



The Semi-Finals Get Under Way

The semi-finals got under way after a gruelling five days of Round Robin. We are finally at a head to head, knock-out situation. The two winners of these four session matches will represent Africa in the Bermuda Bowl early next year, probably in Italy. These two matches are more important than the final. Obviously one wants to be the champion of your zone but getting to the Bermuda Bowl is the goal of any aspiring bridge player. There were three sessions today, both South Africa and Egypt leapt out of the starting gates and took early leads. At the end of the first session the score in South Africa vs Tunisia was 53-22 and for Egypt vs Morocco 52-9. The second session was similar to the first and both leading teams increased their advantage South Africa to 84-35 and Egypt to 89-16. The news in the third quarter was not good for our Tunisian and Moroccan underdogs, more of the same and at the end of the day South Africa's lead was 145-66 and Egypt 121-36.

Both Morocco and Tunisia graciously conceded but will participate in the third place play-off.

Updated schedules for both the Mixed and the Senior Championships are posted in this bulletin. There are no changes to timings - it is just to clarify the procedures for the final Round Robin.

The Butler scores for both the Open and the Women are published in the bulletin. There was a fair amount of manual effort required to produce these statistics so if there is an error please forgive us and let us know the problem and we will rectify it.

The screenshot shows a bridge game interface. On the left, a hand layout is displayed for North (33m) and South (6). The cards are: North (♠ 108, ♥ 4, ♦ —, ♣ 6) and South (♠ 943, ♥ Q9, ♦ —, ♣ —). A video call window on the right shows two participants: 'Philippe Molina' and 'Luc Bellicaud'. Below the video call, there is a chat window with a 'Send chat' button. At the bottom, there is a 'Kibitzers (14)' list with names: Bernard, Chris Rosenberg, Christine, and Hasouna. There are also 'Leave' and 'Scores' buttons.

Yesterday there was live commentary on the semi-finals via the Real Bridge Kibitz site by Luc Bellicaud and Philippe Molina. (<https://kibitz.realbridge.online/>)

Today live commentators will cover the first segment of the final (approx. 12.00 GMT) with Christophe Oursel (French star) in both languages and, for the second segment, David Harari (French star) will do it in English while Luc Bellicaud will do it in French.





11th African Bridge Championships



Open Pair	Brds	Butler
Hussein & Baher Ahmed	96	1.42
Hennie Fick & Neville Eber	160	1.24
Craig Gower & Alon Apteker	160	1.00
Tim Cope & Andrew Cruise	160	0.86
Baher Ahmed & Ahmed Samir	80	0.75
Walid & Reda Amiry	96	0.53
Belkouch Abdellatif & Maitre	32	0.50
Belkouch Abdellatif & Pierre Tkint	80	0.44
Reda Amiry & Ahmed Samir	128	0.35
Walid & Tarek	80	0.24
Maitre & Pierre Tkint	112	0.16
Raouf Zmerli & Mohamed Rebai	144	0.16
Anis Ghodhbane & Omar	144	0.05
Benali & Chaouki Bensaïd	176	-0.10
Hedi Ben Chedli & Monia Jellouli	160	-0.18
Gabriel Melin & Jean-Luc Neulat	160	-0.21
Benali & Belkouch Abdellatif	16	-0.31
Philippe Lagache & Patrick Hamel	160	-0.51
Huseinali & Christian Giraud	160	-0.71
Bhanumati & Ramula	160	-0.77
Chaouki Bensaïd & Belkouch Abdellatif	16	-0.90
Samina Esmail & Saleem U Deen	160	-0.94
Chaouki Bensaïd & Belkouch Abdellatif	32	-0.95
Meddeb & Ghodhbane	32	-1.33
Chandrakant Velji & Aruna Shah	160	-1.59

Butler Scores

Women Pair	Brds	Butler
Guerraoui Farida & Hachimi Hayat	208	0.65
Marguerite Homsy & Nada Wattar	160	0.42
Nesrine Hamdy & Nadia Taymour	160	0.23
Dina Elawady & Hoda Soliman	160	0.20
Catherine T Kint & Lahlou Fatim	208	0.15
Desiree Pieters & Chris Child	160	-0.01
Peta Balderson & Jennifer Gautschi	160	-0.07
Roz Bernstein & Sharon Lang	160	-0.11
Ferdous Trabelsi & Hedia Sellami	96	-0.35
Lili Daldoul & Meriem Dorai	192	-0.36
Ferdous Trabelsi & Hedia Baccar	96	-0.45
Ohana Marie Claire & Lahlou Fatim	32	-0.79
Hedia Baccar & Hedia Sellami	48	-1.13
Hedia Sellami & Meriem Dorai	32	-1.22
Hedia Sellami & Lili Daldoul	16	-2.10

Semi-final 4	June 6 8.00	Final 1	June 6 11.30	Final 2	June 6 14.15
Home Team	Visiting Team	Home Team	Visiting Team	Home Team	Visiting Team
OFF		EGY	RSA	RSA	EGY
OFF		TUN	MOR	MOR	TUN

The schedule for the final and play-off

To break any ties the higher ranked team in the Round Robin stage will have half an IMP carry over





Women Teams - The Final Session

This session was the final match in the fifth Round Robin of the Women Championship and it would decide who would be crowned the victor. At the start Morocco were about three points ahead so Egypt would need to score about 12 VPs or more to change the order at the top of the table.

The match was exceedingly low scoring, the biggest swing was seven IMPs, so we will examine some boards which perhaps were 'might-have-beens'

Board 36. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ Q943		♠ K8
♥ K9742		♥ J65
♦ K64		♦ AQJ2
♣ A		♣ KJ42
♠ A762		♠ J105
♥ A103		♥ Q8
♦ 1073		♦ 985
♣ 963		♣ Q10875

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hachimi</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Guerraoui</i>	<i>Homsy</i>
Pass	1♥	All Pass	

East must have been itching to say something but could not think what would be the right bid. She waited for a second opportunity and is still waiting. As the cards actually lie, double dummy East can make 3NT, but not if she is not playing the contract. The defence was less than dynamic. With a very uninviting hand from which to lead East made the good decision to start with a low club won by the ace. A small heart to the queen and ace left West on lead who in my opinion woodenly returned a club, while this was not a disaster but it had lowered the potential defeat from two tricks to one, declarer discarded a losing diamond and East took her king. East then exited with a trump to West's ♥10 and declarer's queen and the favour was returned so East was on lead yet again, with a choice between diamonds and spades her 50-50

guess was the wrong one when she tried the ace of diamonds. Now declarer could give up two spades and make seven tricks. At trick three with the West hand I would have placed the ♦10 on the digital green baize but with a momentary flicker. Not only should it lead to a two trick set but makes life so much easier for East – she now knows you have no honours in diamonds, none in clubs and therefore any points you do have will be in spades. Why lead a suit which is going to set up tricks for declarer, so -80 for Morocco instead of +200.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Taymour</i>	<i>T'Kint</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Lahlou</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
All Pass			

I was mildly surprised that when East had a second chance to speak did not take advantage of it. If West had managed to find a diamond lead when in with one of her two aces she contract would have failed by three tricks rather than just two. Maybe diamonds are not a bridge player's best friend. Had both defences been perfect then three IMPs would have gone Egypt's way rather than the actual seven.

Board 37. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 642		♠ AKJ3
♥ —		♥ AKQ53
♦ 8762		♦ 109
♣ QJ10975		♣ K4
♠ Q109		♠ 875
♥ J109876		♥ 42
♦ 5		♦ AKQJ43
♣ A83		♣ 62

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hachimi</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Guerraoui</i>	<i>Homsy</i>
–	Pass	1♥	2♦
4♥	All Pass		





11th African Bridge Championships



With twelve straightforward top tricks where did the wheels fall off. I think West undervalued her hand. You will have constantly seen me banging on about the value of the ninth trump, but what if you have the tenth and eleventh as well. That West hand is enormous – it may not have a huge number of high cards but you have a serious raise to 4♥, not a pre-emptive one and in that case why not get the values of your hand across with a bid of 4♦. Now partner cannot stop short of slam and now you will not be at risk of losing 11 IMPs.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Taymour</i>	<i>T'Kint</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Lahlou</i>
–	Pass	1♥	2♦
4♥	All Pass		

I have said everything that needs to be said above. Both teams missed an excellent opportunity to strike a blow to the opposition.

On Board 40 Egypt bid a thin 23 point 3NT which needed both black kings favourably placed and so gained six IMPs when that came to pass.

Board 41. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ KQ53	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ A9642
N					
W E					
S					
♥ 965	♥ Q83				
♦ AQ4	♦ 10975				
♣ 1074	♣ Q				
♠ J108					
♥ A104					
♦ KJ62					
♣ J63					

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Hachimi</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Guerraoui</i>	<i>Homsy</i>
–	1♣	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣
All Pass			

There was nothing to the play and when declarer divined the position of the queen of hearts she had an overtrick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Taymour</i>	<i>T'Kint</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Lahlou</i>
–	1♣	1♠	Double
2NT*	3♥	Pass	Pass
3♠	All Pass		
2NT	fit ♠		

Yet again we see the upside of a minimum intervention which allowed East/West to steal the contract, with both diamond honours outside declarer had nine tricks and seven IMPs.

There was little to the remaining boards and as mentioned in a low scoring match Egypt had beaten Morocco 29-8 or 15.19-4.81 VPs. This gave them the title, congratulations to the team and their NPC Mohamed Serour.





Semi-final Session One

I shall try and report on boards across the two semi-finals, hopefully it will be interesting to see the differences between the teams. I shall give the bidding and play on the South Africa vs Tunisia match before that of Egypt vs Morocco as that is the order they appear on my results screen. We shall start at the beginning because it is a very good place to start.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 10765		♠ A
♥ A102		♥ KJ6543
♦ AJ10		♦ Q9864
♣ 1094		♣ A
♠ KQ93		♠ J842
♥ Q8		♥ 97
♦ 73		♦ K52
♣ K7653		♣ QJ82

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jellouli</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Chedli</i>	<i>Cruise</i>
–	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

With all four hands on view we can see that there is a simple defence to beat this contract but it is not that simple to find. Obviously an initial trump lead leaves declarer with no hope, but not having the gift of second sight South led the ♣Q. Declarer won with his ace, unblocked the ace of spades and exited with a diamond, which ran round to North. The same fate awaited North, unable to divine that the only card in his hand to beat the contract was the jack of diamonds and even then South had to overtake and then lead the ♥9, just too much to expect defenders to do.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Zmerli</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Rebai</i>
–	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	4♥	All Pass

The initial stages of the play were identical and again North could not find the diamond return. Flat board

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Chaouki</i>	<i>Walid</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Tarek</i>
–	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

South found the opening lead of the ♥9 which destroyed declarer's chances of making his contract North ducked it into declarer's hand who then unblocked both black aces before exiting with a diamond. North took his ♦10, cashed the ace of hearts and exited with his last trump and sat back to await his two diamond tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Samir</i>	<i>Maitre</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>T'Kint</i>
–	Pass	1♥	Pass
1♠	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	

South, as the defenders in the other room, led the ♣Q and again declarer unblocked his black aces before exiting with a diamond. Again it was not apparent that a diamond return was needed and so Egypt gained ten IMPs.





11th African Bridge Championships



Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ J102
♥ J9
♦ 9765
♣ KQ103

♠ 976
♥ K853
♦ 1083
♣ 872

♠ AQ
♥ AQ4
♦ AKQJ
♣ AJ95

♠ K8543
♥ 10762
♦ 42
♣ 64



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jellouli</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Chedli</i>	<i>Cruise</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Double	Redble	All Pass
2♦	game force		
2♥	no ace		

North must have had his heart in his mouth when his Double of the Stayman bid was redoubled and passed out. He started the defence with a diamond won in dummy. Dummy tried the ♣J which North took with his queen. A spade continuation was won in dummy and three rounds of hearts played, the third ruffed by North. A spade to South's king saw the return of a diamond and when declarer tried to cash a third round of diamonds South ruffed and North still had a trump trick to come for a relieving one off. Declarer seemed to be playing North for a five-card club suit and I suspect next time North doubles in such a situation he will have five of them.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Zmerli</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Rebai</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦	Pass	4NT	All Pass
2♣	strongest bid		

The bidding books are not full of ways of dealing with a 27 count and 4NT seems as good as any. When South led a spade that ensured declarer's tenth trick and another one turned up in the wash. That gave South Africa 14 IMPs

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Chaouki</i>	<i>Walid</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Tarek</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3NT	All Pass
2♣	FG		
2♦	0-1 Italian Ctl		

Again the spade lead gave declarer his tenth trick and he found an eleventh with a little help from the defence.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Samir</i>	<i>Maitre</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>T'Kint</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3NT	All Pass
2♦	0-1 Italian Ctl		
2♥	Kokish		
2♠	relay		

A little bit of excitement as Mr Eric Kokish is remembered. With the lead not being a spade declarer did not manage to find an eleventh trick so one IMP to Egypt

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 2
♥ AK109
♦ K983
♣ 9864

♠ K1086
♥ Q7
♦ J765
♣ AQ2

♠ AQ9754
♥ 42
♦ A42
♣ 75

♠ J3
♥ J8653
♦ Q10
♣ KJ103



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jellouli</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Chedli</i>	<i>Cruise</i>
-	-	-	Pass
1♦	1♥	1♠	3♦*
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass
3♦	7-9 4+♥		

A daring Mike Laurence-esque four-card overcall from North did not stop the opposition reaching the spade game. South led the ♥3 to partner's





11th African Bridge Championships



ace and king playing the ♥8 on the second round. A small diamond from North was won by South's queen and the return of the ♦10 taken in dummy. Declarer was now left with a losing diamond and no hope of his contract. One off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Zmerli</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Rebai</i>
-	-	-	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

South led a 3rd and 5th ♥3 and North cashed the ace and king and incomprehensibly continued the suit giving declarer a ruff and discard and when the club king proved to be onside the contract as well. 12 IMPs to South Africa.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Chaouki</i>	<i>Walid</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Tarek</i>
-	-	-	Pass
1♦	1♥	1♠	3♣*
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass
3♣	fit-jump		

The standard defence of two rounds of hearts followed by a diamond saw the contract fail by one trick. Nice to see another four-card overcall.

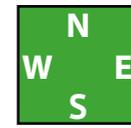
Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Samir</i>	<i>Maitre</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>T'Kint</i>
-	-	-	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

After two top hearts North elected to exit with a club. Declarer now showed his technique when he drew trumps, eliminated the clubs and played ace and another diamond. South tried his best by throwing the queen under the ace but on the second round he had to play the ♦10, either his partner overtook and gave a trick to the jack or South would have to give a ruff and discard. Good play by declarer and nice try by South but 12 IMPs to Egypt.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ -		♠ QJ53
♥ KJ109873		♥ Q654
♦ K863		♦ 7
♣ AQ		♣ KJ95
♠ A9742		♠ K1086
♥ 2		♥ A
♦ AQ952		♦ J104
♣ 84		♣ 107632



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jellouli</i>	<i>Cope</i>	<i>Chedli</i>	<i>Cruise</i>
-	-	Pass	Pass
1♠	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

North's opening lead of a small diamond was not the best start for the defence. After winning with the queen declarer led a small club towards dummy and North took his ace and exited with a heart to South's ace. The diamond return was ruffed in dummy and a successful spade finesse followed. A heart was ruffed in hand while South discarded the ♦J and now declarer fell from grace, he attempted to cash the ace of diamonds. South pounced on this with a trump and still had a trump trick to come. All declarer needed to do was ruff a small diamond with the ♠J, now what can South do, if he overruffs declarer's cards in all the suits are masters and South's trumps finessable. If he does not overruff then there are pretty endings depending on whether cashes the ♣K or ruffs a heart, have a look, declarer only loses one trick and so makes his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Eber</i>	<i>Zmerli</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Rebai</i>
-	-	Pass	Pass
1♠	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	5♥	Double	Pass

In spite of all those lovely cards in hand and a dummy surprisingly with an ace and a king the limit is 2♥. The defence found their diamond ruff immediately and East exited with the ♠Q ruffed by declarer. Dummy was reached with the trump ace and a losing club finesse taken. Now declarer still had a losing trump and a losing diamond for three down and 14 IMPs to South Africa.





11th African Bridge Championships



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Chaouki	Walid	Benali	Tarek
-	-	Pass	Pass
1♠	4♥	4♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	

South switched to a diamond after winning the opening heart lead. Declarer rose with the ace and played a club towards dummy which North took with his ace. The diamond exit was ruffed in dummy and a heart in ruffed hand while South disembarassed himself of the ♦J. Declarer now ruffed a diamond small and South overruffed and still had a trump trick to come, had declarer ruffed with a high trump then South would have had no resource. So one down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Samir	Maitre	Amiry	T'Kint
-	-	Pass	Pass
2♠*	4♥	4♠	Double
All Pass			
2♠	♠ and a m		

North's diamond lead was taken by the queen and another immediately ruffed in dummy. A heart from dummy saw South take the ace and switch to a club which North took with ace. Strangely North played the ♥J covered by the queen while South discarded the ♦J. The ♠Q was covered by the king and ace and another spade played to the jack. A small spade from dummy saw South take his ♠10 and get off lead with his last trump. Declarer could not go wrong now as the ♣Q appeared

Giving declarer ten tricks and 14 IMPs to Egypt.

At the end of the first of the four sessions South Africa were ahead 53-22 of Tunisia and Egypt 52-9 against Morocco.

Entry Fees

Open pairs: R 600 ≈ US \$ 45 per pair
Open Teams : R 1200 ≈ US \$ 90 per team

Open Pairs	Open Teams
<u>Leading Qualifiers:</u> R 2000 ≈ US \$ 140	<u>Qualifying Winners:</u> 1 st : R 5000 ≈ US \$ 360 2 nd : R 2600 ≈ US \$ 185 3 rd : R 1600 ≈ US \$ 115
<u>Championship Section:</u> 1 st : R 3000 ≈ US\$ 215 2 nd : R 2000 ≈ US \$ 140	<u>Championship Section:</u> 1 st : R 6000 ≈ US\$ 430 2 nd : R 4000 ≈ US \$ 285
<u>Congress Section :</u> 1 st : R 2000 ≈ US\$ 140 2 nd : R 1000 ≈ US \$ 70	<u>Congress Section :</u> 1 st : R 3000 ≈ US\$ 215 2 nd : R 2000 ≈ US \$ 140
<u>Plate Section :</u> 1 st : R 1500 ≈ US\$ 105 2 nd : R 750 ≈ US \$ 50	<u>Plate Section :</u> 1 st : R 2500 ≈ US\$ 180 2 nd : R 1500 ≈ US \$ 105
<u>President Section :</u> 1 st : R 1000 ≈ US\$ 70 2 nd : R 500 ≈ US \$ 35	<u>President Section :</u> 1 st : R 2000 ≈ US\$ 140 2 nd : R 1000 ≈ US \$ 70

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ONLINE EVENT

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Semi-final Session two

I shall approach this report on the second session of the semi-finals in a similar fashion to my first report. Firstly South Africa vs Tunisia and secondly Egypt vs Morocco. Both Egypt and South Africa had significant leads after the first session, both scoring over 50 IMPs.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 8		♠ 972
♥ KQ963		♥ 84
♦ KJ72		♦ Q963
♣ 765		♣ J1042
♠ AKJ1053		♥ J105
♥ A72		♦ 5
♦ A1084		♣ 983
♣ AKQ		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Jellouli</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Chedly</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
-	-	-	2♦*
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
2♦	multi, wk 2M, or strong bal or GF ♦		
3♥	max ♠		

Played from the North hand Declarer could be kept to eleven tricks on the lead of a heart but a trump was led and so with a little help from the defence twelve tricks were recorded

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>ClosedW</i>	<i>Omar</i>	<i>Fick</i>	<i>Ghodhbane</i>
-	-	-	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	4♦*
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

There was no explanation for 4♦ but I assume it shows a maximum with a ♦ shortage.

On the natural lead of the ♥K declarer could lay his cards down for twelve tricks. Eleven IMPs to Tunisia.

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Benali</i>	<i>Walid</i>	<i>Bensaid</i>	<i>Tarek</i>
-	-	-	3♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Yet again the lead of the ♥K gave declarer the contract at trick one.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Baher</i>	<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>T'Kint</i>
-	-	-	2♠
Pass	2NT*	Pass	4♠
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

And for the third time of asking the contract was conceded at trick one. I would like to have seen a declarer make without being gifted a trick. In essence declarer eliminates the diamonds, cashes all the clubs and trumps and leads the ♥J and if West covers he must duck and if West does not cover then he must let it run. He will make the contract when either player has both the king and queen of trumps and the other suits have been eliminated. Flat board,

Board 21. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ -		♠ KQJ543
♥ A1096432		♥ J
♦ 107643		♦ -
♣ A		♣ Q109874
♠ 98762		♠ A10
♥ 7	♥ KQ85	
♦ AJ982	♦ KQ5	
♣ 53	♣ KJ62	





11th African Bridge Championships



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Benali</i>	<i>Walid</i>	<i>Bensaid</i>	<i>Tarek</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

When West led a heart dummy's ace took the trick and five rounds of diamonds followed. East did not appreciate the value of his small clubs and discarded them. North could cash five rounds of clubs and come to twelve tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Baher</i>	<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>T'Kint</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
Pass	2♦*	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	6♦	Pass	6♠

All Pass

3♣ 1 ace, 7-9 points

The 6♠ bid snatched defeat from the jaws of victory. A question I would ask myself is whether it is at all possible North would have made that bid without five diamonds. 12 IMPs to Egypt.

Winning sessions for both South Africa and Egypt giving them scores of SouthAfrica 84-35 over Tunisia and Egypt 89-16 against Morocco.



AABL is the first online bridge club at RealBridge in Africa & Middle East.

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/ablonline/>





Championship Information

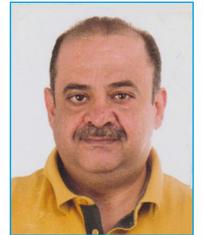
Your Chief Tournament Director Waleed El Menyawi explains the important procedures to be observed during the Championships:

Play Links

Each category will have its own playing link (Open teams link – Women teams link .. etc) For security reasons, each category will play a different deals than the other categories. Play links will be posted to the captains' WhatsApp group and will be also posted to the ABF website at the following link:

https://www.bridgewebs.com/cgi-bin/bwoo/bw.cgi?club=abf&pid=display_page12

Click the Match number, official start time or Session open time of your category to join the game. The game will be open to players 30 minutes before the official start time.



Home & Visiting teams

When you log in to the RealBridge game (using the game link), you will find your team name written on one of the Tables.

All team members are required to sit at their table (all together) in Pairs N/S and E/W, later on, when we start the session, the software will automatically move the E/W pairs between the tables according to the schedule of play.

In the schedule of play you will find Home team (the team mentioned first) and Visiting team (the team mentioned second)

NO LINE-UP will be needed from the teams, the visiting team has to sit first at their table (in Pairs N/S and E/W), minimum 10 minutes before the official start time, and the Home team has the right to have a look at the visiting team and sit its pairs accordingly.

Time delay and hesitation

It is very important to know that the TDs have the tools to produce a board report which includes the time for each bid/play by each player, so please be keep that in mind when calling the TD for a possible hesitation or before denying it.

It is also very important to know that the TDs also have the tools to produce a session time report which includes the exact time taken by each player in a session, in case of time delay, the penalty will be given according to this report.

Headphones / Earphones

In order to minimize the noise in the venue as much as possible...

It is mandatory for each player to have his own headphones/earphones which are connected to his device during play

Use the table chat/private chat as much as possible and don't use vocal chat.

Any vocal explanation will not be taken into the TD consideration in any case.

You need to be very careful when using the table chat as you might give an unauthorized information to your partner which could results in adjusted score by the TD.





Kibitzers

Kibitzers are not allowed by any means at 1) the playing venue, 2) RealBridge online playing room. All players are required to immediately leave the playing area when they finish their session, players are also kindly asked to keep their seats and not roam around the playing area.

All the matches will be broadcast via RealBridge kibitzer website...

<https://kibitz.realbridge.online/>

At the RealBridge kibitzer website, you can find the live broadcast matches and also all the other matches scheduled for broadcast.

For security reasons, all broadcast matches will be delayed by 30-45 minutes.

Smoking, Eating and Alcohol, Mobile and electronic devices

As mentioned before in Mr. Pascal's email.

We must act as if we were playing these championships "live", therefore, the following is strictly forbidden during play:

Mobile phones and any other electronic devices, Mobile phones will be collected and there will be a regular check each session by the monitor.

Eating (even if only biscuits)

Drinking Alcohol

Smoking

Going to the WC without permission

Talking loudly during or at the end of any board if the player is unhappy about his/her partner's bid, hand play or defense.

In addition, opponents should see the head, the neck and the chest of the player at all moments without interruption.



NO



NO



YES

Every player has the right to call the Director and the local "Monitor" if it is not the case (i.e. if he/she cannot see his/her opponent as instructed by the CTD)

All Africa Pairs tie-break procedure

If two pairs or more have the same cumulative score after the end of the 2nd session or 4th Session, the tie shall be broken as follows:

- A. The pair with the higher score in the 2nd / 4th session shall determine the final ranking.
- B. Mutual boards between the tied pairs – if applicable

Open Teams

- Only in Open teams category, the top four teams will qualify to the semi-final stage after playing 3 complete RR according to the published schedule.
- The top ranked team after the 3 complete RR stage will chose its opponent in the semi-final and the





remaining 2 teams will play against each others.

- The semi-final match will be played in 4 Sessions, 16 boards each, scored in IMPs.
- The final match between the semi-final winners will be played in 2 Sessions, 16 Boards each.
- Play-off between the semi-final losers will be played in 2 Sessions, 16 Boards each to determine the 3rd placed team.
- In all the knock out stages, there shall be a carry-over = 0.5 IMP to the team who scored more VPs in the RR stage.

Request a review

1. First step is to review the TD ruling with the Head TD
2. Second step is apply for an official review by submitting a review form through the TD in charge of your case.
3. A request for a review of a Tournament Director's ruling must be lodged within 30 minutes of the first posting of the official score for the Session in which the board was played that is the subject of the ruling. All such requests must be lodged by the team's Captain or his designee, or by one member of the pair in the Pairs events.
4. When lodging a Request for Review the appellant must make a monetary deposit with the ABF monitor. The amount of deposit required will be US \$ 100 (or the equivalent in Euro)
5. The case will be reviewed by a person who was not involved in the original decision. The Reviewer will check that the TD has gathered the necessary evidence of what occurred when the infraction arose. The Reviewer will then need to be satisfied that the correct law was applied and that other TDs were consulted where appropriate. In matters involving the judgement that was exercised by a player following unauthorized information, incorrect explanation or failure to alert, the Reviewer will clarify that suitable players have been asked appropriate questions to enable a judgmental view to be obtained. Finally, the Reviewer will check that the ruling that was issued based upon all the information available to the TDs was within the bounds of reasonableness. The fact that the Reviewer might have determined a slightly different ruling would not be good reason for the ruling to be varied. In the event that the process had not been followed properly in some material way, the Reviewer will ask the Head TD to correct the failings and issue a new ruling.

Alert

All ALERTABLE bids must be self-alerted (press the alert button before making the bid). And give a full writing disclosure of the bidding, vocal explanation won't be taken into the TD consideration.

NOTE: – Players will not be allowed to alert their partner's bid, only self-alert will be allowed and the written explanation will be shown to both opponents but not to partner.

Undo

Undoes are allowed according to the followings:

1. The undo button is activated from the beginning
2. Click the undo button to stop the play.
3. Call the TD
4. No Action from any party will be taken before the arrival of the TD.
5. The TD will instruct the opponents whether to accept the undo or not.
6. The TD will keep counting the undoes for each player, only 2 undoes are allowed for each player during one session.
7. If the opponents accept before the TD arrival, play continues. but all parties forfeit their rights to any kind of rectification later on.





8. If the opponents don't accept the undo before the arrival of the TD, play stops and the TD decides what is to be done.
9. The TDs reserve the right to adjust the score of the board for any unauthorised information that might arise from using the undo process.

System Policy

1. The objectives are to ensure that ABF Championships can be properly operated and adequately administered, with a fair and equal chance for all competitors, while at the same time affording proper consideration to progress and innovation; to ensure that players are in no doubt as to what is expected of them with regard to preparation and filing of systems material for ABF Championships.
2. Additions or amendments to this policy will normally be put into effect only after four months' notice.
3. References to High Card Points in this document are Milton Work Points.
4. In the following 'Weak' means 9 points or less and 'Strong' means 16 points or more.

2. POLICY

2.1 HUM Systems

For the purpose of this Policy, a Highly Unusual Method (HUM) means any System that exhibits one or more of the following features:

- a. By partnership agreement an opening call of Pass shows at least the values generally accepted for an opening bid of one, even if there are alternative weak possibilities
- b. By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level may be weaker than pass.
- c. By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level may be made with 7 high card points or less.
- d. By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level shows either three cards or more, or two cards or less in a specified suit
- e. By partnership agreement an opening bid at the one level shows either three cards or more in one specified suit or three cards or more in another. EXCEPTION: one of a minor in a strong club or strong diamond system.

2.2 Classification of Systems

In order to facilitate recognition and handling, systems material will be identified by one or more of the following:

- i. a WBF coloured sticker;
- ii. the appropriate named (hand printed or typed) colour;
- iii. a check mark on a system card next to the appropriate colour - in keeping with the following descriptions:

Green Natural methods.

Blue Forcing Club/Forcing Diamond, where one club/one diamond is artificial, shows a hand with 13 high card points or more and is always forcing.

Red This category includes all systems that do not fall under the classifications of Green, Blue or Yellow (as defined herein).

Red 1 would be a system where one club shows one of three types – a natural club suit, a balanced hand of a specific range, or a Strong Club opener; or which uses specialised and artificial responses to an opening bid of one club.

Red 2 would be a system in which the basic one level methods (other than the no trump range and minimum suit-length requirements) vary according to position, vulnerability and the like; or a system that uses conventional 'weak' or 'multi-meaning' bids (with or without some weak option) in potentially contestable auctions, or a system where the opening bids are transfers to another suit.

Yellow Highly Unusual Methods ('HUM') as defined above.

3. Systems allowed at ABF Championships

The use of both HUM systems and 'Brown Sticker' systems are prohibited.





Roster - Senior Teams

Egypt

Captain Ashraf Wahdan
Mohamed Tanboli
Ashraf Wahdan
Adel El Kordy
Amr Farrag
Mohamed El Baz
Ayman Azzam

Kenya

Captain Samina Esmail
Jimmy Deen
Samina Esmail
Bena Shah
Ramula Shah
C V Shah
Aruna Shah

Morocco

Captain Berrada Said
Said Berrada
Abdelkamel Rerhaye
Abdellah El Ghrari
Jean Hayet
Guy Cambournac
Khalil Bensouda

Reunion

Captain Patrice Dordhain
Jean-Marc Breslaw
Patrice Dordhain
Denise Bauquier
Danièle Bonet Maury
Claude Drieux
Bernard Sort

South Africa

Captain James Grant
Micheal Alexander
Maureen Naransky
Larry Chemaly
James Grant
Brian Pincus
Paul Reynolds





11th African Bridge Championships



11th African Bridge Championships



GMT TIME

Senior Teams Schedule of play

Each Match = 16 Boards in 2H 15min

R.R (01)		Match (01), 08H00				Match (02), 11H30				Match (03), 14H15			
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
MON 07	1	1 MOR	x	6 BYE	5 KEN	x	1 MOR	1 MOR	x	4 REU	1 MOR	x	4 REU
	2	2 EGY	x	5 KEN	6 BYE	x	4 REU	5 KEN	x	3 RSA	5 KEN	x	3 RSA
	3	3 RSA	x	4 REU	2 EGY	x	3 RSA	6 BYE	x	2 EGY	6 BYE	x	2 EGY
R.R (01)		Match (04), 08H00				Match (05), 11H30				RR(02) Match (01), 14H15			
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
TUE 08	1	3 RSA	x	1 MOR	1 MOR	x	2 EGY	6 BYE	x	1 MOR	6 BYE	x	1 MOR
	2	4 REU	x	2 EGY	3 RSA	x	6 BYE	5 KEN	x	2 EGY	5 KEN	x	2 EGY
	3	5 KEN	x	6 BYE	4 REU	x	5 KEN	4 REU	x	3 RSA	4 REU	x	3 RSA
R.R (02)		Match (02), 08H00				Match (03), 11H30				Match (04), 14H15			
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
WED 09	1	1 MOR	x	5 KEN	4 REU	x	1 MOR	1 MOR	x	3 RSA	1 MOR	x	3 RSA
	2	4 REU	x	6 BYE	3 RSA	x	5 KEN	2 EGY	x	4 REU	2 EGY	x	4 REU
	3	3 RSA	x	2 EGY	2 EGY	x	6 BYE	6 BYE	x	5 KEN	6 BYE	x	5 KEN
R.R (02)/(03)		Match (05), 08H00				RR(03), Match (01), 11H30				Match (02), 14H15			
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
THU 10	1	2 EGY	x	1 MOR	1 MOR	x	6 BYE	5 KEN	x	1 MOR	5 KEN	x	1 MOR
	2	6 BYE	x	3 RSA	2 EGY	x	5 KEN	6 BYE	x	4 REU	6 BYE	x	4 REU
	3	5 KEN	x	4 REU	3 RSA	x	4 REU	2 EGY	x	3 RSA	2 EGY	x	3 RSA
R.R (03)		Match (03), 08H00				Match (04), 11H30				Match (05), 14H15			
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
FRI 11	1	1 MOR	x	4 REU	3 RSA	x	1 MOR	1 MOR	x	2 EGY	1 MOR	x	2 EGY
	2	5 KEN	x	3 RSA	4 REU	x	2 EGY	3 RSA	x	6 BYE	3 RSA	x	6 BYE
	3	6 BYE	x	2 EGY	5 KEN	x	6 BYE	4 REU	x	5 KEN	4 REU	x	5 KEN
R.R (04)		Match (01), 08H00				Match (02), 11H30				Match (03), 14H15			
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
SAT 12	1	1 Team Ranked (1)	x	6 BYE	1 Team Ranked (1)	x	5 Team Ranked (5)	1 Team Ranked (1)	x	4 Team Ranked (4)	1 Team Ranked (1)	x	4 Team Ranked (4)
	2	2 Team Ranked (2)	x	5 Team Ranked (5)	6 BYE	x	4 Team Ranked (4)	5 Team Ranked (5)	x	3 Team Ranked (3)	5 Team Ranked (5)	x	3 Team Ranked (3)
	3	3 Team Ranked (3)	x	4 Team Ranked (4)	2 Team Ranked (2)	x	3 Team Ranked (3)	6 BYE	x	2 Team Ranked (2)	6 BYE	x	2 Team Ranked (2)
R.R (04)		Match (04), 08H00				Match (05), 11H30							
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
SUN 13	1	1 Team Ranked (1)	x	3 Team Ranked (3)	1 Team Ranked (1)	x	2 Team Ranked (2)						
	2	4 Team Ranked (4)	x	2 Team Ranked (2)	3 Team Ranked (3)	x	6 BYE						
	3	5 Team Ranked (5)	x	6 BYE	4 Team Ranked (4)	x	5 Team Ranked (5)						





Roster - Mixed Teams

Egypt

Captain
Gamal Abbas

Somaya Wahdan

Manal Sallam

Maud Khouri

Ahmed Harb

Moaz Hammam

Mohamed Heshmat

Morocco

Captain
Yans Roger

Roger Yans

Chadia Sekkat

Barbara Balogh

Abderrahim Tazi

Laila Lamrani

Ismail Chamar

Reunion

Captain
Patrick Hamel

Christian Giraud

Narguis Huseinali

Patrick Hamel

Michel Lemarinel

Danièle Michaux

Régine Wan Hoi

Tunisia

Captain
Abdeljelil Trabelsi

Abdeljelil Trabelsi

Ferdaous Trabelsi

Meriem Dorai

Hassouna Abdelmalek

Hedia Baccar

Moncef Daghmouri





11th African Bridge Championships



11th African Bridge Championships



GMT TIME

Mixed Teams Schedule of play

Each Match = 16 Boards in 2H 15min

R.R (01)		Match (01), 08H00			Match (02), 11H30			Match (03), 14H15		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
MON 07	1	1 EGY	x	4 TUN	3 REU	x	1 EGY	1 EGY	x	2 MOR
	2	2 MOR	x	3 REU	4 TUN	x	2 MOR	3 REU	x	4 TUN
R.R (02)		Match (01), 08H00			Match (02), 11H30			Match (03), 14H15		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
TUE 08	1	4 TUN	x	1 EGY	1 EGY	x	3 REU	2 MOR	x	1 EGY
	2	3 REU	x	2 MOR	2 MOR	x	4 TUN	4 TUN	x	3 REU
R.R (03)		Match (01), 08H00			Match (02), 11H30			Match (03), 14H15		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
WED 09	1	1 EGY	x	4 TUN	3 REU	x	1 EGY	1 EGY	x	2 MOR
	2	2 MOR	x	3 REU	4 TUN	x	2 MOR	3 REU	x	4 TUN
RR (04)		Match (01), 08H00			Match (02), 11H30			Match (03), 14H15		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
THU 10	1	4 TUN	x	1 EGY	1 EGY	x	3 REU	2 MOR	x	1 EGY
	2	3 REU	x	2 MOR	2 MOR	x	4 TUN	4 TUN	x	3 REU
R.R (05)		Match (01), 08H00			Match (02), 11H30			Match (03), 14H15		
Date	Table No.	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team	Home Team	X	Visiting Team
FRI 11	1	1 Team Ranked (1)	x	4 Team Ranked (4)	3 Team Ranked (3)	x	1 Team Ranked (1)	1 Team Ranked (1)	x	2 Team Ranked (2)
	2	2 Team Ranked (2)	x	3 Team Ranked (3)	4 Team Ranked (4)	x	2 Team Ranked (2)	3 Team Ranked (3)	x	4 Team Ranked (4)
		EGY		KEN	MOR		REU	RSA		TUN
08H00 GMT =		10H00 AM		11H00 PM	09H00 AM		12H00 PM	10H00 AM		09H00 AM
11H30 GMT =		01H30 PM		02H30 PM	12H30 PM		03H30 PM	01H30 PM		12H30 PM
14H15 GMT =		04H15 PM		05H15 PM	03H15 PM		06H15 PM	04H15 PM		03H15 PM

