

# Michaels & Unusual 2NT

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## 1 Michaels

- always 5+5+
- when vulnerable you need nearly an opening hand
- in favorable Michaels is very attractive bid

## 2 How aggressive can it get?

- If non-vulnerable bid Michaels aggressively:  
(1♣) – 2♣ [non-vul]

♠ K J 5 4 2 ♥ J T 9 7 3 2 ♦ 6 3 ♣ 7 (5)

- However, do not bid Michaels with any (5)6 points:  
(1♣) – PASS [non-vul]

♠ T 8 5 4 2 ♥ Q 9 7 3 2 ♦ K J ♣ 7 (6)

- Be careful when vulnerable, but you can still bid something:  
(1♣) – 1♠ [vul]

♠ K J 5 4 2 ♥ J T 9 7 3 2 ♦ 6 3 ♣ 7 (5)

- So the border hand for vulnerable Michaels might be:  
(1♣) – 2♣ [vul]

♠ A Q 7 6 4 ♥ K T 9 6 4 ♦ 8 7 ♣ 7 (9)

- This hand is weaker but the alternative ( $1\spadesuit$ ) is uncomfortable:  
( $1\clubsuit$ ) –  $2\clubsuit$  [**vul**]

$$\spadesuit T9763 \quad \heartsuit AKJ43 \quad \diamondsuit 73 \quad \clubsuit 7 \quad (8)$$

We can stretch our bid a little bid with the weak higher suit. With hearts and spades switched it would be better to bid  $1\spadesuit$ .

- Bid Michaels more aggressively with 6-5:  
( $1\clubsuit$ ) –  $2\clubsuit$  [**vul**]

$$\spadesuit KJ542 \quad \heartsuit JT97632 \quad \diamondsuit 3 \quad \clubsuit 7 \quad (5)$$

Especially with 6 in the lower suit.

- With middle hands also bid Michaels:  
( $1\clubsuit$ ) –  $2\clubsuit$

$$\spadesuit KJ943 \quad \heartsuit AQ532 \quad \diamondsuit 3 \quad \clubsuit K7 \quad (13)$$

### 3 Convention

( $1\clubsuit^A$ ) – ?

$1\clubsuit = 2+$  or fully artificial

- $1\diamondsuit = \text{NAT } (5+)$
- $2\clubsuit = \text{NAT}$
- $2\diamondsuit = \text{Michaels}$

( $1\clubsuit^A$ ) – ?

$1\clubsuit = 3+$

- $1\diamondsuit = \text{NAT } (5+)$
- $2\clubsuit = \text{Michaels}$
- $2\diamondsuit = \text{weak } (6+)$

( $1\diamondsuit$ ) – ?

- $2\diamondsuit = \text{Michaels}$

$(1\spadesuit) - 2\spadesuit - (P) - ?$

- $2\heartsuit =$  preference
- $3\clubsuit = \heartsuit, INV^+$
- $3\diamondsuit = \spadesuit, INV^+$
- $3\heartsuit =$  mixed raise
- $4\heartsuit =$  preempt

$(1\heartsuit) - 2\heartsuit - (P) - ?$

- $2\spadesuit =$  to play
- $2NT =$  show minor,  $INV^+$
- $3\clubsuit =$  pass/correct
- $3\diamondsuit = \spadesuit$  fit,  $INV^+$
- $3\spadesuit =$  mixed raise

$(1\heartsuit) - 2\heartsuit - (P) - 2NT$

$(P) - ?$

- $3\clubsuit\diamondsuit =$  to play
- $3\heartsuit = \clubsuit$ , accepting  $INV$
- $3\spadesuit = \diamondsuit$ , accepting  $INV$