

Roman Cue Bids and Slam Bidding

For this presentation/class assume our methods are
2/1 Game Force and RKCB 1430.

(Please adjust accordingly for your own preferences)

With Standard Slam Bidding Conventions and Style

assuming a knowledge of Blackwood, Gerber and RKC,

one partner takes control and everything from then onwards, the auction is robotic and automatic.

But with Roman Cue Bids Style

**There is a conversation or discussion
between partners.**

Example:

A Jxxx AKQxx QJx

KQx AKQxxx x xxx

1D-1H

3H-3S

(3S = maybe something bigger, lets talk)

Rules:

- 1) Suit agreed..... at least 8 cards.
- 2) New suit is a control. CHEAPEST control/ Ace or King/ singleton or void.
- 3) Skipping a suit below game= no first or second round control.

IMPORTANT!!!

Other examples:

J10xx AKQx xx J10x

Partner open 1S and you bid 3S.
Partner bids 4D and you say?????

**NOT 4H because he denied a club control when he bid 4d,
because you are bidding CONTROLS UP THE LINE !!!!**

Partner had AKQxxx x AKQ xxx. What a stop in 4S! **But, your Italian style cue bids did the trick.**

Another: (you) AQxx Qxx AKxx Qx
 (partner) KJ10xxx xxx QJ AK
 (auction) 1NT -2H
 3S - 4C
 4D - 4S (denies heart control)

Next: KQxx KQ xx AQxxx
 AJxxx xx Axx KJx

1C-1S

3S-4C

4H-4N

5S-6S

Learning of partner's H control, responder can then RKC and getting 2 and trump Q, just enough for slam.

We will now develop a helpful convention in these forcing auctions.

Sometimes when neither partner has any extra strength nor source of tricks, a hopeless slam may be bid.

THE SOLUTION:

SERIOUS 3NT

When?

- Auction is game forcing.
- MAJOR suit agreed
- Bidding is at the 3-level

Then never play 3NT with 8 or more cards in a MAJOR

Auction: 1S-2C (game force)
 2S-3S
 ??

CHOICES:

- 1. 3NT -- SERIOUS slam try/partner is forced to q bid**
- 2. Cue-bid -- Not enough for SERIOUS 3NT, but decent values.**
- 3. 4S-- a really bad hand in context (does not deny a control, but does show a hand that discourages slam).**

This method gives the player 3 ways to express an opinion (serious, polite interest, no interest).

4 Hands to illustrate these concepts.

1) AJxxx xxx Axx Ax
Kxx AKx QJxxx xx

1S-2D
2NT-3S
4C-4S
pass.

4C: bypassing 3NT shows a minimum hand. Partner then simply bids the game.

4H: shows extras and says “Don't care if you are minimum, we may still have slam”.

The inferences drawn from a failure to bid Serious 3NT are important and should be kept in mind.

2) AJxxx xxx Axx Ax
KQx AKx QJxxxx x

1S-2D
2NT-3S
4C-4H
4NT-5S
5NT-6S

Opener did NOT use Serious 3NT and after 4H, his hand is a monster! He uses RKC to the good slam.

3) AJ10xx QJx xx KQx
KQx AKx QJxxxx x

1S -2D
2NT-3S
4C -4H
4S -Pass

Opener knows they are off 2D tricks, attempts to sign off and partner agrees.

4) AQJxx Qx Ax Axxx
Kxx AKx QJxxxx x

1S -2D
2NT-3S
3NT-4C
4D -4H
4NT-5H
6S -pass

Here, the Serious 3NT first gets the encouraging 4C and then, after 4D, the ensuing 4H is exactly the thing he wanted to hear. Slam is reached.

Time permitting- OTHER TOPICS:

Scroll bids over splinters and Jacoby 2NT

Exclusion Blackwood

DOPI/DEPO

ROPI/REPO