

Bob Jones October 28 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz
GOREN BRIDGE OCTOBER 28, 2023

Q1 – Neither vulnerable

♠Q T 7 6 ♥T ♦Q 8 7 5 4 ♣J 9 8

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT* 2♥** ?

*15-17

**Assume natural

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠A 7 3 ♥7 ♦A Q T 7 5 ♣K 8 7 4

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass

2NT Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠A Q T 7 6 ♥K Q 7 6 ♦Q T 7 ♣K

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♠ Pass 1NT Pass

2♥ Pass 2♠ Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠A K 8 7 ♥6 ♦K J 6 ♣A J 9 7 6

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass

1♠ Pass 1NT Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠A K 5 ♥A Q J T 6 ♦A 5 ♣A Q J

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

2♦* Pass 2NT Pass

3♦ Pass ?

*Weak

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠A K J ♥A 8 7 4 ♦K Q 5 ♣T 6 3

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♣ ?

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

Bob Jones October 28 Quiz

Question 1

Q1 – Neither vulnerable

♠QT76♥T♦Q8754♣J98

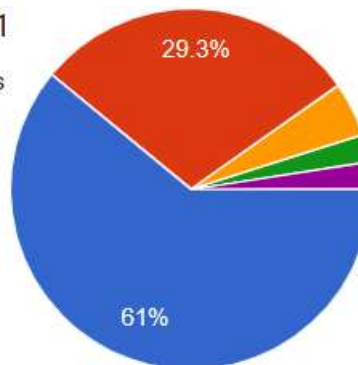
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT 2♥ ?

Question 1

41 responses

- Pass
- Double
- 2NT
- 3C
- 2S



Bob Jones **X** In Charles Goren's day double here was for penalties. Modern players use it for take-out. It gives you a way to compete on hands like this. Dbl.

Steve Vogel **2NT** (Lebensohl) My partners and I play that a double of 2♥ in this auction shows card (8-9 points), which I do not have. Accordingly, my options are to pass, bid 2♠ or 2NT (Lebensohl) with the intention of settling in 3♦. Non-vulnerable, I would choose to take a chance on 3♦ and hope for the best. If your partnership agreement is that a double is for takeout, I would go for that.

Joe Muenks **Pass** Reserve bidding to show something, so pass with hands that are an assortment of junk like this random 5 count of queens and a jack.

Bob Fisk **Pass** I'm too light to make a negative double, and choosing to try and play in 3♦ with that moth-eaten suit seems cray-cray (as the kids say). Let the opponents struggle playing with a bad trump split.

Steve Moese **Pass** The alternatives are poor. 2♠ to play tempts a 4-2 or 4-3 fit. 2NT (Lebensohl) then 3♦ to play on such a poor suit is no better. 3♥ Stayman without a stopper in hearts is an overbid. We need at least invitational values for that. Pass and await developments.

Mike Ma **Pass** I prefer to play penalty double here. So it is an obvious pass for me. In established partnerships, we do have ways for opener to systematically reopen with 3♥, showing 3 or 2 differently. There is a danger here that opps have 10 hearts and can make 4. But I don't know how to prevent that or if passing or bidding would help to do so, The aggressive modern style of overcalling 1NT allows them to get in our way but also gets it their way. For those that play negative X, if you X, and opener has 3=3=3=4, does she bid 2♠ and risk playing in 3-3 fit, or bid 3♣ and play 4=3 fit at 3 level? One example of why I don't like playing negative double here.

Bob Jones October 28 Quiz

Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠AK87 ♥6 ♦KJ6 ♣AJ976

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass

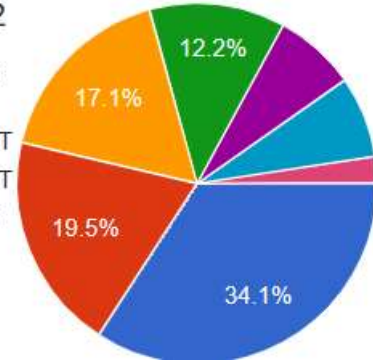
1♠ Pass 1NT Pass

?

Question 2

41 responses

2D 3NT
2C 2NT
Pass 3C
3D



Bob Jones **2♦** Game is still possible. Bid 2♦, alerting partner to your heart shortage. He should know what to do.

Steve Vogel **3♦** If partner has a maximum, game is possible in either diamonds or notrump. I believe the best way to convey both my strength and shape is to make a jump rebid in diamonds.

Joe Muenks **2♦** You'd prefer to have 17 for this bid, but 16 is fine. You show 4-0-3/4-6/5 or 4-1-3-5 distribution and want partner to bid more. Note the opponents have a big heart fit for a partial or sacrifice so cut their bidding out before they even start.

Bob Fisk **2♦** I'm maximum for the auction, so I need to bid out my shape. If partner is paying attention, partner will know that I'm 4-1-3-5. I won't try and guess at the likelihood that my partner is paying attention (partner is probably checking to see if it's lunch time).

Steve Moese **2NT** Invite partner to 3NT if they hold 8-9 HCP. Partner knows we are unbalanced and with 4 spades and 5 clubs (we rebid 1NT if balanced) most of the time (4=1=4=4 is the only unbalanced exception. Everything in bridge has an exception). If they rebid 3♣ or 3♦ diamonds we pass.

Mike Ma **3♦** Playing "Walsh style", responder should not have 4 hearts here. So opps have 9+ but have not come in. Game is not out of the question, I bid 3♦ now, which will make my distribution and strength clear. If partner has e.g. ♦AQxxx or even just Axxxx and a heart stopper, 3NT will be odds on.

Bob Jones October 28 Quiz

Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠A 7 3 ♥7 ♦A Q T 7 5 ♣K 8 7 4

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

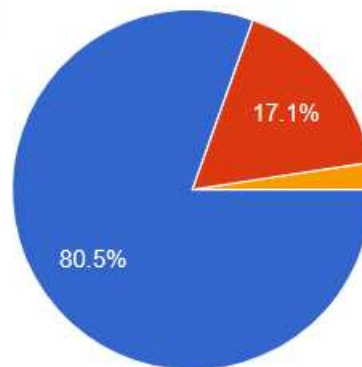
1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass

2NT Pass ?

Question 3

41 responses

- 3NT
- 3C
- Pass



Bob Jones **3NT** You have no real slam interest and no-trump seems OK. Bid 3NT. Don't make extra bids without a good purpose.

Steve Vogel **3NT** With this minimum hand and no fit with partner, I believe it is best to settle in 3NT rather than exploring a minor suit fit.

Joe Muenks **3NT** When we started bidding we were unsure if we're going for game or slam, but I play partner's rebid is limited to 12-14 and never a waiting bid with a big NT (18-19), therefore given the heart mismatch, game is the limit and we know 3NT is the best contract, so just bid it.

Bob Fisk **3NT** What else? It's not like I have extras or that my club suit is worth mentioning because it's so awesome. You'd bid 3♣ here with the same HCP if you held something like Ax x AQTxx KTxxx.

Steve Moese **3NT** We have no further ambitions with our misfit. Partner is 12-14 or 18-19. With 18-19 they will make one more move over 3NT. If they rebid 4NT inviting 6, we accept by bidding 5♣, showing 5 diamonds and 4 clubs.

Mike Ma **3NT** A lot depends on the style of opener rebidding 2NT. Would she do it with ♠xx or even ♠x! If not, I just bid 3NT. If yes, I may bid 3♣ and see what develops. Opener can still bid 3♥ with difficult hands. My vote here assumes opener will NOT bid 2NT with a small doubleton side suit. Hands like this is why many now play rebidding 2M as showing 5 and 2NT as 6+.

Bob Jones October 28 Quiz

Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠A K 5 ♥A Q J T 6 ♦A 5 ♣A Q.

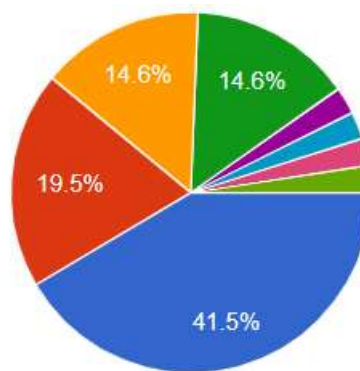
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

2♦ Pass 2NT Pass

3♦ Pass ?

Question 4

41 responses



Bob Jones **6♦** Partner has shown a minimum. Give up on seven and bid 6♦, not 6NT. A ruff might be the only entry to his hand to take a finesse.

Steve Vogel **6♦** I assume partner's 3♦ bid shows a minimum hand, but they did make a vulnerable 2♦ opening bid (our vulnerable weak 2 bids show a good suit above all else). When faced with decisions like this one, I try to visualize partner's hand. If they have as little as KQxxxx of diamonds, we are odds-on favorites to make 6♦. If the suit is not quite as good, they should have an outside honor, again making 6♦ likely. There is something to be said for 6NT so that my tenaces are protected, but I would choose the normally safer 6♦

Joe Muenks **4♦** There are so many problems with this question but I'll assume 4♦ is keycard for diamonds and 3♦ was encouraging. Normally I'd bid 4♣ directly over 2♦ to ask poor man's keycard, which allows the preempter to show the ♦K and/or ♦Q with one reply so I can place the contract.

Bob Fisk **N/A** Not sure why I didn't bid 2♥ (forcing) over 2♦ to see if partner has a third heart. I'm also not sure why I didn't trot out 4♣ (Poor Man's Blackwood) immediately over 2♦ to see if partner was xx xx KQxxxx xxx, since 6NT is a really good contract opposite that hand (two spade tricks, four hearts, six diamonds, and one club). If partner didn't have the ♦KQ, I could always sign off in 4NT.

Steve Moese **6NT** We can only count 10 top tricks if partners diamonds are at least as good as KQ10xxx. Partner shouldn't have less for a vulnerable weak 2. However their 3♦ rebid then denies a side king. However we have all 3 side suits double stopped. That means we can afford to lose 1 heart trick in 6NT while developing our 12th trick. 2 spades, 3 hearts, 6 diamonds and 1 club adds up to 12.

Mike Ma **3♥** First, I would have bid 4♣ preempt Blackwood my first time. If opener shows 6 diamonds to KQ, I am bidding 6♦ or 6NT or exploring grand slam. Second, does Goren Quiz play 2♥ as NF(!), and what is 2NT? Is 3♥ forcing now? Do I have an RKC bid? Not knowing how any of this works, I bid 3♥ forcing. Opener can always bid 3♠ over 3♥ to temporize without 3 hearts.

Bob Jones October 28 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

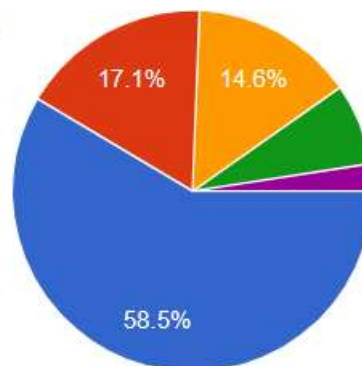
♠AQT76 ♥KQ76 ♦QT7 ♣K

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
?			

Question 5

41 responses

- Pass
- 4S
- 3S
- 3D
- 4NT



Bob Jones **3♦** Too soon to give up. Bid 3♦, alerting partner about your club shortage. He'll know what to do.

Steve Vogel **Pass** Are there hands partner might have which will produce game? Sure. Think Jx Ax KJxx xxxxx. But there are so many others, where we might even have to struggle to make 2♠. I believe that making a game try and raising the contract to at least 3♠ loses more often than it gains.

Joe Muenks **Pass** This is a hard hand to value, but 2♠ is discouraging with either 2 spades and 6-9 pts or 3 spades and 6-7 points. The singleton king and QT7 suits look worrisome should I reach game so I'll take my plus in the partial. (In teams, I offer.)

Bob Fisk **3♦** A repeat of Q2. I'm maximum for my 2♥ bid, so I'll bid out my shape. It's quite possible that we'll end up in 3NT if partner holds something similar to Jx Txx KJxx QJxx.

Steve Moese **Pass** Sure we have 16 HCP, but the ♣K is not pulling full weight. Besides, partner will rebid 2NT with 2 spades and 10-11 points. Make this hand AQ1076 KQ76 KQ7 10 and rebidding 3♦ now makes sense.

Mike Ma **3♦** 3♦ shows my extra strength and shape. If responder has weak hand with 2 spades and 3 hearts, she should pass 2♥ and not give me another chance. The worst that can happen with 3♦ is we end up in 3♠ on a 5-2 fit.

Bob Jones October 28 Quiz

Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠ A K J ♥ A 8 7 4 ♦ K Q 5 ♣ T 6 3

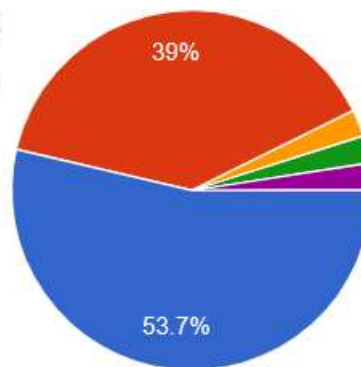
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♣ ?

Question 6

41 responses

- Double
- 1NT
- Pass
- 1H
- 1D



Bob Jones **X** This is flawed, but bidding NT without a stopper in their suit is a poor idea.

Steve Vogel **1NT** The question on this one is whether to overcall 1NT without a club stopper, but descriptive of this hand otherwise, or to make a takeout double. I would not consider making a 1NT overcall without a stopper over any suit other than clubs, but I think it is better overall to do so on this hand, which allows partner to place the final contract much better than if I start with a takeout double. It will only occasionally work out poorly.

Joe Muenks **1NT** True your club stopper is an illusion but you've described your hand nicely for partner. Let's hope for a transfer not a leap to 3NT with the first 5 club tricks going to east.

Bob Fisk **1NT** (15-18). I know, I know, I don't have a club stopper. Sue me.

Steve Moese **X** We have an opening hand with support for the other three suits and no suit ready for an overcall. I need AQ10x or better in hearts to overcall here with only 4. 1N without a stop is a poor choice.

Mike Ma **1NT** Bid 1NT and get it out of my system. If the opening was 1♥, and my hearts and clubs are interchanged, I will start with a X. I am not that concerned with having xxx on a 1m opening (I even have the 10! 😊).

Bob Jones October 28 Quiz

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	X	2♦	3NT	6♦	3♦	X
Steve Vogel	2NT	3♦	3NT	6♦	Pass	1NT
Joe Muenks	Pass	2♦	3NT	4♦	Pass	1NT
Bob Fisk	Pass	2♦	3NT	N/A	3♦	1NT
Steve Moese	Pass	2NT	3NT	6NT	Pass	X

SM: Have you thanked a club owner or director today? Think about all they do so we can enjoy bridge.

AnnR	Pass	Pass	3♣	4NT	Pass	X
Bob K	X	2♣	3♣	3NT	Pass	X
Carl Willig	2♠	3♦	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
Carol Wilson	Pass	2♦	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
Cathy W	X	Pass	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
Chuck	X	3NT	Pass	6♦	4♠	1NT
Dave	Pass	2♣	3NT	6NT	4♠	X
Dean Congbalay	Pass	2♦	3NT	6NT	Pass	Pass
Doug Edwards	Pass	3♦	3NT	3NT	3♠	X
Ed	X	2♣	3NT	6NT	4♠	1NT
Gary Busch	X	2♦	3NT	4NT	Pass	X
Greg	2NT	2♣	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
James Jacobson	3♣	3♣	3NT	3NT	3♠	1NT
Jan	Pass	2NT	3NT	4NT	4♠	X
Jay Gala	X	2♦	3NT	4NT	Pass	1NT
JohnMcQ	Pass	2♦	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
Jon Hoak	Pass	2♦	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
Kevin C.	Pass	2♣	3♣	3NT	Pass	1NT
Kevin H.	Pass	2♦	3NT	6♦	Pass	1NT
Lanny	Pass	3NT	3NT	6♦	4NT	1NT
Linda	Pass	2♦	3NT	3NT	Pass	1NT
Martha	Pass	Pass	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
Mike Burns	X	2♣	3♣	6♦	Pass	X
Mike Ma	Pass	3♦	3NT	3♥	3♦	1NT
Nell Wickstrom	Pass	2♦	3♣	6♦	Pass	1NT
Pete Outcalt	Pass	Pass	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
Phyllis	Pass	Pass	3NT	3NT	Pass	X
Rick Read	Pass	3♦	3♣	5♦	3♠	1♥
Robert Nowacki	X	Pass	3NT	4NT	4♠	1NT
Rod	X	2♦	3♣	6NT	4♠	1♦
Sue	Pass	2♣	3NT	3NT	3♠	X
Vijay	Pass	2♦	3NT	6♦	3♠	X
Zigang Pan	X	2NT	3NT	4NT	3♠	X
	Pass	Pass	3NT	6NT	Pass	X
	X	3NT	3NT	3NT	4♠	1NT
	Pass	2♣	3NT	3NT	Pass	1NT

