

## **Rules to Open the Bidding in a Suit at the One Level**

If you have at least 12 points you will do something other than 'Pass'. Your opening bid will follow this order of priority:

- With five cards or more in hearts or spades you will open 1♥ or 1♠
- With two five card suits you will open the highest in rank
- Without a five card or longer major you will open a minor suit
- With one longer minor you will open your minor (with exception below in last two bullet items)
- With two three card minors you will open 1♣ (you can remember this as a club has three petals)
- With two four card minors you will open 1♦ (you can remember this as a diamond has four points)
- With five or more diamonds and four clubs you will open 1♦
- With five clubs and four diamonds and 12-16 points you will open 1♦
- With five clubs and four diamonds and 17+ points you will open 1♣

These rules may seem arbitrary but they do have logic. The rules are created to make describing your distribution and your points more accurate on your second bid; your 'rebid'.