

## DUPLICATE BRIDGE

By Mary Tryer

September 21, 2009

There were 7 pairs in competition for our Kingsville club's "End of Summer" Handicap Game. Winners were: the first time partnership of Lina Crumpler of Corpus Christi and Betty Nielsen of Falfurrias, first; Dick and Linda Hahn, second; and, Lou Thurston and Mary Tryer, third. A double congrats to Betty who will be celebrating her birthday this week.

The Great Shuffler was busy Monday night serving up one distributional deal after another. Our winners, Lina and Betty were the only North/South pair to get the hand in the diagram right.

Bob Harrison has often written about *Points Schmoints*, a popular and important book written by bridge professional, Marty Bergen. In a nutshell, the philosophy of *Points Schmoints* is: picture cards (points), usually associated with power and control, sometimes have little to do with trick taking potential and must frequently take a back seat in distributional deals.

A prime example of this principle can be seen in the hand in the diagram. Declarer (North) can always make 10 tricks one way or another. The chief difficulty for North/South is for South is to evaluate his trick-taking potential with "only 4 points" and bid aggressively.

The same rule is true for East/West in the hand in the diagram. East, "with only 7 points", will probably have a hard time bidding the necessary level of clubs over North/South's heart contract. Libby Boeye and Mahesh Maruvada were the only pair to bid enough clubs to take the bid away from North/South.

Marty has written several excellent bridge books about the bidding and play of distributional deals which include: *Points Schmoints*, *More Points Schmoints*, and *Hand Evaluation: Points Schmoints* to name a few. You can visit Marty's website at: <http://www.martybergen.com> if you wish to find out more about *Points Schmoints* and Marty Bergen's philosophy, including the popular theory of "The Law of Total Tricks."

Be sure to join us for our next game on Monday, September 28, in the Woman's Club building. Call 592-2374 for partners. And, don't forget to visit our Kingsville Club and Unit 187 web site at <http://d16acbl.org/U187/Kingsville/kingsville.html>.

Board 10  
Dealer: North  
Contract: 4 Hearts

THE BIDDING

EAST (dealer)	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH
Pass	Pass	1 No Trump	2 Hearts
Pass	4 Hearts*	All Pass	

\* Bridge is such an easy game!

NORTH  
♠ A  
♥ K J 9 7 3  
♦ Q J 9 7 3  
♣ J 2

WEST  
♠ K J 9 7  
♥ Q 8  
♦ A 5 4  
♣ A K 9 6

EAST  
♠ Q 8 2  
♥ 5  
♦ K 10 6 2  
♣ Q 10 8 7 4

SOUTH  
♠ 10 6 5 4 3  
♥ A 10 6 4 2  
♦ 8  
♣ 5 3