

Playing in a Moysian Fit

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- One goal in bidding is to try to find a “golden fit” of 8 cards- that will be our trump suit. Sometimes we come up a bit short.
- A Moysian fit is a suit contract where the declarer has 7 trump in a 4-3 fit between his hand and dummy.
- It is OK to play in a Moysian fit. Don't panic.
- How do you get to a 4-3 fit?
 - Takeout Double/Balancing Double

West opens 1D

North holds:

♠ AQ92
 ♥ KJ4
 ♦ 74
 ♣ QT83

North bids X and South bids 2H showing 4 hearts and 9-11 HCPs.

- Intentional

North holds:

♠ 92
 ♥ AQT
 ♦ AJ974
 ♣ KT8

Bidding goes:

W	N	E	S
	1D	P	1H
1S	2H?		

North cannot bid NT without a spade stopper. Bidding 2H to play in a 4-3 fit is a reasonable contract.

North holds:

♠ K92
 ♥ AQT8
 ♦ AJ974
 ♣ 8

Bidding goes:

W	N	E	S
	1D	P	1S
P	2S?		

North does not have enough points to reverse, and bidding 1NT with a singleton club is a potential disaster. Bidding 2S to play in a 4-3 fit is a reasonable contract.

- Playing Trump
 - Consider outstanding trump distribution- could be 3-3, but will be 4-2 about half of the time.
 - May not be able to pull all the trump and still keep control.
 - Opponents would then run their long suit with no way to stop them.
 - If opponents make declarer ruff in the long hand, they will have more trump than he does.

- Two strategies
 - Control Play strategy
 - Draw some trump
 - Set up winners
 - Set up long running side suit
 - Play winners until an opponent ruffs in
 - Collect the last trump and play rest of winners
 - Scramble strategy
 - Try to identify tricks you can take
 - Use trump individually to ruff and cross ruff
 - Pitch losers on losers to preserve trump


Moysian Fit Hands

Moysian Fit Hand 1

Board 1

South Deals

None Vul

<p>♠ A Q ♥ Q J 10 ♦ 9 8 7 6 ♣ 10 9 8 7</p>		<p>♠ J 9 3 2 ♥ A 3 2 ♦ 2 ♣ A 5 4 3 2</p>	<p>♠ 10 8 5 4 ♥ 9 8 7 ♦ K Q 10 ♣ K Q 6</p>
		<p>♠ K 7 6 ♥ K 6 5 4 ♦ A J 5 4 3 ♣ J</p>	

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
			1 ♦
Pass	1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The Auction- South deals and opens 1 ♦. North has 9 HCPs and 4 spades, and bids 1 ♠. South has a bidding quandary- she is not strong enough to bid 2 ♥ which is a reverse, and bidding 1 NT with a singleton club is risky. The best bid (least bad bid) is to raise partner's suit, 2 ♠.

The Play- East is on lead and will likely lead the K♣, top of touching honors. She chooses clubs because Declarer opened with a diamond bid.

Declarer pauses to make a plan. Counting losers from the North hand is difficult since suits in both hands are very weak. She recognizes that the singletons in both hands provide a cross-ruffing strategy of scoring trumps individually. She hopes to win with the AK♥, the A♦, the A♣, and 2 ruffs in each hand to make the contract.

When cross ruffing, Declarer should win all high cards first so that defenders don't discard that suit and eventually ruff a winner. Declarer wins the club lead with the A♣, plays the A♥ and K♥, and plays the A♦. Next she ruffs a diamond in her hand, ruffs a club in dummy, and keeps repeating that sequence until opponents finally overruff.

Note that if Declarer tried to pull trump first, opponents would exhaust declarer's trump and eventually score their winners to set the contract.

Board 2
 West Deals
 None Vul

Moysian fit hands

♠ 9 4	♠ A 7 6	♠ J 10 3 2			
♥ K Q 4 3	♥ A 10 5 2	♥ 9 8 7			
♦ 3 2	♦ A 9 7 4	♦ K 8			
♣ A K Q 9 8	♣ 7 4	♣ J 10 3 2			
<table style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; padding: 5px; margin: auto;"> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">N</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">W E</td></tr> <tr><td style="padding: 2px 10px;">S</td></tr> </table>			N	W E	S
N					
W E					
S					
♠ K Q 8 5	♠ K Q 8 5	♠ J 10 3 2			
♥ J 6	♥ J 6	♥ 9 8 7			
♦ Q J 10 6 5	♦ Q J 10 6 5	♦ K 8			
♣ 6 5	♣ 6 5	♣ J 10 3 2			

<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
1 ♣	Dbl	Pass	2 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

The Auction- West is dealer and opens 1C. North also has an opening hand, shortness in clubs, and at least 3 card support for the other suits, and makes a takeout double. East, having only 5 HCPs passes. South has 9 HCPs, some shape, and 4 spades, and jumps to 2 ♠. All pass.

The Play- West is on lead and will likely lead the A♣, followed by the K♣, which both win. Recognizing that continuing clubs will help the declarer, West switches suits and plays the K♥ to help set up that suit. Declarer wins the trick with the A♥ in dummy, recognizing that the J10♥ could be potential stoppers in that suit.

Declarer has lost 2 clubs, will likely lose a spade (if they split 4-2, maybe no losers if 3-3), will lose a heart, and possibly lose a diamond. With 5 potential losers, the contract should make as long as Declarer can keep control.

Declarer's plan should be to draw two rounds of trump, ending in the South hand. This minimizes the risk of opponents' ruffs, and also keeps a trump in dummy to protect against further club leads. The plan is to set up diamonds, run diamonds until an opponent ruffs in, win the return, draw the last trump, and run the remaining diamonds.

Declarer will score 3 spade tricks, the A♥, and 4 diamond tricks- making 2 ♠.

Note that if Declarer pulled three rounds of trump and then tried to set up diamonds, East would win the K♦, pull declarer's last trump, and send a club to West. EW take 1 spade trick, 1 diamond trick, 5 club tricks (as long as East figured out to unblock the suit at some point), and a heart trick for down 2.