



# Weekly Bridge Quiz #35

Canada's results with a few comments - 2025



**Q1:** Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

**S- Q    H- Q J 10 4    D- A Q J 7 5    C- A 9 7**

As dealer, what call would you make?

**Pros' Answer:** This is the kind of hand that caused the ACBL to change the rules and allow an opening 1NT bid with a singleton. We prefer a higher singleton, so we would open **1D**.

## ChatGPT's Response:

You have 16 HCP and a strong ♦ suit with a 1-suited orientation. Open 1♦ to describe strength and shape accurately. Opening 1NT (15–17) is possible but risks wrong-siding notrump with only ♥ Q J 10 4 as a stopper.

**Recommendation:** **1♦**

## Group Bidding and Comments:

Question 1				
Bid	Totals	1D	1NT	1H
#	122	93	27	2
%	100%	76%	22%	2%

- 1NT I thought about opening 1♦ but couldn't think of what my next bid was going to be if pard bids 1♠. I don't think the hand is good enough to reverse to 2♥ and 1NT would be n underbid. So, I decided opening 1NT was the lesser of evils.
- 1♦ - Yes, you have the values to open 1NT, but personally, I think it's wrong with the singleton honor in the major suit, as the opponent will tend to lead a major.
- 1♦ - The choice is between 1NT and 1D. Either seems reasonable, but I prefer 1♦ (only a 5-card, but the suit is good enough to rebid after a 1♠ response by partner).
- 1♦ - If partner responds with 1S, I shall reverse with 2H. If the Queen of spades was the Ace or King, I would open 1N.
- 1♦ - I'm not one to open 1NT with a stiff honor. My plan is to reverse to 2♥ on my next bid. I'm certainly minimal for this bid but evaluate my hand at 17 points given the good 5-card Club suit.

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**Q2:** North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

**S- K Q J 6 2    H- J 6 3    D- 7 6    C- K 9 3**

As dealer, what call would you make?

**Pros' Answer:** At any other vulnerability, we would slide a club in with our spades and open 2S. At this vulnerability, **Pass**.

**ChatGPT's Response:**

Vulnerable in first seat, 10 HCP is below opening strength despite the good ♠ texture. Pass is disciplined; you can compete later if the auction allows. (A light 1♠ might be considered only in lighter seats/favorable vulnerability.)

**Recommendation:** **Pass**.

**Group Bidding and Comments:**

Question 2				
Bid	Totals	PASS	1S	2S
#	122	120	1	1
%	100%	98%	1%	1%

- P - I see no reason to mess with partner's head by bidding.
- P - Doesn't fit the Rule of 20 + 2. 10 HCP + 8 cards in 2 suits (< 20) and only 1.5 quick tricks (<2).
- P - No reason to open the bidding, in first seat and vulnerable, with this 10 HCP, 8-loser hand, despite the nice spade suit.
- P - This hand lacks sufficient values for an opening bid.
- P - Only ten HCPs and vulnerable. Not enough to open. I plan on overcalling Spades later, given an opportunity.

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**Q3:** East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

**S- Q 7    H- A 10 7 6 4 2    D- 10 9 8 7    C- 6**

**SOUTH    WEST    NORTH    EAST**  
**2H       Pass       3C       Pass**

**?**

What call would you make?

**Pros' Answer: Partner's bid is forcing and augers a misfit for hearts. Bid your other suit. Bid 3D.**

**ChatGPT's Response:**

Partner's 3♣ is natural/forcing over your weak 2♥. With a minimum and no help in ♣, show the source of tricks. Bid 3♥ to rebid your suit and mark a minimum; this preserves space for partner to continue.

**Recommendation: 3♥**

### Group Bidding and Comments:

Question 3

Bid	Totals	3H	3D	PASS	3S	3NT	4H
#	122	61	29	28	2	1	1
%	100%	50%	24%	23%	2%	1%	1%

- 3♦ - I wouldn't open this hand in first sear but since I have, 3c is forcing in our system so I'll show my partial diamond stopper.
- 3♥ - All bids by an unpassed hand are forcing. If I have a feature, I would show it.
- 3♦ - Partner's 3♣ bid is forcing. I will show my second suit to hopefully help her decide where to go.
- 3♥ - Showing a minimum with no fit for partner's clubs.
- 3♥ - Yuk. This is a forcing bid. I'm minimal for my preempt. Short of bidding 3♦, with only 10 high (suggesting an honour in my view), I don't see any other reasonable option that repeating my Hearts.

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**Q4:** Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

**S- A K 5     H- A 8 5 3     D- A K J 6     C- 9 7**

**SOUTH     WEST     NORTH     EAST**

**1D     Pass     1S     Pass**

**?**

What call would you make?

**Pros' Answer: This hand is strong enough for a reverse bid of 2H, but that would promise 5 diamonds. Bid 2NT.**

### ChatGPT's Response:

Near-balanced 3-4-4-2 with 19 HCP and prime controls. A reverse to 2♥ is not appropriate: a reverse typically promises a longer first suit than second suit (e.g., 5+♦ and 4♥). Here you have only 4♦ and 4♥, so reversing would misdescribe shape. Show the strong balanced nature instead: rebid 2NT to show ~18–19(20) balanced; partner can use Stayman/transfers to locate fits.

**Recommendation: 2NT**

### Group Bidding and Comments:

#### Question 4

Bid	Totals	2NT	2H	3H	4S	2C	2S	3NT	2D
#	122	75	26	8	6	2	2	2	1
%	100%	61%	21%	7%	5%	2%	2%	2%	1%

- 2NT - Balanced hand, 18-19 points. Looks right.
- 2NT - Shows 18-19 HCP. I play that a new suit reverse will show 5+ cards in the original suit; therefore, I'm restricted by my system to bid NT.
- 2NT - Showing a balanced 18-19 HCP hand, seems like the normal bid. Partner can inquire about my heart support if she so desires.
- 2♥ - Natural, forcing and showing reversing values. If partner does not raise hearts, 3♠ next will show an invitational hand with three-card support.
- 2NT - What else other than 2NT holding a relatively flat hand and 19 HCPs with only 3-card support for pard's Spades?

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**Q5:** North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

**S- 2    H- Q 10 6    D- Q 9 6 3    C- J 9 8 7 4**

Partner opens 1S and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?

**Pros' Answer:** Some would pass, but we bid **1NT**. With any luck, partner will bid a new suit at the 2 level and we will have improved the contract.

**ChatGPT's Response:**

5 HCP with a singleton ♠. Too light for a 2-over-1 and no fit. 1NT (6–9) is the practical part-score try; it keeps the auction low and describes values.

**Recommendation:** **1NT**

**Group Bidding and Comments:**

Question 5				
Bid	Totals	1NT	PASS	3NT
#	122	63	58	1
%	100%	52%	48%	1%

- P - It would be great if pard bid another suit over a forcing nt, but I really don't want to hear 2s or worse 3s. Hopefully Lho will balance.
- 1NT - Forcing, trying to improve the contract; I hope my partner bids a new suit which I can Pass.
- 1NT - A bit iffy, and if partner bids 2♠ I may regret it, but if she can bid a second suit, I'll be happy to let her play there.
- 1NT - 1N - In our system, we play a 1N response to a major-suit opening as semi-forcing, where opener is allowed to pass with a minimum and 5-3-3-2 distribution. But if partner does not pass and, instead, makes a rebid at the two level in any suit, I shall pass.
- 1NT - Another yuk. Leaving pard in 1♠ doesn't seem palatable and insufficient points to do anything but bid a forcing 1NT.

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**Q6:** East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

**S- A 3    H- Q J 6    D- J 10 8 7 4    C- A 10 3**

WEST	NORTH	EAST	<b>SOUTH</b>
1S	Pass	2S	<b>?</b>

What call would you make?

**Pros' Answer:** If you pass, you may end up defending at the 2 level, and you don't want that. **Double (X)**, for takeout.

**ChatGPT's Response:**

Classic takeout-double shape and strength facing a passed partner; short ♠, support for the unbid suits, and opening values. Double to compete; if partner has ♥ or ♦ length we may reach a fit, while 1NT would misdescribe ♠ shortness. Partner has already passed once, so you cannot count on them to reopen. Many players do not balance at the 3-level vulnerable without strong shape. So, if you pass, the auction may simply die in 2♠, and you'll be stuck defending at the 2-level with a decent hand and support for the unbid suits.

**Recommendation: X Double.**

**Group Bidding and Comments**

**Question 6**

Totals	PASS	X	3D
122	76	43	3
100%	62%	35%	2%

- Pass - If pard can't make a balancing bid we probably are not going to do well playing at the 3 level. And LHO's hand is unlimited and a double by me will tell him where all the missing cards are.
- P - I want to bid, but I'm liable to hang the partnership.
- P - Nothing to come in with at this point. Anything I bid would be pretty risky, with LHO not yet having limited his hand.
- P - With eight losers, I am not going to make a bid that forces the three level.
- P - 12 HCPs and a weak 5-card ♦ suit. I am not in the balancing seat. So, passing makes sense. If West passes 2♠ and pard balances with a double, I'll bid ♦s. Too risky to take any other action in my view.

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