

## Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Christmas bridge quiz  
GOREN BRIDGE DECEMBER 23, 2023

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A Q T 8 ♥Q 8 3 ♦7 ♣A K Q 8 2

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

2♦ Dbl Pass 4♥

Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠J T 7 6 3 ♥K J 8 5 3 ♦7 ♣A 6

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♣ 1♠ ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠T 7 3 ♥Q 2 ♦K 7 5 ♣A 8 6 5 3

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ 1♠ ?

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠K Q 9 6 4 ♥K J 8 ♦6 ♣Q J 6 5

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♥ 2♦ ?

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠Q 9 4 3 ♥6 ♦A J 7 6 3 ♣T 9 3

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♥ Pass 1NT 3♣

3♠ ?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q T ♥A T 7 5 3 ♦7 ♣A K 7 6 4

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♠ Pass 2♥ Pass

2♠ Pass 3♣ Pass

3♦ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

## Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

### Question 1

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A Q T 8 ♥Q 8 3 ♦7 ♣A K Q 8 2

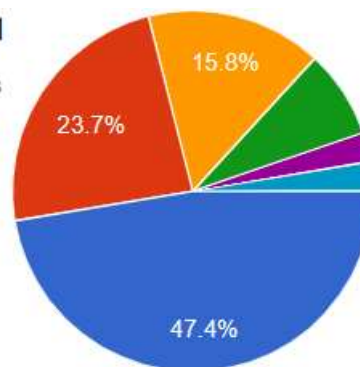
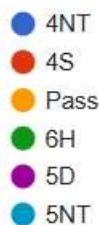
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

2♦ Dbl Pass 4♥

Pass ?

### Question 1

38 responses



Bob Jones **4NT** Too good to pass, we would bid 4NT playing Key Card Blackwood, where we could find out about the ♥K, or 5♥ if not.

Steve Vogel **4NT** (Keycard) What does partner's 4♥ bid show? If you play Lebensohl, then 3♥ would be forcing to game with at least 5 hearts. Accordingly, I believe 4♥ should be the kind of hand you would tend to bid Texas over partner's opening bid of 1NT. It might be right to pass, but slam is not out of the question with this kind of hand. I would check on keycards to see if partner's suit is headed by the AK. We might get too high, but no guts, no glory.

*MB: on #1, why 4NT and not 4S (Kickback)?*

*SV: I think a 4S bid, my first bid after a takeout double, could mean that I have a strong hand with spades and not kickback. I would not want to confuse partner.*

Joe Muenks **5NT** With a weak hand and a long suit bid one step at a time to a takeout double. So, partner has a good hand, but may have only 4 hearts so your 5NT says "pick a slam," knowing I only have 3 hearts (with 4 you'd jump to 6♥).

Bob Fisk **4♠** (Kickback for hearts). I don't need partner to have much to make slam--how about Kx AKJxx xxx xxx? That's an 11 count (for those of you who are too busy with last minute shopping to add up the points). If partner doesn't have two keycards, I'm content to play in 5♥.

Steve Moese **Pass** A matter of partnership discipline. If partner is interested in game with a good hand they will start with 3♦ to show they are serious. A jump to game could be as little as Jx KJ10xxx Qxxx x. Normally when partner bypasses so many bids to bid game, that's all they want our side to consider.

Mike Ma **4NT** (RKC) You have a 4 loser hand with a poor heart suit. The spade suit is 1/2 loser given the AQ, but the opening preempt by RHO increases the chance of LHO having the king. Partner's 4♥ is pretty wide ranging. The one important criterion for RKC is how safe I feel if I end up in 5♥. I feel safe enough so I will risk it. xx, AKxxxxx, xxx, x and I am lay down in 6. Even xxx, AKxxxx, xxx, x is really good 6♥ contract. Hopefully partner's hearts are not Kxxxx. You may even have a grand slam with partner having that much.

## Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

### Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠K Q 9 6 4 ♥K J 8 ♦6 ♣Q J 6 5

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♥ 2♦ ?

### Question 2

38 responses

3D

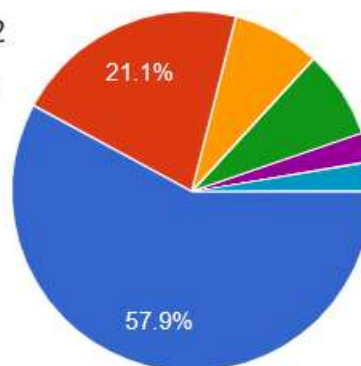
2S

4H

Double

3H

4D



Bob Jones **2♠** You will probably drive to 4♥ later, but spades might be better. Start with 2♠.

Steve Vogel **3♦** I prefer showing the known heart fit rather than searching for a spade fit by bidding 2♠. I might be more inclined to show the spades if I had six or more.

Joe Muenks **3♦** We show 10+ support points and 3 or more hearts. We'll always bid to game but partner needs to do something exciting to think about slam.

Bob Fisk **3♦** Cuebid limit raise+. If I held four hearts, I'd bid 4♦ (splinter), but I have only three (I'm the worst). If partner bids 3♥ (my hand is embarrassing), I'll bid game. Bidding 2♠ first because "Hey, I have some spades!" isn't a good idea, since West's next bid is gonna be 5♦. Your next thought will be "Hey, I wish I had mentioned that I have some of them there hearts!"

Steve Moese **3♦** Support with support. We prefer to have the hand with shortness and short trumps (ours) be dummy - ruffing diamonds in the SHORT TRUMP hand adds tricks to our total. If partner fits spades, then spades will be a source of tricks for our side in a heart contract.

Mike Ma **3♦** I used to bid 2♠ or X (without 5 spades) with only 3 hearts, using cue to show 4+ hearts. But now I just cue and get the heart fit out of my system. Even if opps remain silent from this point on (and they would be kind to do that), your bidding will be awkward. 1♥ - (2♦) - 2♠ - 3♣ - ? If you bid 3♥ now, will partner know you have 3 hearts? Sure, an accomplished partnership will figure out all the subtleties, but not us. Instead, you will see a lot of tempo and tortured vs untortured facial expression at the club giving all kinds of unauthorized information.

## Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

### Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠JT763 ♥KJ853 ♦7 ♣A6

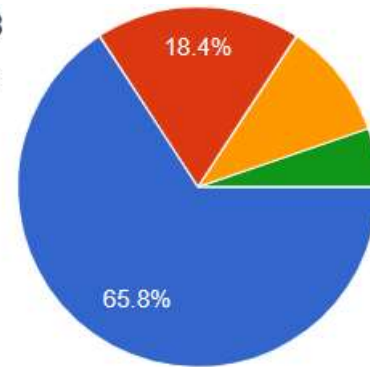
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♣ 1♠ ?

### Question 3

38 responses

- 2H
- Double
- Pass
- 1NT



Bob Jones 2♥ Both negative double and 1NT are too weird, so it's Pass or 2♥. We like 2♥.

Steve Vogel 2♥ I believe the top choices are 2♥ or a negative double. The Ace in partner's club suit, along with the great shape lead me to be more aggressive by bidding 2♥. Also, this makes it harder for the opponents to find their likely diamond fit.

Joe Muenks 2♥ Whereas we normally have 10 HCP to go with our 5 hearts for this bid, we'll stretch to 9 since with 1 diamond partner is odds on to have 3 or 4 hearts, if not 6+ clubs.

Bob Fisk 2♥ Yeah, I'm a point short for the 5-and-dime 2♥ bid, but I have Ax in clubs and a stiff diamond to make up for it. If partner has to retreat to 3♣ because they're allergic to hearts, partner won't hate my hand (more than they usually do). My hand isn't quite right for a trap pass, since the opponents have a wide-open diamond suit to run to if necessary, and I have no tenace position in spades.

Steve Moese X No this isn't penalty, it's negative showing hearts. Sure, we have 5 hearts, so that means we can bid them ourselves next (if partner rebids a minor or NT). If the opponents meander in spades, we are ready with a hammer. We will go hungry passing 1♠ for penalties here - our suit and our hand both are not good enough.

Mike Ma 2♥ Pretty obvious. You are off a jack point wise, but so what? Double and then 2♥ is a far worse distortion of your hand. Not to mention why give advancer an easy bid to show diamonds?

## Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

### Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠Q 9 4 3 ♥6 ♦A J 7 6 3 ♣T 9 3

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

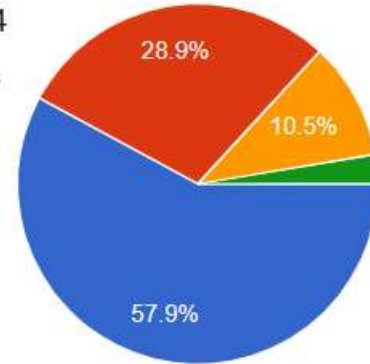
1♥ Pass 1NT 3♣

3♠ ?

### Question 4

38 responses

- Pass
- 4C
- 5C
- Double



Bob Jones 5♣ 4♣ would be a waste of time. Choose between 5♣ and 6♣. We like 5♣. Pass is too soft.

Steve Vogel Pass I would guess that East is showing a 5/6 hand in spades/hearts, which means that partner is likely 4/6 in hearts/clubs. While I have club support, I think I would need at least 4 of them to consider a 5♣ bid (and I see little benefit to bidding 4♣ as opener has already shown his/her two suits).

Joe Muenks 4♣ Partner sees the red facing N/S yet still made the preempt. We have the ace and useful shortness, so let's push the auction around, too. I'm thinking they may play 4♥, making 6.

Bob Fisk 5♣ Picture partner with xx xxx xx AKxxxxx. We're down only two in 5♣. What do the opponents make? They lose one spade trick (maybe), no hearts, one diamond, and one club, making 4♥. Sweet!

Steve Moese 4♣ Let's interfere in the auction in a known 9-10 card fit our way. In the best of times if they double us we are down 2 for -500 against their 620+ Major suit game. I'd venture 5♣ only at favorable vulnerability. I can see at most 8 tricks for our side. Partner suggests they have little no defense outside clubs.

Mike Ma 4♣ 4♣ is not a useless bid; you take away their cue. Your major holdings suggest they don't have great fit in either major. If you bid 5♣, you are forcing them to X.

## Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

### Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠T 7 3 ♥Q 2 ♦K 7 5 ♣A 8 6 5 3

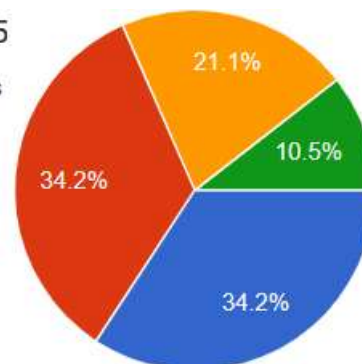
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ 1♠ ?

### Question 5

38 responses

● Pass  
● 2C  
● 2D  
● 1NT



Bob Jones **2♦** The only reasonable call, in our opinion, is 2♦, despite holding only 3 of them.

Steve Vogel **Pass** If the ♥Q were the ♣Q, I would bid 2♣. I do not like passing with this level of strength, but I am not a fan of the alternatives (1NT, 2♣ or 2♦).

Joe Muenks **Pass** All bids are flawed, but I'll pass now, intending to pull partner's reopening double to just 2♦. I suspect partner has 4 hearts and these hands won't take too many tricks.

Bob Fisk **Pass** If you have a "cards" double available to you, trot it out. Most of us play negative doubles, so you can't double here with only two hearts. 2♣ is the closest bid, but you have no extra shape this time, and your club suit is an abomination. 5-3-3-2 is the second worst shape in bridge (4-3-3-3 is the worst).

Steve Moese **Pass** Some will bid 1NT here claiming stoppers are for sissies. I prefer a 1NT bid in competition to be a solid 8-11 with a stop in their suit. Since we lack 4 hearts, we pass and wait to act when the auction returns to us. I see no need to raise diamonds on 3 cards here.

Mike Ma **2♦** When I have a hand good enough to bid 1NT HCP (8 - 11), but no stopper, I would be very reluctant to pass. We have the balance of points. Pass is not forcing, why should opener have shot spades and be able to balance? Opener will only have 3 diamonds with 4=4=3=2, which is unlikely given the overcall and my spades. So we have 7+ diamonds, which is OK for 2♦. I don't rule out bidding 1NT with no stopper, but only as a last resort. 2♦ is a better lie.

## Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

### Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠QT ♥AT 7 5 3 ♦7 ♣AK 7 6 4

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♠ Pass 2♥ Pass

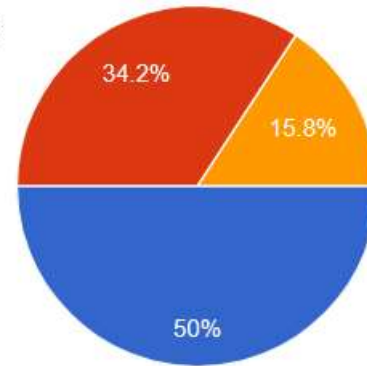
2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass

3♦ Pass ?

### Question 6

38 responses

- 3S
- 4S
- 3NT



Bob Jones 4♠ Partner would have bid 3NT rather than 3♦ if 3NT was the right contract. Bid 4♠.

Steve Vogel 3♠ At this point in the auction, my 3♠ bid should show a decent doubleton in spades. I prefer this bid to rebidding clubs, which bypasses 3NT and could lose a reasonable spade fit.

Joe Muenks 3♠ We're in a game forcing auction, so (1) we bid cheaply with a better hand to show extra playing strength, rather than jump to game, (2) if 2♥ was a game force, we bid 3♠ last round to let partner know what trump is as quickly as possible, (3) we bid 3♠ now since we need to hear from partner.

Bob Fisk 3♠ Partner will LOVE my QT doubleton (two honors). Picture partner with AKxxxx x Axxx Qx. Yeah, that's a lot of tricks!

Steve Moese 3♠ The most descriptive bid. Assuming 2/1 Game Force, opener has shown either 5 or 6 spades (depends on your 2/1 style). We have shown our 2 suits. 3♦ might be natural, but once a GF has been established, experts use the 4<sup>th</sup> suit bid as a "punt" - "I have nothing more to say below 3NT - I can't bid NT because I don't stop diamonds, and I cannot rebid spades because they aren't good/long enough." We don't stop diamonds either, but do have a nice doubleton for partner's first bid suit. We show both by bidding 3♠. Partner will correct to 3NT when right. Nice.

Mike Ma 3♠ Easy bid. Tougher question is what you do with x, ATxxx, xx, AKQxx. You need agreement as to what is default bid over 3♦. 3♥? 3♠? 3NT? The bid that does not promise what it says. This is also why we like 2♠ = 5, 2NT = 6+. That way you know for sure how many spades opener has, and she knows you know.

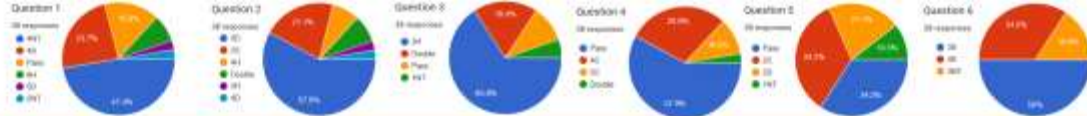
## Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	4NT	2♠	2♥	5♣	2♦	4♠
Steve Vogel	4NT	3♦	2♥	Pass	Pass	3♠
Joe Muenks	5NT	3♦	2♥	4♣	Pass	3♠
Bob Fisk	4♠	3♦	2♥	5♣	Pass	3♠
Steve Moese	Pass	3♦	X	4♣	Pass	3♠
SM: Happy Holidays to all - I wish everyone great fun, warm celebrations with family and friends, and a New Year filled with good health, great joy, and lots of bridge stories to share.						
Al Venosa	6♥	X	Pass	4♣	Pass	4♠
Bob K	4♠	3♦	Pass	4♣	2♣	3♠
Carl Willig	4NT	3♦	2♥	Pass	2♦	3♠
Carol Wilson	4♠	3♦	1NT	Pass	Pass	4♠
Chuck	4NT	2♠	2♥	Pass	2♣	3NT
Dave	4NT	3♦	2♥	4♣	Pass	3♠
Dean Congbalay	4NT	3♦	2♥	Pass	2♦	3♠
Doug Edwards	Pass	3♦	X	Pass	Pass	3♠
Ed	4NT	2♠	2♥	Pass	2♣	4♠
Gary Herrington	4♠	3♦	2♥	Pass	1NT	3♠
James D	Pass	3♦	X	4♣	2♣	3♠
James Jacobson	Pass	3♥	2♥	Pass	1NT	3NT
Jay Gala	4NT	3♦	2♥	4♣	Pass	4♠
Jim Barrett	4NT	4♥	2♥	Pass	2♦	4♠
JohnMcQ	4NT	3♦	2♥	4♣	2♣	3♠
Jon Hoak	4NT	3♦	2♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Jusie Clendening	6♥	4♥	2♥	X	2♦	3♠
Kevin C.	5♦	3♦	X	Pass	1NT	3♠
Kevin H.	4♠	4♦	2♥	Pass	2♣	3♠
Lanny	4♠	X	2♥	Pass	2♣	4♠
Linda	4NT	3♦	2♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Lyn	Pass	2♠	2♥	Pass	1NT	3♠
Marthap	4NT	3♦	Pass	4♣	2♦	3♠
Melissa	4♠	2♠	2♥	Pass	2♣	4♠
Mike Burns	4♠	X	2♥	Pass	2♣	3♠
Pam Campbell	4NT	2♠	1NT	5♣	2♣	3NT
Pete Outcalt	4NT	3♦	X	Pass	2♣	3NT
Rick Read	Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass	2♦	3NT
Robert Nowacki	4NT	4♥	X	4♣	2♣	4♠
Rod	6♥	3♦	2♥	Pass	Pass	4♠
Vijay	4♠	2♠	2♥	Pass	2♦	4♠
Zigang Pan	4NT	3♦	X	5♣	2♣	3♠
	4NT	3♦	2♥	4♣	Pass	3NT



# Bob Jones December 23 Quiz

The Field



12/23/23	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bill Jones	INT	24	25	54	54	48
Steve Vogel	INT	34	34	34	Pass	38
Joe Mendis	SNT	14	29	29	Pass	28
Bob Fink	44	24	29	54	Pass	38
Steve Moore	Pass	34	X	44	Pass	38
Al Verone	44	3	Pass	44	Pass	48
Bill E	44	34	Pass	44	Pass	24
Carl Wilgig	INT	3	29	Pass	21	48
Carl Wilgig	44	34	INT	Pass	Pass	48
Chuck	INT	24	29	Pass	24	SNT
Dean	INT	3	34	44	Pass	28
Dean Dingelhoff	INT	34	29	Pass	31	38
Doug Edwards	Pass	34	X	Pass	Pass	38
Ed	INT	24	29	Pass	24	48
Gary Ferrington	44	34	29	Pass	INT	38
James D	Pass	34	X	44	24	38
James Jaramba	Pass	34	29	34	INT	SNT
Jay Gable	INT	3	29	44	Pass	48
Jim Barrett	INT	44	29	Pass	31	48
JulesKatz	INT	INT	29	44	24	48
Jon Hawk	INT	34	29	Pass	Pass	48
Joan Christensen	44	29	29	X	21	38
Kevin C.	3	3	X	Pass	INT	38
Kevin H.	44	34	Pass	24	24	38
Larry	44	34	29	Pass	24	48
Luke	INT	3	29	Pass	Pass	48
Lyn	Pass	24	29	Pass	INT	38
Marilyn	INT	34	Pass	44	31	38
Melissa	44	34	29	Pass	24	48
Mike Dorris	44	34	29	Pass	24	38
Paul Campbell	INT	24	INT	44	24	SNT
Paul Daniels	INT	3	X	Pass	24	SNT
Rick Wood	Pass	24	Pass	Pass	31	SNT
Richard Newcomb	INT	44	X	44	24	48
Sal	44	3	29	Pass	Pass	48
Wally	44	24	29	Pass	31	48
Wanda Perry	INT	34	negative	14	24	38
	INT	34	29	44	Pass	SNT