



AFRICAN BRIDGE FEDERATION 14TH AFRICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Online – 2026 ♦ ♥ ♣ ♠

From 5th – 19th September 2026



RealBridge

Bulletin 3

Tuesday 8th September

Editor Ron Tacchi

Halfway Though The Round Robins

Now we are pass the halfway point in the Round Robins. This is the time to push on to try and make the top three, remember if the difference between the second and third position is less than twenty points there be a play-off to determine who goes to Babados.

In the Seniors **Egypt** had three very good wins and now lead the table by nearly two matches. **South Africa** remain in second but they are only ten points ahead of **Morocco**. **Reunion** are languishing in fourth place but three good results could see them in the hunt for a play-off berth

In the Mixed, **Egypt** are nearly a match ahead at the top of the standings, though less than ten points separate **South Africa**, **Morocco** and **Reunion**.

Standings

Mixed Team	VPs	Position
Egypt	117.08	1
South Africa	97.65	2
Morocco	93.20	3
Reunion	88.36	4
Kenya	69.71	5

Senior Team	VPs	Position
Egypt	127.66	1
South Africa	95.03	2
Morocco	83.76	3
Reunion	52.55	4

All information can be found on the website:

www.bridgewebs.com/abf/





Schedule for Tuesday 8th September

Note all times are GMT

Senior Championship

RR (04)		Match (01), 09H00			Match (02), 12H30			Match (03), 15H30		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
TUE 08-Sep	1	4 REU	x	1 EGY	1 EGY	x	3 RSA	2 MOR	x	1 EGY
	2	3 RSA	x	2 MOR	2 MOR	x	4 REU	4 REU	x	3 RSA

Mixed Championship

R.R (03)		Match (05), 09H00			RR(03), Match (01), 12H30			Match (02), 15H30		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
TUE 08-Sep	3	2 REU	x	1 RSA	1 Team #1	x	6 Team #6	5 Team #5	x	1 Team #1
	4	6 --	x	3 EGY	2 Team #2	x	5 Team #5	6 Team #6	x	4 Team #4
	5	5 KEN	x	4 MOR	3 Team #3	x	4 Team #4	2 Team #2	x	3 Team #3

Results

Mixed Championship

Session 1	VPs
South Africa - Kenya	12.80-7.20
Morocco - Bye	12-0
Egypt - Reunion	6.03-13.97
Session 2	
Morocco - South Africa	14.39-5.61
Egypt - Kenya	17.45-2.55
Reunion - Bye	12-0
Session 3	
South Africa - Egypt	5-15
Renion - Morocco	13.52-6.48
Bye - Kenya	0-12

Senior Championship

Session 1	VPs
Egypt - Reunion	12.55-7.45
Morocco - South Africa	8.80-11.20
Session 2	
South Africa - Egypt	0.84-19.16
Reunion - Morocco	4.44-15.56
Session 3	
Egypt - Morocco	19.77-0.23
South Africa - Reunion	17.03-2.97





Egypt vs. Morocco - Seniors

It was evident that the match on which I was intending to report was not going to deliver any interesting copy in spite of watching for a dozen deals, so at the last minute I changed to comment on Egypt against Morocco in the Seniors for the last match of the second day. Egypt already had two big wins under their belt whereas Morocco, who started the day in last place, lost their first match but then had a convincing win against Reunion to just overtake them.

Board 35. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ KJ		
♥ Q72		
♦ 963		
♣ J9764		
♠ 2		♠ A1065
♥ 109543		♥ AK86
♦ J1082		♦ AQ5
♣ A83		♣ 52
	♠ Q98743	
	♥ J	
	♦ K74	
	♣ KQ10	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Tanboli</i>	<i>Berrada</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
–	–	–	2♦*
Pass	2♠*	2NT	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass
2♦	weak only multi		
2♠	pass or correct		

We have seen some amazingly strong weak openers – another six loser weak opening. Yet again it provoked the opposition into a very thin game which they probably would not have bid if left to their own devices. On the diamond lead from North declarer rose with the ace and took two rounds of hearts and played the queen of diamonds, establishing a diamond for a club discard in dummy and so he had eleven tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sadek</i>	<i>Sibony</i>	<i>ElAhmady</i>	<i>Hayet</i>
–	–	–	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

Here we can see the benefit of not opening the South hand with a weak two bid. What was East to do? I can see no obvious way of getting into the auction let alone reaching the dizzy heights of a major suit game (or slam if you trust restricted choice theory) without taking a vulnerable risk. How many tricks South made was fairly unimportant as the game in the other room was a considerable gain, though the defence was correct and so it failed by a single trick.

Board 38. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

		♠ Q98
		♥ Q108
		♦ 984
		♣ QJ83
♠ K52		♠ J763
♥ A975		♥ 32
♦ A2		♦ KQ7
♣ K1052		♣ A964
	♠ A104	
	♥ KJ64	
	♦ J10653	
	♣ 7	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Tanboli</i>	<i>Berrada</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1NT*	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass
1NT	14-17		

East decided to go direct to game. An invite that could have been passed by a hand suitable for game and we all know you must bid vulnerable games if there is any chance. North, not wishing to lead a way from a queen, chose a diamond. Declarer won in hand and when he chose to tackle the clubs by playing the ace from dummy any remote chance of success evaporated into thin air and he finished two light.





14th African Bridge Championships



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sadek</i>	<i>Sibony</i>	<i>ElAhmady</i>	<i>Hayet</i>
–	–	Pass	
1♣	Pass	1♠	Double
Redouble*	Pass	2♣	All Pass
Redble	3♠		

When East knew his partner did not have a strong no-trump he was not inclined to push and so wisely settled for a part-score which made for two over-tricks and 8 IMPs to Egypt.

Board 40. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ Q873	♠ K9654	♠ 102
♥ 972	♥ K10854	♥ AQ6
♦ 104	♦ K	♦ AJ765
♣ 10432	♣ A5	♣ J98
	♠ AJ	
	♥ J3	
	♦ Q9832	
	♣ KQ76	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Tanboli</i>	<i>Berrada</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
Pass	1♠	Pass	1♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

West's initial lead was the ♣4 won in dummy with the ace. Declarer continued with a spade to the jack which lost to the queen. West continued with another club won in hand with the queen. The ace of spades was cashed and declarer tried to force an entry to dummy by leading the ♥J but East ducked but took the next round with the queen when the ♥10 was played from dummy. East exited with a club and declarer took his king and played a diamond to the king and East's ace. The ♥A was ccashed and East exited with a diamond and when declarer played a desperate ♦8 West took the ♦10 and cashed he master club for two down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sadek</i>	<i>Sibony</i>	<i>ElAhmady</i>	<i>Hayet</i>
Pass	1♠	Double	Redble
2♣	2♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

I am showing my age here by saying I am not a fan of East's takeout double. As on the other table a club was led but won in hand. Declarer now immediately tackled the heart suit and the ♥J lost to East's queen. The club attack continued, won perforce in dummy and a high heart was taken by East's ace and then the ace of diamonds was cashed. On the club exit declarer, suspecting the hearts were breaking 4-2, cashed the queen of diamonds and played the ♦9 to East's jack. The ♠10 was taken by the ace and what was West to do when declarer cashed the ♦8? He could not discard a club and a heart would give declarer the knowledge that the hearts were kindly distributed and a spade would establish dummy's ♠9. He chose the spade and whatever declarer discarded from dummy he had nine tricks and 11 IMPs for Morocco.

Board 41. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ Q2	♠ Q2	♠ J764
♥ AQ96	♥ AQ96	♥ 7
♦ K97	♦ K97	♦ AJ64
♣ Q986	♣ Q986	♣ 10754
	♠ AK	
	♥ K1084	
	♦ Q832	
	♣ KJ3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Tanboli</i>	<i>Berrada</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
–	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

An admirable auction to an admirable contract. The ♠7 was selected as the opening lead and after winning in dummy a heart was led to the ace. The club towards dummy saw West take the jack with his ace and switch to the ♦10. Declarer and East both played low and so dummy's queen took the trick. Declarer now took the king of clubs and played a third round, West discarding a diamond. He now crossed to the ace of spades and tried a diamond but East could take two tricks and then give his partner a club ruff to set the contract. Declarer needed to draw trumps and apply pressure to East as he would either have to give up control in a suit or allow himself to be thrown in.





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Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sadek</i>	<i>Sibony</i>	<i>ELAhmady</i>	<i>Hayet</i>
–	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

A simpler auction to the same contract but played from the other side. Again a spade was led won in hand and the queen and king of trumps were cashed exposing the 4-1 split. Another round was taken, finessing against West's jack before a club went to the king and ace. When West exited with a heart declarer played a diamond towards the queen and continued the suit drawing the ♦10 from West and East beat the king with his ace. Whatever East does now declarer will only lose one more trick. Correctly played by declarer and 10 IMPs to Morocco.

Board 47. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

	♠ 3		
	♥ AJ10853		
	♦ 873		
	♣ K52		
♠ A8	W N E S	♠ QJ9752	
♥ 42		♥ 96	
♦ AQJ10965		♦ 42	
♣ Q6		♣ J104	
	♠ K1064		
	♥ KQ7		
	♦ K		
	♣ A9873		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Tanboli</i>	<i>Berrada</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
–	–	–	1NT
Double*	4♦	Pass	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

Dble strong hand solid suit, penalties

The Four Diamonds bid was obviously a transfer even though it was not alerted. After the ace of diamonds declarer ruffed the continuation and immediately played the ♣8 and let it run but East took the ♣10 and played a spade back for an immediate one off. Would a better bet be to play for the ace of spades to be trebleton or better, at this table the answer is definitely yes. Playing on clubs your only hope is that the opposition is asleep and they have demonstrated throughout this match they are not.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Sadek</i>	<i>Sibony</i>	<i>ELAhmady</i>	<i>Hayet</i>
–	–	–	1NT
3♦	4♥	All Pass	

Off-centre 1NT bids seem to be like London omnibuses – you wait and wait for one and then two come at once. With the contract at only the four-level declarer was not troubled in the play and so quietly and confidently made his contract for 11 IMPs.

The final score was 61-8 IMPs for Morocco or 19.43-0.57 VPs. This brought them up to within 6 VPs of the second placed team.





South Africa vs. Kenya - Mixed

We have not seen Kenya since the first day so we bring them into the limelight for the first match on Day 3. Kenya are just behind Reunion in the table and need a good result to bolster their chances of climbing to third place and maybe a play-off spot for Barbados. South Africa will be trying to boost their claim to the top spot.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ KJ85		♠ A6
♥ QJ93		♥ A62
♦ KJ3		♦ Q10842
♣ 107		♣ AK9
♠ Q1097	N W E S	♠ 432
♥ 107		♥ K854
♦ A976		♦ 5
♣ Q52		♣ J8643

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Modi</i>	<i>Kaprey</i>	<i>Sejal</i>	<i>Weers</i>
–	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	All Pass

West's Pass after the Two Diamonds response to Stayman looks a little odd. Declarer had no problem in the play and recorded two overtricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stanton</i>	<i>Bena</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Haria</i>
–	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

West invited game when a major suit fit was not discovered, with all those nines and tens I might have tempted to bid game anyway, but as partner was maximum the no-trump game was reached. When the diamonds behaved kindly there nine tricks on top. 7 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ A1075		♠ K84
♥ 62		♥ 4
♦ 5		♦ AKJ3
♣ J109832		♣ AQ764
♠ J32	N W E S	♠ Q96
♥ K9873		♥ AQJ105
♦ Q1072		♦ 9864
♣ K		♣ 5

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Modi</i>	<i>Kaprey</i>	<i>Sejal</i>	<i>Weers</i>
–	–	1♣*	1♥
Double	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♠	Pass
3NT	Pass	6♦	All Pass

Arriving in a slam missing two cashable aces is not the recipe for success. I do not like West's Double, to me it implies a completely different hand. I would either bid 1NT or Pass and then raise in no-trumps when partner makes a protective double. We need not dwell on the play as declarer eventually lost trump control and finished three light.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stanton</i>	<i>Bena</i>	<i>Smith</i>	<i>Haria</i>
–	–	1♣*	1♥
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

North led her partners suit to the ♥10 and king. Declarer immediately fired back a heart and South cashed two more before switching to a spade generating declarer's ninth trick. 14 IMPs to South Africa





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Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ AQ10843		
♥ 6		
♦ 10753		
♣ Q6		
♠ J2		♠ K965
♥ Q1054		♥ J73
♦ KJ98		♦ 62
♣ K82		♣ 9754
		♠ 7
		♥ AK982
		♦ AQ4
		♣ AJ103

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Modi	Kaprey	Sejal	Weers
-	-	-	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

There are some who would not bid 2NT with the South hand, to me it implies two spades, perhaps a gentle Two Clubs and follow that with a 3NT bid, more likely partner might let you play there. East found the good lead from his doubleton diamond, when dummy played small West's jack won the trick. A small trump was returned to the queen and East's king. Another diamond followed and dummy's ace won before the ace and king of hearts cashed and another ruffed, but declarer still had a trump, club and a diamond to lose for two off.

Closed Room,

West	North	East	South
Stanton	Bena	Smith	Haria
-	-	-	2♥*
Pass	2♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

The opening lead was the ♦8 which ran round to declarer's queen. A small club to the queen held the trick but the next club was ducked to West who now made the mistake of leading a small diamond and now declarer seized his chance and played dummy's ♦10 and when this held he had nine tricks and 13 IMPs.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ A1098		
♥ 52		
♦ AJ4		
♣ AKJ3		
♠ KQJ		♠ 6532
♥ AJ103		♥ 876
♦ K852		♦ Q6
♣ 108		♣ Q764
		♠ 74
		♥ KQ94
		♦ 10973
		♣ 952

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Modi	Kaprey	Sejal	Weers
-	-	-	Pass
1♦	1NT	All Pass	

Once West had opened One Diamond East was going to lead a diamond and that would generate declarer's seventh trick

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Stanton	Bena	Smith	Haria
-	-	-	Pass
1♦	1NT	All Pass	

East had more faith in North's bidding and elected to start with the ♠5 to the jack and ace. A heart to the king saw West take the ace and cash two spade tricks. He then switched to a club and declarer's jack lost to the queen. A heart return saw West take the trick with the ♥10 when dummy ducked and he continued with ♣10 taken in hand. Declarer cashed a second top club and exited with a club to East who got off lead with spade and awaited his side's diamond trick for one off. 6 IMPs to South Africa.

In a tight match South Africa had prevailed 35-25 IMPs or 12.80-7.20 VPs.





Egypt vs. South Africa - Seniors

Each day in the Seniors Championship Egypt and South Africa face each other and as they are the top two in the table we will frequently see a report on that match. Today the second match featured these two teams.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 7	♠ 865	♠ J10942
♥ AJ8742	♥ K53	♥ Q1096
♦ J8	♦ 10532	♦ 74
♣ Q653	♣ K108	♣ 74
	♠ AKQ3	
	♥ —	
	♦ AKQ96	
	♣ AJ92	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
ElAhmady	Chemaly	Sadek	Grant
—	—	—	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4♦	Pass	5♥*
Pass	6♣*	Pass	7♣
All Pass			
2♦	positive		
3♠	Major and longer minor		

South has the sort of hand you want when playing rubber bridge. I assume 4♦ was an attempt to find the minor and Five Hearts some sort of grand slam try and poor old North not quite sure what was happening showed a club control. South seemed to think this must be a suit and tried for the grand slam. This was never going to be a success and finished two off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Minwalla	Azzam	Pincus	ClosedS
—	—	—	2♣*
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♦
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥*
Double	Pass	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

A much more restrained auction to a very reasonable contract. East led a heart which was ruffed in dummy. Declarer cashed three spades and ruffed the fourth. He then played king and another club ducked to West but he then had the rest of the tricks for

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K8	♠ AJ5	♠ 9643
♥ A542	♥ 93	♥ KQJ108
♦ AK2	♦ Q976	♦ 108
♣ K932	♣ A1076	♣ 54
	♠ Q1072	
	♥ 76	
	♦ J543	
	♣ QJ8	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
ElAhmady	Chemaly	Sadek	Grant
1♣	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

South found the lead of a spade which went to North's jack and then the ace. North now blotted his copy book when he cashed the ace of clubs establishing declarer's tenth trick – whoops.





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Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Minwalla	Azzam	Pincus	ClosedS
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

2NT was showing a good fit and a maximum but East did not envisage game even opposite four-card support and a maximum no-trump. The defence refused to give declarer a tenth trick and so the contract was made on the nose but 10 IMPs to Egypt.

Board 25. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ A 104		
♥ K 1062		
♦ AKQ92		
♣ 4		
♠ K7		♠ J9862
♥ J984		♥ Q753
♦ J843		♦ —
♣ AQ2		♣ K653
		♠ Q53
		♥ A
		♦ 10765
		♣ J 10987

Open Room

West	North	East	South
ElAhmady	Chemaly	Sadek	Grant
—	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

The auction did not continue as South had hoped. His semi-psychoic One Spade response came back to bite him. It resulted in a contract breaking the well known Burn's law where the opposition have more trumps than you. In spite of the 5-2 trump split declarer managed to escape for one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Minwalla	Azzam	Pincus	ClosedS
—	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♦
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♦	All Pass	

From one extreme to the other, in the Open Roomin the same direction they played in a part-score and at this table in a slam. The only thing the two contracts had in common was neither had a chance of making. A surprising 2 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ A7		
♥ KJ		
♦ K9532		
♣ AQ42		
♠ KQ10		♠ 8654
♥ Q854		♥ 76
♦ A86		♦ J74
♣ K103		♣ 8765
		♠ J932
		♥ A10932
		♦ Q10
		♣ J9

Open Room

West	North	East	South
ElAhmady	Chemaly	Sadek	Grant
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East chose the ♣7 for his opening lead to the ♣9, ♣10 and queen. Declarer ran the jack of hearts which West wisely ducked. A diamond now went to dummy's queen and West won with his ace and played the ♣K which declarer ducked. Now West tried the king of spades which declarer won with his ace and played a diamond and East hopped up with his jack. Now declarer only had four more tricks and that left him with a total of only eight and so the contract had failed.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Minwalla	Azzam	Pincus	ClosedS
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♣*	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♠*
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
1♣	2+		

The opening lead was the ♣5 to the ♣9 and ♣10 and North ducked. West continued with the ♣K and declarer took his ace and then ran the ♥J which West ducked. Now a diamond towards dummy saw the ♦10 force the ace and when the suit behaved kindly he had nine tricks and 12 IMPs for Egypt.





Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ Q5
♥ AQ96
♦ 864
♣ J963

♠ AK1063
♥ K4
♦ QJ92
♣ 87

♠ J9742
♥ J1052
♦ A107
♣ A

♠ 8
♥ 873
♦ K53
♣ KQ10542

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>ElAhmady</i>	<i>Chemaly</i>	<i>Sadek</i>	<i>Grant</i>
–	–	Pass	3 ♣
3 ♠	4 ♣	4 ♦*	Pass
5 ♦	Double	5 ♠	All Pass

It is evident that East thought his bid was agreeing spades and showing a control whereas West thought it to be natural, however Five Spades was not without chances. After the lead of the ace of hearts the chances became almost a certainty. When North continued with the suit West won and was pleased to see the trumps split kindly and so conceded a diamond to make his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Minwalla</i>	<i>Azzam</i>	<i>Pincus</i>	<i>ClosedS</i>
–	–	Pass	1♣
1♠	Double	4♠	5♣
5♠	Pass	Pass	Double

All Pass

North led his partner's suit and when eventually the diamond finesse failed the obvious heart switch doomed the contract. 11 IMPs to Egypt.
The final score was a strong win for Egypt 64-14 IMPs or 19.16-0.84 VPs

Seating at Start of Session

Yet again we ask you to remember that the visiting team should be seated at its table at least ten minutes before start time and that the home team should then take their places at least five minutes before play begins.

Again we had teams penalised, one of them for the second time and others were very close. Full details can be found in the conditions of contest Clause 35.

