

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

Goren on Bridge: Weekly bridge quiz

GOREN BRIDGE SEPTEMBER 2, 2023

Q1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A 7 ♥A T 2 ♦K 8 ♣K Q J 9 8 7

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1NT Dbl

?

What call would you make?

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠A K Q T 6 ♥A K J T ♦T 7 5 ♣6

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♠ Pass 1NT Pass

?

What call would you make?

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠8 6 5 4 2 ♥Q 2 ♦A 7 4 ♣K 8 6

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass

3♦ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Bonus – Neither vulnerable

♠A65 ♥void ♦AK854 ♣AK983

EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

2♥\* ?

\*Weak

What call would you make?

Look for answers on Monday

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠K Q 7 ♥6 4 3 ♦Q T 8 3 2 ♣8 6

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♣ 1♦ ?

What call would you make?

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠9 7 6 4 ♥Q J 9 7 4 ♦A ♣9 8 6

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

2♠ Pass ?

What call would you make?

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠8 4 ♥A T 8 5 4 ♦A 7 5 ♣Q 6 4

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♠ 2NT\* 3♠ ?

\*Both minors, at least 5-5

What call would you make?

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

### Question 1

Q1 – Neither vulnerable

♠A 7 ♥A T 2 ♦K 8 ♣K Q J 9 8 7

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♣ Pass 1NT Dbl

?

### Question 1

38 responses



Bob Jones **2NT** The double changes nothing. Choose between 3♣ and 2NT. With honors in all suits, we like 2NT.

Steve Vogel **2NT** As usual, this is a close one with more than one reasonable option. Without the double, I was planning to rebid 2NT. Is there any reason to change direction? I could redouble, but the opponents have at least one major suit fit, and I would prefer not to allow them to enter the auction at a low level. Another option is 3♣, and that might be the safest place to play, but partner may not convert to 3NT with say the ♣A and a little something in the majors, and we will miss out on game.

Joe Muenks **3♣** The opponents have at least 8 spades and we likely have 9 or 10 clubs, so it's important neither bid spades to find the fit. Let's announce our strength and club length so partner can judge best whether to bid 3NT.

Bob Fisk **3NT** A rebid of 3NT after 1m-1M; 3NT shows a running minor, a singleton in partner's major, and around 17 HCP. On this auction, partner has 4+ Clubs (i.e., fewer than four cards in the remaining three suits) and 8-10 HCP, so 3NT should have a ton of play. Picture Kxx Jxx xxx Axxx.

Steve Moese **XX** "Our hand partner." We let partner know East just made a big mistake. We were going to rebid 2NT or 3♣ to show our hand. Many play 1NT here as (5)6-10 HCP. Some play 8-11. Either way it is our hand and we get to choose whether to double our opponents or make a NT contract XX'd, with some overtricks.

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

### Question 2

Q 2 – North-South vulnerable

♠K Q 7 ♥6 4 3 ♦Q T 8 3 2 ♣8 6

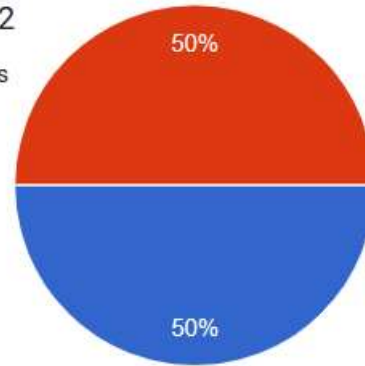
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

1♣ 1♦ ?

### Question 2

38 responses

● Pass  
● 1NT



Bob Jones **1NT** Don't try for penalties at this low level. Bid 1NT.

Steve Vogel **Pass** This hand is not good enough for a trap pass. I see the best options as 1NT (which should show 8-11 HCP) or pass. Non-vulnerable, I would bid 1NT, but vulnerable, I would choose to pass.

Joe Muenks **1NT** Easy Peasy Lemon Squeezy (EPLS). We have 6-9, diamonds well stopped and no 4 card major.

Bob Fisk **1NT** What else? You certainly aren't going to pass and hope partner reopens with a double, are you? It's hard to imagine that we could beat 1♦ even one trick holding this pile o' goo.

Steve Moese **1NT** Right on values and shape. Attempting to play 1DX (by passing here) is terribly optimistic. Our diamonds (and hand) are just not good enough. If they compete in diamonds (unlikely) we can double later.

Mel Colchamiro (see his book: How You Can Play Like an Expert (Without Having to Be One)) offers his "Rule of Nine" to decide when to try for a low-level penalty after partner makes an opening bid or a takeout double. It goes like this: Take the Number of Cards in their suit (5) add the number of honors in that suit (+2j) then add the level of the contract they bid (+1j). If the total is 9 or more, consider defending. Here the total is 8, so we bid in tempo.

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

### Question 3

Q 3 – East-West vulnerable

♠A K Q T 6 ♥A K J T ♦T 7 5 ♣6

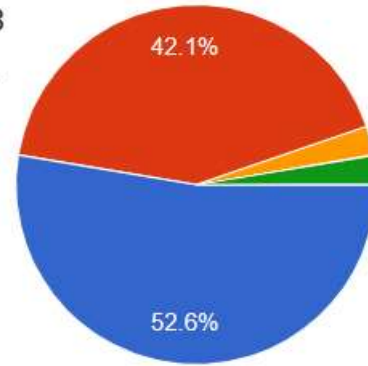
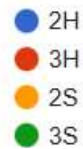
SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST

1♠ Pass 1NT Pass

?

### Question 3

38 responses



Bob Jones 2♥ This is a nice hand, but it is not worth 3♥. Bid 2♥.

Steve Vogel 2♥ To me, this hand (17 HCP and 5 losers) is just short of a game forcing jump shift rebid of 3♥, although I wouldn't overly criticize someone who chooses that route, given the 10's in my long suits. If I had a fifth heart, I would definitely jump shift in hearts.

Joe Muenks 2♥ A new suit at the 2 level by opener is 12-18, not 12-14. Partner is encouraged to make a false preference to 2♠ with 8-9 and 2 spades, which we can raise as a game try. Even if we land in a 5-2 fit our spades are good and our hearts aren't bad at all.

Bob Fisk 2♥ What else? (I see a theme) You're certainly not going to rebid 3♥ and force to game. If partner raises this to 3♥, you'll bid 4♥. If partner bids 2NT, you'll bid 3NT. If partner bids 2♠, you'll raise to 3♠ hoping partner holds Jx Qx Axxx Jxxxx. If your hand was AKTxx AJTx KQT x, you'd finish bidding out your shape by bidding 3♦ after 1♠-1NT; 2♥-2♠, but that's not your hand.

Steve Moese 2♥ We are one trick short of a jump shift. The simple heart rebid will allow partner to express their intention. We pass partner's 3♣ rebid (weak), but raise 2NT to 3NT, and rebid 3♦ (shape showing: 5=4=3=1/5=4=4=0) over 2♠. Over 3♦ we raise to 5♦. With 16-17 HCP we bid past the level of 2 of our Major when we are not strong enough to jump shift (or reverse).

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

### Question 4

Q 4 – Both vulnerable

♠9 7 6 4 ♥Q J 9 7 4 ♦A ♣9 8 6

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

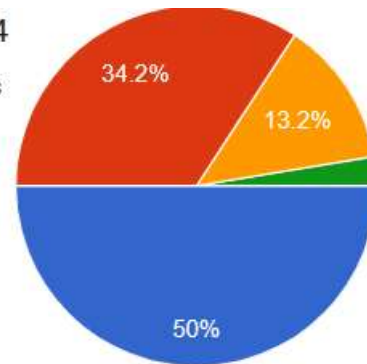
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass

2♠ Pass ?

### Question 4

38 responses

- 3S
- 4S
- Pass
- 3H



Bob Jones **3♠** This is a fast arrival situation. If you like your hand, bid 3♠. If you don't, bid 4♠. We like 3♠.

Steve Vogel **3♥** Partner's 2♠ is a jump shift (not a reverse); therefore, it is forcing to game. For the 2♠ rebid, partner will USUALLY have four spades, but he/she may have chosen to make that bid with a strong hand, great diamonds and say AKx of spades (perhaps 3-3-6-1). Given that potential, I will first rebid 3♥ to show 5 and see if partner shows delayed support. If partner does not have heart support, the likelihood of their having 4 spades goes up and I will take us there next.

Joe Muenks **3♠** I usually play strong jump shifts by opener for all suits. Since we're forced to game my 3♠ confirms 4 spades and usually elicits a control bid from opener if she has 4 spades, too. Note opener might have AKx, x, KQJxxxx, KQ and made the most convenient jump shift available, so she'll bid 4♦ next.

Bob Fisk **4♠** You want to be in game, but you have nothing extra, although you're quite pleased that you can ruff partner's losing diamond(s). Picture partner with AKxx x KQJxx Axx.

Steve Moese **3♠** Partner has all but forced to game with at least 4 spades. We accept. Bidding 3♠ says we have an Ace or a good hand in case partner has bigger ideas. Give us xxxx QJxxx x Qxx and we bid 4♠, not 3♠. Note to self; when forced to game, save space for slam investigation. Note to self 2; Learn Italian style control bids. See Larry Cohen's great note: [Control Bidding - Bridge Articles - Bridge with Larry Cohen](#)

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

### Question 5

Q 5 – North-South vulnerable

♠8 6 5 4 2 ♥Q 2 ♦A 7 4 ♣K 8 6

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

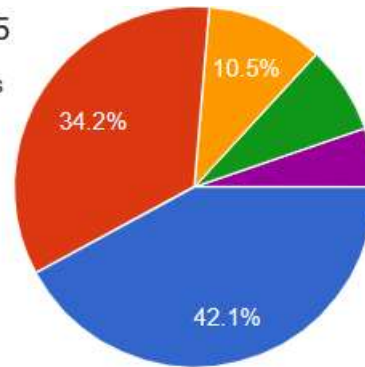
1♦ Pass 1♠ Pass

3♦ Pass ?

### Question 5

38 responses

- 3NT
- 4D
- 5D
- Pass
- 3S



Bob Jones **3NT** You have a diamond fit, but do you have a heart stopper? It is close, but we like 3NT.

Steve Vogel **3NT** With my 9 HCP, I will accept the game invitation. Usually, with 5 spades, I would rebid them to potentially uncover a 5-3 fit, but with 5 small spades and honors in all the other suits, I would choose to rebid 3NT.

Joe Muenks **3NT** We have the values for game, a fitting Ace in partner's long suit and stoppers or nearly so in all suits. A good partner has Axx in hearts, providing a sure 2nd stopper.

Bob Fisk **3NT** Your Spade suit is too pitiful to rebid at the three level, although that would be 100% forcing. Hopefully, your spade bid will discourage West from leading a Spade. Heh.

Steve Moese **3♠** "We have a five card Major so we show it. Simple math. Partner shows 15-17 (some play 16-18) and 6+ diamonds. Our values are well placed. Since partner hasn't denied 3 spade cards, we make the forcing bid of 3♠ to show 5 along with values for game. If partner rebids 3NT we pass. If partner rebids 4♦, we show the ♣K with 5♣ denying a control card in either major, allowing partner to judge whether 5♦ or 6♦ is best. (Note, 5♣ cannot be an attempt to play in clubs over partner's 4♦ rebid. It is a control bid for diamonds). We pass partner's immediate rebid of 5♦ over 3♠.

We avoid Minorwood unless we have clearly agreed to the minor suit as trumps prior to the 4-level.

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

### Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

♠8 4 ♥A T 8 5 4 ♦A 7 5 ♣Q 6 4

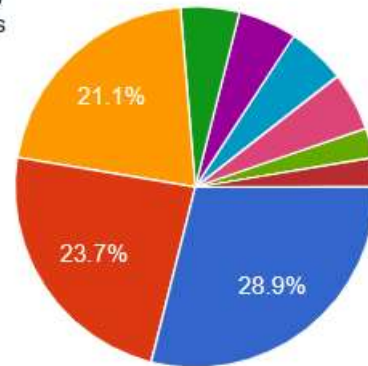
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♠ 2NT 3♠ ?

### Question 6

38 responses

- 4D
- Double
- 4C
- Pass
- 4S
- 5D
- 4NT
- 3NT
- 5C



Bob Jones 4♦ This hand is worth a bid, but it is not clear what it should be. We like 4♦.

Steve Vogel 4♣ I am not letting them play 3♠, so I plan to bid 4♣ (I wouldn't bid 3NT to show good support for both minors, because I would be concerned partner may misinterpret that bid). This bigger question is whether to sacrifice if the opponents compete to 4♠. I have good defense and it would not take much from partner to defeat 4♠, but they might often make it with decent distribution. With this holding, I would not choose to make an advance sacrifice by bidding 4NT, because we might buy the contract at 4♣.

Joe Muenks 4♦ I think the opponents are bidding 4♠, so I'll help partner choose their lead. If the opponents don't bid 4♠ on their 9 or 10 card fit, I think I can save for less than their game or partial (assuming partner has a decent hand so I'll take a lot of tricks or a wretched hand so they easily make game). I might be wrong if partner's singleton is a heart so 3s is their limit. Oops.

Bob Fisk X This isn't for penalty--it merely suggests that you have equal length in the minors and that you want partner to pick. You'll double 4♠ with some hopes of beating it. Picture partner with xx x QJTxx KJTxx leading a heart against 4♠. Heh.

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

### Question 6

Q 6 – East-West vulnerable

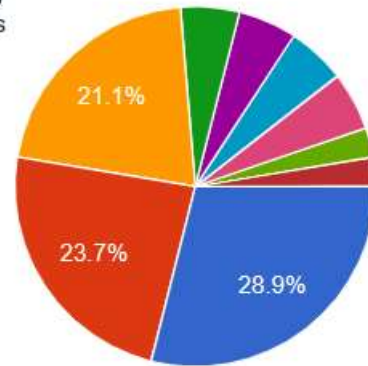
♠8 4 ♥A T 8 5 4 ♦A 7 5 ♣Q 6 4

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♠ 2NT 3♠ ?

### Question 6

38 responses



Steve Moese **4NT** Assuming 3♠ is a non-forcing constructive or preemptive raise (ask!). Many play Unusual over Unusual. So, a natural raise is either weak or constructive, 4NT here asks partner to pick a minor. We bid 4♣ if 3♠ is invitational.

Why? Do the math. If 3♠ invites then opponents have shown about 12+10 or a minimum of 22 HCP. With our 10 that leaves at most 8 for partner. If they show constructive values (7-9) partners hand can be as good as 11 HCP. A great 11 gives us plays for 11 tricks (visualize xx x KJ10xx AKxxx), but 8, not so much. Go ahead, take away one king and 11 tricks are no longer possible.

Likewise, the “Law of Total Tricks” suggests there are 17 trumps (9 for them and 8 for us) so we can expect 17 tricks - If they make 9, we make 8. We adjust our trick total +1 for the KNOWN SECOND 8-CARD FIT. If they make 10, we make 8. Here a sacrifice against their Spade Game looks tenuous for two reasons. We might make only 8 tricks (-500 doubled against their -420 game; or they go down and we have made a phantom sacrifice). Besides we have some defense against their game.

Finally, talk with partner about your unusual NT bids. Unless they are an attempt to own the contract, we give opponents too much information about how to play the hand. 8-16 is a good strength window with all points in the two suits when 8-10. Jumping with 5-7 scattered HCP invites partner to give up -500 or -800 unnecessarily.



## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

### Bonus Question

Bonus – Neither vulnerable

♠A65 ♥— ♦AK854 ♣AK983

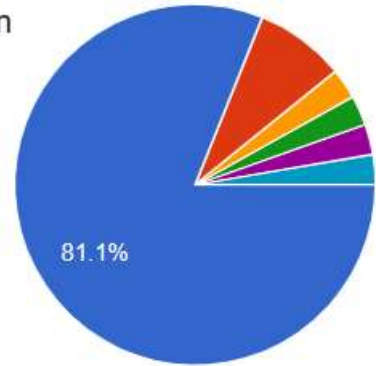
EAST SOUTH WEST NORTH

2♥ ?

### Bonus Question

37 responses

- Double
- 4NT
- 4H
- 3C
- 3D
- 2NT



Steve Vogel X I could bid 4NT asking partner to pick a minor, but with three spades to the Ace, I do not want to give up on a possible spade contract. Also, even though I am void in hearts, I am strong enough to support a penalty pass by partner.

Joe Muenks X Start good hands with a double, usually. Next round depends on what partner can do. Somebody has the other 7 hearts, so let's see what transpires.

Bob Fisk X If partner bids 2♠, cuebid 3♥ to see if partner can rebid 3♠ to show five. You'll be in game at a minimum, but you're still hopeful that a slam makes. Problem is, you have no idea which slam. Picture being in 7♦ with partner holding Kxx xxxx QJxx Qx. Sweet!

Steve Moese 4♥ The way to handle most two suited hands over their weak two is to use Leaping Michaels. What's that you say? Here:

- 3M asks NT stop; might be a GF single suited hand.
- 4♣ shows clubs and OM, at least 5-5 and not more than 4 losers
- 4♦ shows diamonds and OM, at least 5-5 and no more than 4 losers
- 4M shows 5-5 Minors and safety or better at the 5-level.
- This allows 4NT to be either Blackwood or 5-5 minors weaker. (Choose one).

Whatever partner bids, we rebid 5♥ (space allowing) Spades are still a possible contract if partner bids them. Slams are on the radar.

## Bob Jones September 2 Quiz

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Extra
Bob Jones	2NT	1NT	2♥	3♠	3NT	4♦	
Steve Vogel	2NT	Pass	2♥	3♥	3NT	4♣	X
Joe Muenks	3♣	1NT	2♥	3♠	3NT	4♦	X
Bob Fisk	3NT	1NT	2♥	4♠	3NT	X	X
Steve Moese	XX	1NT	2♥	3♠	3♠	4NT	4♥

SM: Enjoy Labor Day. Thanks go out to all workers who make our communities and our country strong. See you at the Dayton Regional next week. New Location: Sinclair Community College in Centerville.

Al Venosa	XX	Pass	3♥	3♠	3NT	4♦	X
Bob K	3♣	1NT	3♥	3♠	4♦	4♠	X
Carl Willig	3♣	Pass	3♥	3♠	4♦	4NT	X
Carol Wilson	2♣	Pass	2♥	3♠	3NT	4♦	X
Cathy W	XX	1NT	3♥	4♠	5♦	X	2NT
Chuck	3♣	Pass	2♥	3♠	4♦	X	X
Dave	3♣	1NT	3♥	Pass	3NT	X	X
Dean Congbalay	2NT	1NT	2♥	3♠	3NT	4♦	X
Doug Edwards	3♣	Pass	2♥	3♠	4♦	X	3♦
Ed	2♣	Pass	2♥	3♠	5♦	5♦	X
Greg	3♣	1NT	3♥	4♠	3♠	4♣	X
James D	3♣	1NT	3♥	3♠	3NT	X	4NT
James Jacobson	3♣	1NT	2♥	Pass	Pass	Pass	X
Jim Barrett	3♣	1NT	3♥	4♠	3NT	5♣	X
JohnMcQ	3♣	1NT	2♥	Pass	4♦	X	X
Jon Hoak	2NT	1NT	3♥	3♠	4♦	4♣	X
Jusie Clendening	3NT	Pass	2♥	4♠	5♦	4♦	X
Kevin C.	3NT	1NT	3♥	4♠	3NT	4♣	4NT
Kevin H.	XX	1NT	3♥	3♠	3NT	4♣	X
Lanny	3♣	1NT	2♥	4♠	5♦	5♦	X
Linda	3NT	Pass	3♥	4♠	Pass	4♣	4NT
Liz	3NT	Pass	2♥	3♠	4♦	4♦	X
Lynn	2NT	Pass	2♠	Pass	4♦	4♦	X
Martha	3♣	Pass	2♥	3♠	3NT	4♠	X
Mike Burns	XX	Pass	2♥	3♠	4♦	4♣	X
Nell Wickstrom	2♣	Pass	2♥	3♠	4♦	4♣	X
Pam Campbell	XX	Pass	3♥	4♠	3NT	X	X
Rick Read	2NT	Pass	2♥	4♠	4♦	3NT	3♣
Rod	3NT	Pass	3♠	4♠	Pass	X	X
Sue	3NT	1NT	2♥	Pass	3NT	4♦	X
Vijay Doshi	3♣	1NT	3♥	3♠	4♦	4♦	X
Zigang Pan	3NT	Pass	3♥	4♠	3NT	4♦	X
	2NT	Pass	3♥	4♠	4♦	Pass	X

