

Pros' Answers to Weekly Bridge Quiz #5
February 2

Question 1: Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

S – 8 6 H – K Q 8 6 D – K 9 8 2 C – K J 2

Your right-hand opponent (East) opens 1 Club. As South, what is your call?

Pros' Answer: You can't Double with only two spades. The choice is Pass or an aggressive 1 Heart bid on a four-card suit. We like Pass.

Question 2: North – South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

S – K Q 3 H – K Q 7 4 D – K 9 4 C – 10 9 8

South	West	North	East
1C	Pass	1D	Pass
?			

What call would you make, as South?

Pros' Answer: In the old days, a player wouldn't consider any bid other than 1 Heart. In the modern game, with great emphasis on responding in a major to a 1 Club opening, 1 No Trump is acceptable. We like it. Bid 1 No Trump.

Question 3: East – West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

S – J 10 9 7 H – A J 8 5 2 D – K Q 9 3 C – void

Partner (North) opens 1 No Trump, 15 – 17, and your right-hand opponent (East) passes. As South, what call would you make?

Pros' Answer: Start with 2 Diamonds, transferring to hearts and follow with a rebid of 2 Spades. If partner bids 2 No Trump, showing no interest in either major, bid 3 Diamonds. Note that Smolen players would have no chance to show the club weakness below 3 No Trump.

Question 4: Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

S – K 9 3 H – J D – A Q J 10 6 4 C – 10 9 3

South	West	North	East
1D	Pass	1S	Pass
?			

As South, what call would you make?

Pros' Answer: 2 Diamonds or 2 Spades? We like 2 Spades.

Question 5: North – South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

S – A K Q 3 H – Q 9 6 3 D – A J 3 C – 8 6

North	East	South	West
1D	Pass	1H	Pass
2C	Pass	?	

As South, what call would you make ?

Pros' Answer: A delicate fourth-suit bid of 2 Spades might let you look for a diamond slam, but we think 3 No Trump will usually win the money. Bid 3 No Trump.

Question 6: East – West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

S – K 6 3 H – A J 10 6 D – A J 9 6 3 C – 3

South	West	North	East
1D	Pass	1S	Pass
?			

What call would you make, as South?

Pros' Answer: You could have opened 1 Heart, your four-card major, in preparation for your rebid of 2 Diamonds. Failing that, in this sequence just raise spades. Bid 2 Spades. You have three nice spades and a ruffing value.

*****finis*****
