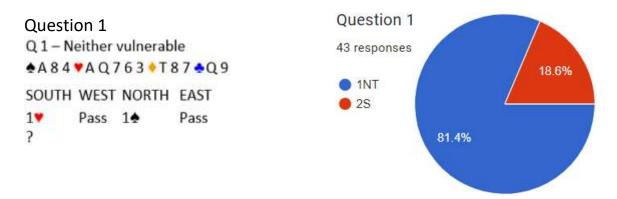
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Q 2 – North-South vulnerable
Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz
GOREN BRIDGE JANUARY 27, 2024
                                         ♠2 ♥A Q T 6 4 ♦ A 9 8 6 3 ♣9 7
Q 1 – Neither vulnerable
                                         SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
♠A84∀AQ763♦T87♣Q9
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
                                         What call would you make?
1♥
       Pass 1♠
                    Pass
?
Raise or bid 1NT?
Q3 - East-West vulnerable
                                         Q 4 – Both vulnerable
♠ A K Q J ♥ K Q 9 ♦ 7 ♣ A K Q 3 2
                                         ♠AQ87∀KQ6♦Q63♣976
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
                                         EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH
?
                                         1♦ ?
                                         What call would you make?
What call would you make?
                                         Q 6 – East-West vulnerable
Q 5 - North-South vulnerable
♠ A K Q 6 4 ♥ K T 9 5 ♦ K 6 2 ♣ A
                                         ♠A975∀K874♦AK65♣8
                                         SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
      Pass Pass
                                                Pass 2.
                                                             Pass
1♠
                    20
                                         ?
?
                                         What call would you make?
What call would you make?
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Look for answers on Monday.



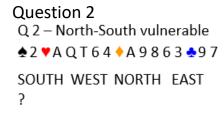
Bob Jones <u>1NT</u> With queen third of diamonds and a small doubleton club, we would raise. With this hand, bid 1NT.

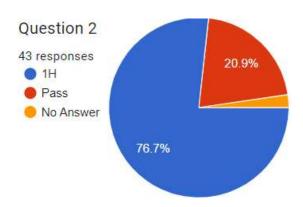
Steve Vogel <u>1NT</u> I will tend to rebid 1NT with a balanced hand and only 3-card support for partner unless my doubleton has no honor. If I have a low doubleton, I would also want to have at least one honor in partner's major to raise with 3-card support.

Joe Muenks <u>1NT</u> We have no real ruffing value and a nice honor in our short suit. Partner can inquire if they have a good hand and 5 spades.

Steve Moese <u>1NT</u> 5332 is a balanced hand. 1NT says that. Raising on 3 with Qx doubleton would never occur to me.

Mike Ma <u>1NT</u> So much depends on your system. Does 1♠ show 5? Does responder bid 1♠ with 4 only on special hands? Anyway, playing standard 1♠ response, 1NT now is automatic, even more so than the problem last week.





Bob Jones 1 This hand is well worth an opening bid. Bid 1 ♥.

Joe Muenks 1 With two 5-card suits open the higher ranking one intending to bid the lower ranking one once or twice later in the auction.

Bob Fisk Pass This one is simply a matter of style. The auction is unlikely to be a pass out, and if the auction is at the five level when it gets back to me, so be it. If you open this one 1♥, and partner holds AQT64 2 75 A8653, you're not going to be all that happy. I like it when you're not all that happy. Heh.

Steve Moese 1♥ Rule of 20, Rule of 22, "55 Come Alive" - pick your reason, but OPEN the bidding.



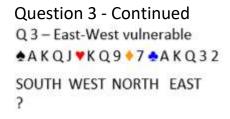
Bob Jones $2^{\frac{1}{2}}$ We hate to open $2^{\frac{1}{2}}$ with a 2-suited hand, but this hand is too strong to open $1^{\frac{1}{2}}$. Bid $2^{\frac{1}{2}}$, despite having no clear follow-up plan.

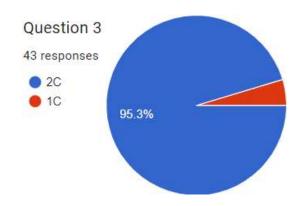
Steve Vogel 2. I hate, hate opening hands like this with a 5-card minor and support for both majors with 2. You can often run out of room to find the best spot, especially if the opponents have length in your short suit and get involved preemptively. Still, this hand is just too strong (in my view) to risk opening 1. and getting passed out there.

Joe Muenks $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$ Often with a hand like this, you should open $1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$, assume partner or an opponent will bid and you can follow-up with $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$, but this time you just have too much to not start $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$. The auction may be awkward but bid $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$ next and $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$ over partner's expected $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$ follow-up. Perhaps you'll get lucky and be able to raise $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\vee}$ to $4 \stackrel{\bullet}{\vee}$.

Bob Fisk

Although it's often difficult to untangle a two- (or three-) suited hand after opening 2♣, you simply have too many HCP to start with anything else. Alternatively, you could build a time machine, go back six months, and start learning Precision with your current partner so you could open 1♣ (much better). Good luck with your time machine (I believe Ikea has a kit). If you've read my entire article on Kokish Relay (cough ... get a life), you'll recognize that a potential auction is 2♣-2♦; 3♠ (Alert, four spades, 5-card minor, 3-1 in the remaining suits). Partner can bid 3NT to ask your 5-card minor, or partner can bid a 5-card suit (you'll bid NT if that's your singleton). Picture partner with xx AJxxx xxx xxx -or- xxx Axx xxx Jxxx.





Steve Moese $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$ Planning to rebid $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$, or raise either major (splinter for spades). We have a special treatment here: over $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$ responder can rebid $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$ asking for a 4-card Major. Here's the full scheme:

2♣ - 2♦ - 3♣ opener has 5+ clubs and maybe a 4 card Major (longer M possible if shorter than clubs. 3♦ by responder asks for the Major. 3♣ is not forcing. (Works over 2♥ immediate negative too.)

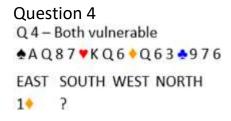
2♣ - 2♦ - 3♦ shows 5+ diamonds but denies a 4-card Major. Only second suit possible is clubs.

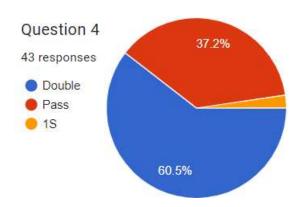
2♣ - 2♦ - 3♥/3♠ shows 4 cards in the Major bid, and 5+ diamonds. 3 losers or fewer.

This treatment can be used for appropriate 4441 strong hands with agreement. I believe Eric Kokish popularized this tool. We give up opener's strong jump to 3M as setting trumps, but let's face it, that hand hasn't happened yet, has it?!!!

Mike Ma 2 With 24, you have to open 2 the chance of 1 the AP is too big and the exxx and diamonds stopped by responder with nothing else and you have likely 9 tricks in NT. The issue is not what you open but how you follow up with this hand after 2 the extremely positive) or 2 the (negative). Without good follow up, you can see you have a big problem over the 2 the negative.

Editor's note: A.J. agrees with all the above. "I think you have to open this hand 2♣. I've opened one 24 HCP hand on the 1-level in my life, and this is better than that one. I'll rebid 3♣ -- I'm prepared for any rebid from my partner."





Bob Jones Pass Double with 4-3-3-3 shape is a poor idea without extra values. Neither the hand nor the spades justify a 1♠ overcall. Pass.

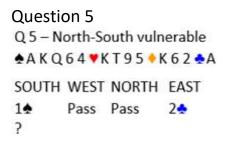
Steve Vogel \underline{X} I am not happy making a takeout double with 4-3-3-3 shape and only 13HCP, but I prefer it to the alternative of passing. On the plus side, 11 of my 13 points are in the majors.

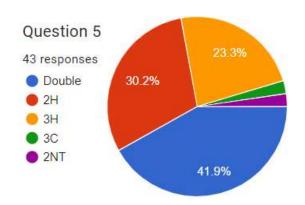
Joe Muenks <u>Pass</u> We'll pass this time around. We're hoping the auction dies out low and partner can stretch to balance with a distributional hand.

Bob Fisk Pass I don't make minimum offshape takeout doubles.

Steve Moese \underline{X} With support for 3 other suits and 13 - 14 HCP a takeout double is a fine bid.

Mike Ma X "Rule" for TO X of 1m. Provided you have support for both M, you double with 11 and a singleton in their minor, and add one point for each extra card in their suit. Some are more aggressive now and don't really pay attention to their minor holding, just the major. If you play that way, advancer has to be very careful with bidding 2♣ over the double. Anyway, you have 3 diamonds and 13, so just X and get it out of your system.





Bob Jones \underline{X} This hand is worth another bid but make a takeout double rather than bidding 2^{\blacktriangledown} . Double.

Steve Vogel \underline{X} The key choice is whether to double or bid 2^{\blacktriangledown} . Partner is definitely weak, so I want to compete where our combined length is greatest. If I rebid 2^{\blacktriangledown} , I am likely shutting out the diamond suit, which might be our best place to play.

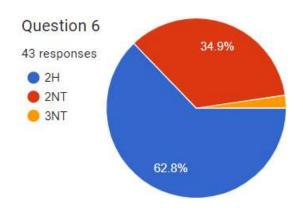
Joe Muenks <u>X</u> Compete aggressively with 2♠ and 2♥ with distribution even with minimum hands. Announce instead a big hand with short clubs by doubling in front of partner. We'll always have 17+ and at least a few places to play. This hand is classic, able to play any strain partner chooses.

Bob Fisk 2 When your partner passes your opener, all of your rebids are lowered by one level (i.e., a 2 rebid here shows a hand that would/might have rebid 3 responded 1NT). Please, please, please don't rebid 2 here with 12-14 HCP because you had some hearts. Naughty.

Steve Moese X Takeout - consider the idea that any double by opener over a once bid suit by opponents is takeout when partner might be weak. Partner is weak.

Mike Ma \underline{X} What else? The question once again is what to do if partner bids $2 \diamondsuit$ or $2 \diamondsuit$.





Bob Jones 2^{\blacktriangledown} Old timers would bid 2NT, needing extra values for 2^{\blacktriangledown} . Modern players are not as strict. Discuss this issue with partner, but we like 2^{\blacktriangledown} .

Steve Vogel 2 My partners and I play that responder's 2 bid does not deny a 4-card major. Accordingly, I want to find out if we have a 4-4 fit in either hearts or spades. A 2NT rebid by me would deny a 4-card major.

Joe Muenks 2 Bid your longest suit with the values to do so. Therefore partner can easily have a 4-card major with game forcing values if they have 5 clubs here.

Bob Fisk You're going to game and partner hasn't denied a 4-card major, so bid naturally. When the next card in the bidding box accurately describes the cards your holding, don't hesitate to use it (I saw that on a T-shirt).

Steve Moese 2 We do not deny a 4-card Major with clubs so opener should cooperate unless you have other agreements here. 2NT is an active alternative if responder must rebid their 4-card Major next.

Mike Ma 2^{\bullet} I play simple Bridge. After 1^{\bullet} - 2^{\bullet} , I just bid naturally and do not bypass 4-card major or 5 diamonds. I prefer to find fit at 2 level rather than 3 level. Anyway, with this hand I am not concerned with revealing info to defense if partner has like 3325 or 3235 or whatever and just wants to play NT.

	1_	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	1NT	1♥	2 😓	Pass	Χ	2♥
Steve Vogel	1NT	1♥	2 😓	Χ	Χ	2♥
Joe Muenks	1NT	1♥	2 😓	Pass	Χ	2♥
Bob Fisk	1NT	Pass	2 😓	Pass	2♥	2♥
Steve Moese	1NT	1♥	2 😓	Χ	Χ	2♥
Al Venosa	2♠	1♥	2♣	Х	3♥	2NT
Bob K	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Х	3♥	2♥
Carl Willig	1NT	1♥	2♣	Х	Χ	2NT
Carol Wilson	1NT	Pass	2 😓	Pass	3♥	2NT
Cathy W	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Х	Χ	2♥
Chuck	2♠	1♥	2 💠	Χ	Χ	2♥
Darleen	2♠	1♥	2 💠	Х	2NT	2♥
Dave	1NT	1♥	2 🙏	Χ	Χ	2♥
Dean Congbalay	1NT	1♥	2♣	Pass	Χ	2♥
Doug Edwards	1NT	Pass	2♣	Х	2♥	2♥
Ed	1NT	1♥	2♣	Χ	3♣	2NT
Gary Busch	2♠	1♥	2♣	Χ	3♥	2NT
Gary Herrington	1NT	1♥	1♣	Χ	Χ	2♥
Greg	1NT	1♥	2 🙏	Pass	3♥	2NT
James D	1NT	Pass	2 💠	Χ	Χ	2♥
James Jacobson	1NT	Pass	2 💠	Х	Χ	2NT
Jay Gala	2♠	1♥	2 🙏	Pass	2♥	2NT
Jim Barrett	1NT	1♥	2♣	Pass	2♥	2♥
JohnMcQ	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Pass	3♥	2♥
Jusie Clendening	1NT	N/A	2 💠	Х	2♥	2NT
Kevin C.	1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass	2♥	2♥
Kevin H.	1NT	Pass	24	Pass	2♥	2♥
Lanny	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Χ	Χ	2♥
Linda	1NT	1♥	2♣	Pass	3♥	2♥
Martha	1NT	1♥	24	Χ	3♥	2♥
Melissa	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Х	2♥	2NT
Mike Burns	1NT	1♥	1♣	Pass	2♥	2♥
Mike Ma	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Х	Χ	2♥
Mónica	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Pass	Χ	2♥
Nell Wickstrom	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Pass	2♥	2NT
Pam Campbell	1NT	Pass	2 💠	Pass	Χ	2♥
Pete Outcalt	2♠	1♥	2 💠	Х	2♥	2NT
Rick Read	2♠	1♥	2 💠	1♠	Χ	2NT
Rod	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Х	3♥	2NT
Steve Messinger	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Х	3♥	2♥
Sue	1NT	Pass	24	Х	2♥	2♥
Zigang Pan	2♠	1♥	2 💠	Х	Χ	3NT
	1NT	1♥	2 💠	Χ	2♥	2NT

