

**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE**

# SPECIAL OFFER

**WE'VE GOT A NEW SLANT ON OUR SPECIAL OFFERS THIS SUMMER  
YOU CAN STILL GET A FREE TRIAL WITH A STARTUP AND SOME TURNS IN  
ANOTHER GAME  
YOU STILL HAVE THE OPTION OF PAYING FOR A STARTUP TO GET A HIGH VALUE  
OFFER WITH EXTRA TURNS  
BUT NOW YOU CAN GET AN ENTIRE GAME ENTIRELY FREE**

## FREE TRIAL OFFER

The free trial offer applies when you buy ten or more turns in a game you're already playing. Simply send this form with your preferences in the same envelope as the payment for your turn credits. Details of all the games we run can be found overleaf or on our websites.

Normally you'll get a standby position in a game that's already running, or a position in a short-handed game where these are available.

## ALTERNATIVE OFFER

If you already have plenty of turn credits in your existing game, or want an offer that's actually worth slightly more, or want to try more than one game then send £10 and we'll make the number of turns up to either ten (in stats and player interaction games) or six (in the sports simulations). Or you can always send £5 for our normal startup offer, if you'd prefer.

## HOW TO PLAY FOR FREE

In both European Empires and Speculate there are two sorts of player positions. The major powers in European Empires and the Tycoon positions in Speculate are played the normal way, but the minor powers and minor countries in European Empires and the Trader positions in Speculate can be played for free if you use email both ways.

You must input your orders on the website and receive your game reports by email. If you can't do that you can still take up one of these positions, and all you have to pay is the extra costs (it'll still be cheaper than a normal position).

## EUROPEAN EMPIRES

The startup positions in European Empires are historical, with the game being set during the Napoleonic Wars, so some countries are a lot stronger than others. For the major powers the objective is to conquer Europe and win the game.

For the minor powers the objective is to survive, or grow big enough to mix it with the major powers (you can change between major power and minor power status whenever you like).



## SPECULATE II

The Trader players in Speculate play the markets, buying and selling shares and commodities. The Tycoon players do this and more, running the companies whose shares are being traded and building cartels, conglomerates and trading rings. There are two winners in each game, the Top Tycoon and the Top Trader.

For the Traders the game is a stock market simulation - but it's one where the underlying performance of the companies is going to depend on what the Tycoons are doing, and how well they run their companies.

## INTRODUCE A FRIEND

These "freemailer" positions are also available to anyone new to our games, so you can also use them to introduce new players (and that's got to be easier when the game is free).

There's no recruiting bonus for signing up someone to play for free, but if they do sign up later as a paying customer then the usual bonus applies (that's now two credits if they start with a fiver, or four credits if they start with a tenner or more). Make sure they mention you when they first contact us.

Alliances are important in European Empires, and players form cartels in Speculate, so in both games it's smart and appropriate to recruit other players to join you. So if you ever fancied gathering a bunch of players in a game together, then one of these is the game to go for.



## SPORT SIMULATIONS

These are the more complicated and expensive games, where the £5 startup and the free trial offer are two turns and the £10 offer gets six turns.

Gameplan Advanced (Gridiron, 24 team leagues, either)

Gameplan Baseball (Danny)

Gameplan Basic (Gridiron, 24 team leagues, either).

Gameplan Basic (Gridiron, 30 team leagues, Kelvin).

Gameplan College (Gridiron, Basic, 12 team s, Danny)

Hooplan (Basketball, Danny)

Raceplan (Formula One, Danny)

Run Chase (County Cricket, Limited Overs, Peter)

Slapshot (Ice Hockey, Danny)

Soccer Strategy (Football, Peter)

*The Basic and Advanced 24-team formats in Gameplan are available with both Danny and Peter, with Danny running the established versions and Peter running development versions with new rules being added. If you ant one of these, say which you'd prefer,*

## STATS GAMES

Stats league games are usually simpler and cheaper (because a lot of the action is what happens in real life) so the £5 startup and the free trial offer are four turns and the £10 offer is ten turns.

Gridiron Stats (Danny, NFL)

Play On (Norm, in Australia, Aussie Rules)

Rugby League Stats (Danny, Super League)

Rugby League Stats (Norm, in Australia, NRL)

Rugby Union Stats (Danny, Zurich Premiership)

Slamdunk (Danny, NBA basketball)

Soccer Stats (Jason, English Premier League)

*Note: To play in games run in Australia you need email both ways. UK cheques can be sent to Ab Initio Games.*

## PLAYER INTERACTION GAMES

These games are all run by Peter at Software Simulations. The £5 startup and the free trial offer are three turns, and the £10 offer is ten turns.

Australian Empires (Mad Max style scenario, with the emphasis on trading and collecting resources)

Barbarians at the Gate (same as Dark Age, on a map of Europe at the time of the fall of the Roman Empire)

Dark Age II (the English, Welsh, Scots, Irish, Picts & Vikings fight it out over a map of Britain)

European Empires (Empires with added supply rules, set in Napoleonic times)

Medieval Empires (standard Empires rules on a map of Europe, starting with many small nations)

Spaceplan II (heavyweight battle for control of the galaxy with economics and trade as important as warfare)

Speculate II (expanded business game where Tycoons battle for power and Traders scrap for quick profits)

Star Chase (quick and lightweight Sci-Fi with lots of variation and random events as you explore)

## WORK IN PROGRESS



These games are currently unfinished or inactive but we hope they'll be available soon. Expect a wait (keep an eye on the sidetracks website) and don't be surprised if they fail to appear.

Cricket Stats (Peter, first class domestic cricket, hoping to re-launch next season)

Mobtown (Peter, seen the film, watched the TV series, there ought to be a game)

Rugby League Breakout (Peter, to be re-launched as a normal PBM game instead of an internet game)

Run Chase (Danny for ODI version, Peter for Twenty20 )

Space Trader (Peter, business and trade in the far future, with a bit of smuggling and piracy thrown in)

World Empires (standard Empires rules on a three-panel map of the world with armies, navies and air forces)

**YES, I'd like to take up the offer indicated below (tick box and enter game name). I've included a cheque for ten or more turns in my existing game, or a cheque for one of the other offers. Return this form to your usual GM.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address if you're happy to be contacted this way: \_\_\_\_\_

Team or Kingdom Preferences (or Empire Name): \_\_\_\_\_

FREE TRIAL  
Two turn credits      GAME: \_\_\_\_\_

£5 NORMAL STARTUP  
Two to four turn credits      GAME: \_\_\_\_\_

£1 RULEBOOK  
No turn credits      GAME: \_\_\_\_\_

£10 ALTERNATIVE  
Six or ten turn credits      GAME: \_\_\_\_\_