Contesting the Auction: More Ideas

Cue Raises & Negative Doubles

Presenter/s
Date

CUE RAISES - Introduction

BRIDGE VICTORIA

- Can be made by Responder or Advancer - here look at Advancer
- **shows 3+ major suit support & 10+ TP**
- now use Cue Raises to show all your strong raises in support of partner including game-going hands. (Self Alerting)
- must be made on first round of bidding - after partner's overcall
- weak, distributional hands bid to the "level of fit"

Why Use?

- Obstruct opponents
- Can end up at lower level, eg

N	**E**	**S**	**W**	
1D	1S	P	2D	
P	2S			(rather than 3S)

Bridge NSW

CUE RAISES - All Strong Hands go Through Cue Raise

BRIDGE VICTORIA

♠ KQ94
♥ A2
♦ J43
♣ AK53
South

W	N	E	S
1♥	2♦	P	2♥

West opens… North Overcalls…

East… What should South do?

South can support **diamonds**….but

With 17 HCP and Honours in ♠ ♥ and ♣…could a N/T Game be on?

North must meet the Suit Quality for 2♦ …

South can use a **Cue Raise** - to check North's strength:

Bid the opponent's suit at the lowest level - Bid 2♥

Bridge NSW

CUE RAISES - Another Strong Hand Example

BRIDGE VICTORIA

♠ 86
♥ KQ876
♦ A83
♣ QJ6

♠ A943
♥ AJ53
♦ KQJ
♣ 83

♠ KQJ52
♥ 94
♦ 964
♣ A92

♠ T7
♥ T2
♦ T752
♣ KT754

Bidding:

N	E	S	W
1♥	1♠	P	2♥
P	2♠	P	4♠

All Pass

West cue raises to show 3+ ♠s & 10+pts. East shows a min hand (8-11 pts) bidding 2S but West bids game anyway with 16 tp & an extra trump

Bridge NSW

CUE RAISES - Ending up at a lower level

BRIDGE VICTORIA

♠ 86
♥ KQ876
♦ A83
♣ QJ6

♠ A943
♥ AJ53
♦ Q72
♣ 83

♠ KQJ52
♥ 94
♦ 964
♣ A92

♠ T7
♥ T2
♦ KJT5
♣ KT754

Bidding:

N	E	S	W
1♥	1♠	P	2♥
P	2♠	All Pass	

West cue raises to show 3+ ♠s & 10+pts. East shows a min hand (8-11 pts) bidding 2S and West (11 HCP + 1 TP) passes.

Note: E/W are playing at the 2 level (not 3♠)

Bridge NSW

CUE RAISES - Summary of Advancer's Bidding

BRIDGE VICTORIA

Bidding: W N E S

1♥ 1♠ P ?

Meaning of South's bids:

- 2♠ - shows 3 card support, 6-9/10 HCP
- 2♥ - Cue Raise (3+ spades, 10+ pts)
- 3♠ - 4-card support & 4-7pts, pre-emptive to "level of fit"
- 4♠ - shows a weak hand with 5-card support - level of fit

Bridge NSW

CUE RAISES - Responder's Bids After Partner Opens a Major

BRIDGE VICTORIA

Bidding:

W	N	E	S
1♥	2♦	?	

Hand A	Hand B
♠ Q74	♠ Q874
♥ T983	♥ AQ3
♦ 87	♦ 87
♣ KT87	♣ KT87

Meaning of East's (Responder) bids:

- 2♥ - shows 3 card support, 6-9/10 HCP
- 3♦ - Cue Raise (3+ ♥s, 10+ pts) Hand B
  - If weak Opener goes 3♥ (Responder can still bid game), if extras Opener bids game
- 3♥ - 4-card support & 4-7pts, pre-emptive to "level of fit" Hand A
- 4♥ - weak hand (5-card support "level of fit")

Bridge NSW

CUE RAISES - Responder's Bids After Partner Opens a Minor

BRIDGE VICTORIA

Bidding:

W	N	E	S
	1♦	1♠	?

Hand A	Hand B
♠ J74	♠ 4
♥ AT3	♥ AT3
♦ KQ42	♦ AQ987
♣ KJ5	♣ KQT8

Meaning of East's (Responder) bids:

- 2♠ - in first instance asks for a stopper in opponent's suit ♠s (looking for 3NT) Hand A
- Hand B - again a game going hand but here looking to play in ♦s so will take partner out of 3NT

Bridge NSW

NEGATIVE DOUBLES - Introduction

BRIDGE VICTORIA

It is used most often in the early stages of the bidding auction after:

- Partner has opened and the opponent in the next seat overcalls
- Can be described as a “takeout double by Responder”
- If partner’s opening suit is a major, Responder’s **X** denies support for partner’s suit but promises 4 cards in the other major suit
- If bidding goes both minors or both majors a **X** shows **both** the unbid suits
- Does not have to be alerted

Bridge NSW

NEGATIVE DOUBLES - Example showing Unbid Major

BRIDGE VICTORIA

You are East and the bidding goes:

W	N	E	S
1♦	1♠	?	

East

♠ 9 6

♥ Q J T 3

♦ K Q 2

♣ T 9 7 6

8 HCP

The **Negative X** allows East to show a 4 card heart suit in case the partnership has a major suit fit in hearts.

Effectively a takeout double by Responder

Promises 4 cards in an unbid major & 6+ HCP. (Here, could also have 5 or more ♥s but not enough HCP to bid at the 2-level)

Bridge NSW

NEGATIVE DOUBLES - Showing a Major takes Priority

BRIDGE VICTORIA

West opened & North overcalled

West	North	East	South
1♦	1♠	X	

East

♠ **8 7**

♥ **A Q 8 6**

♦ **K Q 6 4 2**

♣ **J 8**

12 HCP

East doubles to show 4 hearts. Showing the heart (major) suit takes priority over raising partner's diamonds.

Bridge NSW

NEGATIVE DOUBLES - Now 1♠ promises 5 ♠s

BRIDGE VICTORIA

You are East and the bidding goes: **W N E S**

1♣ 1♥ **?**

East

♠ **A Q 8 6 2**

♥ **K 6 5**

♦ **9 7**

♣ **9 4 3**

9 HCP

The Negative X promises exactly 4 cards in the other major & 6+ HCP

So now a bid of 1♠ promises 5+ spades

Bridge NSW

NEGATIVE DOUBLES - Showing Both Majors

BRIDGE VICTORIA

You are East and the bidding goes:

W	N	E	S
	1♣	1♦	?

East

♠ **A Q 8 6**

♥ **K 6 5 3**

♦ **9 7**

♣ **9 4 3**

8 HCP

After this auction, both minors, the Negative X shows both unbid majors

Bridge NSW

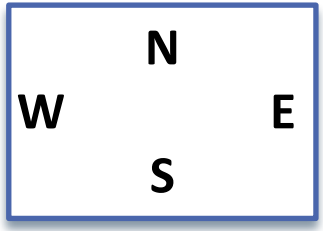
NEGATIVE DOUBLES - Opener's Rebid after Negative X

Any **minimum bid** is natural & shows a minimum hand 12-15 HCP

West/Opener

♠ A 9
♥ K 7 5 4
♦ J 2
♣ A Q 8 5 3

14 HCP



W	N	E	S
1♣	1♠	X	Pass
2♥			

What does East's **X** mean?

It is a **negative X** showing 4 cards in hearts

With 4 cards in hearts West's rebid is 2♥. It shows minimum support for partner's known 4 card heart suit

NEGATIVE DOUBLES - Opener's Rebid after Negative X

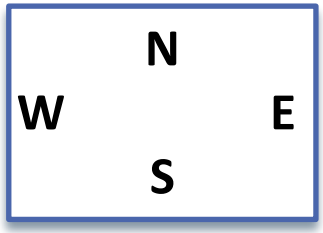
BRIDGE VICTORIA

A **jump bid** is natural & shows about 16-18 HCP (invitational)

West/Opener

♠ A 2
♥ A K 9 4
♦ K Q 9 7 6
♣ 7 2

16 HCP



W	N	E	S
1♦	1♠	X	Pass
3♥			

What does East's **X** mean?

It is a **negative X** showing 4 cards in ♥s

With 4 cards in hearts West's rebid is 3♥. Without the overcall West would have raised East's 1♥ to 3♥ so we still raise to show more than a minimum hand

Bridge NSW

CONTESTING THE AUCTION - Summary

BRIDGE VICTORIA

- When partner opens & RHO overcalls, a **cue raise** of the overcall shows 10+ TP & support.
- Respond to a cue raise as though a limit raise 10/11-12 TP
- **Care:** a raise to the 3 level is a preemptive (weak) raise
- A cue raise agrees trumps so can use RKCB, control bids, splinters
- A **Negative Double** denies a fit for partner & denies a stopper for no trumps.
- Shows 4 cards in unbid major suit if a major has been bid
- HCP: 6+ 1 level, 8+ 2 level, 10+ 3 level
- Typically bid up to 3S but partnership agreement (so 4 level doubles are for penalties)

Bridge NSW