

Bob Jones June 17 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz

GOREN BRIDGE JUNE 17, 2023

Q1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A 9 8 ♥4 2 ♦Q 8 7 5 3 ♣A 9 8

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT* 2♣** ?

*15-17

**both majors

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q 8 2 ♥A J T 9 8 5 ♦6 ♣K 5 4

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠A K 9 5 4 ♥4 ♦K 8 6 3 ♣K T 6

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♥ 1♠ 2♥ 2♠

Pass Pass 3♥ Pass

Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠K ♥K J 8 6 5 3 ♦K 7 5 ♣9 8 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

?

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠A J 2 ♥K Q 7 6 4 ♦J 7 ♣Q 5 2

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♥ Pass 1♠ Dbl

?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q T 8 4 ♥A Q J 6 4 ♦K 7 ♣A T

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♥ 2♣ 3♣* Pass

?

*Heart fit, at least invitational values

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

Bob Jones June 17 Quiz

Question 1

Q1 – Neither vulnerable

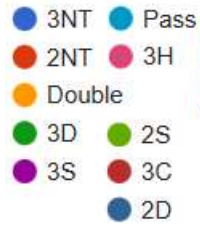
♠A 9 8 ♥4 2 ♦Q 8 7 5 3 ♣A 9 8

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT 2♣ ?

Question 1

37 responses



Bob Jones **2♠** When investigating 3NT, a cue bid in the suit shown by an opponent asks for a stopper in that suit. When the opponents have shown 2 suits, a cue bid shows a stopper in that suit. Bid 2♠.

Steve Vogel **2NT** (diamonds) Lots of options on this one. 1) I could bid 3NT and take the chance that partner has a heart stopper. 2) I could bid 2NT (diamonds), then follow up with 3♠, which partner should take as showing a stopper and asking about hearts. 3) I could pass for now, then bid spades asking about a heart stopper for 3NT. I prefer the diamonds route, despite having a sub-par suit because it offers the best option to 3NT should partner not have a heart stopper.

Joe Muenks **2NT** Playing Lebensohl, bid 2NT to relay to 3♣, then bid 3♥ or 3♠ depending on whether you've agreed if it is asking or showing (standard is asking when the opponents show 1 suit and then telling when they've shown 2, so you'll bid 3♠ here).

Bob Fisk **X** I play "System on" over Double or 2♣, so the best I can do here is double as Stayman to show some values. If partner bids 2♦ (no 4-card major), I'll cuebid 3♠ at my next turn to show my Spade stopper in an attempt to get to 3NT. If partner bids 2♥, I'll rebid 3NT. If partner bids 2♠, I'll cuebid 3♥ (it can't be Baze on this auction) to show doubt about notrump.

Mike Ma **3NT** I don't worry about stoppers when they show two suits. Let them worry about what suit to lead. Don't let advancer bid to help them figure out.

Steve Moese **3♦** We want to be in game and need to express doubt about stopping at least one of their suits. Partner should show their Major suit stopper, or bid 3NT with both stopped. 3NT by us directly would suggest both Majors stopped.

Double here should show the ability to double at least one of the Majors. We don't have that.

2NT (Lebensohl) here then 3♦ is to play.

Some experts use flag bids in this circumstance. 2♥ is a strong bid showing clubs and 2♠ is a strong bid showing Diamonds. That way 3 of a minor can invite, and 2NT here followed by 3♦ is to play.

Bob Jones June 17 Quiz

Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠K ♥KJ 8 6 5 3 ♦K 7 5 ♣9 8 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

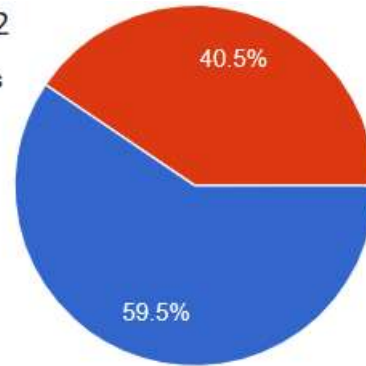
?

Question 2

37 responses

● Pass

● 2H



Bob Jones **2♥** We don't like to pre-empt with 2 control cards – aces or kings – outside our suit, but a singleton king has deflated value. Bid 2♥.

Steve Vogel **Pass** The clear options are opening with 2♥ or passing (I would not consider opening 1♥). At unfavorable vulnerability, I believe that having a quality suit is of paramount importance for an opening weak-2 bid (more than high card points), so I would pass with this mediocre suit.

Joe Muenks **2♥** The rule of 20/22 guides us so that no hand is too strong for a weak 2 and also too weak to open 1. All decent hands with a 6-card suit take action. Here we have 19 [10+9]/20 [Kx twice], so let's preempt.

Bob Fisk **Pass** This hand has too many flaws to open 2♥ (i.e., wasted values in my short suit, two outside features, bad trump). Ick.

Mike Ma **Pass** Suit quality not good enough for red vs white first seat preempt, and I have outside defense.

Steve Moese **Pass** What else? We have a weak hand and a weak suit. The ♠K might or might not be useful. Passing is conservative, but we are good-suit-when-vulnerable advocates in 1st and 2nd seat, especially at unfavorable vulnerability.

Bob Jones June 17 Quiz

Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q 8 2 ♥A J T 9 8 5 ♦6 ♣K 5 4

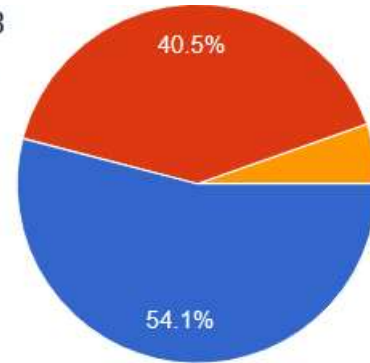
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

?

Question 3

37 responses

● 2H
● 1H
● Pass



Bob Jones 2♥ Is this hand worth a 1-level opening? Not quite. Bid 2♥.

Steve Vogel 1♥ With great intermediates in my suit, this hand definitely calls for an opening bid, but should I open 1♥ or 2♥? At favorable vulnerability, I prefer hedging a bit and opening 1♥. I have an easy 2♥ rebid over any response from partner.

Joe Muenks 1♥ Here we do not need to use 20/22, since we have a clear opener. I like to think that when I have AJTxxx or better, my partner will have 2 hearts and so I can count 2 points for a singleton assuming we have an 8-card major, giving me a good 12 count. From time to time these backfires when it goes 1♥-1NT-2♥, but that is rare.

Bob Fisk 2♥ All of the problems associated with the previous hand are no longer present (i.e., nothing wasted in my short suit, fewer than two outside features, good trump).

Mike Ma 1♥ White vs red, this is a 1♥ or 3♥ opening, not 2♥. If my spades and diamonds are switched, I may consider 3♥.

Steve Moese 2♥ Now this is a classic 2♥ opening bid. Some open this an aggressive 1♥ and I respect that.

Bob Jones June 17 Quiz

Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠A J 2 ♥K Q 7 6 4 ♦J 7 ♣Q 5 2

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

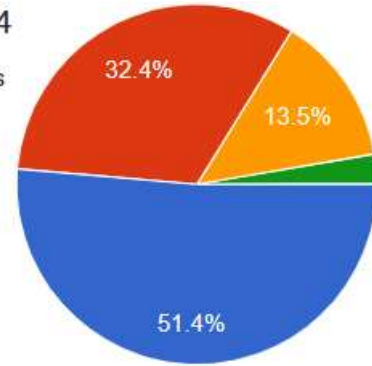
1♥ Pass 1♠ Dbl

?

Question 4

37 responses

● Redouble
● 1NT
● 2S
● Pass



Bob Jones **2♠** When the auction gets competitive, support partner if you can. Bid 2♠.

Steve Vogel **XX** This hand qualifies for a standard support redouble, and I would not consider any other bid (including 1NT), especially given my weakness in the unbid suits.

Joe Muenks **XX** You should play a support redouble if you play support doubles and this is the time to use it.

Bob Fisk **XX** Support redouble showing exactly three Spades. 100%?

Mike Ma **XX** Playing support redouble, this is automatic.

Steve Moese **XX** Show 3 spades. Partner will know what to do next. Support redoubles are a good thing.

Bob Jones June 17 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠A K 9 5 4 ♥4 ♦K 8 6 3 ♣K T 6

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♥ 1♠ 2♥ 2♠

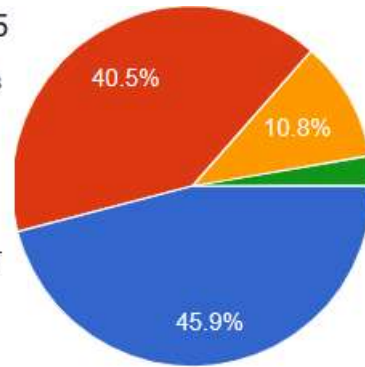
Pass Pass 3♥ Pass

Pass ?

Question 5

37 responses

- Pass
- 3S
- Double
- No Answer



Bob Jones **Pass** You need 9 combined trumps to compete to the 3-level. Partner would likely have bid again with 4-card support. Pass.

Steve Vogel **X** With a singleton in the opponent's suit and a decent non-minimum hand, I would reject passing in this auction. My top choices are to take the push to 3♠ or to double turning the decision over to partner. It is possible that partner has a decent heart holding and would choose to defend. If not, I would expect him/her to bid 3♠. I prefer the double over bidding 3♠ to open up the possibility of collecting a decent penalty.

Joe Muenks **Pass** Woo Hoo, they got too high and we're going plus. The law of total tricks will frequently allow us, with a singleton heart, to bid 3♠, but there's no guarantee we'll make it. I think the chances AK♠ cashes is very high so the opponents are likely going down and I want to go plus this hand.

Bob Fisk **Pass** West is trying to goad you into bidding 3♠. Don't do it. North doesn't have four Hearts, or North would have either bid 3♠ immediately or competed to 3♠ over West's 3♥ bid. Are you going to enjoy ruffing multiple rounds of Hearts while trying to find an eighth (much less ninth) trick? You are not.

Mike Ma **3♠** Need to know more about systems, e.g. if they play Bergen. Also, I am assuming MP. Likely they have 9 hearts, and I assume we have 8 (if 9, partner can bid 3♠ if I pass). This is 8 over 9 situation. I doubt they can double with my good spades.

Steve Moese **Pass** Partner's raise and pass shows 3-card support. We are vulnerable. They have a 9-card fit. The Law of total trumps says this is a 17 trump hand (our 8 plus their 9) so 17 tricks combined are available. That means if they are making 9, we make 8. At unfavorable vulnerability I stay off. Besides, the singleton heart means partner has 3 hearts. It appears we will have a difficult time finding ruffs in the short hand. That's where extra tricks come from. Ruffing in the long trump hand doesn't yield an extra trick unless we can ruff 3 times, and that ain't happening.

Bob Jones June 17 Quiz

Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q T 8 4 ♥A Q J 6 4 ♦K 7 ♣A T

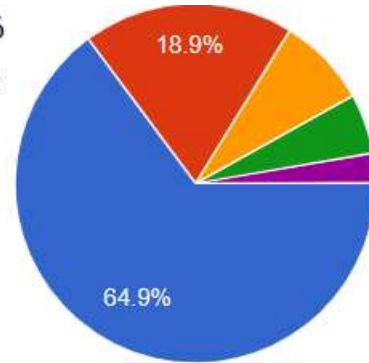
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♥ 2♣ 3♣ Pass

Question 6

37 responses

● 4H
● 4C
● 3D
● 3S
● 4NT



Bob Jones 4♥ Don't show the opponents your second suit. Bid 4♥

Steve Vogel 4♣ Partner is unlimited and I have a nice hand with 16 HCP, so signing off at 4♥ is too meek for me. My top choices are to bid 3♠ showing my second suit (although partner may take that as a cuebid) or to cuebid 4♣. I prefer the 4♣ bid, as it definitely shows a club control (either singleton or the Ace) and tends to deny a spade control. If partner rebids 4♦, I will then bid 4♥ leaving it up to partner to bid on if he/she has additional strength.

Joe Muenks 4♥ I normally am inclined to participate in potential slam bidding with any extras at all, but I think a jump to game announcing 15 or so playing points is plenty. I do not like my spades at all, I'm not thrilled about the position of the ♦K and it feels like that 2nd round club loser will be opened right after the opening lead, yucky hand for 16 HCP.

Bob Fisk 4♥ While you'd like to bid 3♠ to try and locate a 4-4 Spade fit, partner will most likely interpret that as a control bid (i.e., slam try). That could get awkward.

Mike Ma 4♣ I would bid 3NT if playing Serious or Frivolous 3NT. Assuming not, I need to let partner know I have a good hand, not just enough for game.

Steve Moese 4♣ While many "bid out their pattern" that's right below 3 of our trump suit. 3♠ now would show a control (A or K) for Hearts. We don't have that. Since partner is unlimited we show out club control and await further direction.

Note when we bypass spades to control bid clubs, partner knows we do not have the A/K of spades. If partner has the spade control, slam interest but no diamond control, what can they do? That's an expert topic you might explore - search Last Train Control Bids.

<https://www.acblunit390.org/Simon/lasttrain.htm>

For aspiring experts it's good to learn about frivolous/serious 3NT and the Last Train control bid. They are good tools to have in your slam bidding arsenal.

Bob Jones June 17 Quiz

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	2♠	2♥	2♥	2♠	Pass	4♥
Steve Vogel	2NT	Pass	1♥	XX	X	4♣

Joe Muenks	2NT	2♥	1♥	XX	Pass	4♥
Bob Fisk	X	Pass	2♥	XX	Pass	4♥

Mike Ma	3NT	Pass	1♥	XX	3♠	4♣
Steve Moese	3♦	Pass	2♥	XX	Pass	4♣

BF: If I was a medical professional, I'd change my name to Dr. Awkward. How cool would that be?

Al Venosa	3♦	2♥	1♥	XX	X	4♥
Bob K	3NT	Pass	1♥	1NT	3♠	4♣
Carl Willig	3NT	2♥	1♥	2♠	3♠	3♠
Carol Wilson	X	Pass	2♥	1NT	Pass	4♥
Cecilia	3♠	2♥	Pass	1NT	3♠	4♥
Chuck	3NT	Pass	1♥	1NT	3♠	4♥
Dave	3NT	2♥	2♥	XX	X	4♥
Dean Congbalay	Pass	2♥	2♥	XX	3♠	4♥
Doug Edwards	3NT	Pass	1♥	XX	3♠	4♥
Ed	3♦	2♥	Pass	2♠	3♠	4♥
Gary Busch	2NT	2♥	2♥	XX	3♠	4NT
Gary Herrington	X	Pass	1♥	1NT	Pass	4♣
Greg	2NT	Pass	2♥	2♠	Pass	4♣
James D	3♦	Pass	2♥	XX	Pass	4♥
James Jacobson	3NT	2♥	2♥	1NT	Pass	4♥
Jay Gala	3NT	Pass	2♥	1NT	Pass	4♥
JohnMcQ	3NT	Pass	2♥	XX	3♠	3♦
Jusie Clendening	3NT	2♥	2♥	XX	Pass	4♥
Kevin C.	3NT	Pass	2♥	1NT	Pass	4♥
Lanny	Pass	2♥	1♥	XX	3♠	4♥
Linda	X	Pass	2♥	XX	Pass	4♥
Mike Burns	2NT	Pass	1♥	Pass	Pass	4♥
Mónica	3NT	2♥	1♥	XX	3♠	3♦
Pam Campbell	3♠	Pass	1♥	XX	N/A	4♥
Pete Outcalt	3NT	Pass	2♥	XX	Pass	4♣
Phyllis	3♣	Pass	2♥	1NT	3♠	4♥
Rick Read	2♠	2♥	1♥	2♠	3♠	4♥
Rod	2♦	Pass	2♥	1NT	Pass	3♠
Steve Messinger	3♥	Pass	2♥	1NT	3♠	4♥
Vijay Doshi	3NT	2♥	2♥	XX	X	4♥
Zigang Pan	3♥	Pass	1♥	1NT	Pass	3♦

