



The Penultimate Weekend

After the marathon of five matches last weekend a less frenetic four matches are being played this weekend. In the first session **Protec** and **Sporting** were the big winners. In the second round **Wadi Degla** and **Heliopolis** amassed big scores. In the standings **Protec** maintain a 25 point lead and there is a challenging group of three teams: **Heliopolis**, **Sporting** and **El Gezira (1)** who have broken away from the rest of the pack by over twenty points. It will be hard for those to make it up into the medal positions.

Results Round Robin 15

Team	Team	IMPs	VPs	VPs
EL Ahly (2)	Wadi Degla	33-54	4.81	15.19
Protec	EL Gezira (2)	65-8	19.77	0.23
EL Zohour	EL Gezira (1)	34-79	1.34	18.66
Sporting	EL Ahly (1)	60-8	19.34	0.66
Heliopolis	EL Maadi	0-0	14.4	0

Results Round Robin 16

Team	Team	IMPs	VPs	VPs
EL Ahly (3)	Wadi Degla	11-86	0	20
EL Zohour	Protec	45-73	3.58	16.42
Sporting	EL Ahly (2)	87-13	20	0
Heliopolis	EL Gezira (2)	63-22	18.21	1.79
EL Ahly (1)	EL Gezira (1)	23-29	8.24	11.76

Standings After 16 Rounds

Teams	Rank	VPs
Protec	1	232.36
Heliopolis	2	207.14
Sporting	3	204.41
El Gezira (1)	4	200.85
El Ahly (1)	5	176.95
El Gezira (2)	6	172.87
Wadi Degla	7	155.05
El Ahly(2)	8	140.56
El Maadi	9	130.18
El Zohour	10	87.85
El Ahly (3)	11	60.73

El Maadi withdrew against Heliopolis in Round 15.

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 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	17th Match Time : 12:00 PM			18th Match Time 2:45 PM		
Saturday 16.01.2021	Wadi Degla	X	El Zohour	Wadi Degla	X	Sporting
	El Ahly (3)	X	Sporting	El Zohour	X	Heliopolis
	Protec	X	Heliopolis	El Ahly (3)	X	El Maadi
	El Ahly (2)	X	El Maadi	Protec	X	El Ahly (1)
	El Gezira (2)	X	El Ahly (1)	El Ahly (2)	X	El Gezira (1)
	BYE	X	El Gezira (1)	El Gezira (2)	X	BYE

Sporting

Round Robin 15

El Ahly (1)

In the chasing pack the difference between Sporting and El Ahly (1) is less than three points and they are only seven points behind the second-placed team.

It looked as though it was going to be an uninteresting match as the first three boards were uninspiring and completely flat.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ A853 ♥ Q94 ♦ 107542 ♣ 10	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ QJ10 ♥ A108 ♦ J3 ♣ KQ532	♠ 972 ♥ 75 ♦ Q986 ♣ AJ84
		♠ K64 ♥ KJ632 ♦ AK ♣ 976	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Adly</i>	<i>Ekkdawi</i>	<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Abdelfattah</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥

West led the singleton ten of clubs to the king and East took the ace and switched to a spade. West won and continued the suit won by the jack in dummy. Declarer needed to tackle trumps, there was perhaps a slight indication that West was short in clubs and thus had more vacant spaces – whether this was South’s reasoning I do not know but he elected to finesse against West and so made his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Samir</i>	<i>Kamel</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zein</i>
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥

Oh dear, Exactly the same auction and lead, am I in for yet another flat board. The play diverged at

trick one when East ducked the opening club lead. South had the same problem as to how the trumps should be tackled and the choice was against East. This resulted in twelve IMPs for Sporting.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ QJ ♥ AK8543 ♦ J106 ♣ KJ	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 9 ♥ QJ96 ♦ Q83 ♣ A7542	♠ K642 ♥ 7 ♦ AK72 ♣ Q1096
		♠ A108753 ♥ 102 ♦ 954 ♣ 83	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Adly</i>	<i>Ekkdawi</i>	<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Abdelfattah</i>
–	–	Pass	2♦*
2♥	Double	4♥	Pass
Pass	4♠	All Pass	
2♦	wk in a major		

West made the correct assumption that South’s major was not hearts. East led the queen of hearts which West overtook and tried to cash another heart. Now North would make his contract. West needed either to lead a diamond or to play partner for the ace of clubs and thus a club ruff. The heart continuation allowed declarer to finesse successfully against the jack of clubs and so discard his losing diamond.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Samir</i>	<i>Kamel</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zein</i>
–	–	Pass	Pass
1♥	Double	2NT*	4♠
All Pass			
2NT	fit ♥		

With South playing the hand when West led out a top heart it was evident that continuing hearts was not going to lead to success and he tried the



king of clubs and when it held he continued the suit to partner's ace whereupon another round of clubs gave West a trump trick and ten IMPs

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ AKJ3
 ♥ KQ104
 ♦ 62
 ♣ Q82

♠ —
 ♥ A872
 ♦ AQ54
 ♣ J10963

♠ Q109752
 ♥ J6
 ♦ KJ10
 ♣ A4

♠ 864
 ♥ 953
 ♦ 9873
 ♣ K75

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Adly	Ekkdawi	Wahdan	Abdelfattah
-	-	-	Pass
1♠	1NT	Double	All Pass

I think East intended the Double to be for takeout rather than penalties. To ensure defeat East has to find a small diamond to beat the contract and that was not going to happen. East led the jack of clubs and eventually declarer came to two clubs two hearts and three spades for his contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Samir	Kamel	Amiry	Zein
-	-	-	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♠	All Pass

West deemed his hand a weak two in spades, though to me it looks more like an opening bid. East, no doubt with a slight sinking feeling, bid a pass or correct Two Spades which is where he rested. There was no way to beat the contract, the defence either make their trumps by ruffing in which case declarer would take four trump tricks or declarer has plenty of tricks outside the trump suit. Another seven IMPs for Sporting.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

♠ A74
 ♥ A109543
 ♦ 8
 ♣ KJ2

♠ K82
 ♥ Q8762
 ♦ Q93
 ♣ 98

♠ Q96
 ♥ KJ
 ♦ KJ754
 ♣ A103

♠ J1053
 ♥ —
 ♦ A1062
 ♣ Q7654

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Adly	Ekkdawi	Wahdan	Abdelfattah
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

West ventured a penalty double with his five-card trump holding after partner's takeout double. East unfortunately chose to lead a spade which went to the jack king and ace. The king of clubs followed ducked by East. A small spade brought the queen from East who cashed the ace of clubs with declarer dropping the jack. A club continuation was ruffed by West who led a diamond to dummy's ace. A diamond was ruffed and declarer exited with a small trump to East who played another diamond, again ruffed by declarer. A spade went to dummy's ten and declarer was now guaranteed two more trump tricks to bring home his game.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Samir	Kamel	Amiry	Zein
Pass	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	All Pass	

At this table North failed by one trick after a slight variance from the winning line. Eleven IMPs to Sporting.



Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ A3		♠ 987									
♥ K542		♥ AQ763									
♦ A97		♦ QJ4									
♣ AQJ6		♣ 95									
♠ QJ106	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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		♠ K542
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ 109	♥ J8										
♦ K1063	♦ 852										
♣ 743		♣ K1082									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Adly</i>	<i>Ekkdawi</i>	<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Abdelfattah</i>
-	-	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♥	1♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Declarer just does not have enough tricks but East fell asleep in the end game and discarded a heart too many which gave declarer an unexpected ninth trick.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Samir</i>	<i>Kamel</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zein</i>
-	-	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♥	Double
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

East had consumed sufficient coffee not to nod off and so the hopeless contract failed. Ten more IMPs to Sporting.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ AQJ5		♠ K63									
♥ KQJ107		♥ A964									
♦ K		♦ 8752									
♣ K102		♣ 65									
♠ 10872	<table border="1" style="text-align: center; width: 40px; height: 40px;"> <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		♠ 94
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ 8532	♥ -										
♦ 10	♦ AQJ9643										
♣ J983		♣ AQ74									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Adly</i>	<i>Ekkdawi</i>	<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Abdelfattah</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♦
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♦	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

With the ace of hearts well placed declarer was not challenged to make thirteen tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Samir</i>	<i>Kamel</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zein</i>
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♥
Pass	6NT	Double	All Pass

A brave Double by East. If partner could work out that he wanted a spade lead a sizeable coup would have resulted but unfortunately West read it as asking for the first suit bid by dummy and so the contract was safe. Seven IMPs for El Ahly (1)

At the end of the match Sporting had run out winners 60-8.

Heliopolis

Round Robin 16

El Gezira (2)

At the beginning of the day Heliopolis were in second place with El Gezira (2) in third only four points behind. They would both be eager for a big win to narrow the gap to the top of the table.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ AQ9 ♥ A643 ♦ QJ1093 ♣ 5	<div style="border: 1px solid green; background-color: #4caf50; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ 10763 ♥ KJ9 ♦ A654 ♣ K3	♠ J852 ♥ Q105 ♦ 7 ♣ AJ1097
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Harb</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
-	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass
3♣	Pass	Pass	Double
All Pass			

Nothing gives opponents confidence more than a bid like West's. Writing +1100 into the in column on the first board when you have at most a part-score gives one a warm glow and you also know that your opponent is now on the back foot and will be wondering how he can explain his bid to his team mates. I hope they are more forgiving than I would be.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Azzam</i>	<i>Kheder</i>	<i>Leheta</i>	<i>Fouad</i>
-	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	All Pass	

As the cards lie nine tricks can be very fortuitously made, in fact when the defence slipped up ten tricks suddenly appeared but it was still fourteen IMPs to Heliopolis.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ 105 ♥ K10976 ♦ AKQ2 ♣ AK	<div style="border: 1px solid green; background-color: #4caf50; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ AQ97 ♥ AJ84 ♦ 83 ♣ 642	♠ 8432 ♥ Q5 ♦ 10965 ♣ Q85
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Harb</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♥	All Pass	

Nobody, quite rightly, could find anything to say over North's opening bid and surprisingly made ten tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Azzam</i>	<i>Kheder</i>	<i>Leheta</i>	<i>Fouad</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♣*
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			
3♣	Puppet		
3♥	5♥		

I do not know whether North was playing a 19-20 opening 2NT or had 'borrowed' a point. If the former then I do not understand why South would want to be in game and if the latter then he will find himself frequently in no-hope games. We all understand the rewards of bidding game but the concept of needing 25 points for 3NT has a substantial amount of history behind it as does 3NT not making on a combined 23 count. An unnecessary 6 IMPs to Heliopolis.



Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ 10942 ♥ KJ75 ♦ A ♣ K1075	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ KJ8 ♥ 9864 ♦ KQ653 ♣ 3	♠ A7653 ♥ A102 ♦ 84 ♣ AJ4
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Harb</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Having initially passed North denied the opposition any chance of entering the auction by bidding game – there are perhaps some that say he might be worth a splinter bid of 4♦ as there could easily be some South hands where slam could be on, for example give South the king of spades instead of his small club. Playing at the four-level was not difficult and in fact when declarer elected to tackle the hearts the right way round he ended up with an overtrick as when the queen fell he had for heart tricks and could discard a club and just lose two trump tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Azzam</i>	<i>Kheder</i>	<i>Leheta</i>	<i>Fouad</i>
–	Pass	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♣	2♦	3♣
5♦	5♠	All Pass	

North decided to take the long road to game and the upshot was it gave East a chance to speak and quickly a good save in Five Diamonds was reached – it is only three off non-vulnerable against a vulnerable game. North now had a difficult decision to make and he chose to bid one for the road. Now declarer's task was more difficult. When he found he had two trump losers he could not afford to misguess in the rounded suits. He chose to play East for the ♥Q and that led to a swift one down and thirteen IMPs to Heliopolis.

Board 7. Dealer South. All Vul.

♠ 6 ♥ J8654 ♦ AKQJ1093 ♣ –	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	♠ J74 ♥ 1093 ♦ 8752 ♣ 742	♠ AQ953 ♥ AQ ♦ 64 ♣ AQJ10
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Wahdan</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Harb</i>	<i>Fadel</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	6♠	All Pass

It looks as though East took the 4♥ bid to be a splinter in support of spades (as would I). When he saw his dummy he was quickly disabused and suffered the fate of many who have broken Burn's Law. He was three off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Azzam</i>	<i>Kheder</i>	<i>Leheta</i>	<i>Fouad</i>
–	–	–	Pass
1♦	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Double
3♥	Pass	6NT	All Pass

East's final bid can be described as pragmatic. South was thrown in at trick one but it did not matter as declarer could always simply establish three club tricks to go with the seven diamonds and two other aces. Another seventeen IMPs to Heliopolis.



Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ KJ
 ♥ QJ104
 ♦ 95
 ♣ AQJ92

♠ AQ9875
 ♥ 2
 ♦ A842
 ♣ 104

♠ 106
 ♥ A98653
 ♦ KJ106
 ♣ 3

♠ 432
 ♥ K7
 ♦ Q73
 ♣ K8765

N
 W E
 S

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wahdan	Salib	Harb	Fadel
-	-	2♥	All Pass

North felt that his hand did not warrant an intervention, I have seen worse bids than 3♣. North won the club lead and switched to a diamond now East could make three hearts, a spade and four diamonds.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Azzam	Kheder	Leheta	Fouad
-	-	2♦*	Pass
2♥*	Double	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	
2♦	Wk 2 in maj		
2♥	pass or correct		

I do not understand the point of North's Double if he is going to bid 3NT over South's response. It looks as though the defence have six tricks to cash, and indeed they have, the only problem is that they must cash them and this is where the defence fell down. A heart was led and won in dummy with the king. Declarer played another heart taken by East who led the ♠10. West needed to take his ace and switch to a diamond but he let the spade run into North's hand who now had an unexpected nine tricks and an even more unexpected, but much needed, twelve IMPs to El Gezira (2).

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ KQ
 ♥ J98753
 ♦ K10973
 ♣ -

♠ 65
 ♥ Q6
 ♦ Q8652
 ♣ AK54

♠ 98742
 ♥ A10
 ♦ J
 ♣ QJ862

♠ AJ103
 ♥ K42
 ♦ A4
 ♣ 10973

N
 W E
 S

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Wahdan	Salib	Harb	Fadel
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♣
Pass	1♥	All Pass	

I do not subscribe to passing with the South hand – you have two good bids available to you: 1♠ or 1NT depending on your methods and inclinations. Playing a slam hand at the one-level is rarely a good result.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Azzam	Kheder	Leheta	Fouad
Pass	2♥*	Pass	4♥
All Pass	2♥	♥ and another suit	

South gamely raised to game and watched North take twelve tricks and six IMPs.

At the end of the match where there had been the occasional generous gesture Heliopolis had run out winners 63-22.

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.

Cross Table Scores After Sixteen 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	19.77	16.26	16.42				12.55	163.62		1	232.36
Heliopolis			20	13.28	18.21	14.4				12.03		129.22		2	207.14
Sporting	19.34	20					17.45	7.97				127.65	12	3	204.41
El Gezira (1)	11.76				12.8		18.66	6.72	16.26			134.65		4	200.85
El Ahly (1)		18.66	16.73	8.24		16.42				0.66		116.24		5	176.95
El Gezira (2)				7.2			16.73	1.79	0.23		19.34	127.58		6	172.87
Wadi Degla		15.19	20		0.66				6.7			100.5	12	7	155.05
El Ahly(2)	1.34		16.67							0	4.81	105.74	12	8	140.56
El Maadi	3.58						5	0	3.74			105.86	12	9	130.18
El Zohour				1.34	3.27	15			3.58	2.55		62.11		10	87.85
El Ahly (3)	3.27	2.83						0			0	42.63	12	11	60.73