

# African Bridge Federation Zonal Championships

Issue No. 4

Tuesday, 9th May 2017

## Next Time It's Kenya!!!



The ABF General Assembly was held yesterday morning with attendees from all countries present except Egypt. Kenya was chosen as the hosts for the championships in 2019. The current executive of **Bernard Pascal**, President, **Chafika Tak Tak**, Vice President, **Jean-Claude Cador**, Treasurer and **Helen Kruger**, Joint Secretary were reappointed to their posts and **Samina Esmail** of Kenya was also voted in as Joint Secretary to fulfill the quota of officers as per the constitution. There was an interesting discussion as to the format of future championships and it was agreed that a sub-committee would be set up to investigate and propose various alternatives.

As we pass the half-way mark in the Open Championship, Egypt is running away from the field with South Africa a commanding second. Whilst in the Senior at the moment it is a two horse race between South Africa and Egypt with Egypt just edging it at the moment. The really interesting contest is the Women, fewer than eight points cover the top four places; Egypt is in front of Morocco who lead Reunion who are just ahead of South Africa. This is definitely the contest to watch to see how it develops.

The teams scoring software for this event was provided by the English Bridge Union (EBU). On behalf of all players and officials, we would like to record our sincerest thanks to the EBU and, in particular, to Gordon Rainsford (Chief Tournament Director) for his time, expertise and advice given freely and often at unearthly hours of the day. Thank you.

### Today's BBO Schedule







- Round 9 Reunion vs. Egypt (O)  
South Africa vs. Tunisia (S)
- Round 10 South Africa vs. Egypt (O)  
South Africa vs. Egypt (W)
- Round 11 Reunion vs. Morocco (O)  
Reunion vs. Morocco (W)



# Results & Standings






## Open Championship

Round 7	Kenya <b>Egypt</b>				Morocco Botswana				S. Africa Reunion			
	33 IMPs	2.56 VPs	72 IMPs	17.44 VPs	56 IMPs	12.30 VPs	47 IMPs	7.70 VPs	39 IMPs	13.61 VPs	24 IMPs	6.39 VPs
Round 8	<b>Egypt</b> Morocco				Reunion Kenya				Botswana <b>S. Africa</b>			
	64 IMPs	19.57 VPs	3 IMPs	0.43 VPs	46 IMPs	13.81 VPs	30 IMPs	6.19 VPs	16 IMPs	1.88 VPs	61 IMPs	18.12 VPs

Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total
 Egypt	58.68	53.96	37.01				<b>149.65</b>
 S. Africa	43.59	41.84	31.73				<b>117.16</b>
 Reunion	36.00	30.02	20.20				<b>86.22</b>
 Morocco	32.02	26.98	12.73				<b>71.73</b>
 Botswana	5.70	19.05	9.58				<b>34.33</b>
 Kenya	4.01	8.15	8.75				<b>20.91</b>

## Women Championship






Round 7	Botswana <b>Egypt</b>				Morocco BYE				S. Africa Reunion			
	22 IMPs	1.77 VPs	68 IMPs	18.23 VPs		12 VPs		0 VPs	51 IMPs	11.34 VPs	46 IMPs	8.66 VPs
Round 8	<b>Egypt</b> Morocco				Reunion Botswana				BYE <b>S. Africa</b>			
	33 IMPs	4.55 VPs	58 IMPs	15.45 VPs	100 IMPs	20 VPs	8 IMPs	0 VPs		0 VPs		12 VPs

Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total
 Egypt	45.81	35.77	22.78				<b>104.36</b>
 Morocco	34.12	38.40	27.45				<b>99.97</b>
 Reunion	35.15	34.57	28.66				<b>98.38</b>
 S. Africa	38.24	35.26	23.34				<b>96.84</b>
 Botswana	2.68	12.00	1.77				<b>16.45</b>

All scores subject to official verification

# Seniors Championship

Round 7	Kenya Egypt				Tunisia BYE				S. Africa Reunion			
	22 IMPs	0 VPs	91 IMPs	20 VPs		12 VPs		0 VPs	25 IMPs	13.61 VPs	10 IMPs	6.39 VPs
Round 8	Egypt Tunisia				Reunion Kenya				BYE S. Africa			
	41 IMPs	7.70 VPs	50 IMPs	12.30 VPs	23 IMPs	7.47 VPs	33 IMPs	12.53 VPs		0 VPs		12 VPs

Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total
 Egypt	48.66	38.20	27.70				114.56
 S. Africa	40.00	45.79	25.61				111.40
 Tunisia	25.16	23.41	24.30				72.87
 Reunion	26.49	19.97	13.86				60.32
 Kenya	15.69	27.63	12.53				55.85

## Today's Schedule

### OPEN

Rnd	Date	Time	Table 1	Table 2	Table 3
9	Tue 09 May	09h30	Reunion v Egypt	S. Africa v Morocco	Botswana v Kenya
10		13h40	S. Africa v Egypt	Botswana v Reunion	Kenya v Morocco
11		17h10	Botswana v Egypt	S. Africa v Kenya	Reunion v Morocco

### WOMEN

Rnd	Date	Time	Table 4	Table 5	Table 6
9	Tue 09 May	09h30	Reunion v Egypt	S. Africa v Morocco	BYE v Botswana
10		13h40	S. Africa v Egypt	BYE v Reunion	Botswana v Morocco
11		17h10	BYE v Egypt	S. Africa v Botswana	Reunion v Morocco

### SENIORS


Rnd	Date	Time	Table 7	Table 8	Table 9
9	Tue 09 May	09h30	Reunion v Egypt	S. Africa v Tunisia	Botswana v Kenya
10		13h40	S. Africa v Egypt	BYE v Reunion	Kenya v Tunisia
11		17h10	BYE v Egypt	S. Africa v Kenya	Reunion v Tunisia

**Open South Africa vs. Reunion Round Robin 7**

At the end of Day Two South Africa were comfortably ahead of Reunion, but a bad result would bring the islanders back in contention, whereas a good win could bring South Africa closer to challenge Egypt for the top place.

The first board was not a good start for the South Africans.

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ AK3		♠ J10865
♥ AK95		♥ Q
♦ J876		♦ A943
♣ 42		♣ AK10
♠ 974	♠ Q2	
♥ 10762	♥ J843	
♦ 2	♦ KQ105	
♣ QJ975	♣ 863	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dordhain</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Palmieri</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	Pass	1♠	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3♥*	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♠	Pass	6♠	All Pass

2NT fit spades, game-force  
3♥ singleton

Not the world's greatest slam but after the lead of the king of diamonds declarer needed to find the queen of spades well placed so the slam bonus was safely gathered in.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Brethes</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Hamel</i>
–	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♦*	Pass	3♦	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

2♦ game-forcing

If Two Diamonds was game-forcing then perhaps West could have tried Three Spades to see if East was at all interested in a slam. I do not say this would or should have led to the mediocre slam being bid but it was a loss of eleven IMPs on the first deal.

Board 2. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 84		♠ KQ1062
♥ AKJ2		♥ 6
♦ 1072		♦ A54
♣ KQJ2		♣ 6543
♠ AJ73	♠ 95	
♥ 10854	♥ Q973	
♦ Q9	♦ KJ863	
♣ 1087	♣ A9	

Open Room

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

1♣ Natural clubs or bal hand 12-14 or 18-19  
1♥ spades  
1NT Bal 12-14

Gower's interjection of 2♥ was brave but all's well that ends well when East competed to Three Clubs.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Brethes</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Hamel</i>
–	–	2♦*	Pass
2♠	Pass	Pass	Double
Redble	Pass	Pass	3♦
Double	3♥	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

2♦ Multi, weak major two or various strong hands

South could not restrain himself from trying to get into the action with a double. West who had already expressed an interest if East's suit was hearts continued to express an opinion. The final contract of Three Hearts doubled was not a happy one, especially with trumps breaking 4-1 and that resulted in nine IMPs being returned.

Over the next nine boards Reunion outscored South Africa by ten IMPs in small partscore skirmishes.

Board 12. Dealer West. N/S Vul.

	♠ 875		
	♥ A63		
	♦ A10653		
	♣ 73		
♠ A103	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>N</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;"> <span>S</span> </div>	♠ K9642	
♥ Q75		♥ J10	
♦ J8		♦ 9742	
♣ KQJ104		♣ 86	
	♠ QJ		
	♥ K9842		
	♦ KQ		
	♣ A952		

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

	♠ Q1042		
	♥ K		
	♦ AQ1062		
	♣ 1054		
♠ K53	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>N</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; width: 100%;"> <span>W</span> <span>E</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; width: 100%;"> <span>S</span> </div>	♠ A76	
♥ 752		♥ J1098	
♦ 984		♦ J3	
♣ AKJ9		♣ 8632	
	♠ J98		
	♥ AQ643		
	♦ K75		
	♣ Q7		

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dordhain</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Palmieri</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
1♣	Pass	1♥*	Pass
1♠*	Pass	2♠	Double
Pass	3♦	All Pass	

1♥ spades  
1♠ three spades

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dordhain</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Palmieri</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	–	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

Three diamonds fails if the defence start with three rounds of spades but at trick two, having won the first with the ace of spades, switched to the king of clubs. Declarer now had five diamonds and time to establish the hearts.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Brethes</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Hamel</i>
1♣	1♦	1♠	2♥
Double	Pass	2♠	Double
Pass	4♥	All Pass	

South Africa dodged a bullet here as when West led a high club declarer ducked and then took the continuation with his ace and tried to ruff a club in dummy. This was overruffed and a couple of spades cashed. Declarer was now down and lost another trick in the wash to finish with only eight tricks. Had I been declarer I would have taken a much simpler approach. Win the first trick and then unblock the two diamond honours. Cash the king and ace of trumps and then play diamonds. Since you needed trumps to be 3-2 to have any chance this line only requires diamonds 3-3 or the jack doubleton. So seven IMPs in rather than eleven IMPs out.

This was a question of signals on the opening lead.

Another (small) bullet dodged - or had bullet-proof vests been issued to the combatants. West led the ace of clubs and East played a discouraging eight and West quickly switched to a heart and declarer took his eight tricks and conceded the last four tricks. Only one off when the defence had six tricks to cash. Studying the convention card did not make it clear whether if West had started with the king then East would have given a count signal, which might well have made it easier for West.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Brethes</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Hamel</i>
–	–	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

Here the defence did not tangle their signals and took their six tricks for a push.

**Reminder 2**

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

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ A4		♠ Q86
♥ AQJ7		♥ K104
♦ AJ94		♦ 763
♣ 765		♣ J843
♠ K10975	<b>N</b>	♠ J32
♥ 96532	<b>W</b>	♥ 8
♦ 8	<b>E</b>	♦ KQ1052
♣ Q9	<b>S</b>	♣ AK102

Open Room

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

It appears that Two Spades was fourth-suit-forcing and the Three Spades response showed a half stop. North's 3NT closed the auction and East led the obvious spade, ducked, but perforce he won the second round and cashed his five diamonds. East discarded down to singleton king of hearts in a vain effort to defeat the contract but when South played a heart towards dummy he went up with the ace and felled the king and so made two overtricks.



Alon Apteker

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Brethes</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Hamel</i>
–	–	–	1♦
Pass	1♥	Pass	2♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♣
Pass	4♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♦	Pass	6♦
All Pass			

All the controls were there but there was no source of tricks and declarer had no route to twelve necessary, especially when West found the best lead of a spade. So thirteen IMPs changed hands.

Board 17. Dealer North. None Vul.

♠ 9752		♠ KJ8
♥ AK943		♥ 102
♦ J86		♦ AKQ3
♣ J		♣ A1062
♠ AQ43	<b>N</b>	♠ 106
♥ 86	<b>W</b>	♥ QJ75
♦ 942	<b>E</b>	♦ 1075
♣ K753	<b>S</b>	♣ Q984

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Dordhain</i>	<i>Gower</i>	<i>Palmieri</i>	<i>Apteker</i>
–	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Bosenberg</i>	<i>Brethes</i>	<i>Eber</i>	<i>Hamel</i>
–	Pass	1NT	Pass
2♣*	Pass	2♦	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Both rooms arrived in the doomed contract of 3NT and both defences cashed the first five tricks in the heart suit. The only makeable game is the Moysian fit in spades, and although they break 4-2 they provide a stop against the heart onslaught. Does your bidding system have a chance at achieving that—I know mine does not.

At the end South Africa had triumphed 39-24 or 13.61-6.39 in VPs.

Just a look at a few deals from Round 6 as on some of them there were wild fluctuations. The second board of the session demonstrated the well-known power of the double fit and the chaos it can cause when both directions are so blessed.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ J94		♠ Q10852
♥ 109		♥ 862
♦ J85		♦ Q32
♣ 108763		♣ A5
♠ K763	♠ N	
♥ AKJ7543	W	♠ Q10852
♦ 7	E	♥ 862
♣ 4	S	♦ Q32
		♣ A5
♠ A		
♥ Q		
♦ AK10964		
♣ KQJ92		

When you picked up the South hand you probably did not expect the par score would involve you playing Six Clubs doubled and failing by one trick. Half the time the contract was hearts and the contract was successful except in the one case when one pair got too high and finished at the six-level. Three of the remaining seven tables played in diamonds and this was not a success as the defence found its club ruff. At one table they successfully played in Five Clubs whilst their teammates at the other table made Five Hearts, a very pleasant fifteen IMPs. The average on this board was a seven IMP swing.

And now a candidate for biggest penalty of the championships—of course if you know better please come and tell the Bulletin Editor (anonymity can be arranged—for a small fee):

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ 3		♠ —
♥ 7		♥ KJ10843
♦ J1076543		♦ KQ98
♣ A543		♣ J108
♠ Q109862	♠ N	
♥ A9	W	♠ —
♦ A2	E	♥ KJ10843
♣ 962	S	♦ KQ98
		♣ J108
♠ AKJ754		
♥ Q652		
♦ —		
♣ KQ7		

Can you imagine the final contract and score?

It all started with an off-centre opening from East of Three Hearts. Watch what follows:

West	North	East	South
—	—	3♥	Double
Pass	5♦	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♣	Pass	Pass
Double	All Pass		

When the dust settled on this comedy of errors it was six off and 1700, indeed a fine candidate for the biggest fail.

Boards 27 and 28 were back-to-back 'Hamman' slams. The first depending on a finesse and was bid twice. The second needed a finesse, a 2-2 break in a suit and a little bit more, all of which came to pass, but no one bid it.

Our final deal features a nine-card suit.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 8		♠ Q109765432
♥ AKJ105		♥ 2
♦ Q62		♦ 107
♣ Q982		♣ A
♠ AK	♠ N	
♥ Q6	W	♠ Q109765432
♦ AJ9854	E	♥ 2
♣ KJ4	S	♦ 107
		♣ A
♠ J		
♥ 98743		
♦ K3		
♣ 107653		

Surprisingly the lay-down slam was only bid twice.

I suspect East was a victim of his/her previous four-level openings. If you have Namyats available then that may increase your chances but if it guarantees two of the top three honours are you prepared to say your ninth spade is worthy to be considered as such. To reach the top you need to consider such rare situations, you cannot underestimate the importance of being earnest to encompass all possible situations.

### Reminder 1

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