



## New Leader

In Round 17 **Sporting** and **Heliopolis** were the big winners and in Round 18 **Sporting**, **El Maadi** and **El Ahly (1)** had sizeable wins. But the story of the weekend is the amazing run by **Sporting** who scored over 76 VPs over the four matches - that is an average of 19 per match. At the start of the day they were 28 points behind **Protec** but now lead them by four and **Heliopolis** are less than six points behind. Next weekend is now going to be very exciting to see who will stay the course and finish the stronger. Book your ringside seats here. As a taster the final match will be between Sporting and Protec.

### Results Round Robin 17

Team	Team	IMPs	VPs	VPs
EL Zohour	<b>Wadi Degla</b>	36-71	2.55	17.45
<b>Sporting</b>	EL Ahly (3)	68-10	19.85	0.15
<b>Heliopolis</b>	Protec	76-37	17.97	2.03
EL Maadi	<b>EL Ahly (2)</b>	11-34	4.44	15.56
<b>EL Ahly (1)</b>	EL Gezira (2)	33-30	10.91	9.09

### Results Round Robin 18

Team	Team	IMPs	VPs	VPs
<b>Sporting</b>	Wadi Degla	61-23	17.85	2.15
Heliopolis	<b>EL Zohour</b>	26-34	7.71	12.29
<b>EL Maadi</b>	EL Ahly (3)	69-38	16.88	3.12
<b>EL Ahly (1)</b>	Protec	60-33	16.26	3.74
EL Gezira (1)	<b>EL Ahly (2)</b>	29-35	8.24	11.76

### Standings After 18 Rounds

Teams	Rank	VPs
Sporting	1	242.11
Protec	2	238.13
Heliopolis	3	232.82
El Gezira (1)	4	220.59
El Ahly (1)	5	204.12
El Gezira (2)	6	193.96
Wadi Degla	7	174.15
El Ahly(2)	8	167.88
El Maadi	9	151.5
El Zohour	10	102.69
El Ahly (3)	11	63.5

Wadi Degla, El Gezira (1) and El Ahly (3) received 0.5 VP penalties.

*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	19th Match Time : 2:00 PM			20th Match Time 4:45 PM		
Friday 22.01.2021	Wadi Degla	X	Heliopolis	Wadi Degla	X	El Maadi
	Sporting	X	El Maadi	Heliopolis	X	El Ahly (1)
	El Zohour	X	El Ahly (1)	Sporting	X	El Gezira (1)
	El Ahly (3)	X	El Gezira (1)	El Zohour	X	BYE
	Protoc	X	BYE	El Ahly (3)	X	El Gezira (2)
	El Ahly (2)	X	El Gezira (2)	Protoc	X	El Ahly (2)



Protec

# Round Robin 17

Heliopolis

Today is the top of the table clash between Protec and Heliopolis. Whilst Heliopolis cannot overtake Protec they could inflict a defeat to bring them within reach with only five more rounds to be played.

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

♠ A9	♠ QJ832	♠ K10754
♥ AK86532	♥ QJ	♥ 4
♦ —	♦ 1085	♦ AQJ42
♣ AKQ9	♣ 764	♣ 53
	♠ 6	
	♥ 1097	
	♦ K9763	
	♣ J1082	

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Elselehdaar</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
—	—	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♦	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♦*	Pass	5♥	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

With 2♥ being game forcing it was not difficult for West to bludgeon his way into slam, stopping at the six-level when East denied the ♥Q. All that was required was a 3-2 break in the trump suit and so the contract rolled home.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
—	—	2♠*	Pass
3♥	Pass	3NT	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	All Pass		
2♠	♠ and a min		

East's opening seemed to complicate the auction for West – I do not know how weak the opening 2♠ bid can be, but I suspect it can be weaker than the

actual East hand. With a two loser hand one feels he should have pressed a little harder but I confess I do not see any obvious method other than just punting 6♥. Eleven IMPs to Protec.

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

♠ AKQ75	♠ J942	♠ 83
♥ 87	♥ Q10	♥ AK643
♦ J32	♦ 97	♦ KQ5
♣ A87	♣ KQJ93	♣ 1052
	♠ 106	
	♥ J952	
	♦ A10864	
	♣ 64	

#### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Elselehdaar</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

On a diamond lead declarer immediately cleared the spade suit and when a club was returned he ducked once before cashing his thirteenth spade and setting up a diamond for his ninth trick.

#### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
1♠	Pass	2♥	Pass
2♠	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Again a diamond lead won in hand and followed by a spade to dummy. Now declarer erred from the straight and narrow by ducking a heart won by North who immediately attacked clubs. The contract could now no longer be made as neither of the majors broke kindly. Had he just relied on a 4-2 spade break he would have been home. He was unfortunate as relying on the spade break may have failed with the loss of three club tricks a diamond and a spade. One of the majors breaking



3-3 is over 60%, so an unlucky line. Twelve more IMPs to Protec who had started off with 25 unanswered points over the first four boards – it looked as though it was going to be a ‘usual’ Protec match.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ AKJ73  
 ♥ A964  
 ♦ —  
 ♣ Q1042

♠ 1052  
 ♥ J732  
 ♦ KQ762  
 ♣ 3

♠ Q6  
 ♥ KQ  
 ♦ 9843  
 ♣ AJ875

♠ 984  
 ♥ 1085  
 ♦ AJ105  
 ♣ K96

N  
 W     E  
 S

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Elselehdaar</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
–	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Double	3♦
Double	3♠	All Pass	

With East and West telling declarer about the layout of the land he elected to stop in a part-score and though double dummy there are ten tricks declarer played safely for nine.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
–	1♠	Pass	2♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

In this room East and West were not given the opportunity of helping declarer in the bidding. East led the ♥K which declarer ducked but he took the continuation. The ace of trumps was cashed and had declarer continued with another high trump he would have been home but he played a small heart which West gratefully took with his jack and gleefully gave his partner a heart ruff. Next the ace of clubs and a club ruff brought about declarer’s discomfort, especially when he found that the ♠Q was doubleton. Eight IMPs to Heliopolis.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ —  
 ♥ K2  
 ♦ Q87  
 ♣ AJ1098654

♠ 10532  
 ♥ A6  
 ♦ J432  
 ♣ KQ2

♠ AKJ764  
 ♥ 1094  
 ♦ AK95  
 ♣ —

♠ Q98  
 ♥ QJ8753  
 ♦ 106  
 ♣ 73

N  
 W     E  
 S

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Elselehdaar</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
–	–	1♠	Pass
3♦*	4♣	4♦*	Pass
4♥	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass
3♦	fit, 10-11		

After West signed off after the 5♣ bid I do not see the reasoning by East for advancing to the slam. With the trumps 3-0 offside it was a forlorn affair but even had the trumps been kinder it would still have been a poor contract and failed unless the diamond suit had no losers.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
–	–	1♠	Pass
3♦*	5♣	5♠	All Pass
3♦	Bergen raise		

Strangely the effect of the more vigorous pre-empt stopped East in his tracks and so he rested in 5♠. After the club lead established a club trick for declarer he played well, playing three rounds of trumps, winning the heart return, cashing his club winner, eliminating the club suit and then exiting with a heart. South elected to exit with the ♦10 – had he stopped to count declarer’s hand he should have realised that a ruff and discard was of no use to him and thus could have played a heart and left declarer to try and find the actual layout of the diamond suit. Thirteen IMPs to Heliopolis.



Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ K94  
 ♥ 84  
 ♦ QJ962  
 ♣ A92  
 ♠ Q3  
 ♥ AK10  
 ♦ 10873  
 ♣ KJ104  
 ♠ AJ10862  
 ♥ QJ3  
 ♦ 4  
 ♣ 753  
 ♠ 75  
 ♥ 97652  
 ♦ AK5  
 ♣ Q86



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Elselehdar</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
-	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	All Pass

West did not consider his hand might be worthy of an effort opposite any weak two and so they languished in 2♠. With the ♠K onside as well as the ♣Q, ten tricks were readily available.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
-	Pass	2♦*	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♠	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

I believe 3♠ shows a maximum weak two in spades and West was happy to punt for the vulnerable game. In this case fortune favoured the brave and the contract came home due to the favourable distribution. Ten more IMPs to Helipolis, who had now taken the lead.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ Q754  
 ♥ J7  
 ♦ K8432  
 ♣ Q7  
 ♠ AKJ8  
 ♥ AK965  
 ♦ Q76  
 ♣ K  
 ♠ 632  
 ♥ Q  
 ♦ J109  
 ♣ AJ9654  
 ♠ 109  
 ♥ 108432  
 ♦ A5  
 ♣ 10832



Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Elselehdar</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
-	-	Pass	Pass
2♦*	Pass	2♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3♣*	Pass
3♦*	Pass	3NT	All Pass
2♦	multi		
3♣	asking		
3♦	5♥, 4♠		

A rare case where the multi 2♦ was of the strong balanced variety. The defence started with three rounds of diamonds. Declarer cashed a top spade and the king of clubs before crossing to dummy with the ♥Q. I am not sure what declarer was playing for when he led another spade, had he cashed the ♣A before he would have made his contract trivially when the queen fell, he was playing a deeper game than I could see and the contract was one off.

Closed Room

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

In this room the contract was played from the other side and naturally South led his longer minor and when the king was played from dummy North went into the tank and eventually threw his queen. Declarer cunningly played a diamond towards hand and South won with his ace and doubtless not reading East for a six-card club suit continued with it. This gave declarer an immediate eleven tricks and another thirteen IMPs to Heliopolis.



## Board 11. Dealer South. None Vul.

♠ A96		♠ KJ753									
♥ 852		♥ AJ									
♦ AQ854		♦ 63									
♣ A3		♣ 10974									
♠ Q108	<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		♠ 42
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ Q106	♥ K9743										
♦ J1092	♦ K7										
♣ Q86		♣ KJ52									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Elselehdar</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	4♥

All Pass

On a diamond lead declarer won in dummy and promptly lead a heart towards the king which held, a low trump followed taken by East's ace. A small club ensued which declarer took in hand and unblocked the ♦K before crossing to dummy with a club to cash the ♦Q discarding a spade, a further round of diamonds ruffed established the thirteenth one and now a club ruff gave declarer and embarrassment of riches when the queen fell. West was welcome to take his master trump whenever he liked and then the rest of the tricks were declarer's.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣*
Pass	3♦*	Pass	4♥

All Pass

3♦ max 3♥, good ♦

The defence got off to a better start when a spade was led which was won in dummy. Two rounds of clubs were followed by a third round ruffed in dummy. Declarer now tried to cash three rounds of diamonds to discard his losing spade but East ruffed with the jack of trumps and declarer ditched his loser. A club from East now allowed West to ruff

in with the ten and a fourth round of diamonds saw East ruff with his ace leaving West with still a trump trick to come for one down. The defence had made four of their five trumps and no other tricks and yet another eleven IMPs to Heliopolis.

On Board 12 Helipolis gained another six IMPs when they made a part-score in both rooms.

## Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 10		♠ 7543									
♥ 10962		♥ A74									
♦ Q1096543		♦ A872									
♣ 10		♣ AJ									
♠ QJ	<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		♠ AK9862
		N									
W			E								
		S									
♥ KQ5	♥ J83										
♦ J	♦ K										
♣ KQ87654		♣ 932									

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nayer</i>	<i>Salib</i>	<i>Elselehdar</i>	<i>Azzam</i>
-	Pass	1NT*	Pass
2♠*	Pass	3♣	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
1NT	11-14		

South's silence paid handsome dividends when the opposition came to rest in 3NT. You did not need to be a world master to cash the first six tricks, probably with a slight (or not so slight) smirk on your face.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shazly</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Fadel</i>	<i>Mosaad</i>
-	Pass	1♦	1♠
2♣	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
5♣	All Pass		

In this room South could not resist telling the opposition that there was a problem in the spade suit so they ignored the doomed no-trump contract and settled for the ice-cold minor suit game. Yet another thirteen IMPs to Heliopolis. Over the previous nine boards Protec had haemorrhaged 74 IMPs



Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ AJ974  
 ♥ K8  
 ♦ AJ1063  
 ♣ 8

♠ —  
 ♥ QJ652  
 ♦ KQ8  
 ♣ KJ954

♠ 108532  
 ♥ A943  
 ♦ 95  
 ♣ 76

♠ KQ6  
 ♥ 107  
 ♦ 742  
 ♣ AQ1032



Open Room

West	North	East	South
Nayer	Salib	Elselehdaar	Azzam
1♥	2♥*	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass
2♥	♦ & ♠		

A heart lead would have put the contract beyond the reach of declarer but a club lead gave hope, especially when the eight in dummy held. The four of trumps was next and when East played the two dummy contributed the six! To make the contract the ace of clubs needs to be cashed to discard a

heart before leading a diamond but declarer started immediately on the diamonds to the queen and ace. When declarer now played a second round of diamonds to West he could lead a high heart giving the defence two tricks. Now declarer could not avoid either a defensive ruff or trump trick so he was one off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Shazly	Abdelazim	Fadel	Mosaad
1♥	1♠	2♥	3♥
Pass	4♠	Double	All Pass

Played by North in this room declarer was treated to the ace of hearts lead which made his job much less difficult. There followed a game of ping pong where both sides attempted to aid the other but the final piece of self-immolation was performed by East and declarer came home, no doubt with increased blood pressure and a racing heart but it was a much needed twelve IMPs to Protec and saved slightly more than one victory point.

At the end of a rollercoaster ride Heliopolis had done themselves a power of good by beating Protec 76-37.

### 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.**

Wadi Degla

# Round Robin 18

Sporting

At the beginning of the weekend Wadi Degla were amongst the third group but having had three straight good wins they were on an upward path, could they continue it against Sporting.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ J8764 ♥ 82 ♦ A7 ♣ 8642	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N W     E S                 </div>	♠ K53 ♥ 1076 ♦ K98 ♣ A973	♠ A9 ♥ K9543 ♦ Q10643 ♣ J
-----------------------------------	---	------------------------------------	------------------------------------

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shedid</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zaitoun</i>	<i>Samir</i>
-	Pass	Pass	2♥*
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass
2♥	♥ & min		

Seeing all four hands we can all see that the lead of the ace of diamonds and another will deal a death blow to the contract. Well done to North who did this only seeing one hand. West had no recourse and was soon one off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ragab</i>	<i>Farrag</i>	<i>Fadaly</i>	<i>Heshmat</i>
-	2♦	Pass	2♠
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Why North should think his hand is worth a weak two is something I cannot fathom. Also as North you know South's hearts are considerably better than his spades so why lead a spade? It does not actually matter on this hand as you are never going to dream up the diamond lead but it made declarer's task that much easier when he knows he has two spade tricks immediately at trick one. Ten IMPs to Sporting.

Board 3. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

♠ Q8742 ♥ J108 ♦ 10 ♣ 10873	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N W     E S                 </div>	♠ KJ53 ♥ Q975 ♦ Q3 ♣ AK5	♠ 6 ♥ AK63 ♦ A7642 ♣ J96
--------------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shedid</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zaitoun</i>	<i>Samir</i>
-	-	-	1♦
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
1NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Once North led a spade declarer could not be stopped from making his contract trivially and when South did not cash his ♥AK one of them disappeared as declarer cashed eleven tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ragab</i>	<i>Farrag</i>	<i>Fadaly</i>	<i>Heshmat</i>
-	-	-	1♦
Pass	1♠	Double	2♦
All Pass			

How many points does West require to respond to a takeout double from partner. From where I sit it looks as though West has stops in the opponents suit and a ten count. Also what would/should a double from West mean? Penalties perhaps. I have a sneaking admiration for North's response though I am not sure what he would have done if West had doubled 2♦ for penalties. Ten IMPs back to Wadi Degla.





## Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ AK5 ♥ K9532 ♦ 764 ♣ K4	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N                      W     E                      S                 </div>	♠ J743 ♥ AJ8 ♦ J5 ♣ A975	♠ 9 ♥ 1076 ♦ AKQ32 ♣ QJ63
-----------------------------------	--	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shedid</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zaitoun</i>	<i>Samir</i>
-	-	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Double	2♣
2♠	Double	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

East led a spade and declarer immediately led a small heart from hand and East mistakenly played his jack. Would declarer under lead his king and queen of trumps? I think it is unlikely – if he did it is extremely clever and even braver. He found out shortly afterwards that declarer had not underled the ♥KQ and that he had allowed the contract through.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ragab</i>	<i>Farrag</i>	<i>Fadaly</i>	<i>Heshmat</i>
-	-	Pass	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

The opening lead was a diamond taken in dummy and a smack heart played to the ♥9 and ♥J. East now cashed the ace of clubs, declarer will find it much easier to make his contract if he unblocks the king but he failed to do so. Upon the club continuation, which declarer won, he then inexplicably cashed a top spade and ruffed the small one, now the defence had two trump tricks to come. All declarer needed to do was to cross to dummy with a diamond and lead a small trump and all he will lose is the ace of trumps but that was ten IMPs to Sporting.

## Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 7 ♥ K98542 ♦ KJ6 ♣ J102	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 40px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N                      W     E                      S                 </div>	♠ KQ64 ♥ Q6 ♦ AQ97 ♣ Q84	♠ AJ10982 ♥ A7 ♦ 843 ♣ A7
------------------------------------	--	-----------------------------------	------------------------------------

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shedid</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zaitoun</i>	<i>Samir</i>
-	-	1♠	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♣	Pass
4♦	Double	Pass	Pass
Redble	Pass	4♥	Pass
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

2♣ was some form of game force. The auction seemed to gallop on with a life of its own – even the warning that the ♦Q was waste paper did not seem to dampen the enthusiasm for bidding a slam. It is hard to point out exactly where it went wrong – none of the bids look wrong but the contract is worse than hopeless. It drifted three off.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ragab</i>	<i>Farrag</i>	<i>Fadaly</i>	<i>Heshmat</i>
-	-	1♠	Pass
2NT*	Pass	4♠	All Pass
2NT	Jacoby		

East was more sanguine about his hand and as he had no feature and was minimum he subsided into 4♠ – evn that required a modicum of care not to fail but he brought home ten tricks and fourteen IMPs for Sporting.



Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ A86  
 ♥ 732  
 ♦ 109  
 ♣ 107652

♠ 92  
 ♥ AKQ8  
 ♦ AKQ862  
 ♣ A

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ K75  
 ♥ J10954  
 ♦ J54  
 ♣ KJ

♠ QJ1043  
 ♥ 6  
 ♦ 73  
 ♣ Q9843

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shedid</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zaitoun</i>	<i>Samir</i>
-	Pass	Pass	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♥*	Pass
3♦	Pass	4♦	Pass
6♦	All Pass		
2♥	2 Italian controls		

West would probably have liked to have manoeuvred the contract to be played by East as he was not sure as to whether East had the spade ace or the two missing kings, but when East decided to support diamonds rather than show the five-card heart suit it was not possible. With the lead of the ace of spades declarer could immediately claim twelve tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ragab</i>	<i>Farrag</i>	<i>Fadaly</i>	<i>Heshmat</i>
-	Pass	Pass	2♦*
Double	2♥	3♥	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♣	Pass
5♥	All Pass		
2♦	multi		

Surely a cue-bid by West would be better than blasting into Blackwood. With Blackwood you will never find out if East has the ♠K and so a virtual cast iron 6♥ and that was the case here and so that cost twelve much needed IMPs to Wadi Degla.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ 975  
 ♥ 108  
 ♦ K10976  
 ♣ K82

♠ KJ643  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ AJ853  
 ♣ Q4

	N	
W		E
	S	

♠ AQ1082  
 ♥ KQ9642  
 ♦ Q  
 ♣ 6

♠ -  
 ♥ AJ73  
 ♦ 42  
 ♣ AJ109753

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Shedid</i>	<i>Amiry</i>	<i>Zaitoun</i>	<i>Samir</i>
-	-	1♥	2♣
2♠	3♣	4♣	5♣
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

I am trying work out where in the auction West admitted to two aces and I cannot see it because West does not hold two aces so why did East think he had. Unsurprisingly the contract was one off.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Ragab</i>	<i>Farrag</i>	<i>Fadaly</i>	<i>Heshmat</i>
-	-	1♥	2♣
Double	Pass	4♠	All Pass

I personally prefer the double to the immediate bid if spades, it is quite possible the right denomination is diamonds but bidding spades makes it almost impossible to find out if that was the case. East was now able to express his values adequately and made sure of his contract and ten IMPs to Sporting.

At the end of the match Sporting had got the better of Wadi Degla by 61-23. A truly remarkable weekend for Sporting winning all four of their matches with close to an average of nineteen victory points per match.

# The Big One

An amusing 'Amuse Bouche' from yesterday's last match between Protec and El Zohour. It shows that even the top team does not always get it right.

## Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 108732 ♥ 10842 ♦ 9 ♣ Q75		♠ K4 ♥ K975 ♦ AQ10543 ♣ 4	♠ AQJ5 ♥ — ♦ 76 ♣ AKJ9862
♠ 96 ♥ AQJ63 ♦ KJ82 ♣ 103			

### Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Mosaad</i>	<i>Moktar</i>	<i>Abdelazim</i>	<i>Ibrahim</i>
–	1♦	2♣	2♥
Pass	3♥	Double	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	5♦
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass

I was slightly surprised that East did not try Five Spades as all that is required from partner is the king of spades to virtually underwrite and even if that card is not present there may well be a play for

the contract, also one's defence does not look that solid, you cannot expect two tricks from the club suit and it also appears that they have a double fit and they are notorious for throwing up strange results. Had East the gift of second sight the lead would have been a small club and then a major return would lead to one off, but when the king of clubs hit the notional baize there was no way back and North recorded +750.

### Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nader</i>	<i>Sawires</i>	<i>Thabet</i>	<i>Abdelhady</i>
–	1♦	2♣	2♥
Pass	4♣*	5♣	5♦
Pass	Pass	6♣	Double
All Pass			
4♣	splinter		

In this room East decided that he was going to play the contract come what may, probably thinking along the lines that his hand was worth a lot of tricks in offence but not that many in defence. He was certainly pleasantly rewarded when partner turned up with some pearls – the queen of clubs and a singleton diamond. When the spade finesse was successful he write down a score of +1540. This equated to twenty IMPs to El Zohour – I do not recall seeing a bigger score this tournament – but if you want to try to beat, go ahead but please let me know so I can record it.

## Cross Table Scores After Eighteen Rounds

Team	Ahly (1)	Ahly (2)	Ahly (3)	Gezira (1)	Gezira (2)	Maadi	Zohour	Heliopolis	Protec	Sporting	Wadi Degla	RR 1	Bye	Rk.	VPs
Sporting	19.34	20	19.85				17.45	7.97			17.85	127.65	12	1	242.11
Protec	3.74			3.74	19.77	16.26	16.42	2.03			12.55	163.62		2	238.13
Heliopolis			20	13.28	18.21	14.4	7.71		17.97	12.03		129.22		3	232.82
El Gezira (1)	11.76	7.74			12.8		18.66	6.72	16.26			134.65	12	4	220.59
El Ahly (1)		18.66	16.73	8.24	10.91	16.42			16.26	0.66		116.24		5	204.12
El Gezira (2)	9.09			7.2			16.73	1.79	0.23		19.34	127.58	12	6	193.96
Wadi Degla		15.19	20		0.66		16.95		6.7	2.15		100.5	12	7	174.15
El Ahly(2)	1.34		16.67	11.76		15.56				0	4.81	105.74	12	8	167.88
El Maadi	3.58	4.44	16.88				5	0	3.74			105.86	12	9	151.5
El Zohour				1.34	3.27	15		12.29	3.58	2.55	2.55	62.11		10	102.69
El Ahly (3)	3.27	2.83				3.12		0		-0.35	0	42.63	12	11	63.5