

Believe it or Not, A Visually Impaired Person Can Play a Card Game

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Would a visually impaired person not be able to play the card game? The answer is just the opposite, provided that he/she will be equipped with a specially designed set of cards on hand. Then he/she can play as beautifully as a person with bright eyes.

Last Tuesday (Dec.11), a card game contest was sponsored by Society for the Blind, TKU. Surprisingly, when the result was announced, among the six front runners, 3 are the blind.

How does a person devoid of clear eyesight play a card game? The secret is hidden in the card which, once it is equipped with “dotted” (juttied out) characters, a blind person can play the game by touching or feeling them with hands. The capital letter “H” , for instance, stands for the red heart, etc., etc. With the “full-blown” Roman numerals I, II, III....denoting their degree of importance, a visually handicapped person has every blessed chance of defeating his/her opponents to win the card game because, after all, a game is a duel of wits or intelligence, not of physical strength.

That’ s the reason why the spectators were all stricken with awe when Miss. Huang Ying-lu, a junior majoring in Chinese, showed her hand with “a dragon” line (a “full house” actually) on the table.

Mr. Huang Chih-wei, a judge, also a junior majoring in Chinese, explained that thanks to the advanced technology, all the cards were made of plastics instead of paper, so even a clear-eyed contestant could not tell the difference between plastics and paper.

Still another winner who landed at fourth, Mr. Chang Li-cheng, remarked

that playing a card game with dotted characters is just like operating a braille computer. A person with normal eyesight would never be able to handle it, if he/she had never had the previous experience of touching a braille reading material.