

# Important Bridge Convention Course

## Roman Keycard Blackwood (RKC) -- 1430

- ▶ RKC is a modern improvement of the Blackwood Convention
- ▶ Keycards are the 4 Aces and the King of Trumps
- ▶ It is estimated that over 80% of bridge players use this Convention
- ▶ To get to a slam you should not be missing more than 1 keycard
- ▶ To get to a Grand Slam must have all Keycards and Queen of Trumps
- ▶ Invoked by the use of 4NT after suit agreement

## Responses to 4NT

5♣	=	1 or 4 key cards
5♦	=	0 or 3 key cards
5♥	=	2 or 5 key cards without the Queen of Trumps
5♠	=	2 or 5 key cards with the Queen of Trumps

## Examples:

After 1S - 3D\*- 4NT Responder would bid :

♠	K T 9 3
♥	K Q J 2
♦	Q 5
♣	7 4 2
N	S
1♠	3♦*
4NT	5♣ <sup>1</sup>
* = Bergen	
<sup>1</sup> = 1 or 4 Keycards	

♠	Q T 9 3
♥	K Q 4 2
♦	K 5
♣	6 5 4
N	S
1♠	3♦*
4NT	5♦ <sup>1</sup>
* = Bergen	
<sup>1</sup> = 0 or 3 Keycards	

♠	K T 9 4
♥	A K 6 5
♦	J 7
♣	4 3 2
N	S
1♠	3♦*
4NT	5♥ <sup>1</sup>
* = Bergen	
<sup>1</sup> = 2 Keycards without Q	

♠	A Q 3 2
♥	A 8 7 2
♦	J 6
♣	7 6 5
N	S
1♠	3♦*
4NT	5♠ <sup>1</sup>
* = Bergen	
<sup>1</sup> = 2 Keycards With Q	

## Asking for Kings (5NT)

- ▶ Asks partner for the number of remaining kings
- ▶ should only be used in a grand slam try
- ▶ Should have all 5 keycards and the Queen of trumps
- ▶ Remember that there are only 3 kings in question.

	(Standard Blackwood)	Specific King
6♣ =	0 Kings	KC
6♦ =	1 King	KD
6♥ =	2 Kings	KH

6♠	=	3 Kings	KS	
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### Asking for the Trump Queen

4NT bidder needs to know about the Queens of Trumps  
after hearing 5C or 5D response

<u>Responses to Queen Ask Bid</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
▶ Bidding the Trump suit	No Trump Queen
▶ 5NT	Trump Queen without side suit Kings
▶ Bidding any non-trump suit	The Trump Queen and the king of the suit

### Examples

♠	K T 9 3
♥	K Q J 2
♦	Q 5
♣	7 4 2
N	S
1♠	3♦*
4NT	5♣ <sup>1</sup>
5♦ <sup>2</sup>	5♠ <sup>3</sup>
* = Bergen	
<sup>1</sup> = 1 or 4 Keycards	
<sup>2</sup> = Have Queen?	
<sup>3</sup> = No Queen	

♠	Q J T 7
♥	Q J 4 2
♦	Q 4
♣	Q J T
N	S
1♠	3♦*
4NT	5♦ <sup>1</sup>
5H	5NT
* = Bergen	
<sup>1</sup> = 0 or 3 Keycards	
<sup>2</sup> = Have Queen ?	
<sup>3</sup> = Yes, No Kings	

♠	Q T 9 3
♥	K Q 4 2
♦	K 5
♣	6 5 4
N	S
1♠	3♦*
4N <sup>1</sup>	5♦ <sup>1</sup>
5H	6D
* = Bergen	
<sup>1</sup> = 0 or 3 Keycards	
<sup>2</sup> = Have Queen?	
<sup>3</sup> = Yes, and KD	

North

♠ A  
 ♥ XXX  
 ♦ XXXXX  
 ♣ AXXX

West

♠ XXXX  
 ♥ QXXXX  
 ♦ X  
 ♣ QXX

East

♠ XXX  
 ♥ KJXX  
 ♦ KX  
 ♣ KJXX

South

♠ KQJXX  
 ♥ A  
 ♦ AQJT3  
 ♣ XX

W	N	E	S
			1♠
P	1NT	P	3♦
P	4♦	P	4♥*
P	4NT	P	5♠ <sup>1</sup>
P	6♦	All Pass	

\* = AH

<sup>1</sup> = 2 controls and Q of trumps

# Michael's Cuebid

- ▶ A direct cuebid to show a 2-suited hand
- ▶ Shows 5-5 cards in each suit
- ▶ No minimum points needed (not Vul)
- ▶ Vulnerability has to be kept in mind (8-14HCP)
- ▶ Forcing - Partner must pick one of the suits

## Bids

<u>Overall</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
2♣ over 1♣	▶ 5+ Hearts and 5+ spades
2♦ over 1♦	▶ 5+ Hearts and 5+ spades
2♥ over 1♥	▶ 5+ Spades and an unspecified minor
2♠ over 1♠	▶ 5+ Hearts and an unspecified minor

W	N	E	S
1C	2C		
	OR		
1d	2d		?

	Hand 1	Hand 2	Hand 3
♠	QJT95	AQTXX	AXXXXX
♥	KJTXX	JTXXX	KQXXX
♦	TX	X	X
♣	X	XX	X

With Hand 1, 2, and 3 -- Overcaller Bid 2C  
 Similar hands with 1d-? -- Overcaller Bids 2D

W	N	E	S
1H	2H		

	Hand 4	Hand 5	Hand 6
♠	AJT95	AQJXX	KJXXXX
♥	XX	XX	XX

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♦ K J T X X	♦ X	♦ K Q X X X
♣ X	♣ A K X X X	♣ -

With Hand 4, 5 and 6 --Overcaller Bids 2H

W	N	E	S
1S	2S		

	Hand 7	Hand 8	Hand 9
♠	X X	X X	X X
♥	A J T 9 5	A Q J X X	K J X X X X
♦	K J T X X	X	K Q X X X
♣	X	A K X X X	-

With Hand 7, 8 and 9 -- Overcaller Bids 2S

### Responses to a 2♣ Cuebid ( Both Majors)

- 2♦ Natural showing good diamond suit (6+). Denies s 3+ cards in majors. N.F.
- 2♥ May have 0 points . Non Forcing sign-off. With equal supports tend to choose Hearts
- 2♠ Non-Forcing Sign-off
- 2NT Natural. Invites partner to bid 3NT if the partnership has agreed to point range of Michaels.
- 3♣ Artificial. Shows game/slam interest in H or S. Forcing. **Alertable.**
- 3♦ Strong diamonds with 6+ cards. Forcing.(rare)
- 3♥ Pre-emptive, usually 4 cards Hearts support. Non Forcing.
- 3♠ Pre-emptive, usually 4 cards Spade support. Non Forcing.
- 3NT Natural sign-off. Big hand. Balanced. Rare

W	N	E	S
1C	2C	P	
	OR		
1d	2d	P	?

	Hand 1	Hand 2	Hand 3
♠	J 9	A 5	9 7
♥	J 7	J T X X	J X X X
♦	K X X X X	K X X X	K X X X
♣	K X X X	X X X	K J X

Hand 1 -- South should bid 2H. Cheaper of the two suits

Hand 2 -- South should bid 3H. Depending on the strength of N. 4H is viable

Hand 3 -- South should bid 2H. Strength in the opps. Suit is of little value

### Responses to a 2♦ Cuebid ( Both Majors)

- 2♥ A Non-Forcing sign-off
- 2♠ A Non-Forcing sign-off
- 2NT Natural and invites 3NT if partnership agreement of points exist
- 3♣ Natural showing good Club suit (6+). Denies s 3+ cards in majors. N.F.
- 3♦ Artificial. Shows game/slam interest in H or S. Forcing. **Alertable.**
- 3♥ Pre-emptive, usually 4 cards Hearts support. Non Forcing.
- 3♠ Pre-emptive, usually 4 cards Spade support. Non Forcing.
- 3NT Natural sign off

### Responses to a 2♥ Cuebid ( Spades and a Minor)

- 2♠ Non-Forcing sign-off
- 2NT Asks Partner to bid their minor. Usually a sign off

- 3♣ Natural. Shows good 6+ cards club suit. Non Forcing.
- 3♦ Natural. Shows good 6+ cards Diamond suit. Non Forcing.
- 3♥ Artificial. Shows game/slam interest in Spades or a minor. Forcing. **Alertable**
- 3♠ Pre-emptive, usually 4 cards Spade support. Non Forcing.
- 3NT Natural sign-off

W	N	E	S
1H	2H	3H	?

	Hand 4	Hand 5	Hand 6
♠	Q X X	A X X X	K
♥	K T X X	X X X	X X X X X
♦	T 5	J T 3	K X X X
♣	A K 4 3	J X X	K J X

With Hand 4, --Advancer Bids 2S ( with no intervention)

With Hand 5 --Advancer Bids 3S

With Hand 6 --Advancer Bids 2NT Asking for minor

### Responses to a 2♠ Cuebid ( Hearts and a Minor)

- 2NT Asks Partner to bid their minor. Usually a sign off
- 3♣ Natural. Shows good 6+ cards club suit. Non Forcing.
- 3♦ Natural. Shows good 6+ cards Diamond suit. Non Forcing.
- 3♥ Natural sign-off
- 3♠ Artificial. Shows game/slam interest in Hearts or a minor. Forcing. **Alertable**
- 3NT Natural sign-off



## Advancer's Bids to Overcaller

W	N	E	S
1S	2S	P	?

	Hand 10	Hand 11	Hand 12
♠	XXXX	XXXX	KJXX
♥	AXX	XX	XXXX
♦	XXX	QXX	XXX
♣	XXX	XXX	XX

With Hand 10, 11 and 12 --ADVANCER Bids -- 3H

W	N	E	S
1S	2S	P	?

	Hand 13	Hand 14	Hand 15
♠	QJTX	XXXXXX	KQ
♥	A	XX	X
♦	XXXX	QXX	XXXXX
♣	XXXX	XXX	XXXXX

Bid 2NT - ask partner for minor

W	N	E	S
1S	2S	P	3C

	Hand 14	Hand 15	Hand 16
♠	QJT	XXX	KQ
♥	XX	X	X
♦	XX	QX	XXXXX
♣	AKXXXX	AXXXXXX	XXXXX

Hand 14 Advancer bids 3C

Hand 15 Advancer bids 3C

Hand 16 Advancer bids 2NT

## Unusual NoTrump

- ▶ If you have the wrong two suits for Michaels cuebid
- ▶ Shows two lowest unbid suits

- a. If RHO bids a major then lowest unbid suit will be the minors
- b. If RHO bids a minor then 2NT shows Hearts and the other minor.

- ▶ **Must be 5-5 in your suits**
- ▶ **8-14 points (add 2 points when Vulnerable)**

Example

W	N	E	S
1S	2NT	P	

Hand 13		Hand 14		Hand 15	
♠	Q J	♠	-	♠	K Q
♥	X	♥	X X X	♥	X
♦	A X X X X	♦	Q X X X X	♦	X X X X X
♣	A X X X X	♣	X X X X X	♣	X X X X X

**Bid 2NT - Shows minors since a major has been bid**

W	N	E	S
1D	2NT	P	

Hand 13		Hand 14		Hand 15	
♠	Q J	♠	-	♠	K Q
♥	A X X X X	♥	Q X X X X	♥	A T X X X
♦	X	♦	X X X	♦	X
♣	A X X X X	♣	X X X X X	♣	K Q X X X

**Hand 15 -- Bid 2NT**