Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz GOREN BRIDGE MAY 27, 2023
Q1 - Neither vulnerable

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1v Pass 2** Pass
?
*Weak
What call would you make?
Q 3 - East-West vulnerable

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
14 P ?
What call would you make?

Q 5 - North-South vulnerable
^A Q 87 Void J 109754 ¢9 76
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST P 1V ?

What call would you make?

Q 2 - North-South vulnerable
ゅK J 8 \% K 52 * 7 \& J J 9764
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST 1* 1v Pass Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 4 - Both vulnerable

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST ?

What call would you make?
Q 6 - East-West vulnerable

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1NT Pass 2 $\mathbf{V}^{*}$ Pass
?
*Transfer to spades
What call would you make?
Look for answers on Monday.

Question 1
Q1 - Neither vulnerable

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1v Pass 2^ Pass ?


Bob Jones Pass We hate this convention! It always catches us with a hand like this and it has never been right to bid again. Pass.

Steve Vogel 2NT (Ogust) If partner's spades include multiple honors or decent intermediates, we should have a reasonable chance for game in spades. If partner has a bad suit, but some scattered honors, then notrump might play better. If partner has a poor holding, then we should settle in 3 $\mathbf{~}$. The best way to find this out is to ask with 2NT (Ogust). Partner's response should be adjusted from the normal Ogust responses based on an expected holding of 4-7 HCP.

Joe Muenks Pass It's tempting to bid 34, but partner should not have a hand that can bid 14, and to make 4 I think partner needs KQxxxx, $x, x x x, x x x$ or such and partner would bid 1 s with that one.

Bob Fisk 3 The opponent's silence suggests that partner doesn't have a Yardburrower (sp?)*. Picture T9xxxx Jx Kxx xx.

* On the west side we call them moles.

Steve Moese Pass Sure, we have 19 HCP and 10 red cards. What a great hand. What does partner have? 6 spade cards, 4-7 points, and NO ACE NOR NOTHING OF VALUE OUTSIDE SPADES. Even if we can see 6 spade tricks (far from guaranteed), we know partner does not have as many as 3 heart cards (they would raise hearts if they did). While they might have 3-4 diamond cards, they surely do not have the K. Their side length is more likely in clubs - where we don't need it. Now imaging the Club $A Q$ and $\geqslant K$ to your left and the $¥ A$ to your right.
$\rightarrow$ Keep in mind that partner will likely have only ruffs as entries to their hand. Consider KQxxxx $x \mathrm{xxx} x \mathrm{xx}$. Where do you want to be? Even 3 $\mathbf{1}$ could be too high.

## Question 2

Q 2 - North-South vulnerable


| SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1\& | 14 | Pass | Pass |
| $?$ |  |  |  |



Bob Jones 2 Re-opening with a suit bid, rather than double or a jump, shows a weak distributional hand. That is exactly what you have. Bid 2s.

Steve Vogel Pass Given my heart holding, it is very unlikely that partner has made a trap pass. Best to pass with this minimum opener and keep the opponents from finding a better fit or bidding to a makeable game.

Joe Muenks 2! Playing negative doubles partner's pass is essentially forcing you to do something. Normally you double, but I like to rebid a 6 card suit if I do not have 2 defensive tricks, like here with just 1.5 quicks, each Kx being 0.5.

Bob Fisk Pass You have a minimum hand. Bidding 2\&, especially at this vulnerability, suggests that you hold a hand that would have jumped to $3 \%$ if partner had been the one to bid. You also aren't short in Hearts, so you can't think that partner has a trap pass (maybe one designed to catch that yard burrower).

Steve Moese 2 Partner has shown no sign of life. If partner has length in hearts, RHO has to be singleton or void. We have 3 heart cards and an aceless minimum. 2e seems better than defending $1 \boldsymbol{\downarrow}$. (In general, we reopen with a double whenever we hold 0-2 cards in left hand opponent's suit. With three and a minimum and no shape to offer, we pass and defend). Here the sixth club in a porous suit leaves us little option but to pinch our nose and bid 2e, just to stop them from playing at the one-level. While we have a positional heart stopper, it is fragile and we have no source of tricks for NT. So 1 NT is out - besides it shows a stronger hand. (We do not try to play 1NT with 12 HCP opposite 4, do we).

# Bob Jones May 27 Quiz 

Question 3
Q 3 - East-West vulnerable

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
12 P ?


Bob Jones 4ㄴ Some cowards might bid less, but we like bidding 4®.

Steve Vogel 39 I am going to ignore my heart holding and will bid what I would bid if I had fewer hearts. In a great majority of cases, I believe this will turn out to be best.

Joe Muenks 14 Is there a problem here? I do not know if this hand belongs in 4『, 4@, $6 \vee$ or 64 , so l'll see what partner bids next. Will this be $95 \%$ agreement?

Bob Fisk 19 Please, please, please don't jump to 2 (or higher) with a hand such as this one. 24 says "Partner, I was too weak to bid 14. Wah, wah!" You have a great hand, and you most likely want to be in game in Spades.

Steve Moese 14 This hand has too much potential for a Jump to 2 (weak) so 1 it is. The next round of bidding is the exciting part. I refuse to make a weak jump shift holding a supported Ace in a suit longer than 6 cards. Too much playing strength opposite partner's opening hand.

## Bob Jones May 27 Quiz

## Question 4 <br> Q 4 - Both vulnerable <br>  <br> SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST ?



Bob Jones Pass If we moved the king of clubs into any other suit, we could justify an opening bid with this hand. Pass with the singleton king.

Steve Vogel 1- Definitely a close one. Can I get into trouble opening this hand? You bet. But I prefer to be an aggressive opener with decent distribution.

Joe Muenks 1V Don't tell the people I emphasize 20/22 adherence to that the king of clubs is not protected but I'm going to open $1 \vee$ and rebid 2 if at all possible. I don't blame anyone passing and getting involved next round, though.

Bob Fisk Pass This isn't even close to an opening hand, and the auction isn't over. Picture it going Pass-(Pass)-Pass-(1e). Bid 2NT to show 5-5 in Hearts and Diamonds! Picture it going Pass-(Pass)-1 -(Pass). Bid $2 \vee$ to show $5+$ Hearts and 10-11 HCP. How about Pass-(Pass)-1*-(Pass). Bid 1ヶ. Partner will bid 1NT, and you'll bid 2 (XYZ, invitational hand) and show your 5 -card Heart suit. Bridge is easy!

Steve Moese Pass I'm a big fan of the rule of 20 (or 22) where \# Cards in 2 longest suits plus \# HCP equal or greater than 20 (with 2 Quick Tricks so 22) you always open. Indeed playing Precision we use the rule of 19. The giant flaw with this hand is the singleton K. That card unsupported is worth 0 HCP. Let's pass and see what develops. (At IMPs I would open 1 V ).

## Bob Jones May 27 Quiz

## Question 5

Q 5 - North-South vulnerable
-AQ87 『- J 109754 9 76
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
P 1V ?


Bob Jones Pass There is no justification for bidding with this hand. Pass.
Steve Vogel Pass Despite the void in hearts, I would not choose to overcall 14 with a 4card suit, or bid 3 (ignoring 4 great spades).

Joe Muenks Pass I really want to double because this is a bidding contest but I would not take any action vulnerable against not with this crud.

Bob Fisk Pass If I had a King more, I'd double. I don't have a King more. If anyone felt like overcalling 14 at unfavorable vulnerability with a void in Hearts, please sober up. It's fine to overcall a 4-card suit, especially a major, if you have (1) almost an opening hand and length in the opponent's suit or (2) partner is already a passed hand and you're desperate for a lead in that suit against a notrump contract. Neither of those is true here.

Steve Moese Pass Opposite a passed partner this hand doesn't expect to make much. If they stop in a partial, balancing is attractive. Pass for now. If they get to game, you might hold a few surprises for them. This hand is not a 4-card (vulnerable) overcall. Those need 14 or so HCP and poor shape for a double. $2 \forall$ never crossed my mind. Never. The diamond suit is not good enough vulnerable to jump to 3 . That bid looks for a new partner.


Bob Jones 34 This hand is worth more than 15-17 in support of spades. Tell partner that by jumping to 3 . .

Steve Vogel 34 This hand, with 17 HCP , most points in Aces and Kings, and great 4-card support is definitely worth a super-accept. For those who play doubleton super-accepts, $3 \boldsymbol{1}$ could show a doubleton heart.

Joe Muenks 34 I gave my answer that I play with most of my partners. With others I might bid $3 \downarrow$, which shows a big acceptable but a doubleton heart (note that you'd bid 3@ playing that any doubleton bid has to be 2 small).

Bob Fisk 34 With most of my partner's, I play this as showing 17-HCP, 4+ good trump, and a doubleton Heart (i.e., a doubleton in the transfer suit). Picture partner with KJxxx xxx xx Qxx. If you don't pre-accept the transfer, partner is going to pass 2 as.

Steve Moese 34 We have a maximum that is not $4=3=3=3$ shape, and great values outside our trump suit. Some will choose $3 \vee$ to show the same strength and trump length with a useful HEART doubleton. I prefer not to disclose too much until I am sure partner is interested in slam. Any move by partner other than 4 next is a slam try. I will cooperate.
What would 3NT by partner be here? When we have found a 9 -card major suit fit we do not offer 3 NT as a place to play. 3 NT should show slam interest in an aceless hand. Something like: KJxxx KQx KJx Qx. Note having shown a maximum, we'd hold only 32 HCP.
Top Controls - the Italians knew early on that if you assign 2 points to an Ace and 1 to a King, there are 12 Top control points in the deck. Note our hand holds 7 controls. With two balanced hands we need 10 controls for slam. With a 5 -card suit and sufficient queens, slam works even with 32 HCP.
Here's a fun video by Peter Holland ""How to bid a Grand Slam""
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTP Iflhcmw

Bob Jones May 27 Quiz

|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bob Jones | Pass | 29 | 4. | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Steve Vogel | 2NT | Pass | $3{ }^{2}$ | 19 | Pass | 34 |
| Joe Muenks | Pass | 2\% | 19 | 19 | Pass | 30 |
| Bob Fisk | 3 | Pass | 19 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Steve Moese | Pass | 2\% | 19 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| SM: Happy Memorial Day - Remembering all our fallen heroes. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Al Venosa | 3 | 2\% | 14 | 19 | Pass | 34 |
| AnnR | Pass | 2\% | 34 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Bob K | 2NT | Pass | 19 | 1\% | Pass | 24 |
| Carl Willig | 3 | 2\% | 14 | 19 | Pass | 34 |
| Carol Wilson | 2NT | 2\% | 34 | Pass | Pass | 24 |
| Cathy W | Pass | 2\% | 19 | 1 P | X | 24 |
| Cecilia | N/A | Pass | 14 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Dave | 3 | Pass | 14 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Dean Congbalay | Pass | Pass | 14 | 1\% | Pass | 34 |
| Doug Edwards | Pass | Pass | 14 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Ed | 3 | 2\% | 14 | Pass | 2 | 34 |
| Greg | 3 | 2\% | 34 | Pass | X | 24 |
| James D | 3 | 2\% | 19 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| James Jacobson | 3 | 29 | 1. | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Jay Gala | 3 | 2\% | 14 | 19 | $2 \vee$ | 34 |
| Jim Barrett | 49 | Pass | 14 | Pass | X | 24 |
| JohnMcQ | 3 | 2\% | 14 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Jon Hik | 3 | 2\% | 2 | Pass | X | 34 |
| Kevin C. | Pass | Pass | 14 | Pass | Pass | 24 |
| Kevin H. | 3 | Pass | 14 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Lanny | 49 | 2\% | 19 | 19 | X | 34 |
| Linda | 3 | Pass | 14 | Pass | Pass | 24 |
| Mike Burns | 49 | 2\% | 14 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Mónica | 2NT | Pass | 19 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Nell Wickstrom | 3 | Pass | 14 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
| Pete Outcalt | Pass | 28 | 14 | 19 | Pass | 34 |
| Rick Read | 34 | Pass | 24 | 19 | Pass | 49 |
| Rod | Pass | 2s | 14 | Pass | X | 34 |
| Vijay | 49 | Pass | 19 | Pass | Pass | 34 |
|  | 49 | 29 | 19 | Pass | Pass | 34 |

## Bob Jones May 27 Quiz

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