**DEFINITIONS**

**Bid—**A call by which a player shares information about his hand with his partner

and eventually proposed a contract that his side will win at least as many

tricks as his bid specifies.

**Bidding**—A conversation between you and your partner to describe your hands to each other—telling how strong your hand is and how long your suits are.

**Book**—The first six tricks won by the declaring side are called “book.”

The numbers used in the bidding start AFTER the first six tricks. For example, a contract of 3 clubs means that the declarer hopes to take 9 tricks—book plus 3.

**Contract**—The undertaking by declarer’s side to win, at the denomination named, the number of tricks in the final bid.

**Declarer**—The player who FIRST bid the suit (or no trump) which became the final bid.

**Distribution**—The manner in which the cards of a suit are dispersed among the four hands of the deal, or the manner in which the number of cards in the four suits are distributed in one hand.

**Dummy**—The declarer’s partner is called the “dummy.”

Following the opening lead, the dummy lays his / her cards on the table—face-up in tows, in descending order, with the trump suit on the right side.

**Final Bid**—The last bid in the auction, followed by three consecutive passes. The final bid becomes the contract.

**Finesse**—The attempt to gain power for lower-ranking cards by taking advantage of the favorable position of higher-ranking cards.

**Game Contract**—An undertaking of a contract which, if successful, will earn enough points to make the 100 points necessary for a game and award of 300 to 500 point bonus.

**Lead**—The first card played to a trick.

**Opening Lead**—The first card played by the person to the declarer’s left.

**Opponent**—A member of the adverse team at bridge.

**Partner**—The player with whom one is paired in a game of bridge.

**Trick**—Consists of four cards played in rotation after an initial lead of one of the cards by the player whose turn it is to lead.

**Trick-Score**—The value of each trick of fulfilled contracts toward the winning of the game.

**Trump**—The suit named in the final bid, other than No Trump. Such a suit is called the “trump suit” and a card of the trump suit, when played, is a winner over any card of another suit.

**Vulnerable**—A term indicating that the values of premiums and the severity of penalties are greatly increased.