

## Bob Jones August 19 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz

GOREN BRIDGE AUGUST 19, 2023

Q1 – Neither vulnerable

♠9 3 ♥A K 7 5 3 ♦5 3 ♣K J 6 4

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♣ Pass 1♥ Pass

1♠ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q T 7 5 ♥Q T 5 3 ♦8 ♣K 8 7 4

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

2♦ Dbl Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠Q 8 7 4 ♥A Q 7 6 4 ♦9 ♣A Q 6

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♦ ?

What is your plan?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠9 8 3 ♥A T 9 6 4 3 ♦8 7 ♣K 6

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

2♥ Pass 2NT Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠Q T 9 8 6 3 ♥A 8 7 5 ♦J 8 ♣9

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

P P ?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠7 ♥A K 7 6 4 ♦8 7 6 5 3 2 ♣8

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♣ Pass 1♠ ?

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

Don't miss out on the NAP qualifying games. The qualifiers get cash to travel to Louisville in March 2024! That's a HOME NABC for all of us!

See Mike Ma on hand #4 for an excellent discussion on opening the bidding in third seat.

# Bob Jones August 19 Quiz

## Question 1

Q1 – Neither vulnerable

♠9 3 ♥A K 7 5 3 ♦5 3 ♣K J 6 4

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

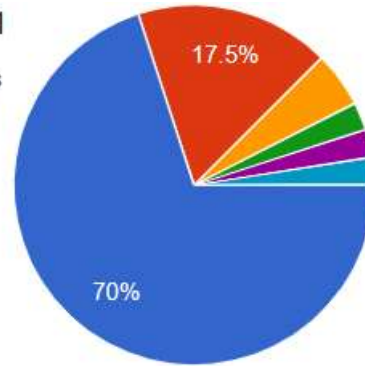
1♣ Pass 1♥ Pass

1♠ Pass ?

## Question 1

40 responses

- 2C
- 2D
- 3C
- 2NT
- 2H
- 3H



Bob Jones 3♣ This hand is not quite good enough to force to game. Bid 3♣, invitational.

Steve Vogel 2♣ (XYZ) With this invitational hand, I will bid 2♣ (XYZ) then follow up with 2H over partner's forced 2♦ rebid.

Joe Muenks 2♣ XYZ. Oh, to overbid (2NT right on values but not a semblance of a diamond stopper or 2♦ game force hoping partner raises hearts or bids NT next) or underbid (1NT with a really prime 11 and a 5-card suit, 3♣ [or your version of that bid]). I'm going conservative this time, though don't count on me doing that at the table depending on my mood and game status. Note, unless partner is 4-3-3-3 exactly they have 4+ clubs.

Bob Fisk 2♣ (XYZ). I have an invitational hand with five Hearts. What could be easier? Riding a bicycle? Nope. Falling off a chair? Nope. 1-2-3? Nope. This is the easiest thing.

Steve Moese 2♣ This answer depends on your agreements. Playing XYZ we rebid 2♣ ARTIFICIAL, showing some invitational hand. With 2=5=2=4 we then rebid 3♣. Playing standard, we jump to 3♣ immediately. We need a diamond stop for 2NT. We are not strong enough for other actions.

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### Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠9 8 3 ♥A T 9 6 4 3 ♦8 7 ♣K 6

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

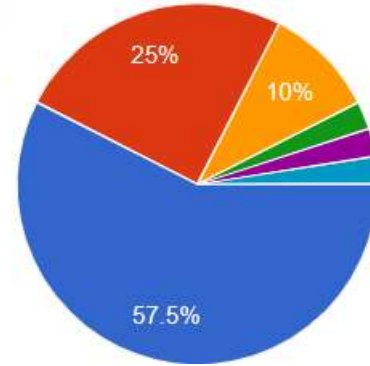
2♥ Pass 2NT Pass

?

### Question 2

40 responses

- 3C
- 3H
- No Answer
- Pass
- 3NT
- 3D



Bob Jones **3♥** Partner has asked minimum or maximum. This hand is a minimum. Do not show the club feature, just bid 3♥.

Steve Vogel **3♣** My partners and I play Ogust, both vulnerable and non-vulnerable. I view this as a minimum hand, especially vulnerable.

Joe Muenks **3♥** Playing OGUST we have a good hand, 9 playing points-ish, but a poor suit. Playing feature we bid 3♣ to show our honor there and a good hand.

Bob Fisk **N/A** I wouldn't have opened this pile-o-goo in first seat at unfavorable vulnerability. So there.

Steve Moese **3♣** This also depends on our agreements. For 2/1 and the common 5-10 HCP weak two we have to choose how we use 2NT. Ogust rebids 3♣ as here. Feature responses choose 3♥ with all minimums. (For many this hand is NOT a VULNERABLE first seat weak two - me included). I play 2-9 HCP Weak twos in a Precision context (we open 10 HCP hands with a 5-card Major 1M) and would rebid 3♥ in Ogust and 3♣ in feature, but would still not open 2♥ in first seat. We need 2 of the top 3 honors to open vulnerable in first and second seat.

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### Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q T 7 5 ♥Q T 5 3 ♦8 ♣K 8 7 4

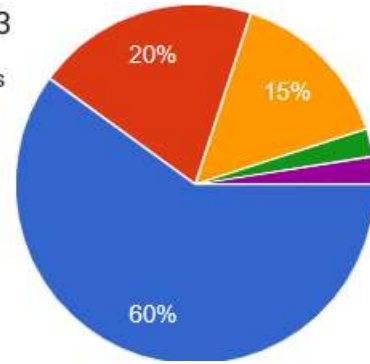
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

2♦ Dbl Pass ?

### Question 3

40 responses

- 2H
- 3D
- 2S
- 3H
- 2NT



Bob Jones **2♠** Bidding 3♦ to let partner pick the major is tempting, but this hand is not good enough. Bid 2♠, preparing to bid hearts if you get another chance.

Steve Vogel **3♦** This is a close decision, and my good intermediates lead me to be offense minded. Playing Lebensohl, a 3♦ bid is Stayman without a stopper, forcing to game. If partner has no 4-card major, we may get too high, but otherwise, we should have a decent play for game.

Joe Muenks **2♠** When partner may double and bid, I like to stay out of the way. If you bid 3♦, is partner to jump with extras or pick a suit? When they do either, what are you doing next? I think East forgot to preempt further, so I'll bid 3♥ if it goes (2♦) - X - (P) - 2♠; (P) - P - (3♦) - 3♥.

Bob Fisk **3♦** Stayman w/o a stopper. I'm a bit light on HCP, but my shape more than makes up for that. That said, I'll have a tougher time deciding what to do over partner's 3M bid (passing is reasonable).

Steve Moese **3♦** Assuming East is an expert we can make the following assumption. East will raise to 3♦ with 3+ Diamond cards. So give them 2 diamonds. That means partner doubled with 4 diamonds. That's either a very strong suited hand or a very strong NT hand (most play 1NT instead shows 15-18, or a balanced hand 15+ with no diamond stop). Opposite all of those options, 3♦ says pick a major and by the way I do not have a NT stopper in diamonds. We have minimum values for this bid.

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### Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠Q T 9 8 6 3 ♥A 8 7 5 ♦J 8 ♣9

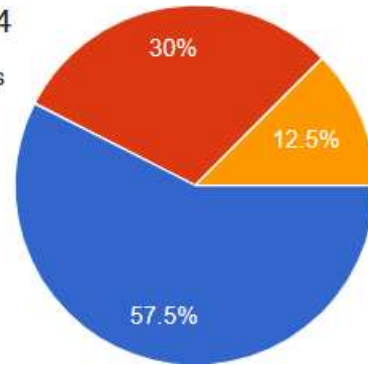
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

P P ?

### Question 4

40 responses

● 2S  
● Pass  
● 1S



Bob Jones **2♠** Your side does not have a game, but your opponents might. Make it harder for them to bid it by opening 2♠.

Steve Vogel **2♠** Given partner's pass, we know the opponents have the majority of the high cards. In this situation, I believe it is best to make things difficult for them by preempting. There is some risk, but I have decent shape and enough quality in my suit for this bid.

Joe Muenks **2♠** Some hate to preempt with 4 of the other major or prime aces (that was a 1990's thing, long since out of norm), but the idea for each was to avoid preempting partner from finding the best contract. Once partner passes you can take all kinds of liberties.

Bob Fisk **2♠** My Spade suit is SOOOO much better than my heart suit, so I'll go ahead and bury my Hearts. My LHO has a good hand, so let's make it awkward for them to get in the auction.

Steve Moese **2♠** After two passes we can assume west has 17 HCP or so and that opponents will have values for game. How? When two passes occur, about 16 HCP are shared between those hands on average (on average means never exactly). We have a 6-card spade suit and need to eliminate space from the opponents' auction. Our short minors are an asset. In first or second seat we likely pass because of our 4-card heart suit, but not in third seat. Pressure bridge makes bidding difficult for the opponents. 2♠ makes them start at the 3 level. -800 here means they have to take 8 tricks on defense - don't think so. -500 is a good sac opposite their likely game.

Mike Ma On average, your LHO will have 17, maybe significantly more. So, 100% it is their hand (even if your partner has 11, your side only has 18). And  $17 + 8 = 25$ , game. So, it is likely they have game and you want to get in their way. Probably they won't have slam, so your target is to stop them from probing for their best game if they have enough for game.

In 3<sup>rd</sup> seat, when it is their hand, a side 4M is not an issue. It may even be an asset.

What about rule for 2-3-4. Once you decide they may well have enough for game, then in 3<sup>rd</sup> seat, you can even be more aggressive than 2-3-4. How many tricks do you anticipate in spades? If you count losers, you have 2 spades, 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and 1 club = 7. Loser count is a bit tricky with a Queen

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high suit in trumps, but the T9 should offer you protection. So, counting losers, you are off by 2 in 2♠, well within the 2-3-4 rule for equal V. In principle you are willing to risk down 4 3rd seat equal V (one more than 2-3-4).

Let's try counting tricks. In spades, assuming normal 3-2-2 break, you figure to take 4 tricks, 5 if you are lucky. Your ♥A is a sure trick, and the 4th card may come in (or partner may be able to ruff). So roughly same estimate as losers, about 6 tricks. Again, well within 2-3-4.

So, no question you can afford to open 2♠. What about 3? If the ♥A and a ♠x are interchanged, I would be tempted to put the pressure on and bid 3♠. But with defense (♥A) and this suit (compare to QJT9xx), I would not feel comfortable with 3♠. If NV, I would go 3♠ for sure.

When suits and values are non-pure, estimating tricks is not that simple, and hard to figure 2-3-4. Some are optimistic and some pessimistic. Since 2-3-4 is already aggressive, I would try to be not crazy in optimism. It all depends on who my opponents are of course in terms of how aggressive they are in penalizing me.

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### Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠Q 8 7 4 ♥A Q 7 6 4 ♦9 ♣A Q 6

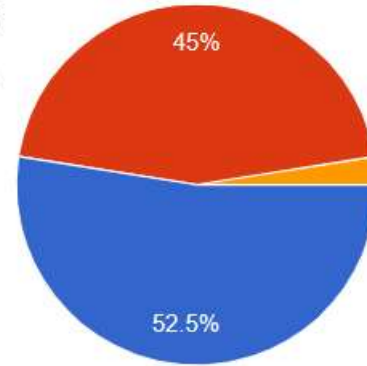
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♦ ?

### Question 5

40 responses

● Double  
● 1H  
● 2D



Bob Jones 1♥ Doubling and bidding hearts later shows a big heart hand, not support for the other suits. Bid 1♥, planning to double later if they persist in diamonds.

Steve Vogel 1♥ When I have a 5-card major and a decent hand, I like to overcall in that suit and hold a double in reserve for my next bid if partner does not support me.

Joe Muenks 1♥ Many would double here, increasing the likelihood of finding a fit three fold! Wow they are smart. However, my style is to overcall my 5-card major hoping to catch 3+ in partner's hand first, and failing that, hope I can double to show more flexibility. Also, I prefer a heart lead to a spade.

Bob Fisk X (Of course). What else?

Steve Moese 1♥ While I expect many will choose double, this hand is good enough to bid hearts and double diamonds at the 2-level. We want to avoid missing hearts and possible game when partner is has exactly 3 hearts and fewer than 4 spades. by the way, Partner can introduce a 4-card spade suit at the 1-level or double to show black suits should West bid diamonds. Imagine KJx Kxx xxxx Kxx opposite. How do you reach your heart game? What do you bid if partner doubles? Yup.

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### Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠7 ♥AK 7 6 4 ♦8 7 6 5 3 2 ♣8

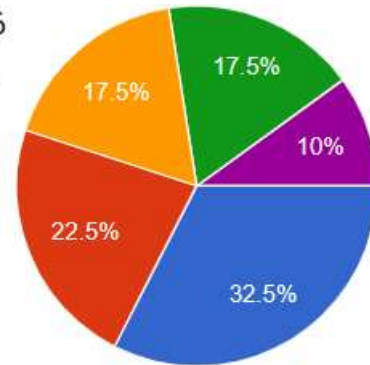
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♣ Pass 1♠ ?

### Question 6

40 responses

- Double
- 2NT
- Pass
- 1NT
- 2H



Bob Jones **2NT** Bid 2NT, showing a weak distributional hand with the unbid suits. Perfect.

Steve Vogel **2NT** 6-5 and weak- this speaks to a 2NT bid to give our side the best chance of finding a fit. Yes, I would prefer to highlight my hearts for lead purposes, but if the opponents buy the contract in spades, I will be on lead anyway. An alternative is a 4NT bid, but I think such a bid is premature at best.

Joe Muenks **1NT** I play this so many ways with different folks, but most commonly I use the Unusual NT to show maximum distributional hands of limited values. We then reserve X, 2♣ and 2♠, for other hands.

Bob Fisk **2NT** This shows 5-5+ in the unbid suits. Nailed it!

Steve Moese **2♥** You might be tempted to bid 2♠ here as Michaels, except that for many experts 2♠ is NATURAL with a good 6-card spade suit. With 6-5 we come alive, and 2♥ is a good start. Whether we bid 5♦ next depends on how strongly they bid to a spade game. If they play a NT game we are happy to give partner a clue for defense. Even if I was forced to play Sandwich NT (no thank you partner) I wouldn't bid that here. We want a heart lead against their eventual spade contract. A diamond lead would give away too much.



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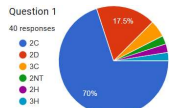
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	3♣	3♥	2♠	2♠	1♥	2NT
Steve Vogel	2♣	3♣	3♦	2♠	1♥	2NT
Joe Muenks	2♣	3♥	2♠	2♠	1♥	1NT
Bob Fisk	2♣	N/A	3♦	2♠	X	2NT
Steve Moese	2♣	3♣	3♦	2♠	1♥	2♥

Al Venosa	2♦	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	X
AnnR	2♣	3♥	2♥	1♠	1♥	X
Bob K	2♣	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	Pass
Carl Willig	2♣	3♣	3♦	1♠	1♥	2NT
Carol Wilson	2♣	N/A	2♥	Pass	1♥	X
Cathy W	3♣	3♣	3♥	2♠	X	2NT
Dave	2♦	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	X
Dean Congbalay	2♦	3♣	2♠	2♠	1♥	2♥
Doug Edwards	2♣	3♣	2♥	2♠	2♦	Pass
Ed	2♣	3♣	2♥	Pass	X	X
Greg	2♣	3♥	2♠	Pass	1♥	X
James D	2♣	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	2NT
James Jacobson	2♥	3♥	2♥	Pass	1♥	X
Jan	2♣	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	2♥
Jay Gala	2♣	3♣	3♦	2♠	X	2♥
JohnMcQ	2♣	3♥	2♥	1♠	1♥	2NT
Jon Hoak	2♣	3♥	2♥	2♠	X	X
Jusie Clendening	2♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	X	Pass
Kevin C.	2♣	3♣	2♥	1♠	1♥	2NT
Lanny	2♦	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	X
Linda	2♣	3♣	2♥	2♠	1♥	1NT
Louise Wolf	2♣	3♣	2♥	1♠	1♥	Pass
Martha	2♦	3♣	3♦	2♠	1♥	X
Mike Burns	2♣	N/A	3♦	2♠	X	1NT
Pam Campbell	2♣	3♣	2♥	Pass	X	1NT
Pete Outcalt	2♣	N/A	2♥	Pass	X	X
Reeta B	2♦	3♦	2♥	Pass	1♥	1NT
Rick Read	2♣	3NT	2♥	Pass	1♥	Pass
Rod	2♣	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	X
Sue	2♦	3♥	2♥	2♠	X	X
Terri Mackey	2♣	3♣	2♥	Pass	X	2NT
Vijay Doshi	2♣	3♣	2♠	2♠	1♥	1NT
Zigang Pan	2♣	3♥	2♠	Pass	X	Pass
	2NT	3♥	3♦	2♠	X	Pass
	3♥	3♣	2NT	Pass	X	1NT

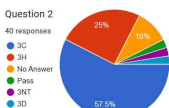
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The Field:

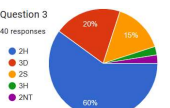
Question 1



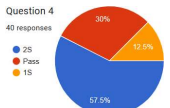
Question 2



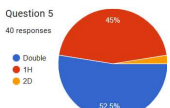
Question 3



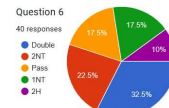
Question 4



Question 5



Question 6



	Q1 - Neither vulnerable ♠9 3 ♥A K 7 5 3 ♦5 3 ♣6 4 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1♣ Pass 1♥ West 1♠ Pass 7	Q2 - North-South vulnerable ♠9 3 ♥A K 7 5 3 ♦5 3 ♣6 4 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 7 Pass 2NT Pass	Q3 - East-West vulnerable ♠Q 7 5 ♥Q 10 T 5 3 8 ♦K 8 7 4 2♦ Dbl Pass 7	Q4 - Both vulnerable ♠Q 7 9 8 6 3 ♥A 8 7 5 ♦J 8 4 9 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST P ? ?	Q5 - North-South vulnerable ♠Q 8 7 4 ♥A Q 7 6 4 9 ♦A Q 6 EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH 1♠ ? ?	Q6 - East-West vulnerable ♠7 ♥A K 6 4 8 7 6 5 3 2 ♦8 1♣ Pass 1♠ ?
Bob Jones	3♣	3♥	2♣	2♠	1♥	2NT
Steve Vogel	2♣	3♣	3♠	2♠	1♥	2NT
Joe Muenks	2♣	3♥	2♣	2♠	1♥	1NT
Bob Fisk	2♣	N/A	3♠	2♠	X	2NT
Steve Moose	2♣	3♣	3♠	2♠	1♥	2♥

3M. Don't mess out on the NMP qualifying games. The qualifiers get cash to travel to Louisville in March 2020! That's a HOME WABC for all of us!  
 Mike Ma on 84. On average, your LHO will have 17, maybe significantly more. So, 100% it is their hand (even if your partner has 11, your side only has 15). And 17 + 8 = 25, game. So, it is likely they have game and you want to get in their way. Probably they won't have slam, so your target is to stop them from probing for their best game. If they have enough for game. In 3rd seat, when it is their hand, a side 4M is not an issue. It may even be an asset.

What about rule for 2-3-4. Once you decide they may well have enough for game, then in 3rd seat, you can even be more aggressive than 2-3-4. How many tricks do you anticipate in spades? If you count losers, you have 2 spades, 2 hearts, 2 diamonds and 1 club = 7. Loser count is a bit tricky with a Queen High suit in trumps, but the 79 should offer you protection. So, counting losers, you are off by 2 in 2♣, well within the 2-3-4 rule for equal V. In principle you are willing to risk down 4 bid seat equal V (one more than 2-3-4). Let's by counting tricks. In spades, assuming normal 3-2-2 break, you figure to take 4 tricks. 5 if you are lucky. Your ♠A is a sure trick, and the 4th card may come in (or partner may be able to ruff). So roughly, same estimate as losers, about 6 tricks. Again, well within 2-3-4. So, no question you can afford to open 2♣. What about 3♥ if the ♠A and ♠K are interchanged? I would be tempted to put the pressure on bid 2♣. But with defense (♥A) and this suit (compare to Q2/3/5), I would not feel comfortable with 3♥. If ♠K, I would go 3♥ for sure.

When suits and values are non-zero, estimating tricks is not that simple, and hard to figure 2-3-4. Some are optimistic and some pessimistic. Since 2-3-4 is already aggressive, I would try to be not crazy in optimism. It all depends on who my opponents are of course in terms of how aggressive they are in penalizing me.

Al Venosa	2♥	XYZ	3♣	2♥	2♣	X	X
AnnR	2♣	XYZ invitational	3♥	2♥	2♠	1♥	X
Bob K	2♣	XYZ	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	Pass
Carl Willig	2♣	XYZ	3♣	3♠	1♠	1♥	2NT
Carol Wilson	2♣	XYZ invitational	N/A	I would not have opened, vul	2♥	Pass	X
Cathy W	3♣		3♣	3♥	2♠	X	2NT
Dave	2♥	XYZ - 10-11 pts	3♣	2♥	2♠	X	X
Dean Congbalay	2♥		3♣	2♠	2♠	1♥	2♥
Doug Edwards	2♣		3♣	will 1st seat I don't preempt this hand	2♥	2♠	2♥
Ed	2♣		3♣	Ogust	2♥	Pass	X
Greg	2♣		3♥		2♠	Pass	X
James D	2♣	XYZ invitational	3♣	Feature	2♥	2♠	X
James Jacobson	2♥		3♥		2♥	Pass	X
Jan	2♣		3♣		2♥	2♠	X
Jay Gala	2♣	XYZ	3♣	3♠	1♠	X	2♥
JohnMcC	2♣	XYZ	3♥		2♥	1♥	2NT
Jon Hoak	2♣		3♥		2♥	2♠	X
Jusie Clendening	2♣		3♥		2♥	Pass	Pass
Kevin C.	2♣	XYZ - relay to 2D	3♣	Feature	2♥	1♠	1♥
Lanny	2♥	XYZ	3♣	Feature	2♥	2♠	X
Linda	2♣	XYZ	3♣	Feature. I would not have opened 2♥	2♥	2♠	1♥
Louise Wolf	2♣		3♣		2♥	2♠	1♥
Martha	2♣		3♣		2♥	2♠	1♥
Mike Burns	2♣	XYZ	N/A	Would not have opened 2♥	3♠	2♠	X
Pam Campbell	2♣	XYZ	3♣	Feature	2♥	2♠	Pass
Pete Outcalt	2♣	XYZ	N/A	Would not have opened 2♥	2♥	Pass	X
Reeta B	2♣	XYZ	3♠	Modified Ogust	2♥	Pass	1♥
Rick Read	2♣		3NT		2♥	Pass	1♥
Rod	2♣	XYZ	3♣	Feature	2♥	2♠	X
Sue	2♥	NMF	3♥		2♥	2♠	X
Terri Mackey	2♣	XYZ	3♣	Ogust	2♥	2♠	X
Vijay Doshi	2♣	XYZ, 9-11pts	3♣	Ogust	2♠	2♠	1♥
Zigang Pan	2♣		3♥		2♠	2♠	Pass
When suits and values are non-zero	2NT		3♥		3♠	2♠	X
	3♥		3♣		2NT	Pass	1NT