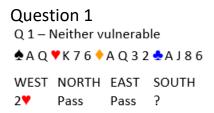
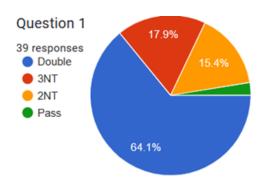
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Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz
                                           Q 2 - North-South vulnerable
GOREN BRIDGE MAY 4, 2024
                                           ♠AJ8♥J6♦KQ3♣K8753
Q 1 – Neither vulnerable
                                           SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
♠ A Q ♥ K 7 6 ♦ A Q 3 2 ♣ A J 8 6
                                           1 💠
                                                  Pass 1♠
                                                                Pass
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
                                           ?
2♥*
     Pass
             Pass
*Weak
                                           What call would you make?
What call would you make?
Q 3 - East-West vulnerable
                                           Q 4 – Both vulnerable
♠ K Q 8 6 5 ♥ K Q 6 2 ♦ 9 7 4 ♣ 6
                                           ♠QJ♥A73♦QT865♣875
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
                                           NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
                                           1NT* P
                                                         ?
1
       Pass 1♠
                     Pass
                                           *15-17
       Pass ?
20
                                           What call would you make?
What call would you make?
Q 5 - North-South vulnerable
                                           Q 6 - East-West vulnerable
♠AJ96♥AKJ♦J64♣985
                                           ♠75♥KJ64♦KT7♣KJ93
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
                                           NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1 💠
       Pass 1♥
                     Pass
                                           2NT*
                                                  Pass 34
                                                                Pass
?
                                           3
                                                  Pass
                                                        ?
                                           *20-21
What call would you make?
                                           What call would you make?
                                           Look for answers on Monday.
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Bob Jones <u>3NT</u> Hope that partner has his fair share of the missing high cards and bid 3NT.

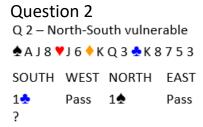
Steve Vogel \underline{X} I am too strong for an immediate overcall of 2NT. I do not view 3NT as a good option for this hand, as that would suggest a long solid suit with a heart stopper. Despite the shortness in spades, double seems right to me. I then plan to bid notrump on my next call.

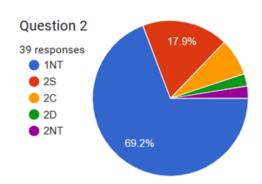
Joe Muenks $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ We'll start with a double and then bid NT next to show a hand worth 20+.

Bob Fisk <u>3NT</u> I'm too strong to bid 2NT, and doubling seems silly when I'm going to bid 3NT over any 3-level bid partner makes (or rue the fact that partner jumps to $4\frac{4}{2}$). If you play Lebensohl, it could get even worse, since partner will likely bid 2NT (relay to $3\frac{4}{2}$), and you've now wrong-sided the notrump contract (\checkmark T lead from Tx into AQJxxx.....yikes).

Steve Moese <u>3NT</u> Give partner their 7 HCP and what contract do your want? I thought so. (Opener rates to have 7-8 on average leaving 12-13 to be split between partner and RHO. 25-26 HCP are likely enough to bid game).

Mike Ma <u>3NT</u> Awhile back Mike Lawrence suggested bidding 3NT now as showing tricks (typically long m) and doubling then bidding 3NT as points. Playing Lebensohl put an end to that as partner with weak hand will bid 2NT first. In spite of 20 points, you are not happy with your hand in NT. You cannot hold up in H, and finesses require you be able to get to dummy. Nevertheless, give opener ~7 points, then partner has 6-7 on the average, so you really cannot not bid 3NT. It is not like you have a way for you to declare 2NT after finding out partner is bust.





Bob Jones 2 Perfect hand to raise with 3-card support. Bid 2 ...

Steve Vogel <u>1NT</u> My general approach is to support partner's major with GOOD 3-card support only if I have a singleton or small doubleton in a side suit. With Jx (or better) in the other major, I prefer to rebid 1NT.

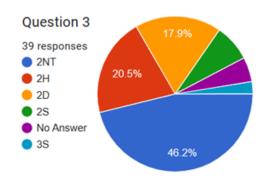
Joe Muenks <u>1NT</u> This bid often wins a lot of matchpoints. With honor-x I'm not really concerned about hearts. If the opponents rattle off some hearts tricks and use all their points in that suit, partner will have her points in more useful suits.

Bob Fisk 2♠ I'm not a huge fan of raising partner's major with only 3-card support, but this is clearly the time to do it. (1) nice trumps, (2) side-suit doubleton, and (3) high cards in my long suits. If partner bids 2NT (Spiral) asking about my raise, I'll bid 3♦ to show a maximum w/ only 3-card support.

Steve Moese **1NT** Right on strength and shape. We have tools to find the best game should partner invite, and we are happy if partner rebids spades.

Mike Ma <u>1NT</u> This is a broken record in the weekly quiz. Steve Weinstein and Bobby Levin played that if doubleton is Tx or better, they will rebid 1NT. Who am I to argue with them? It has often been said that in MP, the pair that gets to 1NT first wins. So why are people looking to get themselves away from 1NT? Responder has ways to find out about 5-3 fit in S with invitational bd or better,





Bob Jones 2NT Do not bid $2 \checkmark$ – the fourth suit. Choose between 2NT and $3 \diamondsuit$. We like 2NT.

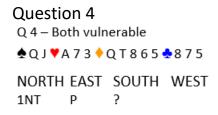
Steve Vogel <u>2NT</u> Partner could have as much as 18 points with a 2. rebid. I need to show I have more than a bare minimum by bidding 2NT. This shows 10 to a bad 12.

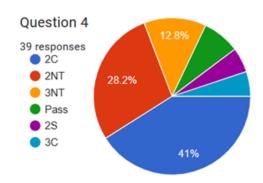
Joe Muenks 2NT You have no great bids but several good ones. The top 2 are 3♦ announcing 10+ and diamond support, or 2NT emphasizing heart strength. As with question 2 above (to the left after MB makes his spreadsheet), these NT contracts often pay good matchpoints.

Bob Fisk N/A I would have bid 2♠ over partner's 1♦ bid which I play as exactly five spades, four hearts, and invitational values (10-11 HCP). Good luck those of you who have to answer this question. I'll probably go eat some snacks while you're pondering what to do. Ummm....snacks.

Steve Moese **2NT** We have 10 HCP and want to make an invitational rebid. 3♦ is out because we need 4 card support for that bid. 2♥ is out because that's 4th suit forcing - a Game Force. 2♦ is such an underbid I shouldn't have to mention it.

Mike Ma 2 vis 4SF, but even if it is natural, the only hand opener will have 4 H is 1=4=4=4 and your agreement is that she rebids 2 vith that hand. Furthermore, that is also the only hand she will have with only 4 D and not 5+. Opener can still have a good hand up to just below JS. Anyway, you have an easy 2 vide bid. Bidding 2 vis absurd, and 2NT for the birds with your honors not in partner's suits. 3 vis bad for the same reason. On a trump lead the hand may collapse quickly.





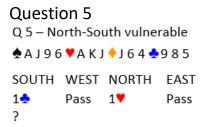
Bob Jones <u>3NT</u> 9 points and a 5-card suit should force to game. Bid 3NT.

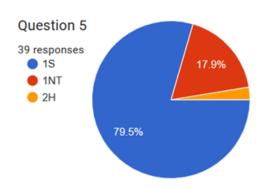
Steve Vogel <u>3NT</u> I have 9 points with a 5-card suit. In IMPs, I would unquestionably bid 3NT. It is a much closer decision in matchpoints. Still, I tend to be optimistic, and would bid 3NT there too.

Joe Muenks 2. I'll start a sequence to show 9 points, provided we're playing matchpoints. In teams, bid 3NT counting the QTxxx as a "good" 5 card suit. Bidding the game takes pressure off partner in the bidding but forces him to play the hand like a world champion sometimes.

Steve Moese 2^{\bullet} Many must invite 3NT with Stayman. 2NT or 2^{\bullet} (range ask or clubs) are common alternatives. This hand is close to a 3NT bid, but the doubleton spade honors merit a deduction.

Mike Ma 2 ↑ This hand is borderline between game bid or invite. The ↑T probably shifts it on the game side as you have better chance for 4 D tricks than Qxxxx. But in MP I will go conservative as 2NT +1 may be just as good as 3NT if 3NT requires luck/skill. Playing 4 way transfer, 2 is what it takes to invite in NT. If the decision is to bid game, the question is whether to bid 3NT or 3 as some kind of Puppet Stayman. I would bid 3 if my S were xx, but with QJ, I would just bid 3NT quick and dirty.





Bob Jones 1♠ We would not raise on 3-card support with 4-3-3-3 shape. Choose between 1♠ and 1NT. We like 1♠

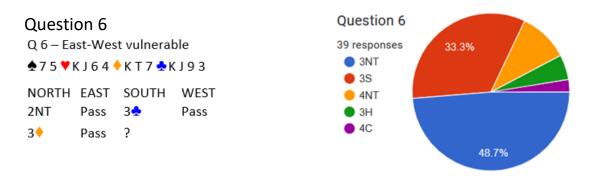
Steve Vogel <u>1♠</u> With just about all my points in the major suits, we may be better off playing in a suit. I would choose a 1♠ rebid even with my 4-3-3-3 shape. Also, if partner does not have a fit for spades, it would likely be best for notrump to be played from his/her side.

Joe Muenks 1 there are still some by-the-book bidders out there, like me. I do not play Walsh over a 1 or 1 opening so I have to bid spades in case partner is minimum with 4 spades, the master suit.

Bob Fisk 1 won't say I'll always bid 1♠ on this auction (5432 AKT KQT QJT), but I'm certainly going to bid 1♠ here. If you bid 1NT, you're going to feel silly when partner passes holding KQxx Qxxx QTxx x. Heh.

Steve Moese <u>1NT</u> Rebidding 1♠ in expert 2/1 shows an unbalanced hand with 9+ black cards.

Mike Ma <u>1NT</u> Do you bypass 4 spades and bid 1NT? You should have agreement with partner on that. It is popular to play that bidding 1♠ denies 4333, allowing responder to sign off in 2♣. But in these days of XYZ, 2♣ is conventional anyway, so I don't see what the difference is between 4333 and say 4234. Some play that rebidding 1♠ promises unbalanced hand, so singleton (likely H) and/or 5 C. If you play that way, you better know the difference between 2♠ by responder over 1NT vs 2♠.



Bob Jones 3NT You should not even think about slam. Bid 3NT.

Steve Vogel <u>3♠</u> My partner and I play Puppet Stayman over 2NT, so partner's 3♠ rebid shows at least one 4-card major. A 3♠ rebid by me shows four hearts, and allows partner to choose the best game. If partner's 3♠ bid instead denotes no 4-card major, then I would rebid 3NT.

Joe Muenks <u>3NT</u> Unless partner has distorted their hand (I rarely open 2NT with any singleton), square hands on the cusp of slam points just can't find enough tricks to make 6NT, take the +460 and run.

Bob Fisk <u>3NT</u> Since the problem suggests that 3♣ was Stayman and 3♦ was "When I count my 4-card majors, I arrive at the number zero," I have nothing to do but bid 3NT. Could 6♣ or 6♦ make? Of course they could! Could 3NT go down two? Of course it could! If situations like this bother you, play Precision and get to 7♣ opposite Axx Ax AQJx AQxx. Nuff said.

Steve Moese <u>3NT</u> With 32 HCP a live possibility, our lack of aces suggests passivity. This is a close call with 4NT my second choice.

Mike Ma 3NT I assume 3♣ was ordinary Stayman. What is the catch? You have 32 points max balanced hands, why would you consider anything other than 3NT having failed to fin 4-4 H fit?

05/04/24	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	3NT	2♠	2NT	3NT	1♠	3NT
Steve Vogel	Х	1NT	2NT	3NT	1♠	3♠
Joe Muenks	Х	1NT	2NT	2 🙏	1♠	3NT
Bob Fisk	3NT	2♠	N/A	2 🙏	1♠	3NT
Steve Moese	3NT	1NT	2NT	200	1NT	3NT
Mike Ma	3NT	1NT	2	2	1NT	3NT
Al Venosa	2NT	2NT	2 🗸	2NT	1♠	3♥
Bob K	Pass	1NT	2♠	2	1NT	3♠
Carl Willig	X	2♠	2 🗸	2NT	1♠	3♠
Carol Wilson	X	1NT	2NT	2 💠	1♠	3NT
Chuck	2NT	2•	2 🗸	2♠	1♠	3♥
Dave	X	1NT	2NT	2NT	1♠	3NT
Dean Congbalay	X	1NT	2NT	3♣	1NT	3NT
Doug Edwards	Х	1NT	2NT	2NT	1NT	3NT
Ed	2NT	1NT	2	Pass	1♠	3NT
Gary Herrington	Х	2♠	2♠	2 😓	1♠	3♠
Greg	2NT	1NT	3♠	2NT	1♠	3NT
James D	Х	1NT	2NT	3😓	1♠	3NT
James Jacobson	Х	2 💠	2NT	2NT	1♠	4💠
Jay Gala	Х	1NT	2 💙	3NT	1♠	3♠
JohnMcQ	Х	1NT	2	2NT	1♠	3NT
Jusie Clendening	3NT	1NT	2♥	2NT	1♠	3NT
Kevin C.	Χ	1NT	N/A	2 🟃	1♠	3♠
Kevin H.	3NT	1NT	2	2 😓	1NT	4NT
Lanny	Х	1NT	2	2NT	1♠	3NT
Melissa	Х	2 😓	2NT	2 😓	1♠	3♠
Mike Burns	2NT	2♠	2♠	2NT	1♠	3♠
Mónica	Х	1NT	2NT	2 😓	1♠	3♠
Nell Wickstrom	2NT	1NT	2∳	2 😓	1♠	3♠
Pam Campbell	X	1NT	2♥	2 😓	1♠	3♠
Pete Outcalt	3NT	1NT	2NT	2 😓	1♠	3♠
Rick Read	X	2♠	2♥	2♠	2♥	3NT
Robert N.	Х	1NT	2♥	Pass	1♠	3♠
Rod	X	1NT	2NT	2 😓	1NT	4NT
Sally	X	1NT	2NT	Pass	1♠	3NT
Vijay	Х	1NT	2NT	2 😓	1♠	4NT
	Х	2 😓	2	2NT	1♠	4NT
	X	1NT	2NT	3NT	1♠	3NT
	X	2♠	2NT	3NT	1♠	3NT

The Field:	39 respo Doul 3NT 2NT Pass	ble 15.4%	39 respo 1NT 2S 2C 2D 2NT	60 2%	39 resp 2NT 2H 2D 2S No A		39 respor 2 20 2 2NT 3 3NT Pass 2 2S 3 3 C		39 respo 1 1S 1 1N1 2 2H	79.5%	39 respo 3NT 3S 4NT 3H 4C	33 3N 46 7N
05/04/24	1	Q1-Neither vulnerable ♦AQ♥K76♦AQ32♣AJ86 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH 2♥ Pass Pass ?	2	Q 2 - North-South vulnerable A J 8 16 C 3 K R 7 5 3 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST Pass 1 Pass Pass	3	Q3 - East-West vulnerable ♠KQ865 ♥KQ62 ♦974 ♣6 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1♠ Pass 1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass ?	4	Q.4 – Both vulnerable •Q.1 •A.73 •Q.7865 •875 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST INT P ?	5	Q.5 – North-South vulnerable ♦ A J 9 G **A K J ** J 6 4 **9 8 5 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1 ** Pass 1 ** Pass ?	6	Q6 - East-West vulnerable \$\phi75\forall \times \times \text{17} \phi \text{19} 3 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 2NT Pass 3\phi Pass 3\phi Pass ?
Bob Jones	3NT	Hope that partner has his fair share of the missing high cards and bid 3NT.	2♠	Perfect hand to raise with 3-card support. Bid 2.	2NT	Do not bid 2♥ – the fourth suit. Choose between 2NT and 3♦. We like 2NT.		9 points and a 5-card suit should force to game. Bid 3NT.	1♠	We would not raise on 3-card support with 4-3-3-3 shape. Choose between 1♠ and 1NT. We like 1♠	3NT	You should not even think about a Bid 3NT.
Steve Vogel	x	I am too strong for an immediate overcall of 2N.1.1 do not view 3NT as a good option for this hand, as that would suggest a long solid suit with a heart stopper. Despite the shortness in spades, double seems right to me. I then plan to bid notrump on my next call.	1NT	My general approach is to support partner's major with GOOD 3-card support only if I have a singleton or small doubleton in a side suit. With Jx (or better) in the other major, I prefer to rebid 1NT.	2NT	Partner could have as much as 18 points with a 2* rebid. I need to show I have more than a bare minimum by bidding 2NT. This shows 10 to a bad 12.	3NT	I have 9 points with a 5-card suit, in IMPs, I would unquestionably bid 3NT. It is a much closer decision in matchpoints. Still, I tend to be optimistic, and would bid 3NT there too.	1♣	With just about all my points in the major suits, we may be better off playing in a suit. I would choose a 1± rebid even with my 4-3-3-3 shape. Also, if partner does not have a fit for spades, it would likely be best for notrump to be played from his/her side.	3♣	My partner and I play Puppet Sta over 2NT, so partner's 3- rebid s at least one 4-card major. A 3-er by me shows four hearts, and allo partner to choose the best game, partner's 3-e bid instead denotes card major, then I would rebid 3N
Joe Muenks	x	We'll start with a double and then bid NT next to show a hand worth 20+.	1NT	This bid often wins a lot of matchpoints. With honor-x i'm not really concerned about hearts. If the opponents rattle off some hearts tricks and use all their points in that suit, partner will have her points in more useful suits.	2NT	You have no great bids but several good ones. The top 2 are 3* announcing 10+ and diamond support, or 2NT emphasizing heart strength. As with question 2 above (to the left after MB makes his spreadsheet), these NT contracts often pay good matchpoints.	2*	I'll start a sequence to show 9 points, provided we're playing matchpoints. In teams, bid 3NT counting the QTTxx as a "good" 5 card suit. Bidding the game takes pressure off partner in the bidding but forces him to play the hand like a world champion sometimes.	1♣	There are still some by-the-book bidders out there, like me. I do not play Walsh over a 1 to 11 opening so I have to bid spades in case partner is minimum with 4 spades, the master suit.	3NT	Unless partner has distorted thei (I rarely open 2NT with any single square hands on the cusp of slan points just carn't find enough trick make 6NT, take the +460 and rui
Bob Fisk	3NT	Im too strong to bid 2NT, and doubling seems silly when Im going to bid 3NT over any 3-level bid partner makes (or rue the fact that partner jumps to 49). If you play Leabneshil, it could get even worse, since partner will likely bid 2NT (reley to 34), and you've now wrong-sided the notrump contract (*T lead from Tx into AQJxxxyikes).	2♠	I'm not a huge fan of raising partner's major with only 3-card support, but this is clearly the time to do it. (1) nice trumps. (2) side-suit doubleton, and (3) high cards in my long suits. If partner bids 2NT (Spiral) asking about my raise, I'll bid 3+ to show a maximum w/ only 3-card support.	N/A	I would have bid 2\$\infty\$ over partner's 10 bid which I play as exactly five spades, four hearts, and invitational values (10-11 HCP). Good luck those of you who have to answer this question. III probably go eat some snacks while you're pondering what to do. Ummmsnacks.	2.	I play 4-suit transfers, so I can't simply bid 2NT as an invitation to game. This hand isn't quite game forcing, so I'm not tempted to bid 36-card Staymon, it looks like a balanced hand with 8-9 HCP. Duh.	1♣	I won't say I'll always bid 1 the on this auction (5432 AKT KQT QJT), but I'm certainly going to bid 1 the here. If you bid 1NT, you're going to feel silly when partner passes holding KQxx Qxxx QTxx x. Heh.	3NT	Since the problem suggests that was Stayman and 3* was "When count my 4-card majors, I ard majors, a lard en number zero," I have nothing to did 3NT. Could 6* or 6* majors, and course they could Could 3NT go two? O' course it could if situating like this bother you, play Precisio get to 7* copposite Axx AX AQJX / Mutficald.
Steve Moese	3NT	Give partner their 7 HCP and what contract do your want? I thought so. (Opener rates to have 7-8 on average leaving 12-13 to be split between partner and RHO. 25-26 HCP are likely enough to bid game).	1NT	Right on strength and shape. We have tools to find the best game should partner invite, and we are happy if partner rebids spades.	2NT	We have 10 HCP and want to make an invitational rebid. 3º is out because we need 4 card support for that bid. 2º is out because that's 4th suit forcing - a Game Force. 2º is such an underbid I shouldn't have to mention it.	2.	Many must invite 3NT with Stayman, 2NT or 2♠ (range ask or clubs) are common alternatives. This hand is close to a 3NT bid, but the doubleton spade honors merit a deduction.	1NT	Rebidding 1 • in expert 2/1 shows an unbalanced hand with 9+ black cards.	3NT	With 32 HCP a live possibility, or of aces suggests passivity. This close call with 4NT my second of
Mike Ma	3NT	Annihi back Mille Lawrence suggested biologing NTn one as showing tricks (typically long m) and doubling then biologing NTn one prints. Playing Lebensoni put an and to that as prather with week hand will bid ZNT first. In spile of 20 points, put are not languy with your hand in NT. You cannot hold up in H, and finesses require you be able to get to dummy. Nevertheless, give opener -7 points, then partner has 6-7 on the everage, so you really cannot not bid SNT. it is not like you have a way for you to declare 2NT after finding out partner is bust.	1NT	This is a broken record in the weekly quic. Steve Weinstein and Bobby Levin played that if doubleton is Tx or beter, they rebid 1NT. Who am 1b argue with them? It has often been said that in NP. the pair that gets to 1NT first wins. So why are people looking to get themselves away from INT? Responder has ways to find out about 5-3 ft in S with invitational bd or better.	2*	2º is 45°. Dut even if it is natural, the only hand opens will have 4° H is 1444-444 and your agreement is that she rebicts 2.6 with that hand, and your agreement is that she rebicts 2.6 with that hand, of the will have with only 4.0 and not 5.4 Copens can still save a good hand up to just belve u.5 Aryway. Just here an easy 2.6 bid. Bidding 2° is abourt, and 21.1 To the birds with your honors not in partner's stulls. 3° is bos for the same reason. On a trump lead the hand may collapse quickly.		This hand is bordsrine between game bid or into. The # T probably shifls it ton the game side as you have better chance for 4 D tricks than Cxxxx. But in MP I will go conservative a STYT + I may be just as good as 3NT if 3NT requires luckskill, Playing 4 way transfer. 2-6 is what it takes to invite in NT. If the decision is to bid game, the question is whether to bid 3NT or 3-6 as some kind of Puppet Stayman I would bid 3-6 if my Sweer Xx, but with QJ, I would just bid 3NT guids and dirty.	1NT	Do you bypass 4 spodes and bid 1NT You should have agreement with partner on that. It is popular to play that bidding 1 denies 4333, allowing responder to sign off in 2.6. But in these days of NYZ, 2.6 is conventional anyway, so I don't see what the difference is between 4333 and say 4234. Some play that rebidding 14 promises unbalanced hand, so singlish (sile) Hy I andore? C. If you play that way, you better know the difference between 2.6 by responder over 1NT vs 2.6.	3NT	I assume 34- was ordinary Stayl What is the catch? You have 32 cames had not seen and the seen a
Al Venosa	2NT		2NT		2♥		2NT		1♠		3♥	
ob K arl Willig	Pass		1NT 2♠		2∳			then 2NT then 2NT	1NT		3♠	
arol Wilson	X		1NT		2NT			then 2NT	1 🖢		3NT	
nuck	2NT		2		2.		2♠		1♠		3♥	
ave ean Congbalay	X		1NT 1NT		2NT 2NT		2NT 3♣		1♠ 1NT		3NT 3NT	
oug Edwards	X		1NT		2NT		2NT		1NT		3NT	
d	2NT		1NT		20		Pass		1♠		3NT	
ary Herrington	X		2♠		2♠		2.		1♠			Showing 4 hearts
ireg ames D	2NT X		1NT		3♠ 2NT		2NT	5-card staymen	1 ♠ 1 ♠		3NT 3NT	
ames Dacobson	X		2.		2NT		2NT		10		44	
ay Gala	X		1NT		2♥		3NT		1♠		3♠	
ohnMcQ	X		1NT		20		2NT		1♠		3NT	
usie Clendening evin C.	3NT X		1NT		2♥ N/A	Would have responded 2€	2NT		1 ♠		3NT	Showing 4 hearts
evin C. evin H.	3NT		1NT		2+	Troud nave responded 24	2.		1NT		4NT	
anny	Х		1NT		20			transfer to diamonds	1♠		3NT	
Melissa	X		2.		2NT		2		1♠			Showing 4 hearts
Mike Burns Mónica	2NT X		2♠ 1NT		2♠ 2NT			transfer to diamonds then 2NT	1♠			Showing 4 hearts Showing 4 hearts
ionica Iell Wickstrom	2NT		1NT		20		2.		1 ♠ 1 ♠			Showing 4 hearts
am Campbell	X		1NT			Would have responded 2♣	2.		1.		V×.	Showing 4 hearts
ete Outcalt	3NT		1NT		2NT		2 💠		1♠		3♠	
Rick Read	X		2♠		2♥		2♠	transfer to minors	2♥		3NT	