

**CUE-BID RAISES** are\* limit bids of 10 + points and a fit in Partner's Suit

- A bid of the opponent's suit at the 2-level shows a limit\* (or better) support for partner's suit. (or if an advancer, support of overcaller's suit)
- Cuebids of an opponent's suit are almost always made with hands that sit over the player who originally bid the suit.
- In lower levels of bidding, a cuebid *is a forcing bid*, i.e., a bid showing an interest in contesting the auction and forcing Partner to continue the bidding.
- **An added advantage of the Cuebid raise is that it greatly interferes with Opponents' subsequent bidding efforts**

### Examples

- (a) 1H (1S) "2S" = a forcing limit raise or better in support of Partner's opening Heart suit (a cue-bid raise)
- 1H (2D) 2H = a simple raise showing 6-9 points and a fit in hearts
- 1H (2D) 3H = a pre-emptive raise of a weak hand with a fit in hearts
- (b) 1H (1S) 2C "2H" = a forcing limit raise or better in support of Partner's spade suit
- (c) 1C (1H) 1S "2S" = a forcing limit raise or better in support of Partner's Heart suit
- (d) 1C (1H) "2H" = denies 4 Spades and limit raise or better in Clubs

**NOTE:** If you play this style of cuebidding then you need to be able to do something to show a good hand that doesn't have support for partner. Most players solve this by agreeing that a new suit bid by an unpassed hand is forcing for one round.

1C (1H) 1S ("2C") is **not** a cue-bid, but a natural 6-card or better Club suit.

Here, a cue-bid of "2S" would have shown Heart support for Partner's overcall of 1H.

**Continue on for examples of Cue-bid raises in action**

1

<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>
	1♥	1♠	2♠
pass	3♥	pass	4♥
pass	pass	pass	

<b>NORTH</b>
♠ 10 2
♥ K Q J 7 6
♦ A Q 5
♣ 9 6 3

<b>SOUTH</b>
♠ J 8 5
♥ A 10 8 4
♦ K 9
♣ K Q J 2

SOUTH's Support Cue-bid shows at least Limit Raise strength and ♥ support.  
 NORTH has a minimum opening bid and can only return to 3♥.  
 SOUTH actually has better than the 12 points he promised, so he now bids 4♥.

2

<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>
		1♦	1♠
pass	2♦	pass	3♠
pass	4♠	pass	pass
pass			

<b>NORTH</b>
♠ Q 8 6 2
♥ A K 9 3
♦ 9 7
♣ A 8 2

<b>SOUTH</b>
♠ A K 9 7 3
♥ 6 4
♦ 6 3
♣ K J 10 4

NORTH has the strength for a raise to game in ♠s, but this could be dangerous since SOUTH has overcalled rather than opened. Instead, NORTH shows her strength with a Support Cue-bid.  
 SOUTH in fact had a pretty good overcall so he jumps to 3♠ and NORTH bids the game.  
 With a weak overcall SOUTH would have just returned to 2♠ which NORTH would pass.

3

<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>
			1♥
1♠	2♠	pass	4NT
pass	5♦	pass	6♥
pass	pass	pass	

<b>NORTH</b>
♠ Q 7 5
♥ Q J 9 3
♦ A 10 8 2
♣ Q 8

<b>SOUTH</b>
♠ 8
♥ A K 10 8 7
♦ K Q J 4
♣ A K 6

SOUTH has a maximum 1♥ opening bid.  
 NORTH would have made a Limit Raise in ♥s, but after WEST's overcall she makes a Support Cue-bid instead.  
 SOUTH thinks there may be a slam and bids 4NT Blackwood to check for Aces. When NORTH admits to one Ace SOUTH bids the slam.

4

<b>WEST</b>	<b>NORTH</b>	<b>EAST</b>	<b>SOUTH</b>
	1♥	2♣	3♣
pass	4♥	pass	pass
pass			

<b>NORTH</b>
♠ K 9
♥ A Q J 9 6
♦ 10 5 4
♣ A 8 3

<b>SOUTH</b>
♠ Q J 5
♥ K 10 5 3
♦ A J 6 2
♣ 6 4

SOUTH has a Limit Raise hand but after EAST's overcall a 3♥ bid by SOUTH would be pre-emptive, not inviting. Instead, he makes a Support Cue-bid.  
 NORTH has just enough that she can bid 4♥, knowing that if SOUTH has a real block-buster he will bid on.  
 SOUTH doesn't have a real block-buster.