Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz GOREN BRIDGE JULY 6, 2024 Q 1 – Neither vulnerable ♣ 6 ♥ A J 9 ◆ Q J T 7 6 5 3 ♣ K 6 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST P P ?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

A K 3 2 ♥ A K ♦ A J 9 8 6 4 ♣ 8

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

Pass 3 ♦ * Pass

*Inverted raise, 5-7 points, at least four diamonds

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable ♠ A 8 6 ♥ 9 4 ♦ A 7 5 ♣ K T 7 6 2 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST ?

What call would you make?

What call would you make?

Q 2 − North-South vulnerable

↑ 7 6 ▼ K Q 8 7 5 ↑ A K T 7 ♣ 8 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1▼ Pass 1♠ Pass

2 Pass 3♣ Pass

?

Q 4 - Both vulnerable

★ K J T 8 6 5 ♥ 9 ♦ A 6 5 3 ♣ K 7

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♥ Pass Pass ?

What call would you make?

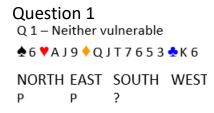
Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

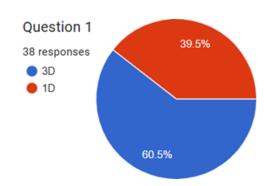
★ K Q 4 ♥ K Q J 6 4 ♦ K J 7 5 ♣ J

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
?

What call would you make? Look for answers on Monday.





Bob Jones $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$ This a routine $1 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$ opening most of the time, but in third position with a singleton spade, open $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$.

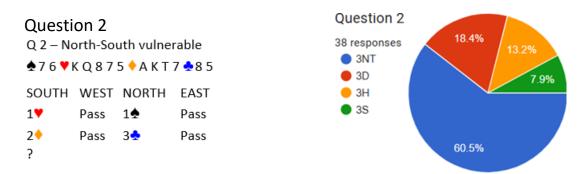
Steve Vogel $3 \\ledow$ With a passed partner and having only 4 cards in the majors, I prefer to open this hand $3 \\ledow$ instead of $1 \\ledow$. We have a greater chance of shutting the opponents out of the auction and we will often make.

Joe Muenks $1 \\cup$ This hand passes the rule of 20/22 as an opener, not a preempt and has easy rebids to boot. Note that if you start with 3 diamonds but it is partner with 10/11 pts and long spades and 0/1 diamond, you're going down for no reason.

Steve Moese <u>3</u> ◆ After a partner passes, a jump opening in third seat is wide ranging - from weak preempt to an opening hand with no ambition for game. This tactic keeps opponents under pressure to find their strain and level accurately. It often means opener believes the auction will end at the spot they open. Here if partner owns the spades diamonds are a better place. If the opponents own the spades let them start at the 3 level. Pressure bridge works. If we were are Favorable Vulnerability I'd give consideration to 4 ◆ or 5 ◆.

Mike Ma

According to "experts", each passed hand has 8 hcp on the average, and with my 11, that leaves my LHO with 13, and it is their hand. I am preempting. Third seat preempt should be super aggressive. But this may well be a partial vs partial hand, and I am not going overboard with a 4 bid. One the average, we will have 9 D and them 8 S, which means the two sides can't both make 3. If it is between 2 and 3, I would bid 3. But between 3 and 4, I will just bid 3 Paradoxically, if my hand was weaker, e.g. no K, I would open 4 because now they are likely to have game.



Bob Jones $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$ Partner's bid is Fourth Suit Forcing, an artificial game force. You cannot bid 3NT without a club stopper. Choose between $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet} 3 \stackrel{\blacktriangledown}{\lor}$, or $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$. We like $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\bullet}$.

Steve Vogel 3^{\bullet} is an artificial 4th suit forcing bid and does not promise anything in clubs. A 3 $^{\bullet}$ bid by me would show a 5th diamond, 3 $^{\bullet}$ would show a 3rd spade and 3NT would show a club stopper. My only real option is 3 $^{\bullet}$, which does not promise a 6th heart.

Joe Muenks 3^{\bullet} is responder's only forcing bid, say with a great hand for spades and a suit, so we should bid naturally. 3^{\bullet} , a retreat, is the normal lie (we don't have 6) whereas 3^{\bullet} shows 5 and 3NT MUST have a club stopper.

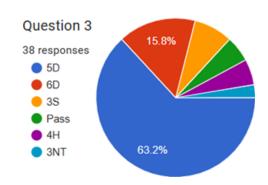
Bob Fisk <u>3♦</u> Partner's 3♣ bid is artificial and forcing to game. I can't bid 3♠ or 3NT, and 3♥ distorts my hand a bit too much. 3♦ it is!

Steve Moese 3 is a game force and we have poor choices for our next bid. I prefer to agree with partner that the suit above the 4th suit (here diamonds) is a convenient response telling responder nothing new. This preserves maximum space for responder to guide the auction going forward. I'd make the same bid with 5 diamonds. The priority order for responses to the fourth suit are:

- 1) Raise partner's Major
- 2) Bid NT with a stop in the 4th suit
- 3) Raise the 4th suit with 4 card support if a major (but do not go past 3NT if raising a minor)
- 4) rebid our shape naturally
- 5) rebid 4th suit +1 (but NOT NT) to show no more descriptive bid (can't do any of the previous 4).

Mike Ma $3 \checkmark$ This hand illustrates why these days, people realize that over $1 \checkmark$, if responder has 4-4 in S and C and GF, it is better to start with $2 \checkmark$ and not $1 \diamondsuit$. The $3 \checkmark$ bid here now may be a real suit or it may be just 4^{th} suit forcing. S is now stuck with 2 S (can't bid $3 \diamondsuit$), no C stopper (can't bid $3 \lor$), no 6^{th} H (can't bid $3 \checkmark$), and no 5^{th} D (can't bid $3 \diamondsuit$). In this situation, the partnership has to agree what is the default, the one bid that may not mean what it supposedly says. I prefer that to be $3 \checkmark$, not guaranteeing 6, but denying all of the other possibilities.





Bob Jones $\underline{6}$ As little as 4 diamonds to the king and a doubleton spade gives you a near-cold slam. That is a reasonable hand to hope for. Bid 6.

Steve Vogel <u>4♥</u> (Keycard) We likely have a slam- give partner the king of diamonds and a doubleton spade, but I should check for key cards first. My partners and I play kickback, so 4♥ is keycard for diamonds.

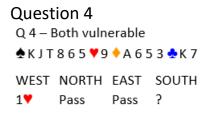
Joe Muenks 3 - 1 I'm going to make 2 slam tries in diamonds to get partner to confess to the club ace. I'm concerned about a 3^{rd} round spade loser I cannot avoid nor ask about so with no A, I'll play only 5.

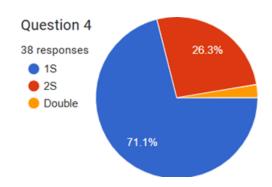
Bob Fisk 6♦ makes opposite as little as xx xxx xxxxx xx if diamonds are 1-1. I can't expect partner to raise 5♦ to six holding Qxx xxx Kxxxx xx, and if that's partner's holding 6♦ is lay down. As a side note, I've never run into anyone that would bid 3♦ with only four of them. Nope.

Steve Moese <u>3♠</u> Unless we have other game try agreements here, I want to show a suit where if partner has help they can show interest. If partner returns to 4♦ I will raise to 5. If partner shows values in spades by "raising" I will bid 6♦. A 4♣ rebid by partner might cause concern (wasted values) but 6♦ is still in the picture (consider xx xxx K105732 Ax). Note: a better agreement for the 3M preempt is to avoid the bid when holding a side ace.

Mike Ma

4 ✓ I play Kickback, so 4 ✓ is RKC. I started with a 4 loser hand. Partner's 3 ♦ bid now means my D losers is down to 1 even if she has 0 point, and I am now at 3 loser max. ♦ K and doubleton S will make 6 ♦ laydown unless D 3-0 break wrong side. If partner shows 1 keycard, I will bid 6. If 0, I will ask for ♦ Q, and if she has it, I will still risk 6 expecting it to be on a finesse.





Bob Jones 2♠ A jump shift in the pass-out seat shows a 6-card suit and an intermediate hand, about 14-16 points. This looks about right to us. Bid 2♠.

Steve Vogel <u>1</u>♠ A 2♠ bid by me in passout seat would show an intermediate strength hand with 6 good spades. If I had the queen of spades, I would make that bid. This hand is just a bit short. I prefer a 1♠ overcall to a double, even playing equal level conversion (meaning I can correct a 2♣ response by partner to 2♦ without showing extras), because of the length and strength of the spade suit.

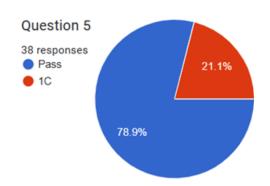
Joe Muenks 1 Partner could be just waiting to double hearts for penalty and you have good enough defense, so we'll overcall minimally which will be really flexible for the next round of bidding.

Bob Fisk 2♠ This shows an intermediate hand in balancing position. This hand behaves like a 13.5 count. Picture partner with Qx xxxxx Kxx xxx.

Steve Moese $\underline{1}$ I need a bit more to bid 2 in the balancing seat. That shows 12+ to 15 or so.

Mike Ma 2 - 1 bid where my money is. 2 - 1 is intermediate.





Bob Jones Pass This is not a bad hand, but it is not quite worth an opening bid. Pass.

Steve Vogel <u>Pass</u> I will not open a balanced 11HCP hand vulnerable. Non-vulnerable, I would open a balanced 11 HCP hand with a 5-card major, but not a 5-card minor.

Joe Muenks Pass This fails the rule of 20/22. Note how square hands with only 8 length points (longest 2 suits) are predicted to play worse. We'll probably get in the bidding next round.

Bob Fisk Pass If you have a 5-card suit, what's the worst shape you can hold? Yep, it's 5-3-3-2. Get used to mentally deducting a point with that distribution. Yes, yes, I know that aces and kings are undervalued in the point-count system, but do you really want to go down two in 3NT opposite Qxx AQxx Qxxx Qx? Me neither.

Steve Moese 1 Intending to rebid 1NT. 2.5 Quick Tricks including 2 aces and a five-card suit is too good to pass even vulnerable.

Mike Ma Pass 5 controls, but so what? Does not even meet Joe's favorite Rule of 20. Sure, it is better than some 12-point hand, but when your long suit is m, which is not that good, your likely game is 3NT, which means bean counting (hcp) is quite accurate. The problem these days is opener and responder both upgrade, so you end up playing 22-23 point 3NT. Not to mention going down in 2NT is really sad because you have 11 opposite 11.



Bob Jones $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{•}$ Too strong for $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{•}$ and not enough spades for $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{•}$. Bid $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{•}$, planning to support spades next.

Bob Fisk 2♠ This looks like an amazing dummy in a spade contract. If partner bids 2NT (Spiral), I'll bid 3♦ (maximum hand with only three spades). If you decide to bid 2♦ here, you'll have to bid 2♠ over partner's attempted 2♥ sign off.

Steve Moese $2 \\
\hline$ Intending to bid my shape and strength by bidding spades next. That shows 3 spades and 14+ HCP (3=5=4=1 or 3=5=5=0, not 4=5=3=1 — any hand with 4 spades and a singleton makes a jump raise or splinter whichever is more convenient). This hand is too strong for $2 \\
\hline$ and not enough spades for 3 or 4 splinter. (Even playing Flannery when 1 suggests 5+ cards, we should splinter only with 4 trumps - makes a big difference in the slam calculation).

Mike Ma 2
ightharpoonup Assuming 1
ightharpoonup is just simple 4+ S, denying 3 H if less than LR, the choice is 2
ightharpoonup or 2
ightharpoonup. You can't bid 3
ightharpoonup with only 3. Although an aceless wonder, your hand is worth about 18 support point for S (discounting the ightharpoonup J point, but counting singleton and good H suit), and 2
ightharpoonup M which should limit to 16 support points is underbid. So I will bid 2
ightharpoonup N. If partner now bid 3
ightharpoonup N will bid 3
ightharpoonup N completing my hand (see hand 2). If partner bids 2H, I will likewise bid 2
ightharpoonup N. The danger is partner passing 2
ightharpoonup N with 5 S weak hand like 5
ightharpoonup N will take that risk.

07/06/24	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	3♦	3♦	6	2♠	Pass	2
Steve Vogel	3♦	3♥	4♥	1♠	Pass	2
Joe Muenks	1.	3♥	3♠	1♠	Pass	2
Bob Fisk	3	3♦	6	2♠	Pass	2♠
Steve Moese	3♦	3	3♠	1♠	1 💠	2•
Mike Ma	3♦	3♥	4♥	2♠	Pass	2•
Al Venosa	1 🍁	3NT	5	2♠	1 💠	2
AnnR	1	3♦	5	1♠	Pass	2
Bob K	3♦	3NT	6	1♠	Pass	2
Carl Willig	3♦	3♦	5♦	2♠	Pass	2♠
Carol Wilson	3♦	3NT	5♦	1♠	Pass	2
Dave	3♦	3NT	Pass	Χ	Pass	2
Dean Congbalay	3♦	3♠	Pass	1♠	Pass	2
Ed	3♦	3NT	5♦	1♠	1😓	2♠
Gary Herrington	3♦	3♠	5	1♠	Pass	2
Greg	1 🔷	3NT	5∳	2♠	Pass	2
James D	1 🔷	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2
James Jacobson	1	3NT	5	1♠	1😓	2
Jay Gala	3♦	3NT	5	2♠	1😓	2
Jim Barrett	3♦	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2
JohnMcQ	3	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2
Jon Hoak	3♦	3NT	5	1♠	1😓	3♠
Kevin C.	3♦	3NT	6	2♠	Pass	2
Kevin H.	1	3♦	5	1♠	Pass	2
Lanny	1•	3NT	6	1♠	Pass	2
Linda	3♦	3♦	5	1♠	Pass	2♠
Liz go	1	3♥	5	1♠	Pass	2
Mike Burns	3♦	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2
Mónica	1	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2♠
Nell Wickstrom	3	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2
Pam Campbell	1	3♠	3NT	1♠	Pass	2
Rick Read	3♦	3NT	6	1♠	1♣	2
Robert N.	3♦	3NT	3♠	2♠	Pass	2
Rod	1+	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2
Vijay Doshi	3♦	3♥	5	1♠	Pass	2
Zigang Pan	1	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2
	1	3NT	5	2♠	1♣	2
	1	3NT	5	1♠	Pass	2

