

MASTERS  
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UN

MASMUNC III



# A Letter from the Secretariat

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Dear Delegates, Advisors, Staff, and Friends of MASMUNC II I,

Greetings from Dobbs Ferry, New York! As this year's Secretaries General, we are honored to share the second iteration of the Masters School Model United Nations Conference with you at the beautiful Masters School campus on December 7, 2024. After a successful MASMUNC III, we hope to grow the conference even more. Throughout MASMUNC, we aim to cultivate thoughtful and meaningful debate and compromise in committees spanning current UN bodies to fictional crises.

We've spent our spring and summer preparing and planning for you, and we hope you enjoy the committees our delegates have to offer! As a team, we've been inspired by the many conferences we've attended, and hope you will grow, learn, and have fun at MASMUNC II I. This conference is truly the work of our entire team, whether that be brainstorming, writing background guides, or serving as pages and crisis staffers. We look forward to seeing everyone represent world powers, Shakespearean characters, and even spies in our 'Spy School' committee!

Our dedicated staff of students spanning from grades 8-12 and our devoted faculty advisors are eager to welcome you with open arms to ensure the best experience possible. We hope that you will leave MASMUNC II I with lasting skills to use in more conferences in the future and throughout everyday life.

Thank you.

Jesse Gelman  
*Secretary General*

Sophie Moussapour  
*Secretary General*

# A Letter from the Dais

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Hi, Delegates of the Roman Senate!

Welcome to the Roman Senate Committee. My name is William Black and I will be working alongside my fellow chair, Rohan Lavery, to bring you this wonderful historical committee on the Punic Wars. I am quite an avid student of history, and I hope that this committee will somewhat embody the war we will be discussing in great detail and I hope to see you all come up with some creative solutions to the problem that is Hannibal. I cannot wait to work with you all on the day of committee and diving into the complexities of such a monumental conflict in history. To be successful in this committee, I advise you all to make sure to put a considerable amount of effort into the research of the Punic War, and the players within it. I wish you all the best, and I will see you all in December at MASMUNC III!

Thank you.

William Black, Co-Chair

Rohan Lavery, Co-Chair

# A Note on Cultural Sensitivity

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While at MASMUNC, we encourage delegates to bear full participation, tackle their topics with full force, and embrace the dynamics within the international community; it is vital to recognize that the topics and issues being debated influence real places and people. This recognition is crucial to developing a culturally aware mindset that will contribute to an impactful committee. Delegates representing countries, leaders, and governmental figures must acknowledge the cultural aspects that determine the nature of their position.

In addition to maintaining cultural sensitivity, we recognize that we live in a world that is filled with bias. While it may be impossible to completely separate ourselves from our

worldview and the many factors that influence us on a daily basis, we can make a concerted effort to minimize the way our personal biases impact the way that we interact with each other within this activity. To that end, please remember that:

- Accents do not reflect intelligence;
- Race does not indicate socioeconomic status;
- Gender is fluid;
- Positions that delegates take while competing don't necessarily equate to their personal beliefs;
- Words do not exist in a vacuum. Avoid using charged language toward delegates.

Thank you all for abiding by these guidelines. We look forward to seeing you all on conference day!

Jesse Gelman  
*Secretary General*

Sophie Moussapour  
*Secretary General*

## MASMUNC III Crisis Procedure

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### Structure of Committee

Crisis committees use three primary tools for discussion about the topic at hand:

**Moderated Caucuses, Unmoderated Caucuses, and Round Robins:**

### Moderated Caucuses



- Most crisis committees conduct debate through a series of rolling moderated caucuses.
- The Dais will call on delegates to give brief speeches about the topic proposed.
- The delegate proposing a moderated caucus should specify a topic of discussion, the duration, and speaking time per delegate.
  - *SAY: "Motion for a six-minute moderated caucus with a 30-second speaking time to discuss the latest crisis update."*

### **Unmoderated Caucuses**

- Delegates may leave their seats and discuss the topic freely in groups of their selection
- Topics/goals of the unmod can be suggested by both Dais and delegates, but are not necessary
  - *SAY: "Motion for a ten-minute unmoderated caucus to merge directives on the table."*

### **Round Robins**

- A round robin is a variation of the moderated caucus, where every delegate in the committee gives a speech in order of chairs around the room.
- The delegate proposing a round-robin also specifies the speaking time per delegate, which is usually not more than one minute.
- Round robins are especially useful at the very beginning of a committee since it allows each delegate to lay out their position and discuss what issues they believe to be most worthy of further discussion.
- They can also be useful after a major crisis update to allow all delegates to give their opinion on how to resolve the latest crisis.
  - *SAY: "Motion for a 30-second round robin about [topic]."*

### **Directives**

- Directives are similar to resolutions in traditional committees, with the notable exception that they do not include preambulatory clauses and are much shorter and more concise.
- Directives are generally written in response to a specific crisis update and can be as short as two or three clauses.
- Once a directive has collected the required number of signatories, it is sent to the Dais. A delegate can then motion to introduce all directives on the table. Some Chairs may elect

to set a cap on the maximum number of directives, and in which case an unmoderated caucus will often be necessary for delegates to compare similar directives and merge them.

- Once a directive has been introduced, a delegate may motion to enter into voting procedure. It is also possible to combine the two if the directives have broad support: a delegate may motion to introduce each directive and immediately enter into voting procedure after introduction.
- If a directive faces no opposition, it automatically passes (in for and against)
- During the for and against speeches, or if a moderated caucus occurs after a directive is introduced, a delegate may raise an objection that the sponsoring delegate may wish to address with an amendment.
- Amendments are similar to how they operate in traditional committees, but are more loosely structured — verbal agreement from all the sponsors is enough for it to be considered a friendly amendment.
  - *SAY: Motion to introduce directive [Name].*
- Occasionally, the crisis staff may introduce a “timed crisis,” where delegates have a limited amount of time to address a problem. In those cases, the Chair may further relax parliamentary procedure rules and skip parts of the formal voting procedure or allow a directive to be presented verbally without first being written.

### **Arcs and Backroom**

**Crisis arcs** are essentially the storyline for your character in Model UN crisis committees. Most importantly, they should detail a vital end goal for your personality and the various methods and steps you will take to get there. Strong crisis arcs will consider the committee's topics, period, character's persona, and portfolio powers. The most important part of having a good crisis arc is fluidity from one action to the next.

The two most significant pieces of arc development that delegates often forget about are:

- **Protection:** You should always establish security within one of your first few correspondences with crisis staff.
- **Money:** Money is one of the essential resources in crisis committees.

Crisis notes are the tools used to act “behind the scenes” during committees. Crisis notes are written as letters to a real or fictional character we imagine to be outside the committee in the setting of the committee's universe. Crisis notes must address the who, what, where, when, why, and how of each action you plan. Make your notes clear and easily understood so crisis staff



knows what to do and has no room to mess up your plans or reveal them to the rest of the committee. When writing crisis notes, ensure you're working with the backroom instead of against it. Crisis staffers will then respond to your notes as the character you're writing to with a response, usually confirming or denying that the action was completed.

# Introduction

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The year is 218 BCE, and the battle of Trebia has just transpired. Hannibal masterfully defeated the famed Roman legions, shifting the loyalty of some Celtic tribes that have now joined the Roman side and providing Hannibal with crucial resources like food and supplies. Rome must now take Hannibal more seriously after such an embarrassing defeat.

The Roman Republic rides high after an upset victory in the First Punic War and is a rising power in the region. Yet, Rome has become complacent, allowing Hannibal Barca, the brilliant Carthaginian general, to achieve the impossible: crossing the treacherous Alps.

Following his crossing of the Alps, Hannibal has arrived at the doorstep of Rome, threatening both the security of the Republic and its people. Bringing with him an army of mercenaries, cavalry, and his famed elephants, Hannibal is primed to take the heart of Italy.

The Roman Senate now faces a crisis of survival. The crossing of the Alps by Hannibal is not just a military feat but a strategic achievement that has placed Rome in a defensive position. The Senate must rapidly assess the situation, coordinate its

response, and protect the Republic from this unprecedented threat, while simultaneously making sure they decisively win the war and reinstate their dominance over the Mediterranean peninsula.

The crossing of the Alps represents a key turning point in the war. It has not only demonstrated Hannibal's military genius but also exposed the vulnerabilities of Rome. The Senate, consisting of Rome's most experienced and influential leaders, must now lead Rome to prevent Hannibal from causing the collapse of the Roman Republic.

At this moment, the Senate is grappling with several questions: How can Rome's legions be effectively mobilized to counter Hannibal's forces? What strategies can be employed to protect the Italian cities and secure the Republic's allies?

With Hannibal at the gates of Rome, the city in shambles, and the senate in debate, the Second Punic War has entered its greatest stage yet. It is up to the Roman senate to survive this treacherous situation. Will Hannibal conquer this great city, or will Rome rise from this adversity, unchallenged in its might?



# Historical Background

## Events Leading Up to the War:

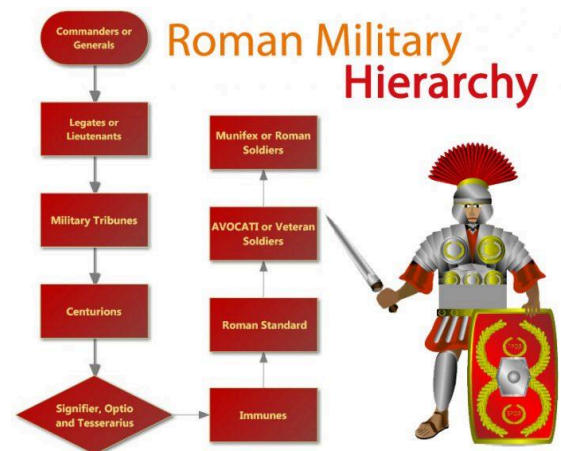
The First Punic War ended around 241 BCE when Rome defeated Carthage for the first time, snagging the Island of Sicily in the process along with placing massive debts on the Carthaginians.

Under the direction of Hannibal's father, Hamilcar Barca, Carthage conquered the surrounding Spanish tribes in 237 BCE, extending its influence into Spain. This expansion was driven by the harsh debts placed on them following the First Punic War, with Carthage establishing a host of Silver Mines on the Peninsula.

The Ebro River was marked as a dividing line between Rome and Carthage by the Treaty of Ebro, signed in 226 BCE, with Rome's sphere of influence extending above the Ebro River and Carthage's sphere of influence extending below it.

The Siege of Saguntum (219 BCE) occurred due to Rome's budding alliance with the City of Saguntum. This blatantly broke the terms of the Treaty of Ebro because Saguntum sat south of the Ebro River (and inside Carthage's sphere of influence), kicking off the beginning of the Second Punic War. In the battle following the destruction of this treaty, Hannibal laid siege and eventually slaughtered the city's inhabitants for defecting to Rome.

Rome Originally instituted itself as the "Protector of Saguntum" in hopes of inciting a war with Carthage and increasing their own sphere of influence into Spain as a counter to Hannibal.







troops and Roman tactics to help Hannibal win battles. Rome must remember that Hannibal is stuck in Roman territory, and his only way out without major loss of his forces is with Rome falling. The senate must also note that the Roman male population is flourishing, and this must be used to the advantage of Rome while also making sure that they are trained and have some military aptitude. Military victories will be crucial to keep the loyalty of Roman substates. Rome must also acknowledge that Hannibal is raiding parts of Italy and if Rome wants to ensure the loyalty of the Roman substates, it must ensure the safety of its Roman subjects.

### **Subtopic 2: The Cost of Every Battle**

For years in Spain, Hannibal has inflicted steep casualties upon the mighty Roman legions, starting with the siege and eventual slaughter at Saguntum. That very man is now free to roam the northern region of Cisalpine Gaul, where the Empire pulls a vast amount of resources for our armies. Critical assets such as grain and iron are sourced from this region and have been cut off from our access due to the treachery of the many Gallic tribes that have turned to Hannibal's side. The soldiers will not have

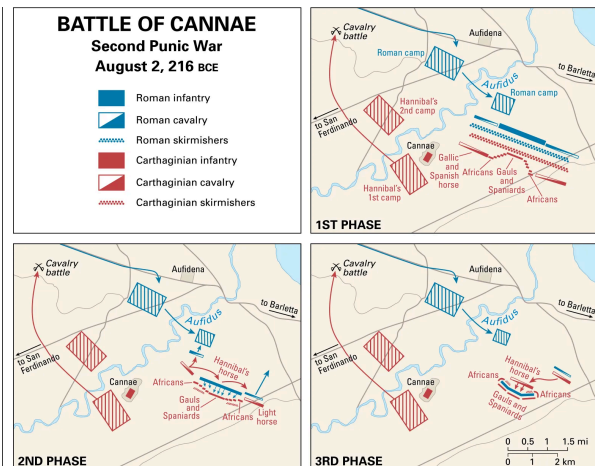
swords to fight with before long if action is not taken. Additionally, with every lost battle, Rome is driven into a more profound deficit in swords and armor. Some 15,000 were lost at the **Battle of Ticinus** and another 20,000 in the **Battle of Trebia**. These are inexcusable and irreplaceable losses suffered in a short span due to the ineptitudes of our commanders, and the equipment they held is a valuable loss. Rome must pull materials from new regions farther south or from other territories. If this is done through taxes or other means is for you to decide.

Another issue Rome is currently facing is the problem of manpower. Our numbers, though vast, are not endless, and with every battle, patrol, and skirmish, the number of reserves is rapidly dwindling. The requirements and training regimens will need a massive overhaul if Rome is going to maintain a steady outflow of troops. Also, Rome must not sacrifice the skills of its troops as they head out to the field and will need new ways to develop and familiarize new soldiers with the conditions of war. If Rome is to justify this expansion of the military, there must be an increase in support for the war on the homefront and in the core provinces of Rome.

# Topic B: Mounting an Invasion of mainland Carthage

Carthage must be destroyed. Delegates, it's up to you to mount an invasion of the African continent. Your top priority must be constructing a fleet that will be able to transport the mass of troops that you will need to invade Carthage. This fleet will require a massive amount of natural resources like wood and iron, and the Roman Senate must find a viable and

this daring offensive because the consul Tiberius Sempronius Longus was called back to Rome in an attempt to stop Hannibal from advancing further into the Roman heartland. Delegates, you must select a leader who can command the total loyalty of the Roman legions, inspire the Roman troops to fight, and be strategically sound in battle. Strategy will be vital if you want to capture the city of Carthage. Carthage's army is nothing to brush off, because in addition to its mercenaries, Carthage possesses squadrons with enormous war elephants that will terrorize the Roman backline. Moreover, Carthage possesses highly skilled Iberian infantry from Spain and exceptionally maneuverable and quick Numidian cavalry. Carthage's army contains very experienced fighters, so you must make sure that the troops you are sending to Rome aren't inexperienced, or else they will be outmaneuvered on the battlefield. Likewise, delegates, you must understand that Rome doesn't have enough experienced troops to deal with Hannibal in Italy and an offensive in Africa so you must either train up entire new legions or you must find a way to effectively divide the more skilled troops of Rome.



sustainable way to obtain these resources. In learning of the preparations that Rome has taken to invade the African continent, Carthage has hired ruthlessly efficient and deadly mercenaries to aid the defense of Carthage. Delegates, you must also realize that moving a mass of men from the Roman heartland to Carthage isn't free. So you must find a way to be able to pay for this massive undertaking while also not dedicating all your resources to the offensive because Hannibal is still in the Italian peninsula. Additionally, you must elect a leader to lead

## Questions to Consider

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- How can Rome's legions be effectively mobilized to counter Hannibal's forces?
- What strategies can be employed to protect the Italian cities and secure the Republic's allies?
- Should Rome prioritize driving Hannibal out of Italy, or focus first on stabilizing the economy and preventing further defections?
- Is it more effective to target Hannibal directly or to cut off his supply lines and weaken his ability to wage war?
- How can Rome mitigate the immediate economic devastation while sustaining the long-term war effort?
- Should Rome seek direct confrontation with Hannibal, or adopt a scorched-earth strategy to starve his army of supplies?
- How can the Senate reassure the Roman populace and prevent panic or dissent in the face of Hannibal's ongoing presence in Italy?

## Current Overview

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With Hannibal entering the heartland of Italy, the fear of defeat had finally entered the minds of the Roman people and senate. If Hannibal is able to get past the Roman

armies, he will have a straight shot to the heart of the republic: Rome itself.

Hannibal has brought with him a formidable force. He was able to make the treacherous cross of the Alps with his elite

Carthaginian infantry, Nubian cavalry, hired mercenaries, and his famous Elephants. The Roman army is quite impressive in itself, but will it be able to match up against the force that Hannibal has brought to bear?

## Positions

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### **Fabius Maximus**

Quintus Fabius Maximus Verrucosus, surnamed Cunctator, was a Roman statesman and general. He was appointed dictator in 221 and 217 BCE, picking up the agnomen “Cunctator,” usually translated as “the delayer,” for the strategy he employed against Hannibal’s advance. Despite causing Hannibal much trouble as he advanced towards Rome, Fabius was removed from power due to a lack of “glory” in his often cautious strategy that severed many of Hannibal’s key supply lines.

### **Scipio Africanus**

Publius Cornelius Scipio Africanus, born in 236/235 BC, was a famous Roman general and statesman. In the early years of the Second Punic War, Scipio and his father, Publius Scipio (Roman consul at the time), were sent to halt Hannibal’s march on Italy after the fall of Saguntum. The two armies met at the river Ticinus near modern Pavia, with battle quickly ensuing. Despite losing, he was credited with saving his father after he had been encircled by enemy cavalry. He would continue to serve in the military following this retreat, eventually coming to serve as the Roman military tribune. His leadership and military strategy will likely be the deciding factor in the battle to come against Hannibal.

### **Gaius Flaminius**

Gaius Flaminius (c. 275 BC – 217 BC) was a leading Roman politician in the 3rd Century BCE. Flaminius served as consul twice, in 223 and 217. He is notable for the Lex Flaminia, a land reform passed in 232, the construction of the Circus Flaminius in 221, and the construction of the Via Flaminia. Flaminius is celebrated by ancient sources as being a skilled orator and a man possessed of great piety, strength, and determination.



### **Marcus Claudius Marcellus**

Marcus Claudius Marcellus was born in 270 BCE and died in 208 BCE. He was a popular Roman general and politician during the 3rd Century BCE. Elected as consul of the Roman Republic five times. Marcellus was such a good general that he gained the most prestigious award a Roman general could earn, the *spolia opima*. This award was given to him for killing the Gallic king Viridomarus in single combat in 222 BCE at the Battle of Clastidium. Showcasing his extreme bravery and military prowess. Among his many other accomplishments, Claudius Marcellus was most known for capturing the city of Syracuse in 212 BCE. Marcus Claudius Marcellus died in battle in 208 BCE, leaving behind a legacy of military conquests and a reinvigorated Roman legend of the *spolia opima*.

### **Gaius Claudius Nero**

Gaius Claudius Nero was born in 237 BCE and passed away in 189 BCE. Claudius Nero was a Roman general active who fought Hannibal many times during the second punic war. Claudius Nero's military career began in 214 BCE as a legate he was then promoted to praetor in 212 BC, and finally stepped back as praetor in 211 BC during the siege of Capua, before being sent to Spain that same year. He was elected as consul in 207 BCE and, later that year, engineered a Roman victory at the Battle of the Metaurus in northeastern Italy. The battle marked a turning point in the war and effectively checked further Carthaginian ambitions in Italy.

### **Lucius Aemilius Paullus**

*Lucius Aemilius Paullus Macedonicus* (c. 229 – 160 BCE) was a two-time consul of the Roman Republic and general who conquered Macedon in the 3rd Macedonian War. He is most famous for losing at the battle of Cannae. Although the battle was a disaster for the Romans, Paullus's bravery and conduct during the battle were praised by his contemporaries.

### **Gaius Terentius Varro**

*Gaius Terentius Varro* (fl. 218-200 BCE) was a Roman politician and general active during the Second Punic War. A plebeian son of a butcher, he was a populist politician who was elected consul for the year 216 BCE. While holding that office, he was decisively defeated by Hannibal at the Battle of Cannae.

### **Marcus Valerius Laevinus**

Marcus Valerius Laevinus played a crucial role in the Second Punic War through his naval command and diplomatic efforts. In 214 BCE, as praetor, he secured the Adriatic Sea, protecting Roman supply lines and blocking Carthaginian and Macedonian threats to Rome's eastern territories. His actions were vital in maintaining Roman dominance in the region.

### **Tiberius Sempronius Longus**

*Tiberius Sempronius Longus* was one of the first Roman consuls to confront Hannibal in military conflict during the Second Punic War. In 218 BCE, he led Roman forces at the Battle of the Trebia, where Hannibal's tactical brilliance resulted in a devastating defeat for the Romans. Sempronius' eagerness for battle, despite warnings of the enemy's strength, contributed to the Roman loss. His defeat exposed Rome's vulnerability to Hannibal's strategies and underscored the need for more cautious tactics. Though he did not play a major role afterward, his early failure shaped Rome's approach to facing Hannibal in future battles.

### **Gnaeus Cornelius Scipio Calvus**

*Gnaeus Cornelius Scipio Calvus* played a key role in Rome's early efforts against Carthage in Spain during the Second Punic War. Along with his brother Publius, he commanded Roman forces that successfully blocked reinforcements from reaching Hannibal, weakening Carthaginian efforts in Italy. Gnaeus secured several victories in Spain, including the Battle of Cissa in 218 BCE, which strengthened Rome's control over the region. However, in 211 BCE, both Gnaeus and his brother were killed in battle against Carthaginian forces. Their efforts laid the groundwork for Rome's eventual success in Spain under Publius Cornelius Scipio Africanus.

### **Lucius Cornelius Lentulus**

Lucius Cornelius Lentulus was a Roman military and political figure during the Second Punic War. Although not as prominent as leaders like Scipio Africanus or Fabius Maximus, Lentulus contributed to Rome's war effort through various military commands, helping to defend Roman territories and secure supply lines. In addition to his military role, he served in political offices, where he supported war policies and helped maintain political stability during the conflict. While his contributions were less celebrated, Lentulus played a part in Rome's eventual victory by supporting the broader Roman efforts against Hannibal and Carthage.

### **Publius Sempronius Tuditanus**

Publius Sempronius Tuditanus was a Roman general and politician during the Second Punic War, serving as consul in 215 BCE. He demonstrated leadership against Hannibal's forces, notably fighting at the catastrophic Battle of Cannae in 216 BCE, where he survived the defeat. Following Cannae, Tuditanus played a vital role in reorganizing and leading Roman troops to recover lost territories in Italy. He also held various political offices, influencing the Senate's decisions regarding military strategy. Although less celebrated than other commanders, Tuditanus's resilience and contributions were important to Rome's eventual recovery and victory in the war.

### **Marcus Livius Salinator**

Marcus Livius Salinator played a crucial role in the Second Punic War, particularly in 207 BCE when he served as consul alongside Gaius Claudius Nero. Together, they achieved a decisive victory at the Battle of the Metaurus, where they defeated and killed Hasdrubal Barca,

Hannibal's brother. This battle was a turning point in the war, preventing Hasdrubal from joining forces with Hannibal in Italy and effectively weakening Carthage's position. Salinator's leadership at Metaurus contributed significantly to Rome's eventual victory by cutting off critical reinforcements to Hannibal, shifting the momentum of the war in Rome's favor

### **Lucius Aemilius Papus**

Lucius Aemilius Papus was a Roman General and Statesman, serving as Roman Consul during 225 BC. He was famous for defeating the tribes of Gaul at the Battle of Telamon in that same year, serving alongside Gaius Atilius Regulus who tragically lost his life during the battle.

### **Quintus Fulvius Flaccus**

Quintus Fulvius Flaccus (c. 277 BC - 202 BC), son of Marcus Fulvius Flaccus, was a Roman Consul in 237 BC. He spent much of his time fighting the Gauls in northern Italy. He became censor in 231 BC, and again was consul in 224 BC, when he subdued the Boii region of North-Eastern Italy. He was also praetor in 215 BC and in 213 BC.

### **Titus Manlius Torquatus**

Titus Manlius Torquatus (c. 279 BC - 202 BC) served as consul twice, elected in 235 BC and 224 BC. During the Second Punic War, he acted as a Senior Senator in 216 BC and Praetor in 215 BC. As Praetor, he secured Sardinia after the Battle of Decimomannu in 215 BC; this battle was fought against Hasdrubal the Bald who led a combined army of Carthaginians and Sardinian rebels. However, because he had closed the Temple of Janus in 237 BC, Titus Manlius Torquatus had become associated with peace- which had cost him the title of Princeps Senatus in favor of Quintus Fabius Maximus.

### **Publius Sulpicius Galba Maximus**

Publius Sulpicius Galba Maximus was a Roman military officer and Senator elected as Roman consul twice, and appointed dictator once during his time in the Senate. He fought in the Second Punic War along with the First and Second Macedonian Wars.

### **Gnaeus Servilius Geminus**

Son of Publius Servilius Geminus, Gnaeus Servilius Geminus was Roman consul in early 217 BC. In March of that year, Geminus began directing military operations against General Hannibal around Ariminum. After the death of Gaius Flaminius at the Battle of Trasimene, Geminus assumed control over the Roman coastal defense fleet battling against Sardinia, Corsica, and the Carthaginian fleet over his tenure. After this, Geminus resumed command of Roman land forces and, having been elected proconsul in early 216 BC, became more deeply involved with driving Hannibal and the Carthaginians out of Rome. He was eventually killed in the disastrous Battle of Cannae, stuck in the center of Roman lines as they collapsed.

### **Lucius Postumius Albinus**

Lucius Postumius Albinus ( 272 BC - 215 BC) was a Roman politician and general during the 3rd century BC being elected consul three times during his life. He was the son of Aulus Postumius Albinus, who also was a Roman Consul in 242 BC.

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