

Bob Jones March 16 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz
GOREN BRIDGE MARCH 16, 2024

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠KJT7 ♥73 ♦QJ9764 ♣2

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

?

What call would you make?

Q 3-East-West vulnerable

♠AT74 ♥K73 ♦AK53 ♣KT

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♣ Pass 1♠ ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠QJ84 ♥K3 ♦87542 ♣75

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♥ 1♠ Dbl* ?

*Negative

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠KJ97 ♥5 ♦Q86 ♣T9864

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT* 2♥ ?

*15-17

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠Void ♥JT76 ♦KT8763 ♣KQ3

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♠ 2♥ ?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠Void ♥T3 ♦Q97653 ♣AKJ73

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♦ 1♠ Dbl* 2♦

?

*Negative

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

Bob Jones March 16 Quiz

Question 1

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠KJT7 ♥73 ♦QJ9764 ♣2

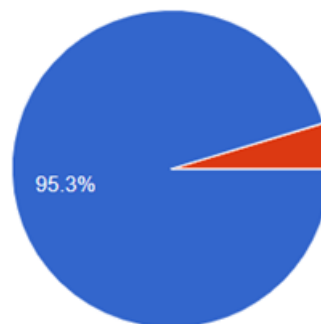
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

?

Question 1

43 responses

● Pass
● 2D



Bob Jones **Pass** Four low spades would not keep us from pre-empting, but four good ones will. Pass.

Steve Vogel **Pass** Some play that anything goes for a 1st seat preempt, but that is not my approach. I have more points in my spade suit than my diamond suit, and I would choose to pass and await further developments.

Joe Muenks **Pass** I'm old-fashioned, with 4 prime cards in spades, in first seat, I'm not risking preempting our side out of our best contract.

Bob Fisk **Pass** Even if I played 2♦ as weak, I'd still pass. Partner holds AQxx xxx Kx Axxx, and we belong in 4♠.

Steve Moese **Pass** Some will make a weak two with any six-card suit. I prefer a disciplined approach in the first two seats. The 4-card spade suit disqualifies opening 2♦, and this hand is far from a 1♦ opening bid.

Mike Ma **Pass** I mentioned before that my dividing line to preempt first seat with a 4-card side major is if that suit is headed by the Q or less. If Q, then I examine other features like the texture of that suit. Anyway, KJT7 is not even close to that dividing line.

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Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠KJ97 ♥5 ♦Q86 ♣T9864

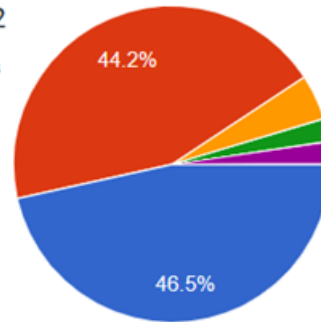
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT 2♥ ?

Question 2

43 responses

● Pass
● Double
● 2NT
● 2S
● 3C



Bob Jones X In the old days, a double here was for penalties. Modern players treat it as take-out, which is far more useful. Double.

Steve Vogel X There are a lot of options for how people play a double of a 2-level overcall of an opening strong 1NT bid, but I prefer it to be primarily for takeout.

Joe Muenks Pass This would be a great hand to play weak negative doubles at the 2 level in this auction like some experts do, but I play Lebensohl so there are no bids to make here.

Bob Fisk X I play double as negative showing competitive values or better (i.e., 6+). I don't care what partner bids. Maybe partner has the same hand I showed for Question #1 plus the ♣Q and we're on a finesse to make 5♠. What fun!

Steve Moese 2♠ Nonforcing. Will LHO raise hearts? Will partner double? Let's find out.

Mike Ma Pass I play penalty X, so I have no choice here. With some partners, I do have well worked out method for opener to balance with 3♥. Occasionally opener will have 4 hearts and cannot reopen. C'est la vie.

Bob Jones March 16 Quiz

Question 3

Q 3-East-West vulnerable

♠A T 7 4 ♥K 7 3 ♦A K 5 3 ♣K T

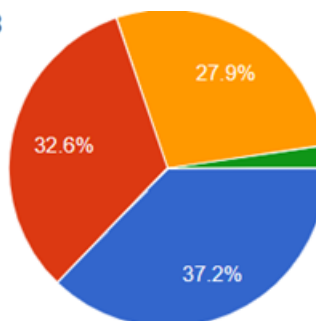
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♣ Pass 1♠ ?

Question 3

43 responses

- 1NT
- Pass
- Double
- 2D



Bob Jones **1NT** A 1NT bid here must be discussed with partner, but we like it as strong, 15-18. Bid 1NT.

Steve Vogel **1NT** These days, pairs are opening lighter and responding lighter. Accordingly, I prefer to play that a 1NT overcall in this auction is the normal 15-18 HCP. I like the overcall better than a takeout double as it more narrowly communicates my holding to partner, who is now in a better position to place the contract.

Joe Muenks **1NT** With half my partners I can overcall this as a natural NT. It would be really dangerous except that folks open so light nowadays we worry less about a big penalty. With half my partners I must pass and defend since a NT here shows a weak hand 5-5+ red.

Bob Fisk **Pass** How many points do you think partner has? If lefty has 12 and righty has eight (not unreasonable), partner has only three. I expect lefty to rebid 1NT, and I'd rather have them go down one in 1NT (+100) than have us possibly make 1NT (+90). It's much harder to make 1NT with 17 opposite 3 than it is to make 1NT with 12 opposite 8. Look it up on Wikipedia if you don't believe me.

Steve Moese **1NT** Natural and not Sandwich for me. Yes, they have about 18 HCP. Let them find their fit. The first to 1NT often wins.

Mike Ma **1NT** I play natural NT here, which is really preferable in these days of ultra-light opening AND response. Simple Bridge is best.

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Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠ – ♥ J T 7 6 ♦ K T 8 7 6 3 ♣ K Q :

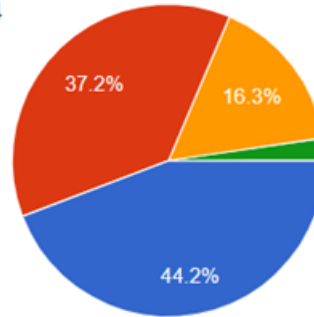
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♠ 2♥ ?

Question 4

43 responses

- Pass
- 3D
- Double
- 2NT



Bob Jones **Pass** A negative double would not be terrible, but we prefer to make a trap pass, hoping partner will re-open with double, which we will then pass. Pass.

Steve Vogel **Pass** Vulnerable with a void in partner's suit, I would choose to more cautious and pass at this point. Other alternatives are to bid 2NT, 3♦ or double, and each of those has its merits. Of those three, my second choice is a negative double, where I would convert a 3♣ bid by partner to 3♦. My greatest concern is that partner will rebid spades.

Joe Muenks **X** Whereas you could pass and pull partner's mandatory double to 3♦, that should be a weaker hand, so we'll lie a little about our minor suit lengths with a negative double. Partner will not bid a simple 3♣ or 3♦ with extras.

Bob Fisk **X** Bidding 3♦ now feels a tad aggressive (do I really want partner to rebid 4♠?). I'll double and bid 3♦ over 2♠ to show a long diamond suit, no spade tolerance, and invitational values. If partner bids 3♥ over 3♦, I'll bid 3NT. Bridge is easy!

Steve Moese **Pass** The spade void puts me off a negative double.

Mike Ma **Pass** Not good enough to bid 3♦. 2NT is awful. I can X and correct opener's 2♠ or 3♣ to 3♦, but I can't know if that is right, and if partner bids 4♠? !!! Over partner's expected reopening X of my pass, maybe I'll try 3NT. If partner does not reopen, maybe defending 2♥ is right. If advancer raise, I hope to be able to double 3♥.

Bob Jones March 16 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠QJ84 ♥K3 ♦87542 ♣75

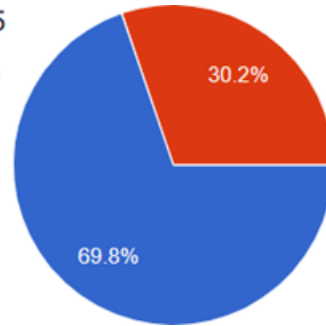
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♥ 1♠ Dbl ?

Question 5

43 responses

● 2S
● 3S



Bob Jones **3♠** Bid 3♠, showing 4-card support and, at this vulnerability, 5-7 points.

Steve Vogel **2♠** We are vulnerable, the value of my ♥K is dubious, and I have no shortness. Another hand where I would be cautious and avoid a preemptive jump to 3♠.

Joe Muenks **2♠** With a poorly placed K♥, even with 4 trump I'd tread lightly since the opponents haven't found a fit and might not.

Bob Fisk **3♠** Don't shy away from the correct bid because of the vulnerability. If the opponents want to play in 4♣, let em.

Steve Moese **2♠** DON'T jump to 3♠ at unfavorable vulnerability when the K♥ might not be working and you have no values in the minors (what RHO's double shows). Nope.

Mike Ma **3♠** Hard to see how this can be our hand. Put the pressure on in spite of the ♥Kx. It is difficult for them to X us when we have 9 spades, and my QJ make the suit decent no matter what partner's spades are.

Bob Jones March 16 Quiz

Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠ – ♥ T 3 ♦ Q 9 7 6 5 3 ♣ A K J 7 3

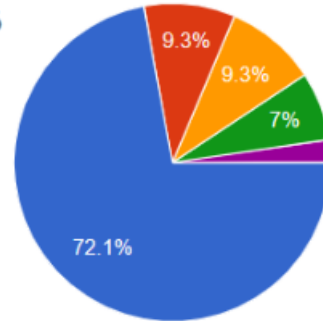
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♦ 1♠ Dbl 2♦
?

Question 6

43 responses

- 3C
- 5C
- Pass
- Double
- 3D



Bob Jones 5♣ A big spade raise is sure to be coming from East. You will have to bid this later anyway, so do it now. Bid 5♣.

Steve Vogel 3♣ My plan when I opened this hand was to bid clubs at my next turn. The fact that the opponents have found a spade fit makes my hand even more offensively oriented. If we have a minor suit fit and partner has the ♥A, game is on the table.

Joe Muenks 3♣ This hand begs to be declarer, so I'll bid clubs now and possibly again to force partner to pick a minor.

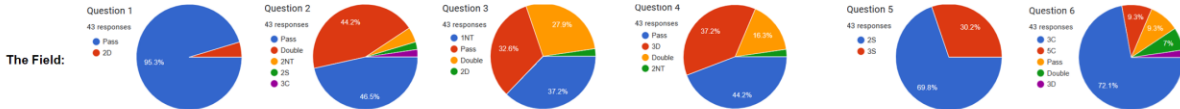
Bob Fisk 3♣ Partner's double didn't promise clubs, but you were always going to get both of your suits in the auction, weren't you? Picture partner with xxx xxxx Kx Qxxx, and you have a great sacrifice in 5♣ over 4♠ (down one doubled). Sweet!

Steve Moese 3♣ "6-5 come alive" Warn partner off hearts and show them 10 of your 11 minor suit cards.

Mike Ma 5♣ Partner may not have clubs, and may have the worst hand for us, something like 4=6=1=2, not enough to bid 2♥. But no reason to count on the worst. Put the pressure on with favorable vul. Let opps make the last guess.

03/16/24	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	Pass	X	1NT	Pass	3♠	5♣
Steve Vogel	Pass	X	1NT	Pass	2♠	3♣
Joe Muenks	Pass	Pass	1NT	X	2♠	3♣
Bob Fisk	Pass	X	Pass	X	3♠	3♣
Steve Moese	Pass	2♠	1NT	Pass	2♠	3♣
Al Venosa	Pass	X	X	X	2♠	X
Anne Cobb	Pass	Pass	2♦	3♦	2♠	3♣
AnnR	Pass	X	X	Pass	2♠	3♣
Bob K	2♠	X	1NT	3♦	2♠	3♣
Carl Willig	Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass	2♠	3♣
Cathy W	Pass	Pass	1NT	3♦	3♠	3♣
Chuck	Pass	X	1NT	3♦	2♠	3♣
Dave	Pass	X	Pass	Pass	3♠	3♣
Dean Congbalay	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	2♠	3♣
Doug Edwards	Pass	Pass	X	Pass	2♠	Pass
Ed	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	2♠	3♦
Gary Busch	2♠	X	X	3♦	2♠	3♣
Gary Herrington	Pass	Pass	X	Pass	2♠	3♣
George Kent	Pass	X	1NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
Greg	Pass	Pass	1NT	X	2♠	3♣
James D	Pass	X	Pass	3♦	2♠	3♣
James Jacobson	Pass	Pass	X	3♦	2♠	3♣
Jay Gala	Pass	X	Pass	3♦	3♠	3♣
Jim Barrett	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	2♠	3♣
JohnMcQ	Pass	X	X	3♦	2♠	3♣
Jon Hoak	Pass	X	1NT	Pass	3♠	5♣
Jusie Clendening	Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠	X
Kevin C.	Pass	X	Pass	3♦	3♠	3♣
Kevin H.	Pass	Pass	1NT	2NT	2♠	3♣
Lanny	Pass	X	1NT	Pass	3♠	5♣
Linda	Pass	2NT	Pass	3♦	2♠	3♣
Mike Burns	Pass	Pass	X	3♦	2♠	3♣
Mike Ma	Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	3♠	5♣
Mónica	Pass	Pass	1NT	3♦	2♠	3♣
Nell Wickstrom	Pass	Pass	Pass	3♦	2♠	3♣
Pete Outcalt	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	3♠	Pass
Phyllis	Pass	X	1NT	X	3♠	3♣
Rick Read	Pass	3♣	X	Pass	2♠	X
Rod	Pass	Pass	X	X	2♠	3♣
Sue	Pass	X	X	3♦	2♠	3♣
Zigang Pan	Pass	X	Pass	X	2♠	3♣
	Pass	Pass	Pass	3♦	3♠	3♣
	Pass	Pass	X	Pass	2♠	Pass

Bob Jones March 16 Quiz



	1	2	3	4	5	6
03/16/24	Q1 – Neither vulnerable ♠K J T 7 ♥3 ♣Q J 19 7 6 4 ♦2 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST ?	Q2 – North-South vulnerable ♠K J 9 7 ♥5 ♦Q 8 6 ♦19 8 6 4 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1NT 2♥ ?	Q3 – East-West vulnerable ♠A T 7 4 ♥K 7 3 ♦A K 5 3 ♦K T WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH 1♣ Pass 1♠ ?	Q4 – Both vulnerable ♠–♥J T 7 6 ♦K T 8 7 6 3 ♦K Q J NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1♠ 2♥ ?	Q5 – North-South vulnerable ♠Q J 8 4 ♥K 3 ♦8 7 5 4 2 ♥7 5 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH 1♥ 1♣ Dbl ?	Q6 – East-West vulnerable ♠–♥1 3 ♦Q 9 7 6 5 3 ♦A K J 7 3 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♠ 1♣ Dbl 2♥ ?
Bob Jones	Pass Four low spades would not keep us from pre-empting, but four good ones will. Pass.	X In the old days, a double here was for penalties. Modern players treat it as take-out, which is far more useful. Double.	1NT A 1NT bid here must be discussed with partner, but we like it as strong, 15-18. Bid 1NT.	Pass A negative double would not be ferocious, but we prefer to make a trap pass, hoping partner will re-open with double, which we will then pass. Pass.	3♣ Bid 3♣, showing 4-card support and, at this vulnerability, 5-7 points.	5♣ A big spade raise is sure to be coming from East. You will have to bid this later anyway, so do it now. Bid 5♣.
Steve Vogel	Pass Some play that anything goes for a 1st seat preempt, but that is not my approach. I have more points in my spade suit than my diamond suit, and I would choose to pass and await further developments.	X There are a lot of options for how people play a double of a 2-level overcall of an opening strong 1NT bid, but I prefer it to be primarily for takeout.	1NT These days, pairs are opening lighter and responding lighter. Accordingly, I prefer to play that a 1NT overcall in this auction is the normal 15-18 HCP. I like the overcall better than a takeout double as it more narrowly communicates my holding to partner, who is now in a better position to place the contract.	Pass Vulnerable with a void in partner's suit, I would choose to more cautious and pass at this point. Other alternatives are to bid 2NT, 3♥ or double, and each of those has its merits. Of those three, my second choice is a negative double, where I would convert a 3♥ bid by partner to 3♥. My greatest concern is that partner will rebid spades.	2♣ We are vulnerable, the value of my ♥K is dubious, and I have no shortness. Another hand where I would be cautious and avoid a preemptive jump to 3♣.	3♣ My plan when I opened this hand was to bid clubs at my next turn. The fact that the opponents have found a spade fit makes my hand even more offensively oriented. If we have a minor suit fit and partner has the ♥A, game is on the table.
Joe Muenks	Pass I'm old-fashioned, with 4 prime cards in spades, in first seat. I'm not risking preempting our side out of our best contract.	Pass This would be a great hand to play weak negative doubles at the 2 level in this auction like some experts do, but I play Lebenschli so there are no bids to make here.	1NT With half my partners I can overcall this as a natural NT. It would be really dangerous except that folks open so light nowadays I worry less about a big penalty. With half my partners I must pass and defend since a NT here shows a weak hand 5-5+ red.	X Whereas you could pass and pull partner's mandatory double to 3♥, that should be a weaker hand, so we'll lie a little about our minor suit lengths with a negative double. Partner will not bid a simple 3♣ or 3♥ with extras.	2♣ With a poorly placed K♥, even with 4 trump I'd tread lightly since the opponents haven't found a fit and might not.	3♣ This hand begs to be declarer, so I'll bid clubs now and possibly again to force partner to pick a minor.
Bob Fisk	Pass Even if I played 2♠ as weak, I'd still pass. Partner holds A Q x x x K x A x x, and we belong in 4♣.	X I play double as negative showing competitive values or better (i.e., 6+). I don't care what partner bids. Maybe partner has the same hand I showed for Question #1 plus the ♠Q and we're on a finesse to make 5♣. What fun!	Pass How many points do you think partner has? If lefty has 12 and righty has eight (not unreasonable), partner has only three. I expect lefty to rebid 1NT, and I'd rather have them go down one in 1NT (+100) than have us possibly make 1NT (+90). It's much harder to make 1NT with 17 opposite 3 than it is to make 1NT with 12 opposite 8. Look it up on Wikipedia if you don't believe me.	X Bidding 3♥ now feels a tad aggressive (do I really want partner to rebid 4♥?), I'll double and bid 3♥ over 2♥ to show a long diamond suit, no spade tolerance, and invitational values. If partner bids 3♥ over 3♥, I'll bid 3NT. Bridge is easy!	3♣ Don't shy away from the correct bid because of the vulnerability. If the opponents want to play in 4♥, let em.	3♣ Partner's double didn't promise clubs, but you were always going to get both of your suits in the auction, weren't you? Picture partner with xxx xxx Kx Qxxx, and you have a great sacrifice in 5♣ over 4♣ (down one doubled). Sweet!
Steve Moese	Pass Some will make a weak two with any six-card suit. I prefer a disciplined approach in the first two seats. The 4-card spade suit disqualifies opening 2♠, and this hand is far from a 1♥ opening bid.	2♣ Nonforcing. Will LHO raise hearts? Will partner double? Let's find out.	1NT Natural and not Sandwich for me. Yes, they have about 18 HCP. Let them find their fit. The first to 1NT often wins.	Pass The spade void puts me off a negative double.	2♣ DON'T jump to 3♣ at unfavorable vulnerability when the K♥ might not be working and you have no values in the minors (what RHO's double shows). Nope.	3♣ "5-5 come alive" Warm partner off hearts and show them 10 of your 11 minor suit cards.
Al Venosa	Pass	X	X	X	2♣	X
Anne Cobb	Pass	Pass	2♥	3♠	2♣	3♣
AnnR	Pass	X	X	Pass	2♣	3♣
Bob K	2♣	X	1NT	3♥	2♣	3♣
Carl Willig	Pass	2NT	Pass	Pass	2♣	3♣
Cathy W	Pass	Pass	1NT	3♥	3♣	3♣
Chuck	Pass	X	1NT	3♥	2♣	3♣
Dave	Pass	X	Pass	Pass	3♣	3♣
Dean Conghalay	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣	3♣
Doug Edwards	Pass	Pass	X	Pass	2♣	Pass
Ed	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣	3♥
Gary Busch	2♣	X	X	3♥	2♣	3♣
Gary Herrington	Pass	Pass	X	Pass	2♣	3♣
George Kent	Pass	X	1NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
Greg	Pass	Pass	1NT	X	2♣	3♣
James D	Pass	X	Pass	3♥	2♣	3♣
James Jacobson	Pass	Pass	X	3♥	2♣	3♣
Jay Gala	Pass	X	Pass	3♥	3♣	3♣
Jim Barrett	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	2♣	3♣
JohnMcQ	Pass	X	X	3♥	2♣	3♣
Jon Hoak	Pass	X	1NT	Pass	3♣	5♣
Jusie Clendening	Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣	X
Kevin C.	Pass	X Negative	Pass	3♥	3♣	3♣
Kevin H.	Pass	Pass	1NT	2NT	2♣	3♣
Lanny	Pass	X 2♥ is natural	1NT 15-18	Pass	3♣	5♣
Linda	Pass	2NT Lebenschli	Pass	3♥	2♣	3♣
Mike Burns	Pass	Pass	X	3♥	2♣	3♣
Mike Ma	Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass	3♣	5♣
Mónica	Pass	Pass	1NT	3♥	2♣	3♣
Nell Wickstrom	Pass	Pass	Pass	3♥	2♣	3♣
Pete Outcalt	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	3♣	Pass
Phyllis	Pass	X	1NT	X	3♣	3♣
Rick Read	Pass	3♣	X	Pass	2♣	X
Rod	Pass	Pass	X	X	2♣	3♣
Sue	Pass	X	X	3♥	3♣	3♣
Zigang Pan	Pass	X	Pass	X Takeout	2♣	3♣
	Pass	Pass	Pass	3♥	3♣	3♣
	Pass	Pass	X	Pass	2♣	Pass Does the negative double say anything about clubs or just hearts?