



Relay & Bye Stand Setup for Mitchell Movements

by Bob Gruber

The relay and bye stand Mitchell Movement is typically illustrated with the lowest and highest tables relaying boards. Moving the relay and bye-stand stations to different spots can be described in tables specifying exactly which boards go where initially—you need a table for each even-number-of-tables game—or can be described in a formula and a guideline for boarding the tables.

Here we give the formula and guideline first and then tables for games of 6, 8 and 10 tables. If desired, the reader should be able to create the table for a 12 table game.

Decide which 2 tables will share boards[†]. (These should be relatively fast pairs.)

From the lower #, subtract $([# \text{ tables}-2] / 2)$
To the higher #, add $([# \text{ tables}-2] / 2)$ } Bye Stand goes between these 2 tables.

Put the boards out:

1. For purposes of boarding, treat the Bye Stand as a Table.
2. Start with Board Set 1 at Table 1. (Always)
3. The remaining Board Sets go in normal order until you reach a relay table.
 - a. If it's Table 2:
 - i. if the relay is with 1, fetch half the boards from Table 1. Resume boarding with Table 3.
 - ii. if the relay is with 3, leave half the board set at 2, put the other half at 3. Resume boarding with Table 4.
 - b. If it's the highest table, you'll be out of boards. Fetch half the boards from Table 1.
 - c. If it's any other table, leave half the board set at that table, put the other half at the next (higher) table. Move to the next (unboarded) table and resume boarding.

Relay & Bye Stand for 6 Tables (6 Rounds of 4 Bds)

Each column shows the 1st round setup for a particular location of the relay & bye-stand.

Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds
6&1	1-4	1&2	1-4	2&3	5-8	3&4	9-12	4&5	17-20	5&6	21-24
2	5-8	3	5-8	4	9-12	5	13-16	6	21-24	1	1-4
3	9-12	4	9-12	5	13-16	6	17-20	1	1-4	2	5-8
Bye	13-16	Bye	13-16	Bye	17-20	Bye	21-24	Bye	5-8	Bye	9-12
4	17-20	5	17-20	6	21-24	1	1-4	2	9-12	3	13-16
5	21-24	6	21-24	1	1-4	2	5-8	3	13-16	4	17-20

Relay & Bye Stand for 8 Tables (8 Rounds of 3 Bds)

Each column shows the 1st round setup for a particular location of the relay & bye-stand.

Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds
8&1	1-3	1&2	1-3	2&3	4-6	3&4	7-9	4&5	10-12	5&6	16-18	6&7	19-21	7&8	22-24
2	4-6	3	4-6	4	7-9	5	10-12	6	13-15	7	19-21	8	22-24	1	1-3
3	7-9	4	7-9	5	10-12	6	13-15	7	16-18	8	22-24	1	1-3	2	4-6
4	10-12	5	10-12	6	13-15	7	16-18	8	19-21	1	1-3	2	4-6	3	7-9
Bye	13-15	Bye	13-15	Bye	16-18	Bye	19-21	Bye	22-24	Bye	4-6	Bye	7-9	Bye	10-12
5	16-18	6	16-18	7	19-21	8	22-24	1	1-3	2	7-9	3	10-12	4	13-15
6	19-21	7	19-21	8	22-24	1	1-3	2	4-6	3	10-12	4	13-15	5	16-18
7	22-24	8	22-24	1	1-3	2	4-6	3	7-9	4	13-15	5	16-18	6	19-21

[†] If 1 and the highest table share, since players move “up” from the highest to 1, treat 1 as the higher table.



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Relay & Bye Stand for 10 Tables (10 Rounds of 3 Bds)

Each column shows the 1st round setup for a particular location of the relay & bye-stand.

Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds	Tbl	Bds
10&1	1-3	1&2	1-3	2&3	4-6	3&4	7-9	4&5	10-12	5&6	13-15	6&7	19-21	7&8	22-24	8&9	25-27	9&10	28-30
2	4-6	3	4-6	4	7-9	5	10-12	6	13-15	7	16-18	8	22-24	9	25-27	10	28-30	1	1-3
3	7-9	4	7-9	5	10-12	6	13-15	7	16-18	8	19-21	9	25-27	10	28-30	1	1-3	2	4-6
4	10-12	5	10-12	6	13-15	7	16-18	8	19-21	9	22-24	10	28-30	1	1-3	2	4-6	3	7-9
5	13-15	6	13-15	7	16-18	8	19-21	9	22-24	10	25-27	1	1-3	2	4-6	2	7-9	4	10-12
Bye	16-18	Bye	16-18	Bye	19-21	Bye	22-24	Bye	25-28	Bye	28-30	Bye	4-6	Bye	7-9	Bye	10-12	Bye	13-15
6	19-21	7	19-21	8	22-24	9	25-27	10	28-30	1	1-3	2	7-9	3	10-12	4	13-15	5	16-18
7	22-24	8	22-24	9	25-27	10	28-30	1	1-3	2	4-6	3	10-12	4	13-15	5	16-18	6	19-21
8	25-27	9	25-27	10	28-30	1	1-3	2	4-6	3	7-9	4	13-15	5	16-18	6	19-21	7	22-24
9	28-30	10	28-30	1	1-3	2	4-6	3	7-9	4	10-12	5	16-18	6	19-21	7	22-24	8	25-27

B
Y
E

S
T

A

N

D

Tbl	Bds
6&1	1-4
2	5-8
3	9-12
Bye	13-16
4	17-20
5	21-24
Tbl	Bds
1&2	1-4
3	5-8
4	9-12
Bye	13-16
5	17-20
6	21-24
Tbl	Bds
1	1-4
2&3	5-8
4	9-12
5	13-16
Bye	17-20
6	21-24
Tbl	Bds
1	1-4
2	5-8
3&4	9-12
5	13-16
6	17-20
Bye	21-24
Tbl	Bds
1	1-4
Bye	5-8
2	9-12
3	13-16
4&5	17-20
6	21-24
Tbl	Bds
1	1-4
2	5-8
Bye	9-12
3	13-16
4	17-20
5&6	21-24

