

# CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN BRIDGE ASSOCIATION, INC.

## ARTICLE I

### NAME OF ORGANIZATION

#### Section 1 Name

The name of this Organization is and shall be the American Bridge Association, Inc.

## ARTICLE II

### OBJECTIVES

#### Section 1 Objectives and Purposes

The objectives of the American Bridge Association are:

- (a) to foster, encourage and develop the game of Duplicate Contract Bridge.
- (b) to unite all bridge players into one group using identical laws and procedures in its bridge games, both public and private.
- (c) to sponsor, supervise, and conduct duplicate tournaments through which contestants may be rated.
- (d) to promote scholarships for any worthy students, contribute to charitable organizations and improve the general welfare of the community; and
- (e) to sponsor and participate in those endeavors in cooperation with other groups or individuals which involve ABA, Inc. in concerns of the larger community.

## ARTICLE III

### MEMBERSHIP

#### **Section 1 Individual Membership**

Membership in the Association shall be open to all persons of good character and repute without regard to race, sex, creed or national origin.

#### **Section 2 Group Membership**

The Association will grant affiliation to those groups which are composed of persons described above, who organize themselves and exercise the rights and obligations set forth in the Bylaws.

## ARTICLE IV

### GOVERNMENT

#### **Section 1 Governance of the Association**

The government of the Association shall be vested in the members at the Business Meetings and in the President and Board of Directors or Executive Committee between Nationals.

#### **Section 2 Composition of the Board of Directors**

- 2.1 The Board of Directors, hereinafter called the Board, shall be composed of the National President, the National Vice-President, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, and all Section Vice-Presidents.
- 2.2 The Executive Committee shall be composed of the elected National Officers.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **OFFICERS**

#### **Section 1 National and General Officers**

- 1.1 The National Officers shall be: The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- 1.2 The General Officers shall be all Section Vice-Presidents.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **HONORARY TITLES**

#### **Section 1 Honors**

The Association may confer an honorary title upon any individual on his/her retirement from service in a particular National Office.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **ELECTION OF NATIONAL AND GENERAL OFFICERS**

#### **Section 1 Election of National Officers**

Election of National Officers shall be by the General Membership in a manner as prescribed in the Bylaws.

#### **Section 2 Election of General Officers**

Election of General Officers (Section VP) shall be so staggered that there will always be experienced members on the Board.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Section 1 National Tournaments

National Tournaments shall be sponsored by the Association.

## ARTICLE IX

### MEETINGS

### Section 1 Meetings at National Tournaments

There shall be at least one business meeting of the membership at each National Tournament.

## ARTICLE X

### ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

### Section 1 Sections

For administrative purposes, the Association shall be organized geographically into Sections whose boundaries are determined by the Board.

### Section 2 Units

- 2.1 In any Metropolitan area where three or more clubs exist, a Unit must be formed.
- 2.2 In any Metropolitan area where two clubs exist, a Unit may be formed.

### Section 3 Clubs

- 3.1 Clubs are formed to sponsor games under the auspices of the Association.
- 3.2 Types of Clubs
  - (a) Open Clubs
  - (b) Closed Clubs

# ARTICLE XI

## AMENDMENTS

### Section 1 - -Constitutional Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any business meeting of the membership provided the proposed amendments are published in the **BULLETIN** prior to the meeting and supported by a 2/3 majority of those members present and voting.