

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz

GOREN BRIDGE APRIL 6, 2024

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A 6 2 ♥J 8 4 ♦Q 8 7 ♣A 8 6 5

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ 1♥ ?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠6 3 ♥A Q 7 5 4 2 ♦J 8 7 ♣6 3

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♣ 1♦ 2♣ ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠Q 10 9 2 ♥A Q J 7 ♦A ♣K 7 6 2

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♠ 2NT*

?

*Both red suits, at least 5-5

What call would you make?

Bonus – East-West vulnerable

♠Q 8 5 3 ♥A ♦K T 9 8 ♣T 5 4 3

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

Pass Pass 2♥* X

3♥ Pass ?

*Weak

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠A 6 ♥J 8 3 ♦A K 5 ♣K J 8 7 3

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1NT Dbl 2♦* 2♠

?

*Transfer to hearts

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠7 ♥K Q 8 5 4 ♦Q 10 7 5 ♣K 7 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

Pass 1♣ Pass 1♠

?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠6 5 ♥A 7 2 ♦9 3 ♣A K J 8 7 4

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

2♥* P ?

*weak

What call would you make?

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz

Question 1

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A 6 2 ♥J 8 4 ♦Q 8 7 ♣A 8 6 5

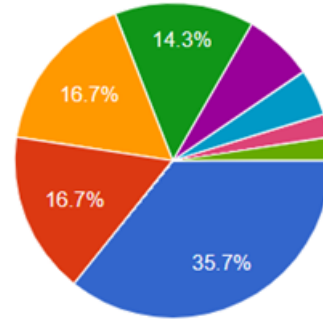
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ 1♥ ?

Question 1

42 responses

● 1NT
● Pass
● Double
● 2C ● 2D
● 2H ● 3D
● 1S



Bob Jones X A little heavy on points for 1NT and a little light on heart stoppers. This is the rare hand where a negative double is best, despite holding only 3 spades. Double.

Steve Vogel 1NT Sometimes there is no great alternative and you have to choose what you think is best. The possible bids that seem best to me are either 1NT or double. The former lies a bit on the quality of the stopper and the latter lies regarding the length of the spade suit. It's really close, but I prefer 1NT because it is right on regarding my strength and shape. A double would leave partner wondering about my strength and would also mislead him/her on my spades: a double whammy. I'll go with the single whammy.

Joe Muenks 1NT Should you underbid your square 11 with 1NT, double now and then figure out what to do next round or bid 2♥ supporting diamonds with 3 when you're square? I don't like any, but 4-3 fits generally only play well when the 3 card hand can rough a trick or two. That leaves us little choice. Lucky Standard American players just bid 2♣, telling no lies.

Bob Fisk X Yes, I know I don't have four spades, but every other bid is flawed as well. 1NT? Claiming a heart stopper and showing 7-10 HCP. 2NT? Correct on points but still no decent heart stopper. Cuebidding 2♥? Forcing us to the three level in a 4-3 diamond fit? 2♣? Five or more clubs and 10+ HCP? That one's my second choice.

Steve Moese Pass We have values but lack a 4-card spade suit for a negative double. We can back in later. Let's see what develops. Don't like 1NT (no stopper), 2♥ (only 3-card diamond support), 2♣ (not on that suit). We can always double or cue bid later, and there will be a later.

Mike Ma 1♠ What to do? Too strong to pass. Don't have 4 spades. Don't have 5 clubs or 4 diamonds (and maybe a little too strong for the latter. No heart stopper for NT. EASY! Play 1♠ as showing < 4 spades and unsuitable for other bids. In essence 1♠ is a negative double without spades. X of 1♥ now shows 4+ spades. The popular way of using X as exactly 4 and 1♠ as 5+ is passé. I highly recommend you switch to playing this way if you have not done so already.

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz

Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠ A 6 ♥ J 8 3 ♦ A K 5 ♣ K J 8 7 3

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

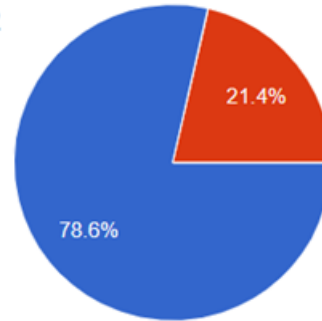
1NT Dbl 2♦ 2♠

?

Question 2

42 responses

● 3H
● Pass



Bob Jones 3♥ Very close between pass and 3♥. We like 3♥.

Steve Vogel Pass Partner is trying to sign off in 2♥, thinking it is better than 1NT doubled. While I have a maximum in support of hearts, we are vulnerable, and if partner is really weak, we will not be making 3♥.

Joe Muenks 3♥ I like my holdings in all 4 suits, including the roughing value in spades, so I do the forced super-acceptance with just 3 hearts.

Bob Fisk Pass West has a hand that he thinks is good enough to beat 1NT. Partner bid 2♦ in an attempt to save us from being in 1NT doubled, and East took a free bid in an attempt to get to a game or part score (i.e., East could have passed). Partner holds a hand similar to xx xxxxx xxx xx. Do you really want to play in 3♥ doubled at unfavorable vulnerability? I didn't think so.

Steve Moese Pass We assume that the double is penalty. Partner will make a move if they hold values for an invite.

Mike Ma Pass I assume the X was for penalty, and your partner is rescuing. When our 1NT gets doubled, the primary goal is to stay alive, and East just took the pressure off you. It seems you are playing system on over the X. If so, North's transfer may not even guarantee 5 hearts. BTW, I do not think system on is a good way to go when they penalty X.

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz

Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠ 6 3 ♥ A Q 7 5 4 2 ♦ J 8 7 ♣ 6 3

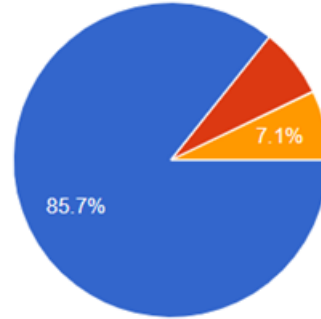
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♣ 1♦ 2♣ ?

Question 3

42 responses

- 2H
- 2D
- 3H



Bob Jones 2♦ When the auction is competitive, it is almost always right to support partner if you can. This hand is no exception. Bid 2♦.

Steve Vogel 2♥ I do not have a lot of strength, but this is my one chance to get in my hearts. I am encouraged by our diamond fit to be bold.

Joe Muenks 2♥ Luckily with my partners this shows hearts AND diamond tolerance, so they can revert if need be.

Bob Fisk 2♥ If the opponents compete to 3♣, you can bid 3♦ to show 3-card support. 2♥ isn't forcing—it's NFKConst (pronounced NUFFKAWNST).*

Steve Moese 2♥ Show our suit, no need to jump to 3♥ here.

Mike Ma 2♥ No Comment

* Easy for you to say.

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz

Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠7 ♥K Q 8 5 4 ♦Q T 7 5 ♣K 7 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

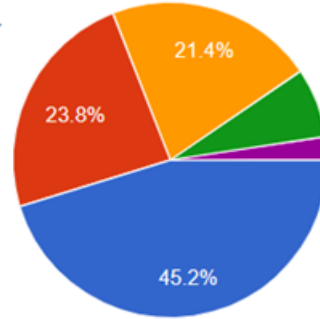
Pass 1♣ Pass 1♠

?

Question 4

42 responses

● Double
● 2H
● Pass
● 1NT
● 2S



Bob Jones X Double shows at least 4 cards in each unbid suit and near opening-bid strength. Double.

Steve Vogel X With great support for the unbid suits, I am inclined to get into the auction despite being vulnerable. If you have a convention where double shows 5 of one suit and 1NT shows 5 of the other, then make the bid that shows 5 hearts.

Joe Muenks 2♥ With most partnerships I bid 2♥ here, though in some I can bid 2♠ showing specifically 5 hearts, 4 diamonds and a near-opener, perfect for this hand.

Bob Fisk X With all my partners, I play that a double in the “sandwich position” by a passed hand shows exactly five cards in the higher unbid suit and exactly four in the lower. A 1NT bid in the same position by a passed hand shows 4-5 in the other direction. With 5-5, bid 2NT. Bridge is easy.

Steve Moese 2♥ With this pattern. 1NT with 5-5, and double with 4-5.

Mike Ma 1NT The sandwich NT by a passed hand should be 5-4 in the other suits. While more likely to be 4=5 than 5=4, the latter is possible. I want to get my bid in now before the auction gets higher. Some play that X and 1NT show 5-4 one way and 4-5 the other. I do not, preferring X to be less distributional and more defense.

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠Q T 9 2 ♥A Q J 7 ♦A ♣K 7 6 2

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♠ 2NT

?

Question 5

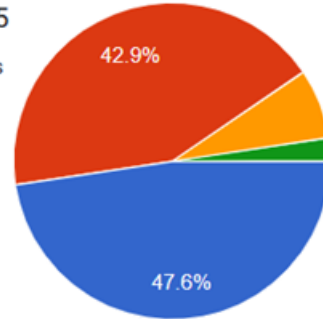
42 responses

4S

3S

3H

Double



Bob Jones 4♠ We think this hand is too good for 3♠. Bid 4♠. Even better is 4♦ if you play splinter bids.

Steve Vogel 4♠ In this auction, a 3♠ rebid would show a competitive hand, whereas 3♦ (unusual over unusual) should show a stronger hand with spade support, normally worth a jump raise in spades. Even possibly facing a bad spade split if partner has only 4, I love my spade intermediates and heart honors, so I would choose to jump to game.

Joe Muenks 4♠ The heart honors appear to be holding full value and partner's 6+ are likely to be black, so game looks good with my 19 playing points. Though the 3♥ tool to show a strong spade raise is available, I would not employ it here which gives West the chance to start diamonds as low as 4♦.

Bob Fisk 4♠ I'm not quite strong enough to splinter, and splintering with a stiff Ace is problematic anyway. 3♠ is an underbid holding such a strong holding in hearts—my RHO's suit.

Steve Moese 3♥ This depends on agreement. Many play low=low so hearts show a good spade raise (INV+). That's what we have. Jumping to 4♠ might work, but if they bid 5♦ partner will not know if you are strong or preemptive. Better to show values first, then raise to game. Your heart holding is well placed, but those values appear wasted for partner.

Mike Ma X The simplest is to play the same way as 1♣ - (2NT), i.e. X = penalty, Unusual over unusual, other bids competitive etc. You are vul and they not, and you have a known spade fit, but game is not certain with 11 of your 16 points in their suits. Just X now and see how things go.

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz

Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠6 5 ♥A 7 2 ♦9 3 ♣A K J 8 7 4

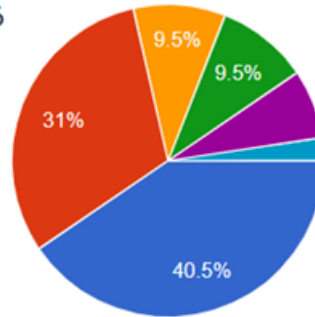
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

2♥ P ?

Question 6

42 responses

- 3H
- 4H
- 2NT
- Pass
- 3C
- 4C



Bob Jones 4♣ Bid 4♣. This shows a raise to game in partner' major with a long, strong suit of your own. It will help partner decide what to do if the opponents compete.

Steve Vogel 4♥ Normally, with only 3 hearts, I would raise to 3♥ (law of total tricks). At favorable vulnerability, I would choose to bid 4 because I believe the opponents are likely to be able to make at least 3♠, and 4♥ will often be down only one (with some chance of actually making).

Joe Muenks 4♥ This is a gamble. We might make 6 or go down. But they may make a spade game if we do go down. Do they take the first 4 tricks? Can partner draw trump fast? Do clubs run? Is the ♥7 an entry? Fun hand.

Bob Fisk 4♥ Don't give your opponents a chance to come into the auction cheaply. If partner holds a hand similar to xx KQxxxx xx Qxx, you're going down one in 4♥, but the opponents are cold for 3♠ and 4♠ makes if either of them has a singleton heart or club.

Steve Moese 3♥ LOTT raise. IMHO too much defense for a raise to 4♥.

Mike Ma 4♥ Put the pressure on.

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz

<p>Bonus</p> <p>Bonus – East-West vulnerable</p> <p>♠Q 8 5 3 ♥A ♦KT 9 8 ♣T 5 4 3</p> <p>EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH</p> <p>Pass Pass 2♥ X</p> <p>3♥ ?</p>	<p>Bonus</p> <p>41 responses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3S ● 4S ● Double ● Pass ● 4H 	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Dlr: East Vul: E/W</p> <p>♠ A K 9 7 6 2 ♥ J ♦ A Q 7 3 ♣ A K</p> <p>♠ 10 4 ♥ K Q 9 8 5 2 ♦ J 5 4 ♣ 9 2</p> <table style="margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> <tr><td colspan="2">NORTH</td><td colspan="2">EAST</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; line-height: 40px;">6</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">SOUTH</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr> </table> <p>♠ J ♥ 10 7 6 4 3 ♦ 6 2 ♣ Q J 8 7 6</p> <p>21 6 4 9</p> <p>♠ Q 8 5 3 ♥ A ♦ K 10 9 8 ♣ 10 5 4 3</p> <table style="margin: 0 auto; text-align: center;"> <tr><td colspan="4">♣♦♥♠N</td></tr> <tr><td>N</td><td>3</td><td>7</td><td>-</td><td>7</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td><td>3</td><td>7</td><td>-</td><td>7</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td>-</td><td>-</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> </table> </div>	NORTH		EAST		6				SOUTH				♣♦♥♠N				N	3	7	-	7	7	S	3	7	-	7	7	E	-	-	1	-	-	W	-	-	1	-	-
NORTH		EAST																																								
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W	-	-	1	-	-																																					

Mike: The bonus question was taken from Monday night's game. My partner and I managed to play in 3♠. I gave Otto the deal and asked his opinion, so his comments are with the benefit of seeing the full deal.

Otto Walter 3♠ South has a very nice hand opposite a take-out-double of hearts. After East continues the pre-empt with a bid of 3♥, I think a suit bid by South would be better information for North than a double. Since South's three suits are all the same length, I think South should bid 3♠ over the 3♥ bid. Since South could have passed after East bid 3♥, any action ought to show 8+ points. On this hand, North should now visualize no losers in the Spade suit (if South has 5 spades, the opponents only have 2 Spades, and if South only has 4 Spades, if it includes the Q, again no losers and if it is 4 small, maybe the suit will split 2-1 for again no losers). Slam then depends upon South holding either the ♥A or the ♦K or the ♦J10 and the K being on side. North should make a Blackwood bid and when South shows one Ace they can bid slam. If South does not have an Ace, then North can place the contract in either 5♥ or a successful guess at 6♥. I have no idea on how to get to grand slam.

Steve Vogel X Some play that a double in this auction denies 4 in the other major and asks for partner to bid their better minor. Others play that a double shows exactly 4 of the other major (or if not, partner will correct a major suit bid to a minor). I tend to pay the latter, which is of benefit on this hand, because I am not sure if we belong in 3♠ or 4♠ if partner has 4 of them. He/she could be doubling with a weaker than normal hand because I am a passed hand.

Joe Muenks 3♠ (East's 3♥ is wimpy.) I bid only 3♠ and it is North who must bid again with extras since my bidding in front shows at East some values willing to play at the 3 level opposite what might be a minimum takeout double.

Bob Fisk 3♠ This is why we bid 4♥ on problem #6.

Steve Moese 4♠ Should just be enough for partner to make game.

Mike Ma X First, you should have an agreement if the responsive X denies 4 spades or not. I prefer that it does not, and bidding 3♠ tends to show 5. Over your X, partner should bid 3♠ with 4. The one problematic case is if she has 4 spades and a heart stopper, and she is forced to decide between bidding 3♠ NF and bidding 3NT if she has enough for game. Preempt and raise is very effective.

03/23/24	1	2	3	4	5	6	B o n u s
Bob Jones	X	3♥	2♦	X	4♠	4♣	
Steve Vogel	1NT	Pass	2♥	X	4♠	4♥	X
Joe Muenks	1NT	3♥	2♥	2♥	4♠	4♥	3♠
Bob Fisk	X	Pass	2♥	X	4♠	4♥	3♠
Steve Moese	Pass	Pass	2♥	2♥	3♥	3♥	4♠
Al Venosa	Pass	3♥	2♥	2♥	3♠	3♥	3♠
Bob K	X	3♥	2♥	2♥	4♠	Pass	3♠
Carl Willig	2♣	3♥	2♥	1NT	4♠	2NT	4♠
Carol Wilson	1NT	3♥	2♥	2♥	3♠	3♥	Pass
Chuck	1NT	3♥	3♥	X	4♠	4♥	3♠
Dave	X	3♥	2♥	2♥	3♠	3♥	X
Dave D	Pass	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥	3♣	3♠
Dean Congbalay	2♥	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠	3♥	3♠
Doug Edwards	1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass	3♠	3♥	3♠
Ed	1NT	3♥	2♥	X	3♠	4♥	3♠
Gary Herrington	1NT	3♥	2♥	X	3♠	3♥	3♠
Greg	2♣	3♥	2♥	2♥	4♠	3♥	3♠
James D	Pass	3♥	2♥	X	3♠	4♥	4♠
James Jacobson	1NT	3♥	2♥	Pass	3♠	3♥	Pass
Jay Gala	1NT	3♥	2♥	1NT	3♠	3♥	4♥
JohnMcQ	Pass	3♥	3♥	X	3♠	4♥	3♠
Jusie Clendening	1NT	3♥	2♥	Pass	4♠	Pass	3♠
Kevin C.	Pass	Pass	2♥	X	3♥	2NT	3♠
Kevin H.	Pass	3♥	2♥	X	3♠	3♥	X
Lanny	X	3♥	2♥	X	4♠	3♥	3♠
Linda	1NT	3♥	2♥	X	3♠	3♥	3♠
Martha	2♥	3♥	2♥	Pass	3♠	3♥	4♠
Melissa	1NT	3♥	2♥	X	4♠	3♥	3♠
Mike Burns	2♦	3♥	2♥	Pass	4♠	4♥	X
Mike Ma	1♠	Pass	2♥	1NT	X	4♥	X
Nell Wickstrom	2♣	3♥	2♥	2♥	4♠	2NT	X
Pete Outcalt	2♣	3♥	2♥	X	4♠	4♥	4♠
Rick Read	3♦	3♥	2♥	X	3♠	4♥	3♠
Robert N.	2♣	3♥	2♥	X	4♠	3♣	4♠
Rod	2♥	3♥	2♥	2♥	4♠	3♥	3♠
Sally R	1NT	3♥	2♥	2♠	3♠	3♥	3♠
Sue	X	3♥	2♥	2♥	3♠	Pass	4♠
Vijay	X	3♥	3♥	Pass	4♠	2NT	4♠
Zigang Pan	2♣	Pass	2♦	X	4♠	Pass	4♠
	2♦	3♥	2♥	Pass	3♠	3♣	Pass
	1NT	3♥	2♦	X	4♠	4♥	4♠
	1NT	3♥	2♥	X	4♠	4♥	4♠

Bob Jones April 6 Quiz



Field	Q1 - Neither vulnerable	Q2 - North-South vulnerable	Q3 - East-West vulnerable	Q4 - Both vulnerable	Q5 - North-South vulnerable	Q6 - East-West vulnerable	Bonus - East-West vulnerable
03/23/24	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Bob Jones	X	3W	2W	X	4W	4W	
Steve Vogel	1NT	Pass	2W	X	4W	4W	X
Joe Muenks	1NT	3W	2W	2W	4W	4W	3W
Bob Fisk	X	Pass	2W	X	4W	4W	3W
Steve Moose	Pass	Pass	2W	2W	3W	3W	4W
Al Venosa	Pass	3W	2W	2W	3W	3W	3W
Bob K	X	3W	2W	2W	3W	3W	3W
Carl Willig	2W	3W	2W	1NT	4W	2NT	4W
Carol Wilson	1NT	3W	2W	X	3W	3W	Pass
Chuck	1NT	3W	3W	X	4W	4W	3W
Dave	X	3W	2W	2W	4W	3W	X
Dave D	Pass	Pass	2W	Pass	3W	3W	3W
Dean Conghalay	2W	Pass	2W	Pass	3W	3W	3W
Doug Edwards	1NT	Pass	2W	Pass	3W	3W	3W
Ed	1NT	3W	2W	X	3W	4W	3W
Gary Herrington	1NT	3W	2W	X Sandwich NT	3W	3W	3W
Greg	2W	3W	2W	2W	4W	3W	3W
James D	Pass	3W	2W	X Sandwich NT	4W	4W	4W
James Jacobson	1NT	3W	2W	Pass	3W	3W	Pass
Jay Gala	1NT	3W	2W	1NT	3W	3W	4W
JohnMcQ	Pass	3W	3W	X	3W	4W	3W
Justin Clendenin	1NT	3W	2W	Pass	4W	Pass	3W
Kevin C	Pass	2W	2W	X Exactly 5 hearts and 4 diamonds	3W	2NT	3W
Kevin H	Pass	3W	2W	X	3W	3W	X
Lanny	X	3W	2W	X	4W	3W	3W
Linda	1NT	3W	2W	X	3W	3W	3W
Martha	2W	3W	2W	Pass	3W	3W	4W
Melissa	1NT	3W	2W	X	3W	3W	3W
Mike Burns	2W	3W	2W	Pass	4W	4W	X
Mike Ma	1W	Pass	2W	1NT	X	4W	X
Nell Wickstrom	2W	3W	2W	2W	4W	2NT	4W
Pete Outcalt	2W	3W	2W	X Sandwich NT	4W	4W	X
Rick Read	3W	3W	2W	X	3W	4W	3W
Robert N	2W	3W	2W	X	4W	3W	4W
Bob	2W	3W	2W	2W	4W	3W	3W
Sally R	1NT	3W	2W	2W	3W	3W	3W
Sue	X	3W	2W	2W	3W	Pass	4W
Vijay	X	3W	3W	Pass	4W	2NT	4W
Zigang Pan	2W	Pass	2W	X	4W	Pass	4W
	1NT	3W	2W	Pass	4W	3W	Pass
	1NT	3W	2W	X	4W	4W	4W
	1NT	3W	2W	X	4W	4W	4W