

CUE BIDDING WHEN LOOKING FOR A SLAM

- There are different types of cue bid

Michaels cue bids showing a two suited hand, unassuming cue bid shows a good raise in pard's suit, cue bidding the opps suit asking pard for stops

These cue bids involve bidding the opps suit.

- Cue when looking for a slam enables you to ask pard which aces (controls*) they hold rather than how many
- They are a powerful tool in slam bidding
They enable you to explore slam below game level
Show specific controls eg the ♥ A or a diamond void
Avoid non making slams*
After a cue bid you can then use Blackwood if you need more information
Communicate critical information that simple point counting can't reveal

* Controls = aces or voids

- Using a cue bid means responder's next bid is at the 4 level, usually
- Use cue bids in a suit contract not in no trumps, once you have agreed the trump suit
- If you have agreed a minor suit suddenly bidding a new suit is likely to be looking for no trumps which scores more

Remember, if pard opens a minor don't agree it if you have a major you can bid or if you can bid NT

- When to use cue bidding

If it doesn't matter which ace use Blackwood. You may have 3 aces and need to know about the last one

In this hand if partner has 1 ace bid 6, if partner shows 2 aces bid 7. Use Blackwood

♠ A K 10 9 7 6 5

♥ A K Q J

♦ 3

♣ 2

The hand below is a strong 2 loser hand. You can ruff a lead of ♠A but there are still losers if pard doesn't have a red ace. Use cue bidding.

♠ A K Q 10 8 6

♥ K Q 2

♦ K Q J 3

♣ void

Once a major suit is agreed a new suit is a trial bid or a cue bid

Using a trial bid means responder's next bid is below the 3 level of the suit agreed. Using a cue bid means responder's next bid is at the 4 or sometimes 5 level

Use cue bids in a suit contract not no trumps, once you have agreed the trump suit

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- If you have agreed a minor suit, suddenly bidding a new suit is likely to be looking for no trumps which scores more
- Remember if partner opens a minor don't agree it if you have a major you can bid or if you can bid NT

Examples of cue bidding sequences

North	East	South	West
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
5♣#	Pass	5♥#	Pass
6♠			

North	East	South	West
1♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠*	Pass	4♥	

North	East	South	West
1♠	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦*	Pass	5♥#	Pass
6♠			

North	East	South	West
1♠	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♦*	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♥#	Pass
5NT	Pass	6♦*	Pass
7♠			

- Using a trial bid means responder's next bid is below the 3 level of the suit agreed. Using a cue bid means responder's next bid is at the 4 or sometimes 5 level

Trial Bid

North	East	South	West
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠*			

Cue bid

North	East	South	West
1♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠*			

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