

Caloundra Bridge Club

Michaels Cue Bid

July 2026 (A SIMPLIFIED VERSION)

“Michaels” is an Overcall Cue Bid (a Bid of the Oppositions Suit) that promises 2 X 5+ card Suits, with less than Opening points.

What a Michaels Bid promises:

Point Count:	5-10	Non Vul
	8-11	Vul

A Cue Bid of a Minor promises 5/5 in the Majors:

1C	2C	promises 5+ Spades and 5+ Hearts
1D	2D	promises 5+ Spades and 5+ Hearts

A Cue Bid of a Major promises 5 of the other major and 5 of a Minor (unspecified):

1H	2H	promises 5 Spades and 5 Clubs or Diamonds
1S	2S	promises 5 Hearts and 5 Clubs or Diamonds

How does Advancer Respond:

Like all Cue Bids, a Michaels Bid is FORCING. It demands Partner Bids, unless there is an intervening Bid.

Responding to a 2C or 2D Michaels Cue Bid:

First, register what Overcalling Partner has: 5+ Hearts AND 5+ Spades but weak in points. They have at most only 3 other cards, in the Minors. These shortages are valuable if you have a fit in one of the Majors.

Now, marry this hand to your holding and consider the Partnerships best Contract.

You will need to be strong to consider a game Contract. Generally, you are seeking the best part contract.

With a Fit in either Major, Bid the Major.

- At the 2 level: when weak
- At the 3 level: when weak but with 4 of the Major (Pre-emptive)
- Or Game when strong

With no Fit

- When weak, Consider bidding your best Major, even with only 2 of the Major (a 7 card fit)
- When strong, especially in the Minors, consider 2 or even 3NT.
- Only bid your Minor with a strong 6+ card suit and no Fit in the Majors.
- With 6+ of Opener's Minor and no 3 card fit in the Majors, you could Pass your Partner's Cue Bid. VERY rare!

Responding to a 2H or 2S Michaels Cue Bid:

Again, register what Overcalling Partner has: 5+ of the other Major and 5+ of one of the Minors, (unspecified), and weak in points.

Now, marry this hand to your holding and consider the Partnerships best Contract.

With a Fit in the Major, Bid it at an appropriate level.

- 3H over 2S Cue, or 2S over 2H Cue if weak (Consider this even with only a 7 card fit)
- 4H or 3S with 4 of the Major (Pre-emptive, best when they are Vul and you are not!)
- Or Game when strong (Remember they have shortage!)

With no Fit in the Major:

When weak:	Bid 3C, Pass or Correct
If strong:	Consider 2 or even 3NT. (Must have good cover in unknown suits)

13	9	8	10
N	E	S	W
1D	2D	P	2H
P	P	P	

Contract: 2HW
Lead: AD

North (D)

 **7 5 2**

 **A 6 4**

 **A K 6 3**

 **Q 6 3**

West

 **J 8**

 **Q T 9**

 **Q 9 8 2**

 **A J 8 2**

Deal
MCB1

East

 **K Q T 9 3**

 **K J 8 5 3**

 **T 7**

 **T**

After N Opens 1D, E Bids 2D, the Michaels Cue Bid showing 5/5 in the Majors. With only 8 points, S Passes and W bids their best Major, 2H, stealing the Contract

South

 **A 6 4**

 **7 2**

 **J 5 4**

 **K 9 7 5 4**

13	9	8	10
N	E	S	W
1D	2D	P	3H
P	P	P	

Contract: 3HW
Lead: AD

North (D)

 **7 5 2**

 **A 6**

 **A K 6 3 2**

 **Q 6 4**

West

 **J 8**

 **Q T 9 2**

 **Q 9 8**

 **A J 8 2**

Deal
MCB2

East

 **K Q T 9 3**

 **K J 8 5 3**

 **T 7**

 **T**

This time after N Opens 1D and E Bids 2D, W should go 3H showing 4 card support and upping the Pre-empt. This makes it very hard for NS to Bid.

South

 **A 6 4**

 **7 4**

 **J 5 4**

 **K 9 7 5 3**

13	9	5	13
N	E	S	W
1D	2D	P	4H
P	P	P	

Contract: 4HW
Lead: AD

North (D)

 **752**

 **A6**

 **AK8632**

 **Q6**

West

 **J8**

 **QT92**

 **Q**

 **AKJ432**

Deal
MCB3

East

 **KQT93**

 **KJ853**

 **T9**

 **T**

Here W has a 9 card Fit and Shortages making it a strong hand. W can also count on shortages in Partners Cue Bid hand. Bids straight to Game, 4H.

South

 **A64**

 **74**

 **J754**

 **9875**

13	9	10	8
N	E	S	W
1H	2H	3H	3S
P	P	P	P

Contract: 3SW
Lead: KH

North (D)	
 75	
 KQ853	
 A86	
 A62	

West	
 J86	
 JT6	
 Q32	
 KJ43	

Deal
MCB4

East	
 KQT94	
 42	
 KJT95	
 9	

South	
 A32	
 A97	
 74	
 QT875	

15 7 5 13

N **E** **S** **W**

1S 2S P 3C

P 3D P 3H

P P P

Contract: 3HW

Lead: KS

North (D)

 **KQT94**

 **A6**

 **A94**

 **QT6**

West

 **J8632**

 **QT**

 **Q**

 **AKJ43**

Deal
MCB5

East

 **75**

 **KJ853**

 **K8632**

 **2**

South

 **A**

 **9742**

 **JT75**

 **9875**