

2 Suited bids

Two suited bids are present everywhere within the system : we have two suited opening bids , two suited responses and two suited overcalls. Reasons for such massive presence of two suited bids are numerous .

Frequency of use . Two suited hands , that is hands with 2 suits minimum 4-4, are by far the most frequent hands we might have when we play Bridge. More than 60% of all hands we might have to play are 2 suited. This enormous frequency is , on its own merit , a good reason to treat these hands with due attention.

Contracts advantageously defensible . When we are having 2 suits minimum 4-4 , we have more than 70% probability to find an 8 cards fit with partner in one of our two suits. Since the choosing process is engineered in a way that always allows the choice to be made at 2 level , it means that in at least 3 hands out of 4 we shall be at 2 level with at least an 8 cards fit, protected by the Law .

Mathematical certainty to identify a 4-4 fit . A 5-3 fit is usually seldom lost because sooner or later the 5 carder is going to be bid . A 4-4 fit is such that , mainly on overcalls but not only, is likely to be overseen and discovered only too late , when the hand has been already played. If you use 2 suited hands openings, responses or overcalls , you do not run such risk.

Pre-emptive power in general . We all know that the more you bid , the more you disturb opponents communication . We also know that bidding at 2 level tends to create more difficulties to opponents than bidding at 1 level. Since two suited bids have not only a high frequency but are always made at 2 level , we can then state that they have a sound pre-emptive power.

Specific pre-emptive power . When , through a 2 suited bid , we inform partner that we have, as an example, ♠ and ♣ , we might have 5 nice ♣ and xxxx in ♠ . It could as well be that ♠ is where opponents have their best fit with 8 or 9 cards . Opponents will be reluctant to bid ♠ though , because they know that I have at least 4♠ , but may be more . Even if opponents get bold and decide to bid ♠, there is abundant room for misunderstanding. Is this a natural bid ? Is this a cue bid ? Is this a request for a stopper in ♠ ? Unless opponents are well equipped to handle 2 suited bids , misunderstandings are quite possible and do in fact occur.

For all above mentioned reasons , 2 suited bids come very handy due to their double connotation of constructive and destructive bids.