

from Chapter 1, Introduction to EHAA]

EHAA is not so much a "system," in the sense of a complete, structured set of conventions and agreements, as it is a broad general approach to bidding. Like Standard American or Acol, it provides a basic structure within which individual partnerships are free to experiment with variations and additions. Its fundamental soundness and its ability to win in competition have led to many variations on its basic themes. The predominant version played today is a highly natural approach that remains quite close to the original system of the 50s and 60s...

EHAA is built around two fundamental concepts. The first is the mini notrump, an opening bid with a point range below that of an opening bid of one of a suit. The second is the EHAA two-bid, an "undisciplined" weak two bid in any suit, promising five or more cards in the suit bid, covering a wide range of hands from very bad to just short of a full opening bid, with no restrictions on hand pattern or distribution of values other than the promise of a five-card or longer suit. These two fundamental concepts are the subject of the next two chapters...