

Help Suit Game Try

Being More Specific When Inviting Partner to Bid Game

You have all heard the Mama-Papa auction:

1♥ – 2♥ – 3♥ – 4♥

This auction does not exist in established partnerships. The 3♥ bid is intended to ask responder to go onto 4♥ if they have a maximum 8-9 and to pass with a minimum 6-7. Pretty *general* information. There is another way to invite responder to game. A way that asks for *specific* information. A ‘*Help Suit Game Try*’:

1♥ - 2♥ - 3♣!

The 3♣ bid asks responder to bid 4♥ if they have help in clubs. ‘*Help Suit Game Tries*’ allow you to be more articulate with your question. “Partner I need help in the club suit to have a shot at game”.

Examples of hands where you could make a *Help Suit Game Try*: Lets assume that in each of the following hands you opened the bidding with 1♠ and partner responded with a simple raise to 2♠.

♠ AK873
♥ 42
♦ AQ82
♣ K3

♠ AKJ84
♥ K1073
♦ A54
♣ 3

♠ KQJ93
♥ AQ
♦ 32
♣ KJ93

With the first hand bid 3♦, asking partner to bid 4♠ if they help in the diamond suit.

With the second hand, bid 3♥ asking for help in hearts.

With the third hand bid 3♣ asking for help in clubs.

If responder does not have help in your second suit, they should simply sign off in 3♠. With help partner will accept the invitation and bid 4♠. Often, clever is simple.