

Moysian Fits



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Time for Some Jokes

I have a horrible fear of palindromes, so my sick, twisted psychiatrist put me on Xanax.

I also have a terrible fear of intruders sneaking into my home. My psychiatrist told me, "You're not alone."

A woman walks up to the pharmacist and says her husband is having an affair, and she needs some cyanide.

The pharmacist says, "I can't sell you that! I'd be a party to a murder."

The woman pulls out a photograph of her husband with the pharmacist's wife in a very compromising position.

The pharmacist says, "Oh, you didn't tell me you had a prescription!"

PRIORITIES

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



Exception to the Three Finger Rule

- 1) Find an 8-card major suit fit (♥ or ♠).
- 2) Play in no trump.
- 3) Play in an 8-card minor suit fit (♣ or ♦).

<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>
1NT	Pass	3NT	

North

♠ A542
♥ KQJ3
♦ J5
♣ KQ4

West

♠
♥
♦
♣

East

♠
♥
♦
♣

South

♠ KQ96
♥ A972
♦ KQ3
♣ J3

31 total HCPs is not enough for slam. After losing 2 aces, you'll take 3 ♠'s, 4 ♥'s, 2 ♦'s and 2 ♣'s.

When you have extra values, but not enough for slam, consider playing in 3NT.

 You make 11 tricks in 3NT or 4S.

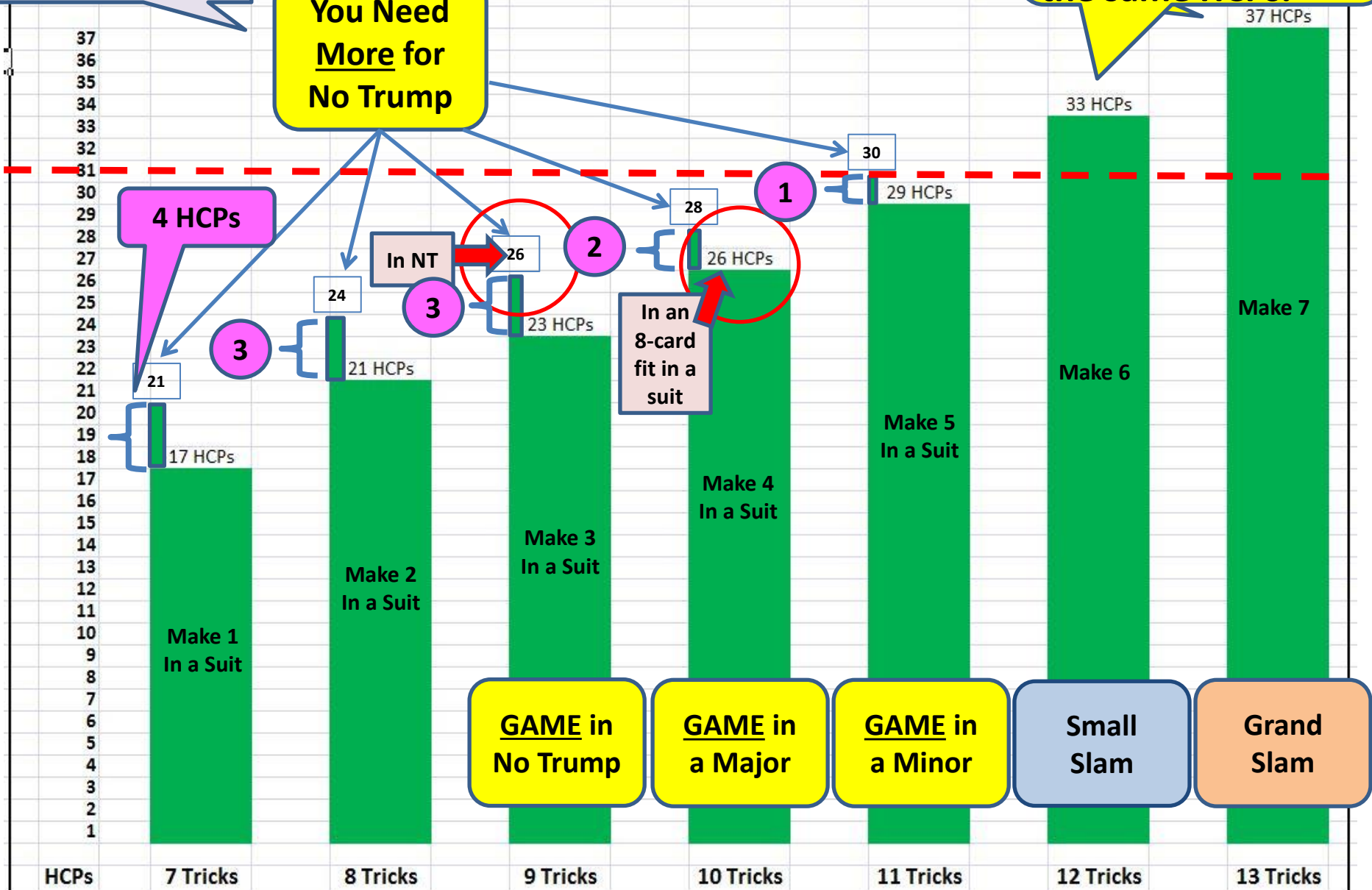
And sometimes a long, running suit equates to having extra HCPs.

Using Adjusted HCPs

These are all assuming an 8+ card fit.

No Trump and an 8-card suit fit need the same HCPs.

You Need More for No Trump



GAME in No Trump **GAME** in a Major **GAME** in a Minor Small Slam Grand Slam

The other exception to the Three Finger Rule.

A Moysian Fit

THE MOYSIAN FIT

Reg Busch



The name Alphonse Moysie Jr would mean little to today's generation of bridge players. But, starting in the 1930s, he was a champion bridge player and a prolific and influential bridge journalist. He was reputed to have written two bridge columns every day for 22 years, most of these as 'ghost' writer for the Culbertsons. In those days of opening 4 card majors, he was a proponent of supporting partner's one major opening with three cards in his suit. His name still lives when bridge writers talk of playing in a 'Moysian' fit i.e. in a 4 / 3 fit.

Whether he would be such an advocate in these days of computer generated hands is a matter of conjecture. But the fact still remains that, not infrequently, we find that 4H or 4S in a 4/3 fit is the only makeable contract.

So don't be afraid of finishing in a 4/3 fit if it seems your best spot. But it would be helpful to understand that there is a secret to playing these hands. Here is an example from a hand played recently in a Florida event.

W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	1♥
2♦	2♥	P	4♥
All pass			

Dir North
NS vul

♠965
♥Q104
♦KJ972
♣63

♠KQ72
♥A95
♦43
♣K1074

♠A83
♥K862
♦5
♣QJ985

♠J104
♥J73
♦AQ1086
♣A2

In 4H, N/S lose one ♦, one ♥ and one ♣, for +620.

They lose the same tricks playing in their 9-card fit (♣'s), for +130.

Recognizing a Moysian Fit

And usually good trumps.

South wins the A♠, and takes the losing ♦ finesse.

He'll get to ruff one ♠ in dummy before drawing trumps, scoring 1 ♠, 1 ♠ ruff in dummy, 4 ♦'s and 4 ♥'s (+620).

North suggests he has a singleton ♠, and South has the perfect holding in that suit (one Quick Trick). Plus, he'll be ruffing on the short side of trumps (♠'s).

The two things to look for.

4♥ South

Both Vul

♠ 3
♥ A J 2
♦ A J 7 6 3
♣ K 8 7 4

♠ K Q 10 6
♥ 7 6 5 4
♦ 9 5
♣ Q 10 2

♠ J 9 8 5 4
♥ 8 3
♦ Q 10 8
♣ A J 9

♠ A 7 2
♥ K Q 10 9
♦ K 4 2
♣ 6 5 3

Lead: ♠ K

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♣	Pass	2NT
All Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥

The opposite of Quick Tricks are Soft Tricks (Q's and J's).

Quick Tricks



Quick Tricks is a method of evaluating a hand's defensive strength.

Basically, it counts the number of "sure" tricks in a suit:

$$A = 1$$

$$AK = 2$$

$$AQ = 1.5 \text{ (because the Q has a 50\% chance of the finesse winning)}$$

$$Kx = 0.5$$

$$KJ = 1$$

$$AKQ = 2 \text{ (not 3, because someone will likely ruff the 3rd round)}$$

$$KQ = 1$$

The disadvantage of this method is that it overvalues Aces and King, and undervalues Queens and Jacks. Both the HCP method and Losing Trick Count method are better adjusted to this problem.

The RULE:

If (HCP + Number of cards in the expected Moysian Fit + Number of QTs) = 20, you do qualify for a Moysian!

* Artificial bid -
4th Suit Forcing
(to GAME).

Bidding a Moysian Fit



North	East	South	West
1C	Pass	1D	Pass
1S	Pass	2H*	Pass
3D	Pass	3S	

North

♠ A1098
♥ Q85
♦ K65
♣ K73

North would bid
3NT with, say:
♥ AQ10

West

♠ ♠ J73
♥ ♥ A1062
♦ ♦ 1097
♣ ♣ 1042

East

♠ ♠ 542
♥ ♥ KJ743
♦ ♦ J84
♣ ♣ QJ

South suggests playing in a Moysian ♠ fit, since North can have at most 3 H's in his hand, and the opponents will have no problem finding that lead against 3NT (down one).

South

♠ KQ6
♥ 9
♦ AQ32
♣ A9865

North can now bid 4S for 11 tricks, losing one ♣ and one ♥.

Declarer should lose a ♣ early, before drawing trumps, to maintain control of the hand.

One More Joke



N/S have no chance in 3NT,
so elect for a Moysian (4-3) in
♥'s rather than play in 5D.

West leads his K♠, A♠ and Q♠,
trying to shorten South's
trump holding.

Playing a Moysian

South should discard a ♣ or
a ♦ on the 3rd ♠ to keep
control of the hand.

If the opponents have 6
trumps total, they will break
3-3 only **1/3** of the time.

NORTH
♠ 5 3 2
♥ K J 9
♦ A K J 9 7
♣ 8 4

WEST
♠ A K Q J 7
♥ 8 7 6 3
♦ 4
♣ K J 5

EAST
♠ 10 9 6
♥ 4 2
♦ 8 5 3 2
♣ Q 10 7 6

SOUTH
♠ 8 4
♥ A Q 10 5
♦ Q 10 6
♣ A 9 3 2

Aristotle said, "All
human actions have one
or more of these seven
causes: chance, nature,
compulsion, habit,
reason, passion, and
desire." So don't leave
things up to 'chance.'

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠
2 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All Pass

Opening lead — ♠ K

Playtime

