

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 Answering to Michaels

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4 Convention

$(1\clubsuit^A) - ?$

$1\clubsuit = 2+$ or fully artificial

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

$(1\clubsuit^A) - ?$

$1\clubsuit = 3+$

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

$(1\blacklozenge) - ?$

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