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Secrets Your Bridge Friends Never Tell You , Cathy Hunsberger, Jul 1, 2010, , 174 pages. You thought bridge was going to be eternally glorious, didn't you? Suddenly, out of the blue, you're going crazy! Confusion reigns supreme. Every partner is an expert with a ....

Take All Your Chances at Bridge , Eddie Kantar, 2009, Games, 166 pages. Selecting the best line of play in a bridge hand as declarer is not easy. Most novices know something about basic odds and percentages, and can often find a line that offers a ....


How to read your opponent's cards the bridge experts' way to locate missing high cards, Mike Lawrence, 1973, Games, 175 pages. .


Improve Your Slam Bidding , Ron Klinger, Jun 1, 2012, , 128 pages. A comprehensive guide to the latest developments in slams, one of the most difficult areas to master in bidding Bidding in the slam area has developed rapidly over the past 20 ....

To Open, Or Not to Open Featuring the Rule Of 20, Marty A. Bergen, Jul 1, 2003, , 64 pages. .


Why You Lose at Bridge , S. J. Simon, Nov 1, 2008, Games, 160 pages. A master class in Bridge for the player who wishes to improve..

How to Defend a Bridge Hand , William S. Root, Apr 11, 1995, , 416 pages. A complete work covering every angle of defending a bridge hand, by "America's number one bridge teacher."--Alfred Sheinwold, Los Angeles Times Syndicate. This is the first ....
This is the perfect book for players who more-or-less have the basics in place. This will correct your misconceptions and raise your game a couple of levels. The first half of the book is all about bidding, and rather than just talking about basic bidding, tells you what to do in those tough borderline situations. A great example is his "Rule of 20", used to decide whether to open the bidding or not: If the sum of your HCP and the number of cards in your two longest suits is 20 or more, open with your normal 1-level bid; else pass. Very effective, and much better (and easier) than counting short-points, long-points, or quick tricks, since this takes into account the ENTIRE distribution. The second half of the book is about declarer play and defence, and is equally good. What distinguishes this book from the rest is that the author doesn't waste space on the basics, and instead concentrates on the intermediate-to-advanced stuff.

Another selling point of this book is Bergen's great sense of humor. Peppered through the book are short anecdotes of actual hands played by him, his friends or students. Most of them are very funny. One gets the sense that Marty was "saving up" his experiences for this book, and has put all his best stuff on paper here. None of his other books come close to the standard set by this book for content or organization, though "More Points Schmoints" tries hard.

If you have been playing bridge for a year or a decade and want to improve the bottom line on your Bridge score sheets, this is the book for you. Marty Bergen makes the point over and over again that points alone will not give you a proper evaluation of your hand for offense or defense and he does it with humor and confidence. Each principle is presented clearly and succinctly. Of course, to benefit from these principles you have to be willing to think and play outside the box.

These two concepts make sense to players who do not want to get involved in complex bidding systems. The entire bridge community responded to Points Schmoints to make it the "Bridge Book of the Year." I believe your ability to explain the basic principles of bidding and competing in a manner that 'turns on the light' for the novice is truly the genius of your work.

For me, the signature chapter of your follow up book to Points Schmoints is The Ultimate Happy Ending- your compelling telling of Edith and George Rosenkrantz' experience at the 1984 Summer Nationals in Washington, D.C. Without lecturing, you bring home the critical point that "Concentration is everything." How else could you, Larry Cohen, Jeff Meckstroth, and Eric Rodwell have succeeded in winning the Spingold unless you stayed focused under the most unusual of circumstances.

As a teacher, I recognize and appreciate the influence your writings have upon the success enjoyed by the everyday bridge player. Your suggestions to get in fast (Rule of 20), compete to the level of the total number of trumps held by you and your partner (LOTT) and Concentrate until the last card of the last hand is played, have brought understanding and enjoyment to bridge players of all levels.

Mr. Marty A. Bergen is a bridge personality, bridge author, a World Bridge Federation International Master, and a 10-time American Bridge League Grand Life Master. He retired from active competition in the year 1993 and has devoted most of his time to promoting the game of bridge by authoring bridge-related publications. He is also a monthly contributor of a bridge column for The Bridge Bulletin, the official publication of the American Contract Bridge League for its members and subscribers.

He has written two books on the game of bridge, namely Points Schmoints!: Bergen's Winning Bridge Secrets in the year 1996, which won the coveted Bridge Book of the Year Award, and also Declarer Play the Bergen Way in the year 2005, which also won the coveted Bridge Book of the Year Award. This award is presented by his peers, who are members of the American Bridge Teacher's Association.

He has also been instrumental in incorporating the modern, digital cyberspace as his teaching platform. He is a subscriber of twitter, where the student can tweet bridge tidbits. He is also a subscriber to facebook, where the student can also interact with him. The student also has the opportunity to cruise with Mr. Marty A. Bergen since he conducts bridge courses at sea. He also...
Mr. Marty Bergen concluded that a 2 Club response by his partner, who is already a passed hand, could show a 3-card support for the opening Major suit with 10-12 points, and that a 2 Diamond response by his partner, who is already a passed hand, could show a 4-card support for the opening Major suit with 10-12 points.

This conventional method was originally called Bergen Major Suit Raises, because they were only used after one partner opened a Major suit. This is a conventional method devised by Mr. Marty Bergen, and was first published in the ACBL Bridge Bulletin in April 1982. Using the responses of this method, the partner could show his overall strength and his actual trump length with one bid.

Mr. Marty Bergen developed a method of dealing with an opponent's overcall of a double after a 1 No Trump opening. This method, when applied, allows the partnership to reach the correct contract even after the opponents have decided to enter the auction. This method also allows the partnership to finalize the contract even after a penalty double.

This conventional method was devised and developed by Mr. Marty Bergen. This conventional method is more commonly designated as DONT (Disturbing Opponent's No Trump), and is sometimes written as: D.O.N.T. It is a defense method against 1 No Trump openings: double shows one minor or both Majors; two of a Minor shows that Minor suit and a higher-ranking suit.

The origin of this variation is unknown. The original concept was devised by Mr. Marty Bergen and published by Mr. Larry Cohen. The original convention is sometimes referred to as Bergen Over No Trump, but has been accepted into the language of the bridge community as simply D.O.N.T. As with all defense methods, this concept has also been altered, varied, modified, and revised to meet the needs of individual partnerships.

As soon as the auction sequence begins it becomes inevitable that the opponents attempt to compete, often with a takeout double. The auction has been disturbed, and the relay of information has developed some speed-bumps. In order to overcome this situation, the concept of BROMAD was developed to indicate certain holdings. This concept was developed by Mr. Marty Bergen, bridge personality, bridge theorist, bridge author.

Mr. Marty Bergen has suggested using a bid of 3 No Trump during the auction in order to perform a sacrifice against the opponents, when it appears that the opponents have a game contract in a suit. The concept is the expectation of not making a contract of 3 No Trump, and therefore the name of this convention or method.

Mr. Marty Bergen developed this conventional method to cover a certain situation which arises after an intervening overcall on the one level, which is an important element to consider before implementing the jump cuebid as a transfer to 3 No Trump. The concept behind the conventional method is that the overcalling opponent will find himself on lead, leaving him at a distinguished disadvantage.

This method was devised by Mr. Marty Bergen together with Mr. Larry Cohen and the convention uses a preemptive opening as an artificial Preempt at the two level and also at the three level and higher to indicate a specific suit two ranks higher than the bid suit. This convention allows the responder to use the intermediate suit for an attempt at game.

Instead of describing the Thrump Double independently the author contributed this informative description. The following description is by Mr. Marty Bergen, who invented and devised the Thrump Double and its application. In case the visitor or bridge student would like to contact Mr. Marty Bergen, he/she can do so by visiting the (website) of Mr. Marty Bergen.

Marty A. Bergen (born 1948) is an American bridge player and writer. A 10-time national champion, American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) Grand Life Master, and World Bridge Federation (WBF)
World International Master, he retired from active competition in 1993 to pursue his dream of becoming a bridge author (see story below).

Marty has authored 22 bridge books, two of which won the American Bridge Teachers’ Association’s prestigious Bridge Book of the Year award, namely Points Schmoints!: Bergen’s Winning Bridge Secrets in 1996 and Declarer Play the Bergen Way in 2005; most recently he has published 32 award-winning booklets on different bridge topics. He has had a column in the Master Pointers section of ACBL Bridge Bulletin since 1976. Marty is also a panel member for The Bridge World's Master Solvers Club.

At the tender age of 14, I was sentenced to a hospital for removal of a terrible set of tonsils. On her way to visit, my mother picked up a few books, to help the nurses and me survive each other. (For a healthy teenager, a three-day confinement in a hospital certainly qualifies as cruel and unusual punishment.) One book was a 50 cent paperback, 5 Weeks to Winning Bridge by Alfred Sheinwold. I knew nothing about bridge, but had always enjoyed card games, starting with pinochle at my dad's knee as a precocious six-year-old.

Meanwhile I had been introduced to duplicate bridge. Winning masterpoints was much easier than passing exams. However the following was now definitely in question: Would I graduate? If I did, which would come first, the required 120 credits or the 300 masterpoints needed to become a Life Master? Amazingly, the diploma preceded my gold card by almost six months.

Fortunately, I didn't have to start from scratch. Like Penick, I have accumulated material from 20 years of teaching and playing. Many topics are a direct result of students' questions. Others are a product of their mistakes and confusion. I am very grateful; without them I could not possibly have written this book.

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