



AFRICAN BRIDGE FEDERATION 14TH AFRICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Online – 2026 ♦ ♥ ♣ ♠

From 5th – 19th September 2026



RealBridge

Bulletin 7

Tuesday 15th September

Editor Ron Tacchi

Open And Women Start The Battle

Today we start the Open and Women Championships. The previous encounter saw South Africa and Tunisia sharing the Gold and Silver medals with Egypt taking both the bronzes. In the Open, **South Africa** have taken a big lead, they are already a match ahead of their rivals having won all three of their matches by a healthy margin. **Tunisia, Egypt, Reunion** and **Kenya** are in group behind with less than ten points covering them. Every team in the Open won at least one match.

In the Women, **Egypt** is about five points clear of the group **South Africa, Morocco** and **Tunisia** who are covered by less than four points. There are still byes to unfold in the first round and that will make things clearer at the end of play tomorrow.

Standings

Open Team	VPs	Position
South Africa	53.27	1
Tunisia	32.15	2
Egypt	31.07	3
Reunion	27.21	4
Kenya	22.37	5
Morocco	13.93	6

Women Team	VPs	Position
Egypt	40.81	1
South Africa	35.74	2
Morocco	34.60	3
Tunisia	31.21	4
Reunion	13.64	5

All information can be found on the website:

www.bridgewebs.com/abf/





Schedule for Tuesday 15th September

Note all times are GMT

Open Championship

R.R (01)		Match (04), 09H00			Match (05), 12H30			RR(02) Match (01), 15H15		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
TUE 15-Sep	1	3 EGY	x	1 RSA	1 RSA	x	2 TUN	6 KEN	x	1 RSA
	2	4 MOR	x	2 TUN	3 EGY	x	6 KEN	5 REU	x	2 TUN
	3	5 REU	x	6 KEN	4 MOR	x	5 REU	4 MOR	x	3 EGY

Women Championship

R.R (01)		Match (04), 09H00			Match (05), 12H30			RR(02) Match (01), 15H30		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
TUE 15-Sep	4	3 MOR	x	1 TUN	1 TUN	x	2 RSA	6 --	x	1 TUN
	5	4 EGY	x	2 RSA	3 MOR	x	6 --	5 REU	x	2 RSA
	6	5 REU	x	6 --	4 EGY	x	5 REU	4 EGY	x	3 MOR

Results

Open Championship

Session 1	VPs
South Africa - Kenya	15.74-4.26
Tunisia - Reunion	6.72-13.28
Egypt - Morocco	9.69-10.31
Session 2	
Reunion - South Africa	1.13-18.87
Kenya - Morocco	17.72-2.28
Tunisia - Egypt	5.82-14.18
Session 3	
South Africa - Morocco	18.66-1.34
Reunion - Egypt	12.80-7.20
Kenya - Tunisia	0.39-19.61

Women Championship

Session 1	VPs
Tunisia - Bye	12 - 0
South Adrica - Reunion	20-0
Morocco - Egypt	3.74-16.26
Session 2	
Reunion - Tunisia	8.24-11.76
Bye - Egypt	0 - 12
South Sfrica - Morocco	3.74-16.26
Session 3	
Tunisia - Egypt	7.45-12.55
Reunion - Morocco	5.40-14.60
Bye - South Africa	0 - 12





South Africa vs. Kenya – Open

On the opening round of the Open Championship we have the holders South Africa pitted against the previous semi-finalists Kenya. Both teams will be hoping to make a statement of intent and set them on a path to Barbados.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ 105	
	♥ J 1053	
	♦ A 1076	
	♣ KQ3	
♠ A7	W N E S	♠ K6
♥ AKQ92		♥ 876
♦ KJ43		♦ Q982
♣ A7		♣ 10986
	♠ QJ98432	
	♥ 4	
	♦ 5	
	♣ J542	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shah	Stephens	Sharma	Apteker
–	Pass	Pass	3♠
4♥	Double	All Pass	

On the lead of the ♠10 declarer won in dummy and took three rounds of trumps. The king of diamonds was allowed to hold and now when declarer played a diamond from hand to the queen in dummy this set up two tricks for North. Now declarer lost two diamonds, a trump, and a club was still to come for one off. Perhaps having counted North for six cards in the majors and South eight it would be more likely for North to hold four cards in diamonds if they were not splitting kindly. A further point is that even if it was South who had four diamonds playing a diamond to the queen is of no use as dummy cannot be reached to finesse against the ♦10 in South's hand.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fick	Bena	Eber	Shah
–	Pass	Pass	2♦*
Double	Pass	Pass	2♠
3♥	All Pass		

West did not find a route to express the very strong value of his hand and so played in a part-score and when he took the right view in diamonds an over-trick was scored. Declarer probably feared losing points on the deal but must have been relieved to see that South Africa had gained 7 IMPs.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ AK54		
	♥ AK7		
	♦ A10874		
	♣ 7		
♠ QJ97	W N E S	♠ —	
♥ 9543		♥ Q1062	
♦ K3		♦ Q62	
♣ AQ10		♣ KJ9642	
	♠ 108632		
	♥ J8		
	♦ J95		
	♣ 853		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shah	Stephens	Sharma	Apteker
–	–	–	Pass
1♣*	Double	3♣*	Pass
Pass	Double	Pass	3♠
4♠	All Pass		
1♣	2+♣		
3♣	inverted minor		

With the trumps breaking four nil declarer always had four losers and so could never make his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Fick	Bena	Eber	Shah
–	–	–	Pass
1♣	Double	1♥	1♠
2♥*	4♠	5♣	Pass
5♥	Double	All Pass	
2♥	4♥		

South's daring response of One Spade seemed to galvanise East into believing his major suit fit was more robust than it actually was. Declarer read the trump suit well and so escaped for one down but 6 IMPs to Kenya.





14th African Bridge Championships



Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K86	♠ 1093	♠ AQ42
♥ 9873	♥ K10	♥ AJ42
♦ KQJ85	♦ 74	♦ 9
♣ A	♣ Q108752	♣ K643
	♠ J75	
	♥ Q65	
	♦ A10632	
	♣ J9	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shah</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Sharma</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
-	Pass	1♣	1♦
1♥	Pass	2♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

On the lead of the ♦7 South took the ace and returned the suit, won by declarer. The ♥9 was covered by the ♥10 and South's queen won and when a trump was returned that solved any problem declarer might have had in that suit and immediately claimed plus one.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fick</i>	<i>Bena</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Shah</i>
-	Pass	1♣*	1♦
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass

West made a trap pass and elected to defend 1♦X when it looked certain that he had a vulnerable gain. When West lead a heart that gave declarer the opportunity to ruff a heart in dummy and so collect three tricks, virtually any other lead results in five down which is probably what the 1♦ overcall was worth. Only 4 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A106	♠ J432	♠ K98
♥ 985	♥ QJ2	♥ AK10643
♦ J7	♦ 9852	♦ K
♣ AK432	♣ J9	♣ Q86
	♠ Q75	
	♥ 7	
	♦ AQ10643	
	♣ 1075	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shah</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Sharma</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
-	-	-	2♦*
Pass	3♦	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
2♦	weak two in ♦		

West showed no interest in proceeding further than game and when the trump suit had a loser eleven tricks were the limit of the ahnd.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fick</i>	<i>Bena</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Shah</i>
-	-	-	Pass
1♣	Pass	2♥*	Pass
3♥	Oass	3♠	Pass
4♣*	Pass	4♦*	Double
4♠*	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♥	All Pass
2♥	strong jump shift		

After a long and scientific auction East arrived in the heart slam. It required the trumps to split 2-2 or for South to have a singleton honour, slightly short of 50%. When the opening lead was a spade and the trumps did not acquiesce there was one last chance that the clubs broke and the person with the three clubs also had the long heart. This was not to be and so the slam failed. 11 IMPs to Kenya.





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Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 8752	♠ 4	♠ AKJ1093
♥ J1063	♥ AQ7	♥ 852
♦ 53	♦ Q976	♦ KJ102
♣ K53	♣ QJ942	♣ —
	♠ Q6	
	♥ K94	
	♦ A84	
	♣ A10876	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shah</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Sharma</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Double	3♠	All Pass

South made the brave lead of a small heart to partner's ace and a small trump was returned. Declarer won, drew the outstanding rump and exited with a heart taken by South's king. Had south now exited with a heart the contract would have failed but unfortunately he chose a small club and when declarer took his only chance of playing the king he was rewarded by making his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fick</i>	<i>Bena</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Shah</i>
–	Pass	1♠	Double
3♦*	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

East was believer in Meckstroth's law of bidding game when partner freely supports your six-card major. South led a heart to partner's ace and a diamond return went to jack and South's ace. It was now decision time for South and when he decided to try and cash the ace of clubs declarer was now home as the king of clubs would provide a discard for a losing heart and after trumps were drawn declarer could claim on a crossruff just giving up one heart. 12 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ KQ	♠ AJ543	♠ 9876
♥ AJ	♥ Q952	♥ K1064
♦ 842	♦ 53	♦ J106
♣ KJ7432	♣ 96	♣ AQ
	♠ 102	
	♥ 873	
	♦ AKQ97	
	♣ 1085	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shah</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Sharma</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♣*	1♠	Double	2♦
3♣	All Pass		

As in theory there were six tricks to lose in no-trumps It was good idea to rest in the part-score. Declarer lost his four top tricks and so brought home his contract peacefully.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fick</i>	<i>Bena</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Shah</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

When North led a small spade declarer heaved a sigh of relief and took his nine tricks. We can all see that a diamond lead would beat the contract but I cannot find a compelling reason to lead one. 12 IMPs to South Africa.

At the end of a slightly nervous match South Africa had outscored Kenya 42-18 IMPs or 15.734-4.26 VPs.





South Africa vs. Morocco – Women

For the second match of the first day in the Women Championship South Africa had the best start possible, winning their first match 20-0 whilst their opponents, Morocco, lost heavily to Egypt. While Egypt had a bye South Africa would hope to score well and take a valuable lead at the top of the leader board.

Board 17. Dealer North, None Vul.

♠ AK874		♠ Q10
♥ KQ		♥ J965
♦ 107643		♦ KQ
♣ 9		♣ 108762
♠ J52	♠ N	
♥ A842	♥ W	♥ S
♦ 92	♦ E	
♣ KQJ4	♣ S	
♠ 963		
♥ 1073		
♦ AJ85		
♣ A53		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Marrakchi	Bloom	Sekkat	Bateman
–	1♦	Pass	3♦*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
3♦	bergen		

North valued her hand worth a try at game with her useful shape and when she saw dummy the value of the double fit sprang to life, Declarer won the opening club lead, cashed two top trumps and played a diamond and saw an honour on her left and so was immediately rewarded with ten tricks and her game.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Armstrong	Fatim	Balderson	Teber
–	1♠	Pass	2♠
All Pass			

North was not interested in going further after a simple raise from partner. The same ten tricks were available to her as in the other room but 6 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 102		♠ AK54
♥ 97		♥ QJ64
♦ J9852		♦ Q7
♣ AKQJ		♣ 1083
♠ QJ9863	♠ N	
♥ K1032	♥ W	♥ E
♦ 3	♦ S	
♣ 76	♣ S	
♠ 7		
♥ A85		
♦ AK1064		
♣ 9542		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Marrakchi	Bloom	Sekkat	Bateman
–	–	–	1♦
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♦
All Pass			
2♦	inverted minor raise		

South with her mere eleven count did not make a forward move, but some might think her hand has increased in value enormously as partner has promised five-card support and an opening or very near opening bid. She had only promised three diamonds and she has excellent controls in the majors. Maybe there was a system bid available such as Two Hearts showing a stopper or even better a Three Spades splinter. She lost a heart and a spade and so had two overtricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Armstrong	Fatim	Balderson	Teber
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1♦	Double	Redble
1♠	2♣	Pass	5♦
All Pass			

Strangely when South elected not to open her hand it seemed to help their auction. It was apparent to South that her hand was much more useful to North and tried for the game. There was nothing to the play and North succeeded in her game. 6 IMPs to Morocco.





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Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ J 10 8 7		
♥ 8 4 2		
♦ Q 9 8 7		
♣ K 2		
♠ AKQ 5 3		♠ 9 6 4 2
♥ 10 9 3		♥ K Q 6
♦ A 10 6 4		♦ 5
♣ 5		♣ AJ 10 4 3
		♠ —
		♥ AJ 7 5
		♦ KJ 3 2
		♣ Q 9 8 7 6

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marrakchi</i>	<i>Bloom</i>	<i>Sekkat</i>	<i>Bateman</i>
—	—	Pass	1♣
1♠	1NT	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Declarer was not overly troubled by the lead of the king of clubs. She won and cashed the ace of diamonds before ruffing one in dummy. A trump back to hand revealed the bad trump split and now a heart was played towards dummy's king which South took with her ace. Any return by South now was going to aid declarer and when she chose a heart declarer's ♥9 held the trick. Another diamond was ruffed. When the queen of hearts held the next trick declarer had ten tricks and her game.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Armstrong</i>	<i>Fatim</i>	<i>Balderson</i>	<i>Teber</i>
—	—	Pass	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♣	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
2♣	drury		

Declarer did not receive the benefit of the ♣K but the ♥2 to the king and ace. A diamond came back and declarer won with the ace, cashed the ace of trumps and played a club to the ace. Now she took a losing finesse against the jack of hearts and when South returned a small club declarer took the wrong view and ruffed and was overruffed. North returned a heart putting declarer in dummy and now when South covered the ♣J and declarer ruffed with a trump honour she had to lose a trump for one off. There were winning lines of play but not all of them evident. 12 IMPs to Morocco.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ J		
♥ AQ 9 7		
♦ J 9 7 5		
♣ 10 5 4 2		
♠ KQ 10 9 4 2		♠ A 8 6 5 3
♥ —		♥ 10 4
♦ K 6 3		♦ AQ 8
♣ AKQ 7		♣ J 9 6
		♠ 7
		♥ KJ 8 6 5 3 2
		♦ 10 4 2
		♣ 8 3

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marrakchi</i>	<i>Bloom</i>	<i>Sekkat</i>	<i>Bateman</i>
—	—	Pass	3♥
3♠	4♥	5♥	Pass
6♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

In my opinion West might have considered a stronger bid than a simple Three Spades. Give partner three spades and the queen of diamonds and then there must be a play for game. The opposition did their best to interfere with the auction but the small slam was bid. Declarer had a simple thirteen tricks and so made an overtrick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Armstrong</i>	<i>Fatim</i>	<i>Balderson</i>	<i>Teber</i>
—	—	1♠	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♣	Pass
5♥*	Double	6♣*	Pass
7♠	All Pass		
2NT	GF with 4♠		
5♥	Exclusion KCB		
6♣	2 keycards excluding hearts		

Once East deigned to open her hand and South declined to intervene it was not too difficult to reach the laydown grand slam – if you do not play exclusion blackwood this hand might persuade you to adopt it. 11 IMPs to South Africa.





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Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ AJ32		♠ Q64
♥ 3		♥ KQ8754
♦ AK97		♦ Q
♣ AQ107		♣ K63
♠ K109875	N W E S	♠ —
♥ 92		♥ AJ106
♦ 862		♦ J10543
♣ J2		♣ 9854

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Marrakchi</i>	<i>Bloom</i>	<i>Sekkat</i>	<i>Bateman</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	1♦	1♥	3♦
All Pass			

It appears that inverted minor suit raises are employed and that they 'on' after interference. I do not know the methods after an initial Pass but I would make the stronger bid if it was up to me. North with her five loser hand might also consider a forward move, if partner has a heart stop 3NT might well be viable. There was nothing to the play and two overtricks were recorded.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Armstrong</i>	<i>Fatim</i>	<i>Balderson</i>	<i>Teber</i>
—	—	—	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Double	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♦	All Pass	
2♦	multi		

As seems to have happened in a few deals today the interference has goaded the opposition into games they might not have bid if left to their own devices. It is a two-edged sword and those that use it tend to only remember the times when it is successful. I am not saying that the diamond game would not have been reached if the auction had been uncontested but the game was only bid on four of the ten tables. 10 IMPs to Morocco.

Morocco won the match 47-20 or 16.26-3.74 VPs

Local Time

All times quoted within the Bulletins are GMT:

Morocco and Tunisia are one hour ahead.

South Africa is two hours ahead.

Egypt and Kenya are three hours ahead and

Reunion is four hours ahead.

So at 2.00 p.m. it is 3.00 p.m. in Morocco and Tunisia, 4.00 p.m. in South Africa and Egypt, 5.00 p.m. in Kenya and 6.00 p.m. in Reunion.





Roster - Open Teams

Egypt

Captain

Moaz Hammam

Moaz Hammam

Amr Farrag

Ahmed Omran

Ahmed Monir

Ahmed Samir

Reda Amiry

Kenya

Captain

Bijal Shah

Bijal Shah

Kamal Shah

Rakesh Sharma

Bhanumati Shah

Morocco

Captain

Adnane Ammor Mohammed

Adnane Ammor Mohammed

Mohamed Benali

Mohammed Chraibi

Chaouki Bensaid

Said Badri

Tariq Sbili

Reunion

Captain

Christian Giraud

Christian Giraud

Narguis Huseinali

Patrick Hamel

Philippe Lagache

Marie-Thérèse Boyer

Patrick Schilli

South Africa

Captain

Robert Stephens

Robert Stephens

Neville Eber

Hennie Fick

Alon Apteker

Craig Gower

Jude Apteker

Tunisia

Captain

Faycel Bouksiaa

Monia Klibi

Ahmed Kchaou

Anis Ghodhbane

Mehdi Klibi

Hedi Ben Chedly

Moez Fourati





Roster - Women Teams

Egypt

Captain

Alain Audiche

Hoda Soliman

Nadia Taymour

Nessrine Hamdy

Dina El Awady

Christina Audiche

Morocco

Captain

Abderrahim Tazi

Leila Sekkat

Khadija Marrakchi

Fatim Lahlou

Samira Tber

Farida Guerraoui

Hayat Hachimi

Reunion

Captain

Catherine Aouate

Catherine Aouate

Régine Wan Hoi

Danièle Michaux

Denise Bauquier

Geneviève Vigna

Anne-Marie De Paux

South Africa

Captain

Peta Balderson

Peta Balderson

Jennifer Foaden

Nicola Bateman

Vanessa Armstrong

Val Bloom

Renee Kenny

Tunisia

Captain

Aziz Mohsen

Hedia Sellami

Ferdous Trabelsi

Jalila Ghodhbane

Alia Fourati

Najeh Linda

