



AFRICAN BRIDGE FEDERATION 14TH AFRICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

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From 5th – 19th September 2026



RealBridge

Bulletin 10

Friday 18th September

Editor Ron Tacchi

Who Is Going To Barbados?

Tomorrow will determine not only the Champions of Africa but also which teams will go to the World Championships in Barbados next year. As it stands in the Open there will not be a play-off but the Women is a much closer affair with three teams battling it out. In the Open, **South Africa**, who won all three of their matches, are ahead of **Egypt** by more than a match and they are ahead of **Tunisia** by a similar margin.

In the Women, **Egypt** has a fifteen point advantage over **Morocco**, who with two wins and a Bye, are five points ahead of **South Africa**. It looks a daunting task for **Tunisia** to climb back into contention.

Standings

Open Team	VPs	Position
South Africa	178.10	1
Egypt	154.00	2
Tunisia	131.03	3
Kenya	112.28	4
Reunion	94.48	5
Morocco	49.61	6

Women Team	VPs	Position
Egypt	158.18	1
Morocco	143.32	2
South Africa	138.30	3
Tunisia	109.84	4
Reunion	74.36	5

All information can be found on the website:

www.bridgewebs.com/abf/





Schedule for Friday 18th September

Note all times are GMT

Open Championship

R.R (03)		Match (03), 09H00				Match (04), 12H30				Match (05), 15H30						
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X		Visiting Team	Home Team	X		Visiting Team	Home Team	X		Visiting Team			
FRI 18-Sep	1	1	RSA	x	4	TUN	3	KEN	x	1	RSA	1	RSA	x	2	EGY
	2	5	REU	x	3	KEN	4	TUN	x	2	EGY	3	KEN	x	6	MOR
	3	6	MOR	x	2	EGY	5	REU	x	6	MOR	4	TUN	x	5	REU

Women Championship

Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
FRI	4	EGY	x	TUN	MOR	x	EGY	EGY	x	RSA
18-Sep	5	REU	x	MOR	TUN	x	RSA	MOR	x	--
	6	--	x	RSA	REU	x	--	TUN	x	REU

Results

Open Championship

Session 1	VPs
Tunisia - South Africa	3.12-16.88
Kenya - -Egypt	2.97-17.03
Reunion - Morocco	15.56-4.44
Session 2	
South Africa - Morocco	18.21-1.79
Egypt - Reunion	3.27-16.73
Kenya - Tunisia	3.27-16.73
Session 3	
Reunion - South Africa	6.03-13.97
Morocco - Tunisia	0-20
Egypt - Kenya	20-0

Women Championship

Session 1	VPs
South Africa - Tunisia	15.74-4.26
Bye - Morocco	0-12
Reunion - Egypt	0.93-19.07
Session 2	
Egypt - Bye	12-0
South Africa - -Reunion	14.39-5.61
Morocco - Tunisia	15.56-4.44
Session 3	
Reunion - Egypt	12.29-7.71
Bye - Tunisia	0-12
South Africa - Morocco	6.48-13.52





South Africa vs. Egypt – Open

The big match of the day in the open Championship was between two of main protagonists for berths to Barbados. South Africa had a lead of less than ten points over their rivals, Egypt but this would be a keenly fought contest as in effect it was a double points encounter.

Board 33. Dealer North, None Vul.

♠ J1096	♠ AK854	♠ Q7
♥ 9876	♥ K52	♥ J3
♦ 96	♦ A75	♦ KQJ10842
♣ 853	♣ 72	♣ KQ
	♠ 32	
	♥ AQ104	
	♦ 3	
	♣ AJ10964	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamam</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Omran</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	1NT	3♦	Double
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
All Pass			

With the clubs very favourably placed and the heart distribution also kind declarer had no problem wrapping up twelve tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Samir</i>
–	1♠	2♦	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Declarer took the third round of diamonds and set about the clubs but when East could win the second of the suit there were four diamonds to cash so the contract failed by three tricks. 11 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 34. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 1052	♠ J87
♥ 9863	♥ 52
♦ 854	♦ 107
♣ 864	♣ AK10972
♠ A643	♠ KQ9
♥ A10	♥ KQJ74
♦ Q932	♦ AKJ6
♣ J53	♣ Q

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamam</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Omran</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	–	Pass	1♥
Pass	Pass	2♣	2♦
3♣	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

With three aces to lose and an inescapable diamond as well the contract was always one off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Samir</i>
–	–	3♣	Double
3NT	Pass	Pass	4♥
5♣	Pass	Pass	5♦
Double	5♥	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

I fear South went to the well once too often. The same four tricks were available for the defence but two doubled vulnerable overtricks down cost, it was 9 IMPs to South Africa.





14th African Bridge Championships



Board 37. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ AQ863		
♥ J54		
♦ Q4		
♣ AQJ		
♠ J74		♠ K1092
♥ Q8763		♥ K10
♦ J75		♦ A9863
♣ K4		♣ 105
	♠ 5	
	♥ A92	
	♦ K102	
	♣ 987632	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hamam	Stephens	Omran	Apteker
–	1NT	Double*	2♠*
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
2♠	clubs		

The convention card states that a double of 1NT is penalty orientated. The ♦6 went to the ♠10 jack and queen. Ace and another club was played won by West who returned a spade. Declarer rose with the ace, cashed the queen of clubs and a diamond towards dummy. East was now fixed, when he played the ace declarer claimed as East was powerless to prevent him from taking nine tricks. Nicely played.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Apteker	Amiry	Gower	Samir
–	1NT	Double*	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦	All Pass
Dble	5m4M		
2♣	pass or correct		

When South led his singleton spade the defence took the first seven tricks with three spade ruffs and four top tricks, two off, but 11 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 40. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ J65		
♥ Q10863		
♦ 74		
♣ 1062		
♠ K7432		♠ –
♥ K9		♥ AJ74
♦ 653		♦ AKQJ10
♣ KJ8		♣ AQ74
	♠ AQ1098	
	♥ 52	
	♦ 982	
	♣ 953	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Hamam	Stephens	Omran	Apteker
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♥	Pass	6♦	All pass

South led a small trump and declarer took two rounds before playing king and ace of hearts and then attempting to ruff one in dummy, South disabused him by ruffing in with the ♦9 but could not prevent him from successfully ruffing his fourth heart and thus bringing home the contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Apteker	Amiry	Gower	Samir
Pass	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥*	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦	Pass	5♦	All Pass
2♦	multi, wk major or various strong hands		
2♥	pass or correct		
3♣	GF, diamonds and 4♣		

As I understand from this bidding West could have had zero points to the hand he had. Is West supposed to do something with his hand over Five Diamonds or could East have made some exploratory moves? I do not know but I do know that failure to bid the slam cost 11 IMPs in favour of Egypt.





14th African Bridge Championships



Board 48. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ 3		
♥ 10 7 3		
♦ K Q 10 9 5		
♣ J 8 6 4		
♠ 6 5		♠ AKJ9842
♥ QJ954		♥ K 6 2
♦ A J 3		♦ 8 6
♣ 9 7 2		♣ 10
		♠ Q 10 7
		♥ A 8
		♦ 7 4 2
		♣ AKQ53



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Apteker</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Samir</i>
Pass	Pass	3♠	All Pass

That now takes the new record as the strongest pre-empt I have seen during these championships. It beat par which is Four Clubs by the opponents, however with the spade game succeeding in the other room it registered a loss of 12 IMPs to Egypt.

The final score was 43-30 IMPs to South Africa or 13.52-6.48 VPs, enough to see South Africa top the standings by over 15 points.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hammam</i>	<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Omran</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
Pass	2♦*	4♠	Double
All Pass			

The defence started with two top clubs and declarer ruffed the second. Declarer took two top trumps and played a heart to the queen and one back to the king which South took with the ace and switched to a small diamond taken in dummy with the ace whilst North played the ♦5. When dummy played the jack of hearts South neglected to ruff and play another diamond so declarer played another heart to discard his losing diamond and only lose to the trump queen and so make his contract. Maybe if North had played the king of diamonds on the ace showing the queen it would have been easier for South to find the right defence.

Player Eligibility for Titles, Medals, and Masterpoints

Players are reminded of Clause 3.5 Conditions of Contest

To be eligible to receive championship titles, official medals, or WBF/ABF Masterpoints, each team's player must participate in a minimum of 50% of the total matches (or boards) played by their team throughout the championship. This rule is enforced in accordance with the standard World Bridge Federation (WBF) eligibility guidelines. Players failing to meet this minimum play requirement will not be awarded titles, medals, or masterpoints, regardless of their team's final ranking.





Reunion vs. Egypt – Women

The first match of Day four was the final séance of the second round robin. Egypt were topping the table whilst Reunion were struggling. Egypt needed a good win to continue the momentum whereas Reunion needed a morale boosting victory.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ QJ1098		
♥ —		
♦ J86542		
♣ K5		
♠ 74		♠ K653
♥ 742		♥ J986
♦ AK		♦ 1093
♣ AJ10763		♣ 84
		♠ A2
		♥ AKQ1053
		♦ Q7
		♣ Q92

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Taymour	Michaux	Hamdy	De Pauw
1♣	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

As North your heart sinks when East also passes as you know partner will bid hearts and you also know that if you decide to pass partner will come up with a spade suit and that if you bid then partner will bid hearts until the cows come home. In my partnership a one-level bid in the protective position is a weak bid but it seems to be different for the Reunionnaises, and so I would have passed. West led the king of diamond and switched to a spade and dummy's ♠8 held the trick. A diamond ducked was won by West who continued with the ace of clubs and another. Declarer now just needed the trump suit to come in with no loss but the jack was with three others and so a trump had to be lost and the contract fail.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bauquier	Audiche	Vigna	ElAwady
1♣	2NT*	Pass	3♣*
4♣	Pass	Pass	4♥
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
2NT	diamonds and a major		
3♣	tell me more		

The lead of the ♣5 ran round to declarer's queen. A trump to the ace saw declarer run three top hearts discarding a club and two diamonds before playing a diamond to West's king. When the ace of diamonds was cashed West needed to force declarer with the ace of clubs so that when East came in with the trump king she could force one more time with a heart and so come to a trump trick. Unfortunately West returned a trump and now declarer's hand was high but for the king of trumps and so she made her contract. 12 IMPs to Egypt.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ 1072		
♥ J4		
♦ 109643		
♣ 875		
♠ KQ9		♠ AJ8653
♥ AQ102		♥ 876
♦ KJ5		♦ A
♣ J106		♣ KQ2
		♠ 4
		♥ K953
		♦ Q872
		♣ A943

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Taymour	Michaux	Hamdy	De Pauw
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
2♣	GF		

Both West and East were not minimum for their bids but neither explored further. With the heart finesse succeeding declarer quickly wrapped up twelve tricks.





14th African Bridge Championships



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bauquier</i>	<i>Audiche</i>	<i>Vigna</i>	<i>ELAwady</i>
–	–	1♠	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♦	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♠	All Pas		
2NT	strong 15+ ♠ raise		

A more dynamic auction. Could it be that the Five Clubs bid was asking for a heart control? Whatever it meant the 50% slam was bid and with the king of hearts in the South hand the contract rolled home and gave Reunion 13 IMPs.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

	♠ A65		
	♥ 92		
	♦ AJ75		
	♣ AKJ7		
♠ 10743		♠ KQJ98	
♥ J7		♥ Q1063	
♦ Q93		♦ K1042	
♣ 8642		♣ –	
	♠ 2		
	♥ AK854		
	♦ 86		
	♣ Q10953		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Taymour</i>	<i>Michaux</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>De Pauw</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	2♠	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

With nine top tricks +600 was soon written in the score card.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bauquier</i>	<i>Audiche</i>	<i>Vigna</i>	<i>ELAwady</i>
–	–	–	2♥*
Pass	2NT*	Pass	3♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♦
Pass	6♣	All Pass	
2♥	5♥+ 5m		
2NT	which minor?		

A trump lead immediately exposed the 4-0 split. After winning in dummy, declarer cashed the top two hearts and ruffed a heart. The ace of spades and a spade ruff followed. Now when a heart was

ruffed declarer could return to hand via the trump suit and draw the rest just losing a diamond at trick thirteen. 13 IMPs to Egypt. Two cancelling slam swings on consecutive boards

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

	♠ J2		
	♥ K84		
	♦ 72		
	♣ AQJ987		
♠ AKQ96		♠ 10754	
♥ 52		♥ AJ63	
♦ Q1043		♦ K65	
♣ 62		♣ K3	
	♠ 83		
	♥ Q1097		
	♦ AJ98		
	♣ 1054		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Taymour</i>	<i>Michaux</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>De Pauw</i>
–	–	1♣	Pass
1♠	2♣	2♠	3♥
4♠	All Pass		

North's heart lead was taken by the ace and trumps drawn in two rounds. A diamond to the king lost to the ace and South returned a heart to partner's king. North now cashed the ace of clubs and exited in the suit. A successful finesse against the jack of diamonds brought the contract home.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bauquier</i>	<i>Audiche</i>	<i>Vigna</i>	<i>ELAwady</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♠	2♣	2NT	3♣
Pass	Pass	3♠	All Pass

I would have bid game straight away with the East hand, your king of clubs has increased in value and you have that invaluable ninth trump. Yes you do need a modicum of luck to bring home the game, but it is a vulnerable game, you cannot afford to miss them, it will cost as in this deal, 10 IMPs to Egypt.





14th African Bridge Championships



Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 3			
♥ 54			
♦ 10732			
♣ J107532			
♠ A7654		♠ 982	
♥ A83		♥ Q106	
♦ AQJ		♦ K9865	
♣ A6		♣ K4	
		♠ KQJ10	
		♥ KJ972	
		♦ 4	
		♣ Q98	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Taymour	Michaux	Hamdy	De Pauw
-	-	Pass	1♥
Double	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

With nine top tricks declarer managed to eke out a tenth by endplaying South into leading away from her king of hearts.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bauquier	Audiche	Vigna	ElAwady
-	-	Pass	1♥
Double	1NT	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

After the heart lead to the ♥10, jack and ace declarer must have had a mislick or just failed to see that the diamonds had broken 4-1 as she overtook the third round with the king and played a fourth round but North won and played another heart to take the contract down.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ J9543			
♥ 96			
♦ AQ53			
♣ 52			
♠ 106		♠ 8	
♥ 103		♥ KJ8742	
♦ 1072		♦ J9	
♣ AQ9743		♣ J1086	
		♠ AKQ72	
		♥ AQ5	
		♦ K864	
		♣ K	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Taymour	Michaux	Hamdy	De Pauw
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Feisty bidding from South but she probably knew that they were in need of a swing or two. Another slam that needed the king of hearts to be onside, and indeed he was, obviously he was a supporter of the Reunion Women.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Bauquier	Audiche	Vigna	ElAwady
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

South did not picture the near perfect hand opposite and so made no further move, but when the heart finesse succeeded there must have been a moment of doubt. 13 IMPs to Reunion.

The final score was a win for Egypt 26-75 IMPs or 0.93-19.07 VPs.





Kenya vs. Tunisia - Open

The second match of day 4 starts the last round robin and is an important match between third placed Kenya and fourth placed Tunisia. Not only does third place entitle you to a bronze medal but if you are within twenty VPs of second place then there is a play-off for the second berth to Barbados. So a doubly important match in which to score well.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ —	♠ A9752	♠ KQ104
♥ AK10	♥ QJ4	♥ 8763
♦ Q9654	♦ KJ87	♦ A103
♣ AJ1098	♣ Q	♣ K4
	♠ J863	
	♥ 952	
	♦ 2	
	♣ 76532	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kchaou</i>	<i>Sharma</i>	<i>Klibi</i>	<i>Shah</i>
1♦	1♠	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4♠	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Declarer's delicate task was eased when North led his ace of spades ruffed, and the queen of diamonds was covered and dummy's ace took the trick. North ducked the ♦10 so declarer cashed a high spade discarding a heart and came back to hand with a heart. The jack of clubs collected the queen and all declarer had to do now was play winning clubs and let North take his two trump tricks whenever he wanted but that was all he was going to make.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shah</i>	<i>Mehdi</i>	<i>Bena</i>	<i>Chedly</i>
1♦	1♠	Double	3♠
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

East's double leaves the door open for a possible heart contract but the same destination of Five Diamonds was reached. North led his singleton queen of clubs taken in dummy and declarer, not unreasonably, cashed the ace of trumps and played another to the ♦9 taken by North's jack. The exit was the ♥Q to the ace and when declarer tried to cash a club North ruffed and then cashed the king of trumps. Even though the ace of spades was then ruffed declarer still had a heart loser so two off. Double dummy it is possible to make the contract but you would probably need a long neck to be successful at the table. 13 IMPs to Tunisia.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 8752	♠ KQ9
♥ J107	♥ AQ42
♦ KQJ54	♦ A8
♣ Q	♣ AJ93
♠ AJ63	
♥ 853	
♦ 76	
♣ K1076	
	♠ 104
	♥ K96
	♦ 10932
	♣ 8542

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kchaou</i>	<i>Sharma</i>	<i>Klibi</i>	<i>Shah</i>
—	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Looks as though that is a standard auction to be repeated many times. The defence generously donated an eleventh trick to the ten on top, so two overtricks.





14th African Bridge Championships



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shah</i>	<i>Mehdi</i>	<i>Bena</i>	<i>Chedly</i>
–	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥*	Pass	4♥	All Pass

I think East had a ‘system moment’ with the Four Hearts bid. It is apparent that Puppet Stayman was being played and East admitted to at least one four-card major and West’s Three Hearts said ‘I have four spades’ but East forgot and raised hearts. The singleton queen of clubs was led taken in hand. Declarer took a losing finesse in trumps and South returned a club for North to ruff and all he had to do was play a diamond to set up a trick to accompany the second trump trick. Declarer can make the contract, it is not evident and certainly counter-intuitive, when he plays a trump towards dummy he needs to go up with the ace and play a small one. The point is this restricts the defence to two trump tricks and if they decide to take a club ruff it will be with a natural trump trick. I am confident I would not have found that at the table. 11 IMPs to Tunisia.

That was the only two significant swings and so Tunisia won 16.73- 3.27 VPs. This meant that Kenya maintained a very slim lead over Tunisia but now both of them were more than twenty points behind second place.

I had a quick look and saw that virtually all the matches lacked exciting swings, let us hope that the next set of deals will be more thrilling.

Seating at Start of Session

Please 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.

Yesterday we had penalties and others were very close. Full details can be found in the conditions of contest Clause 35.





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

