

African Bridge Federation Zonal Championships

Issue No. 7

Thursday, 11th May 2017

The Lyon Roars Tonight



Open Winners Egypt
Women Winners Egypt
Senior Winners Egypt

With the Open and Senior Championships determined yesterday the excitement focused on the Women. Whilst Egypt were assured of qualifying they were not yet crowned champions. Two teams were in the hunt for the second berth to Lyon: the home country, South Africa, and Morocco. Morocco were trailing by nearly eight points but had what appeared to be the easier match against Botswana, and indeed they scored a maximum of twenty VPs. Now South Africa had to win their match by ten IMPs to qualify. After eight rounds South Africa were on 178.19 and Morocco just ahead with 179.57. As Morocco continued to score against Botswana the gap widened and after fourteen rounds Morocco had a sizeable lead of 183.38 against 177.04. South Africa fought hard over the last six boards but could not make up the difference so the honour goes to Morocco.







HAND RECORDS

All hand records from these ABF Zonal Championships are now available for download from the official web site – <http://www.wcbridge.co.za/zonals/index.html>.








Results & Standings

Open Championship






Round 15	S. Africa Egypt				Botswana Reunion				Kenya Morocco			
	0 IMPs	10 VPs	0 IMPs	10 VPs	31 IMPs	1.99 VPs	75 IMPs	18.01 VPs	0 IMPs	10 VPs	10 IMPs	10 VPs
Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total					
 Egypt	58.68	53.96	37.01	43.71	51.62	10.00	254.98					
 S. Africa	43.59	41.84	31.73	39.58	41.19	10.00	207.93					
 Reunion	36.00	30.02	20.20	16.50	38.86	18.01	159.59					
 Morocco	32.02	26.98	12.73	25.90	8.87	10.00	106.50					
 Botswana	5.70	19.05	9.58	22.94	25.11	1.99	84.37					
 Kenya	4.01	8.15	8.75	26.37	14.35	10.00	71.63					

Women Championship

Round 15	S. Africa Egypt				BYE Reunion				Botswana Morocco			
	23 IMPs	5.99 VPs	40 IMPs	14.01 VPs		0 VPs		12 VPs	1 IMPs	0 VPs	106 IMPs	120 VPs
Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total					
 Egypt	45.81	35.77	22.78	35.99	47.27	14.01	201.63					
 Morocco	34.12	38.40	27.45	32.60	31.72	20.00	184.29					
 S. Africa	38.24	35.26	23.34	35.64	39.32	5.99	177.79					
 Reunion	35.15	34.57	28.66	32.67	23.59	12.00	166.64					
 Botswana	2.68	12.00	1.77	19.10	14.10	0.00	49.65					

All scores subject to official verification

Seniors Championship

Round 12	S. Africa Egypt				BYE Reunion				Kenya Tunisia			
	36 IMPs	9.45 VPs	38 IMPs	10.55 VPs		0 VPs		12 VPs	35 IMPs	2.68 VPs	73 IMPs	17.32 VPs
Team	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Total					
 Egypt	48.66	38.20	27.70	15.69	56.71	10.00	221.94					
 S. Africa	40.00	45.79	25.61	46.38	25.95	10.00	193.73					
 Tunisia	25.16	23.41	24.30	31.20	34.80	17.32	156.19					
 Reunion	26.49	19.97	13.86	15.69	14.71	12.00	103.72					
 Kenya	15.69	27.63	12.53	22.06	23.83	2.68	103.42					

A few words from ABF President Helen Kruger's closing address:

Bonsoir, and welcome to our distinguished guest - Anroux Marais, Western Cape Minister of Cultural affairs and sport.

Welcome to our dear president Bernard Pascal.

And welcome to all players and friends.

I must say that this zonal championship has been played in a spirit of great competitiveness and of equally great sportsmanship.

Our grateful thanks go to the incredible Cape Town team headed by Mr Tim Cope, who has given so much of his time, expertise and knowledge.

The work done by Jocelyn Ashberg and her team of volunteers has been exceptional. Jocelyn's attention to detail knows no bounds. Nothing but nothing was left to chance. Her spirit of camaraderie was infectious.

Steve, words fail me!! We are in awe of the dedication and professionalism that you have shown throughout this event handling the entire technical portfolio since before the rinderpest.

Thanks to you Mr Swanepoel from Mustek for your generosity in provided all the equipment

Ann, thank you for all the hard work running the website amongst other duties.

Shirley Kaminer has been a stalwart member of this team, spending every waking hour chained to the hospitality desk.

And my thanks go to our Tournament Directors, Magdy and Heidi. Thank you for the calm and efficient manner in which you both conducted this tournament.

And our dear Richard, who has dealt thousands upon thousands of boards daily without stop. Thank you, you can now leave your little hokkie.

To our dedicated vugraph operators, Malcolm, Andrew, Rob, Claire, Lotte and Di - you certainly had a marathon THANK YOU ALL!

Ron, We have so enjoyed waking up to your bulletins and if we are lucky we will see you in Kenya.

Women **Egypt vs. Reunion** **Round Robin 14**

A couple of deals from this match which Egypt won comfortably 19.09-0.91 to guarantee a trip to Lyon but they would still need to score some points in their final match against South Africa to take the title of Champions of Africa.

Board 8. Dealer West. None Vul.

	♠ KQJ10976	
	♥ A2	
	♦ 43	
	♣ 108	
♠ 52		♠ 8
♥ KJ765		♥ 843
♦ J10875		♦ AKQ92
♣ 6		♣ AQJ9
	♠ A43	
	♥ Q109	
	♦ 6	
	♣ K75432	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Boyer	Khouri	Michaux	Homsy
Pass	3♥*	Pass	4♠
All Pass			

No details in the convention card but one must assume from the auction that Three Hearts was a transfer. Another possibility is that North made a Namyats bid and it was misrecorded by the BBO operator as over Three Hearts it is likely that East would have found something to say. The defence did not find its club ruff, so should the contract have failed? NO. 'Why?' you ask. The answer is simple; on the ace of clubs lead and a continuation of the queen, play small from dummy. Do not let the defence ruff your winner, keep it for later, exchange one loser for another. If after the club queen wins they cash the ace of diamonds and switch to a heart win with the ace. Now draw trumps ending in dummy and cash your retained king of clubs to discard your losing heart.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
Hamdy	Hoi	Badawi	Aouate
Pass	1♠	2♦	2♠
3♦	4♠	5♦	5♠
All Pass			

Five Diamonds was a good save against the spade game, if declarer reads the cards well she can escape for one off, though two is more likely. The spade contract was one level too high and the obvious three tricks were taken for one down Thus ten IMPs to Egypt.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ KJ53	
	♥ 3	
	♦ AJ87	
	♣ AJ98	
♠ 76		♠ A9
♥ K962		♥ AJ10874
♦ 106		♦ K542
♣ K10763		♣ 5
	♠ Q10842	
	♥ Q5	
	♦ Q93	
	♣ Q42	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
Boyer	Khouri	Michaux	Homsy
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♣	1♥	1♠
2♥	4♠	All Pass	

West led a small heart and that was the end of the defence. The only lead (except firstly cashing the king of hearts) is a diamond. You have to set up your diamond ruff and that can only occur if West leads the suit before anything else happens. Thus the contract succeeded.

Closed Room

Hamdy	Hoi	Badawi	Aouate
West	North	East	South
-	-	-	Pass
Pass	1♦	1♥	Pass
2♥	Pass	Pass	2♠
3♥	3♠	4♥	All Pass


At last a Biltcliff coup, South could happily have passed out a partscore but bid again and the opposition bid and made game—not a perfect Biltcliff as the final contract should be doubled. In my book South was worth a bid immediately after the overcall and then Four Spades might have been reached - a good save if they find the perfect defence and even better if they do not. With the ace of diamonds onside declarer was not overly taxed to bring home her contract and a double game swing and fourteen IMPs.

Women **Egypt vs. South Africa** **Round Robin 15**

The final round. Egypt were guaranteed to qualify but still needed to score four or more VPs to become African Champions. South Africa needed to win by ten IMPs to be sure of qualifying or forty-four to be declared winners. Would it be South Africa's day? The first swing was against South Africa.

Board 4. Dealer West. All Vul.

♠ —	♠ 76	♠ KQJ9853
♥ KQ10752	♥ AJ9843	♥ —
♦ J74	♦ 8	♦ A1062
♣ A965	♣ KQJ2	♣ 107



♠ A1042	♠ 7432
♥ 6	♥ K92
♦ KQ953	♦ K7543
♣ 843	♣ 2

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nestordis</i>	<i>Khoury</i>	<i>Bloom</i>	<i>Khoury</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	4♠	All Pass

Not an unsurprising auction but a doomed one, nothing was well-placed for declarer and the contract failed by two tricks.

Closed Room


West	North	East	South
<i>Badawi</i>	<i>Bernstein</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Lang</i>
1♥	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♥	Double	3♠	Double
All Pass			

A more restrained auction by East and West and an aggressive one by North and South. Had South led a minor suit all would have been well but having listened to the bidding she chose the six of hearts. This set up a heart to take care of the losing club. Even though South could ruff the master heart it was at the expense of a trump trick and so the contract was made and fourteen IMPs to Egypt. Not the start South Africa needed.

The next hand was close to a push but has a mildly interesting facet.

Board 5. Dealer North. N/S Vul.

♠ J9	♠ A1085	♠ 7432
♥ 864	♥ Q1053	♥ K92
♦ 106	♦ Q92	♦ K7543
♣ KJ10963	♣ Q4	♣ 2




♠ KQ6	♠ 7432
♥ AJ7	♥ K92
♦ AJ8	♦ K7543
♣ A875	♣ 2

Some of you may be aware of a 'Hamman' slam. According to Bob Hamman a good slam is one that makes. This is a Hamman slam in Spades... and hearts and no-trumps. Should you have a bidding accident and arrive in slam then you have no option to make it. I estimate that the chances of the slam being successful, percent-wise, is in the low single digits. Should South be declarer and West lead a club you make all thirteen tricks!!

Board 13. Dealer North. All Vul.

♠ K94	♠ 5	♠ J1073
♥ J74	♥ AK1053	♥ Q96
♦ 32	♦ KJ84	♦ Q10765
♣ AK963	♣ QJ4	♣ 7



♠ AQ862	♠ J1073
♥ 82	♥ Q96
♦ A9	♦ Q10765
♣ 10852	♣ 7

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nestordis</i>	<i>Khoury</i>	<i>Bloom</i>	<i>Khoury</i>
—	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

A delicate 3NT, very easy to make a mistake as declarer or as defender. Remarkably one of the leads that defeats the contract is a heart. But we are all human and not robots with a view of all four hands so we lead a small


club. This ran round to the eight and declarer took her best shot by playing a small heart and ducking it to East. East found the best reply of the jack of spades and declarer rose with the ace. At this point she should attack the clubs but understandably tested the hearts, breathing a sigh of relief when they broke favourably. She took a fourth round and West discarded a spade- she should have parted with a club. The ending is immensely complicated and even after twenty minutes with Deep Finesse. But basically West ends up setting up a club trick for declarer (as I said earlier she should have done it herself previously) which is her ninth trick. If you have the time and inclination I recommend putting the hand into Deep Finesse.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Badawi</i>	<i>Bernstein</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Lang</i>
–	1♥	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♦	Pass	2NT
Pass	3NT	All Pass	

An identical auction, identical lead, but at trick two when declarer led a small heart she cashed the ace and king and exited with a small heart and when it was East who won she exited with the jack of spades and now South was without resource because if she manages to set up a club trick the defence can knock out the diamond entry to her hand before it is established. One down and twelve IMPs to Egypt and a body blow to South Africa.

Board 19. Dealer South. E/W Vul.

	♠ 954	
	♥ K1087	
	♦ Q2	
	♣ J932	
♠ K1083		♠ AQ7
♥ 62		♥ 3
♦ 98543		♦ KJ107
♣ Q7		♣ AK1054
	♠ J62	
	♥ AQJ954	
	♦ A6	
	♣ 86	

Open Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Nestordis</i>	<i>Khoury</i>	<i>Bloom</i>	<i>Khoury</i>
–	–	–	1♥
Pass	3♥*	Double	4♥
Pass	Pass	Double	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

A Moysian fit game. We can see how favourable the diamond position and kind spade split are, but declarer was not privy to that information and she played the cards well and made ten tricks.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Badawi</i>	<i>Bernstein</i>	<i>Hamdy</i>	<i>Lang</i>
–	–	–	1♥
Pass	3♦	Double	3♥
All Pass			

The play record does not exist but it says the contract was made with two overtricks which is remarkable. But a ray of hope for South Africa scoring thirteen IMPs and meaning that a very large score on the final board would see them through but both teams made a no-hope 3NT on the final board and so it was not to be.

Transport Options for Airport Departures

Green Apple Tours

Situed in Lobby opposite hairdresser

1-2 Passengers	R400
3 Passengers	R450
4-7 Passengers	R600
8-9 Passengers	R650

Taxi - Caleb LTC - Tel. 079 444 9481

1-4 Passengers	R260
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Seraj - Tel. 072 872 0030

6-7 Passengers	R350
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