

The Battle Of Kesselsdorf

15th of December 1745

by Greg Savvinos

The Battle of Kesselsdorf was fought on December 15th, 1745 between the Saxon Army under Count Rutowski and the Prussians under Leopold of Anhalt Dessau. The Prussian Advanced Guard attacked the strong Saxon force at Kesselsdorf and was repulsed with heavy losses. The Saxon garrison, thinking the battle won, left their position and pursued the retreating Prussians. The Prussian Cavalry pounced and the Saxon grenadiers were cut to ribbons.

Whilst the battle around Kesselsdorf raged, Mortiz brought the bulk of the Prussian infantry over the Zschoner-Bach stream and engaged the main Saxon position. The Prussian infantry tore the Saxon line apart. The combined pressure of the debacle on their left and the vehemence of the Prussian infantry attack was too much for the Saxons and their retreat turned into a rout. As night fell the Saxon army fell back in disarray through and beyond Dresden.

The losses on both sides had been severe. The Prussians suffered 5000 casualties, whilst the Saxons lost between 10000 and 15000 killed, wounded and captured. The result was the Treaty of Dresden, ending the Second Silesian War as a decisive Prussian victory.

The Scenario:

The weather is Overcast Start on Turn 2. Basic Length is 5

Terrain notes:

- The stream is treated as an obstacle by all troops
- The Elbe is impassible to all troops
- Woods are treated as rough terrain

Map Scale: 1:100

Free Deployment Rules

For Free Deployment place Saxon (and allied Austrian) units anywhere below the line indicated and place the Prussian units anywhere above the line indicated.

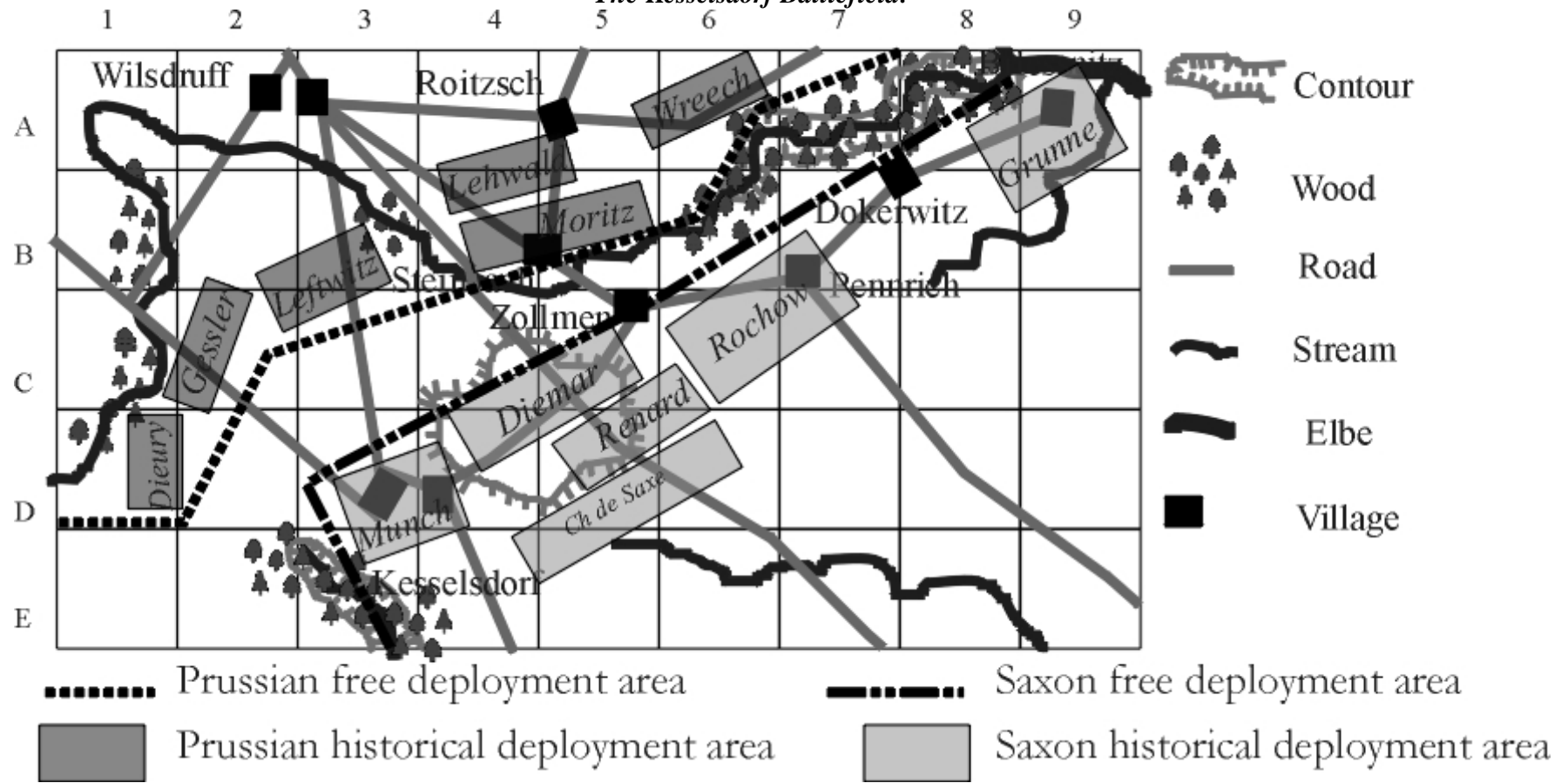
Historical Deployment Rules

For Historical Deployment set up the units for each force within the area indicated.

Special Scenario Rules

Leaders' ratings have been adjusted to reflect their performance in the actual battle.

The Kesselsdorf Battlefield:



Kesselsdorf Orders of Battle

Prussian Army

Commander: Old Dessauer (Great)

Army Break Point: 6

2 x Heavy Artillery

Dieury 0

1 x Hussars

Gessler 0 (V)

2 x Cuirassiers

1 x Dragoons

Leftwitz 0

1 x Grenadiers

1 x Musketeers

1 x Dragoons

Moritz * +1 (V)

4 x Musketeers

Lehwald +1 (V)

1 x Musketeers

2 x Fusiliers

Wreech 0

2 x Cuirassiers

1 x Bayreuth Dragoons

Total (for Free Deployment)

4 x Cuirassiers

1 x Bayreuth

Dragoons

2 x Dragoons

1 x Hussars

1 x Grenadiers

6 x Musketeers

2 x Fusiliers

2 x Heavy Artillery

Saxon Army

Commander: Rutowsky (Poor)

Army Break Point: 7

3 x Heavy Artillery

Munch +2

2 x Saxon Grenadiers

Chevalier de Saxe 0

1 x Saxon Cuirassier

1 x Saxon Dragoon

1 x Saxon Light Horse

Diemar -1

1 x Saxon Guard

3 x Saxon Musketeers

Renard 0 (V)

2 x Saxon Musketeers

Rochow -1

1 x Austrian Musketeers

1 x Saxon Musketeers

1 x Saxon Cuirassiers

1 x Saxon Dragoons

Grunne 0

2 x Austrian Musketeers

1 x Austrian Cuirassiers

Total (for Free Deployment)

2x Saxon Cuirassiers

1x Austrian Cuirassier

2 x Saxon Dragoons

1 x Saxon Light Horse

3x Saxon Gd/Grenadier

5 x Saxon Musketeers

3 x Austrian Musketeers

3 x Heavy Artillery