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The Dawn of Sanctioned Magic

Some of the latest news in tournament-level **Magic**, as Daniel Stahl reported [last week](#), is that MagicTheGathering.com will soon include a section for tournament-level **Magic** strategy and event coverage. Today we take a look at some of the *oldest* news in tournament history: **Magic's** first sanctioned tournament.

The first **Magic: The Gathering** tournament sanctioned by the DCI took place at Gen Con 1993. Not many records of that tournament are still around, but we still have a play-by-play record of the last duel. In the following transcript, Rick Townsend, running a defensive green-white deck, faces off against Alex Parrish's aggressive red-black. (It's important to note that, as mentioned in a past [Magic Arcana](#), *Orcish Oriflamme* was misprinted in Alpha with a mana cost of .)

Rick and Alex are tied in the finals, 1-1, and this duel would decide the winner of the first sanctioned tournament. (Transcription by Steve Bishop and Monty Ashley.)

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Magic's First Sanctioned Tournament Gen Con 1993

Game Three

Turn #1 (Alex)

Alex: 20, Rick: 20

In Play: Nothing

- Drop: Mountain
- Tap: Mountain to cast **Mons's Goblin Raiders**

Turn #2 (Rick)

In Play: Nothing

- Drop: Plains

Turn #3 (Alex)

In Play: Mountain, **Mons's Goblin Raiders**

- Drop: Swamp
- Tap: Mountain and Swamp to cast **Orcish Oriflamme**
- Attack: with Goblins

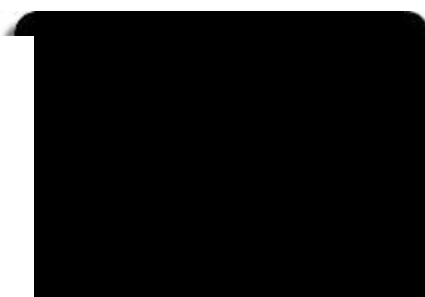
Alex: 20, Rick: 18

Turn #4 (Rick)

In Play: Plains

- Drop: Forest
- Tap: Plains and Forest to cast **Circle of Protection: Red**

Turn #5 (Alex)



In Play: Mountain, Swamp, Mons's Goblin Raiders, Orcish Oriflamme

- Tap: Swamp to cast Unholy Strength on Mons's Goblin Raiders
- Attack: with Mons's Goblin Raiders

Alex: 20, Rick: 14

Turn #6 (Rick)

In Play: Plains, Forest, Circle of Protection: Red

- Drop: Forest
- Tap: Plains and Forest to cast Disenchant on Unholy Strength

Turn #7 (Alex)

In Play:



Mountain, Swamp, Mons's Goblin Raiders, Orcish Oriflamme

- Drop: Mountain
- Tap: Mountain, Mountain, Swamp to cast Stone Rain on Rick's untapped Forest
- Attack: with Mons's Goblin Raiders

Alex: 20, Rick: 12

Turn #8 (Rick)

In Play: Plains, Forest, Circle of Protection: Red

- Drop: Plains

Turn #9 (Alex)

In Play: Mountain, Mountain, Swamp, Mons's Goblin Raiders, Orcish Oriflamme

- Drop: Swamp
- Tap: Mountain, Mountain, Swamp, Swamp to cast Juggernaut
- Attack: with Mons's Goblin Raiders
- -Rick taps Plains to activate Circle of Protection: Red and takes no damage

Alex: 20, Rick: 12

Turn #10 (Rick)

In Play: Plains, Plains, Forest, Circle of Protection: Red

- Drop: Forest
- Tap: Forest, Forest, Plains, Plains to cast **Giant Spider**

Turn #11 (Alex)

In Play: Mountain, Mountain, Swamp, Swamp, **Juggernaut**, **Mons's Goblin Raiders**, **Orcish Oriflamme**

- Tap: Swamp to cast **Dark Ritual**
- Tap: Mountain, Swamp to cast **Disintegrate** on **Giant Spider** (using mana from the **Dark Ritual** to do 4 damage, destroying the **Giant Spider**)
- Attack: with **Mons's Goblin Raiders** and **Juggernaut**

Alex: 20,
Rick: 4

Turn #12



(Rick)

In Play: Plains, Plains, Forest, **Circle of Protection: Red**

- Tap: Forest to cast **Scryb Sprites**

Turn #13 (Alex)

In Play: Mountain, Mountain, Swamp, Swamp, **Juggernaut**, **Mons's Goblin Raiders**, **Orcish Oriflamme**

- Tap: Mountain, Swamp to cast **Terror** on **Scryb Sprites**
- Attack: with **Mons's Goblin Raiders** and **Juggernaut**

Alex: 20, Rick: 0

ALEX PARRISH IS THE 1993 GENCON MAGIC TOURNAMENT CHAMPION!

It was a simpler time, wasn't it? Doesn't it make you want to wax nostalgic, dig out your Alpha cards and build an **Orcish Oriflamme** deck? (Or perhaps you it makes you run screaming and go crack packs of *Mirrodin*.)

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