

# Mountain View Duplicate

## Bridge Club

### January 2008

The top master point winners in December for A and B are shown below.

A	Bob Brussel	4.34
	Henry Langeman	2.94
	John Wolfe	2.19
B	Dean Frost	2.45
	Stephen Dorse	1.92
	Sheila Tuhy	1.79

We had seven sessions in December. Detailed results are in the three-ring notebooks near the Director's Table. Pairs with greater than 65% games include: John Wolfe & Sheila Tuhy; Bob Brussel & Henry Langeman; Bob Stotts & Ed Anderson. Well done!

We will hold seven sessions in January. Our club will be closed during the Tucson Sectional so there will be no game on Friday, January 11. Why not grab a partner, go to town and play in the tournament? This is a great opportunity to win Silver Points! There will be a Unit Wide Championship on Friday, January 18. Regular games on other days.

Bridge tip from Barbara Feeley (with lots of help from Mel Chochamiro).

Be Careful with Three Small A holding of three small cards in a suit calls for extra caution. This is true whether the three small are in partner's suit, in opponent's suit, or in a side suit. One should generally downgrade a hand slightly, and bid a bit more conservatively, with such a holding.

First, in partner's suit: Three small often results in loss of a trick not anticipated by declarer. If declarer has the solid honors in the trump suit, then there may be a weakness in a side suit. If declarer does not have solid honors, then the opponents may have an honor or may be able to trump high over dummy. This would prevent the use of dummy's small cards for ruffing.

Second, in opponent's suit: Three small in opponent's suit, in the dummy, prevents declarer from using dummy's trumps. Declarer either has to trump in hand, using the long suit, or lose more tricks than anticipated in opponent's suit.

Third, in a side suit: Without controls, too many losses in that suit may result in a contract going down.

Bottom Line: Some kind of shape (long, running suits, or trumpable shortness) makes a hand more valuable. Bid conservatively with square hands, especially with three small.