When your LHO opens one of a suit, and your partner bids two of the same suit, that is a direct cuebid. What does it mean? With the proliferation of "could be short" and artificial minor-suit opening bids, the new card has more options for your partnership to indicate if you have different agreements depending on your opponent’s opening bid. Note that 1♦ and 1♣ opening bids are always treated as natural.

The first column is for Artificial ("Art") openings of 1♥ and 1♣. Does a direct cuebid by your side show length in both majors? Then you would check the "Michaels" box. What is Michaels? It is a way to show a two-suited hand: A direct cuebid of a minor-suit opening bid shows a major two-suit. So, the auction 1♥–(2♣) or 1♣–(2♥) shows a hand with length in hearts and spades. The strength requirements vary depending on partnership preferences. After a major-suit opening, a direct cuebid shows length in both the other major and a minor. The sequence 1♥–(2♣), therefore, shows length in both hearts and an undisclosed minor.

The third and fourth columns are for Natural ("Nat") opening bids. If an opponent’s 1♥ opening bid is two only if 4=4=3=2, it is deemed Natural. Note that if your direct cuebid is not Michaels, it requires an Alert. There is a line for you to describe your agreements.

Some partnerships play that opening bids of 4♥ and 4♣ are transfers to 4♥ and 4♠, respectively. This convention is called Namyats; check the Trf (transfer) box if that is your agreement. If those opening bids are something else besides a preempt, write it in the Other line.

This section is to indicate your partnership style when making a preemptive opening bid at the three or four level. Typically, these bids promise a hand below opening strength with a seven-card or longer suit. Suit quality and length can depend on seat and vulnerability. There is space to note your general preempting philosophy at these levels. How do you respond to such opening bids? For example, a new suit could be natural and forcing, a control bid in support or even ace- or key card-asking. A new-suit, below-game response that is non-forcing is Alertable.