

# African Bridge Federation Zonal Championships

Issue No. 3

Monday, 8th May 2017

## First Round Robin Completed



**Some of the Organising Staff Wearing Their Spar T-shirt uniform Sponsored by the Spar Supermarket Chain**

After six rounds Egypt have finally lost a match, it was against the South African Seniors. In the Open, Egypt have extended their lead over South Africa, who retain the important second spot. Whilst the Women Championship is very tight, Egypt have maintained their lead but Morocco have moved into second place. South Africa have taken the lead from Egypt in the Senior championship. At the moment the only close result is in the Women event. Those countries outside the top two in the Open or Seniors will need to start making a move if they want to make the trek to Lyon.

The following restaurants are all in the neighbourhood of the championships and are open reasonably late, menus can be perused at Hospitality.

Three Wise Monkeys (Sushi/Noodles)  
Aris Souvlaki (Greek)  
Simply Asia  
Craft Burger Bar  
Sundoo (Indian Curry)  
Shin Thai Asian Kitchen

### Today's BBO Schedule







Round 7 South Africa vs. Reunion (O)  
South Africa vs. Reunion (S)  
Round 8 Egypt vs. Morocco (O)  
Egypt vs. Morocco (W)



# Results & Standings






## Open Championship

Round 4	<b>Egypt</b> Reunion				Morocco <b>S. Africa</b>				Kenya <b>Botswana</b>			
	81 IMPs	19.72 VPs	18 IMPs	0.28 VPs	32 IMPs	1.88 VPs	77 IMPs	18.12 VPs	26 IMPs	6.39 VPs	41 IMPs	13.61 VPs
Round 5	<b>Egypt</b> S. Africa				<b>Reunion</b> Botswana				<b>Morocco</b> Kenya			
	49 IMPs	15.61 VPs	23 IMPs	4.39 VPs	74 IMPs	15.93 VPs	46 IMPs	4.07 VPs	81 IMPs	18.91 VPs	28 IMPs	1.09 VPs
Round 6	<b>Egypt</b> Botswana				Kenya <b>S. Africa</b>				Morocco <b>Reunion</b>			
	64 IMPs	18.63 VPs	14 IMPs	1.37 VPs	21 IMPs	0.67 VPs	79 IMPs	19.33 VPs	44 IMPs	6.19 VPs	66 IMPs	13.81 VPs

Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total
 Egypt	58.68	53.96					<b>112.64</b>
 S. Africa	43.59	41.84					<b>85.43</b>
 Reunion	36.00	30.02					<b>66.02</b>
 Morocco	32.02	26.98					<b>59.00</b>
 Botswana	5.70	19.05					<b>24.75</b>
 Kenya	4.01	8.14					<b>12.16</b>

## Women Championship






Round 4	<b>Egypt</b> Reunion				<b>Morocco</b> S. Africa				<b>Botswana</b> BYE			
	57 IMPs	15.11 VPs	34 IMPs	4.89 VPs	55 IMPs	16.08 VPs	26 IMPs	3.92 VPs		12 VPs		0 VPs
Round 5	<b>Egypt</b> S. Africa				<b>Reunion</b> BYE				<b>Morocco</b> Botswana			
	45 IMPs	8.66 VPs	50 IMPs	11.34 VPs		12 VPs		0 VPs	117 IMPs	20 VPs	22 IMPs	0 VPs
Round 6	<b>Egypt</b> Bye				Botswana <b>S. Africa</b>				Morocco <b>Reunion</b>			
		12 VPs		0 VPs	14 IMPs	0 VPs	90 IMPs	20 VPs	16 IMPs	2.32 VPs	57 IMPs	17.68 VPs

Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total
 Egypt	45.81	37.39					<b>81.58</b>
 S. Africa	38.24	33.64					<b>73.50</b>
 Morocco	34.12	38.40					<b>72.52</b>
 Reunion	35.15	34.57					<b>69.72</b>
 Botswana	2.68	12.00					<b>14.68</b>

All scores subject to official verification

# Seniors Championship

Round 4	<b>Egypt</b> Reunion				Tunisia <b>S. Africa</b>				<b>Kenya</b> BYE			
	84 IMPs	18.73 VPs	33 IMPs	0.27 VPs	42 IMPs	6.39 VPs	57 IMPs	13.61 VPs		12 VPs		0 VPs
Round 5	<b>Egypt</b> <b>S. Africa</b>				<b>Reunion</b> BYE				Tunisia <b>Kenya</b>			
	41 IMPs	7.47 VPs	51 IMPs	12.53 VPs		12 VPs		0 VPs	32 IMPs	4.72 VPs	56 IMPs	15.28 VPs
Round 6	<b>Egypt</b> BYE				<b>Kenya</b> <b>S. Africa</b>				<b>Tunisia</b> Reunion			
		12 VPs		00 VPs	31 IMPs	0.35 VPs	93 IMPs	19.65	32 IMPs	12.30 VPs	23 IMPs	7.70 VPs

Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total
 Egypt	48.66	37.53					<b>86.86</b>
 S. Africa	40.00	46.46					<b>85.79</b>
 Tunisia	25.16	23.41					<b>48.57</b>
 Reunion	26.49	19.97					<b>46.46</b>
 Kenya	15.69	27.63					<b>43.32</b>

## Today's Schedule

### OPEN

Rnd	Date	Time	Table 1	Table 2	Table 3
7	Mon 08/May	13h40	Kenya v Egypt	Morocco v Botswana	S. Africa v Reunion
8		17h10	Egypt v Morocco	Reunion v Kenya	Botswana v S. Africa

### WOMEN

Rnd	Date	Time	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6
7	Mon 08/May	13h40	Botswana v Egypt	Morocco v BYE	S. Africa v Reunion
8		17h10	Egypt v Morocco	Reunion v Botswana	BYE v S. Africa

### SENIORS


Rnd	Date	Time	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9
7	Mon 08/May	13h40	Kenya v Egypt	Tunisia v BYE	S. Africa v Reunion
8		17h10	Egypt v Tunisia	Reunion v Kenya	Botswana v S. Africa

**Open**      **South Africa v. Morocco**      **Round Robin 4**

After Day One South Africa had a lead of 11.5 VPs over Morocco so it was important to them to start the second day of play with a good win not only to ensure they maintained a healthy lead over Morocco but to start to eat into their deficit of 15 VPs from the leaders Egypt.

Things got off to a good start, mainly due to a different view as to the opening value of the first hand.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 10 ♥ Q983 ♦ AK76 ♣ K974		♠ KQJ9763 ♥ K ♦ 5 ♣ Q1082	♠ 85 ♥ AJ7652 ♦ 82 ♣ A65
	♠ A42 ♥ 104 ♦ QJ10943 ♣ J3		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Donde</i>	<i>Bensaid</i>
–	3♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	4♥	4♠
Pass	Pass	5♥	All Pass

Benali valued his hand as only a three-level pre-empt, probably not the mainstream action, and thus it was difficult for South to venture to the five-level and take the good save.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dinia</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	4♠	Pass	Pass
Double	Pass	5♥	5♠
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass


Gower, made of sterner stuff, started with an immediate Four Spades and although the opposition essayed Five Hearts, Apteker defended with Five Spades. Which though doubled only failed by two tricks and a useful four IMPs to South Africa.

As an aside, on BBO, someone with the pseudonym ‘noahapteker’ was commentating, those in the know

realised it was the fourteen year-old son of Alon, one of four. Perhaps soon we will have a South African team of Apteker, Apteker, Apteker and Apteker, captained by an aged Apteker.

Further progress came on the second board.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ QJ962 ♥ AQ2 ♦ Q964 ♣ 4		♠ 3 ♥ 986 ♦ KJ52 ♣ KQ953	♠ K8 ♥ K75 ♦ A1073 ♣ J872
		♠ A10754 ♥ J1043 ♦ 8 ♣ A106	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Donde</i>	<i>Bensaid</i>
–	–	1♣*	1♠
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
Pass	1NT	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

1♣ clubs or a balanced 11-14 or 18-19

Here West’s pass of One Spade and its subsequent double made the defence easy. East made the obvious lead of the king of spades. When declarer failed to divine the club situation he was condemned to fail by two tricks and lose 500.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dinia</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	–	1♣*	1♠
Double*	Pass	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

1♣ Possible only 2 clubs

3NT had little chance (there are always three clubs, a diamond and a spade as a minimum in defence) and eventually dribbled two off. Twelve IMPs to South Africa which was the dream start they wanted.

The dream was rudely awakened on Board 20

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ Q7 ♥ 64 ♦ KQ8532 ♣ 654	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N W   E S                 </div>	♠ J1092 ♥ 93 ♦ AJ97 ♣ J83	♠ K8654 ♥ K1052 ♦ 6 ♣ 1097
♠ A3 ♥ AQJ87 ♦ 104 ♣ AKQ2			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Donde</i>	<i>Bensaid</i>
2♦	Pass	Pass	Double
All Pass			

We have all made worse weak two bids and it was harshly punished when North transformed the takeout double to a penalty double. North may not be overly strong but he is almost certainly sitting on three defensive tricks and he was right and when the dust settled it was 1100 in the out column.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dinia</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
Pass	Pass	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	3NT	All Pass	



Craig Gower

Fortunately in this room the game contract was made to offset some of the loss. It was interesting to note in the play that after a club lead won in hand by declarer he led the nine of hearts and let it run. When that held he was able to repeat the finesse and concede a heart and finish up with ten tricks but it was still ten IMPs out.

On Board 21 on more aggressive bidding, the Moroccan pair bid and made a thinnish 3NT whilst South Africa languished in a partscore for a loss of another seven IMPs wiping out the initial gains.

Over the next six boards, South Africa gained twelve IMPs in small partscore gains.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

♠ A1084 ♥ AK42 ♦ J76 ♣ A8	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;">                     N W   E S                 </div>	♠ 96 ♥ 5 ♦ AKQ952 ♣ K432	♠ KQJ2 ♥ Q6 ♦ 104 ♣ J10765
♠ 753 ♥ J109873 ♦ 83 ♣ Q9			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Donde</i>	<i>Bensaid</i>
1NT	2♣*	Pass	2♦*
Pass	Pass*	Double	Pass
2♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

- 2♣ Capeletti, single suited
- 2♦ relay
- Pass suit is diamonds


North's interference deterred a contract of 3NT and soon the major-suit game was bid and made.

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Dinia</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	All pass

If the Stayman showed a four-card major then surely West should bid Four Spades over 3NT. Against the actual contract North did not have too difficult a task to take the first six tricks and eleven IMPs.

Board 30. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ K109 ♥ QJ7 ♦ Q5 ♣ 109876		♠ QJ32 ♥ K4 ♦ K10942 ♣ 32	♠ 6 ♥ A986532 ♦ J83 ♣ 54 ♠ A8754 ♥ 10 ♦ A76 ♣ AKQJ
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Board 32. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ K75 ♥ AKJ1064 ♦ 82 ♣ 109		♠ 8 ♥ Q9 ♦ QJ7 ♣ AKQJ876	♠ QJ9 ♥ 752 ♦ A9654 ♣ 53 ♠ A106432 ♥ 83 ♦ K103 ♣ 42
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Donde</i>	<i>Bensaid</i>
–	–	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♥	Pass	3NT
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Stephens</i>	<i>Benali</i>	<i>Donde</i>	<i>Bensaid</i>
1♥	Pass	2♣*	Pass
2♥	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♥	Pass	3♠*	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

2♣ game-forcing

East found the best lead of the diamond ten and declarer immediately fell from grace by not rising with the ace. West took the queen and returned the suit, taken in dummy with the ace. Declarer now took three rounds of clubs discarding his losing diamond but East ruffed with his small trump and played another diamond ruffed by declarer. He now crossed to dummy via the ace of spades and led the ten of hearts. West eager as ever to cover an honour with an honour rose with the jack—oops! And an unmakeable contract makes.

East eventually got the message that West was not strong for his bid and subsided in game, the defence taking their three top tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dinia</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	–	Pass	1♠
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♥	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♥	All Pass	


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dinia</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Belkouch</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
1♥	Pass	2♣	2♠
3♥	4♠	6♥	All Pass

With the aggressive action by North and South, taking advantage of the vulnerability, (Four Spades doubled is only 500) goaded East into chancing the slam. No cigar this time as the defence calmly cashed its top tricks for two off and thirteen IMPs in.

Here, declarer received the same lead of the ten of diamonds but here he rose with the ace, took the ace of trumps, played another and now with the diamonds blocked he could discard his losing diamond on one of dummy's winning clubs. Well played but a loss of six IMPs.

Board 33. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 92 ♥ 1094 ♦ 5 ♣ AJ109832		♠ 8764 ♥ J2 ♦ Q109643 ♣ 4	♠ Q1053 ♥ KQ6 ♦ J87 ♣ KQ6 ♠ AKJ ♥ A8753 ♦ AK2 ♣ 75
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## Open Room

West	North	East	South
Stephens	Benli	Donde	Bensaid
–	1♣	2♦*	Double
Pass	2♠	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Whilst I am a fan of weak interference the Two Diamonds bid here may have led to a problem later in the auction. If North and South had managed to reach the excellent slam, what would West have led? His singleton diamond or the ace of clubs? One would lead to joy, the other dismay. Fortunately the problem did not manifest itself as the final contract was only 3NT.

## Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Dinia	Gower	Belkouch	Apteker
–	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♦*
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♥
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♦
Pass	5♣	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

2♦ artificial game-force

Here Gower and Apteker had an excellent bidding sequence to the good slam, only beaten by an early ruff, which on this deal was possible. Fortunately the bullet was dodged as West failed to start with the ace of clubs and so the contract rolled home along with another ten IMPs.

Suth Africa ended up winners by 77-32 or 18.12-1.88 in VPs.

### Reminder 1


Please ensure that all results are entered into the Bridgемate and verified - especially the last board..

# Slams - Day 1

Each board was played fourteen times over the whole field.

## Round 1


Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ 1075		
	♥ Q976		
	♦ J652		
	♣ 106		
♠ Q			♠ KJ92
♥ J843			♥ AK52
♦ A3			♦ 9
♣ KQJ752			♣ A984
	♠ A8643		
	♥ 10		
	♦ KQ10874		
	♣ 3		

Six Clubs is a solid contract—you can discard two hearts on established spades and ruff your losing diamond. The problem that thirteen of the pairs discovered is that they had a major-suit fit and either never found their combined ten-card club suit or ignored it. One of those was fortunate when N/S decided to sacrifice in Six Spades which attracted a red card and 1100 out. The only pair to bid and make Six Clubs was Jane Sher and Alison Davies of the Botswana Women—well done indeed.

## Round 2


Board 22. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

	♠ J3		
	♥ KJ1096		
	♦ A4		
	♣ K632		
♠ 1097542			♠ Q8
♥ Q873			♥ 42
♦ 85			♦ J10976
♣ Q			♣ J974
	♠ AK6		
	♥ A5		
	♦ KQ32		
	♣ A1085		

Thirteen of the fourteen pairs bid a slam in either clubs, hearts or no-trumps. Looking at the N/S hands in isolation you would have thought that thirteen tricks were

more likely in hearts than in either of the other two denominations but the great shuffler determined otherwise. Had you (perhaps somewhat foolishly) arrived in Seven Clubs you almost certainly would have made it. When you tackled trumps you commenced with the king and when the queen appeared you had no option but to employ the theory of restricted choice and then play small to your eight followed by trumping a diamond or spade as is your particular choice. Now dummy's final trump for a finesse against the jack and all you have to do to make your contract is to finesse in hearts—as Bob Hamman would say 'a good slam'. Were you in no-trumps you do not have the luxury of a ruff but as East has only two spades after you have successfully negotiated the club suit, West will suffer the indignity of being squeezed in the majors.

Board 28. Dealer West. N/S Vul.


	♠ KQJ532	
	♥ A83	
	♦ K	
	♣ 1065	
♠ 4		♠ 987
♥ 109762		♥ Q54
♦ 8643		♦ QJ52
♣ QJ4		♣ 973
	♠ A106	
	♥ KJ	
	♦ A1097	
	♣ AK82	

Another flat board! This board is a bidding problem—you might like to try with your favourite partner—from South's perspective you can quickly discover that North is minimum and has six spades, two keycards, the queen of trumps and the king of diamonds. But how do you ask for that important card in his hand, namely the three of hearts? If North has only two hearts there will be almost no play for the grand slam. Two pairs arrived in the grand slam. So why was it a flat board? Well the two pairs that bid it were from the same match and again it was a pair from Botswana Women, Rosah Ditirwa and Tshepiso Ramaribana, who were one of them.

### Round 3


As a result of some minor technical issue I do not have access to a couple of matches.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ K96	
	♥ 1065	
	♦ 873	
	♣ QJ103	
♠ QJ75		♠ A1043
♥ AJ3		♥ K92
♦ K95		♦ AQ
♣ AK6		♣ 8542
	♠ 82	
	♥ Q874	
	♦ J10642	
	♣ 97	

There was a fifty-fifty split in either bidding the slam or staying in game. Those who bid the slam were all successful. Assuming the contract is played by West then one plausible line of play is to win the queen of clubs lead and draw trumps via a successful finesse, cash the two diamond honours in dummy and duck a club. You will win if clubs split 3-3, if they do not cash all your winners outside the heart suit leaving the club and ♥K9 in dummy. Now take the finesse in hearts or cash the ace and king hoping you squeezed North—use your table sense to guide you.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	♠ AJ10852	
	♥ 54	
	♦ Q	
	♣ Q1082	
♠ 9743		♠ Q
♥ 6		♥ Q109832
♦ AJ1082		♦ K9764
♣ J93		♣ 6
	♠ K6	
	♥ AKJ7	
	♦ 53	
	♣ AK754	


Nobody reached the spade slam which is probably a bit less than 50% and a similar number played in clubs. The club slam is definitely superior to spades as in both you need a reasonable club break but now any 3-2 split in spades or a singleton queen and if clubs are kind enough to be 2-2 then a 4-1 split in spades can be overcome.



**Open** **Egypt v. South Africa** **Round Robin 5**

This was billed as the match of the Round Robin between the two leaders and probably everybody's favourite to dispute first place. At the end of the first day Egypt had a healthy fifteen VP lead over second-placed South Africa. The very first board saw a swing.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ A8643		♠ K752
♥ K3		♥ Q86
♦ 8		♦ 97
♣ 108762		♣ QJ53
♠ QJ109	♠ —	♠ KQ6
♥ J1074	♥ A952	♥ AJ732
♦ QJ32	♦ AK10654	♦ AJ4
♣ K	♣ A94	♣ K6

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Ahmandy</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Sadek</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
2♦*	Double	4♠	4NT
Pass	5♦	5♠	Pass
Pass	Double	All Pass	
2♦	Two-suiter		


When East pushed to Five Spades he was unfortunate in that the spades were 4-0 and so suffered the ignominy of losing 800 on the first board but there was an upside in that the spade distribution meant that Six Diamonds was a making contract.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dagher</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Geddawy</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
—	Pass	Pass	1♦
1♠	Double	3♦*	4♥
All Pass			

Easts Three Diamonds showed four-card support for West's overcall. Yet gain once a pair had found a major-suit fit the minor-suit disappeared and no chance of the slam was possible. Eight IMPs to Egypt.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A973		♠ J82
♥ K5		♥ Q1096
♦ 75		♦ Q108
♣ QJ1085		♣ 432
♠ 1054	♠ KQ6	♠ J82
♥ 84	♥ AJ732	♥ Q1096
♦ K9632	♦ AJ4	♦ Q108
♣ A97	♣ K6	♣ 432

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Ahmandy</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Sadek</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT*	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Over North's forcing 1NT response South showed his eighteen count and finally settled in 3NT. When North successfully played the diamonds for five tricks the contract came home.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dagher</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Geddawy</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
—	—	Pass	1♥
2♣	Pass	Pass	Double
Pass	2♦	All Pass	

West's overcall disrupted the South African pair and could not find a way to reach the no-trump game and lost ten IMPs.

Over the next seven boards South Africa gained seven IMPs in dribs and drabs.

**Reminder 2**

Please ensure that the official score card is fully completed including Country Names and signed by both teams.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 7543	♠ 108	♠ KQ92
♥ 853	♥ J1074	♥ AK96
♦ K1054	♦ AQ	♦ J62
♣ 92	♣ J8654	♣ 107
	♠ AJ6	
	♥ Q2	
	♦ 9873	
	♣ AKQ3	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Ahmandy</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Sadek</i>
–	–	1♦	All Pass

You will rarely see auctions as exciting as this one. South has two choices—pass or bid 1NT, this time the force was not with him and he did not choose wisely.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dagher</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Geddawy</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	–	1♦	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Paas	3NT	All Pass	

At this table South took the opposing view and after a Stayman enquiry reached the contract of 3NT and with clubs providing five tricks he was not hard-pressed to fulfil his contract and claw back ten IMPs

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ 4	♠ 83	♠ AKJ10765
♥ A9764	♥ KQ1083	♥ —
♦ 872	♦ Q	♦ AKJ103
♣ Q752	♣ AJ1083	♣ 6
	♠ Q92	
	♥ J52	
	♦ 9654	
	♣ K9	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Ahmandy</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Sadek</i>
–	1♥	1♠	All Pass

When this hand appeared I had several bids in mind for East but none of them were One Spade and I suspect now East is of the same mind. We will intrude no longer on private grief.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dagher</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Geddawy</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	1♥	2♥	Pass
3♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass

A couple of questions here. Firstly could or should North double the Three Clubs bid? Secondly do you approve of East's unilateral decision to bid Six Spades, a contract that would fail on a club lead? I suspect the answer to the first question is buried deep in the convention card and that a double would not have the meaning we would like it to have. As to the second question what would a bid of 5NT mean? Frequently it is 'pick a slam' and West would have picked diamonds and the contract would have been certain. It did not matter as South led his partner's suit and not a club. Fifteen IMPs to Egypt.

Board 16. Dealer West. E/W Vul.

♠ 1073	♠ 1073
♥ K5	♥ K5
♦ AQ10653	♦ AQ10653
♣ 82	♣ 82
♠ KQ642	♠ 985
♥ 1083	♥ J64
♦ K9	♦ J84
♣ 943	♣ Q765
	♠ AJ
	♥ AQ972
	♦ 72
	♣ AKJ10

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Ahmandy</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Sadek</i>
Pass	3♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

South obviously has a much higher opinion of his partner's non-vulnerable pre-empts than I do of mine. But he struck gold as partner has the absolute maximum and exactly the right cards. Even on the testing lead of a spade declarer can get home but he was not put to that test and another nine IMPs to Egypt. They ran out winners 49-23 or 15.61-4.39 VPs.