

# African Bridge Federation Zonal Championships

Issue No. 5

Wednesday, 10th May 2017

## Not All Table Tops Are For Bridge



With two of the three Round Robins completed, patterns are beginning to emerge. In the Open Egypt have a commanding lead over South Africa who are comfortably ahead of Reunion. It will take some upsets to change the two teams for Lyon. In the Seniors South Africa and Egypt are well ahead of the pack but for the first time South Africa has inched ahead of Egypt by just a couple of points. We now come to the most interesting competition: amongst the Women nine VPs separate the first four places, Egypt have eked out a small lead of eight VPs but one and a half points cover the chasing bunch searching for that elusive ticket to La Belle France in August.

### Closing Ceremony 18.30 Thursday 11 May

The closing ceremony will be held in the playing area. There will be welcoming music and a drink for everyone as they enter.

Helen Kruger will be master of ceremonies and will introduce Minister Marais, Minister of Sport and Cultural Affairs. Minister Marais will also present the medals.

Please pay heed to the rules regarding telephones and cigarettes in the playing area, as laid out in the opening bulletin.

### Erratum

On page 6 in yesterday's bulletin some copies had the open and closed room transposed for Board 14







### Today's BBO Schedule

- Round 12 Reunion vs. South Africa (O)  
Reunion vs. South Africa (W)
- Round 13 Morocco vs. Egypt (O)  
Morocco vs. Egypt (W)
- Round 14 Egypt vs. Reunion (W)  
Morocco vs. South Africa (W)








# Results & Standings

## Open Championship

Round 9	Reunion <b>Egypt</b>				S. Africa <b>Morocco</b>				Botswana <b>Kenya</b>			
	13 IMPs	0.59 VPs	72 IMPs	19.41 VPs	45 IMPs	6.83 VPs	38 IMPs	8.17 VPs	44 IMPs	9.72 VPs	45 IMPs	10.28 VPs
Round 10	S. Africa <b>Egypt</b>				Botswana <b>Reunion</b>				Kenya <b>Morocco</b>			
	36 IMPs	12.76 VPs	25 IMPs	7.24 VPs	36 IMPs	10.28 VPs	35 IMPs	9.72 VPs	66 IMPs	16.08 VPs	37 IMPs	3.92 VPs
Round 11	Botswana <b>Egypt</b>				S. Africa <b>Kenya</b>				Reunion <b>Morocco</b>			
	33 IMPs	2.94 VPs	69 IMPs	17.06	82 IMPs	19.99 VPs	15 IMPs	.01 VPs	36 IMPs	6.19 VPs	52 IMPs	13.81 VPs
Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total					
 Egypt	58.68	53.96	37.01	43.71			<b>193.36</b>					
 S. Africa	43.59	41.84	31.73	39.58			<b>156.74</b>					
 Reunion	36.00	30.02	20.20	16.50			<b>102.72</b>					
 Morocco	32.02	26.98	12.73	25.90			<b>97.63</b>					
 Botswana	5.70	19.05	9.58	22.94			<b>57.27</b>					
 Kenya	4.01	8.15	8.75	26.37			<b>47.28</b>					






## Women Championship

Round 9	Reunion <b>Egypt</b>				S. Africa <b>Morocco</b>				BYE <b>Botswana</b>			
	24 IMPs	3.48 VPs	56 IMPs	16.52 VPs	30 IMPs	6.59 VPs	44 IMPs	13.41 VPs		0 VPs		12 VPs
Round 10	S. Africa <b>Egypt</b>				BYE <b>Reunion</b>				Botswana <b>Morocco</b>			
	36 IMPs	12.53 VPs	26 IMPs	7.47 VPs		0 VPs		12 VPs	27 IMPs	3.62 VPs	58 IMPs	16.38 VPs
Round 11	BYE <b>Egypt</b>				S. Africa <b>Botswana</b>				Reunion <b>Morocco</b>			
		0 VPs		12 VPs	63 IMPs	16.52 VPs	31 IMPs	3.48 VPs	61 IMPs	17.19 VPs	24 IMPs	2.81 VPs
Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total					
 Egypt	45.81	35.77	22.78	35.99			<b>140.35</b>					
 Morocco	34.12	38.40	27.45	32.60			<b>132.57</b>					
 S. Africa	38.24	35.26	23.34	35.64			<b>132.48</b>					
 Reunion	35.15	34.57	28.66	32.67			<b>131.05</b>					
 Botswana	2.68	12.00	1.77	19.10			<b>35.55</b>					

All scores subject to official verification

# Seniors Championship

Round 9	Reunion <b>Egypt</b>				S. Africa Tunisia				BYE Kenya			
	18 IMPs	1.88 VPs	63 IMPs	18.12 VPs	89 IMPs	20 VPs	18 IMPs	0 VPs		0 VPs		12 VPs
Round 10	S. Africa <b>Egypt</b>				BYE Reunion				Kenya Tunisia			
	36 IMPs	9.45 VPs	38 IMPs	10.55 VPs		0 VPs		12 VPs	43 IMPs	5.99 VPs	60 IMPs	14.01 VPs
Round 11	BYE <b>Egypt</b>				S. Africa Kenya				Reunion Tunisia			
		0 VPs		12 VPs	65 IMPs	16.93 VPs	35 IMPs	3.07 VPs	20 IMPs	2.81 VPs	57 IMPs	17.19 VPs

Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total
 S. Africa	40.00	45.79	25.61	46.38			<b>157.78</b>
 Egypt	48.66	38.20	27.70	15.69			<b>155.23</b>
 Tunisia	25.16	23.41	24.30	31.20			<b>104.07</b>
 Reunion	26.49	19.97	13.86	15.69			<b>77.01</b>
 Kenya	15.69	27.63	12.53	22.06			<b>76.91</b>

## Today's Schedule

### OPEN

Rnd	Date	Time	Table 1	Table 2	Table 2
12	Wed 10 May	09h30	Egypt v Kenya	Botswana v Morocco	Reunion v S. Africa
13		13h40	Morocco v Egypt	Kenya v Reunion	S. Africa v Botswana
14		17h10	Egypt v Reunion	Morocco v S. Africa	Kenya v Botswana

### WOMEN


Rnd	Date	Time	Table 1	Table 2	Table 2
12	Wed 10 May	09h30	Egypt v Botswana	BYE v Morocco	Reunion v S. Africa
13		13h40	Morocco v Egypt	Botswana v Reunion	S. Africa v BYE
14		17h10	Egypt v Reunion	Morocco v S. Africa	Botswana v BYE

### SENIORS

Rnd	Date	Time	Table 1	Table 2	Table 2
12	Wed 10 May	09h30	Egypt v Kenya	BYE v Tunisia	Reunion v S. Africa
13		13h40	Tunisia v Egypt	Kenya v Reunion	S. Africa v Botswana
14		17h10	Egypt v Reunion	Tunisia v S. Africa	Kenya v Botswana

Going into Round 8 Morocco were about fifteen VPs behind Egypt. They needed to score a big win to bring them up level with their opponents and to stop the momentum of all the Egyptian Teams. Did they succeed? Read on to find out.

Board 18. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ A4 ♥ 986532 ♦ 103 ♣ KJ6		♠ KJ6 ♥ QJ1074 ♦ 654 ♣ 107	♠ Q985 ♥ A ♦ AQJ982 ♣ A5
♠ 10732 ♥ K ♦ K7 ♣ Q98432			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Teber</i>	<i>Khouri</i>	<i>LahLou</i>	<i>Badawi</i>
–	–	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Kabbaj</i>	<i>Taymour</i>	<i>Nabil</i>
–	–	1♦	Pass
1♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Pass	4♦	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

An identical sequence in both rooms to a good contract. Both declarers got the not unfriendly lead of a small club and inserted the jack which held the trick. Again both declarers cashed the ace of spades and continued with a small one on which both Norths played their king. Yet again the play continued identically with North returning a trump won in hand by declarer with the ace who cashed the ace of clubs and continued with a small spade ruffed in dummy. The declarers returned to hand with the ace of hearts and lead a trump perforce won by South. Now the paths diverged. The Moroccan South return a spade which North ruffed for the setting trick whereas

the Egyptian defender returned a club which was ruffed by North but declarer could overruff and claim her contract and ten IMPs.

Can you see how declarer could have made her contract without relying on a defensive error? There are two ways and it is too early in the morning to work out the relative probabilities so I will take what I think is the better option and leave you, dear reader, to consider the other. When you ruff the spade in dummy cash the king of clubs discarding your winning, but threatened spade. Come back to hand with the ace of hearts and give up your trump. ‘But’, I hear you cry, ‘North ruffs the king of clubs’. True but you overruff and play another trump and North no longer has a third trump with which to perturb you.

Board 20. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 6 ♥ A9853 ♦ 86542 ♣ Q10		♠ Q97532 ♥ 1062 ♦ 103 ♣ K4	♠ KJ108 ♥ Q ♦ AQ9 ♣ A9752
♠ A4 ♥ KJ74 ♦ KJ7 ♣ J863			

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Teber</i>	<i>Khouri</i>	<i>LahLou</i>	<i>Badawi</i>
Pass	Pass	1♣	Double
1♥	1♠	1NT	Pass
2♦	2♠	All Pass	

The defence was not hard pushed and recorded a one-trick set.

I know I am a dinosaur and that modern bidding says get your retaliation in first but I do not like that double on the South hand. Of the three suits not bid you have four cards in only one of them. Partner is a passed hand so the likelihood of game is remote to say the least and on this hand (which I agree does not statistically verify my claim) snatches defeat from the jaws of victory—just look at what happened on the other table below.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Homsy	Kabbaj	Taymour	Nabil
Pass	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	All Pass		

We will not intrude on the private grief of declarer who allowed a crossruff by the defence to develop and so the contract failed by three tricks. This partscore hand thus became a nine IMP loss.

Board 6. Dealer East. E/W Vul.

♠ AKJ6	♠ 832	♠ Q4
♥ K1095	♥ 8	♥ AQJ43
♦ A985	♦ QJ73	♦ K64
♣ 6	♣ A8542	♣ Q107
	♠ 10975	
	♥ 762	
	♦ 102	
	♣ KJ93	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Teber	Khouri	LahLou	Badawi
–	–	1♥	Pass
2NT*	Pass	3NT*	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4NT	Pass	5♦	Pass
6♥	All Pass		

2NT Fit, balanced, 15+

An excellent slam requiring the minimum of cerebral effort on the part of declarer.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Homsy	Kabbaj	Taymour	Nabil
–	–	1♥	Pass
2♠*	Pass	2NT	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♥	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♥	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	All Pass

I cannot find a coherent definition of the 2♠ bid, but as West has a strong hand and a Jacoby 2NT bid available I assume it shows spades and a strong hand with heart support. I was surprised by East's bid over 3♠ as if she knows partner has spades then her queen is certainly a

woman of importance and she also has a diamond control she can cue-bid. The upshot was that the slam was not bid and another thirteen IMPs and Morocco had scored 34 IMPs against a mere couple by Egypt.

We have another partscore battle.

Board 26. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ A2	♠ 9	♠ QJ873
♥ 964	♥ AKJ	♥ Q753
♦ 10932	♦ KJ875	♦ A64
♣ Q542	♣ AK108	♣ J
	♠ K10654	
	♥ 1082	
	♦ Q	
	♣ 9763	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Teber	Khouri	LahLou	Badawi
–	–	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT	All Pass	

Some would bid the North hand differently but there is a certainly a good case for expressing your values immediately and on this occasion so it proved as South passed and North collected eight tricks and her contract.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Homsy	Kabbaj	Taymour	Nabil
–	–	Pass	Pass
Pass	1♦	1♠	Pass
Pass	Double	2♥	Pass
2♠	All Pass		

The overall of One Spade is not a heinous crime but the Two Hearts bid seems to me to be going to the well once too often, a simple pass will probably illicit a 1NT bid from South and no harm will be done but, as the poker players amongst you might say, the continuation bet was a bet too far. Had South found a red card in her bidding box then the damage would have been 1400 not 400 which would have been fifteen IMPs rather than the actual seven.



Board 34. Dealer East. N/S Vul.

♠ 109		♠ 4
♥ J74		♥ 9632
♦ J10732		♦ Q8
♣ J96		♣ A108743
	♠ QJ86532	
	♥ AK108	
	♦ A	
	♣ 5	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Teber</i>	<i>Khouri</i>	<i>LahLou</i>	<i>Badawi</i>
–	–	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦*	Pass	2♥
Pass	2♠	Pass	3♣
Pass	4NT	Pass	5♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

2♦ game-forcing


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Kabbaj</i>	<i>Taymour</i>	<i>Nabil</i>
–	–	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♥	Pass	6♠
All Pass			

Two nice auctions to reach the laydown slam, I personally prefer the second as it conforms to the French five-card major system I normally play back in my home town of Nogent-Le-Rotrou.

And now the final problem for the teams to solve.

Board 36. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ 4		♠ 765
♥ KQ109873		♥ 52
♦ A		♦ J10732
♣ Q1064		♣ K82
♠ J10982		♠ AKQ3
♥ –		♥ AJ64
♦ KQ985		♦ 64
♣ A73		♣ J95

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Teber</i>	<i>Khouri</i>	<i>LahLou</i>	<i>Badawi</i>
1♠	4♥	Pass	4NT
Pass	5♠	Pass	6♥
All Pass			

It all depended on the lead, East having little to go on other than her partner's opening bid elected to put a spade on the baize. The first hurdle of not losing the first two tricks had been overcome but twelve tricks were not yet apparent. However, West, probably fatigued after a long match, discarded spades on the first four rounds of hearts and thus the three of spades became the twelfth trick!

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Homsy</i>	<i>Kabbaj</i>	<i>Taymour</i>	<i>Nabil</i>

Unfortunately gremlins crept into the BBO recording system and the bidding and play record for this final hand has disappeared into the ether but the slam was reached. The defence was obviously more awake as the contract failed and gave Egypt a much-needed seventeen IMPs. The final score was 58-33 to Morocco, 15.45-4.55 VPs. This moved Morocco into second place in the table less than five points behind Egypt.



South Africa vs. Tunisia Seniors in the Open Room

## Seniors


## South Africa vs. Tunisia

## Round Robin 9

After eight rounds the Tunisian seniors were in third place a long way behind South Africa. They badly needed an excellent score to give them a chance of that prized second place and a trip to Lyon for the D'Orsi Bowl.

Board 1 did not go according to that plan

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

<p>♠ 10876 ♥ 976 ♦ K74 ♣ 732</p>		<p>♠ Q953 ♥ Q85 ♦ 853 ♣ A54</p>	<p>♠ 2 ♥ AJ1032 ♦ 9 ♣ QJ10986</p>
		<p>♠ AKJ4 ♥ K4 ♦ AQJ1062 ♣ K</p>	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Daghmouri</i>	<i>Dorfan</i>	<i>Chahed</i>	<i>Pieters</i>
–	Pass	Pass	2NT
Pass	3♣*	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♥*	Pass	3♠
Pass	3NT	Pass	4♠

All Pass

- 3♣ Puppet Stayman
- 3♦ I have at least one four-card major
- 3♥ Mine is spades


The correct contract was reached and the opening lead was a club won in hand. The ace and king of trumps revealed the bad break and South now continued with the ace and queen of diamonds. This ensured that no more three losers were possible: the king of diamonds, a diamond ruff and the ace of hearts. As there was no possibility of a diamond ruff declarer made eleven tricks. Why did he not take another round of trumps in dummy and finesse in diamonds—see below

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Child</i>	<i>Trabelsi</i>	<i>Pieters</i>	<i>Baccar</i>
–	Pass	1♥	Double
Pass	1♠	2♣	4♠
All Pass			

Though this time played by North declarer also received a club lead. It seems declarer was seduced by the idea of making twelve tricks without giving too much thought to guaranteeing ten. The ace of trumps was cashed and another to the queen thereby severing communications. Then a diamond finesse was taken and West being wide-awake ducked. Trumps were now drawn and the king of hearts played from dummy taken by East who returned a club to dummy's ace. Declarer now expectantly led a diamond and received the unwelcome news that West had outwitted her. The roof now fell in and declarer was one trick light and eleven IMPs to South Africa.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

<p>♠ 32 ♥ K95 ♦ AJ1094 ♣ KQJ</p>		<p>♠ KJ986 ♥ 108742 ♦ 7 ♣ A5</p>	<p>♠ 75 ♥ J3 ♦ KQ832 ♣ 9872</p>
		<p>♠ AQ104 ♥ AQ6 ♦ 65 ♣ 10643</p>	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Daghmouri</i>	<i>Dorfan</i>	<i>Chahed</i>	<i>Pieters</i>
1NT	2♥*	Pass	3♠
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

2♥ Majors

West's convention card states that he plays a strong no-trump—well what's a point between friends. West led the king of clubs taken by the ace and trumps drawn ending in dummy. A losing finesse in hearts was taken and West cashed his two minor suit winners and continued with a third club ruffed in dummy. Declarer had now reached the crossroads, he had to avoid a loser in the heart suit. He elected to lead the ten of hearts and now the nine of hearts was the setting trick. His alternative was to play the ace to fell the jack doubleton. It appears to me that felling the jack is twice as likely as pinning the nine—Jx in either hand wins whereas only 9x with West wins.

Closed Room

<b>West</b> <i>Child</i> 1♦	<b>North</b> <i>Trabelsi</i> 2♦*	<b>East</b> <i>Pieters</i> Double*	<b>South</b> <i>Baccar</i> 4♠
All Pass			
2♦ Majors			

The play was identical until those crossroads were reached when declarer cashed her ace of hearts and received the good news of the doubleton jack of hearts. So that was ten IMPs back to Tunisia. After eight boards we were tied at fourteen apiece. Were we in for a drab draw? The tempest was about to begin.

Board 9. Dealer North. E/W Vul.

♠ 96	♠ AK2	♠ J10874
♥ J62	♥ AQ93	♥ K10
♦ A8752	♦ KQ3	♦ J106
♣ Q87	♣ 532	♣ J109
	♠ Q53	
	♥ 8754	
	♦ 94	
	♣ AK64	

Open Room

<b>West</b> <i>Daghmouri</i> — Pass	<b>North</b> <i>Dorfan</i> 1♣ 3NT	<b>East</b> <i>Chahed</i> Pass All Pass	<b>South</b> <i>Pieters</i> 1NT
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South chose the right time to hide her heart suit, with the diamond ace onside declarer could garner nine tricks.

Closed Room

<b>West</b> <i>Child</i> — Pass	<b>North</b> <i>Trabelsi</i> 1♣ 4♥	<b>East</b> <i>Pieters</i> Pass All Pass	<b>South</b> <i>Baccar</i> 1♥
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At this table South elected to show her near-solid heart suit and unsurprisingly North raised to game. South not being blessed second sight did not find the double dummy solution of playing ace and another in the trump suit and so was one off. That was ten IMPs to South Africa.

Board 10. Dealer East. All Vul.

♠ K10	♠ J9532	♠ AQ8
♥ A93	♥ QJ84	♥ 107
♦ KJ1052	♦ A	♦ Q76
♣ QJ10	♣ A65	♣ K9872
	♠ 764	
	♥ K652	
	♦ 9843	
	♣ 43	

Open Room

<b>West</b> <i>Daghmouri</i> — 1NT	<b>North</b> <i>Dorfan</i> — 2♥*	<b>East</b> <i>Chahed</i> Pass 3NT	<b>South</b> <i>Pieters</i> Pass All Pass
2♥ majors			

West again opened a strong no-trump with a fourteen count. East brushed aside North's bid and closed the auction with 3NT. North commenced hostilities with a fifth-best two of spades. Declarer safely gathered in this trick cheaply and started on the diamonds. North who took his ace and striving to break the contract now switched to hearts and struck gold when he found partner with king to four. So three heart tricks and two aces defeated the contract by one trick. The second time opening 1NT light came to grief.

Closed Room

<b>West</b> <i>Child</i> — 1♦ 3♣	<b>North</b> <i>Trabelsi</i> — 1♠ Pass	<b>East</b> <i>Pieters</i> Pass 2♣ 3NT	<b>South</b> <i>Baccar</i> Pass Pass All Pass
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Chris Childs



At this table it was played from the other side and North had only admitted to a spade suit. South led her partner's suit and declarer hopped up with dummy's king and attacked the clubs, North holding up till the third round to see the five orange pips of South's discard of the five of hearts. Exactly what this signal meant I am not sure but it did not influence North to switch to hearts but she steadfastly carried on with attacking the spade suit. So now declarer just knocked out the ace of diamonds and claimed her eleven tricks for thirteen IMPs.

Board 14. Dealer East. None Vul.

♠ K ♥ AK87432 ♦ 54 ♣ J63		♠ A63 ♥ J105 ♦ KJ3 ♣ KQ95	♠ Q975 ♥ 96 ♦ 1092 ♣ 10842  ♠ J10842 ♥ Q ♦ AQ876 ♣ A7
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Daghmouri</i>	<i>Dorfan</i>	<i>Chahed</i>	<i>Pieters</i>
–	–	1♣	2♣*
4♥	4♠	Pass	Pass
5♥	All Pass		

2♣ shows diamonds and spades

Four Spades might only go down two. Five hearts makes on any lead except a diamond. When it is not your day the defenders will find the perfect lead which is what they did here. The ten of diamonds unerringly hit the green baize and that was one down in top tricks.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Child</i>	<i>Trabelsi</i>	<i>Pieters</i>	<i>Baccar</i>
–	–	1♣	1♠
2♥	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♥	All Pass		

Declarer had no problem with this contract when only at the one-level and when the defence did not lead a diamond made an overtrick and eleven IMPs.

The grim news for Tunisia continued.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

♠ 10 ♥ 42 ♦ KQJ985 ♣ 10985		♠ 742 ♥ Q10863 ♦ 76 ♣ J32  ♠ KQJ9653 ♥ 5 ♦ A102 ♣ 74  ♠ A8 ♥ AKJ97 ♦ 43 ♣ AKQ6	
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Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Daghmouri</i>	<i>Dorfan</i>	<i>Chahed</i>	<i>Pieters</i>
–	–	–	2NT
Pass	3♦*	3♠	4♥
All Pass			

On the spade lead declarer made eleven tricks by discarding one of dummy's diamonds on his fourth club. Was East a little pusillanimous (before spell checkers one never used that word) in not competing to the four-level with that hand. He is virtually guaranteed seven tricks and is green against red.


Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Child</i>	<i>Trabelsi</i>	<i>Pieters</i>	<i>Baccar</i>
–	–	–	2♣
2♦	Pass	2♠	3♥
Pass	4♥	4♠	Double
All Pass			

The convention card states that the Two Clubs bid is strong (but not game-forcing) and 2NT is 20-21. I prefer the bid of 2NT—you are probably going to end up in a no-trump contract and it must be better played from your hand. Whatever the merits it allowed East to see he had a fit with partner and four spades was not only a good sacrifice it might even be making. It proved to be the former but one down doubled was a handsome pay off against the vulnerable game. Yet another eleven IMPs to South Africa.

The misery continued for Tunisia when on Board 18 they bid a slam on a finesse against a king which of course was offside and at the other table they stayed at the four-level so the pain continued with another eleven IMPs.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ AKJ10965	
	♥ 1042	
	♦ 98	
	♣ 7	
♠ 87		♠ Q43
♥ 73		♥ AK965
♦ AJ743		♦ Q6
♣ KJ104		♣ A96
	♠ 2	
	♥ QJ8	
	♦ K1052	
	♣ Q8532	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Daghmouri</i>	<i>Dorfan</i>	<i>Chahed</i>	<i>Pieters</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	3♠	Double	Pass
5♦	All Pass		

Five Diamonds was not a success and drifted two off. What is the correct bid on East's hand? On BBO there was discussion as to the merits of Pass, Four Hearts and Double, but no one considered the option of the bid that actually makes: 3NT. Is it such a foolish bid? As a simple test you can exchange the West and South hands and you still have a good shot at 3NT. A hand for a bidding panel.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Child</i>	<i>Trabelsi</i>	<i>Pieters</i>	<i>Baccar</i>
—	—	—	Pass
Pass	4♠	Double	All Pass

Another sorry tale for Tunisia. The defence only took six tricks but that was still 500 out and another twelve IMPs.

At the close of play South Africa had won 89-18 or a 20-0 whitewash in VPs.

## Transport Options for Airport Departures

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1-2 Passengers	R400
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1-4 Passengers	R260
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6-7 Passengers	R350
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The Open match between South Africa and Egypt was a tight and tense affair. Here is one hand showing great skill in both declarer play and defence.

Board 33. Dealer North. None Vul.

	♠ K8	
	♥ 1065	
	♦ KJ7652	
	♣ A3	
♠ AJ103		♠ 65
♥ K2		♥ J9874
♦ Q		♦ 1094
♣ QJ10862		♣ K74
	♠ Q9742	
	♥ AQ3	
	♦ A83	
	♣ 95	


Open Room

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

2♦ denies 3 spades

Declarer ducked the opening club lead but had to take the second round. The ace of diamonds brought the good news that the diamonds were good for six tricks. With the other two aces that came to eight tricks, where was the ninth trick to come from? The problem is not trivial. West has four good clubs and the ace of spades to cash if he gains the lead.

After seven tricks the layout is as follows:

	♠ K8	
	♥ 1065	
	♦ 2	
	♣ —	
♠ A		♠ 65
♥ K2		♥ J98
♦ —		♦ —
♣ J82		♣ 7
	♠ Q97	
	♥ AQ3	
	♦ —	
	♣ —	

This is the position with one diamond left to cash. What is West to discard? If he discards a club declarer can throw him in to lead a heart into the tenace. West can foresee this and takes the best option of smoothly discarding a heart, bearing his king. Declarer has a fair count on the hand, knowing West has the ace of spades and that the club suit is almost certainly 6-3 and thus only one card in hearts so declarer played a heart to the ace and felled the singleton king to make his contract. Very well played and very well defended.