

African Bridge Federation



13th ♠♥♦♣

African Bridge Championships

Online - 2025

From April 27th To May 10th



RealBridge

Bulletin 14

Saturday 10th May

Editor Ron Tacchi

South Africa And Tunisia Share Spoils

Dear Players, Captains, Monitors, TDs and Dear Friends,

May the 10th, 2025 marks the end of the 13th edition of our Zonal Trials held on RealBridge Platform.

We, at the ABF, are aware not every player appreciates playing online ; on the contrary, players prefer Face-to-Face matches. Unfortunately, Zone 8 NBOs have extremely limited funds and prefer to avoid such significant expenses. We understand. It is our intention to take a survey, by the end of this year, in order to determine both the format and whether online or Face to Face for next edition.

On behalf of our African Bridge Federation, I would like to congratulate both South Africa Open & Women Teams & Tunisia Open & Women Teams, for being the representatives of Zone 8 in Herning. On behalf of all Africa bridge community, we wish them a great success in the World Teams Championships.



South Africa Open - Hennie Fick - Robert Stephens © - Neville Eber - Craig Gower - Noah Apteker - Alon Apteker



Tunisia Women - Jalila Ghodhbane - Hedia Sellami © - Maissa Farhani - Ferdous Trabelsi - Najeh Linda

In the Open category, in the semi-final, we have witnessed a very intense suspense and 1 IMP difference after 5 sessions. Incredible 5th session and well done to both teams (Egypt & Tunisia) for offering us such a thrilling fight.

Cgratulations to our Gold medalists: Tunisia Women Team & South Africa Open Team. Congratulations to our Silver medalists: South Africa Women team & Tunisia Open Team. Last but not least, congratulations to our Bronze medalists:





Egypt Women Team and Egypt Open Team. Thank you for offering spectators some thrilling & exciting moments of suspense.

We owe a couple of special mentions: the first one goes to Kenya Teams who, for the first time, have qualified for the semi-finals. This was a great achievement and promises a bright future for Kenyan Bridge. The second mention goes to all players who, according to our CTD, have displayed adequate discipline throughout our Championships. Thank you all for setting a great example of sportsmanship behaviour and Ethics.

We cannot part ways without congratulating our Tournament Directors: Raad Ottoom, from Jordan, and Roland Ponzini, from Tunisia, as well as each Monitor for dedicating so much time and energy to the success of our Zonal Trials.

Another "Thank you" to our great Bulletin Editor, Ron Tacchi, for offering us the daily bulletin, every day, and before each of us went to sleep.

Above all, and on behalf of everybody, a huge "Thank you" to our Operations Manager and CTD for orchestrating our Championships and for making this event an unforgettable one. Thank you dear Waleed El Menyawi.

Good luck to our Zone 8 Qualifiers for Herning and a very warm Goodbye to all Players and Kibbitzers.

Bernard Pascal

President

Zone 8

Also Going To Herning



South Africa Women - Tas Nestoridis © -
Lotte Sorensen - Vanessa Armstrong - Roz
Bernstein - Sharon Lang - Carol Stanton



Tunisia Open - Anis Ghodhbane - Moez
Fourati - Ahmed Medeb - Omar Meddeb -
Anas Mestiri - © Wissem Belazreg





Results

Open Championship

Team	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	Total
South Africa	51	89	51	45	80	286
Kenya	21	35	25	28	1	110
Egypt	29	37	28	16	12	122
Tunisia	4	35	23	27	34	123

Women Championship

Team	SF1	SF2	SF3	SF4	SF5	Total
South Africa	23	49	105	48	57	292
Kenya	10	36	13	19	35	113
Egypt	35	40	12	49	19	155
Tunisia	50	27	58	31	28	194

Open Championship

Team	Final 1	Final 2	Total
South Africa	32	36	68
Tunisia	27	19	46

Women Championship

Team	Final 1	Final 2	Total
Souh Africa	24	27	51
Tunisia	25	35	60

For all information use QR Code
or the website:
www.bridgewebs.com/abf/





Some Other Team Photos



Morocco Open - Ohanna André, Sbi-li Said, Bensouda Khalid, Ammor Adnane, Badri Said



Kenya Open - Bijal Shah - Bhanumati Shah - Punam Shah - Sejal Shah - behind - Warren Stanle - Kamal Shah



Kenya Women - Samina Esmail, Sumitra Shah, Rupal Nitin Shah, Samira Soni, Vina Verjee, Trupti Haria



Morocco Women - Teber Samira, Ayad Salwa, Lahlou Fatima, Nabil Graziella, Marrakchi Khadija - Ohanna MC absente



Reunion Open - Christian Giraud – Patrick Schilli Narguis Huseinali – Philippe Lagache – Marie-Thérèse Boyer – Patrick Hamel

Play Off Scores

Open Championship

Team	Play off
Egypt	47
Kenya	20

Women Championship

Team	Play off
Egypt	80
Kenya	8





Egypt vs. Tunisia - Women

The last match of the first day of the semi-finals in the Women Championship saw Egypt and Tunisia go head to head. The match was very close, Tunisia had the minute advantage of 2 IMPs—a vulnerable undertrick could change all that.

Board 35. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 10	♠ 8632	♠ AK7
♥ A7643	♥ 82	♥ QJ105
♦ A97	♦ Q10864	♦ KJ5
♣ AK92	♣ Q8	♣ J65
	♠ QJ954	
	♥ K9	
	♦ 32	
	♣ 10743	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Soliman</i>	<i>Trabelsi</i>	<i>ELAwady</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♣	Pass
3♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

The slam is basically on the heart finesse, if it fails you have the additional chance of the queen of clubs dropping. On this deal you will make thirteen tricks – fourteen if you take the diamond finesse.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Audiche</i>	<i>J Ghodhbane</i>	<i>Moussa</i>	<i>Hedia</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1♥	Pass	2NT*	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
3♥*	Pass	4♥	All Pass
2NT	Jacoby		
3♣	any 14-15		
3♦	shape?		
3♥	singleton or 6♥		

I assume East has a mechanism for asking for further information about the distribution—had it been a singleton club then without a doubt I would want

to be in slam. However there was no slam ambition. Only playing at the game level, declarer took no risks and so made eleven tricks. 13 IMPs to Tunisia.

Board 37. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ A5432	♠ 106
♥ K75	♥ QJ102
♦ 986	♦ Q54
♣ 42	♣ AJ53
♠ QJ97	♠ K8
♥ 64	♥ A983
♦ A2	♦ KJ1073
♣ KQ986	♣ 107

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Soliman</i>	<i>Trabelsi</i>	<i>ELAwady</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♦
2♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

3NT seems a fairly unilateral decision to me, especially as my finessing friend tells me it goes three off on a major-suit lead. The ♥3 went to North's king, Would North switch to her partner's suit—convention card says 1♦ is four cards. As South waited patiently a red card appeared but it was a heart. South took her ace and continued the suit, taken by declarer who played a small spade towards dummy. South rose with her king and now there was no way to break the contract, she had to duck and allow North to win and push a diamond back through declarer's holding. Another unmakeable contract makes.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Audiche</i>	<i>J Ghodhbane</i>	<i>Moussa</i>	<i>Hedia</i>
–	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♥	2♦
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	All Pass

The opening diamond lead set up a trick to go with the four top major suit honours and so declarer could only manage eight tricks. One off. 10 IMPs to Tunisia.





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Board 47. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ 93	♠ K75	♠ 10862
♥ 62	♥ AKQ974	♥ 3
♦ KJ1092	♦ A	♦ 8753
♣ J632	♣ Q105	♣ 9874
	♠ AQJ4	♠ 74
	♥ J1085	♥ K7
	♦ Q64	♦ KJ875
	♣ AK	♣ K1097

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Goncalves	Soliman	Trabelsi	ElAwady
–	–	–	1NT
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠*
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥*
Pass	5NT	Pass	6♦*
Double	6♥	All Pass	
3♣	♥ and slam interest		
3♠	cue		
5♥	2 keycards		
6♦	1 king		

A lot of people show the actual king they hold when responding to a 5NT enquiry. If partner has the king of clubs you can count twelve tricks and you have only accounted for eleven of partner's opening 1NT bid. I also suspect that the double of 6♦ pinpoints the diamond king which does not leave many possibilities of which king South is the proud possessor. With fourteen top tricks declarer claimed plus one.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Audiche	J Ghodhbane	Moussa	Hedia
–	–	–	1NT
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♥
Pass	7♥	All Pass	

If you allow super acceptance then South's hand is a textbook example. As North I would have launched into Blackwood once partner had made a club cue-bid. South should remember that North is the captain of this auction and she has little idea about North's hand – let her do the investigating, a 4♠ bid rather than 4NT would allow North to pose

all the questions and perhaps get to the grand slam in a more scientific fashion. Declarer claimed after drawing trumps. 13 IMPs to Tunisia.

Board 48. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ 8	♠ 8	♠ 74
♥ 92	♥ 92	♥ K7
♦ Q1092	♦ Q1092	♦ KJ875
♣ AQ8653	♣ AQ8653	♣ K1097
♠ AK1032	♠ AK1032	♠ QJ965
♥ AJ10853	♥ AJ10853	♥ Q64
♦ 4	♦ 4	♦ A63
♣ 2	♣ 2	♣ J4

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Goncalves	Soliman	Trabelsi	ElAwady
1♥	2♣	2♦	2♠
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

North led her singleton spade to partner's jack and declarer's ace. On the lead of a small club East rose with the ace and played back another club, dummy winning with the king and declarer discarding her losing diamond. A diamond ruffed in hand was followed by the slightly strange play of ace and then king of hearts. South was, perchance, not paying full attention as when the ♠7 was led from dummy she failed to cover and declarer let it run and it held the trick. A diamond ruffed back to hand saw declarer exit to South's master trump. He tried to exit with another diamond but declarer ruffed and played a small spade, endplaying South, North could only look on with two master queens but no communication to be able to cash them. In the end nice card reading by West.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Audiche	J Ghodhbane	Moussa	Hedia
1♥	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

The opposition's silence did not have the effect of goading anyone into game. At the end of a long day declarer just took nine tricks. 10 IMPs to Tunisia.

Tunisia had handsomely outscored Egypt 58-12, giving them a lead of 48 – not insuperable, but Egypt will need two very good sessions if they are to progress to the final.





Quiz - The Solution

I set this quiz earlier in the championships. During the United States Bridge Federation trials in Schaumburg Illinois, this deal surfaced in the Round of 16:

♠ 64
♥ Q76
♦ AQ1064
♣ K106

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ AKJ73
♥ A105
♦ K852
♣ A

After a set of bidding misunderstandings South found himself playing 7NT. The good news was the lead was the ♠10. How did declarer play and make his contract without any error from the defence and there are no singleton kings or the like.

The solution is to play for a repeating squeeze against someone who holds four spades, the king of hearts and the queen and jack of clubs. The spades are an extended menace and you have two single card menaces in the hand squeezing the opponent.

To achieve this you need to unblock the ace of clubs, verify you can cope with four diamonds in the West hand and most importantly perform a Vienna coup in the heart suit. Then you can run your diamonds and your victim will be squeezed in three suits, if a spade is discarded then all the spades are good if one of the round suit is unguarded then cash that winner and the victim is squeezed again and you emerge triumphant.

The full deal was as follows:

♠ 64
♥ Q76
♦ AQ1064
♣ K106

♠ 109
♥ J93
♦ J93
♣ 7543

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ AKJ73
♥ A105
♦ K852
♣ A

♠ Q852
♥ K842
♦ 7
♣ QJ98

47th WORLD BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS
14th WORLD TRANSNATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

Herning, Denmark • 20 - 31 August, 2025*

*Registration and Opening Ceremony on 19 August





South Africa vs. Kenya - Open

South Africa had taken a big lead against Kenya after two sessions of the Open Championship semi-final and for Kenya to regain any chance they had to win this session.

Board 34. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A984		
♥ 7		
♦ 76		
♣ Q98654		
♠ KJ765		♠ 1032
♥ Q3		♥ KJ2
♦ K1084		♦ AJ953
♣ J7		♣ K10
	♠ Q	
	♥ A1098654	
	♦ Q2	
	♣ A32	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P Shah</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Bijal</i>	<i>Eber</i>
-	-	1♦	3♥
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

To succeed in this contract there was some serious need for favourable distribution. North led his singleton heart and South took the ace and gave partner a ruff. A club came back and declarer took the right view and played low from dummy. Winning with the ace of clubs South returned another heart and declarer elected to ruff with the jack. He crossed to dummy with the king of clubs and tried the ♠10 which was covered by queen, king and ace. North now cashed his two master trumps and forced declarer with a club. After cashing the king of diamonds declarer took the wrong view in the suit and finessed into South's hand and so did not make another trick and so South Africa had six undertricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>A Apteker</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Sejal</i>
-	-	1♦	1♥
1♠*	Pass	2♠	All Pass
1♠	5+♠		

After ruffing the heart return North tried a club and declarer rose with the king but South took the ace. Another heart back saw declarer discard his losing club while North ruffed again. The club switch was ruffed in hand and declarer crossed to dummy with the ace of diamonds and played a trump to the queen, king and North ducked. Another trump left North on lead and he solved declarer's decision in the diamond suit by leading one. Contract just made, 9 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 43. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ J1076		
♥ A1087		
♦ 73		
♣ KQ9		
♠ 93		♠ 82
♥ KQ932		♥ 65
♦ 1062		♦ KQJ9854
♣ A63		♣ 54
	♠ AKQ54	
	♥ J4	
	♦ A	
	♣ J10872	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>P Shah</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Bijal</i>	<i>Eber</i>
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
3♣	4card limit raise		

On the lead of the king of hearts declarer took the ace, drew trumps and conceded a club and a heart for an overtrick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>A Apteker</i>	<i>Stanley</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Sejal</i>
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	1NT*	4♦	4♠
5♦	6♠	Pass	Pass
All Pass			

I am not sure that methods that require you to bid 1NT when you have a four-card raise available would be on my convention card, I can see some advantages but these seem to vanish if there is





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interference as the 1NT has such a wide range of possibilities. I have some sympathy with North's slam bid – he knows he needs swings, and big ones at that, and if partner can bid 4♠ on his own then his hand could not be better. Unfortunately the heart led set up two tricks for the defence and there was no way to avoid them so declarer was one off. 11 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 44. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ 3			
♥ AJ9832			
♦ 5432			
♣ J4			
♠ QJ862	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 95	
♥ 74		♥ Q	
♦ K7		♦ AQJ1096	
♣ 10982		♣ AK65	
		♠ AK1074	
		♥ K1065	
		♦ 8	
		♣ Q73	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Shah	Fick	Bijal	Eber
Pass	2♦*	3♠	4♦*
Pass	4♥	All Pass	
2♦	multi		
4♦	bid your major		

East cashed the ace and king of clubs and the ace of diamonds and tried a third round of clubs but the queen held the trick and now declarer drew trumps and claimed.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
A Apteker	Stanley	Gower	Sejal
Pass	Pass	1♦	2♦*
Pass	3♥	4♦	4♥
5♦	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	5♥	All Pass	
2♦	majors		

Yet again we have someone who has not heard of Ed Manfield's Bols Tip about the five-level. 5♥ turned +500 into -100. 12 IMPs to South Africa.

Board 45. Dealer North. All Vul.

		♠ AKJ754	
		♥ A106	
		♦ A6	
		♣ Q8	
♠ 9	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> N W E S </div>	♠ Q1032	
♥ J93		♥ 82	
♦ 87		♦ K543	
♣ AJ109764		♣ K53	
		♠ 86	
		♥ KQ754	
		♦ QJ1092	
		♣ 2	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
P Shah	Fick	Bijal	Eber
–	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

West found the obvious lead of a club and the defence took the first seven tricks for three off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
A Apteker	Stanley	Gower	Sejal
–	1♠	Pass	1NT*
3♣	3♠	All Pass	

East led a club to partner's ace and the suit was continued and ruffed in dummy. A losing trump finesse saw East switch to a heart won in hand. Three rounds of trumps gave East the queen but now declarer had the rest of the tricks for plus one but 10 IMPs to Kenya.

Kenya had lost the session by 26 IMPs giving South Africa a three figure lead.





Egypt vs. Tunisia - Women

In the penultimate session of the Women Championship semi-final Egypt took on Tunisia. At the close of play yesterday Tunisia had amassed a lead of 48 IMPs. With only 32 boards to play Egypt would need some early success to gain momentum for the final session.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 762			
♥ AK8			
♦ KQJ92			
♣ K10			
♠ Q105			♠ K943
♥ J10963			♥ Q75
♦ 4			♦ 53
♣ J432			♣ Q965
			♠ AJ8
			♥ 42
			♦ A10876
			♣ A87

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Goncalves	Soliman	Landa	ELAwady
–	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	3♥*
Pass	3NT*	Pass	4♣*
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	5♥*	Pass	6♦

All Pass

3♣	shape ask
3♦	5 minor
3♥	which?
3NT	♦
5♥	RKCB

A very scientific auction which located the minor-suit fit and reached the small slam but unfortunately there were just not enough tricks. The one legitimate chance that East held the king and queen of spades was not forthcoming and so declarer failed by one trick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hamdy	Hedia	Arabi	J Ghodhbane
–	1NT	Pass	3NT

All Pass

South was not interested in going further than 3NT and on this deal she was correct. The defence gave declarer an extra trick but the contract was beyond solid and so 11 IMPs to Tunisia.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ K1073			
♥ 10962			
♦ KJ8			
♣ Q5			
♠ QJ82			♠ A
♥ AKJ8			♥ Q73
♦ Q763			♦ 1052
♣ 6			♣ AK9843
			♠ 9654
			♥ 54
			♦ A94
			♣ J1072

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Goncalves	Soliman	Landa	ELAwady
1♦*	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
1♦	4+♦		
2♣	forcing		

After the spade lead declarer's hopes rested on the club breaking 3-3 but when that was not the case declarer had no chance to make her game and finished one light.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hamdy	Hedia	Arabi	J Ghodhbane
1♦	Pass	2♣	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

The same opening lead but this declarer played a small club from dummy, North won with her queen and now played King and another spade, thus giving declarer the contract with three spade tricks, four hearts and two clubs. 12 IMPs to Egypt.





Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 74
♥ QJ8
♦ J10842
♣ 753

♠ 832
♥ 107
♦ KQ53
♣ KJ94

♠ AKQ109
♥ AK5432
♦ A6
♣ —

♠ J65
♥ 96
♦ 97
♣ AQ10862

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Soliman</i>	<i>Landa</i>	<i>ElAwady</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♠	Pass
6NT	All Pass		

6NT is too final, there are many hands East could have where the grand slam is on and some where he does not have the ace of diamonds, for example solid 6-5 in the majors and two small diamonds. From the bidding you are confident that East is 6-5 in the majors, if you want to be in slam then why not fall back on the old 5NT 'pick a slam'. You are not averse to playing in a major you know there are eight card fits around. 6NT was without hope when North did not lead a club and finished up two down. It is interesting to play the hand when North does lead a club. If South takes the ace then North is squeezed in the red suits on the run of the spades. If South ducks the club then North is again squeezed, but without the count, she has to discard her clubs to maintain guards in in the red suits and now declarer can play three rounds of hearts setting up the twelfth trick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Hedia</i>	<i>Arabi</i>	<i>J Ghodhbane</i>
–	–	–	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♣	Pass	5♦*	Pass
5♠*	Pass	6♥	All Pass

2♣ game force
2♥ 2 Italian controls
5♦ Q ask
5♥ no

When both majors behaved declarer was soon writing +1430 in her in column. 17 IMPs to Egypt.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 7
 ♥ K108764
 ♦ 7
 ♣ 109876

♠ 8653
 ♥ QJ3
 ♦ J10
 ♣ AJ53

N
 W E
 S

♠ AKQJ2
 ♥ A92
 ♦ KQ43
 ♣ K

♠ 1094
 ♥ 5
 ♦ A98652
 ♣ Q42

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Goncalves</i>	<i>Soliman</i>	<i>Landa</i>	<i>ElAwady</i>
–	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4NT*	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦*	Pass	6♠	All Pass
2♣	Strong hand relay		
2♦			

South led ace of diamonds and another which was ruffed by North, Unlucky for declarer.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Hedia</i>	<i>Arabi</i>	<i>J Ghodhbane</i>
–	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		
2♣	GF		
2♥	2 italian controls		

Against the game contract South led her singleton heart and now declarer just drew trumps and concede a trick to the ace of diamonds for plus two. A fortunate 13 IMPs to Egypt.

At the end of the match Egypt had clawed back 18 IMPs and so were now only 30 points adrift.





Egypt vs. Tunisia - Women

The closest match in last round of the semi-final was the Open Championship between Egypt and Tunisia. At the start of the session Egypt had a lead of 21 IMPs, enough to be important but small enough to get the nerves tingling.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ K	♠ —
♥ 109854	♥ KJ7
♦ K74	♦ AQ105
♣ 9865	♣ AKQJ104
♠ QJ1096542	♠ A873
♥ 2	♥ AQ63
♦ J98	♦ 632
♣ 3	♣ 72

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bellazreg</i>	<i>Ahmady</i>	<i>Mestiri</i>	<i>Amiry</i>
—	—	1♣	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Declarer played the king on the ♥10 lead and South took the trick and tried to cash the queen but declarer ruffed and played a high spade taken by North's king. Declarer was not unduly threatened by the heart continuation won in dummy and a diamond discarded from hand. Declarer cashed a top club and then ruffed one back to hand to lead another round of trumps which South took with the ace. There was nothing South could do as declarer would be able to draw trumps no matter what he returned. Contract made.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>ElSelehdar</i>	<i>O Meddeb</i>	<i>Samir</i>	<i>A Meddeb</i>
—	—	2♣*	Pass
2♦	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♠	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♠	All Pass		
2♣	GF		
2♦	0-1 control		

With the ace of hearts and two top trumps for the defence the contract was doomed. 10 IMPs to Tunisia. The only contract making at the five-level is 5♦!.

Board 24. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ —	♠ —
♥ K75	♥ AK732
♦ QJ876543	♥ J104
♣ 97	♦ A2
♠ J10	♣ J83
♥ A92	♠ Q98654
♦ 9	♥ Q863
♣ AKQ10642	♦ K10
	♣ 5

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bellazreg</i>	<i>Ahmady</i>	<i>Mestiri</i>	<i>Amiry</i>
1NT	4♦	4♠	All Pass

North's well timed pre-empt did maximum damage and the opposition did not find the right denomination in which to play. It is surprising how often if you do something off-centre it comes back to haunt you. Should West have retreated to 5♣. There are many imponderables on this hand – if East had double 4♦ then his side would be playing in 5♣. 4♠ was not a happy contract, thanks to the atrocious break, but that should not be too much of a surprise when you know there is a long diamond suit in the offing. Declarer escaped for two off but the damage had been done.





13th African Bridge Championships



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>ElSelehda</i>	<i>O Meddeb</i>	<i>Samir</i>	<i>A Meddeb</i>
1♣*	Pass	1♠	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

North led a diamond and declarer just took his eleven top tricks for plus two. 11 IMPs to Egypt.

With four boards to go Egypt were leading by sixteen points.

Board 29. Dealer North. All Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bellazreg</i>	<i>Ahmady</i>	<i>Mestiri</i>	<i>Amiry</i>
–	Pass	3♦	All Pass

Not everyone's idea of a pre-empt but it worked perfectly. When the defence did not take it two spades at the off one of them disappeared on the ace of clubs, so declarer finished up with an overtrick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>ElSelehda</i>	<i>O Meddeb</i>	<i>Samir</i>	<i>A Meddeb</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

When neither East nor West could find a protective bid South was left to play in 2♠. The defence did not get off to the best start when the opening lead was the ♥5 which ran round to declarer's queen. Declarer drew trumps in two rounds and only needed to concede two clubs and a trick in each of diamonds and hearts to score an overtrick. 7 IMPs to Tunisia. Egypt's lead cut to nine. Board 30 was flat.

Board 31. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

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

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bellazreg</i>	<i>Ahmady</i>	<i>Mestiri</i>	<i>Amiry</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	3NT	All Pass

East, knowing he needed a swing and valuing his tens and nines went straight to game. North had an unappetising choice of lead and eventually decided on the ♥4 to partner's ♥8 and declarer's ♥10. Declarer crossed to dummy with a diamond and played the ♣10, covered by the king and ace. A small club was won in dummy with the ♣9 and the continuation by North with the queen. The diamond exit went to declarer's ♦9 and now declarer set about establishing a spade trick by playing a small spade towards dummy. North rose with the queen but there was nothing he could do, he tried a heart and when South did not cover the ♥9 declarer played another spade and when North took the ace his hand was high, plus one.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>ElSelehda</i>	<i>O Meddeb</i>	<i>Samir</i>	<i>A Meddeb</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦	Pass	2NT	All Pass

East was not as aggressive as the other room and merely made an invitation which West, with his minimum, declined. Declarer made the expected nine tricks. 7 IMPs to Tunisia. With the last board still to come Egypt had the slender lead of 2 points.





Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ K3
 ♥ J1098
 ♦ 9852
 ♣ 732

♠ 8654
 ♥ 53
 ♦ Q1043
 ♣ J105

♠ AQ1092
 ♥ A42
 ♦ 76
 ♣ A94

♠ J7
 ♥ KQ76
 ♦ AKJ
 ♣ KQ86

N
 W E
 S

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bellazreg</i>	<i>Ahmady</i>	<i>Mestiri</i>	<i>Amiry</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Double
2♠	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	All Pass		
3♣	game try		

South led a trump to the king and declarer's ace. A small diamond caused South to rise with the ace and exit with a trump. Another diamond and South went up with the king. Now when the diamond jack fell under the queen declarer had an overtrick and a score for Tunisia of +170. If in the other room they were -80 or less then they would be the winning sem-finalists,

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>ElSelehdar</i>	<i>O Meddeb</i>	<i>Samir</i>	<i>A Meddeb</i>
Pass	Pass	1♠	Double
2♠*	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	3♥	All Pass	

East got off to the best lead of a small diamond won in dummy with the king. A small heart to the ♥8 and East took the ace and played another diamond won in dummy, A small trump to hand and a club towards dummy for the queen to win. Declarer drew the last trump and played a diamond. West took the queen and played a spade through. East took two spade tricks but now declarer would make three more tricks, if East cashed the ace of clubs then then the king would score in dummy, if a spade is led then declarer ruffs in hand and leads towards the king of clubs and so the contract was one off. -50 to Tunisia so they scored 3 IMPs and had won the semi-final by a single point on the very last board.





Roster - Open Teams

Egypt

Captain

Yehia El Shazly

Walid El Ahmady

Reda Amiry

Ahmed Samir

Aly El Selehdar

Ahmed Omran

Ahmed Yousry

Kenya

Captain

Sejal Shah

Sejal Shah

Kamal Shah

Punam Shah

Bijal Shah

Bhanumati Shah

Warren Stanley

Morocco

Captain

Khalil Bensouda

Khalil Bensouda

Andre O'Hana

Said Badri

Mohammed A Ammor

Tariq Sbili

Said Sbili

Reunion

Captain

Christian Giraud

Christian Giraud

Philippe Lagache

Narguis Huseinali

Patrick Hamel

Marie-Thérèse Boyer

Patrick Schilli

South Africa

Captain

Robert Stephens

Robert Stephens

Hennie Fick

Alon Apteker

Craig Gower

Noah Apteker

Neville Eber

Tunisia

Captain

Wissem Belazreg

Wissem Belazreg

Anas Mestiri

Omar Meddeb

Ahmed Medeb

Anis Ghodhbane

Moez Fourati

47th WORLD BRIDGE TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS
14th WORLD TRANSNATIONAL OPEN TEAMS

Herning, Denmark • 20 - 31 August, 2025*

*Registration and Opening Ceremony on 19 August





Roster - Women Teams

Egypt

Captain

Ayman Azzam (NPC)

Hoda Soliman

Dina El Awady

Nadia Taymour

Nessreine Hamdy

Nada Moussa

Christina Kiami

Kenya

Captain

Samina Ismail

Samina Ismail

Sumitra Shah

Samira Soni

Rupal shah

Vina Verjee

Trupti Haria

Morocco

Captain

Fatim Lahlou

Fatim Lahlou

Samira Teber

Graziella Nabil

Salwa Ayad

Khadija Marrakchi

Marie Claire O'Hana

South Africa

Captain

Tas Nestoridis

Roz Bernstein

Sharon Lang

Vanessa Armstrong

Carol Stanton

Lotte Sorensen

Tas Nestoridis

Tunisia

Captain

Hedia Sellami

Hedia Sellami

Ferdous Trabelsi

Jalila Ghodhbane

Maissa Farhani

Halima Mejri

Najeh Linda

