Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz GOREN BRIDGE JULY 8, 2023 Q1 – Neither vulnerable ♠A J 8 4 ♥J 8 7 5 3 ♦A 7 ♣9 4 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

2♥ Dbl Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable ♠K Q 7 ♥T 4 2 ♦A K 8 2 ♣T 7 5 EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable ♠A K 9 6 5 ♥K 6 ♦K 9 8 7 ♣A J NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 3♥ P ?

What call would you make?

Bonus – Neither vulnerable

♠ AQ ♥ Q J 7 6 4 • void ♣ K J T 7 4 2

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

P 1 • P ?

What call would you make? Look for answers on Monday Q 2 – North-South vulnerable ♠A J 7 5 4 ♥K 9 7 5 4 ♦Q ♣A 7 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 2♦\* P ? \*weak

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable ♠A Q 8 7 5 3 ♥Q ♦K J 6 4 ♣A 9 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

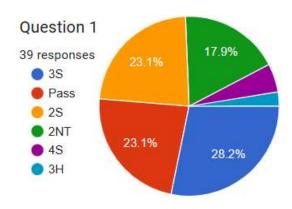
1♠ Pass 2♠ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable ♠A 8 6 ♥J ♦A K 7 6 4 ♣K T 7 5 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 3♠ P ?

What call would you make?

Question 1 Q1 – Neither vulnerable ♠A J 8 4 ♥J 8 7 5 3 ♠A 7 ♣9 4 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH 2♥ Dbl Pass ?



Bob Jones 2♠ The five hearts should make you conservative, as heart ruffs in dummy will be over-ruffed. Bid 2♠

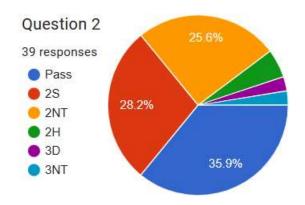
Steve Vogel <u>2NT</u> "(Lebensohl) Given partner's direct seat double, I am willing to force to game with this 10-point hand. Over partner's forced 3♣ response to my Lebensohl 2NT bid, I will rebid 3♥ which is Stayman with a heart stopper.

Joe Muenks 3 ↑ This is one of the tougher problems we've had. Pass, 3 ♠, 4 ♠ and 3 ♥ are all very good actions. With my best defending partners I might pass and take the 500+ I'm sure we'll get. Showing 10-12 with 3 ♠ may be enough at times. Showing 12-15 with 4 ♠ might work, too, though I like a 5th spade for that. I'll bid a game force 3 ♥ in case partner has 17+ and a minor, since slam is highly likely so I need to announce this strength.

Bob Fisk 2NT (Lebensohl). I'll bid 3♥ over partner's 3♣ forced bid as Stayman with a stopper in hearts (albeit a not-so-wonderful stopper). Picture partner with KQTx x Kxxx KQxx.

Steve Moese <u>3♠</u> Invite Game in spades. Sure, we have 5 hearts and two aces. Our hearts are puny and we need to take 8 tricks on defense to make up for a game our way. Do you see 8 tricks?

Question 2 Q 2 – North-South vulnerable ♠A J 7 5 4 ♥K 9 7 5 4 ♦Q ♣A 7 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 2♦ P ?



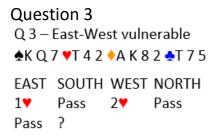
Bob Jones Pass You might have a better part score, but how can you stop there? Pass.

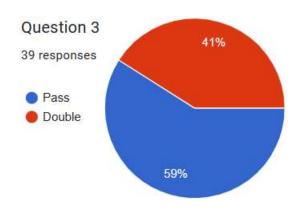
Steve Vogel <u>Pass</u> Partner should have a decent diamond suit for an unfavorable vulnerability preempt. We may occasionally miss a major suit game (or a notrump game) if partner has the right hand, but I believe the odds favor a pass with this hand.

Joe Muenks 2♠ Note that I play a vulnerable preempt is not a jack-high suit and a weak hand, rather it is a reasonable preempt. I'll bid spades then hearts and play game in whichever one partner chooses.

Bob Fisk Pass Why take six trumps out of partner's hand by guessing at a major? That's rhetorical--I can't think of a good reason to do that. If partner has a 3-card major and a nice hand, partner probably shouldn't have preempted in diamonds in first seat (i.e., blame partner if you score poorly on this board).

Steve Moese <u>Pass</u> (in tempo) while trying to find a game in a Major suit or 3NT might tempt some, there are too many things that must be right. Partner's opening bid warns us off. Besides, the opponents might still enter the auction.





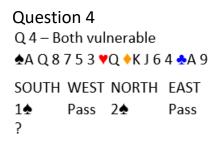
Bob Jones  $\underline{X}$  A normal pass. At match-point scoring, however, you will get a filthy score if you pass. Double and hope partner has a long suit.

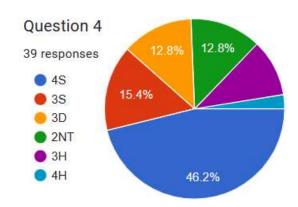
Steve Vogel  $\underline{X}$  I do not believe that partner has 5 spades, because he/she likely has some values on this bidding yet partner passed over  $1^{\blacktriangledown}$ . Still, it rarely pays in matchpoints to let the opponents play in  $2^{\blacktriangledown}$ , especially when we are not vulnerable.

Joe Muenks  $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$  What we know is that we have half the points and we must have a suit match somewhere, so double and pass partner's response, unless she bids 2NT asking you to select a minor.

Bob Fisk  $\underline{X}$  I'm not fond of this bid, but if you pass hands such as this one in this position, you're not going to score well on average. Partner could easily hold Jxx xx Qxx KQJxx, and 3C is cold.

Steve Moese <u>Pass</u> Sure, we have 12 HCP. However partner would have made a bid or a double with modest values and shape over 2. When Opponents Bid And Raise (OBAR) we PRE-BALANCE with appropriate shapes. Partners pass suggests no useful shape and we certainly have none. Let's enjoy defending.



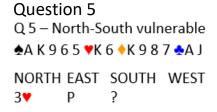


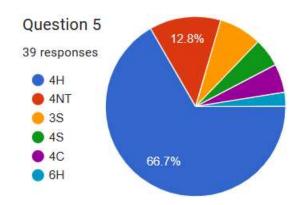
Steve Vogel 4 My partners and I play constructive major suit raises, so he/she should have reasonable values for the 2 raise. Accordingly, I should have a play for game with this 5-loser hand opposite many of partner's possible holdings.

Joe Muenks 2NT Standard players bid 3♠ showing 16-18 playing points. Playing Kokish, do not bid 3♥ to show shortness since we use this bid so partner downgrades honors in that suit, but with the ♥Q, heart honors are likely to be valuable. Rather bid 2NT which asks partner with game interest to "bid where they live" (show a 2<sup>nd</sup> suit or a suit with honors). That answer will guide your placement of the contract.

Bob Fisk 3♥ (Kokish Game Try). 3♥ shows shortness in hearts and extras. Partner can sign off in 3♠ with a minimum if your Heart shortness doesn't improve their hand. If they're accepting the game try, it's a good idea to make a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> round control bid since your 3♥ bid might have been a slam try (spoiler alert--it wasn't). Picture partner with Kxx xxxx Qxx Kxx, making five.

Steve Moese 4 Sure we could make a game try, but that would provide information to opponents. Bid game and try to make it.



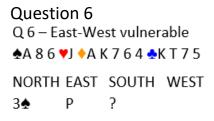


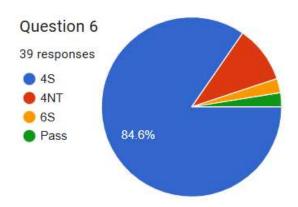
Bob Jones 4♥ It is OK to dream about slam, just don't bid it. Bid 4♥.

Steve Vogel 4. (Key Card over preempts) Partner should have a really good suit for the unfavorable 3-level preempt, and I expect that my ♥K will fill the only hole in the suit. With my other side suit Aces and Kings and good spade suit (to provide discards), we should have a decent play for slam if we are not off 2 Key cards (including the Queen of trump). This is a handy convention to include in your arsenal, and you can look it up on the web if you are unfamiliar with it.

Bob Fisk 4♥ 3NT is extremely tempting, but partner could hold Jx QJT9xxx Ax xx, and you're not making on a Club lead. You're going to hate yourself if partner holds x AQxxxxx xx xxx, since 3NT makes four--the same number of tricks you're taking in 4♥ if the ♦A is offside.

Steve Moese  $3 \triangleq$  New suits are a one round force. Opposite Qxx AQJxxxx x xx we would be happy to be in slam. Opposite x AJ10xxxx xxx xx 4 hearts is enough. Opposite x AQxxxxx xxx Qx or x AQxxxxx Qx xxx we like 3NT. We could blast to 3NT or  $4 \checkmark$ , but that's very unilateral. Bid  $3 \triangleq$  (Forcing one round) to consult partner.



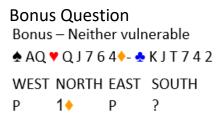


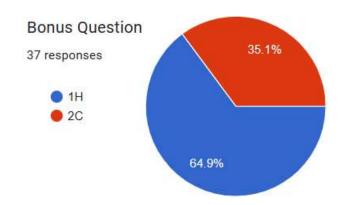
Steve Vogel 4 This one is different for #5. Here, partner made a favorable preempt, and he/she could have a poor hand. Still, with the strength of my hand, game is a worthwhile venture which I expect to make more often than not.

Joe Muenks 4♠ Big difference now versus 5, so we just bid the game to make. Partner is not vulnerable so might have a flawed hand or a weaker suit or both, but won't deliver an ace and the KQ of spades I bet.

Bob Fisk 4 - 4 Ah, much easier. You're more likely to accidentally make slam than you are to go down in 4 - 4.

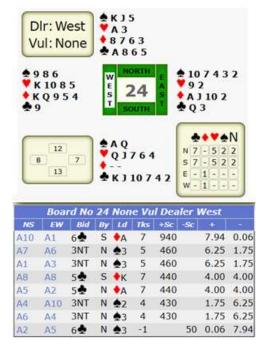
Steve Moese 4 Unbridled optimism recognizes that KQxxxxx xxx xx A makes slam - but that's an opening 1 bid (2 quick tricks). We are happy to get a game bonus here.





Joe Muenks 2♣ Please bid 2♣, please. "Bid your long suit first with the values to do so." We have so many tools to game force and bid hearts twice still even if 2♣ wasn't game forcing.

Bob Fisk You're going to need all the room you can to untangle this hand, so start the bidding low. The last thing you want to happen is to bid  $2 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$  and then hear  $4 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$  on your left (ouch).



This deal was taken from the Thursday morning invitational. It happened to be a board at a table where we had a sit out. As it happens sometimes, and much to the despair of a director, we took the hands out of the board to see how we would bid them. (If you do this, be extremely careful not the change the hands or put them back in the wrong slot. It wouldn't hurt to count the cards to be sure there are still 13. It's not against ACBL rules to do this but directors will discourage the practice, especially in tournament play.) There was a question between us about responder's first bid, 1♥ or 2♣. It's interesting that, although close, the results were flipped between our panelists and us.

There was more discussion about the board during Friday's open game. Not only was there a dispute about responder's bid, but also opener's bid (1♣ vs. 1♦). One

comment about the opening bid that struck me as interesting was that, paraphrasing, worrying about making a reverse would make describing your hand impossible.

Just food for thought.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Bob Jones	2♠	Pass	Χ	4♠	4♥	4♠	
Steve Vogel	2NT	Pass	Χ	4♠	4😓	4♠	
			. V	ONIT			
Joe Muenks	3♥	2♠	Х	2NT	4♣	4♠	2 😓
Bob Fisk	2NT	Pass	Х	3♥	4♥	4♠	1 🔻
Steve Moese	3♠	Pass	Pass	4♠	3♠	4♠	2 😓
SM: Get to a game at the CBC - lots of bridge happening there!!							
Al Venosa	Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥	4NT	4♠	2 😓
AnnR	Pass	2NT	Χ	3♦	4♥	4NT	1♥
Bob K	Pass	2NT	Pass	4♠	4♥	4♠	2 😓
Carl Willig	3♠	Pass	Χ	4♠	4NT	4♠	1♥
Carol Wilson	2♠	2♠	Χ	3♠	4♥	4♠	200
Cathy W	Pass	2NT	Χ	3♦	<b>4</b> ♥	4♠	1♥
Dave	3♠	3♦	Pass	3♦	4♥	4NT	200
Dean Congbalay	Pass	Pass	Χ	4♠	4♥	4♠	1♥
Doug Edwards	2♠	Pass	Χ	3♠	4 <b>Y</b>	4♠	1♥
Ed	Pass	2♥	Pass	4♠	4♥	4NT	1♥
Gary Busch	2NT	Pass	Х	4♠	4NT	4♠	1♥
Gary Herrington	4♠	Pass	Pass	2NT	4 <b>Y</b>	Pass	2 😓
Greg	2♠	2NT	Pass	3♠	4♥	4♠	200
James D	2♠	2NT	Pass	4♠	4♥	4♠	1♥
James Jacobson	2NT	Pass	Pass	4♠	<b>4</b> ♥	4♠	1♥
Jay Gala	3♠	Pass	Χ	2NT	4♥	4♠	1♥
JohnMcQ	3♠	2NT	Pass	3♠	4♥	4♠	1♥
Jon Hoak	Pass	2NT	Χ	4♠	<b>4</b> ♥	4♠	1♥
Jusie Clendening	3♠	Pass	Χ	4♠	4 <b>Y</b>	4♠	1♥
Kevin C.	2NT	2♠	Pass	2NT	4♥	4♠	1♥
Kevin H.	2♠	2♠	Pass	2NT	4♥	4♠	1♥
Lanny	4♠	2♠	Pass	<b>4\(\psi\)</b>	3♠	4NT	2 😓
Linda	Pass	2♠	Х	3♠	4NT	4♠	1♥
Mike Burns	3♠	Pass	Pass	4♠	4♠	4♠	1♥
Nell Wickstrom	2♠	2♠	Pass	4♠	4♥	4♠	1♥
Pam Campbell	2NT	2♠	Х	3♥	3♠	4♠	1♥
Pete Outcalt	3♠	Pass	Pass	3♥	4♥	4♠	1♥
Rick Read	2♠	2NT	Pass	4♠	6♥	6♠	200
Zigang Pan	3♠	2NT	Pass	3♠	4 💙	4♠	1♥
	3♠	2NT	Pass	3	4♥	4♠	1♥
	3♠	2♠	Pass	3	4NT	4♠	2♣
	2NT	2	Pass	4♠	4 <b>Y</b>	4♠	1♥
	2♠	3NT	Pass	4♠	4	4♠	2 😓
	Pass	2♠	Pass	4♠	4♠	4♠	2

