

Bob Jones May 4 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz

GOREN BRIDGE MAY 4, 2024

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A Q ♥K 7 6 ♦A Q 3 2 ♣A J 8 6

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

2♥* Pass Pass ?

*Weak

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠K Q 8 6 5 ♥K Q 6 2 ♦9 7 4 ♣6

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass

2♣ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠A J 9 6 ♥A K J ♦J 6 4 ♣9 8 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♥ Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠A J 8 ♥J 6 ♦K Q 3 ♣K 8 7 5 3

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠Q J ♥A 7 3 ♦Q T 8 6 5 ♣8 7 5

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1NT* P ?

*15-17

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠7 5 ♥K J 6 4 ♦K T 7 ♣K J 9 3

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

2NT* Pass 3♣ Pass

3♦ Pass ?

*20-21

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday.

Bob Jones May 4 Quiz

Question 1

Q 1 – Neither vulnerable

♠ A Q ♥ K 7 6 ♦ A Q 3 2 ♣ A J 8 6

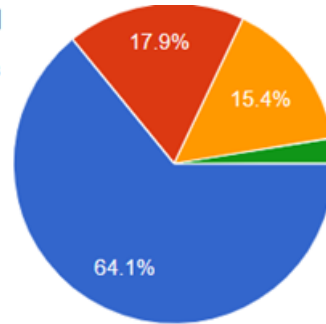
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

2♥ Pass Pass ?

Question 1

39 responses

● Double
● 3NT
● 2NT
● Pass



Bob Jones **3NT** Hope that partner has his fair share of the missing high cards and bid 3NT.

Steve Vogel **X** I am too strong for an immediate overcall of 2NT. I do not view 3NT as a good option for this hand, as that would suggest a long solid suit with a heart stopper. Despite the shortness in spades, double seems right to me. I then plan to bid notrump on my next call.

Joe Muenks **X** We'll start with a double and then bid NT next to show a hand worth 20+.

Bob Fisk **3NT** I'm too strong to bid 2NT, and doubling seems silly when I'm going to bid 3NT over any 3-level bid partner makes (or rue the fact that partner jumps to 4♠). If you play Lebensohl, it could get even worse, since partner will likely bid 2NT (relay to 3♣), and you've now wrong-sided the notrump contract (♥T lead from Tx into AQJxxx.....yikes).

Steve Moese **3NT** Give partner their 7 HCP and what contract do you want? I thought so. (Opener rates to have 7-8 on average leaving 12-13 to be split between partner and RHO. 25-26 HCP are likely enough to bid game).

Mike Ma **3NT** Awhile back Mike Lawrence suggested bidding 3NT now as showing tricks (typically long m) and doubling then bidding 3NT as points. Playing Lebensohl put an end to that as partner with weak hand will bid 2NT first. In spite of 20 points, you are not happy with your hand in NT. You cannot hold up in H, and finesses require you be able to get to dummy. Nevertheless, give opener ~7 points, then partner has 6-7 on the average, so you really cannot not bid 3NT. It is not like you have a way for you to declare 2NT after finding out partner is bust.

Bob Jones May 4 Quiz

Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠ A J 8 ♥ J 6 ♦ K Q 3 ♣ K 8 7 5 3

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

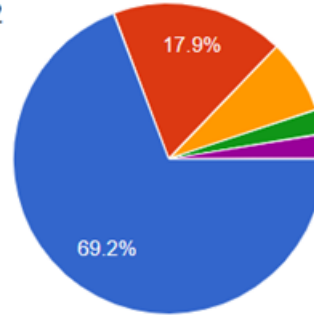
1♣ Pass 1♠ Pass

?

Question 2

39 responses

- 1NT
- 2S
- 2C
- 2D
- 2NT



Bob Jones **2♠** Perfect hand to raise with 3-card support. Bid 2♠.

Steve Vogel **1NT** My general approach is to support partner's major with GOOD 3-card support only if I have a singleton or small doubleton in a side suit. With Jx (or better) in the other major, I prefer to rebid 1NT.

Joe Muenks **1NT** This bid often wins a lot of matchpoints. With honor-x I'm not really concerned about hearts. If the opponents rattle off some hearts tricks and use all their points in that suit, partner will have her points in more useful suits.

Bob Fisk **2♠** I'm not a huge fan of raising partner's major with only 3-card support, but this is clearly the time to do it. (1) nice trumps, (2) side-suit doubleton, and (3) high cards in my long suits. If partner bids 2NT (Spiral) asking about my raise, I'll bid 3♦ to show a maximum w/ only 3-card support.

Steve Moese **1NT** Right on strength and shape. We have tools to find the best game should partner invite, and we are happy if partner rebids spades.

Mike Ma **1NT** This is a broken record in the weekly quiz. Steve Weinstein and Bobby Levin played that if doubleton is Tx or better, they will rebid 1NT. Who am I to argue with them? It has often been said that in MP, the pair that gets to 1NT first wins. So why are people looking to get themselves away from 1NT? Responder has ways to find out about 5-3 fit in S with invitational bd or better,

Bob Jones May 4 Quiz

Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠ K Q 8 6 5 ♥ K Q 6 2 ♦ 9 7 4 ♣ 6

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass

2♣ Pass ?

Question 3

39 responses

2NT

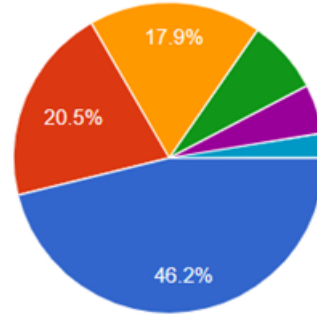
2H

2D

2S

No Answer

3S



Bob Jones **2NT** Do not bid 2♥ – the fourth suit. Choose between 2NT and 3♦. We like 2NT.

Steve Vogel **2NT** Partner could have as much as 18 points with a 2♣ rebid. I need to show I have more than a bare minimum by bidding 2NT. This shows 10 to a bad 12.

Joe Muenks **2NT** You have no great bids but several good ones. The top 2 are 3♦ announcing 10+ and diamond support, or 2NT emphasizing heart strength. As with question 2 above (to the left after MB makes his spreadsheet), these NT contracts often pay good matchpoints.

Bob Fisk **N/A** I would have bid 2♠ over partner's 1♦ bid which I play as exactly five spades, four hearts, and invitational values (10-11 HCP). Good luck those of you who have to answer this question. I'll probably go eat some snacks while you're pondering what to do. Ummm.....snacks.

Steve Moese **2NT** We have 10 HCP and want to make an invitational rebid. 3♦ is out because we need 4 card support for that bid. 2♥ is out because that's 4th suit forcing - a Game Force. 2♦ is such an underbid I shouldn't have to mention it.

Mike Ma **2♦** 2♥ is 4SF, but even if it is natural, the only hand opener will have 4 H is 1=4=4=4 and your agreement is that she rebids 2♣ with that hand. Furthermore, that is also the only hand she will have with only 4 D and not 5+. Opener can still have a good hand up to just below JS. Anyway, you have an easy 2♦ bid. Bidding 2♠ is absurd, and 2NT for the birds with your honors not in partner's suits. 3♦ is bad for the same reason. On a trump lead the hand may collapse quickly.

Bob Jones May 4 Quiz

Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

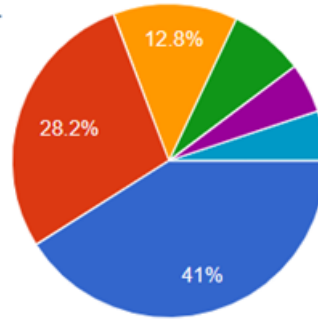
♠ Q J ♥ A 7 3 ♦ Q T 8 6 5 ♣ 8 7 5

| NORTH | EAST | SOUTH | WEST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1NT | P | ? | |

Question 4

39 responses

● 2C
● 2NT
● 3NT
● Pass
● 2S
● 3C



Bob Jones **3NT** 9 points and a 5-card suit should force to game. Bid 3NT.

Steve Vogel **3NT** I have 9 points with a 5-card suit. In IMPs, I would unquestionably bid 3NT. It is a much closer decision in matchpoints. Still, I tend to be optimistic, and would bid 3NT there too.

Joe Muenks **2♣** I'll start a sequence to show 9 points, provided we're playing matchpoints. In teams, bid 3NT counting the QTxxx as a "good" 5 card suit. Bidding the game takes pressure off partner in the bidding but forces him to play the hand like a world champion sometimes.

Bob Fisk **2♣** I play 4-suit transfers, so I can't simply bid 2NT as an invitation to game. This hand isn't quite game forcing, so I'm not tempted to bid 3♣ (5-card Stayman). It looks like a balanced hand with 8-9 HCP. Duh.

Steve Moese **2♣** Many must invite 3NT with Stayman. 2NT or 2♠ (range ask or clubs) are common alternatives. This hand is close to a 3NT bid, but the doubleton spade honors merit a deduction.

Mike Ma **2♣** This hand is borderline between game bid or invite. The ♦T probably shifts it on the game side as you have better chance for 4 D tricks than Qxxxx. But in MP I will go conservative as 2NT +1 may be just as good as 3NT if 3NT requires luck/skill. Playing 4 way transfer, 2♣ is what it takes to invite in NT. If the decision is to bid game, the question is whether to bid 3NT or 3♣ as some kind of Puppet Stayman. I would bid 3♣ if my S were xx, but with QJ, I would just bid 3NT quick and dirty.

Bob Jones May 4 Quiz

Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠ A J 9 6 ♥ A K J ♦ J 6 4 ♣ 9 8 5

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1♥ Pass

?

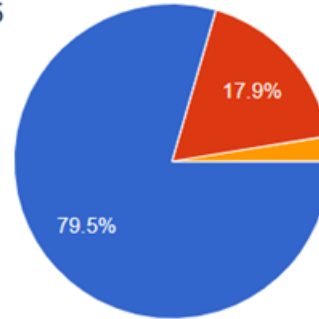
Question 5

39 responses

● 1S

● 1NT

● 2H



Bob Jones **1♠** We would not raise on 3-card support with 4-3-3-3 shape. Choose between 1♠ and 1NT. We like 1♠

Steve Vogel **1♠** With just about all my points in the major suits, we may be better off playing in a suit. I would choose a 1♠ rebid even with my 4-3-3-3 shape. Also, if partner does not have a fit for spades, it would likely be best for notrump to be played from his/her side.

Joe Muenks **1♠** There are still some by-the-book bidders out there, like me. I do not play Walsh over a 1♣ or 1♦ opening so I have to bid spades in case partner is minimum with 4 spades, the master suit.

Bob Fisk **1♠** I won't say I'll always bid 1♠ on this auction (5432 AKT KQT QJT), but I'm certainly going to bid 1♠ here. If you bid 1NT, you're going to feel silly when partner passes holding KQxx Qxxx QTxx x. Heh.

Steve Moese **1NT** Rebidding 1♠ in expert 2/1 shows an unbalanced hand with 9+ black cards.

Mike Ma **1NT** Do you bypass 4 spades and bid 1NT? You should have agreement with partner on that. It is popular to play that bidding 1♠ denies 4333, allowing responder to sign off in 2♣. But in these days of XYZ, 2♣ is conventional anyway, so I don't see what the difference is between 4333 and say 4234. Some play that rebidding 1♠ promises unbalanced hand, so singleton (likely H) and/or 5 C. If you play that way, you better know the difference between 2♠ by responder over 1NT vs 2♦.

Bob Jones May 4 Quiz

Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

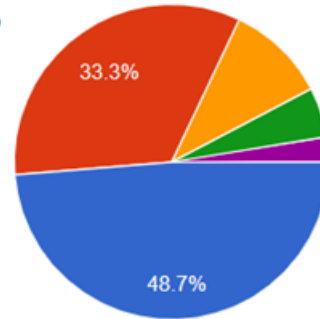
♠ 7 5 ♥ K J 6 4 ♦ K T 7 ♣ K J 9 3

| NORTH | EAST | SOUTH | WEST |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 2NT | Pass | 3♣ | Pass |
| 3♦ | Pass | ? | |

Question 6

39 responses

● 3NT
● 3S
● 4NT
● 3H
● 4C



Bob Jones **3NT** You should not even think about slam. Bid 3NT.

Steve Vogel **3♠** My partner and I play Puppet Stayman over 2NT, so partner's 3♦ rebid shows at least one 4-card major. A 3♠ rebid by me shows four hearts, and allows partner to choose the best game. If partner's 3♦ bid instead denotes no 4-card major, then I would rebid 3NT.

Joe Muenks **3NT** Unless partner has distorted their hand (I rarely open 2NT with any singleton), square hands on the cusp of slam points just can't find enough tricks to make 6NT, take the +460 and run.

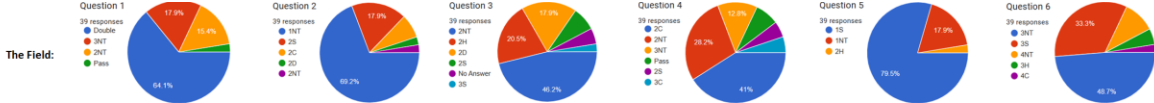
Bob Fisk **3NT** Since the problem suggests that 3♣ was Stayman and 3♦ was "When I count my 4-card majors, I arrive at the number zero," I have nothing to do but bid 3NT. Could 6♣ or 6♦ make? Of course they could! Could 3NT go down two? Of course it could! If situations like this bother you, play Precision and get to 7♣ opposite Axx Ax AQJx AQxx. Nuff said.

Steve Moese **3NT** With 32 HCP a live possibility, our lack of aces suggests passivity. This is a close call with 4NT my second choice.

Mike Ma **3NT** I assume 3♣ was ordinary Stayman. What is the catch? You have 32 points max balanced hands, why would you consider anything other than 3NT having failed to find 4-4 H fit?

| 05/04/24 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------------|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Bob Jones | 3NT | 2♠ | 2NT | 3NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Steve Vogel | X | 1NT | 2NT | 3NT | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Joe Muenks | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Bob Fisk | 3NT | 2♠ | N/A | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Steve Moese | 3NT | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1NT | 3NT |
| Mike Ma | 3NT | 1NT | 2♦ | 2♣ | 1NT | 3NT |
| Al Venosa | 2NT | 2NT | 2♥ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3♥ |
| Bob K | Pass | 1NT | 2♠ | 2♣ | 1NT | 3♠ |
| Carl Willig | X | 2♠ | 2♥ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Carol Wilson | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Chuck | 2NT | 2♦ | 2♥ | 2♠ | 1♠ | 3♥ |
| Dave | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Dean Congbalay | X | 1NT | 2NT | 3♣ | 1NT | 3NT |
| Doug Edwards | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2NT | 1NT | 3NT |
| Ed | 2NT | 1NT | 2♦ | Pass | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Gary Herrington | X | 2♠ | 2♠ | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Greg | 2NT | 1NT | 3♠ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| James D | X | 1NT | 2NT | 3♣ | 1♠ | 3NT |
| James Jacobson | X | 2♣ | 2NT | 2NT | 1♠ | 4♣ |
| Jay Gala | X | 1NT | 2♥ | 3NT | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| JohnMcQ | X | 1NT | 2♦ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Jusie Clendening | 3NT | 1NT | 2♥ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Kevin C. | X | 1NT | N/A | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Kevin H. | 3NT | 1NT | 2♦ | 2♣ | 1NT | 4NT |
| Lanny | X | 1NT | 2♦ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Melissa | X | 2♣ | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Mike Burns | 2NT | 2♠ | 2♠ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Mónica | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Nell Wickstrom | 2NT | 1NT | 2♦ | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Pam Campbell | X | 1NT | 2♥ | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Pete Outcalt | 3NT | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Rick Read | X | 2♠ | 2♥ | 2♠ | 2♥ | 3NT |
| Robert N. | X | 1NT | 2♥ | Pass | 1♠ | 3♠ |
| Rod | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1NT | 4NT |
| Sally | X | 1NT | 2NT | Pass | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Vijay | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 4NT |
| | X | 2♣ | 2♦ | 2NT | 1♠ | 4NT |
| | X | 1NT | 2NT | 3NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| | X | 2♠ | 2NT | 3NT | 1♠ | 3NT |

Bob Jones May 4 Quiz



| 05/04/24 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|------------------|------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Bob Jones | 3NT | 2♣ | 2NT | 3NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Steve Vogel | X | 1NT | 2NT | 3NT | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Joe Muenks | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Bob Fisk | 3NT | 2♣ | N/A | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Steve Moese | 3NT | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1NT | 3NT |
| Mike Ma | 3NT | 1NT | 2♣ | 2♣ | 1NT | 3NT |
| Al Venosa | 2NT | 2NT | 2♥ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3♥ |
| Bob K | Pass | 1NT | 2♣ | 2♣ | 1NT | 3♣ |
| Carl Willig | X | 2♣ | 2♥ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Carol Wilson | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Chuck | 2NT | 2♣ | 2♥ | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♥ |
| Dave | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Dean Congbalay | X | 1NT | 2NT | 3NT | 1NT | 3NT |
| Doug Edwards | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2NT | 1NT | 3NT |
| Ed | 2NT | 2♣ | 2♣ | Pass | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Gary Herrington | X | 2♣ | 2♣ | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Greg | 2NT | 1NT | 3♣ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| James D | X | 1NT | 2NT | 3♣ | 1♠ | 3NT |
| James Jacobson | X | 2♣ | 2NT | 2NT | 1♠ | 4♣ |
| Jay Gala | X | 1NT | 2♥ | 3NT | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| JohnMcCl | X | 1NT | 2♣ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Jusie Clendening | 3NT | 1NT | 2♥ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Kevin C. | X | 1NT | N/A | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Kevin H. | 3NT | 1NT | 2♣ | 2♣ | 1NT | 4NT |
| Lanny | X | 1NT | 2♣ | 2NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Melissa | X | 2♣ | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Mike Burns | 2NT | 1NT | 2NT | 2NT | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Mónica | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Nell Wickstrom | 2NT | 1NT | 2♥ | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Pam Campbell | X | 1NT | 2♥ | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Pete Outalt | 3NT | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Rick Read | X | 2♣ | 2♥ | 2♣ | 2♥ | 3NT |
| Robert N. | X | 1NT | 2♥ | Pass | 1♠ | 3♣ |
| Rod | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1NT | 4NT |
| Sally | X | 1NT | 2NT | Pass | 1♠ | 3NT |
| Vijay | X | 1NT | 2NT | 2♣ | 1♠ | 4NT |
| X | X | 2♣ | 2♣ | 2NT | 1♠ | 4NT |
| X | X | 1NT | 2NT | 3NT | 1♠ | 3NT |
| X | X | 2♣ | 2NT | 3NT | 1♠ | 3NT |