

Bob Jones July 13 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz

GOREN BRIDGE JULY 13, 2024

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A 9 8 ♥K Q J 6 ♦T 7 5 ♣A 6 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠7 5 4 3 ♥J 6 ♦9 ♣A T 8 7 6 3

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠9 5 3 ♥Q ♦Q T 8 7 5 ♣A J T 8

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT* 2♥** ?

*15-17

**Natural

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠T ♥A K 7 6 ♦K 8 5 2 ♣A K Q 7

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠A Q ♥T 9 6 5 4 2 ♦7 ♣A K T 6

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♥ Pass 1♠ 2♦

?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q 9 6 ♥K J 8 5 2 ♦8 ♣A T 6 3

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♦ 1♥ 1NT Pass

Pass ?

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

Bob Jones July 13 Quiz

Question 1

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠ A 9 8 ♥ K Q J 6 ♦ T 7 5 ♣ A 6 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass

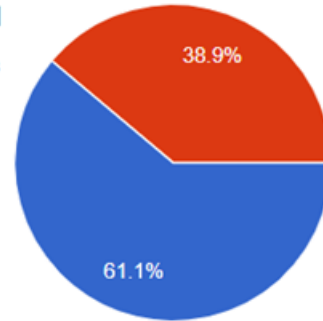
?

Question 1

36 responses

● 1NT

● 1H



Bob Jones **1NT** Old-time players will bid 1♥, which is not wrong. Modern players, assuming partner would have responded in a major if he had one, will rebid 1NT

Steve Vogel **1NT** My partners and I play that a 1♦ response to 1♣ means they have less than an opening hand and no four card major, or an opening hand with longer diamonds than a major, which they plan to rebid over a 1NT rebid by opener. In short, there is no reason for me to rebid a 4-card major with a balanced hand.

Joe Muenks **1NT** This obviously depends on your agreements. If you're playing standard bid 1♥ since 1NT denies a 4-card major. If you're playing Kokish, bid 1NT and partner with a good hand, 5+ diamonds and a 4-card major will bid it over 1NT. In neither system is the 8-card major missed.

Bob Fisk **1NT** I'm a Walshist, so my partner's 1♦ response to my 1♣ opener denies a 4-card major.....unless it doesn't. If partner does have a 4-card major, they'll rebid it at the two level, and I'll know they have a full opener, a 4-card major, and longer diamonds. Bridge is easy!

Steve Moese **1NT** We have a balanced hand, maximum for this rebid. Modern experts only rebid 1M after a 1♦ response when the hand is unbalanced (usually 4M & 5+m). Since we bypass 4+ diamond cards to bid a 4-card Major, partner either doesn't have one and is weak to invitational, or they do, and can force to game. So the 1NT rebid is "free". If responder does rebid a Major after our 1NT, that's forcing to game.

NB: if the auction is 1m - 1♥ by us, you need to agree with partner whether to rebid 1♠ with any 4 or 1NT with a balanced hand holding 4 spades. If you agree 1NT, then you might want to discuss how further bidding might reveal the "hidden" spade suit.

Mike Ma **1NT** No matter how you play 1♦, but especially if you play Walsh style, 1NT looks best. Even if you play a straight up the line approach, I would still bid 1NT.

Bob Jones July 13 Quiz

Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠ T ♥ A K 7 6 ♦ K 8 5 2 ♣ A K Q 7

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

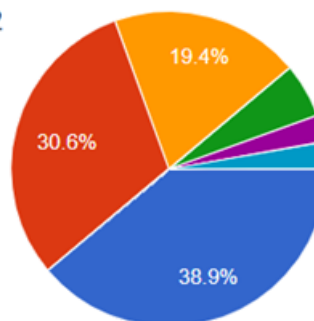
1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass

?

Question 2

36 responses

● 2NT
● 2H
● 3C
● 1NT
● 3NT
● 3H



Bob Jones **2NT** Bidding 3♣ without a fifth diamond is dangerous. So is a reverse bid of 2♥, for the same reason. We prefer 2NT.

Steve Vogel **2♥** I will not rebid 2NT with shortness in partner's suit and a 4-4-4-1 hand, with the exception of a singleton Ace or King. I much prefer a 2♥ rebid to 3♣, which would make it more difficult to find a possible heart fit.

Joe Muenks **3♣** A reverse guarantees that the first suit is longer than the 2nd, so 2♥ is out lest you find yourself in 6♦ or 7♦ on a 4-3 fit, ack. I very rarely bid NT with a singleton on the 2nd round, so while 2NT is ok on values, partner will usually bid 4♠ and play in their 6-1 fit, ack. Like Goldilocks, 3♣ is just right; after all the auction is still young.

Bob Fisk **2NT** While you NEVER rebid 1NT with a singleton, the same thing isn't true about rebidding 2NT. Here, you can't reverse into 2♦ or 2♥, because that would show longer clubs (i.e., a number greater than four). That's not what you have. If partner pushes on to 4♠ thinking you have two or more spades, your hand won't be a disappointment (picture KQJxxx xx Qx xxx).

Steve Moese **2♥** This gets our strength across with a focus on the major suit we hold while distorting the picture of our hand little (we imply one more diamond than we hold). 2NT and 3♣ are live possibilities. However these take up even more bidding space and make partner's rebid difficult with 5+ spades and a weak hand. Over 2♥ they can rebid a non-forcing 2♠ and we can subside in NT. They also have Lebensohl or rubensohl to show weak hands. If the auction goes 1♦-1♠-2♥-2♠-3♣ we have described our hand exactly in strength and shape at the lowest level possible (note a strong J/S to 3♣ at our second turn hides hearts - so does a Jump to 2NT. Not a good idea). When faced with an awkward rebid it is often best to select the bid that is most flexible and the least distortion. Both 2NT and 3♣ distort the hand shape by one card, but raise the auction past 2♠ - losing flexibility.

Mike Ma **2♥** Not sure why the opening bid was 1♦ and not 1♣ since you were planning on reversing over 1♠. Rebidding 2NT with singleton S is bad. The problem is partner will take you for 5+ D 100% with your 1♦ opening and then 2♥. You may be languishing in 3♦ on a 4-3 fit when 6♣ is cold.

Bob Jones July 13 Quiz

Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠7 5 4 3 ♥J 6 ♦9 ♣A T 8 7 6 3

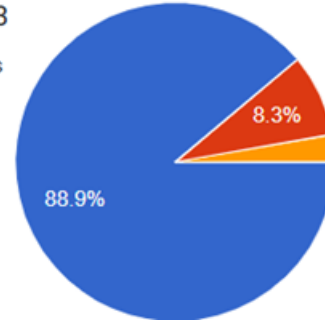
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

?

Question 3

36 responses

● Pass
● 3C
● 1C



Bob Jones **3♣** Open 3♣. In the modern game, neither the 4 little spades nor the lack of a seventh club should bother you.

Steve Vogel **Pass** Even at favorable vulnerability, I would not consider opening this hand 3♣ (even without 4 spades). My club suit has too many holes, and partner would not expect me to have an Ace.

Joe Muenks **Pass** This is a close one. 3♣ is destructive to someone and that is highly likely the opponents not partner. However with 4 spades, only 6 kinda weak clubs, and values I'm willing to bid as responder (meaning if partner opens 1♦ with 18-19, I'll bid 1♠), I'll pass and hope we're not shut out.

Bob Fisk **Pass** Why is this question in here? Were we supposed to be so embarrassed by the quality of our 4-card spade suit that we'd open 3♣ to make sure we don't end up in 4♠? That must have been it. If you do open this 3♣, I pray that your partner holds AKxx xxx Axxx Kx, and you're cold for 4♠ on normal breaks. Heh.

Steve Moese **3♣** At favorable vulnerability we put as much pressure on opponents as possible. 3♣ follows the Rule of 2-3-4. Larry Cohen presented conclusions from a double dummy analysis of one million hands from top level bridge (yes, a computer did the work) and found that the most effective opening bid was 3♣. Don't hesitate.

Mike Ma **Pass** The vulnerability calls for super aggressive preempt. But within that, you still need to have some standard. The way I do is think of number of defects from an ideal preempt for that vul, and for first seat, 2 defects I think thrice, more than 2, I usually give up. Using Rule of 2-3-4 (number of going down tricks for favorable, equal, and unfavorable vul), in this vul, you can go down 4. If you are optimistic, You count 4 C tricks with that suit, and nothing else. That is down 5, a serious defect as 2-3-4 is already aggressive. You have only 6 C, another defect (ideal is 7 for 3 level preempt). You have 4 S, albeit xxx. That is not crucial, but still a minor defect. Your compensating feature is a singleton, but even that would have been better if it was a M and not D. Pass it is, although you may hate yourself for it.

Bob Jones July 13 Quiz

Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠ A Q ♥ T 9 6 5 4 2 ♦ 7 ♣ A K T 6

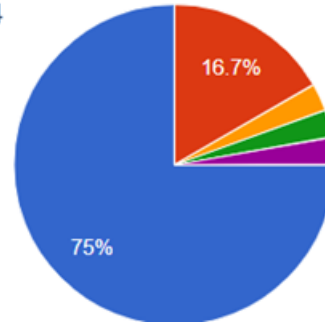
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♥ Pass 1♠ 2♦
?

Question 4

36 responses

● 2H
● Pass
● 2S
● Double
● 3C



Bob Jones 2♥ A case can be made for passing with such a weak heart suit, but we prefer to show our sixth heart while we have a chance, Bid 2♥.

Steve Vogel 2♥ Given my shortness in the opponent's suit, I am inclined to rebid 2♥ even with this ratty suit, due to my overall strength. I don't like the option of a support double with only 2 spades (even these good 2 spades).

Joe Muenks 2♥ I like making noise here, particularly since partner likely has 3 or so diamonds so will downgrade the hand and struggle to compete with 8-9 pts. Support doubles are convenient, so partner knows I have fewer than 3 spades so very likely 4+ clubs.

Bob Fisk 2♥ I can't make a support double, and the hand isn't quite strong enough to rebid 3♥ (tempting). A free bid of 2♥ (i.e., I could have passed) shows this hand.

Steve Moese Pass We play support doubles and this hand is a minimum hand. We need 5 clubs and a King more to rebid 3 clubs here. Our 6-card heart suit looks more like 5 cards. Don't give partner high expectations about hearts. If partner can compete, they will have 3 hearts if they raise (with four they raise first), or 5+ spades if they rebid spades (they know we have 0-2 spades because we didn't double), and 4+ clubs if they rebid clubs. All's well.

Mike Ma Pass I am not rebidding that H suit freely, and I can't bid 3♣ with a minimum hand. X is support, not TO. It is true partner may have trouble reopening, e.g. 5=1=3=4, but W would probably not pass 2♦ with D support and some values.

Bob Jones July 13 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠9 5 3 ♥Q ♦QT 8 7 5 ♣AJ T 8

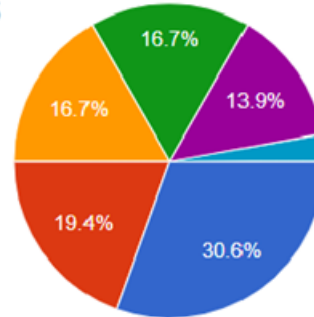
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT 2♥ ?

Question 5

36 responses

● Pass
● Double
● 3D
● 2NT
● 3NT
● 3H



Bob Jones X Charles Goren played a double here as penalties. Modern players use it for takeout, so double is our choice. A spade contract might be best for your side even with you only having three.

Steve Vogel 3NT In IMPs, I would bid 3NT (which, because we play Lebensohl, describes a game forcing hand with no heart stopper and also no 4+ spades). In match points, it's a much closer decision. I could make a card showing double, but that typically promises at least 2 hearts. I think I would also take a chance on 3NT in matchpoints too.

Joe Muenks 3NT First, I play Lebensohl and so should you if you don't. I'm infamous for teaching the very newest players 3 conventions...transfers, negative doubles and Lebensohl. It is pretty complex, sure, but one of the most important conventions in modern duplicate. So, here, 3NT shows (1) 10 pts [we're hoping 5 decent diamonds is worth 1], (2) denies a heart stopper, (3) denies 4 spades. Partner can run to his best minor without a heart stopper himself.

Bob Fisk 3NT Playing Lebensohl, this shows the values to play in 3NT without a heart stopper. My 5-card diamond suit and two Tens make this a game-going hand. Add to that the fact that we gain a trick when the opponent's bid, since it's easier to place cards as declarer.

Steve Moese Pass As far as we know the heart ♥Q is not pulling its weight. We lack 4 spades so a negative double or Stayman call here is off the mark. Our hand isn't worth 9 HCP unless partner can do something. If partner reopens with 2♠ we raise to 4. We avoid Lebensohl with the hollow diamond suit in our hand. Playing 3♠ in a poor 5-2 fit is nightmarish..

Mike Ma 3♦ I play penalty X, so I can't X. But even if you play negative X here, it is dangerous to do it here with singleton H. They almost for sure have 8 (opener will likely pass with 4), and possibly 9 (opener may take a chance and pass with 3 expecting 2 from you). I am too good to pass even if opener will reopen semi-automatically. I can't bid 3♥ without 4 S. So I suck it up and bid 3♦ (damn RHO for not leaving us alone) GF. If we end up in 3NT, not H, ♥Q should be of some help.

Bob Jones July 13 Quiz

Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠Q 9 6 ♥K J 8 5 2 ♦8 ♣A T 6 3

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♦ 1♥ 1NT Pass

Pass ?

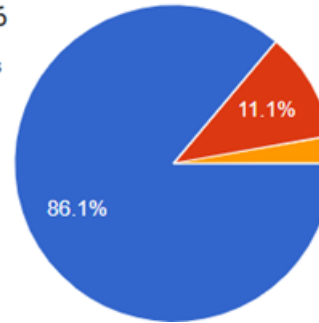
Question 6

36 responses

● Pass

● 2C

● Double



Bob Jones **Pass** The NT bid behind you should be a warning. You've done enough. Pass.

Steve Vogel **Pass** On this auction, partner is marked with at least 6 points, so I know they do not have heart support. A reopening double needs partner to have either 4+ clubs or 4+ good spades. That may be the case, but it seems like too much of a risk to me, even at favorable vulnerability.

Joe Muenks **Pass** Remember, partner heard your bid. You could double for takeout with that distribution if you had about 14 HCP, so you're a bit short. So many players do not trust their defense, we have a good chance at going plus, given partner's 10 pts and our fitting ♠Q if her suit is spades or ♣AT if it is clubs.

Bob Fisk **Pass** 100%? Why on earth would I think that I have a second bid? Did I gain some more hearts? Did I gain some more points? Do I want a different suit led? Don't answer any of those questions—the answer to each of them is nope.

Steve Moese **Pass** Thinking is an overbid here. They have shown a minimum of 21 HCP, so partner is holding at most 9 HCP and chose not to bid. Without a heart fit our hand is worth less and the 1NT response to our left is ominous. It is just possible that spades are (4)-333 around the table with East holding 4. West failed to raise diamonds, so partner has length there. I expect partner to be 3=2=4=4 or even 3=2=5=3. Pass looks like our only path to a positive score. By the way, double now would be takeout but show a much stronger hand, something like KQx KQxxx x KQxx. If you trust your opponents' bidding (often a risk), then partner would have no more than 4 HCP. Do we really want to declare?

Mike Ma **Pass** I play X by N over 1NT as negative, so if she has some values and both black suits and tolerance for my H, she would have X. She could also have bid 2♣ with C (can't bid 2♠ with S as that is too high). She could of course have bid 2♥ with H fit. X by me now would be TO, and my shape is right, but given all the possibilities eliminated by above, it is prudent to pass. Probably partner has a bunch of D behind opener. But if partner turns up with 5 S, I would hate myself to P. Some hands are like that.

07/13/24	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	1NT	2NT	3♣	2♥	X	Pass
Steve Vogel	1NT	2♥	Pass	2♥	3NT	Pass
Joe Muenks	1NT	3♣	Pass	2♥	3NT	Pass
Bob Fisk	1NT	2NT	Pass	2♥	3NT	Pass
Steve Moese	1NT	2♥	3♣	Pass	Pass	Pass
Mike Ma	1NT	2♥	Pass	Pass	3♦	Pass
Al Venosa	1♥	2♥	Pass	3♣	3♦	Pass
Anne Cobb	1♥	1NT	1♣	2♠	3♦	Pass
AnnR	1NT	3♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Carl Willig	1NT	2NT	Pass	X	X	Pass
Carol Wilson	1NT	2♥	Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Chuck	1NT	2NT	Pass	2♥	X	Pass
Dean Congbalay	1NT	3♣	Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Ed	1♥	2♥	Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Gary Herrington	1♥	2♥	3♣	2♥	X	Pass
Greg	1♥	2♥	Pass	2♥	3NT	Pass
James D	1NT	3♣	Pass	2♥	3NT	Pass
James Jacobson	1♥	2NT	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Jay Gala	1NT	2NT	Pass	2♥	2NT	Pass
Jim Barrett	1♥	2NT	Pass	2♥	3♦	Pass
jon hoak	1NT	2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
Kevin C.	1NT	3♣	Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
Kevin H.	1NT	3♣	Pass	Pass	2NT	Pass
Lanny	1♥	2NT	Pass	2♥	X	Pass
Lanny	1♥	2NT	Pass	2♥	X	Pass
Lyn	1NT	1NT	Pass	2♥	2NT	Pass
Mike Burns	1NT	2♥	Pass	2♥	3♦	Pass
Mónica	1♥	3♥	Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Pam Campbell	1NT	3♣	Pass	2♥	3♦	Pass
Reeta B	1NT	2♥	Pass	2♥	2NT	Pass
Rick Read	1♥	2NT	Pass	2♥	Pass	X
Robert N.	1♥	2NT	Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Rod	1NT	2NT	Pass	2♥	X	Pass
Steve Messenger	1NT	2NT	Pass	2♥	X	2♣
Sue	1♥	2NT	Pass	2♥	Pass	2♣
Zigang Pan	1♥	3NT	Pass	2♥	3♥	2♣
	1♥	2NT	Pass	2♥	2NT	2♣