



# All Change At The Top

In Round 19, **El Ahly (1)** and **El Gezira (1)** had whitewashes. In the second round of the day **Protec** and **El Ahly (1)** were the biggest winners. It is a case of another change at the top of the standings. **Protec** have regained the lead whilst last weekend's leader, **Sporting** have slipped to fourth. **El Gezira (1)** and **Heliopolis** are just ahead of Sporting but less than fifteen points separate the top four teams. Tomorrow sees the last two rounds. In the final round Protec will take on Sporting which may well decide the overall result. Both Heliopolis and El Ahly (1) have Byes tomorrow so some of the results will be out of their hands.

### Results Round Robin 19

Team	Team	IMPs	VPs	VPs
Heliopolis	Wadi Degla	58-28	16.73	3.27
EL Maadi	Sporting	55-27	16.42	3.58
EL Ahly (1)	EL Zohour	89-3	20	0
EL Gezira (1)	EL Ahly (3)	84-14	20	0
EL Gezira (2)	EL Ahly (2)	29-47	5.4	14.6

### Results Round Robin 20

Team	Team	IMPs	VPs	VPs
El Maadi	Wadi Degla	18-46	3.58	16.42
EL Ahly (1)	Heliopolis	46-21	15.92	4.08
EL Gezira (1)	Sporting	42-28	13.75	6.25
EL Gezira (2)	EL Ahly (3)	55-37	14.6	5.4
El Ahly (2)	Protec	30-60	3.27	16.73

### Standings After 20 Rounds

Teams	Rank	VPs
Protec	1	266.86
El Gezira (1)	2	254.34
Heliopolis	3	253.63
Sporting	4	251.94
El Ahly (1)	5	240.04
El Gezira (2)	6	213.96
Wadi Degla	7	193.84
El Ahly(2)	8	185.75
El Maadi	9	171.5
El Zohour	10	114.69
El Ahly (3)	11	68.9

*All information can be found on the websites:*

**[www.bridgewebs.com/ebf/](http://www.bridgewebs.com/ebf/) or [www.egyptbridge.org](http://www.egyptbridge.org)**



# Information for Captains

Very important notes, Kindly circulate to all of your players

1. The BBO accounts for the TDs are as follows :  
EBF, EBF\_1, EBF\_2, EBF\_3, EBF\_4 and EBF\_5
2. At the beginning of each match/session, the TDs have to start more than one table at the same time in order to host all the championship matches and they place the players in their seats according to pre-sent line-up.... Sometimes, we have a late offline players (please check the event regulations for penalty of late arrival at BBO) and this may cause some delay in the other matches/tables.

In order for the TDs to avoid this, they will hold an empty seat for you and they will move to host another match and then back to the late table. For that reason, it is quiet normal that your players might have a message from the TD through the BBO server with the following text

*Want to substitute*

*Would you like to play in Teams tournament # xxxxxx Teams "Egyptian League as a substitute? Your partner will be xxxxxxxx"*

YES NO

Please alert your players to accept this request ASAP.

## \*VERY IMPORTANT NOTES \*

The BBO Management recommends that you wait in the main section of BBO when you are about to receive an invitation to play. Different areas of BBO are managed by different servers, so if you are located in the casual section the system may read you as being offline even if you are online.

Also, we use a special procedure in order to make sure that all of our matches are starting at the same time. We start inviting players and set up the team match some minutes before the official starting time. This may result in your partner already sitting (and waiting) at the table of the Egypt League match while you are still in the lobby. That is totally normal, and is done in order to be more precise on the starting time. We kindly ask all players to just stay in the lobby (main section of BBO or in the competitive section ) and wait for our invitation.

Day, Date	21st Match Time: 12:00 PM			22nd Match Time 2:45 PM		
	Saturday 23.01.2021	Wadi Degla	X	El Ahly (1)	Wadi Degla	X
El Maadi		X	El Gezira (1)	El Ahly (1)	X	BYE
Heliopolis		X	BYE	El Maadi	X	El Gezira (2)
Sporting		X	El Gezira (2)	Heliopolis	X	El Ahly (2)
El Zhour		X	El Ahly (2)	Sporting	X	Protec
El Ahly (3)		X	Protec	El Zhour	X	El Ahly (3)



El Gezira (2)

# Round Robin 19

El Ahly (2)

For the first match of the day we will watch the match between two middle of the table teams: El Gezira (2) versus El Ahly (2).

### Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A86		♠ KQ1052
♥ K9		♥ —
♦ K10532		♦ 86
♣ 732		♣ AKQ1064
♠ J973		♠ 4
♥ AQ1054		♥ J87632
♦ AJ9		♦ Q74
♣ J		♣ 985

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Moustafa</i>	<i>Kheder</i>	<i>Mohasseb</i>	<i>Fouad</i>
-	-	1♣	Pass
1♦	Double	2♠	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Should North double or bid 1♥? If you double then partner will never believe you have five of them, if you bid 1♥ you may well lose the spade suit. With partner having passed game does not look probable so one could argue (and I am not saying you should) that if you bid 1♥ and miss a spade fit it will not be disastrous but if you double and partner has a fit for hearts he will not realise the full value of it. At this table North took the route of a double and South could not find a bid which left East/West an easy path to Four Spades. The play need not detain us as declarer correctly played the trump suit and made eleven black tricks.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Seddik</i>	<i>Harb</i>	<i>Lotfy</i>
-	-	1♣	Pass
1♦	1♥	3♠	4♥
4♠	Double	Pass	5♥
Double	All Pass		

In this room when North overcalled with One Heart South not only realised he had a ninth trump but a tenth and eleventh as well upping the offensive value of the hand enormously and in a Meckstothian way raised to game (partner had freely supported his six-card major). South's offensive value may be strong but defensive values are sadly lacking and the wise decision was made to retreat to Five Hearts. The lead of the ace of clubs was followed by a diamond switch. Should declarer take a heart finesse of play for the drop. There does not appear to be any compelling reason for one play or the other. If you get it right you make your contract. If the contract is making then East/West should go on to Five Spades. If they do go on to Five Spades they will make it if the hearts are 2-0, so you need to defend the case where your other pair bid Five Spades and it is failing and it only fails if the hearts are 1-1 so my somewhat convoluted logic suggests you should play for the drop. You are now one off but as long as the other room is playing in spades you are making a profit and indeed El Ahly (2) gained six IMPs.

### Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ Q8753		♠ AK
♥ 1075		♥ J8
♦ J82		♦ AQ73
♣ J2		♣ KQ976
♠ 10942		♠ J6
♥ Q92		♥ AK643
♦ K1096		♦ 54
♣ 83		♣ A1054

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Moustafa</i>	<i>Kheder</i>	<i>Mohasseb</i>	<i>Fouad</i>
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Again a case of a 19-20 2NT opener, almost every hand I have kibitzed where someone has opened a 19 point 2NT it seems to head for a bad result. Poor



old South has little option but to bid a doomed 3NT. When one hand holds the vast majority of the points, low count 3NT are much less likely to make than if the points are evenly divided. It was the case here, after a heart lead declarer was booked for two down.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Seddik</i>	<i>Harb</i>	<i>Lotfy</i>
Pass	1♣	1♥	Pass
Pass	2♦	Pass	3♦
All Pass			

North took my preferred option and open One Club and came to rest in an excellent part-score, making an overtrick and eight IMPs for El Ahly (2).

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ K5		♠ Q76			
♥ 3		♥ AKQ 10			
♦ AK10853		♦ Q42			
♣ 9753		♣ KQ2			
♠ AJ104	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ 9832
N					
W E					
S					
♥ J764	♥ 9852				
♦ J97	♦ 6				
♣ AJ		♣ 10864			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Moustafa</i>	<i>Kheder</i>	<i>Mohasseb</i>	<i>Fouad</i>
-	-	-	Pass
1♣	1♦	Double	Pass
1♥	2♦	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass

North led the ace of diamonds, to the 2,6 and 7. North had to decide whether to continue diamonds or switch. He knows his partner has close to yarborough so there are not going to be tricks from honour cards in South's hand. He knows South's diamond holding is one or three cards, If three then declarer must be 4414 with all the missing high honours and looks set to garner ten tricks. The only hope is that partner has a singleton diamond and so can defeat the contract with a diamond ruff. But North switched to a club, no doubt seeing the illusion of setting up a diamond trick for declarer.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Seddik</i>	<i>Harb</i>	<i>Lotfy</i>
-	-	-	Pass
1♣	1♦	Double	Pass
1♥	2♦	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	All Pass

North was prepared to take a minor risk and continued with diamonds and got his side's ruff and so defeated the contract by one trick. Twelve more IMPs to El Ahly (2).

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ J		♠ A632			
♥ AK1084		♥ QJ92			
♦ KJ64		♦ AQ1092			
♣ A93		♣ -			
♠ K985	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W E</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> </table>	N	W E	S	♠ Q1074
N					
W E					
S					
♥ 53	♥ 76				
♦ 5	♦ 873				
♣ Q108765		♣ KJ42			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Moustafa</i>	<i>Kheder</i>	<i>Mohasseb</i>	<i>Fouad</i>
-	1♥	2♦	Pass
All Pass			

If I had had to add a by-line to this deal it would have been 'Silence is Golden'. We all like to bid but sometimes the Green Card is the right bid. Those four hearts in East's hand are not exactly a huge asset, if you really want to bid why not await developments and make a decision one round later. Notice how North kept silent, suddenly a 16 point hand has slipped in value to closer to 12 but has excellent defensive possibilities. South led the ♥7 to the ♥A and a spade was returned to dummy's king. Declarer tried a heart from dummy and North leapt up with the king and gave his partner a ruff. Three more tricks from a crossruff by the defence and a trump trick still to come meant this low-level vulnerable contract failed by two tricks.



Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wahdan	Seddik	Harb	Lotfy
-	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Double	2♥
All Pass			

At this table it was East who realised the power of silence and so North/South played in 2♥, another contract that failed by two tricks, so a simple part-score hand had cost El Ahly (2) seven IMPs

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 876	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> </table>	N	W	S	E	♠ K432
N						
W						
S						
E						
♥ J964	♥ 1087					
♦ A	♦ Q10843					
♣ 87632	♣ J					
♠ AQJ		♠ 1095				
♥ -		♥ AKQ532				
♦ KJ972		♦ 65				
♣ AKQ105		♣ 94				

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moustafa	Kheder	Mohasseb	Fouad
-	-	Pass	1♦
All Pass			

It was immediately evident that North had mislicked but as East had passed and West led before a TD arrived there was little that could be done.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wahdan	Seddik	Harb	Lotfy
-	-	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

South had little option but to bid 3NT and although it is possible to make 3NT without the aid of the heart suit the remarkable distribution of the club suit, i.e. the singleton ♣J gave declarer an entry to dummy and finished up with twelve tricks but only eleven IMPs to El Ahly (2).

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ A104	<table border="1"> <tr><td>N</td></tr> <tr><td>W</td></tr> <tr><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>E</td></tr> </table>	N	W	S	E	♠ 8532
N						
W						
S						
E						
♥ 1063	♥ KQ74					
♦ 876	♦ K952					
♣ AQ76	♣ 4					
♠ KQJ976		♠ -				
♥ 5		♥ AJ982				
♦ QJ1043		♦ A				
♣ 5		♣ KJ109832				

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Moustafa	Kheder	Mohasseb	Fouad
-	Pass	Pass	1♥
2♥*	Pass	2♠	3♣
3♠	4♥	4♠	5♣
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	Redble	All Pass	
2♥	♥ and a min		

I do not understand the logic of opening this hand with One Heart – you can never get your distribution across after starting this way. Looking at the hands you want to be in Six Clubs, a 76% chance slam. It is better than the heart slam as there is no chance of a club ruff and you can also cope with five hearts in the East hand. I cannot see from where East thinks three defensive tricks will arrive and the rash double was duly punished. Declarer easily making twelve tricks for an unusual way to score 1400.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Wahdan	Seddik	Harb	Lotfy
-	Pass	Pass	1♥
1♠	2♠	3♠	4♣
4♠	Double	Pass	5♥
All Pass			

Again the same opening and again the same mystery to me as to why one would so do. To compound the error South found a way of going down in a contract at the five-level when if actually playing slam would have made it. On the lead of a small diamond declarer won with the ace and played ace and another heart staking all on a 3-2 break in the trump suit. The actual distribution saw declarer forced with a diamond and now three trump tricks



had to be lost for an ignominious seventeen IMPs to El Gezira (2). Declarer's play is correct if the trumps are 3-2 and the clubs 2-0. If one is in the slam you have no alternative to crossing to dummy with a club and running the ♥10, which in this case will bring home twelve tricks.

When the final whistle blew El Ahly (2) had beaten El Gezira (2) by 47-29.

### Undo regulations

1. The undo button is activated from the beginning
2. Click the undo button to stop the play instead of typing STOP at the table chat.... It will be used just as a stop button.
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 continue but they might be penalized and all parties forfeit their rights for any kind of rectification later on.**
8. **If the opponents don't accept – before the TD arrival - , play stops and the TD decide what is to be done.**
9. **The TDs reserve the rights to adjust the score of the board for any unauthorised information might arise from using the undo process.**
10. The Head TD has all the rights to deactivate the undo button at any time if problems arise from activating the button.

Heliopolis

# Round Robin 20

El Ahly (1)

At the start of the day Heliopolis and El Ahly (1) were lying third and fifth in the standings. Both had an outside chance of making it to the top. Both teams have a bye tomorrow so they can count on twelve points for one of their matches.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ AJ84 ♥ 10 ♦ 754 ♣ A9864	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N                      W     E                      S                 </div>	♠ 75 ♥ 8632 ♦ A632 ♣ Q32	♠ K106 ♥ AKQ75 ♦ K10 ♣ K105
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Kamel</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Abaza</i>
-	-	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

After the opening diamond lead ducked by East declarer had eight top tricks and so needed to establish a ninth. It was possible in all three of the other suits. Ideally it would be best not to lose the lead as the defence might have four diamonds to cash. To that end it seemed as though the spade suit fulfilled all the necessary criteria. Declarer crossed to dummy with a club and led a spade to the ten, though this lost to the queen the diamonds broke 4-4 and so declarer had nine tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Salah</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Zein</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
-	-	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Declarer received the same lead and so faced the same problem. This declarer tried a different tack. Firstly cashing three rounds of hearts, perhaps

hoping for ♥J98 trebleton (about 2%) and when that failed to materialise cashed the king of clubs and although no honour appeared continued with another for the ace, setting up yet another trick for the defence. The ace of spades followed and then an unsuccessful spade finesse. West now led a diamond to partner's ace and the ♣Q was cashed, East, no doubt, bemused by declarer's play failed to cash the master heart, which cost an IMP, but returned a diamond for West to take two tricks, the contract down and twelve IMPs El Ahly (1).

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ Q98 ♥ J976432 ♦ - ♣ Q65	<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N                      W     E                      S                 </div>	♠ A6 ♥ K5 ♦ QJ9542 ♣ J97	♠ 1043 ♥ Q10 ♦ A8763 ♣ A103
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Kamel</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Abaza</i>
-	-	-	1NT
Pass	4♦	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

I saw no alert on South's opening 1NT bid so I assume it must have been of the 15-17 variety and probably one of the spades had been mis-sorted into the hearts. The upshot was that South arrived in Four Hearts. The contract is surprisingly interesting. It can be defeated but needs good defence, also if the defence is not perfect then it needs good declarer play, let us see who prevails. West found the only lead whereby the defence can win, a small spade. At the table East won with the ace and returned a spade and now with the hearts 2-2 declarer was easily home. To beat the contract East must duck! And now if declarer plays ace and another trump East wins and switches to the ♣J which runs round to dummy's ♣Q. If declarer tries



to establish the spades East pushes another club through for two club tricks. Declarer's alternative approach is since dummy's ♠8 won the first trick he can duck a heart in to West's hand, thereby depriving East of one of his entries but now the defence has another string to their bow, when in with the trump West now plays a spade to East's ace, takes the club return and gives partner a spade ruff. As I said, not an easy defence to find.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Salah	Salib	Zein	Azzam
-	-	-	1♠
Pass	2♠	All Pass	

At this table South did not warrant his hand to be worth 1NT and so opened a more usual 1♠ and could find no reason to continue after the minimum raise. The contract came home but seven IMPs to El Ahly (1)

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ J 10643  
♥ A53  
♦ K6  
♣ Q104

♠ A9  
♥ 10987  
♦ 109853  
♣ 93

♠ KQ872  
♥ Q42  
♦ AQ72  
♣ 7

♠ 5  
♥ KJ6  
♦ J4  
♣ AKJ8652

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shazly	Kamel	Fadel	Abaza
-	-	1♠	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Double	3NT	All Pass	

West's double showed a spade honour and East led a small spade to partner's ace. When West returned a spade it was over for the defence, they cashed their four tricks and conceded the rest.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Salah	Salib	Zein	Azzam
-	-	1♠	2♣
Pass	3♣	Pass	3♠
Double	3NT	All Pass	

Identical auction and lead but West, perhaps believing North had a good spade stop switched to the ♦10. The roof fell in for declarer as the defence now cashed the first eight tricks, taking the contract four off. Twelve more IMPs for El Ahly (1).

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ Q3  
♥ 5432  
♦ KQJ92  
♣ J9

♠ K862  
♥ A876  
♦ 64  
♣ A64

♠ J1095  
♥ KJ  
♦ 53  
♣ KQ853

♠ A74  
♥ Q109  
♦ A1087  
♣ 1072

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shazly	Kamel	Fadel	Abaza
-	-	Pass	Pass
1♣	1♦	Double	2♣
Pass	2♦	3♣	3♦
3♥	Pass	4♣	All Pass

When I saw this hand I thought 'Ah we actually have a hand that might be passed out'. You can see how nearly right I was as four rounds of bidding landed West in Four Clubs. It is marginally amusing that in spite of all that bidding the declaring side never managed to mention their 4-4 major-suit fit. I think that had East bid One Spade rather than doubling then it might have boded better. The defence lost the obvious four tricks, two diamonds and two spades for one off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Salah	Salib	Zein	Azzam
-	-	Pass	Pass
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

When North declined to enter the auction it left the way clear for East/West to soar to the dizzy heights of Four Spades, Which surprisingly had chances. To beat the contract South has to lead a diamond and with that holding and no bid from North it was not likely. Declarer's task was made easy when South chose a heart and now a diamond





loser could be quickly discarded on a heart and then it did not matter that the ♠Q was offside. Another ten IMPs to El Ahly (1).

### Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ KJ6 ♥ 943 ♦ 92 ♣ J9543	<table border="1" style="margin: auto;"> <tr><td></td><td>N</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>W</td><td></td><td>E</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>S</td><td></td></tr> </table>		N		W		E		S		♠ A7 ♥ KQJ87 ♦ 765 ♣ 1087	♠ Q1094 ♥ A62 ♦ K108 ♣ K62
	N											
W		E										
	S											
	♠ 8532 ♥ 105 ♦ AQJ43 ♣ AQ											

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
Shazly	Kamel	Fadel	Abaza
-	-	-	1♦
Pass	1♥	Double	Pass
2♣	2♥	Pass	Pass
3♣	All Pass		

East's Double seems to be fashionable now, it seems that thirteen cards are enough to bid, never mind the points, never mind the distribution. West, no doubt, expecting some better distribution opposite was not going to go quietly. He was fairly lucky as the opposition seemed to have run out of red cards. The play need not detain us, except to say the contract dribbled a miserable four off.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Salah	Salib	Zein	Azzam
-	-	-	1♦
Pass	1♥	Double	1NT
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Both North and South seemed to 'add' a point and gaily carried on to 3NT. Would this be one of those low count 3NT that came romping home? Yes is the answer, in fact on the lead of a club it was going to make overtricks. Everything is just right for declarer. Ten much needed IMPs to Heliopolis.

The match finished with El Ahly (1) beating Heliopolis by 46-21.

## Cross Table Scores After Twenty Rounds

Team	Ahly (1)	Ahly (2)	Ahly (3)	Gezira (1)	Gezira (2)	Maadi	Zohour	Heliopolis	Protec	Sporting	Wadi Degla	RR 1	Bye	Rk.	VPs
Protec	3.74	16.73		3.74	19.77	16.26	16.42	2.03			12.55	163.62	12	1	266.86
El Gezira (1)	11.76	7.74	20		12.8		18.66	6.72	16.26	13.75		134.65	12	2	254.34
Heliopolis	4.08		20	13.28	18.21	14.4	7.71		17.97	12.03	16.73	129.22		3	253.63
Sporting	19.34	20	19.85	6.25		3.58	17.45	7.97			17.85	127.65	12	4	251.94
El Ahly (1)		18.66	16.73	8.24	10.91	16.42	20	15.92	16.26	0.66		116.24		5	240.04
El Gezira (2)	9.09	5.4	14.6	7.2			16.73	1.79	0.23		19.34	127.58	12	6	213.96
Wadi Degla		15.19	20		0.66	16.42	16.95	3.27	6.7	2.15		100.5	12	7	193.84
El Ahly(2)	1.34		16.67	11.76	14.6	15.56			3.27	0	4.81	105.74	12	8	185.75
El Maadi	3.58	4.44	16.88				5	0	3.74	16.42	3.58	105.86	12	9	171.5
El Zohour	0			1.34	3.27	15		12.29	3.58	2.55	2.55	62.11	12	10	114.69
El Ahly (3)	3.27	2.83		0	5.4	3.12		0		-0.35	0	42.63	12	11	68.9