

Besides, on the occasion of the European Championship 2010, we're offering you a giant **Tombola**: seize the opportunity to test your 'pick-me' IQ: one of the essentials to win the national lottery, drawing straws, Malkavian games, playing Jaggedy Andy or even counter-playing 'Greater Fear of the Void Below'..

This **Tombola** is based on sponsorship. Donations will regularly be listed.

**Tickets** will be sold every day of the European Championship, in the same room as the event, and winners will be drawn in the evening, before dinner and after the third round of each event.

For the Friday Tombola, tickets will be available on Thursday at the Welcome Party and Friday.

These tickets will be sold 1 euro each.

**For 5 tickets bought, an extra ticket will be offered.**

This fund raising will help us financing the site's rental and obtaining extra prizes for the winners of the European Championship!

### **Last Chance Qualifier (Friday, October 29th)**

This is your final chance to get qualified for the main event. Top 33% after 3 rounds will be qualified for the European Championship Day 1 (of course, those already qualified won't lose their qualification if they don't end up in the top 33%).

### **EC Day 1 (Saturday, October 30th)**

Only qualified players for the European Championship can participate at this event. The top 40 players will qualify for the European Championship Day 2.

### **Adaptability (Saturday, October 30th)**

This is a non-constructed format:

- \* Each player brings 3 decks at the tournament.
- \* Before a round is announced, each player must chose his deck for that round. It must be a deck this player hasn't played yet.
- \* Each finalist chooses one of his or her three decks for the final.
- \* A given vampire cannot be in more than one deck.

### **EC Day 2 (Sunday, 31 October)**

The 40 players who qualified on EC Day 1 battle for the European Champion title.

There will be only one!

### **First Chance Qualifier (Sunday, 31 October)**

This is the first chance to get qualified for the EC 2011.





## How to get to the R.I.P. from abroad



Avion

### Airports

Paris is surrounded by 3 airports:

\* **Roissy - Charles de Gaulle** is the international airport. It's linked to Paris with the RER (train to the suburbs). Travel time to the center of Paris is about 40 min.

Roissy is Paris' biggest airport. If you're flying from far away (the States, Asia), your plane will likely land at this airport.

**Get to the R.I.P. from Roissy airport: (8.30 €)**

Single ticket bought at the Airport's RER B subway station.

Take the RER B towards Paris (either Robinson, Massy-Palaiseau, Saint-Rémy-lès-Chevreuses end of line).

Step off the train at **Gare du Nord** (after 27 mins), change for **metro line 5** (orange), towards "**Place d'Italie**". Get off the train at "**République**", change for **line 3** to "**Gallieni (Parc de Bagnole)**". Walk your way out at "**Porte de Bagnole**".

\* **Beauvais** is 1h30 distant from Paris. A bus makes the junction every half an hour.

This is Paris' low-cost airline airport, check for RyanAir flights.

**Get to the R.I.P. from Beauvais airport: (15.60€)**

Get on the bus at **Beauvais airport**. After 1h15min, you'll arrive at "**Porte Maillot**", aim for the metro line 1. Buy a 1.60€ ticket, and go to the "**Charles-de-Gaulle Etoile station**". Jump on the RER A towards "**Marne-la-Vallée**". Get off at the "**Auber station**", then take line 3 towards "**Gallieni**". Get off at "**Porte de Bagnole**".

\* **Orly** is linked to Paris with the RER and a fully-automatic train.

For short-distance flights - within Europe. Some low-cost airlines like Easy Jet fly to Paris Orly.

**Get to the R.I.P. from Orly airport: (9.30 €)**

Take the train ("Orlyval") to "**Antony**". Get on the RER B to Paris (direction is "**Aéroport Charles de Gaulle TGV**" or "**Mitry-Claye**"). Step out at "**Saint-Michel Notre Dame**" (after 23 mins), change to **line 4**, towards "**Porte de Clignancourt**". Step down at "**Réaumur Sébastopol**" (6 mins), and finally get in **metro line 3** towards "**Gallieni (Parc de Bagnole)**", finish your journey with a little walk from "**Porte de Bagnole**" train station to the R.I.P.



### Train Stations

\* **Paris Gare de Lyon** is the station to South-East and Switzerland.

**Get to the R.I.P. from Gare de Lyon: (1.60€)**

Enter the **Metro 1 line**, towards "**Château de Vincennes**". Change at "**Nation**", get on **line 2**, towards "**Porte Dauphine**". Change at "**Père Lachaise**" for **line 3**, towards "**Gallieni (Parc de Bagnole)**". Get out the sub at "**Porte de Bagnole**".

\* **Paris Bercy International** is the station to Italy.

**Get to the R.I.P. from Bercy: (1.60€)**

Enter the **Metro 6 line**, towards "**Nation**". Change at "**Nation**", get on **line 2**, towards "**Porte Dauphine**". Change at "**Père Lachaise**" for **line 3**, towards "**Gallieni (Parc de Bagnole)**". Get out the sub at "**Porte de Bagnole**".

\* **Paris Gare de l'Est** is the station trains to which Switzerland, Germany and Belgium go.

**Get to the R.I.P. from Gare de l'Est: (1.60€)**

Enter the **Metro line 5**, towards "**Place d'Italie**". Change at "**République**", get on **line 3** towards "**Gallieni (Parc de Bagnole)**". Jump off the train at "**Porte de Bagnole**".

\* **Paris Gare du Nord** will ride you to Belgium, the Netherlands, or the United Kingdom, through the tunnel across the Channel.

**Get to the R.I.P. from Gare du Nord: (1.60€)**

Enter the **Metro line 5**, towards "**Place d'Italie**". Change at "**République**", get on **line 3** towards "**Gallieni (Parc de Bagnole)**". Jump off the train at "**Porte de Bagnole**".

\* **Paris Gare Montparnasse** and **Paris Gare d'Austerlitz** have trains to and from Spain.

**Get to the R.I.P. from Gare Montparnasse: (1.60 €)**

Enter the **Metro line 4**, towards "**Porte de Clignancourt**". Change at "**Réaumur-Sébastienopol**", use **line 3** towards "**Gallieni (Parc de Bagnole)**", and get off the train at "**Porte de Bagnole**".

**Get to the R.I.P. from Gare d'Austerlitz: (1.60€)**

Enter the **Metro line 5**, towards "**Bobigny Pablo Picasso**". Change at "**République**", get on **line 3** towards "**Gallieni (Parc de Bagnole)**". Exit at "**Porte de Bagnole**".



# VAMPIRE

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### Taxi

The taxi pick-up charge is 2.1€

The minimum cost for a taxi ride is 5.6€

**TAXIS**

\* **Rate A : 0,82 €/km**

From 10 AM to 5 PM in Paris or in the circular high way around Paris

\* **Rate B : 1,10 €/km**

From 5PM to 10 AM from Monday to Saturday and during the days on Sundays.

The same price is charged in the suburbs (including from or to airports) from 7AM to 19PM.

\* **Rate C : 1,33 €/km**

From 12 PM to 7AM on Sundays.

### Extra cost:

There is an extra charge of 2.7€ for any adult for more than 3 adults.

There is an extra charge if you want to put more than one luggage in the trunk of the taxi.

Getting there... the last steps

Finally, wherever you come from, you'll have to walk from "Porte de Bagnolet" to the R.I.P.

### Metro and RER



The tube is divided into two major lines: **Metro** and **RER**. **RER** are trains that will take you outside of Paris (Versailles, airports, Disneyland), Metro will pretty much take you anywhere inside Paris and its closest suburbs.

**The metro's ticket price is 1.60€. Metro lines have numbers.**

The RER can bring you outside Paris. The price will depend on how far from Paris you want to go. RER lines use letters. Inside Paris, the RER ticket costs as much as a metro ticket. The RER divides Paris' area in 7 zones. Paris is zone 1, 5 km around Paris is zone 2, 5 to 10 is zone 3, and so on.

The cost of a RER ticket depends on how many zones it goes through.

Whatever you are using, remember:

\* A metro ticket is valid as long as you don't exit the metro. There is no time-duration validity.

\* A metro ticket will allow you to use the RER inside Paris. A RER ticket will allow you to use the metro if it is valid in zone 1 (if you buy it in Paris or if its destination is in Paris...).

\* Don't throw away your ticket! It's the proof you're in order. Controls may happen at any time.

The Subway runs every day from 6 AM to 12.30PM on weekdays and up to 2.15AM on Fridays and Saturdays.

### Bus



Buses are running from 7AM to 8.30PM from Monday to Saturday.

Many lines are also running on Sundays and some of them are also running in the evening between 8.30PM and 12.30 AM but you'll find less buses.

Don't forget to validate your ticket in the bus or to show your pass to the driver.

Noctilien are the night buses. They run from 12.30 AM to 5.30 AM.

### Ticket rates

You can buy tickets in every subway or train station. The tickets can be used either in the bus or the subway but there is a specific rate for RER tickets depending on the distance of your trip. RER tickets can't be used in buses.

If you want to travel only within Paris, you just need to use one ticket for a single trip or a zone 1- 2 card for unlimited travel and buy a single RER ticket from and to the airport.

**The price is 1.6 € per ticket or 11.4 € for 10 tickets.**

If you plan to often use public transportation, you should buy an unlimited pass. Different types of passes exist and allow you to take public transportation as much as you want for one day or more (it's one day and not 24hours).

"Mobilis" is a one day pass but you can't use it from or to the airport.

Current price for a zone 1-2 card : 5.96€.

"Paris Visite" is a card for 1,2,3 or 5 consecutive days.

Current price for a zone 1-3 card : 8.8€ for one day

14.4€ for 2 days

19.6€ for 3 days

28.3€ for 5 days

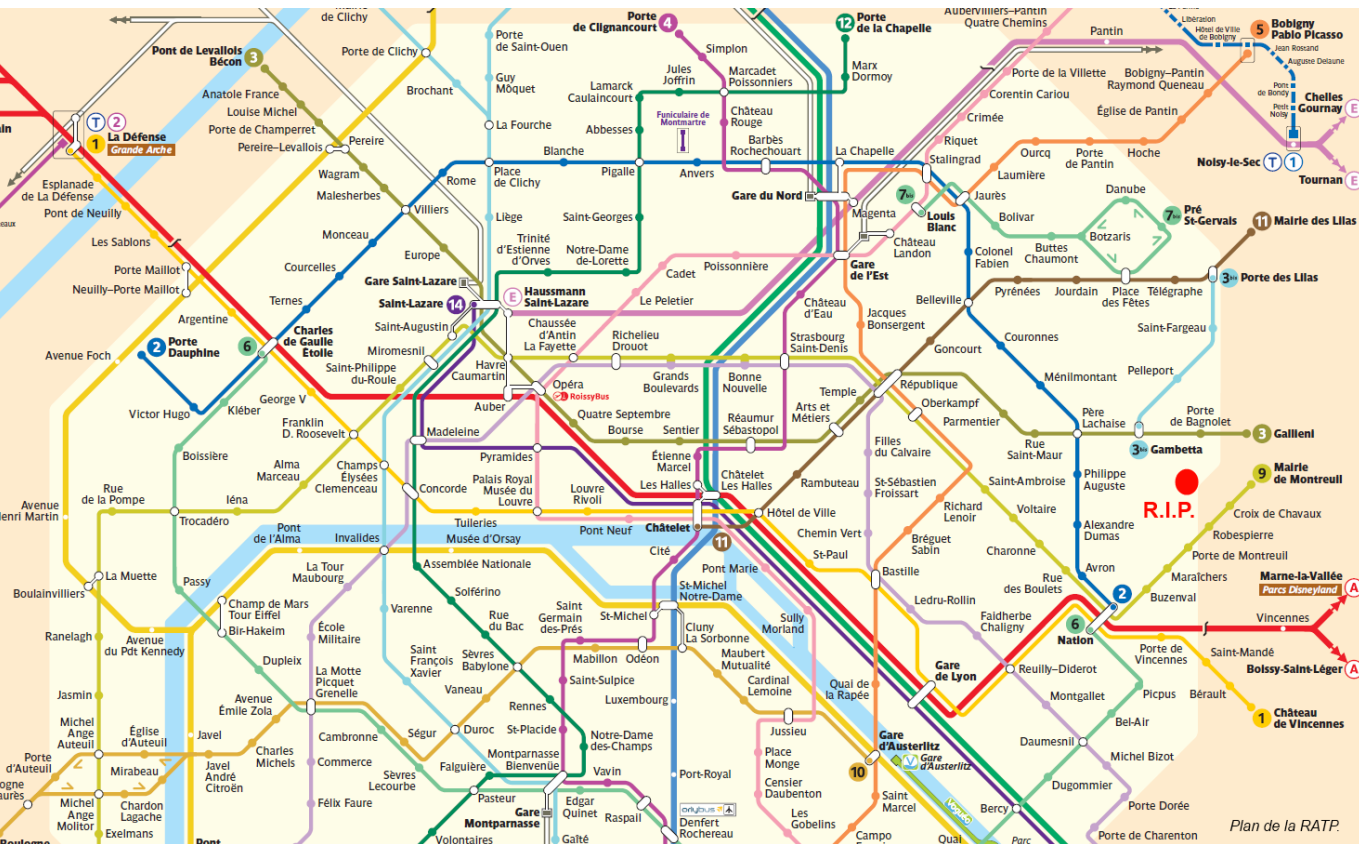




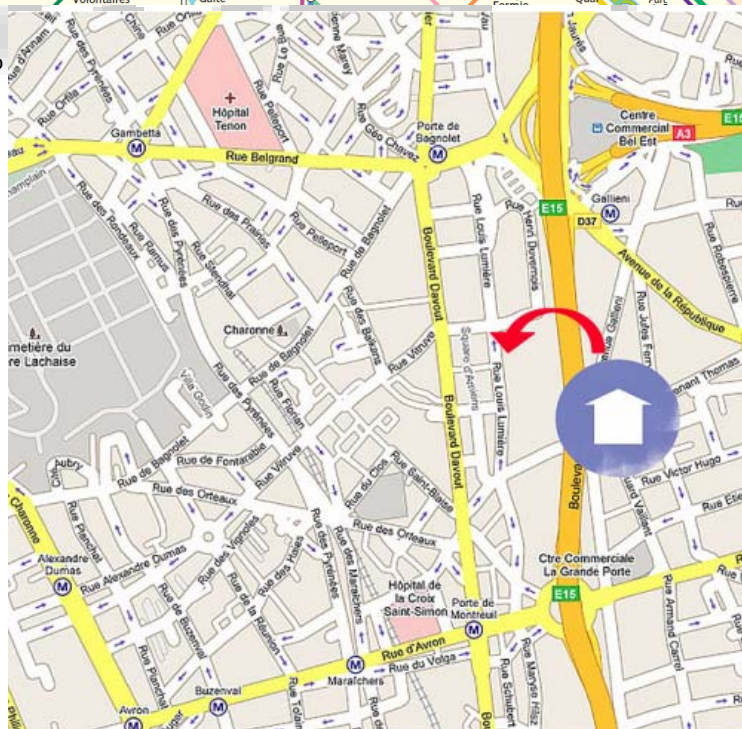
# VAMPIRE

## THE ETERNAL STRUGGLE

Here is the metro map:



And then, where the R.I.P. is on a map





## *A word from the French Coordinator*

> Could you introduce yourself to our readers ?

Hil

I'm Pascal, I've been playing this game for about ten years.

<background> Hello, Pascal! </background>

And I'm trying to continue...

<background> Oooh! Bravo! </background>

Mh .. more seriously:

To start the introduction, we need to go back to where I started. The very beginning would be a friend, back when I was a kid, who showed me Magic: the Gathering (it was the transition 3rd Ed -> 4th Ed). I played games, mostly with him, then at other folks' places (in particular a 13-player game at Huruem's place, I think...I don't know if he remembers it). We can say I got addicted to the game. I had (and still have) many cards from that time.

Then I played a bit Netrunner, Zoon until I discovered Vampire, via Faust and another friend, when I was in preparatory classes of undergraduate studies. My first game was with a !Nosfe deck, if I recall correctly. I did manage to play a Disarm, and that's about pretty much I remember.

Then, when I came back to Paris, we discovered the community, the tournaments at the Guild shop, then the SiF organization and the SiF tournaments. My first tournament must have been at the Guilde des Jeux shop, that had a very large room - it could host more than 50 players. With Faust, we had constructed the deck the day before, according to tweaks from a guy met in a shop (I think it was Jean-Noël). Let's describe this deck: to make a long story short, I had found very pretty the artwork of Kindred Spirits.

My years as a student allowed me to spend a lot of time on forums, and in the end, I joined the SiF crew in July 2007. I organized two tournaments with a format of my own (the first didn't have a name, the second is Deal with the Devil). With SiF, I participated in organizing « big » tournaments, like the Eurodraft and the Draft French Championship in Lille...and of course, a bit of the EC. Finally, in late august 2010 I was appointed National Coordinator by the grand predecessor Blackwood. And there is much work to do!

Many of you know me (know ? tss... yet one more point to clarify) [note to Nhetic - I know the answer, but this parenthesis introduces the paragraph :p] as an expert in stupid questions, which provides a great deal of work for Stone and LSJ, and as the slayer of imperfect card text. Obviously, the roots for that exist. When I had discovered Huitzilopochtli, I didn't know about the "During X, do Y" ruling. So, with Faust, we started wet dreaming on a deck with 50 Anarch Revolt, some Minion Tap, and some Golconda, and that would play 20+ Anarch Revolt in the same turn.

In order to survive, Minion Tap + Golconda. In the end, the whole table would lose 20+ pool in the turn, and the sweep was guaranteed.

At about that time, Stone or François V. said « no ». And more or less at the same time, I started looking a bit more into the rulings, card texts, combos, and the stuff that doesn't work.

By dint of questioning, I assimilated the answers, and judged in several tournaments - like for instance, the EC in late october, and you'd better be there!

> What are your objectives in the short, middle and long term, within the framework of your office as NC, for the French community?

They must first be placed within the context. Oscar Garza announced the end of V:tES production. This is sad news, but deep down, what are the consequences? They are twofold, in my opinion.

The first one is that there will no longer be any new cards. The group 6 is rather slim, as is group 5, but they won't get any new more vampires (or imbueds...).

The second one is that there won't be any reprints. Some cards will become rarer. The new players will be faced with a « dead » game.

In these conditions, in the short term, the objective is simple: organize a grand EC. We want to see as many people as possible in Paris. Oscar announced he would flood players with boosters, that he would buy them a drink. We need to set up many different events, in order to do something else than constructed V:tES during that week.

In the middle term, the purpose is to keep players in the game. The absence of new cards can (and will) demotivate some. It's up to us, tournament organizers, to keep their attention by proposing some variations in the game. Different formats, ranking systems...I will set up some new approaches.

In the long term, what would be magical, would be to find someone to take over the game by highlighting the existing activity. But then, it's more of an utopia for the moment.

> Let's talk about the game now. What is your favorite library card, and why?

Undoubtedly, Madness Network.

But careful, I may sound like an old man, but I can't stand the Leif Jones illustration on the CE/KoT edition. I feel like seeing Andy Warhol's Campbell's Soup. Beside, the illustration of Anson Maddocks for the first edition is just perfect. A bit more schizophrenic, some dark and pastel colours, non hostile to the eye. A bit deconstructed, you see the madness in it. And of course, there is the effect of the card. Probably one of the strongest of the game, according to me. This card was in my deck that won the LCQ Palma in 2009, so I just have to love it.

>What about your favorite crypt card ?

I have a soft spot for Appolonius and Patrizia Giovanni - nut I don't know why. For Appolonius, it's maybe because it looks like a failure of a draft for Pug Jackson. For Patrizia, I don't know. The discipline spread ?

I try to work on decks that use them - the turbo Appolonius, a deck Patrizia + Carna + Infernal Servitor, but it doesn't do any good. All my congratulations to Iñaki Puigdollers for succeeding in winning a tournament with a deck with Patrizia in the crypt. He is, to this day, the only one...





# VAMPIRE

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>Do you have any personal purposes as a player ?

I will play the NAC in New Orleans. I'm not qualified yet, so the first objective is to grasp that qualification, either during the Week of Nightmares (which promises to be very Nightmarish) or at the LCQ. After that, the big event will be the EC, which I won't play, since I will be the Head Judge.

My long-term goals are winning a tournament featuring Patrizia

Giovanni and/or Appolonius. I'd like to play with new concepts (like, for instance, my Trujah Wall deck, or an Imbued deck).

Travelling-wise, I'd like to play once in Finland, at the RopeCon, Origins and in the USA.

## Traditions

Golden French Rules in Tournaments

### 1st Tradition: The Masquerade



VtES is a game, which means: have fun, act with fair play, chill and never get to insults, and don't forget to play to win every round.



### 2nd Tradition: Domain

The decision of a Judge might surprise you: you must accept it but it's not a problem to have a discussion with the Judge after the game is over.



### 3rd Tradition: Progeny

You are attending an international tournament, which means players come from all over the world, have different way to play and different languages. Respect the way they play, keep cool even if what they do seems unsettling, and respect them by speaking English at the table and try your best to understand those whose English is poor.



### 4th Tradition: Accounting

Feedback is very important for the growth for the game, it includes feedback from the players as well as from the organizer: don't hesitate to write your own report on the international forum.



### 5th Tradition: Hospitality

Each organizer, each country, each playgroup has its own habits: please respect the methods of whoever hosts the events, be it the schedule, the style of judging, the way prizes are handled.



### 6th Tradition: Destruction

Warnings issued by a Judge are certainly not tokens to be trifled with; enforcing the rules rigidly may seem harsh but will always result from a Judge doing his job seriously and will always benefit the game.



## French Championship Report

The French Championship was held on the last week-end of August, in the Princely city of Lyon. We were eager for this event, obviously. Would Lasombra S/B dominate the format? Who would joust in the finals for the two days (trans. note: French Championship has a qualifying system a bit similar to that of the EC, with a LCQ on Saturday and a one-day Championship on Sunday)? Would a new archetype come into sight? So many questions: for those who couldn't make it, or for others, these are the highlights of the 2010 French Championship.

**0** as the number of game wins the Nocturn decks got during the week-end.

**0** is also the number of new archetypes in the finals.

**1** as the number of new qualified players to the European Championship. Congrats to Arnaud Baigts

The '1' also means the 1st French Championship organized (with success) by the Lyon Team, or also the 1st tournament in 2010 attended by Christophe Crépain (trans. note: an oldbie used to making the finals of the FC).

**2** as the second time the title of French Champion is won by Pierre Tran-Van, aka Stone. A unique feat in the history of French Championships, for our now double champion.

**2** is also the number of finals Yannick Gibert got into during that week-end, another feat from a nice fellow from Alès (trans. note: that's a city in south of France, with lots of sun. unlike where you are right now.)

**3** as the number of weenie animalism decks present during both finals of the week-end. But in spite of that, the combat-oriented versions played by Franck Bernard on Saturday and Orian Gissler on Sunday, and the intercept version of Arnaud Baigts on Sunday, did not prevail.

**4** Some players qualified up to 4 times to the French Championship, this year.

From **4** to **8** is also the number of tournament wins of Patrick Benoit, including saturday's French Open (trans. note: that's our LCQ), driving an Imbued deck. (ndT : pas traduit la suite qui est imitable meme en fr).

**7** as the highest capacity seen during the final of the Open, Blackhorse Tanner. The fatties were more in the spotlight during the final of the Championship, with François Greiner's Mistress Fanchon deck.

**9** as the number of VPs won by Romain Ben Amar during saturday's Open, running a Reversal of Fortunes Malk deck. That total is the week-end's record, but it didn't do any good against the probing rushes of our new National Coordinator, Pascal Bertrand aka Floppyzedolfin.

**10** as the estimated number of people composing the Lyon organizing crew. All our thanks to Denis, Marc, Matthias, Pascal, Quentin, Claudio, Frédéric, Matthieu, Mickael, and the guy we probably forgot about !

**17** as the number of non-qualified players who took the chance of coming in order to get their qualification on Saturday for the next day.

**24** as Stone's total bleed in one turn with his "intercept" !ventrue deck.

**25** as the number of players who qualified to the EC thanks to the 2 ECQ and numerous MQE that were organized. You still have a few slots left till end of October.

**47** as the number of participants to the French Championship, ready to enter the fray on Sunday

**54** as the number of participants on the Saturday's Open, the biggest French tournament this year until October.

**108** as the number of table points lost by Patrick Benoît between Saturday and Sunday. But he can take comfort with the thought it's also the number of pre-registered players to the EC, at the moment I'm writing this. If you're not part of them, what are you waiting for?

**341** as the attendance to Qualifiers to the French Championship in 2010, less than in 2009 but more than any other year.

**1361** as the VEKN rating total of Yannick Gibert, our new number 3 world rank (trans. note: actually, that's number two since the player appearing as number 2 on WW's site stopped playing and shouldn't even appear in the rankings at all)

**2010** as the number of good reasons why you should come to the EC

I hope you have a clearer picture of what happened in Lyon, but for those of you who don't like numbers, here is the short story: in the final of the Open, Romain Ben Amar, top seed with a malkavian reversal of fortune deck, decides to bleed Yannick Gibert (Iventrue) who himself bleeds Franck Bernard (weenie animalism combat), and was prey of Pascal Bertrand (weenie potency), the latter being bled by par Patrick Benoît (Imbued).

Pascal ousts Romain after rushing him and cleaves (trans. note: not sure on the term, kinda inspired by DD3.5 fighter feat, you prolly get the picture) on Yannick who can't do anything about it. In the meantime, Franck moves forward but cannot prevent Patrick from building up his strength. Once fully set up, Patrick ousts Pascal then Franck and wins.

In the final of French Championship, Orian Gissler, top seed with weenie animalism combat, decides to bleed François Greiner (Mistress Fanchon toolbox) who himself bleeds Pierre Tran-Van (Iventrue), and was prey of Yannick Gibert (Lasombra presence), the latter being prey of Arnaud Baigts (weenie animalism intercept).

The game progresses slowly. Yannick is sandwiched between the two weenie animalism decks but cannot kill Orian. In the meantime, Pierre ousts Arnaud. The others survive until the time limit and Pierre becomes double French Champion.



# VAMPIRE

## THE ETERNAL STRUGGLE

Questions to Stone, double french Champion.

### 1/ Why did you choose this kind of deck for the French Championship (FC) ?

I feel (perhaps wrongly) that the table talk of some players inspired others, what is certain is that too many players chit-chat way too often and especially for too long in order to stay alive, to keep someone alive, more often than not just for the sake of talking etc. And unfortunately, most players have a poor perception of the passage of time. They frequently wake up 20-40 minutes before the time limit and suddenly realize they should play quickly, others imagine someone will hand their prey on a plate and become themselves easy preys for for hope-sellers who will con them with a fake deal and break them...In the end, it's not uncommon to reach a time limit, which is fundamentally wrong. Incidentally, at least one game of the LCQ (FC) had miffed me, due to a grandprey that was planning way too much ahead a possible duel with me while there were still 5 players in the table and knowing that I was playing a deck with little room for acceleration (Uta/Carna, well that version wasn't moving forward real quick).

So I needed a deck with no need to talk much, that could defend by its own and that gave at least an illusion of control table (so that I wouldn't be at the low end of any negotiation), while hiding a definitely simple mechanism : tap & bleed. The cross-table angle (or pretext) stems from Owen's ability, Eagle Sight possibilities, Deflects, Direct Intervention etc. But ultimately, it boils down to not much : get 4-5 vampires out then hit prey pretty hard after a Misdirection or whatever is needed to tap a vampire. Nothing special, no creativity, just something efficient. It would be awesome to win with an original and creative deck, but it's no good with chatterboxes who just don't understand that 2 hours pass very quickly, even more so when no one has died after the 1h mark.

### 2/ What have been the easiest situations to handle with this deck, and what were the trickiest ones ?

The easiest involved preys leaving just one untapped vampire whilst within killing range (15ish pool) and arranging for a sufficiently weakened predator to accept a losing deal 2/3 or 1/2.5 (in rounds 1 and 3). Those GWs were relatively easy to get, in that sense I had a lot of luck. Even getting 24 pool damage through in 1 turn with 5 vampires bleeding was an easy situation, considering the ousting power of the deck.

The trickiest ones were rush decks that united against the rest of the table : round 2 was the scene of a confrontation Una+Tupdog Vs Kindred Spirit+Vignes+IVentruue. It gave us headaches to find solutions (and Floppy and I did poorly on this one, when we tried to optimize Floppy's dementation stealth cards vs Una's Blessing of Chaos), as well as good turnarounds when the triumvirate Vignes / Malk dem S&B / IVentruue defeated the Una/Tupdog coalition, essentially with deflected bleeds and Misdirection/Seduction to handle the blockers.

### 3/ Afterwards, and notwithstanding your victory, which cards have proved to be useless in those 4 games and which ones did you miss ?

If "useless" means "was of no use during that tournament": Uncoiling (to get rid of Unmasking), Slaughtering the Herd (I had thought since that card hadn't been played in a while, it could have sprung a surprise on a prey that would consider himself safe from a Daring with Carlton or Jake), Orgy of Blood (that messes with opponent's maths when my vamps are low on blood, I'd have loved to rush an Ossian after Marking him...), Last Stand (for its so brutal accelerating power, but it's so damn hard to get it to work...)

I did miss Life Boon, in round 2 to save Floppy who was in the triumvirate against Una+Tupdog and also in the final, in case another finalist would have succeeding in getting a VP (I was 5th seed and the final timed out with only my prey being ousted). A 2nd Daring wouldn't have been too much, either. But I wouldn't want to swap them with the above "surprise" cards, even though many would consider them useless - and in average they're actually useless - because the surprise element brings two rewards: a completely personal one, creating an unexpected turnaround is a blast, the other one is that disrupting the calculations of opponents can be brutal enough to irreversibly alter the table dynamics to one's advantage (yeah, that's a tad too verbose, the real reason is that I find it fun to play Orgy of Blood)

### 4/ How do you prepare yourself to the EC and the Legendary Vampire; will you score a 3rd or even 4th victory in a row for the French Championship?

I'm mostly doing preparations as member of the organizing staff, for upstream issues. It's true the EC is so near and it's time to get back to intensive training and deckbuilding again. But the preparation everyone should have is first and foremost in the head and the guts: you have to go to the EC with a savage fighting spirit, never give up even in apparently hopeless situations (and god knows that our own intellectual pride makes us believe they are hopeless, but only those who look for solutions will be rewarded), finally never forget the words of a wise man who could have been the 2010 French Champion according to my predictions: "what matters the most in your games, it's pool and vamps" (it's a kind of running gag after he did that slip of the tongue during a game). Well, that or "pool and Imbueds" if you get hunters on your table, but that's it.

To try to win the French Championship for the 3rd time, I guess I'll play vote or combat, depending on the average evolution in playstyles of the people I'll meet. But I'd be much more happier with seeing a French win the EC than winning myself the French Championship, so I urge the readers to register, now, immediately on <http://ec2010vtes.com/>

### IVentruue for FC 2010

#### Crypt:

- 2 Blackhorse Tanner
- 1 Charice Fontaine
- 1 Jefferson Foster
- 1 Katherine Stoddard
- 3 Neighbor John
- 2 Owain Evans
- 1 Sister Evelyn
- 1 Ulrike Rothbart

#### Library: (90 cards)

#### Master (17 cards)

- 2 Anarch Troublemaker
- 1 Corporate Hunting Ground
- 1 Direct Intervention
- 1 Giant's Blood
- 1 Last Stand
- 3 Misdirection
- 1 Pentex Subversion
- 1 Powerbase: Montreal
- 3 Vessel
- 3 Wash

#### Action (15 cards)

- 13 Govern the Unaligned
- 2 Slaughtering the Herd

#### Reaction (28 cards)

- 7 Deflection
- 5 Delaying Tactics
- 2 Eagle's Sight
- 2 Enhanced Senses
- 4 Eyes of Argus
- 3 Forced Awakening
- 1 My Enemy's Enemy
- 3 On the Qui Vive

#### Action Modifier (13 cards)

- 2 Bonding
- 8 Conditioning
- 1 Daring the Dawn
- 2 Seduction

#### Event (1 card)

- 1 Uncoiling, The

#### Combat (14 cards)

- 4 Indomitability
- 1 Orgy of Blood
- 2 Rolling with the Punches
- 3 Target Vitals
- 4 Weighted Walking Stick

#### Equipment (2 cards)

- 1 Bowl of Convergence
- 1 Heart of Nizchetus



# VAMPIRE

## THE ETERNAL STRUGGLE

## Welcome to Paris

Welcome, fellow Vtes players, to the most mysterious city of the world. As vtesism rhymes with tourism, we thought you might go to some certain places you have already played with and, who knows, meets some celebrities over there.



### Opera houses

Both Opera houses have been controlled by Daughters of Cacophony for a very long time now. Nobody knows if other clans avoid them because of their strength or because of the awful

noise that you would hear if you were to enter the Opera houses by night.

Take the subway and go to station "Opera" (subway line 3, 7 and 8, rer line A). Go out at any exit and you cannot miss it. Strange enough that this location gives stealth, isn't it? The Paris Opera House in opposite give power and visibility to anybody controlling it, in our opinion.

What do you need to know to impress people? The real name of this Opera house is "Opera Garnier". It is the most ancient Opera house in Paris, built during the 19th century. Toreadors have been interested in it but Daughters claimed it first. To prevent people from coming at night, they have created a famous myth "the Phantom of the Opera" and forced famous writer Gaston Leroux to write about it. The subterranean lake that would exist behind the Opera is a pure phantasm as anybody, like me, who has been there, knows it is a giant graveyard that lies beneath the house.

Now, go to the station "Bastille" (subway line 1, 5 or 8). Look at this gigantic place and search the Bastille Opera House which is populated by many strange characters by day and by night. Daughters have indeed decided to gather as many people as possible there, to get votes in important decisions concerning the city.

What do you need to know to impress people? The newest Opera House starts to get a little old, having been built in 1989 by Carlos Ott, the Uruguayan Architect. This dangerous place is full of labyrinths, dark and gigantic rooms and anybody with the bad idea of going there by night would probably never be seen again. At the heart of the house, the Liebermann room, with a chore of 1 200 seats, invisible to human beings, waits in the shadow to welcome the next big vampiric repetition.

### Palace of Versailles

The well-known Elysium is accessible from Rer line C. You cannot miss it, it is written in French "le château de Versailles" as we don't want those filthy stranger Nosferatus to arrive there, as you will understand.

What do you need to know to impress people? Versailles is not just one castle, or the biggest palace of the Western world, it is a huge number of little buildings, all with their own stories to tell and specific clans controlling them. Have fun visiting at random the small and the big Trianon, the Queen's apartments, the canals, a zoo, the water marvels and the Swiss lodgings. If you go by night, go directly to the Queen's apartments, that's where important decisions are taken.



### The Louvre museum

You will need to be tricky to get to the museum as it is only accessible by subway line 1, at the station Louvre Rivoli. There, look at all buildings around. It is the Louvre everywhere. Former palace built under Sun King



Louis XIV [also guilty of having ordered the Palace of Versailles], it has become a museum after French revolution in 1793.

What do you need to know to impress people? The Louvre possesses 450 000 items, 35 000 of which are being displayed simultaneously. Its main collections are the following: oriental antiquities, Egyptian antiquities, Greek, Etruscan and Roman antiquities, Muslim arts, Sculptures, Art items, Paintings and Graphic arts.

Of course, you are all aware that a certain collection has been hidden from human visitors...

### Père Lachaise

To go to the Père Lachaise, go by the line 2 or 3. It is very close to the RIP so it is a good sightseeing if you only have a short time. The Père Lachaise is the biggest French cemetery and some of the most famous people are to be visited here.

What do you need to know to impress people? We could list famous vampires who still live there, including former Prince of Paris François Villon who is said to have kept a countryside house in the city. But we might as well list famous people you might encounter there: Daughter of Cacophony Maria Callas, Jean Moulin, French national icon of the Second World War, or Jim Morrison that you might have heard about. You might also wish to know that the name of the place was due to François d'Aix de la Chaise was the confessor of king Louis XIV during 34 years.

### Le Sacré Cœur



To conclude our tourist activities, let's go to station "Anvers" on line 2, and let's run up the hill to the church of the Sacré Cœur of Montmartre. Look around you, Montmartre has been

famous during tenths of years for being the heart of romantics movement in Europe (see the movie Moulin Rouge if you have not... you have to).

What do you need to know to impress people? The Sacred Heart is before being the name of a church the Christian symbol of devotion to the heart of Jesus (or Mary), as a symbol of divine love that has given a human nature to God and saved human lives. The church itself, because of being home to the biggest organs in the world at the time, built by Aristide Cavallé-Coll in 1898, is the place where Daughters gather to enjoy pleasure of romantic music in Paris.

I feel that, with all those attractive visits we offer you, many people will like being ousted of the European Championship and take the rest of the week-end off... or at least I hope personally so.