Control Cue Bids

Forcing Raises



duplicate bridge and game players... by jimhartley

Control Showing Bids (ACES & VOIDS)

As a general rule, control showing bids for Aces occur at the 4 level. When you have 2 quick losers in a suit, it is imperative that you cue bid "up the line" with partner so see if all your suits are stopped without 2 quick losers before bidding Blackwood.

Blackwood is not intended to be bid with 2 quick losers in a suit. Cue-bids of Aces begin at the 4 level. When partner has cue-bid your suit with 2 losers, then bid Blackwood.

Cue Bids are confusing at first. There are many different uses for cue bids.

For Western Cue refer to http://www.bridgebum.com/western_cue_ bid.php

For Michaels Cue Bid refer to http://www.bridgebum.com/michaels_cue bid.php

Control Cue Bids Example

W N E S Partner's Hand

1♥ P 3♥ ♠A8 ♥AKQ984 ♦87 ♣A8

4♣ P 4♦ Your Hand

♦KQJ5 ♥J732 ♦ A9 **♣**432

Partner opens 1♥ and following your limit raise cannot bid 4NT because there are 2 quick ♦ losers in his hand. He bids 4♣ showing the Ace of Clubs, you bid 4♦ to show the Ace of Diamonds, now partner can bid 4NT knowing you are covering his 2 quick losers.

The main point to remember about cue bids is that if your partner bids the opponents suit, he wants you to bid again and further describe your hand. The one thing you cannot do is PASS your partner's Cue Bid. If you ever PASS your partner's Cue Bid it will tend to destroy all future confidence in the bidding. It doesn't matter if you don't understand the Cue Bid immediately, after you bid, partner will bid again and it will become clear eventually.

Michaels Cue Bid

When the opponents have opened the bidding and you are 5/5 with a major, Michaels Cue Bid let's partner know about your hand in 1 bid.

Michaels Cue Bid is meant for hands that are less than 12 hcps or more than 15 hcps. With Minimum opening count overcall your higher ranking suit and at your next bid show your second suit.

 $1 \clubsuit$ - $2 \clubsuit$ and $1 \spadesuit$ - $2 \spadesuit$ shows 5/5 in the majors. Similar to a takeout double, if you bid again you show extra values with 16+ hcps.

 $1 \checkmark$ - 2 ✓ and $1 \land$ - 2 \land shows 5/5 - the other major and a 5 card minor. Partner chooses the right suit.



All About Cue Bids Tournament Series #13

www.bridgewebs.com/borderlinebridge

#1 - Bridge Bidding Basics #11 – Strips and Squeezes #2 – Six Basic Conventions #12 - Blackwood #3 – Play of the Hand #13 - Cue-bids #4 - Defense #14 - Flannery #5 – Intermediate Bidding #15 – Carding #6 – Advanced (Two over One) #16 – Four Suit Transfers #7 – Stayman and Transfers #17 – Weak No Trump

#8 – Lebensohl #18 – Wolf Sign-off &XYZ #19 - Unusual/NMF/4SF #9 – Doubles and Overcalls

#10 – Online Bridge

#20 - One Level Transfers



Grafton Duplicate Bridge Club

Thursday Noon – Ameriprise Financial Bldg Stratified Pairs - Bridge lessons at 11am Director - Michael Leighton (701) 520-0753

Grand Forks Duplicate Bridge Club

Monday 6:30pm – GF Senior Center Stratified Pairs – Bridge lessons at 5:45pm Friday 12:30pm – EGF Senior Center Director - Tom Rand (701) 742-3676

Ambassador Bridge Club Winnipeg MB

Tuesday 12:15pm - MB Bridge Centre Stratified Pairs

Wednesday 7pm - MB Bridge Centre **Invitational Pairs and Swiss Teams**

Thursday 1pm - (0 - 200) Temple Shalom Play and learn

Saturday 12:30pm – MB Bridge Centre Swiss Teams

Director - Bill and Sue Treble (204) 669-1458

Support Showing Cuebids

Bidding Options

BRIDGE PLAYERS WILL GO TO BID WITH ANYBODY



Limit Raise

When Left Hand Opponent (LHO) has opened the bidding and partner overcalls, a cue bid is a limit raise (10-11 hcps and 3+ card support) of partner's suit.

The limit raise cue bid to an over-call is so common that it is not alertable.

It is important to cue bid rather than jump raise to the 3 level as partner may have overcalled light at the one level and with a cue bid partner can sign off at the 2 level and avoid playing the contract at the 3 level.

Partner Doubles

LHO has opened 1 of a suit and partner doubles for take-out. RHO passes and you are forced to bid your longest suit.

- Your cheapest bid is 0-8 hpcs
- Jump 1 level is a limit raise 9-11
- A **Cue Bid** shows 12+ (Game Forcing)

Limit Raise to Over Call Example

WNES

1 ♥ 1 ♠ P ? Partner's Hand

♦KQT98 ♥52 ♦ AT3 ♣987 Your Hand

♦A432 **♥**Q43 **♦** K9 **♣**Q432

If you jump to $3 \spadesuit$ to show a "limit raise" with your nice 4 card support 11 hcp hand, partner will go down 1, losing $2 \heartsuit$ and $3 \clubsuit$.

On the other hand, if you cue bid $2 \checkmark$ to show your limit raise, partner can sign off at $2 \spadesuit$ when over calling with less than opening count and make the contract.

The "limit raise" of partner's overcalls with a cue bid is the most commonly used cue bid and comes up quite often.

Partner Doubles and RHO bids

When LHO bids and your partner doubles for take-out and RHO bids, you are no longer forced to bid.

Therefore, if you do bid you are taking a "free" bid and have 6-8 hcps for the cheapest bid. The limit raise jump and game forcing **cue bid** are the same. **Stayman** (after interference) with 4 card suit Partner has opened 1NT and the opponents have overcalled at the 2 level

A cue-bid of the opponent's suit over 1NT GUARANTEES a 4 card major (Stayman) and 9+ hcps (game forcing)

Western Cue

Partner has OPENED the bidding and RHO has Over called. Cue bidding the opponents suit at the 3 level ASKS FOR A STOPPER and if so, BID 3NT.

- You and Partner have not found a fit
- Western Cue occurs at the 3 level
- No jumping cue bids are involved

Western Cue Example

WNES

1 ♦ 1 ♥ ♠ P Partner's Hand

You know that you have the hcps for game, but you don't have the ♥ stopped.

A 3♥ bid, the opponents suit, at the 3 level ASKS partner to bid 3NT with a ♥ stopper.

If the opponents have bid 2 suits, Western Cue does not apply.

When the opponents have bid 2 suits, a cue bid SHOWS A STOPPER and asks partner to bid 3NT with a stopper in their other suit. Why ASK with 1 suit bid, because you would bid 3NT yourself with a Stopper in their only suit.