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Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz GOREN BRIDGE MARCH 11, 2023 Q1 – Neither vulnerable

♠QJ♥975**♦**QJ64**♣**AT76

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
3♥ 3♠ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable ♠K T 9 7 5 4 ♥7 ♦Q ♣A 8 7 5 2

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable \bigstar K Q J 7 6 \forall T 6 \bigstar A T 7 5 3 \bigstar 6

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♠ Pass 1NT 3♣

Pass Pass Dbl Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable ♠7 4 ♥A Q 4 ♠A Q 8 7 5 ♣J 7 6 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1♠ Pass 1♥ 1♠

What call would you make?

Q 4 − Both vulnerable •Q 8 7 5 •Q J T 6 •5 •A T 9 2

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST 1NT Pass 2♣ Pass 2♦ Pass ?

What call would you make?

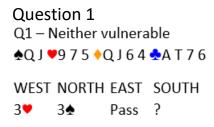
Q 6 – East-West vulnerable ♠A J 8 3 ♥A K ♦Q 8 7 4 ♣Q T 6

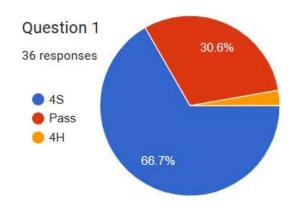
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♦ Pass 1♥ ?

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.





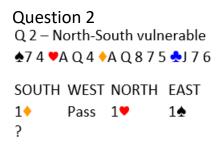
Bob Jones 4♠ Too strong to pass. Bid 4♠. What else?

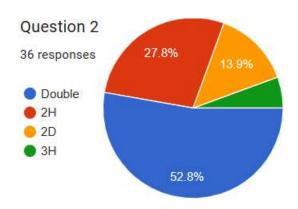
Steve Vogel $\underline{4} \triangleq$ Give partner AK of spades, 2 Kings in the minors and even a doubleton in hearts, and we have a play for $4 \triangleq$. And partner may have more. I can't leave partner in $3 \triangleq$ when so many possible holdings will produce game.

Joe Muenks 4 Recall, partner in the direct seat will deliver full values for their bid, so given the wide range of the call, I'd take out insurance that it makes.

Bob Fisk Pass When I overcall 3♠ after my RHO opens 3♥, I'm counting on my partner for half of the remaining Spades and half of the remaining points. If I give righty 2-7-2-2 shape and and eight HCP (reasonable) and I have 6-1-3-3 shape and 14 HCP, that leaves the average remaining hand holding nine HCP, 2.5 Spades, 2.5 Hearts, and 4-4 in the minors. The hand shown above is almost exactly that (1/2 too few Spades and one extra point). With that hand, I want partner to pass my 3♠. Is it possible that this hand is enough for partner to make 4♠? Of course it is. Could 3♠ be down one? Of course it could.

Steve Moese Pass I am on the fence here. Partner should have a sound opening hand for a 3♠ overcall. I have a good 10 HCP, but my shape is poor. 3 small hearts and East's pass suggest we could have 2 losers in this suit. AKxxx xx Kxx Kxx is a certain overcall, but 4♠ is far from certain with my hand. Note this hand has 9 losers. That means partner needs a 6 card Spade suit and only 5 losers to make game our way. A club finesse rates to work and a diamond finesse rates to fail. I pass at matchpoint pairs but bid game at IMPs.





Bob Jones $2 \checkmark$ If you do not play support doubles, don't worry about the lack of a fourth heart. Bid $2 \checkmark$.

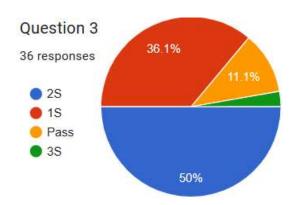
Steve Vogel X My partners and I play support doubles, and this is a classic case. If we did not play support doubles, I would instead raise to 2♥ rather than passing or rebidding diamonds.

Joe Muenks <u>X</u> Most play that this shows 3 hearts and any strength, a support double. If I were not playing support doubles, I pass since partner will bid on with most hands.

Bob Fisk $\underline{\mathbf{X}}$ Support double showing exactly three Hearts. Bridge has never been easier!

Steve Moese X The support double was made for these situations so I use it. No support double? Then if your partnership allows for a raise on 3 card support, try that here. If not, pass shows an original weak NT type hand (minimum balanced shape) which is what we have. When do you raise on 3 cards? See Steve Weinstein's post on Bridgewinners: https://bridgewinners.com/article/view/1m-1m-now-what/





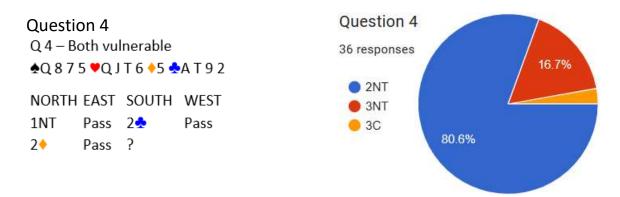
Bob Jones $2 \stackrel{\blacktriangle}{=} 1 \stackrel{\blacktriangle}{=} 0$ or $2 \stackrel{\blacktriangle}{=} ?$ We like $2 \stackrel{\blacktriangle}{=} .$ If the queen of diamonds was a spade or a club, then $1 \stackrel{\blacktriangle}{=} .$

Steve Vogel Pass They say "6-5, come alive" and I plan to do so, just later in the auction. I do not feel that my hand is worth an opening bid of 1♠ (although I know others would do so). Opening 2♠ risks getting left there when game can often be on. I also feel that this hand is not right for either 3♠ or 4♠. Given that I have spades (the master suit), I do not think I can be shut out of the bidding, and I will be able to come in later and hopefully do justice to this hand.

Joe Muenks 2 I might later bid some clubs since this hand is offensive oriented, but let's see the next 3 bids so I can judge whether that makes any sense.

Bob Fisk 2 - 4 If the auction goes 2 - 4 (Double)-Pass-(3 - 4), I'll rebid 4 - 4. We love being not so vulnerable against very vulnerable. Heh.

Steve Moese 16-5 come alive!



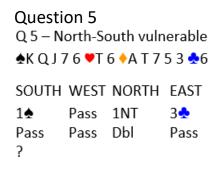
Bob Jones 3NT The great intermediate cards make this hand worth a game force. Bid 3NT.

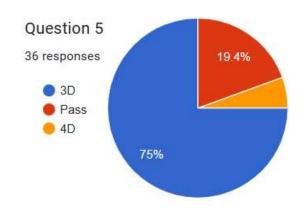
Steve Vogel <u>3NT</u> The question is whether to upgrade this hand based on the great intermediates. I would unquestionably rebid 3NT in imps, but it is a closer call in matchpoints. Still, I think 3NT should have decent play (subject to a bad diamond situation), and I would go ahead and bid it.

Joe Muenks <u>2NT</u> You like your T9 and solid heart run but have 5 pts tied up in q-jacks and shortness in diamonds is not an asset (if partner has good diamonds that leaves her fewer pts to set up your 4 card suits).

Bob Fisk 2NT I have an invitational hand after a 15-17 1NT opening. Nuff said.

Steve Moese <u>3NT</u> A more conservative 2NT might pay off, however IMP odds favor being in game when vulnerable. You are in a 36% game opposite 15 HCP - the breakeven point for bidding it in IMPs. The odds swing well above 50% opposite 16 and 17 HCP. Inviting with 2NT might be prudent at Matchpoints, but you will miss many game bonuses when partner demurs. For more on Optimal IMP Strategy, I recommend the study by Richard Pavlicek at http://www.rpbridge.net/8j25.htm#1 (Warning - lots of double dummy detail). From R. Pavlicek and the frequency of 15, 16, and 17 HCP hands a 3NT bid here is 50% likely to succeed. Turns out that 15 HCP occur 4.4% and succeed 36%. 16 HCP occur 3.3% and succeed 54%. 17 HCP occur 2.2% and succeed 70%. (Declarer play can be better than DD analysis. Defending is hard.).





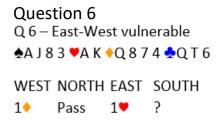
Bob Jones 3 ◆ The double announces that partner is too good to pass and defend undoubled. It asks you to do something intelligent. 3 ◆ looks intelligent to us.

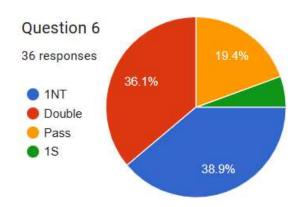
Steve Vogel $3 \leftarrow$ Given my 5-5 shape and less HCP than partner will expect, I believe the prudent action is go on offense with a $3 \leftarrow$ bid.

Joe Muenks Pass I'm leading the ♠K about now. This is penalty when 1NT is 6-9 as partner has 4 clubs and something on the outside, but this is definitely penalty when playing 1nt forcing as partner may not have good clubs but can also have any 11+ with short spades.

Bob Fisk <u>3.</u> Partner's double isn't for penalty--it's for takeout. Picture partner with 2-4-5-2 shape and nine HCP. If you have a partner that doubles 3. because "I thought I could beat it partner," get a new partner. If partner has that hand, partner should have bid 3NT (vulnerable vs. not).

Steve Moese $3 \leftarrow$ Partner's double is takeout (for the red suits). With long clubs they pass. Note please that a double by opener immediately over $3 \stackrel{\bullet}{\sim}$ is takeout or a very strong balanced hand (18-19).





Bob Jones <u>1NT</u> After they bid 2 suits, a double promises at least 4 cards in each of the unbid suits. Your clubs are short. Bid 1NT

Steve Vogel <u>1NT</u> My partners and I play that a 1NT overcall by an unpassed hand in this auction shows a strong NT, so that is a possible bid. With an opponent's vulnerable opening bid and response, the chances of game are small, so we are fighting for a part score. Is a double or 1NT overcall better suited for that goal? I am not sure, and a 1NT overcall is riskier. Given the vulnerability, I am willing to take that risk to better describe my hand.

Joe Muenks <u>Pass</u> With most partners I'm going to have to pass as everything else has other meanings. Playing standard we bid 1NT showing 15-18 with their suits stopped, which also sets up any double by partner to be penalty.

Bob Fisk Pass I don't play that a 1NT bid in "sandwich position" shows a 1NT opener, rather I play it as a weakish takeout double for the unbid suits (picture AJxx xx xx KQxxx).

Steve Moese <u>1NT</u> No sandwich NT for me. I have about half my hand in their suits. Partner might be broke.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Bob Jones	4♠	2♥	2♠	3NT	3♦	1NT
Steve Vogel	4♠	Χ	Pass	3NT	3♦	1NT
Joe Muenks	4♠	X	2♠	2NT	Pass	Pass
	_		l .	0 LT		_
Bob Fisk	Pass	X	2♠	2NT	3	Pass
Steve Moese	Pass	X	1♠	3NT	3♦	1NT
SM: This was one of t team for the D11 GNT						to get a
Al Venosa	4♠	2♥	1♠	2NT	3♦	Х
AnnR	4♠	2♥	2♠	2NT	Pass	1NT
Bob K	4♠	2♥	2♠	2NT	3♦	1NT
Carl Willig	4♠	2♥	2♠	2NT	3♦	Pass
Carol Wilson	4♠	2♥	2♠	2NT	3	Χ
Chuck	Pass	2	2♠	2NT	3	1NT
Dave	4♠	Х	1♠	2NT	3♦	1NT
Dean Congbalay	4♠	Х	2♠	2NT	Pass	Pass
Doug Edwards	Pass	2♥	1♠	2NT	Pass	Χ
Ed	4♠	2 🗸	2♠	2NT	3♦	Х
Greg	Pass	2	Pass	2NT	3	1NT
James Jacobson	4♠	2	2♠	2NT	3	Χ
Jay Gala	4♠	Χ	1♠	3NT	3♦	Х
JohnMcQ	4♠	2 🗸	2♠	2NT	3	1NT
Kevin C.	Pass	Χ	2♠	2NT	Pass	Pass
Kevin H.	4♠	Χ	1♠	3NT	3♦	1NT
Linda	Pass	Χ	1♠	2NT	3	Χ
Liz	Pass	2	1♠	3♣	Pass	Х
Martha	4♠	X	1♠	2NT	3	Pass
Mike Burns	Pass	Х	2♠	2NT	3	1♠
Mónica	4♠	Χ	1 🖈	2NT	3	X
Nell Wickstrom	4♠	Х	2♠	2NT	4	Х
Pam Campbell	4♥	Χ	1♠	2NT	3	Χ
Pete Outcalt	4♠	Χ	2♠	2NT	3	Pass
Phyllis	Pass	Χ	2♠	2NT	3	1NT
Reeta B	4♠	Χ	2♠	2NT	3	Х
Rick Read	4	3♥	1 🖈	2NT	3	Χ
Rod	4♠	2♥	1♠	3NT	4	1NT
Zigang Pan	4♠	2	Pass	2NT	3	1NT
	4♠	X	3♠	2NT	3	1NT
	Pass		Pass	2NT	•	

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