

From the office of Quentin Raffles at Watson Games

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Some further specification updates for you:

Q) On the bidding system, if someone does not wish to bid, can they withdraw from the auction (e.g. via a quit button) without bidding 0, or would they have to bid 0 first? Also, can they hide the fact they did not bid from other players?

A) If a player does not wish to bid, then they just do not bid. How that is expressed is up to you, as long as it is clear. Players do not have to disclose to other players whether they bid or not. Bids are between the players and the bank.

Q) My colleague has brought to my attention that the first player that goes around the board could auction the first property they land on, then as the only bidding player, purchase the property for £1. We would like clarification on whether the property should not be able to go to auction when there is only one player able to bid.

A) If only one player is able to purchase, then there cannot be an auction. That player simply has the option to purchase or not to purchase.

Q) We have come across a possible exploit that we feel may come into conflict with the fair spirit of the game- it concerns the fact that the first player to complete a circuit can buy properties for £1 by refusing the property, sending it to auction and then be in a bidding war with themselves (as only players who have completed a circuit can bid) is this a strategy or does this go against the fair spirit of the game.

A) See previous question and answer. Such a contrived scheme to obtain property on the cheap would be ribald in the extreme.

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