

Michaels Cue Bids and Unusual No Trump

Michaels Cue Bids

A direct cue bid of the opponent's suit at the 2- and 4-level of a *minor* opening shows both majors, at least 5-5 shape. The cue-bid of a *major* opening shows the unbid major plus either minor suit, at least 5-5 shape.

Non-vulnerable a Michaels Cue Bid can be made on any strength of hand – a weak hand will not bid again, a strong hand will make a strength-showing bid.

Vulnerable a Michaels Cue Bid should be a reasonable hand or better, that is, not extremely weak. A hand with 5 or 6 losers would be the minimum.

(1X)	2X	(any)	?	Shown suit	preference
				Jump shown	weak; good trump fit
				2NT	game or slam try; Forcing
				Cue bid	game or slam try; Forcing
				3C, 4C, 4NT	to play unknown minor (after major cue bid only)
				Other suit	6+ cards, non-forcing

Special after double

(1X)	2X	(Dbl)	?	Pass 2m	no major suit preference
				Pass 2M	to play unknown minor
				3C	6+ cards, non-forcing
				Others	as above

Rebids by Michaels cue-bidder

(1m)	2m	(any)	2NT	3C	good hand, longer hearts or equal length
(Pass)	?			3D	good hand, longer spades
				3H	minimum, 5-5 hand
				3S	non-minimum, 5-5 hand

(1M)	2M	(any)	2NT	3C, 3D	weak hand, that minor
(Pass)	?			3H	good hand with clubs
				3S	good hand with diamonds

Three-level Cue Bids

Any 3-level jump cue-bid as our side's first action shows a strong one-suited hand (not in the suit cue-bid) provided the enemy has not bid notrump.

Cue-bidder should have a self-sufficient suit and about 8½ playing tricks or more. If the suit is a major, cue-bidder should have a singleton or void in the cue-bid suit (else double).

Over weak two opener, the three-level cue bid is always Michaels.

Unusual Notrump Overcall

A direct jump overcall of 2 NT shows a hand with at least 5-5 shape in the two **lower** unbid suits.

Non-vulnerable the UNT can be made on any strength of hand – a weak hand will not bid again, a strong hand will make a strength-showing bid.

Vulnerable the UNT should be a reasonable hand or better, that is, not extremely weak. A hand with 5 or 6 losers would be the minimum.

(1X)	2 NT	any	?	Pass double	no preference
				Double	penalty
				Suit shown	preference
				Jump shown	weak; good trump fit
				Cue-bid	game or slam try; Forcing
				Other suit	6+ cards; NF
				3 NT (rare)	to play

Rebids by unusual 2 NT bidder:

(1X)	2 NT	(any)	Cue	Cheaper real	worst weak hand
(any)	?			Raise cue	strong hand, shortage
				Notrump	strong hand, shortage not in cue bid suit
				Unshown suit	good hand, 3 cards
				Higher real	good hand, 6 cards