

Consolidated Tournament Trees

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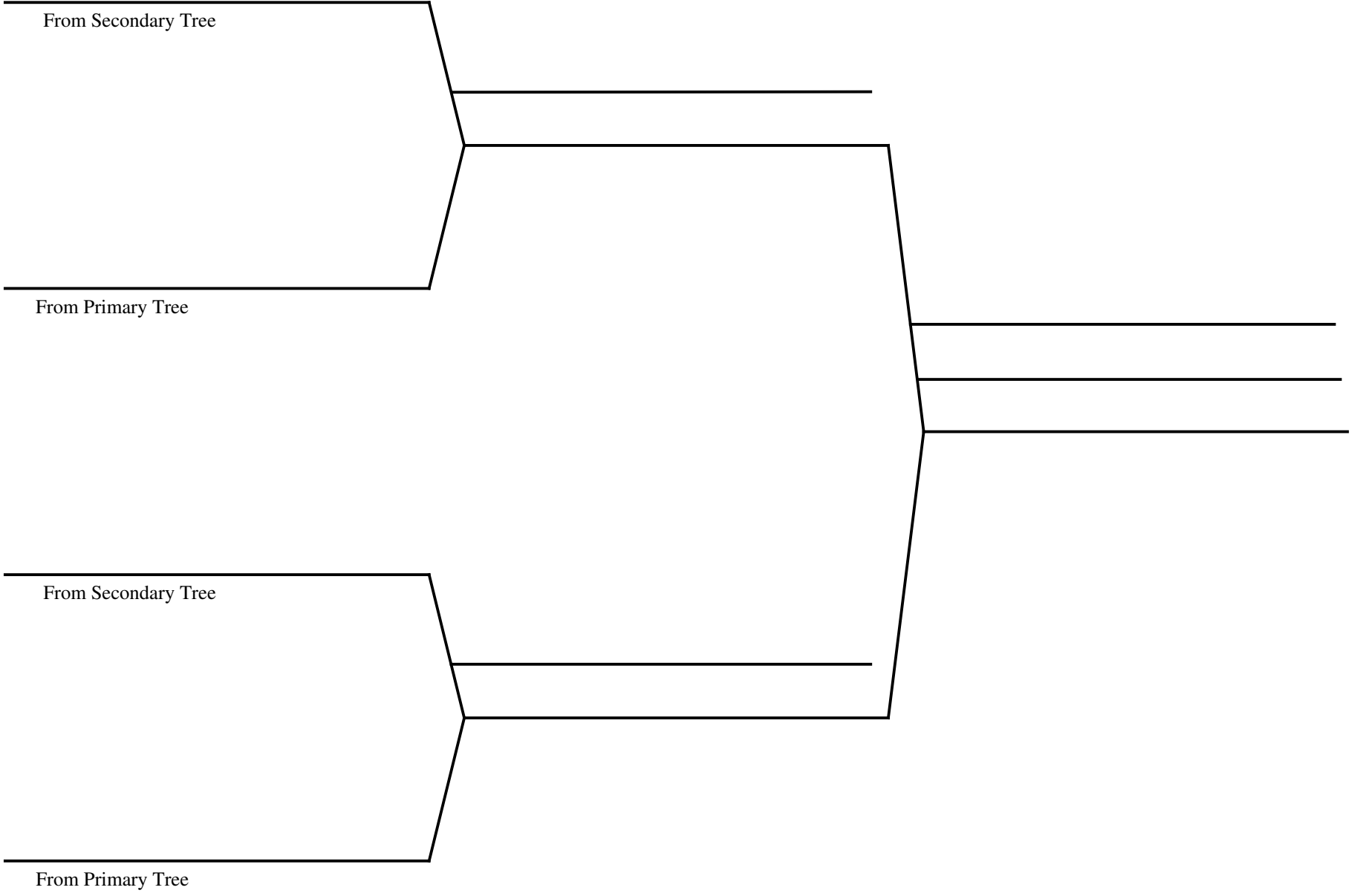
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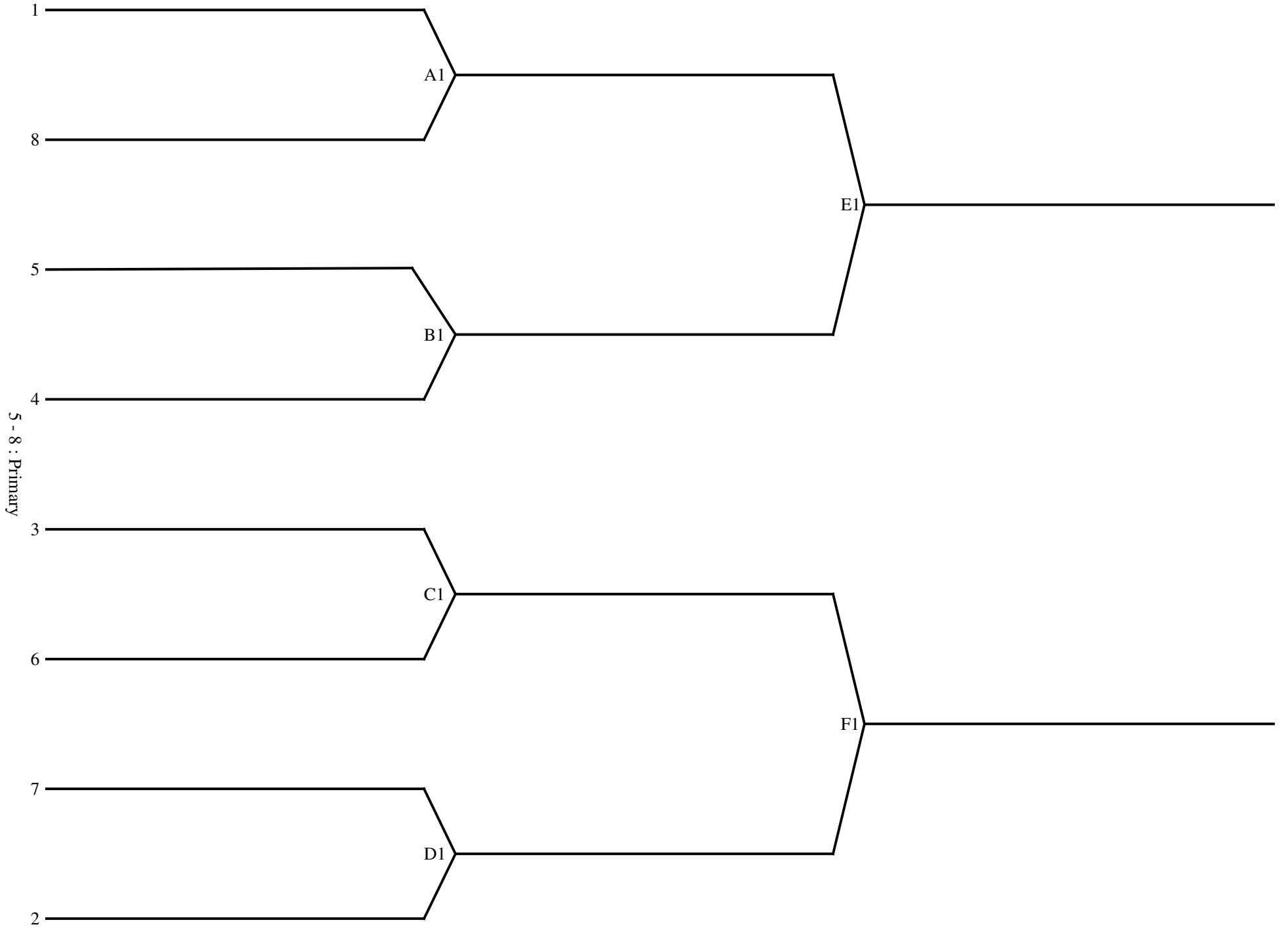
Master Harold of Bearshaven created the Calontir Book of Trees. This book offers comprehensive trees for both single and double elimination tournaments. These trees are easy to use and I recommend them. However, there are well over 100 different trees to be copied and carried around. Inspired by a discussion with Conrad Martin von Kassel, I prepared these consolidated trees. The main goals were to reduce the number of master trees and to prevent a combatant from facing an opponent twice.

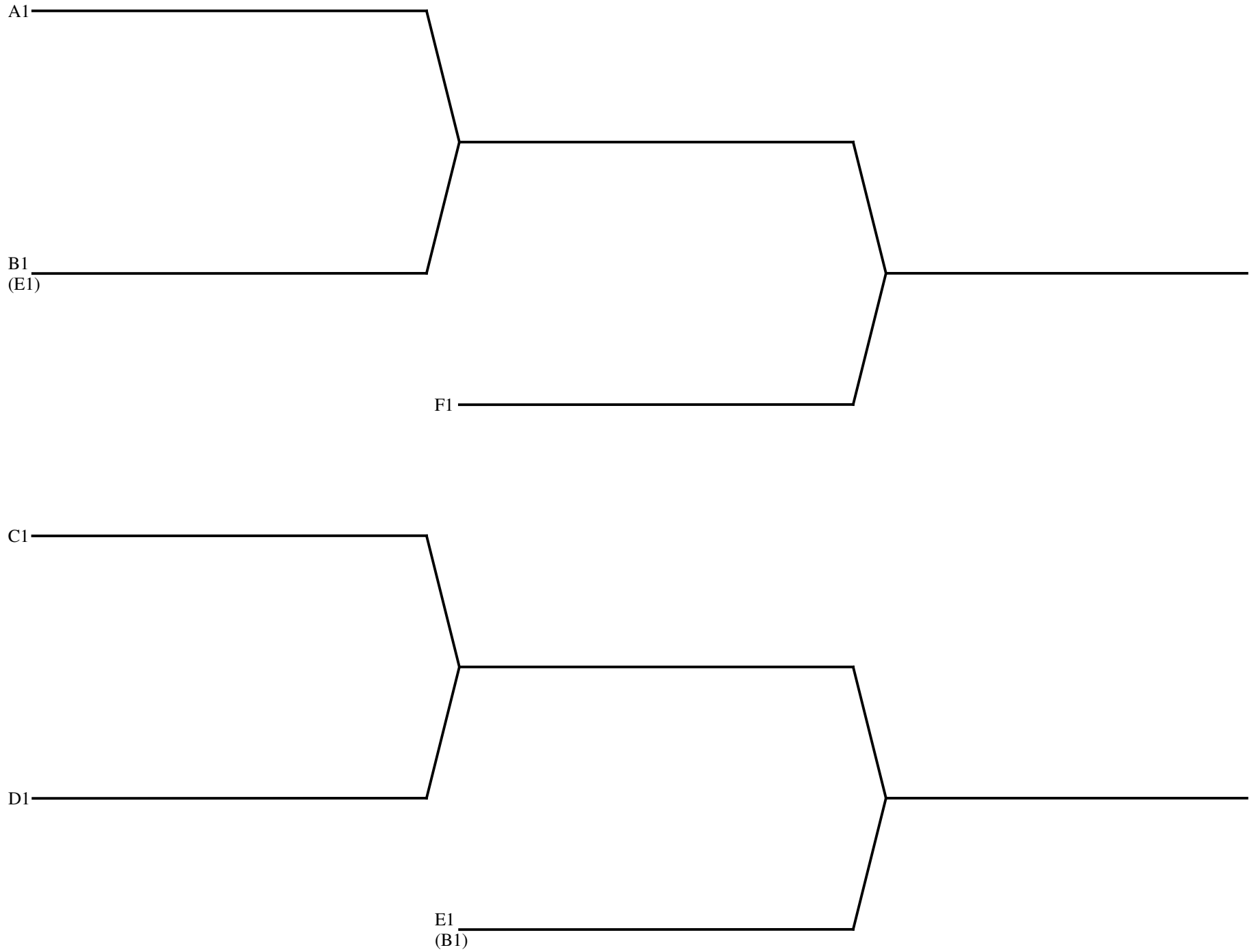
HOW TO USE THE CONSOLIDATED TREES:

The following instructions are for a standard double elimination tournament. Single elimination tournaments (and their variants such as warlord) can easily be run using the Primary trees and adding a final bout.

1. **Use the tree(s) for the correct number of combatants.** For instance, if you had 22 fighters, use the trees for 17-32 combatants. A feature of the consolidated trees is that if a fighter signs up late, you only have to start over if you jump to the next tree.
 2. **Circle the numbers you will be using.** It is easy to write a name on a line that should not be used. Circling allows late additions.
 3. **Finalize the tree.** This means no new fighters should be added. Combatants with no opponents have a bye the first round. **Mark through all the first round bouts (letters) that will not be used.** I use a heavy marker to remind myself that this is a bye fight. Write the combatant's name in the next round as if he/she had won.
 4. Read the tree. Make any necessary corrections.
 5. **Circle the letters you will be using in the Secondary tree and mark through the byes.** Again, I use a heavy marker so I don't forget that there are bye fights to be skipped.*
 6. Begin the tournament. **Write the winner's name on the line next to the bout.**
 7. **For a Primary bout, write the loser's name on the Secondary tree on the line labeled with the letter of the bout just fought.** You will not have to check to avoid a rematch as this has already been done. There may appear to be some byes in both the first and second rounds of the Secondary tree. All byes are actually in the first round that is *fought* but this could be either the first or second round on the tree. Write the combatants' names into the next round as if they had won.
 8. **Continue** fighting, alternating between the Primary and Secondary trees, **until you have the four semi-finalists.** You should check for rematches in the Secondary tree whenever there is a bout between two combatants advancing through the Secondary tree (marked by double arrows). If you have to make a switch, you will need to check for rematches in that branch of the tree for the remainder of the tournament.
 9. **Before filling the combatants names' in the semi-finals, check for any possible rematch.** Usually, there will be only one way to avoid any rematches without pairing the two combatants from the Primary tree against each other. However, sometimes, one combatant from the Primary tree has faced both combatants from the Secondary tree. Discuss with the Marshal-in-Charge how to proceed. Most often, the four combatants know what has happened. They are called to the list table to decide which rematch will be fought, often by the toss of a coin. **Remember**, in the semi-final round, **the combatant from the Secondary tree must win twice to advance** and the combatant from the Primary tree must only win once.
 10. The finals are fought best two out of three, unless the Marshal-in-Charge decides otherwise (i.e., due to weather and/or time).
- * In a casual survey of fighters, I discovered that most fighters prefer to keep their momentum and will fight an extra two fights rather than have a long delay at the start of the tournament. If you want to even the number of actual fights for all combatants (typically when byes are fought, such as Crown Tournament), you may need to make some adjustments to the Secondary tree. Adjustments are only necessary for 5, 9-11, 17-23, 33-47, and 65-95 combatants. My example uses the 5-8 Secondary tree.
1. Look at the first four lines of the Secondary tree. If there is only one letter circled (i.e., B1), you will need to switch this letter with a letter in the second round. If there are two letters circled, skip to step 3.
 2. In that same group of four, there are two non-circled letters forming another bout (i.e., C1 and D1). The "victor" will face an opponent coming from the Primary tree (i.e., E1). The letter of the new opponent is swapped with the letter identified in Step 1 (i.e., B1 and E1 are swapped).
 3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 for each group of four lines in the Secondary tree.







9 - 16 : Primary

