

Squeeze Play Basics

Squeeze card, 2 Threat cards, Rectified Count

reference:

David Bird "Bridge Squeezes for Everyone"

Squeeze Play Basics

What is a Squeeze Play?

- * Technique to develop exactly ONE trick
- * Cash winners in such a way that the defense **MUST** discard their guard cards
- * Successful if only ONE defender holds both of TWO potential winners **AND** must discard one of them
- * If the potential winners are split between defenders, there is no possible squeeze

Squeeze Play Basics

Positional Squeeze Scenario

* South leads ♠x, West must discard a winner

* West:
♠ -
♥ Q
♦ JT
♣ -

* Squeeze Elements:
Squeeze card: ♠x
One card threat: ♥J
Two card threat: ♦Kx

* North:
♠ -
♥ J
♦ Kx
♣ -

* South:
♠ x
♥ x
♦ x
♣ -

* East:
♠ -
♥ x
♦ -
♣ Tx

Squeeze Play Basics

Positional Squeeze Scenario

* North:

♠ -

♥ J

♦ Kx

♣ -

* East:

♠ -

♥ Q

♦ JT

♣ -

* West:

♠ -

♥ x

♦ -

♣ Tx

* South:

♠ x

♥ x

♦ x

♣ -

* East is NOT squeezed because he discards after the threat hand

Squeeze Play Basics

Automatic Squeeze Scenario

* North:

♠ -

♥ x

♦ Kx

♣ -

* East:

♠ -

♥ Q

♦ Jx

♣ -

* West:

♠ -

♥ x

♦ -

♣ Tx

* South:

♠ x

♥ J

♦ x

♣ -

* Either defender can be squeezed because a threat card is with the squeeze card

Squeeze Play Basics

Positional Squeeze Example

* Contract: 7♠S
Lead: ♥K

* West:
♠xx
♥KQTxx
♦JTxx
♣xx

* North:
♠KTxx
♥Jx
♦AKxx
♣AJx

* South:
♠AQJxx
♥Ax
♦Qxx
♣KQx

* East:
♠xx
♥xxxx
♦xx
♣Txxxx

* Play 10 winners: ♥A, ♠AK, ♦AQ, ♣AKQ, ♠QJ

Squeeze Play Basics

Positional Squeeze Example

* Contract: 7♠S
Lead: ♥K

* West:
♠ -
♥ Q
♦ JT
♣ -

* North:
♠ -
♥ J
♦ Kx
♣ -

* East:
♠ -
♥ x
♦ -
♣ Tx

* South:
♠ x
♥ x
♦ x
♣ -

* When South leads the ♠x, West is squeezed and must discard one of his winners, making 7♠

Squeeze Play Basics

Rectifying the Count Example

* Rectify means
lose your losers
first!

* West:
♠ Txxx
♥ xx
♦ xxx
♣ Txxx

* (East opens 1♣)
Contract: 6♠S
Lead: ♣x

* North:
♠ QJxxx
♥ AQTxx
♦ Qxx
♣ -

* South:
♠ AKx
♥ KJx
♦ A9x
♣ Qxxx

* East:
♠ x
♥ xxx
♦ KJTxx
♣ AKJxxx

Squeeze Play Basics

Play Without Rectifying the Count

	* North:	
	♠ -	
	♥ T	
	♦ Qxx	
	♣ -	
* West:		* East:
♠ -		♠ -
♥ -		♥ -
♦ xx	* South:	♦ KJ
♣ Tx	♠ -	♣ AK
	♥ -	
	♦ A9	
	♣ Qx	

* Play: ♣ ruff, ♠ AKQJ, ♥ KJAQ, no squeeze!

Squeeze Play Basics

Play With Rectifying the Count

	* North:	
	♠ -	
	♥ T	
	♦ Qx	
	♣ -	
* West:		* East:
♠ -		♠ -
♥ -		♥ -
♦ xx	* South:	♦ KJ
♣ T	♠ -	♣ A
	♥ -	
	♦ A9	
	♣ Q	

* Instead Play: ♦ discard, ♠ AKQJx, ♥ KJAQ, now East is squeezed, and 6 ♠ is making

Squeeze Play Basics

A Real Life Example

* Contract: 3NT N
Lead: ♦AKx

* West:
♠ QJxx
♥ Qxxx
♦ xx
♣ xxx

* North:
♠ K9x
♥ xx
♦ JTxx
♣ QJTxx

* South:
♠ ATx
♥ AKT9x
♦ Qx
♣ Axx

* Dealer: East
Auction:
(P)-1♥-(P)-INT-
(2♦)-3♦-(P)-3NT-

* East:
♠ xxx
♥ Jx
♦ AKxxx
♣ Kxx

* Play: ♦JT, ♣QJx-→A, ♥A, ♠AT-→K,

Squeeze Play Basics

A Real Life Example

* Contract: 3NT N
Lead: ♦AKx

* West:
♠ Q
♥ Qx
♦ -
♣ -

* North:
♠ 9
♥ 4
♦ -
♣ T

* South:
♠ -
♥ Kxx
♦ -
♣ -

* Dealer: East
Auction:
(P)-1 ♦-(P)-1NT-
(2 ♦)-3 ♦-(P)-3NT-

* East:
♠ x
♥ J
♦ x
♣ -

* Play: ♣T, West is squeezed, making 5NT