

Bob Jones December 30 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: New Year's bridge quiz
GOREN BRIDGE DECEMBER 30, 2023

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A 4 2 ♥4 3 ♦A K Q 8 7 5 4 ♣8

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

3♦ Pass 3♥ Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠K Q 6 5 3 ♥7 5 ♦K 4 ♣K Q 6 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♠ Pass 1NT 2♥

?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠10 8 7 5 3 ♥9 ♦A 10 4 ♣A Q 9 8

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

?

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠K J 8 7 ♥A 7 ♦9 5 ♣K Q 7 6 4

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass

?

What is your rebid?

Q4 – Both vulnerable

♠5 3 ♥A J 7 5 ♦8 7 5 4 ♣10 7 2

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♥ X ?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠A 7 6 3 ♥K 7 3 ♦A K 10 7 ♣9 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

?

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

Bob Jones December 30 Quiz

Question 1

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A 4 2 ♥4 3 ♦A K Q 8 7 5 4 ♣8

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

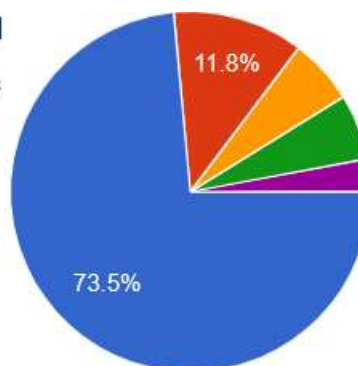
3♦ Pass 3♥ Pass

?

Question 1

34 responses

- 4H
- 3S
- 4NT
- 5D
- 3NT



Bob Jones **3♠** You might belong in hearts, no trump, or diamonds. It is too soon to decide. Bid 3♠ and see what partner does. Pass if he bids 3NT.

Steve Vogel **3♠** My partners and I play that the 3♥ bid accepts the game invitation and shows 5+ hearts (not 6+). Partner is still unlimited, so I am not sure where we should play. For now, I will show my spade stopper and await partner's next bid. I would plan on passing 3NT or 4♥.

Joe Muenks **4♥** Plenty of trump, plenty of tricks.

Bob Fisk **4♥** Partner's 3♥ bid is 100000% forcing--partner is merely showing their extra heart (or Hearts). If partner doesn't want you to bid again, partner could have passed. So there.

Steve Moese **3♠** Partner has forced to game with at least 5 hearts. But what game? 3♠ allows partner to decide whether 3NT, 4♥, or 5♦. By the way, with 4 spades we do not rebid 3♦ over partner's 1♥.

Mike Ma **3NT** First, 3♥ was forcing. Second, it showed 5+ hearts, not 6+. Third, with 8 tricks in your hand, 3♦ was in a way an underbid in spite of only 13 points. You survived that, but now what? You only need one trick from partner to make 3NT if opponents don't take 5 first. But you have two outside suits to worry about, clubs and spades. Normally you would do "one ask, two tell", but there is no way to address clubs now, so is 3♠ asking or telling? Unfortunately, the method I use is to ignore the suit(s) you can't address, and treat 3♠ (only suit left) as asking, not telling. 3♠ telling would work better here (more flexible, allowing you to get to 4♥ on 5-2 fit or 5♦ or even slam if right). C'est la vie.

Bob Jones December 30 Quiz

Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠K J 8 7 ♥A 7 ♦9 5 ♣K Q 7 6 4

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

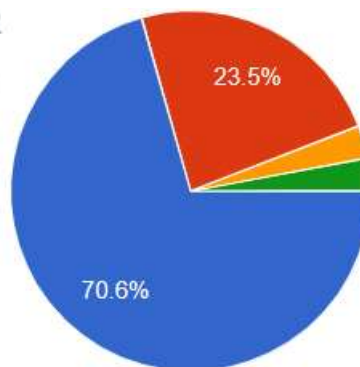
1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass

?

Question 2

34 responses

- 2S
- 3S
- 2H
- 1NT



Bob Jones **2♠** This hand is just a hair short of a 3♠ bid, Bid 2♠.

Steve Vogel **2♠** I have a nice hand with working high cards, but I view it as just short of a jump raise to 3♠.

Joe Muenks **2♠** We're at a max for our bid, but the hand does not have enough upgrades to bid more. If partner has game interest, they can ask if I'm min or max.

Bob Fisk **2♠** Don't get carried away and bid 3♠. Partner could be as weak as xxxx Qxx KJxx xx, and you'll struggle in 2♠. If partner bids 2NT (Spiral) asking about the quality of your raise, feel free to upgrade and bid 4♣ (4-2-2-5 shape). If partner does bid 2NT, you're hoping they hold QTxx Kxx Jxx AJx. Sweet!

Steve Moese **2♠** A simple raise is just right.

Mike Ma **3♠** In spades, you are worth 17 support points, with both doubletons counting, and your nice spade suit and 5-card club suit headed by KQ (too bad the spot cards are so poor. If you consider that you would bid 2♠ with Kxxx, Axx, Qxx, Kxx, you can see what an underbid 2♠ with this hand would be.

Bob Jones December 30 Quiz

Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠K Q 6 5 3 ♥7 5 ♦K 4 ♣K Q 6 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

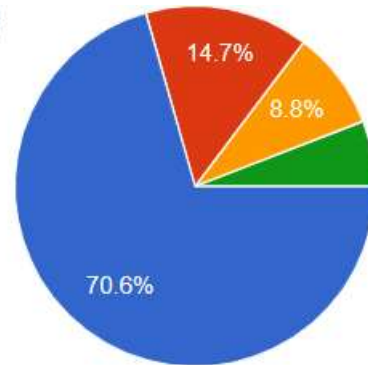
1♠ Pass 1NT 2♥

?

Question 3

34 responses

- Pass
- 2S
- Double
- 3C



Bob Jones **Pass** Pass. Thinking would be an overbid!

Steve Vogel **Pass** I have a minimum opener and the best way to convey this to partner is to pass. Any offensive rebid would show extras, which I do not have.

Joe Muenks **Pass** Partner will compete with 2 spades and a smattering, or stretch to double for takeout with both minors.

Bob Fisk **Pass** Bidding 3♣ here shows a better hand. Remember: you have a partner who's completely capable of inviting you back in the auction with a balancing double.

Steve Moese **Pass** We have a balanced minimum hand. That's what a pass shows.

Mike Ma **X** X is for takeout and does not promise a good hand other than you don't have garbage. You would prefer to have 5=1=(34), but partner should not bid 3m with a 5 card suit and 2 spades. As an aside, this is another example of the problem with playing Bergen raises. If partner bids 3m now, does she have a weak hand with a long minor or an invitational hand?

Bob Jones December 30 Quiz

Question 4

Q4 – Both vulnerable

♠5 3 ♥A J 7 5 ♦8 7 5 4 ♣10 7 2

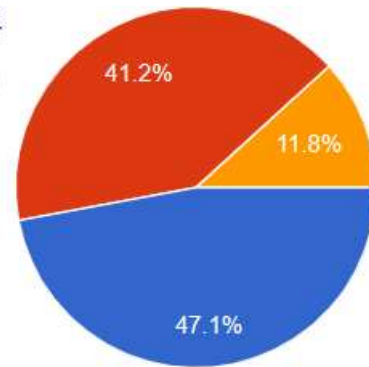
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♥ X ?

Question 4

34 responses

● 3H
● 2H
● Pass



Bob Jones 3♥ Bid 3♥ pre-emptive, showing 4-card support and 5-7 points. Perfect.

Steve Vogel 3♥ Yes, I would prefer to have better distribution to make a vulnerable preemptive raise, but this bid best describes my hand and makes it harder for the competition to judge their best spot.

Joe Muenks 2♥ I play this as 5-7 support points as part of my BROMAD structure, a little stronger than some folks play.

Bob Fisk 3♥ (preemptive). This isn't going to do anything, since your opponents have the boss suit, but you have to bid it anyway.

Steve Moese 3♥ Preempt. if we have another bid for a 4-card constructive raise we wait for that hand. This one isn't it. Take air out of their auction. Use 2NT for invites or GF heart raises.

Mike Ma 3♥ They surely have 8+ spades, especially for those who play Flannery. You are not selling out to 2♠ even if they settle there, so why let them explore cheaply. Put the pressure on. Sure, you would like to have a singleton for your bid, but it is very hard to them to X you when your side has good trumps. If you get X, put a spade in with your clubs and tell your partner you thought you had singleton spade. 😊

Bob Jones December 30 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠10 8 7 5 3 ♥9 ♦A 10 4 ♣A Q 9 8

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

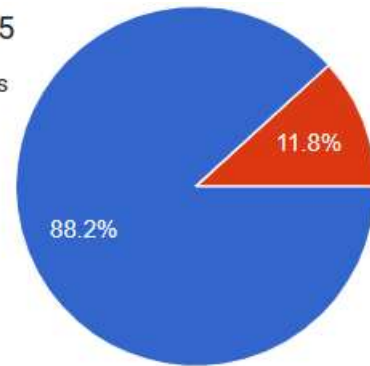
?

Question 5

34 responses

● Pass

● 1S



Bob Jones **Pass** This hand, with 2½ “quick tricks”, would have been an opening bid 60 years ago. Some modern experts are starting to open with this hand again. For most of us, however, pass.

Steve Vogel **Pass** I am not opening this hand 1♠ vulnerable with no high cards in my longest suit. I would not be surprised if more aggressive players choose otherwise, as a 1♠ opening bid has preemptive value.

Joe Muenks **1♠** Only 19 when applying the rule of 20/22, one of my favorite guidelines, but shhhhhh, I'm still opening it.

Bob Fisk **Pass** 1♠ (or psych 1♥), but I'm four times that age, so I'll pass like a real person. If you open 1♠, I hope your partner holds Kx KJxxxx KQx xx, and you end up in some outrageous contract going down a buttload (that's a bridge phrase).

Steve Moese **Pass** Not enough for a first seat bid.

Mike Ma **Pass** No idea what this question is about. It does not even satisfy Joe's Rule of 20/22. Your poor suit is spades, so it is not like they can shut you out if you Pass. If it is hearts, you may have some concern. Anyway, if you open hands like this, your partnership better adjust your criteria for a limit raise and GF 2/1 bids.

Bob Jones December 30 Quiz

Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠A 7 6 3 ♥K 7 3 ♦A K 10 7 ♣9 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

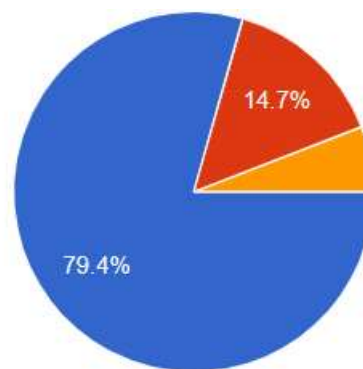
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

?

Question 6

34 responses

● 1S
● 1NT
● 2H



Bob Jones **1♠** Raising hearts is a good idea, but with a 4-card spade suit, raising will have to wait. Bid 1♠.

Steve Vogel **1♠** My partners and I will not bypass a 1♠ rebid to show a balanced minimum by bidding 1NT. Even if I were tempted to do so, my club holding would dissuade me. Also, if notrump is our best contract, it will likely play better from partner's side.

Joe Muenks **1♠** I have no problem raising with 3 card support when needed, but this hand should continue our description.

Bob Fisk **1♠** I have no reason to hide my 4-card Spade suit. My partners and I all play XYZ, so these auctions are easy to sort out (i.e., I don't need to bid 1NT and hope partner fishes for a better contract with 4-4 in the majors and a 10 count).

Steve Moese **1♠** Save the raise on three for more shapely hands without a future in spades.

Mike Ma **1♠** With a weaker hand I would raise to 2♥ now. But I consider my hand good enough to bid 1♠ now rather than raise to 2♥. If partner bids 1NT, I will bid 2♥ which should show this hand. If partner passes 1♠, the worst that can happen is we play 1♠ with 4-3 fit instead of 2♥ with 5-3. If partner has an invitation+ hand, XYZ should take care of things.

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	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	3♠	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Steve Vogel	3♠	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Joe Muenks	4♥	2♠	Pass	2♥	1♠	1♠
Bob Fisk	4♥	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Steve Moese	3♠	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
JM: Happy holidays						
SM: Happy New Year!						
Al Venosa	4♥	2♠	2♠	Pass	1♠	1♠
AnnR	4♥	3♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♥
Bob K	4♥	2♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	1NT
Carl Willig	4♥	3♠	X	Pass	Pass	1♠
Chuck	4NT	2♠	3♣	2♥	Pass	1♠
Darleen	5♦	3♠	2♠	Pass	Pass	1♠
Dave	4♥	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Dean Congbalay	4♥	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Doug Edwards	4♥	3♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Ed	4♥	2♠	Pass	2♥	1♠	1♠
Greg	4♥	2♠	3♣	3♥	Pass	1♠
James Jacobson	4♥	2♠	Pass	Pass	Pass	1♠
Jan	4♥	3♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
Jay Gala	4♥	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
JohnMcQ	4♥	2♠	2♠	2♥	Pass	1♠
Kevin C.	4♥	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Kevin H.	4♥	2♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	1NT
Lanny	4♥	2♠	2♠	3♥	Pass	1♠
Linda	4♥	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1NT
Lyn	4♥	2♥	X	2♥	Pass	1♠
Mike Burns	4♥	2♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
Mike Ma	3NT	3♠	X	3♥	Pass	1♠
Nell Wickstrom	4♥	2♠	2♠	3♥	Pass	1NT
Rick Read	5♦	3♠	Pass	2♥	1♠	2♥
Robert N.	3♠	2♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1♠
Rod	4♥	3♠	Pass	3♥	Pass	1NT
Zigang Pan	4NT	2♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
	4♥	1NT	Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠
	4♥	2♠	Pass	2♥	Pass	1♠

