

The End Of First Round Robin

After the return from the year-end festivities in Session 10 of the first Round Robin **El Ahly (2)** had had a near whitewash, whilst **El Gezira (1)** and **Protec** also had sizeable wins. In Session 11 there were no large scores with **Protec** and **Heliopolis** bagging the biggest wins. As the first Round Robin has come to an end the leader by a considerable margin is **Protec** with nearly a match and a half in hand over the new second placed team, **El Gezira (1)**. To knock **Protec** off the top spot will take a concerted effort from all of the ten other teams over the next five days of competition.

Results Round Robin 10

Team	Team	IMPs	VPs	VPs
El Ahly (1)	Wadi Degla	38-49	6.96	13.04
El Gezira (1)	El Maadi	54-25	16.58	3.42
El Gezira (2)	Sporting	40-49	7.45	12.55
El Ahly (2)	El Zohour	67-17	19.16	0.84
Protec	El Ahly (3)	50-30	15	5

Results Round Robin 11

Team	Team	IMPs	VPs	VPs
El Gezira (1)	Wadi Degla	30-24	11.76	8.24
El Gezira (2)	El Maadi	42-28	13.75	6.25
El Ahly (2)	Heliopolis	26-43	5.61	14.39
Protec	Sporting	44-26	14.6	5.4
El Ahly (3)	El Zohour	32-40	7.71	12.29

Standings After 11 Rounds

Teams	Rank	VPs
Protec	1	163.62
El Gezira (1)	2	134.65
Heliopolis	3	129.22
Sporting	4	127.65
El Gezira (2)	5	127.58
El Ahly (1)	6	116.24
El Maadi	7	105.86
El Ahly(2)	8	105.74
Wadi Degla	9	100.5
El Zohour	10	62.11
El Ahly (3)	11	42.63

All information can be found on the websites:

www.bridgewebs.com/ebf/ or 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 Pan Arab Inter-Club 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	12th Match Time : 12:00 PM			13th Match Time 2:45 PM			14th Match Time 5:30 PM		
Saturday 09.01.2021	Wadi Degla	X	BYE	Wadi Degla	X	El Gezira (2)	Wadi Degla	X	Protec
	El Gezira (1)	X	El Gezira (2)	BYE	X	El Ahly (2)	El Ahly (2)	X	El Ahly (3)
	El Ahly (1)	X	El Ahly (2)	El Gezira (1)	X	Protec	El Gezira (2)	X	El Zohour
	El Maadi	X	Protec	El Ahly (1)	X	El Ahly (3)	BYE	X	Sporting
	Heliopolis	X	El Ahly (3)	El Maadi	X	El Zohour	El Gezira (1)	X	Heliopolis
	Sporting	X	El Zohour	Heliopolis	X	Sporting	El Ahly (1)	X	El Maadi

El Gezira (1)

Round Robin 10

El Maadi

For today's penultimate match of the first Round Robin we will concentrate on a middle of the table encounter between El Gezira (1) and El Maadi. With only a ten point difference between them an important match for both teams if they are to climb up the rankings.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 853 ♥ 5 ♦ AKQ74 ♣ QJ74	<div style="border: 1px solid green; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ A 104 ♥ AKQ1064 ♦ 5 ♣ 983	♠ K76 ♥ J82 ♦ J1098 ♣ 1052
♠ QJ92 ♥ 973 ♦ 632 ♣ AK6			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fouda</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Hussein</i>	<i>Kiko</i>
-	1♥	Pass	2♥
Double	3♥	All Pass	

If you have been reading the previous bulletins you will have heard me banging on about Meckstroth's law which by now you should be fully aware: 'If partner freely raises your six-card major, bid game.' Yet again Mr Meckstroth has been proved right, in act more than roght as there were eleven tricks available, even with the spade finesse not working.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>El Kourdy</i>	<i>Abbas</i>	<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Ahmed</i>
-	1♥	Pass	1♠
2♦	Double	3♦	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

A longer auction but North realised the power of his hearts suit plus the secondary fit in the spade suit and was rewarded with a prompt six IMPs.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ KJ642 ♥ 106 ♦ Q982 ♣ AK	<div style="border: 1px solid green; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ — ♥ AQ84 ♦ J765 ♣ J10852	♠ AQ10973 ♥ 953 ♦ 4 ♣ 964
♠ 85 ♥ KJ72 ♦ AK103 ♣ Q73			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fouda</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Hussein</i>	<i>Kiko</i>
-	-	2♠	Double
4♠	5♥	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

As 4♠ was ice cold it was a good time to take insurance with 5♥. East had to lead a red card to take the contract down. The obvious spade lead could have allowed declarer to make his contract. He needs to set up the clubs and ignore the diamond finesse.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>El Kourdy</i>	<i>Abbas</i>	<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Ahmed</i>
-	-	2♠	Double
4♠	Double	All Pass	

I am not sure what tricks North expected to take to beat the contract and was soon disabused as declarer raked in ten easy tricks and nine IMPs.



Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ Q952
 ♥ K854
 ♦ A743
 ♣ 2

♠ AKJ104
 ♥ Q9
 ♦ Q9
 ♣ AKJ5

♠ 63
 ♥ J10732
 ♦ K85
 ♣ 876

♠ 87
 ♥ A6
 ♦ J1062
 ♣ Q10943

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fouda</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Hussein</i>	<i>Kiko</i>
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Not having three hearts West was content to let the auction subside in 3NT. North led a small spade which declarer took with the jack. Three more rounds of spades followed, establishing the thirteenth, while dummy discarded a heart and a club and South two clubs. North got off lead with a small diamond which ran round to declarer's ♦Q. The master spade was cashed, everyone discarding a heart and then a top club. Declarer now pinned his hopes on the remaining two clubs being in separate hands which as we can see was not the case, and perhaps a deeper analysis of the discards might have forewarned declarer of the situation. Would the defence have discarded so badly, I would hope not, all declarer needed to do was to play a red card and he would come to nine tricks as the defence would eventually give him an entry to dummy so the clubs could be finessed.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>El Kourdy</i>	<i>Abbas</i>	<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Ahmed</i>
2NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	All Pass

Most Easts would have tried 3NT but here went for the major-suit game. North led a small spade which declarer took with the ♠J and advanced the ♥Q around to South's ♥A. To beat the contract the defence needed to switch to the ♦J but not unsurprisingly South tried a club, even though declarer spurned the finesse he was now in the game. After the ♥9 held the trick he cashed two

rounds of spades discarding a club and when South could not ruff he could now establish a spade by ruffing. A trump followed won by North who exited with a small diamond around to declarer's ♦Q. The master spade was led and North had to ruff or declarer had ten tricks and dummy overruffed, whilst South discarded a diamond, keeping two clubs and a diamond. Declarer had the option of taking a club finesse or playing the ♦K, both would succeed, he chose the former and a well played ten tricks and 13 IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 8
 ♥ K10832
 ♦ J1092
 ♣ 862

♠ J102
 ♥ Q
 ♦ KQ83
 ♣ AJ1095

♠ AKQ63
 ♥ 75
 ♦ A7
 ♣ K743

♠ 9754
 ♥ AJ964
 ♦ 654
 ♣ Q

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fouda</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Hussein</i>	<i>Kiko</i>
-	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♣*	Pass	3♦*	Pass
4♠*	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♣	All Pass		
3♣*	extended Stayman		
3♦	4♣		
4♠	prefer 4-3 fit than NT		

A remarkable auction which reached an excellent slam which gained an overtrick when hearts were not led.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>El Kourdy</i>	<i>Abbas</i>	<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Ahmed</i>
-	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

Why did West not bid 4♥ over the 4♦ cue-bid. He has nothing to be ashamed of in his hand, he has controls in three suits and two honours in partner's



suit. After the 4♠ bid East could do no more with his two losing hearts. As expected East made an easy twelve tricks but lost ten IMPs.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ 5
♥ Q1087432
♦ 102
♣ Q84

♠ AKQ8
♥ 9
♦ K43
♣ A7652

♠ J942
♥ 6
♦ Q985
♣ KJ109

♠ 10763
♥ AKJ5
♦ AJ76
♣ 3

W N
S E

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fouda</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Hussein</i>	<i>Kiko</i>
-	-	Pass	1♦
Double	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Did the vulnerability deter East from interjecting 3♠? Whether that is true or not the pre-empt by North paid off doubly, firstly it stopped the opposition playing in a making vulnerable 4♠ but it had the added advantage of itself being a making contract, just three tricks to lose, one in each of the other suits.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>El Kourdy</i>	<i>Abbas</i>	<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Ahmed</i>
-	-	Pass	1♦
1♠	4♥	4♠	5♥
All Pass			

West made a more daring bid when he overcalled with a four-card, albeit an excellent, suit, now East had less trepidation in bidding on. South made the correct decision to sacrifice and the contract was only down one but the loss was ten IMPs.

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ Q975
♥ QJ872
♦ K43
♣ 2

♠ A106
♥ A106
♦ 5
♣ AQ10863

♠ KJ3
♥ K543
♦ AJ1082
♣ K

♠ 842
♥ 9
♦ Q976
♣ J9754

W N
S E

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Fouda</i>	<i>Wattar</i>	<i>Hussein</i>	<i>Kiko</i>
-	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3♣	Pass	3NT	All Pass

After a sensible auction the optimum contract was reached and declarer was not hard pressed to make his contract when South elected to lead a spade – immediately guaranteeing nine tricks for declarer.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>El Kourdy</i>	<i>Abbas</i>	<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Ahmed</i>
-	Pass	1♦	Pass
2♣	Double	Pass	2♠
Double	All Pass		

The polite word for North's double is 'brave'. Fortunately for declarer the carnage that ensued was not quite as horrendous as it could have been as the defence dropped a trick and so the contract only failed by four tricks and thus 11 IMPs, the other undertrick would have been worth a further two IMPs.

At the end of the match El Gezira (1) were winners by a margin of 54-25 thus increasing their lead over El Maadi.

Protec

Round Robin 11

Sporting

The final round of the first Round Robin matched the two top teams against one another, although Protec were more than a match ahead of Sporting. This would be a chance for Sporting to narrow the gap and put some pressure on the seemingly invincible Protec team.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 4 ♥ K9 ♦ A53 ♣ AKQ9653	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 83 ♥ J865 ♦ Q864 ♣ 742	♠ Q107 ♥ A743 ♦ KJ1072 ♣ J
♠ AKJ9652 ♥ Q102 ♦ 9 ♣ 108			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ragab</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadaly</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
-	Pass	Pass	3♠
4♣	All Pass		

Where did it all go wrong? Playing in a part-score when a good slam is available suggests there was a problem in the auction somewhere. Had West started with a Double and then shown strength in clubs then maybe further progress could have been made. East's hand does not look over appealing after the 3♠ bid on the left and a singleton jack does not look as though it is good support. Sometimes you just have to pay off to pre-empts.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Elselehdar</i>	<i>Samir</i>
-	Pass	1♦	3♠
4♣	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
6♣	All Pass		

After East had elected to open his hand then the task in hand for West was much simpler and he found himself in the small slam. That was thirteen

IMPs to Protec. The good news for Sporting was that missing the game only cost two IMPs.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ K4 ♥ KQ98763 ♦ 1082 ♣ 2	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 97 ♥ AJ10 ♦ AJ753 ♣ 987	♠ 8653 ♥ 5 ♦ KQ96 ♣ 10643
♠ AQJ102 ♥ 42 ♦ 4 ♣ AKQJ5			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ragab</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadaly</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
-	Pass	Pass	1♠
3♥	3NT	All Pass	

A very pragmatic bid by North and it described his hand perfectly, considering he had already passed. South could find no reason to disturb partner and there the matter rested. On a heart lead declarer had no trouble taking eleven tricks as the spade finesse was not working.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Elselehdar</i>	<i>Samir</i>
-	Pass	Pass	1♠
3♥	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	5♣
Pass	6♣	All Pass	

In this room, after North made a similar bid, South decided to introduce his club suit and arrived in a playable small slam and must have expected the spade finesse to be successful after the pre-emptive bid, but today was not his lucky day. That was 13 IMPs to Protec instead of 12 IMPs in to Sporting.



Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 8762
 ♥ QJ764
 ♦ A72
 ♣ K

♠ 1043
 ♥ A52
 ♦ K85
 ♣ A1053

♠ 9
 ♥ K1093
 ♦ Q103
 ♣ J9762

♠ AKQJ5
 ♥ 8
 ♦ J964
 ♣ Q84



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Ragab	Abdelazim	Fadaly	Mosaad
-	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
2♣	Drury		
2♦	opening bid		

West, having read the complete works of Brother Hubert, led a small trump, taken by declarer in hand. A small club elicited the ace from West who continued with another trump. Declarer now decided to duck a round of diamonds and ended up losing a club, two diamonds and a heart. To succeed he needs to set up the hearts so at trick five he must lead a heart. If West rises with his ace then East is subject to a ruffing finesse and so it runs to East. He must return a club otherwise declarer will have an easy time, either a diamond loser disappears or the hearts are set up trivially. The club

is ruffed in dummy, a heart is ruffed in hand and then the whole point of the hand is that declarer now ruffs the ♣Q so another heart can be ruffed establishing two heart tricks in dummy. The last trump is drawn and dummy entered with the ♦A and the good hearts cashed. It is not often one gets the chance to ruff a winner to make your contract - would the line of play been easier if the red herring of the cxQ was a small club?

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Nayer	Amiry	Elselehdar	Samir
-	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣*	Pass	2♠*
Pass	3♥*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			
2♣	Drury		
2♠	13+		
3♥	trial bid		

Evidently the works of Brother Hubert have been passed around and another trump lead was produced. Declarer won in hand and correctly led a club taken by West's ♣A. The continuation was a diamond taken by East's queen and when another diamond was led the ♦9 forced the ♦K which was taken by the ace and now declarer was home when the diamonds broke 3-3. The defence had to continue with trumps to give declarer the best chance of going down. The diamond switch cost 12 IMPs for Sporting.

At the final whistle Protec had continued their reign at the top of their standings by winning 44-26. They will take some stopping during the second Round Robin if someone is to overtake them.

Cross Table Scores After Eleven Rounds

Team	Ahly (1)	Ahly (2)	Ahly (3)	Gezira (1)	Gezira (2)	Maadi	Zohour	Heliopolis	Protec	Sporting	Wadi Degla	Bye	Rk.	VPs
Protec	12.03	20	15	15.19	13.04	20	13.52	8.24		14.6	20	12	1	163.62
El Gezira (1)	4.26	19.61	17.59		14.4	16.58	19.85	7.97	4.81	5.82	11.76	12	2	134.65
Heliopolis	4.44	14.39	18.87	12.03	4.5	11.76	16.42		11.76	6.96	16.09	12	3	129.22
Sporting	3.42	9.69	19.77	13.93	12.55	6.72	17.85	13.04	5.4		13.28	12	4	127.65
El Gezira (2)	5.61	11.48	19.77	0		13.75	17.97	15	6.96	7.45	17.59	12	5	127.58
El Ahly (1)		3.58	12.55	15.74	14.39	0	10.91	15.56	7.97	16.58	6.96	12	6	116.24
El Maadi	14.4	4.26	19.85	3.42	6.25		8.24	8.24	0	13.28	15.92	12	7	105.86
El Ahly(2)	16.42		17.59	0.39	8.52	15.74	19.16	5.61	0	10.31	0	12	8	105.74
Wadi Degla	13.04	20	16.09	8.24	1.91	3.83	16.26	3.91	0	5.22		12	9	100.5
El Zohour	8.59	0.84	12.29	0.15	2.03	10.26		3.58	6.48	2.15	3.74	12	10	62.11
El Ahly (3)	7.45	2.41		2.41	0.23	0.15	7.71	1.13	5	0.23	3.91	12	11	42.63

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.