

There are no bad 6-6 hands

This chestnut is quite true. Yes, hands where you hold 6-6 in two suits are quite rare!
There are two major reasons to value 6-6 hands highly:-

- (a) There is a 90% chance of finding a fit with partner in at least one of your suits
- (b) Your hand will be hopeless for defence. Even a hand rich in High Card Points is unlikely to get more than two tricks in defence.

Having decided you are looking at a good hand, how do we bid it?

If you have an opening two bid to show a two suiter, then you could use that bid. However, that may not work well in the unlikely event that you get passed out. Even with as little as 8 HCP, game could well be on. Of course, you won't be able to stand partner doubling if the opponents get busy. You won't be able to stand partner bidding No Trumps either.

It's tempting to open big two suiters with 2C or 2D because, you know they play so well. However, it can backfire. I rate this as the best hand I've ever held.

♦AKQxxx Drooling, I opened 2D artificial game
♣AKQxxxx force but determined to bid 7C or 7D

2D! (4S) P (6S)
???

So, I got to show my first suit at the 7 level:(We were vulnerable, they were not). I bid 7C and got doubled. After an eternity, I passed. You guessed it – 7D made and 7C was one off when my right hand opponent held Txxxx of clubs.

At a dinner, I asked a 20 year old expert what to do with the hand. He said:

“Open 1D, rebid 7C and the fish is really good.”

Partner would have shown preference to the loony across the table by returning to 7D.

“What if they pass me out in 1D?” I wailed. He replied

“When you hold that hand, someone bids the majors”