

Advanced

Michaels Cue Bids

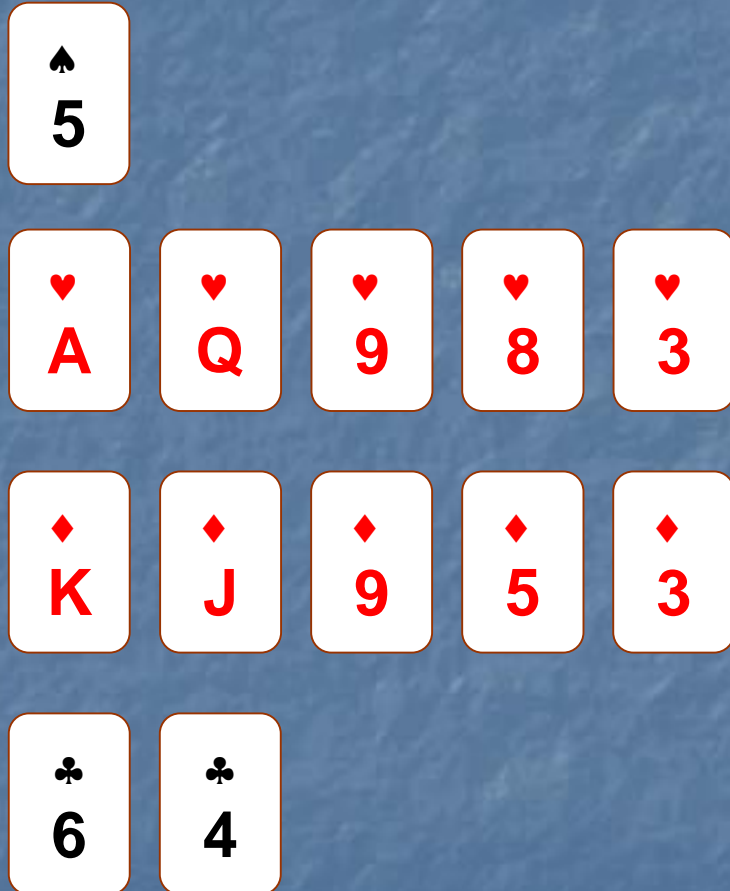
&

Unusual No trump (UNT)

New Bids

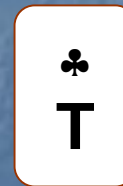
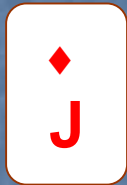
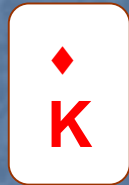
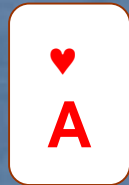
- 2 new bids designed to allow us to compete more
- With 2 suited hands
- Shape is as important as HCP
- So with a 5/5 shape we must compete
- With 8+ HCP or fewer in extreme cases
- Opponents must have a fit somewhere
- But so may we!

Look at this hand



- RHO opens 1♠
- You have 10 HCP LTC 6
- What do you bid?
- If you bid 2♥ and they bid 2♠ you never get to show the ♦'s and the shape
- Because 3♦ would be too strong a bid
- You could * and then re-bid ♥'s
- But does not tell partner the real story

And you miss this Fit!



UNT

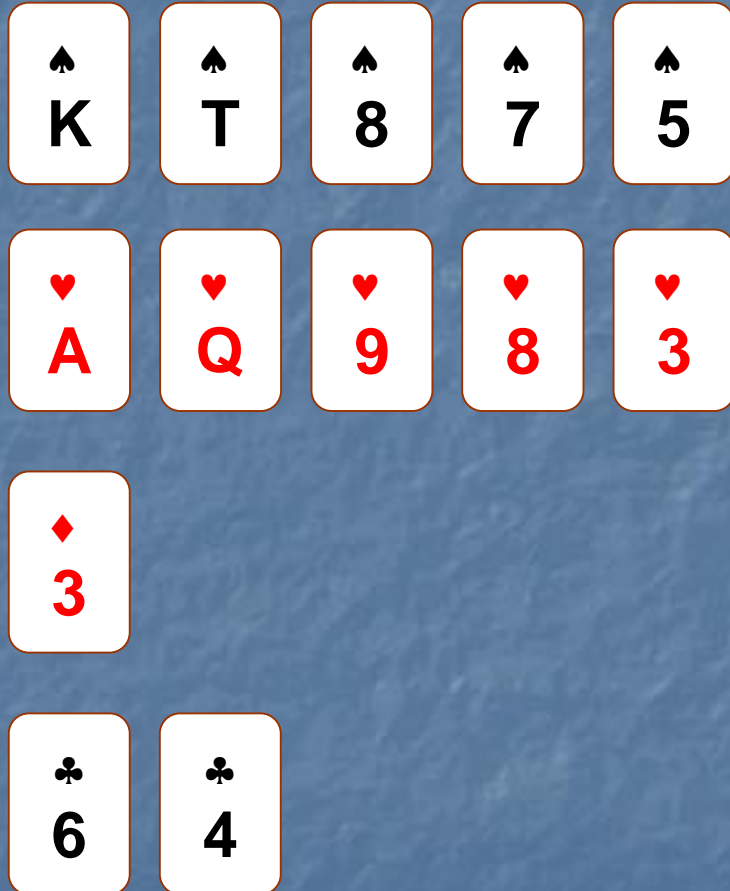


- RHO opens 1♠
- You have 10 HCP LTC 6
- What do you bid?
- Again it is really hard to show the nature of the hand and when they bid 2♠ you never get to show the second suit

What can we do?

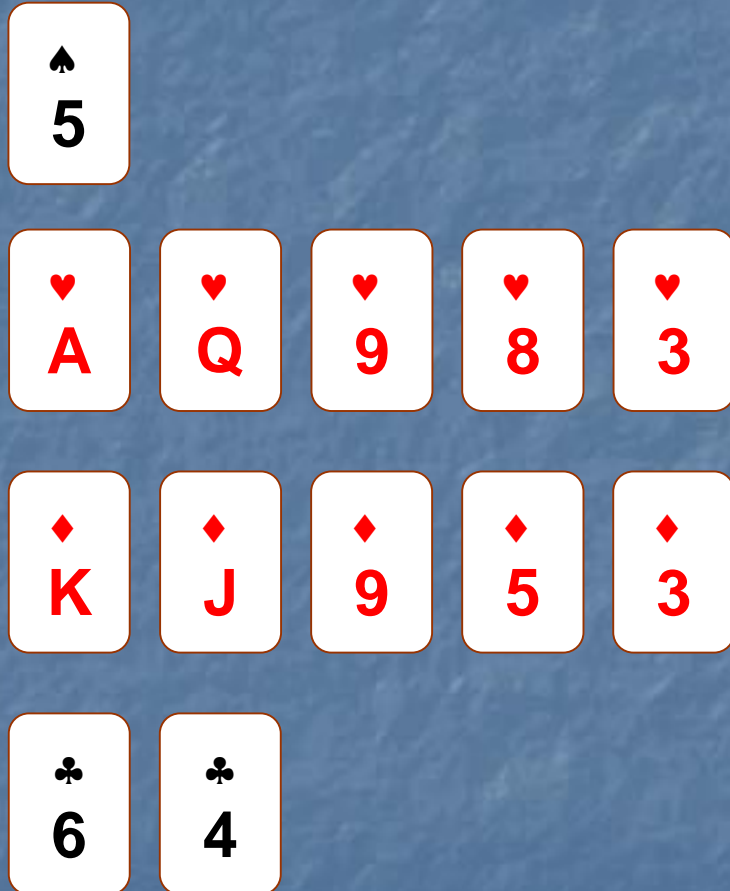
- We need bids that show 2 suited hands
- If they open 1 of a suit and you have 5 of that suit what will you bid?
- PASS
- So we would not bid 2 of their suit
- That's a spare bid we can use!
- And its called a Michael's Cue Bid

Michaels Cue Bid



- RHO opens 1♦
- You have 9 HCP LTC 6
- What do you bid?
- 2♦!
- Partner Alerts
- Your bid says
- I have 5/5 in the majors
- Please select one
- If opponents open 1 of a minor and you bid 2 of the same suit
- It promises both majors

Michaels Cue Bid



- RHO opens 1♠
- You have 10 HCP LTC 6
- What do you bid?
- 2♠!
- Partner Alerts
- Your bid says
- I have 5/5 in ♥'s and a minor
- If opponents open 1 of a major and you bid 2 of the same suit
- Shows 5 in the unbid major
- And 5 in a minor

Some 5/5 hands are not covered

- If they open 1 of a suit and you bid 1NT
- It shows 17+ HCP
- And stops in their suit
- If you bid 2NT
- It shows 20+HCP and stops
- This almost never comes up
- There is a better use for the 2NT overcall
- Its called the Unusual No trump (UNT)

UNT



- RHO opens 1♠
- You have 10 HCP LTC 6
- What do you bid?
- 2NT!
- Alerted by Partner
- This 2NT bid over the 1♠ opening is
- 5/5 in ♣'s and ♦'s
- The UNT shows the 2 lowest un-bid suits

UNT



- RHO opens 1♣
- You have 10 HCP LTC 6
- What do you bid?
- 2NT!
- Alerted by Partner
- This 2NT bid over the 1♣ opening is
- 5/5 in ♦'s and ♥'s
- The UNT shows the 2 lowest un-bid suits

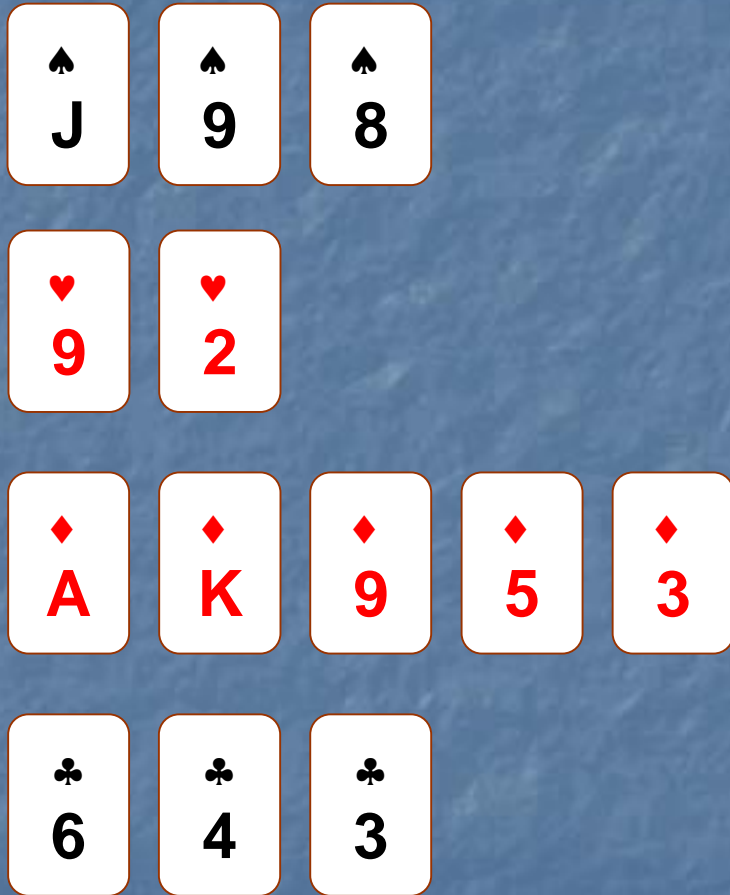
Michael's and UNT

- These 2 bids allow you to show any 2 suited hand
 - The loss of a natural 2NT
 - or 2 of opponents suit
 - Is not a problem
 - Because you would almost never bid it!
-
- So: How do we respond when partner makes one of these new bids?

Responses

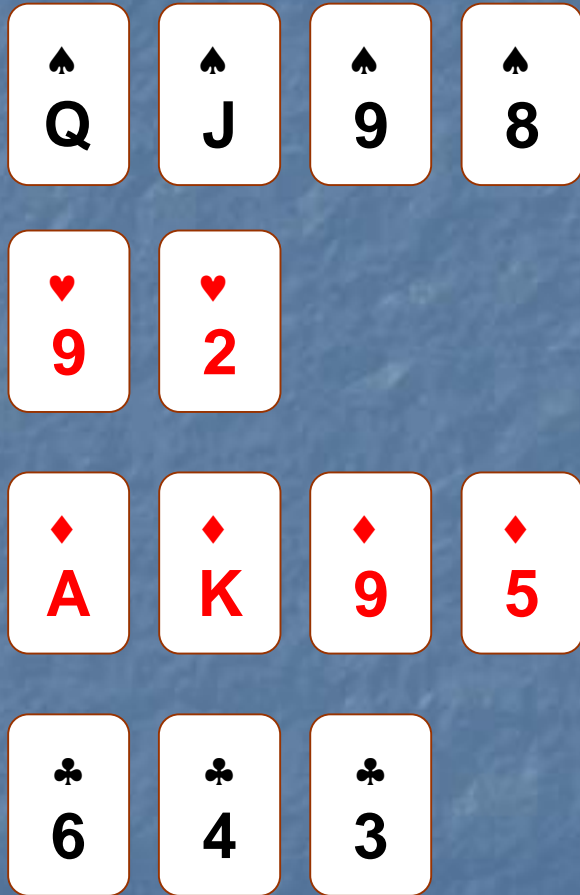
- Partner may be fairly weak
- But sometimes quite strong
- Assume partner has a LTC of 7
- Make a cautious bid at first
- Then with a fit compete
- To the number of cards your pair have in the suit
- With a 2 suit fit compete 1 more

Responses



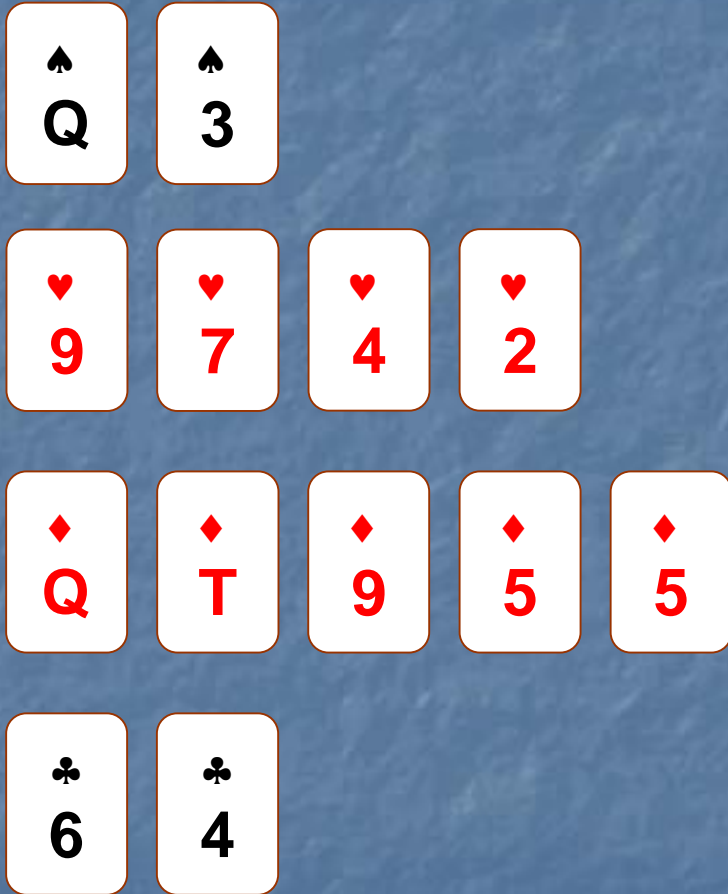
- The bidding goes
- 1♥ 2♥ P ?
- You have 8 HCP LTC 9
- And a known ♠ fit
- Bid 2♠
- Partner needs good honours for game to be on
- Allows partner to bid on with a strong hand
- Or just compete with fewer
- If opponents bid 3♥ you can compete with 3♠ with a 2 suit fit

Responses



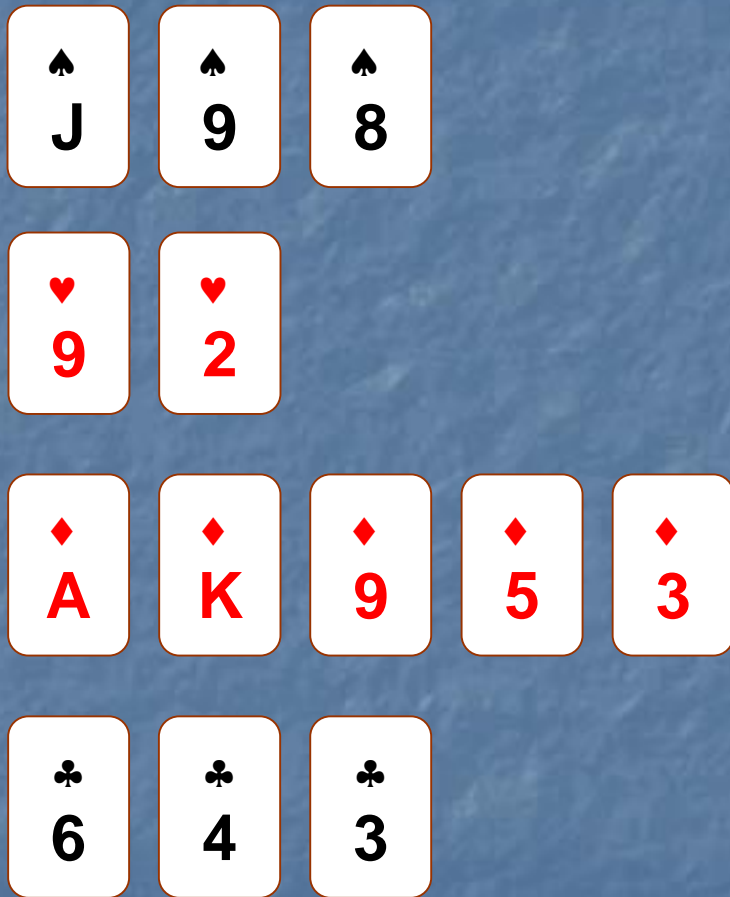
- The bidding goes
- 1♥ 2♥ P ?
- You have 10 HCP LTC 8
- And a known 9 card ♠ fit
- Bid 3♠
- Invitational to game
- With a good 2 suit fit partner does not need that much for a game try

Responses



- The bidding goes
- 1♥ 2♥ P ?
- You have 4 HCP LTC 9½
- No good fit
- Partner looks sure to have ♠'s and ♣'s
- Bid 2♠
- Try to get out as cheaply as possible
- 5/2 fit at the 2 level is OK

Responses



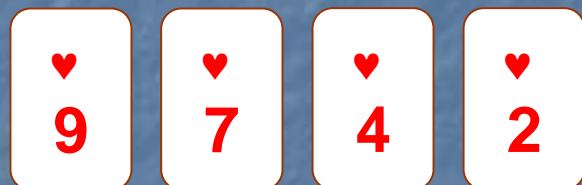
- The bidding goes
- 1♥ 2NT P ?
- You have 8 HCP LTC 9
- And a good fit in both minors
- Bid 3♦
- Game is probably not on
- But you must compete if opponents bid
- They probably have game in either major
- So a 5 level bid would be a good sacrifice if necessary

Responses



- The bidding goes
- 1♠ P 2♥ 2NT
- 2♠ ?
- You have 10 HCP LTC 8
- And a known 9 card ♦ fit
- Bid 3♦
- If they bid 3♠ * for penalties
- Do not compete beyond the 3 level as they are having trouble finding a fit
- Your hand looks good in defence

Responses



- The bidding goes
- 1♥ 2NT P ?
- You have 4 HCP LTC 9½
- No good fit
- Bid 3♣
- Partner cannot have many ♠'s
- Try to get out cheaply

Auctions using Michael's

1♦ P 1♥ 2♥
3♥ 3♠

- Natural opening bid
- Natural response 6+HCP
- Michael's showing ♠'s and ♣'s
- Competitive raise showing 3+ ♥'s and minimum
- Showing 4+ ♠'s or 3 ♠'s and goodish hand

Auctions using Michael's

- | | | | |
|----|----|---|----|
| 1♥ | 2♥ | P | 3♣ |
| P | 3♦ | P | P |
- Natural opening bid
 - Michael's showing ♠'s and a minor
 - No fit in ♠'s
 - Is your minor ♣'s?
 - No its ♦'s
 - Good luck partner!
 - I have more ♦'s than ♠'s

Auctions using Michael's

1♦ P P 2♦
P 2NT P 3♠
P P

- Natural opening bid
- Michael's showing the majors
- You pick the suit
- Ok
- My ♠'s are better than my ♥'s
- My hand is not good enough to go on
- 8+ LTC

Auctions using UNT

1♣ 2NT P

P P P

3♦

- Natural opening bid
- UNT showing ♥'s and ♦'s
- No fit in ♥'s
- My interference was not strong
- This will do fine

Auctions using UNT

- | | | | | | |
|----|----|-----|-----|---|---|
| 1♠ | P | 1NT | 2NT | ■ | Natural opening bid |
| P | 3♦ | P | P | ■ | Natural raise showing 6-9 HCP and < 4 ♠'s |
| P | | | | ■ | UNT showing the minors |
| | | | | ■ | This is my better minor |
| | | | | ■ | My interference was not strong |
| | | | | ■ | This will do fine |

Auctions using UNT

- | | | | |
|----|-----|----|----|
| 1♣ | P | 2♣ | P |
| P | 2NT | P | 3♦ |
- Natural opening bid
 - Minimum raise
 - UNT showing ♥'s and ♦'s
 - Purely to compete
 - Likely rather weak <8 HCP
 - No fit in ♥'s
 - I have more ♦'s than ♥'s
 - Good luck partner !

Summary

- Michael's and UNT fit together well to compete with 2 suited hands
- If you have a good fit so do they
- So compete strongly
- Be prepared to sacrifice
- With a good fit you won't go many off!
- Do NOT use if your side has bid a suit
- By partnership agreement you can use UNT at any level
- not just 2NT but 3, 4 or more!