

Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

A scenario for:

# *Grand Manoeuvre:*

*Black Powder & Blue Steel*



*Napoleonic Miniatures*

*Wargames Rules*

*By Michael Collins.*



## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

### Umpire`s Notes

#### **The terrain:**

The vineyards in front of the Russian positions and elsewhere will mean a half move deduction and each unit moving in them will be required to roll a unit manoeuvre test to see if they successfully double, or “step out” to cover the distance determined by their regulating battalion or directing units – they do this when units normally rally from disorder in each new turn. The streams are all crossable with half movement deductions and the bridges, which effectively are defiles, must be crossed in road/march column formation.

#### **Visibility:**

Russian artillery shells have already set fire to the village of Schöngrabern and the blaze is lighting up the surrounding country-side. Visibility is assumed to be good in the bold, white marked area on the map.

Outside the bold, white marked area both movement and command reaction distances are reduced to 50% and there is a possibility that; commands may drift, French units may be deceived in the dark by a Russian tactical ruse, they may mistakenly combat with other French troops, or French infantry may panic in the dark, due to the proximity of Cossacks.

At each new turn use the “drifting” rules for snow or foggy conditions on page 130.

The Russian player is to be given one card entitled:

“Ne tirez pas, nous sommes Français.”

Should the French battalion fail a unit class die roll, this will allow just one Russian battalion a +1 combat point.

The Russian player will also have one “blue on blue” card to play, which will cause a combat between French battalions within 4 centimetres of one another

French infantry commands must test using its unit class die roll if Cossacks are within 30 centimetres; if they fail their test, the command will be shaken and it will rout until it has rallied.

#### **French off-table flank marches:**

Given the difficult conditions on some parts of the battlefield itself, off-table flank marches are clearly out of the question.

#### **Russian Morale:**

Because of the resilience of Russian infantry at this battle, there will be a +1 to Russian command reaction tests

#### **Russian Skirmishers:**

I have worked out the Russian unit strengths to an average of 429 men per infantry battalion. This would indicate that the Russians were stretched to cover the 1,600 yards of their main position between Windpassing and the bridge on the Russian left and would therefore be obliged to form in two ranks. Third rank skirmishers are therefore not possible for the Russian Musketeers and Grenadier battalions.

#### **Victory conditions:**

Bagration may be awarded a victory if he has held the French at this position for 6 hours. Or 5 hours and one French division are “broken” and have tested its morale, or a total of ten French units are in poor morale.

The French will have a victory if they cause the Russians to withdraw within two hours, or they rout them from the field and are in an ordered pursuit of them within four hours.



## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

### Umpire`s Notes

#### **The historical battle:**

With the French pursuing the retreating Russian army along the northern side of the Danube, Kutusov has ordered Bagration to once more fight a rearguard action near Hollabrunn allowing the main Russian army to retire.

Arriving at Hollabrunn on the 15<sup>th</sup> and believing that he had found the main body of the Russian army, Murat with two corps (the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>) and the Reserve Cavalry, felt that it was necessary to buy some time to bring up more forces for the battle, So he offered the Russians a truce.

The truce involved Kutusov`s withdrawal from Germany and that Murat would halt his forces. Murat`s own ruse had back-fired and Napoleon was not happy with his brother-in-law`s initiative. He wrote early in the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>:

“I cannot find words to express my displeasure. You only command my vanguard and have no right to agree to an armistice without my orders. You will cost me the fruits of a campaign. End the armistice at once, and attack the enemy. Inform him that the general who has signed this has no power to make it, that only the Russian Emperor has the right, and that when the Russian Emperor ratifies this agreement, I will also ratify it. But it is only a ruse. March, destroy the Russian army. You are in a position to take his baggage and artillery.”

Tactfully reprimanded, at 13:00 hrs Murat informed the Russians that he would attack at 17:00 hrs.

After some preliminary skirmishing by cavalry, the French assembled a massed battery close to the village of Schöngrabern, and a heavy bombardment by this battery forced Bagration`s advanced guard under the command of Ulanius to retire after taking heavy losses. Marshal Lannes then ordered Oudinot`s Grenadiers de la Reserve forward to engage the Russians` left and centre, whilst Marshal Soult sent Legrand`s division in two columns to turn the Russian right. Vandamme`s division was to support Oudinot`s elites.

At about 17:00hrs Oudinot`s infantry deployed to engage the Russian rearguard. Perhaps recalling the Russian infantry`s obstinacy at Amstetten, this was favoured to an assault in column formation and made the choice of Oudinot`s Reserve Grenadiers as the pinning force most able to do it an easier one?

There followed a short and effective fire fight after which both sides closed with the bayonet, in this fighting the Russians were pushed back in the centre, to the village of Grund.

On the French left, Russian artillery had earlier caused problems for Soult`s 3<sup>rd</sup> division in its advance; the Russian shells had set fire to Schongrabern and this threw some of his corps into confusion.

On the extreme flanks the Russians still held. A desperate fight took place on the Russian right with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ligne of Soult`s third division almost losing its eagle to the Kiev Grenadier regiment. To the east of the Russian line some of Sebastiani`s cavalry clashed with the Pavlovgrad Hussars.



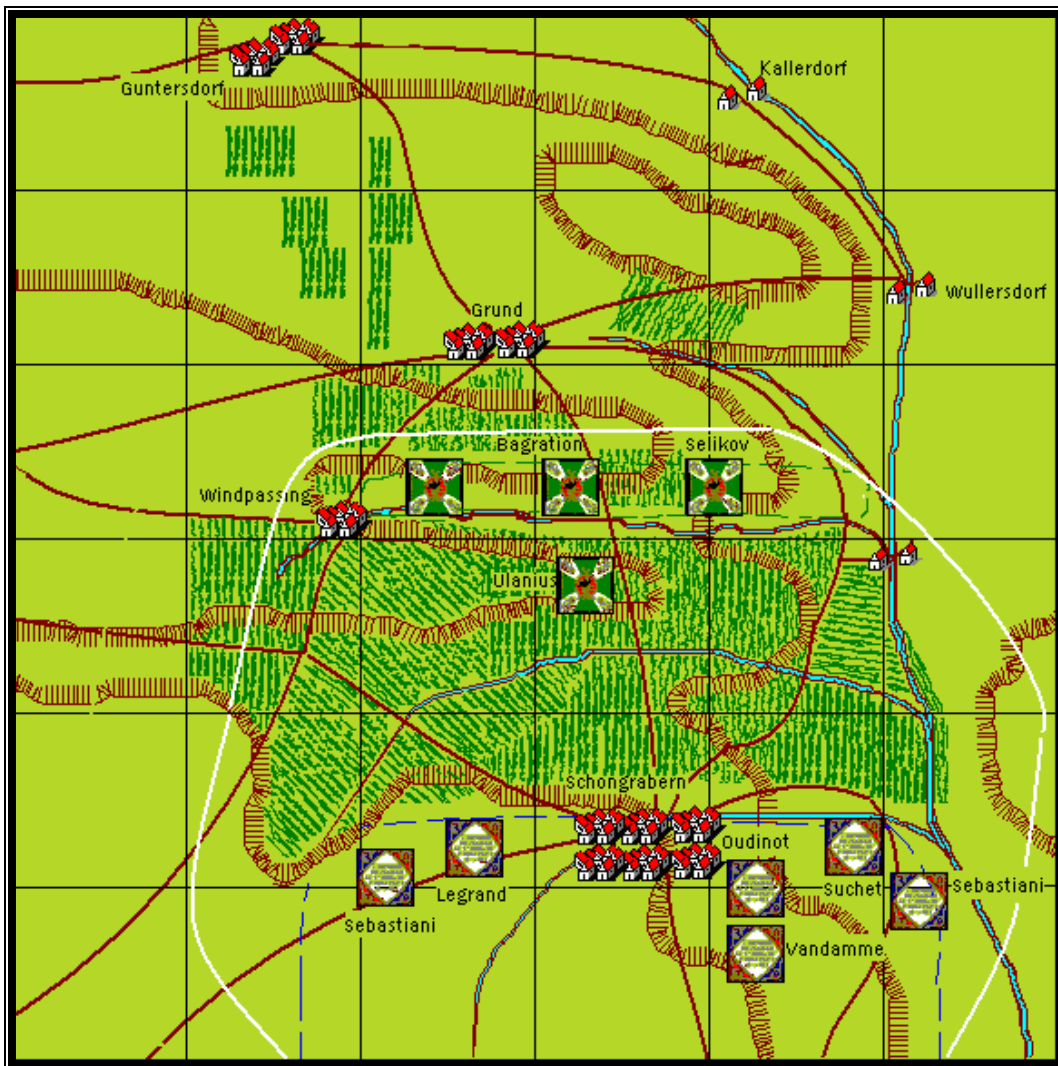
## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

### Umpire`s Notes

Presumably late in the action, and after Oudinot`s and Vandamme`s divisions had engaged the Russians, Suchet`s troops attacked the Russian left also. The Russians held on tenaciously with Suchet`s 40<sup>th</sup> Ligne losing it`s eagle and one of its battalion colours in the fight.

The French had caused high casualties on the Russian rearguard (only some four thousand rejoined the main army) but for this they had only a limited success in pushing back part of the Russian`s line to the village of Grund. The rearguard had held on for almost 6 hours; until approximately 23:00 hrs, at which time Bagration ordered a withdrawal. This withdrawal was successfully carried out, Bagration had bought yet more precious time for the main Russian army to retire and regroup.

### Map of historical deployments, the battlefield and surrounding area:





## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

### Russian player's briefing:

#### **General-Major Prince Petr Ivanovich Bagration:**

In order to allow Kutuzov's main Russian army to retreat, your orders are to fight a rearguard action here at Schöngrabern and delay the advance of Marshal Murat's forces for as long as is possible.

#### **The terrain:**

The vineyards in front of the Russian positions and elsewhere will mean a half move deduction and each unit moving in them will be required to roll a unit manoeuvre test to see if they double or "step out" to cover the distance determined by their regulating battalion or directing units – they do this when units normally rally from disorder in each new turn. The streams are all crossable with half movement deductions and the bridges, which effectively are defiles, must be crossed in road/march column formation.

#### **Visibility:**

Your artillery has already set fire to the village of Schöngrabern and the blaze is lighting up the surrounding country-side. Visibility is assumed to be good in the bold, white marked area on the map.

Outside the marked area both movement and command reaction distances are reduced to 50% and there is a possibility that; commands may drift, that French commands may be deceived in the dark by a Russian tactical ruse, mistakenly combat with other French troops, or that French infantry may panic in the dark, due to the proximity of Cossacks.

The Russian player is to be given one card entitled:

"Ne tirez pas, nous sommes Français."

Should the French battalion fail a unit class die roll, this will allow just one Russian battalion a +1 combat point.

The Russian player will also have one "blue on blue" card to play, which will cause a combat between French battalions within 4 centimetres of one another.

French infantry commands must test using its unit class die roll if Cossacks are within 30 centimetres; if they fail their test, the command will become shaken and it will rout until it has rallied.



## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

### **Deployment:**

The historical starting positions are shown on the map after Schöngrabern had been set on fire. Russian forces may be deployed in the green dashed area on the map between village of Windpassing and the bridge on the Russian left - the flags showing the Russian brigades.

Some French troops have been forced out of Schöngrabern – whereas previously Murat had planned for them to advance straight up the road from Schöngrabern, they will now have to move around the village to make their attack. The blue dashed lines show the area within which the French corps are now concentrating for their attacks.

The Russian player's map shows Selikov's and Ulanus's positions at the start of the historical battle. As per the OOB, Bagration's brigade was on the right of the Russian line, the centre brigade held in reserve, behind the Russian artillery, the Pavlograd Hussar Regiment No.2 were stationed on the left and the Chernigov Dragoon Regiment on the right flank.

Of course, players may alter these deployments if they wish.

Optionally, hidden units in the darkened areas may be kept track of by the player and the umpire marking their copies of the scenario map with the positions of Russian reserve or flank units.

### **Notes on the orders of battle and tactical options for the Russians:**

The two Russian half-batteries may be split up among the Russian commands (including the Advance guard). If kept together their morale tests are as a battery with 6 models.

At the start of battle the Jagers and Cossacks of the advance guard of General-Major Ulanus are in the same command and their command morale reactions are as "D" class troops. If detached the Cossacks are "F" class.

In the historical battle, Ulanus light troops were ordered to fall back upon the flanks of the Russian main line of battle; I have marked on the OOB the flanks upon which the Cossacks were located.

Third rank skirmishers are not possible for the Russian Musketeers or Grenadier battalions.

### **The Austrian troops:**

These are not indicated on the maps. Described as a reserve, it is said that they withdrew after the battle had started, but if they were actively present at this battle then it would make sense to have them on one of the flanks of the main Russian position – on the left flank perhaps?

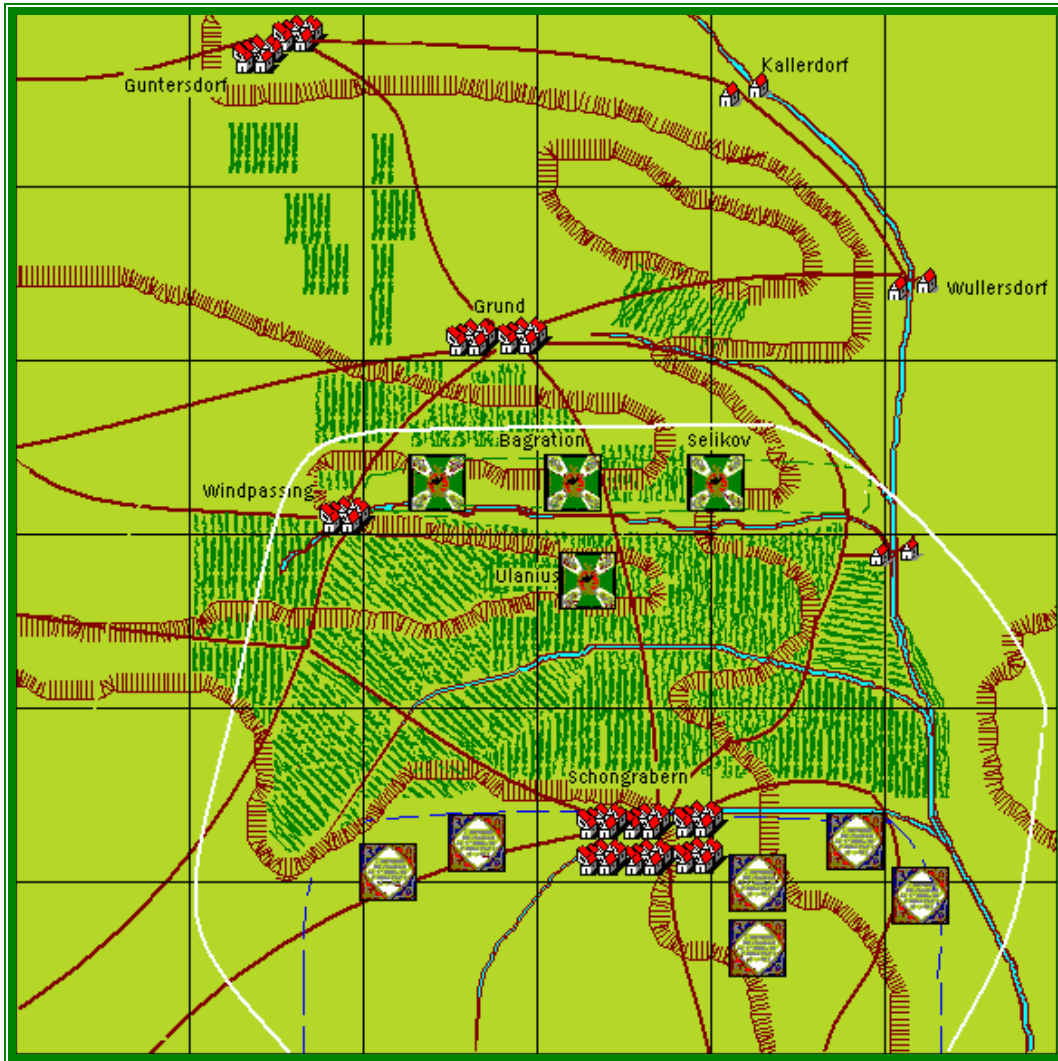
### **Victory conditions:**

Bagration may claim victory if he has held the French at this position for several hours. The umpire will have more precise information to decide if the Russian player has won



Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

Map of historical deployments, the battlefield and surrounding area:





## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

### French player`s briefing:

#### **Maréchal Joachim Murat :**

After being deceived by Russian offers of a ceasefire, you have been given very clear orders by Napoleon himself to attack the Russian rearguard of about 8,000 men which is commanded by Bagration. You have four infantry divisions (including the elite “Grenadiers de la Reserve”) from the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Corps at your immediate disposal plus the 5th Light Cavalry Division under the command of Sebastiani, which can be split between the two wings of your forces.

#### **The terrain:**

The vineyards in front of the Russian positions and elsewhere will mean a half move deduction and each unit moving in them will be required to roll a unit manoeuvre test to see if they double or “step out” to cover the distance determined by their regulating battalion or directing units – they do this when units normally rally from disorder in each new turn. The streams are all crossable with half movement deductions and the bridges, which effectively are defiles, must be crossed in road/march column formation.

#### **Visibility:**

Russian artillery shells have set fire to the village of Schöngrabern and lighting up the surroundings visibility is assumed to be good within the bold white marked area on the map.

Visibility outside this marked area is poor and so movement and command reaction distances are both reduced to 50% and there is a possibility that French commands may drift.

At each new turn use the “drifting” rules for snow or foggy conditions on page 130.

#### **Off-table flank marches:**

Given the condition on the battle itself, flank marches are clearly out of the question.

#### **Deployment:**

Originally you had intended Oudinot to advance straight up the road from the village of Schöngrabern, the fires in the village have upset your plans; the starting positions for this scenario are shown on the map after Schöngrabern had been set on fire - these are within the blue dashed lines. Oudinot`s division has been forced out of Schöngrabern and Vandamme is behind in support.

Beyond the village of Schöngrabern, on a low ridge a Russian advance guard of Jagers and Cossacks is arrayed. From the slightly higher ground around Schöngrabern, your artillery may fire over this ridge to the one beyond it (which is slightly lower), but with a -1 reverse slope modifier.

#### **Notes on the orders of battle and tactical options for the French:**

The French 4<sup>th</sup> Corps artillery reserve may be used as a massed battery and Suchet`s and Legrande`s batteries may be added to this formation.

#### **Victory conditions:**

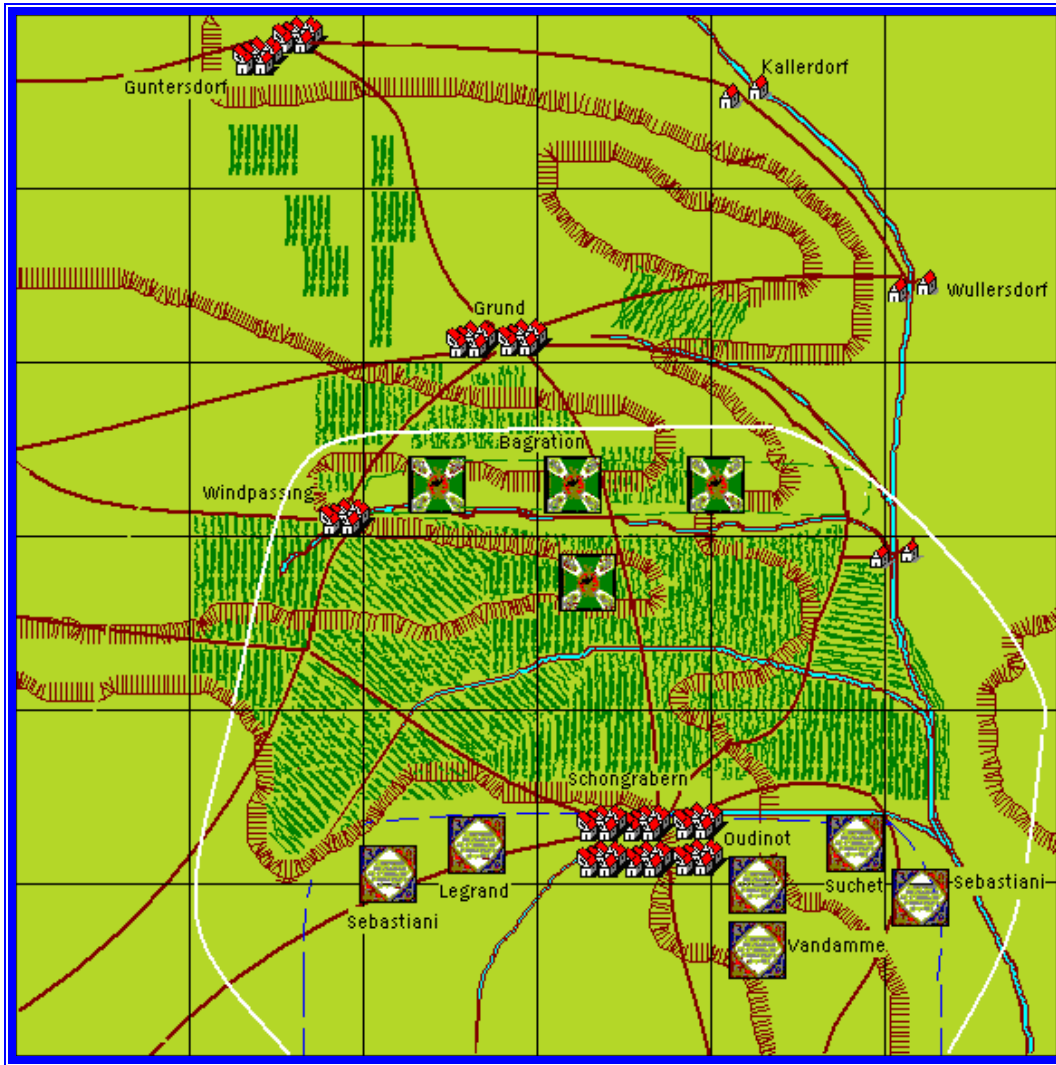
You have fought a Russian rearguard before at the battle of Amstetten, where Oudinot`s grenadiers were met with a very stubborn resistance, you can therefore expect a hard battle ahead.

However, for victory you need to have caused the Russians to withdraw or to have routed them from the field and to be in an ordered pursuit of them.



Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn 16<sup>th</sup> November 1805.

Map of historical deployments, the battlefield and surrounding area:





## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn: 16<sup>th</sup> November, 1805

### Russian UNIT ROSTER:

**General-Major Prince Petr Ivanovich Bagration (Good)**

**The Russian army command rating is “poor.”**

#### **Advance Guard: General-Major Ulanus (Average):**

Unit No:	Unit Class:	Unit name & notes:
		“D” class in command morale reactions tests.
1	D	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion 6 <sup>th</sup> Jager Regiment
2	D	2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion 6 <sup>th</sup> Jager Regiment
3	D	3 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion 6 <sup>th</sup> Jager Regiment
4	F	Lt.-Col. Khanzhenkov Cossack Regt. 5 Sotnias (2 bases) left flank
5	F	Lt.-Col Sysoev Cossack Regt. 5 Sotnias (2 bases) right flank

#### **Right Brigade: Major General Peter Ivanovich Bagration (Good):**

6	C	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion Little Russia Grenadier Regiment (3 bases)
7	C	2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion Little Russia Grenadier Regiment (3 bases)
8	C	3 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion Little Russia Grenadier Regiment (3 bases)
9	C	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion Kiev Grenadier Regiment (3 bases)
10	C	2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion Kiev Grenadier Regiment (3 bases)
11	C	3 <sup>rd</sup> Battalion Kiev Grenadier Regiment (3 bases)

#### **Centre Brigade:**

12	C	Grenadier Battalion IR Narva (3 bases)
13	C	Grenadier Battalion IR Novgorod (3 bases)

Artillery: Major Bogoslavski.

1		Foot Artillery ½ Company 4x 6 pdrs & 2x 10 pdr Licornes (3 medium bases)
2		Foot Artillery ½ Company 5x 6 pdrs & 2x 10 pdr Licornes (3 medium bases)

#### **Left Brigade: Major-General Selikov (Average):**

Unit No:	Unit Class:	Unit name & notes:
		“D” class in command morale reactions tests.
14	D	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion IR Azov (3 bases)
15	D	2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion IR Azov (3 bases)
16	C	Grenadier Battalion IR Azov (3 bases)
17	D	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion IR Podolia (3 bases)
18	D	2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion IR Podolia (3 bases)
19	C	Grenadier Battalion IR Podolia (3 bases)

#### **Cavalry Brigade:**

Right flank:

20	C	Chernigov Dragoon Regt.
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Left flank:

21	B	Pavlograd Hussar Regt No.2
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#### **Reserve: General-Feldwachtmeister von Nostitz-Reineck (Brilliant):**

22	B	Hessen-Homburg HussarR Nr4
23	E	1 <sup>st</sup> /2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalions 9 <sup>th</sup> Grenz Regiment



## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn: 16<sup>th</sup> November, 1805

### French UNIT ROSTER:

Army Wing Commander : Maréchal Joachim Murat (Good)  
The French army command rating is "brilliant."

IV Corps : Maréchal Nicolas Jean-de-Dieu Soult (Brilliant).

2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division: Général de Division Vandamme (Good).

1st Brigade: Général de Brigade Schiner

Unit No:	Unit Class:	Unit name & notes:
1	C	1/24 <sup>th</sup> Légère Regiment
2	C	2/24 <sup>th</sup> Légère Regiment

2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade: Général de Brigade Férey

3	C	1/4 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
4	C	2/4 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
5	C	1/28 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
6	C	1/28 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment

3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade: Général de Brigade Candras

7	C	1/46 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
8	C	2/46 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
9	C	1/57 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
10	C	1/57 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment

Artillery:

1		5/13th Foot Artillery Company (& Det 5/16th) 4x 8pdrs, 2x 4 pdrs 2x 6" howitzers (4 medium bases)
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3rd Infantry Division: Général de Division Legrande (Good)

1st Brigade: Général de Brigade Merle

Unit No:	Unit Class:	Unit name & notes:
1	C	1/26 <sup>th</sup> Légère Regiment
2	C	2/26 <sup>th</sup> Légère Regiment
3	C	Tirailleurs du Pô

2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade: Général de Brigade Lavasseur

4	C	1/18 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
5	C	2/18 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
6	C	1/75 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
7	C	1/75 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
8	C	Tirailleurs Corses

3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade: Général de Brigade Féry

9	C	1/3 <sup>rd</sup> Ligne Regiment
10	C	2/3 <sup>rd</sup> Ligne Regiment
11	C	3/3 <sup>rd</sup> Ligne Regiment

Artillery:

2		5/14th Foot Artillery Company (& Det 5/16th) 4x 8pdrs, 2x 4 pdrs 2x 6" howitzers (4 medium bases)
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Artillery Reserve:

3		5/?? Foot Artillery Company (3 medium bases)
4		5/?? Foot Artillery Company (3 medium bases)



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French UNIT ROSTER:

5th Light Cavalry Division: Général de Brigade Sebastiani (Good)

1st Brigade: Général de Brigade Treillard (Good)

Unit No:	Unit Class:	Unit name & notes:
12	C	9 <sup>th</sup> Hussars
13	C	10 <sup>th</sup> Hussars

2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Général de Brigade Fauconnet (Good)

14	C	13 <sup>th</sup> Chasseurs a Cheval
15	C	21 <sup>st</sup> Chasseurs a Cheval

Artillery:

5	5/4 <sup>th</sup> Horse Artillery Company 6x 8pdrs (3 medium bases)	
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## Schöngrabern – Hollabrunn: 16<sup>th</sup> November, 1805

### French UNIT ROSTER:

#### V Corps : Commander Maréchal Jean Lannes (Brilliant)

##### 1st Infantry Division: Grenadiers de la Reserve: Général de Division Oudinot (Good)

1st Brigade: Général de Brigade Laplanche-Morthières

16	B	1st Grenadier Regt : 1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion d'élite 13 <sup>th</sup> Ligne
17	B	1st Grenadier Regt : 2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion d'élite 58 <sup>th</sup> Ligne
18	B	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Regt : 1st Battalion d'élite 9 <sup>th</sup> Ligne
19	B	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grenadier Regt : 2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion d'élite 81 <sup>st</sup> Ligne

2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade: Général de Brigade Dupas

20	B	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grenadier Regt : 1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion d'élite 2nd Légère
21	B	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grenadier Regt : 2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion d'élite 3 <sup>rd</sup> Légère
22	B	4 <sup>th</sup> Grenadier Regt : 1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion d'élite 28 <sup>th</sup> Légère
23	B	4 <sup>th</sup> Grenadier Regt : 2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion d'élite 31 <sup>st</sup> Légère

3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade: Général de Brigade Ruffin

24	B	5 <sup>th</sup> Grenadier Regt : 1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion d'élite 12 <sup>th</sup> Légère
25	B	5 <sup>th</sup> Grenadier Regt : 2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion d'élite 15 <sup>th</sup> Légère

Artillery:

6		5/1 <sup>st</sup> Foot Artillery Company 4x 8pdrs, 2x 4 pdrs (3 medium bases)
7		5/4 <sup>th</sup> Horse Artillery Company 6x 8pdrs (3 medium bases)

##### 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division: Général de Division Suchet (Good)

1st Brigade: Général de Brigade Claparède

26	C	1/17 <sup>th</sup> Légère Regiment
27	C	2/17 <sup>th</sup> Légère Regiment

2nd Brigade: Général de Brigade Beker

28	C	1/34 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
29	C	2/34 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
30	C	3/34 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
31	C	1/40 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
32	C	2/40 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment

3rd Brigade: Général de Brigade Valhubert

33	C	1/64 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
34	C	2/64 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
35	C	1/88 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment
36	C	2/88 <sup>th</sup> Ligne Regiment

Artillery:

8		5/15 <sup>th</sup> Foot Artillery Company 2x 12pdrs, 4x 8pdrs, 2x 4pdrs (4 medium bases)
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