

An Introduction to Two Suited Hands

Michaels Cue Bid and the Unusual Two No Trump.

Introduction

This is a “two-suited hand”.

♠ 3 ♥ A9872 ♦ 32 ♣ AJT89

It is hard to tell partner what you've got just using Acol. Less than opening points, no suit quality of 7 in H, not enough points or length in C....

This session is about how to describe hands like this to partner, after the opposition has opened.

Objectives

To be aware that conventions exist to let you bid weakish hands when you are “Two-suited” (All)

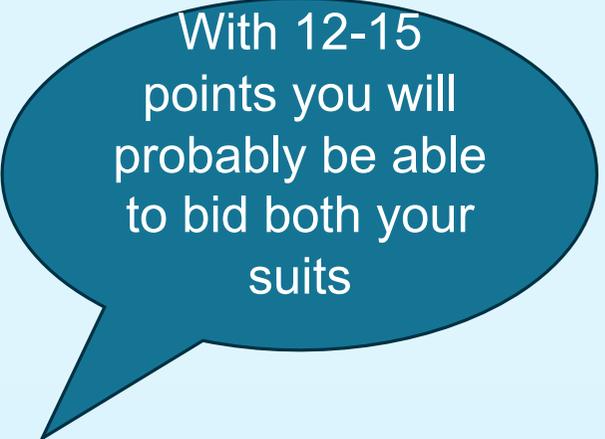
To understand Michaels and U2NT bids when made by opponents (All)

To gain some experience in making these bids and playing the contracts (All)

To feel able to use these conventions in “improver” sessions (Some)

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Michaels Cue Bid



With 12-15
points you will
probably be able
to bid both your
suits

A bidding convention where you bid the opener's suit
It shows a two suited (5-5) hand,

(1D) – 2D *or* (1C) – 2C

Says I have at least 5-5 in the majors and (almost always) 8-11 HCP

(1H) – 2H *or* (1S) – 2S

Says I have 5 in the other major and 5 in one of the minors (& 8-11)

The response is to show your preferred suit, or 2NT to ask which MINOR.

CUE BIDDER doesn't bid again unless asked which MINOR, or with 16+HCP

BE CAREFUL!

Most of the points should be in the long suits

Remember that you are giving a lot of information to the opposition

Responding after partner bids Michaels Cue Bid

TAKEOUT TO A SUIT SHOWN BY PARTNER indicates a preference for that suit with no interest in game.

Opp.	Partner	Opp.	You	Spades	954
				Hearts	K7
1D	2D	P	2S	Diamonds	J83
	Partner has 5 spades, so show the 8-card fit.			Clubs	KJ754

		*	*	*	
Opp.	Partner	Opp.	You	Spades	KJ96
				Hearts	Q63
1S	2S	P	3H	Diamonds	J5
				Clubs	9874

You don't know partner's 2nd suit, but a heart fit is present, so sign off in 3H.

Responding after partner bids Michaels Cue Bid

TWO NOTRUMP AFTER A MAJOR-SUIT CUE BID asks for partner's MINOR. You may intend to drop partner in 3 of his minor, or perhaps make another bid to invite game.

Opp.	Partner	Opp.	You	Spades	3
				Hearts	K10975
1H	2H	P	2NT	Diamonds	J765
				Clubs	Q83

You will pass whichever minor partner bids.

		*	*	*	
Opp.	Partner	Opp.	You	Spades	J986
				Hearts	KJ8
1S	2S	P	2NT	Diamonds	AJ97
				Clubs	87

If partner bids 3C, you will bid 3H to invite game. However, if partner bids 3D, you should jump to 4H.

The Unusual Two No Trump

Very similar to Michaels Cue Bid, but shows 5-5 in the two lowest unbid suits

(1C) – 2NT shows 5-5 in D and H

(1D) – 2NT shows 5-5 in C and H

(1Major) – 2NT shows 5-5 in C and D

Still 8-11 points (or 16+)

Responder shows their preference

Note your contract will be at the three-level so watch out for the vulnerability

Responding after partner bids U2NT

<u>Auction</u>				<u>Responder's Hands</u>
Opp. 1D	Partner 2NT	Opp. P	You ?	9. S=AQ985 H=J74 D=Q85 C=76
Opp. 1S	Partner 2NT	Opp. P	You ?	10. S=KJ97 H=A9865 D=103 C=98
Opp. 1S	Partner 2NT	Opp. 3S	You ?	11. S=654 H=J873 D=K9842 C=3
Opp. 1C	Partner 2NT	Opp. P	You ?	12. S=AJ87 H=KQ8 D=96 C=9875

**Any questions
or give it a try?**

And finally...

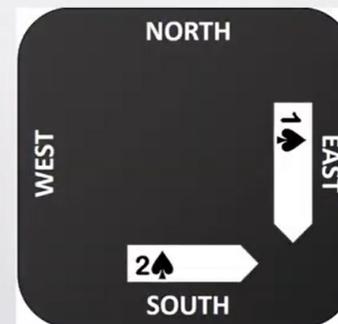
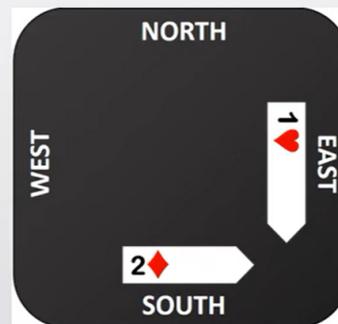
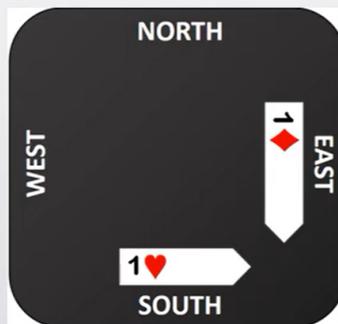
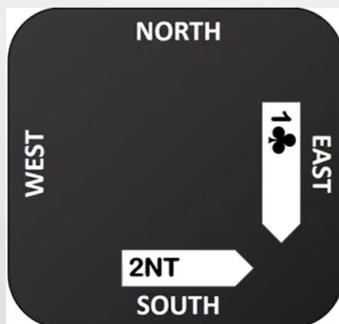
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The **Michaels** Cue Bid and the **Unusual 2NT** bid are both dependent on what suit the opponent bids

Imagine we are sitting south with this hand, at each of the tables below. Our call will depend on what East bids 1st. →



What we have covered

Michaels and U2NT

Two suited hands, 8-11 pts

Example of a “Cue Bid of opponents suit”

Bids that change meaning depending on what has already been bid

Making use of bids that would normally make no sense, and make bidding hard for oppos

What next?

How to defend against Michaels and U2NT

Other ways to make good use of weakish two-suited hands

What else?

